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**No 64**

**February, 2022**

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## **Call for donations to support production and printing of the People's Inquiry Report**



Letter giving details [HERE](#)

Donations can be made [HERE](#)

An interim report has been released by Kellie Tranter, Chair of the Inquiry panel .

The Final Report and recommendations based on the 281 submissions to the IPAN Inquiry will be released later this year following the Federal elections

Read Interim Report [HERE](#)



The next national meeting of the Coalition against AUKUS, the nuclear subs and the march to war will be held on 20th March 2022.

### Report from the Interim working group

After considerable discussion, members of the Interim Working Group made the decision to postpone the national General Meeting to allow more time for the organisation of national days of actions 11-13 February, 2022 and a General meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March. This will also enable the 20<sup>th</sup> March General Meeting to properly review and assess

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the two national days of actions 9-11 December, and 11-13 February 2022, and make plans for future events and activities.

## **COMING UP**

### **Anti-AUKUS, anti nuke subs and anti-war activities**

#### **PERTH:**

Join us in Perth's Murray St Mall at 12 noon on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> February to support our stand against the purchase of nuclear submarines. They will eventually be moored at Garden Island, 5 miles from Rockingham, home to over 15,000 people. [READ ON](#)

#### **SYDNEY**

Sydney Anti-AUKUS Coalition Webinar:

#### **Resisting AUKUS and War on China**

Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> February at 11 am AEDT

Speakers:

Prof. Norm Chomsky, Dr Lisa Natividad (Guahan), Steve Murphy (AMWU National Secretary), Natalie Wasley (environmentalist), Nick Deane (SAAC)

**Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86071363937?pwd=Rk1FWUlVY1F2Q3QxelQrVXAvNXBkZz09>

Passcode: 318750

**Eventbrite**

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<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/resisting-aucus-and-war-on-china-tickets-260756548857>

**MELBOURNE:**

**AUKUS will cost the earth- Information Webinar**

**Thursday 24 February 2022, 7pm**

Speakers:

**Richard Tanter** – Melbourne University Nautilus Institute

**Margie Beavis** – Medical Association for Prevention of War

**MC - Dave Sweeney** - Nuclear Free Campaigner with Australian Conservation Foundation

Questions and Discussion

Register for the webinar: [noaucusvic@gmail.com](mailto:noaucusvic@gmail.com)

Hosted by *No AUKUS Victoria Coalition*

**ACT:**

Dr Sue Wareham is speaking via Zoom on **AUKUS** at Manning Clark House, on Sunday, 27th February at 4 pm

Details: Penny Lockwood: 0407 483 474

**BRISBANE: PALM SUNDAY RALLY FOR PEACE AND REFUGEES**

Sunday, 10th April in King George Square 2pm.

\*Free the refugees - close the camps and hotels

\*Permanent Protection not poverty

\*Increase the Refugee Intake

\*Peace not militarism - stop the wars that create refugees

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A submarine launch at Barrow-in-Furness (Photo: BAE / MOD handout)

With acknowledgement to Declassified UK, 18th January 2022

## **RADIATION PILLS DISTRIBUTED IN NUCLEAR SUBMARINE PORTS**

**Nearly 100,000 anti-radiation pills have been handed out to residents at three English ports in case nuclear submarines go into meltdown.**

Records show 97,430 stable iodine tablets were pre-issued to people in Plymouth, Portland and Barrow-in-Furness from 2016-21 to protect them from radiation. Medicine went to nurseries, schools, care homes and clinics near naval docks.

The figures are revealed in freedom of information responses from Plymouth, Dorset and Cumbria councils to *Declassified UK*. Reacting to our investigation, Kate Hudson, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), said: “The production, servicing and berthing of nuclear-powered submarines in or near population centres present unacceptable health risks.

