



Peace Boat #96 Voyage visit to Australia in 2018. South Australian Traditional Owners aboard.

In January 2018, the Peace Boat came to Australia with community members impacted by the nuclear industry in Japan on board. This provided an opportunity for Aboriginal Traditional Owners to share their stories and rally together against the nuclear chain.

The people of Japan and Australia have experienced the impacts of the nuclear industry, from the tragic bombings of

Hiroshima and Nagasaki and Fukushima reactor melt-down - to the ongoing radioactive contamination from nuclear testing on Aboriginal land in South Australia and the impacts of uranium mining.

Australia has faced the global and local issue of nuclear waste, with communities on the front line under pressure from a current federal government push to dump Australia's nuclear waste. One of the goals of the Peace Boat tour is to put pressure on the Japanese and Australian Governments who have not yet signed the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (2017).

WARNING: this report includes images of people who have passed away.



Top image: L-R, Sonja Gaston, Janice Wingfield, Glen Wingfield, Karina Lester, Josh Hughes, Regina and Vivianne McKenzie and Sue Haseldine in front of Peace Boat. Left: the Tal-Kin-Jeri dance group at Passenger Terminal, Outer Harbour, SA.



Peace Boat is a Japan-based international non-governmental and non-profit organization that works to promote peace, human rights, equal and sustainable development and respect for the environment. Peace Boat carries out its main activities through a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages. On the 96th voyage, it came to Australia and partnering with ICAN, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons they visited ports in Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart and Sydney to present a speaking tour called 'Making Waves'.



Aboard the boat and speaking out about their experiences on the entire voyage included;

Mr TANAKA Terumi, Nagasaki Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 13), Co-Chair of the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) TANAKA Terumi was born on April 29, 1932. At age 13, he experienced the atomic bombing of Nagasaki while inside his house located 3.2 kilometers from the blast center.



Mr and Mrs HASEGAWA, are from the Iitate village in the Fukushima Prefecture and were evacuated from their farm and home when the Fukushima nuclear disaster began in 2011. Mr Hasegawa is a local community leader; he has also been involved in many books and documentaries focusing on Iitate and the



Left images: Karina Lester speaks at Press Conference; Sonja and Janice talk with Peace Boat passengers and Hibakusha; Mr Hasegawa from Fukushima speaks and the crowd at Making Waves, Adelaide. Right images: Regina and Vivianne with Mr Miyake, a Hiroshima survivor. Mima Smart talking straight out and right, Mr Tanaka, a survivor from the Nagasaki bombing in Adelaide.



aftermath of the power plant explosion. Mrs Hasegawa became the manager of the temporary housing settlement from August of 2011 following the evacuation of her village. This was the second time that the Hasegawas had visited Australia. The first time saw them on a speaking tour of Australia and a visit to the Ranger uranium mine, on Mirarr country in the Northern Territory.

Scott Ludlam, is an ICAN Ambassador and former Federal Senator for the Australian Greens, representing Western Australia.



Scott held the nuclear issues portfolio for nine years, during which time he contributed to campaigns on uranium mining, waste dumping and nuclear weapons.



Karina Lester, a Yankunytjatjara Anangu woman and second-generation nuclear bomb test survivor, grew up on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands (APY Lands) in South Australia. Her late father, Yankunytjatjara elder Yami Lester, was blinded by the “black mist” fallout from the British nuclear tests at Maralinga and Emu Field in the 1950s. Karina was a part of the Making Waves project from Fremantle through to Sydney with three of her children: Josh, Willy and Larissa Hughes. Karina spoke at the Making Waves forums onshore and delivered powerful speaking sessions onboard the Peace Boat as a guest educator.

From Adelaide, other SA Traditional Owners joined the trip including:

Sue Coleman Haseldine, a Kokatha woman from the far west coast of SA. Sue has worked with ICAN for a number

of years talking about the impacts of the atomic bomb testing in South Australia. Sue travelled to New York to take part in the nuclear ban treaty discussions and travelled to Norway in 2017 as ICAN received the Nobel Peace Prize. Sue travelled with her grand-daughter **Mia Haseldine** and great-grandson **Alex**.

From the Kokatha Community, **Glen Wingfield, Janice Wingfield and Sonja Gaston** came onboard. Glen and Janice’s mother, the late Mrs Wingfield, had a lifetime of nuclear-free advocacy from talking about the bomb testing in South Australia in the 1950s, to opposing the Roxby uranium mine in the 70s and 80s and being a part of the Kupa Pitj Kungka Tjuta in the 90s and 2000s - a group of senior desert women who successfully fought off a Federal Government proposal to build a nuclear waste dump in South Australia.

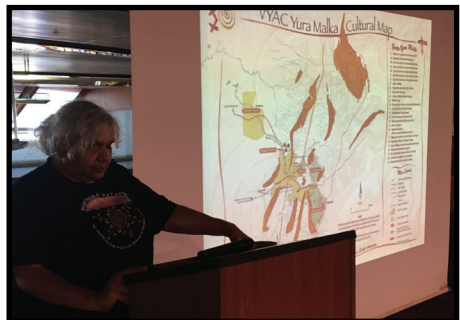


Regina and Vivianne McKenzie from Yappala Station in the Flinders Ranges joined the tour to speak out about the current pursuit for a nuclear waste dump in South Australia. With current pressure from the Federal Government, Regina and Vivianne discussed how this element of the nuclear chain is threatening cultural heritage sites and causing stress and division within the community. One of the sites under threat at Wallerberdina in the Flinders Ranges is home to a registered story line that runs for 70 kilometres.

