

Blue Mountains Peace Collective

Newsletter

"Peace is the only battle worth waging." - Albert Camus



15 June 2025



The Bearded Ladies Choir

The Bearded Ladies Choir at the Anzac Day Reflection, Peace Park in Katoomba, 25 April 2025

About the Blue Mountains Peace Collective

This is the Blue Mountains Peace Collective's first Quarterly Newsletter for 2025.

Mission

The Blue Mountains Peace Collective Inc (BMPC) is a community organisation advocating for global nuclear disarmament and a peaceful, independent Australia.

We work with other local groups campaigning on conflict-related issues such as global warming, the climate crisis, refugees and environmental degradation.

We partner nationally with the [Independent and Peaceful Australia Network](#) (IPAN) in calling for an independent Australian foreign policy and to secure peaceful, just and sustainable development in our region.

We also partner with the [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons](#) (ICAN) in urging the Australian Government to make good on its commitment to sign the Treaty

on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) or Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty.

We support peace initiatives that are based on justice, human rights and respect for international law, rather than coercion, force and military interventions.

Meetings

BMPC's AGM was held on 15 February 2025 in Katoomba. At that meeting, seven members were elected to the collective's committee.

All members are welcome to attend our monthly meetings, participate in discussions, share ideas and help organise events.

Activities

The main event organised so far this year was the Anzac Day Reflection held on 25 April 2025.

Members have also attended community events in recent months, including Blackheath History Forums, Mountains for Palestine rallies in Katoomba

and a Leura Uniting Church gathering with Dr Keith Suter on ['Making Peace in the World Today'](#).

Membership

Membership of BMPC costs \$5.00 per calendar year.

Members receive regular updates on BMPC and community events, together with copies of the eNewsletter.

For more information contact Cathy: bluemppeace@gmail.com

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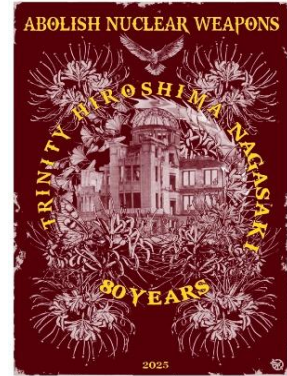
- 'Ban the Bomb - Sign the Treaty'



Peace Sculpture in Peace Park, Katoomba



Desperate Palestinians at an Israeli/US run food distribution 'death trap' in Gaza.



ICAN's 'Week of Action for Abolition' poster

Past Events

Anzac Day Reflection

BMPC organised an [Anzac Day Reflection in the Peace Park at Katoomba](#) on 25 April 2025.

Attracting over 120 people, this was the first time that such an event has been held in the Blue Mountains.

These reflections offer the opportunity to ask some hard questions about the Gallipoli campaign during World War I and other military engagements e.g. (a) Why did we so readily go to war? (b) What was achieved? and (c) Was engagement in our long term national interest?

It was argued that we need to learn from past military tragedies so we can minimise them occurring in the future.

Surely this is an important way of honouring our war dead.

Advocating for the Australian Government to become a champion of peace and a vocal opponent of militarism and genocide is another way that we can honour our war dead.

Israel's War on Gaza

The United Nations has demanded immediate international intervention to stop the wanton killing and starvation inflicted by the Israeli government on Palestinians in Gaza.

In addition, the [UN Human Rights Commission](#) has stated: *Escalating atrocities in Gaza present an urgent moral crossroads and States must act now to end the violence or bear witness to the annihilation of the Palestinian population in Gaza – an outcome with irreversible consequences for our shared humanity and multilateral order.*

Given Israel's genocidal actions in Gaza, Mountains for Palestine has called on the Australian Government to immediately impose sanctions against the ultra-nationalist Netanyahu regime.

Recently [Australia's legal profession](#) called on the Australian Government to implement 10 urgent actions to help end Israel's genocide in Gaza.

Actions & Events

- [Mountains for Palestine](#) rallies are held every second Saturday each month in Katoomba.
- [Wollongong Against War and Nukes](#) will be hosting an activist hub at the Wollongong Art Gallery 25 July to 12 August 2025.

Special Event

'Ban the Bomb, Sign the Treaty'

Coinciding with [ICAN's 'Week of Activities for Abolition'](#), a joint public forum organised by the Planetary Health Initiative and the Blue Mountains Peace Collective (BMPC) will be held on **Saturday 2nd August 2025 between 2.00pm and 4.00pm** at 33-39 Acacia St, Katoomba NSW 2780.

A number of speakers, including ICAN's Ambassador Robert Tickner AO, will talk about the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as the urgent need for the Australian government to sign and ratify the [Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](#) (TPNW), also known as the Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty.

Further information will be posted on [BMPC's facebook page](#) closer to the date.

Blue Mountains Peace Collective

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