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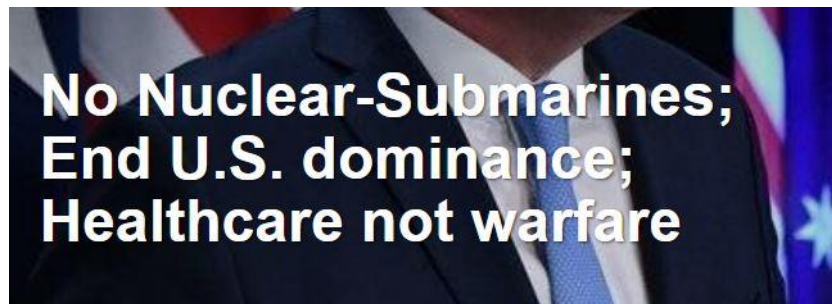
“Safeguarding our communities cannot be achieved through limited distribution of pills,” she said, adding that the vessels, some of which carry nuclear warheads, “need to be disarmed and decommissioned.”

[READ](#)

[ON](#)

## **NO anti-radiation pill handouts to residents near Australian ports where nuclear submarines dock**

For Australian and State government safety arrangements when nuclear subs berth, [READ ON](#)



### **You can make your views heard**

[Here](#) is a letter that can be sent to your MP  
You put in your post code and it automatically addresses the  
email to your Federal MP.



## **CND Letter to British Foreign Secretary to step back from AUKUS**



Dear Foreign Secretary,

I am writing to you about the Australia–United Kingdom Ministerial Consultations (AUKMIN) 2022 which you and the Secretary of State for Defence, Ben Wallace will attend this week.

News reporting suggests that AUKMIN will be dominated by the recent AUKUS pact and in particular the delivery of a nuclear submarine fleet for Australia as part of that agreement. It is also suggested that the discussions will include the possible temporary basing of British nuclear submarines in Australia.

[READ ON](#)

## **IPAN Media Release**

Jan. 20, 2022

### **British Foreign and Defence Ministers' visit adds fuel to AUKUS military build-up**

- *Meetings with UK officials seek to lock Australia into AUKUS pact.*
- *Lack of public engagement could lead to radical foreign policy shifts and threaten peace in the region.*
- *Discussions on British nuclear submarines stationed in Australia and military build-up.*

[READ ON](#)

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## TANK BLOCKADES AT LAND FORCES

**\$3.5bn on more tanks? The only 3.50 we want is 350 CO2 ppm!**

The Government have bought \$3.5bn worth of tanks. Yes more tanks! The second tank announcement in this election cycle.

But this time people are furious. The mood is different. People on Twitter are going off, using the hashtag #TANKS to rebuke the government. We haven't seen this sort of active response on weapons buying for decades.

We have organised resistance to Australian militarism by jumping on tanks, blockading tank manufacturers & occupying their offices

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intensively & actively for the past 12 months. We need your support to build this movement of ordinary people on the ground. The Twitterati is not enough. It's bodies on the ground, and direct action that count. They hate it.

We run Wage Peace on the donations of a handful of supporters. We need your loving and monthly support to keep going.

**Chip in just \$17. Monthly payments help us plan.**

Daily Mail 19th January, 2022

## **Huge fuel site to power US fighter jets to be built in Northern Territory**

Construction work is set to start on a huge US fuel storage depot in the Northern Territory to support military operations in the Asia-Pacific region.

The \$270 million project capable of holding 300 million litres will be the largest purpose-built fuel storage facility in northern Australia. It will be built at East Arm, about 8km from the city on Darwin Harbour, and store military-grade fighter jet fuels in 11 tanks. 'The Territory is becoming a leading hub for defence and national security because of our strategic location and capabilities,' Chief Minister Michael Gunner said on Tuesday.

Nick Deane, spokesperson for IPAN's 'Marines Out Of Darwin' campaign comments, "As people in Japan and Germany can tell you, when US forces gain a toehold on your territory, they will stay as long

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as it suits their strategic interests. When US marines began arriving in Australia in 2012, some of us predicted that their presence would grow bigger and bigger over time. The expansion of fuel storage depots in the top end is another step in the USA's domination of the region for its military purposes. There is little doubt that this development has been made with the prospect of some future conflict between the USA and China in mind. Territorians should be very circumspect about this development."

Acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 23rd January, 2022

## **Herald indulges UK Foreign Secretary's demented remarks on China**

by Paul Keating

Australia's foreign and defence ministers are giving respectability to Britain's lunge for old-time glory.

Remarks by the British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss that China could engage in military aggression in the Pacific, encouraged by Russia's contingent moves against Ukraine, are nothing short of demented.

Not simply irrational, demented

**[READ ON](#)**

With acknowledgement to Pearls & Irritations, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2022

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# Ukraine crisis is a pivotal moment in history — for the US, not Russia

By Cameron Leckie

*While the media focus on the Russian ‘invasion’ narrative, we are actually witnessing the end to Washington’s unipolar moment.*

Coverage of the Ukraine ‘crisis’ by both Australian media and politicians highlights that we, and the broader Western world, have become addicted to our own propaganda. It confirms that the mainstream media have become little more than narrative managers. Of most concern is that the internalisation of this propaganda effectively limits the ability of the Western powers to resolve the ‘crisis’ without conflict or much more likely humiliation. That humiliation will come about in the formal recognition that the US unipolar moment has ended.

[READ ON](#)



## ICAN: Troubled Waters report

### Extract:

“Australia’s acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines is an unnecessary and retrograde step and we continue to call on the federal government to re-think this decision. ICAN Australia is not alone in this approach. When a public response to the Exchange of

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Naval Nuclear Propulsion Information Agreement was invited by the Australian Joint Standing Committee on Treaties over one hundred substantive submissions were received, despite only four days being provided for public comment. These submissions were overwhelmingly against the nuclear submarine proposal and reflected concerns about such a profound reorientation of Australian security, defence, and nuclear policy(1). Unusually, former prime ministers from both parties of government have spoken strongly against the proposal.”

[READ REPORT HERE](#)

## **One year ago today, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons entered into force.**

Today, it's wonderful to see activists, parliamentarians and councillors taking to social media with origami paper cranes, calling for the Foreign Minister to commit Australia to attending the landmark first meeting of states parties to the TPNW. Scheduled for March (covid pending), the meeting is a critical opportunity for Australia to engage. If we don't, the current government's reputation on nuclear weapons will take yet another dive.

**Since the TPNW entered into force, nuclear weapons are now:**

***Illegal*** – For the first time, nuclear weapons are banned under International law. 59 nations now have laws banning any and all involvement in developing, possessing or providing aid in the development of nuclear weapons.

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**Unpopular** – From citizens to elected officials, the majority of populations want nuclear weapons banned, eliminated and they want their countries to join the TPNW.

**Untenable** – Serco (UK) became one of the first companies to declare they would no longer bid on nuclear weapons' contracts. The companies involved in nuclear weapons production recognise increasing risk, noting in their annual reports that governments can choose to cancel contracts and terminate even long-term agreements.

[READ ON](#)



## **Call to Local Councils to declare support for No Nuclear Submarines for Australia**

In past decades many city councils throughout Australia declared themselves Nuclear Free Zones and recently have taken up ICAN's (International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons) pledge to support the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

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The Australian Government's decision to purchase nuclear powered submarines from either the US or UK is a retrograde step for a nuclear free Australia and increases the threat of war.

No Nuclear Subs - South Australia calls on city councils in South Australia to support the campaign of No Nuclear Submarines for Australia.

[READ ON](#)





# **IPAN Statement on Julian Assange**

Jan. 25, 2022

*The overnight news Julian Assange's legal team will now take his case to the UK supreme court provides another small window for the Morrison Government to act to prevent the extradition of Australian citizen and journalist Julian Assange to the USA.*

The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) is calling on the Morrison Government to immediately secure Julian Assange's release from prison and to urgently communicate with the President of the United States of America with a strong message that the charges against him be dropped.

