



A Chorus of Women

Canberra Conversations

Remembering war – seeking peace

Tuesday 15 April 2014

6.00–9.00 pm

Manning Clarke House, 11 Tasmania Circle, Manuka, ACT

A light supper will be served

Participants at A Chorus of Women's Centenary Canberra Conversation, 'Our Canberra', in July 2013, suggested that Canberra should seek ways to change from a city of war memorials to a city of peace memorials. A Chorus of Women is actively seeking ways to address this idea both through development of a 'singing peace memorial' — a community choral work called A Passion for Peace — which we will perform in April 2015 (see our website) and through our other conversations and singing activities.

At this pre-Anzac Day conversation we will explore the following questions:

- How can we best respect the memory of loss and trauma suffered by Aboriginal people during Australian settlement?
- How can we best respect the memory of those who have been killed or traumatised by war?
- How could the Anzac story help Australia to contribute to a just and sustainable international peace?

This conversation is being developed as a preliminary event for the Canberra Peace Convergence, 21–25 April 2015 (www.ipan.org.au/#/events) and the 4th annual lantern-lit Anzac Eve Peace Vigil, 24 April 2015 (see below).

FACILITATOR: Janet Salisbury

MUSICAL DIRECTION: Johanna McBride

PTO for further details and booking information

ABOUT CANBERRA CONVERSATIONS

Since 2009, A Chorus of Women has hosted nine innovative public meetings that have provided an opportunity for collaborative dialogue on a range of important issues for Canberra, primarily relating to climate change, urban development and environmental sustainability, at the same time as exploring the role of the creative arts in public discourse. Our three-hour conversations are based on the principles of dialogue, which include careful listening and exploration of different views to allow emergence of an alternative to the adversarial debate that we see in politics, the media and other public discourse. We use story and song as part of our conversations to allow emotional and ethical aspects of a topic to be voiced. These human qualities are of central importance but are not easily brought to the fore in public forums. See a report of our Centenary Canberra Conversation at: www.chorusofwomen.org/events.htm#Conversations .

BOOKING AND FURTHER INFORMATION

BOOKING: Please RSVP to janetsalisbury25@gmail.com by 12 April. Interested participants are advised to book early as Manning Clarke House is an intimate venue and spaces are limited to about 35. To help us plan the event, feel free to also send us information about yourself and your ideas for the conversation in response to the above questions.

COST: A donation towards the cost of supper and printing would be appreciated.

CONTACTS: For further information contact Janet Salisbury: janetsalisbury25@gmail.com; mob 0416 167 280.

WEBSITE: www.chorusofwomen.org

Anzac Eve Peace Vigil and community conversation

The 4th annual lantern-lit Anzac Eve Peace Vigil will be held on 24 April from sunset. The vigil starts at the top of Mount Ainslie with a welcome to country from Indigenous elders and, as darkness falls, walkers with lanterns will make their way down the mountain to join others in the War Memorial forecourt for stories and remembrance of the trauma suffered by all Australians in time of war. For further details, see www.chorusofwomen.org/events.htm#Anzac_Vigils).

After the lantern parade and vigil at Mt Ainslie and the War Memorial, participants will gather outside West Block (Corner of Anzac Parade and Constitution Avenue) for an outdoor Canberra Conversation to continue the theme of 'Remembering war — seeking peace'. Details to follow.

'Canberra Conversations' is the registered name of a community initiative of A Chorus of Women

a chorus of women