

**Pax
Christi
Australia**

**International
Christian Peace Movement**

National President: Father Claude Mostowik MSC

61+2+9550 3845

0411 450 953

mscjust@smartchat.net.au

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His Excellency
Peter Underwood
Governor of Tasmania
Government House
GPO Box 1574
Hobart Tasmania 700

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you on behalf of Pax Christi Australia which is the Australian branch of the international Christian peace movement Pax Christi International based in Brussels and founded in 1945 to foster reconciliation between Germany and France after the Second World War and now working throughout the world to build peace, reconciliation and overcome conflict.

I want to thank you for your wonderful speech on ANZAC Day this year, and also for the previous speech you delivered in 2013. Our organisation understands, given the hype about ANZAC Day, but does not accept the criticism levelled towards you following your speech. Our organisation is collaborating with other peace organisations to develop in Victoria and New South Wales a project to lead up to the 2015 Anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in the hope of changing the narrative from one of glorifying war to recognising the trauma, loss, damage, waste of war.

We support your call on educators and the nation to concentrate on peace, expose the truth about war and stop glorifying past battles through descriptions of the 'mythical tall, lean bronzed and laconic Anzac'. We hope to include stories of resistance to war not in terms of cowardice and lack of patriotism but as true humanity, true patriotism. The call to declare 2015 as the year of peace is so much to be welcomed.

On behalf of Pax Christi Australia, again I thank you for your humanity and courage.

Yours sincerely

(Father) Claude Mostowik msc

*Pax Christi is a Christian worldwide movement for peace and disarmament.
It regards justice and human rights as central to peacebuilding
and fosters the spiritual dimension of peacemaking.*

Postal Address: PO Box A681 Sydney South NSW 1235 Australia