## **Your help is needed!**

Call, write, tweet and post on Facebook:

PM Scott Morrison (02) 9523 0339

FM Marise Payne (02) 9687 8755

Labor leader Anthony Albanese (02) 9564 3588

Labor shadow FM Penny Wong (08) 8212 8272

**READ ON**

**Message of solidarity from IPAN to NZ Anti-Bases Campaign**

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The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) sends greetings to our colleagues across the Tasman. The Anti-Bases Campaign is congratulated for maintaining the voice of reason, in the face those who thrive and prosper on the prospects of perpetual war.

We, who espouse the cause of peace, are facing very trying times. The need to protest against all war-related activities is more important than ever, because the threat of war is growing with every announcement from within the military Establishment.

IPAN commends ABC's action on January 29 and agrees that the entire Waihopi Spy Base needs to be dismantled – as does the base at Pine Gap in Central Australia.

Waihopi and Pine Gap offer no protection from terrorists or viruses, or, for that matter, the climate crisis. There are no military solutions to these threats to security, which can only be properly addressed through nations acting in concert, with mutual trust – that is to say, without the ongoing threat of military engagement. We are comrades in the global struggle against militarism and war.

With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

## **The US-funded 'think tank' pushing Australia towards war**

by Bruce Haigh

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*The Australian Strategic Policy Institute is irrationally hostile towards China and has unprecedented influence over Australian defence policy.*

“Oh, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive” is a lexicon, introduced by Sir Walter Scott in the poem *Marmion: A Tale of Flodden* Field (1808).

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) should absorb the message. For the past five years it has been deceiving and dissembling over China’s intentions in the region. Donald Trump and his acolytes got it going with substantially increased funding from the US government and arms manufacturers that saw profit in raised levels of tension. Trump thought he could bully China into allowing an uncompetitive America regain lost markets.

**READ ON**



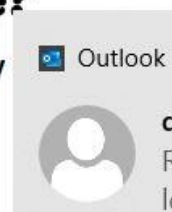
**PAX CHRISTI VIC.**

**invites you to**

**Where does Australia’s Security Lie?**

A one-day online Conference on Australia’s Perception of Security  
in a Militarising Asia Pacific Region

**February 19<sup>th</sup> 2022**



Details of the Pax Christi conference [HERE](#)

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## **Join Grannies for Peace and special guests for this Valentine's Day webinar!**

This free, public webinar will address the topic of how U.S. sanctions starve Afghans and how we can shift to policies based on love.

The timing will be February 15th at 12 a.m. in London, 3 a.m. in Moscow, 3:30 a.m. in Tehran, 5:30 a.m. in New Dehli, 8 a.m. in Beijing, 9 a.m. in Tokyo, 11 a.m. in Sydney, 1 p.m. in Aukland, and February 14th at 2 p.m. in Honolulu, 4 p.m. in Los Angeles, 6 p.m. in Mexico City, and 7 p.m. in New York.

**[Sign up here to get the link.](#)**

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alternatives to violence project  
queensland

## February 19. 20. 2022

**Basic Workshop**

**Dates** - Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th, February  
**Times** - 9 am - 5pm - this includes a lunch break

**Venue**  
Lotus Place  
46 Cleveland St,  
Greenslopes  
QLD 4120

**Cost**  
\$80 waged  
\$40 unwaged  
No cost/ donation for those who cannot afford it.

Please bring some food to share

Find out more about AVP  
Alternatives to Violence Project  
Facebook: Alternatives to Violence Project Queensland  
Web: avpq.org.au

Our workshops are grounded in belief that there is power and good within everyone

Help participants discover new and creative ways to responding to conflict

Help participants uncover strengths and skills within themselves to deal with conflict or potential violence in a positive way

Limited places please register now

Registration  
Please complete the registration form and send to:  
Neil  
admin@avpq.org.au  
0490 481 828

Experience pathways of peace and discover how to create them in living our daily lives

Affirmation  
Communication  
Co-operation  
Community Building  
Conflict Resolution  
Trust

Registration for AVP Non Violence Project workshops [HERE](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS

to the Hunter Peace Group being named Newcastle's  
Community Group of the Year

## Coming Events

**National Webinar: Resisting AUKUS and War on China** by Sydney Anti-AUKUS Coalition (SAAC) with Prof. Norm Chomsky, Dr Lisa Natividad (Guahan), Steve Murphy (AMWU National Secretary),

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Natalie Wasley (environmentalist) and Nick Deane (SAAC).

Saturday, 12th February at 11 am AEDT.

Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/resisting-aukus-and-war-on-china-tickets-260756548857>

**PERTH:** Join us in Perth's Murray St Mall at 12 noon on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> February to support our stand against the purchase of nuclear submarines.

**MELBOURNE: Pax Christi Vic Conference: Where does Australia's Security Lie? 19th February, 2021**

**MELBOURNE:.**

**AUKUS will cost the earth- Information Webinar**

**Thursday 24 February 2022, 7pm**

Speakers:

**Richard Tanter** – Melbourne University Nautilus Institute

**Margie Beavis** – Medical Association for Prevention of War

**MC - Dave Sweeney** - Nuclear Free Campaigner with Australian Conservation Foundation

Questions and Discussion

Register for the webinar: [noaukusvic@gmail.com](mailto:noaukusvic@gmail.com)

Hosted by *No AUKUS Victoria Coalition*

**ACT:** Dr Sue Wareham is speaking on AUKUS at Manning Clark House, on Sunday, 27th February at 4 pm; Details: Penny Lockwood: 0407 483 474

**National** IPAN Webinar by zoom: An alternative defence policy with

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Dr Albert Palazzo, Sue Rosen and Cameron Leckie; Wednesday 16th March at 6pm. Access details in March Voice.

**National:** Next Zoom national meeting of the Coalition against AUKUS, the nuclear subs and the march to war will be held on 20th March 2022 at 3pm. Access details in March Voice.

## **BRISBANE: PALM SUNDAY RALLY FOR PEACE AND REFUGEES**

Sunday, 10th April in King George Square 2pm.

\*Free the refugees - close the camps and hotels

\*Permanent Protection not poverty

\*Increase the Refugee Intake

\*Peace not militarism - stop the wars that create refugees

## **RAPID PUBLIC RESPONSE**

In the event of an imminent major military conflict, military invasion or war actually breaking out, IPAN organisations in the following states, urge everyone to rally :

**In Melbourne**, outside the State Library in Swanston St, Melbourne, from 5pm that evening- bring banners and placards - family and friends

**In Adelaide**, on Parliament Steps at 4.30 pm that evening – bring banners and placards – family and friends.

**In Newcastle**, at the Clocktower, Hamilton, 4.30pm that evening- bring banners and placards and tell family and friends

**In Canberra**, on the median strip at the corner of London Circuit and Northbourne Ave.

**In Brisbane**, at King George Square, 5 pm

Voice is produced and edited by the Media Group of the IPAN co-ordinating committee. It is produced for IPAN affiliates to:

*\*provide a medium for communication of their campaigns and activities*

*\*provide a medium for discussion of issues central to IPAN's objectives*

*\*provide affiliates with details of co-ordinating committee activities, media releases, lobbying*

*activities and other actions taken on behalf of IPAN*

*\* provide information on issues/events relating to IPAN's objectives*

Contributions to Voice, in information or comment, should be emailed to :

[ipan.australia@gmail.com](mailto:ipan.australia@gmail.com) and limited, if possible to 200 words.

The Media Group takes editorial responsibility for choice of content and is responsible to the IPAN co-ordinating committee. **Disclaimer:** Voice publishes a range of articles which reflect the broad movement for an independent and peaceful Australia but not all articles will necessarily reflect IPAN's position."

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