From Conservation Council SA and the Australian Nuclear Free Alliance was **Cat Beaton** and her son Marlin-Jack Melis. Cat has worked with communities facing nuclear issues for over a decade. Cat spoke about the recent defeat of a State Government plan to import one third of the world's high level nuclear waste to South Australia and the community efforts made to keep resistance alive.

When the Peace Boat came to South Australia, it was greeted with a Welcome to Kurna Country by Bonny Brodie and a dance performance by the Tal-kin-jeri dancers and Uncle Moogy Sumner. This was followed by a press conference hosted by the Maritime Union of Australia and with statements from the Port Adelaide Mayor Gary Johansen, Port Adelaide MP Susan Close, peace advocate Leonie Ebert, and second-generation atomic bomb survivor Karina Lester,

Left: Kokatha women Mia Haseldine and Sue Haseldine. Right: Vivianne McKenzie presents aboard the Peace Boat. A slide of the late Mrs Wingfield in Glen's presentation. The panel of SA speakers in the Nuclear Australia session. Regina McKenzie with the Yura Malka map aboard the Peace Boat.





and Akira Kawasaki from Peace Boat. This event unfolded at the passenger terminal at outer harbour and attracted members of many unions, peace organisations and the passengers from the boat.

Testimony Sessions: In the afternoon of Monday 29th January, Karina Lester chaired a meeting between Peace Boat passengers and special guests impacted by the nuclear industry in Japan and Australia. The meeting opened with introductions from South Australian Traditional Owners sharing the history of nuclear impact in South Australia: from the atomic bomb testing at Emu Field and Maralinga, to multiple uranium mines and attempts to establish nuclear waste dumps. Our special guests were treated to Kangaroo curry made by Regina McKenzie.



After introductions, the attendees split into four groups with interpreters to share stories and experiences. Vivianne and Regina McKenzie sat in a group with a gentleman called Mr Miyake Nobou. He was 16 years of age and traveling in a tram towards the hypercentre when the bomb was dropped at Hiroshima. He survived as he jumped out of the tram at the time of the explosion; those who stayed on board were killed or injured. There wasn't a dry eye as Mr Miyake shared his story. Vivianne and Regina were able to convey their sadness and talk about the concern held by Aboriginal people about the mining of uranium and it's shipping overseas.



Top left: Sue Haseldine and Scott Ludlam being interviewed for Umeewarra Aboriginal Radio. Peace Boat Captain Anders Wingerson and crew with Cat Beaton and Glen Wingfield and the Aboriginal flag. Vivianne McKenzie with Captains Anders Anderson and Carlos and the Adnyamathanha flag; Vivianne interviewing Mr and Mrs Hasegawa from Fukushima.

Members of the Yalata community talked about the impacts from the bomb testing in the 1950s and 60s.

Adelaide-based artist Telimenka Tarlowski coordinated making a banner to mark the Peace Boat visit to Adelaide. Members of the testimony forum contributed words and handprints.

Making Waves: In the evening of Monday 29th January, a public event was held at the Gallery Yampu in Port Adelaide. An audience of around 150 heard from spokespeople from the Peace Boat Voyage, Mr Tanaka, Mr Hasegawa and Mr Ludlam, as well as from South Australian Traditional Owners linked to nuclear impacts.

Glen Wingfield from the Kokatha community talked about his mother's involvement with the Kupa Piti Kungka Tjuta and the campaign

to stop a nuclear waste dump in SA in the early 2000s – he spoke about their attitude towards nuclear waste from the British nuclear bomb tests that were carried out in the 1950's at Maralinga and Emu Field:

"The message was that they didn't want it, because of what they had endured years ago over in the west - where the same thing (as Japan) happened there - they dropped a bomb there and we don't know how many people were killed over there as they didn't have records of people."

Mima Smart, from the Yalata community talked about the disaster and dispossession that had occurred after the British dropped bombs at Maralinga.

"When the people came through the area where the Maralinga bomb had been tested – from the small to the last big bomb was tested - they didn't know the danger, they didn't understand."



Sue Haseldine with Mr Tanaka.

Uncle Kevin Buzzacott, an Arabunna elder and President of the Australian Nuclear Free Alliance closed the meeting reminding us all to keep the fight alive.

Aboard the Peace Boat, some of the South Australian guests presented to hundreds of passengers in a forum called Nuclear Australia.

Auntie Sue and Mia Haseldine from the far west coast of SA talked about the importance of country, holding strong links to culture and passing down stories and practices through the generations. Auntie Sue talked about the many impacts and threats to her region. From the effects of the atomic bomb testing and ongoing health issues which people face – the threat to her grandchildren living in the area. Auntie Sue shared the story of stopping a

mining company's operations in a region and continued advocacy against nuclear waste dumps.

Regina and Vivianne McKenzie shared their current battle against the Federal nuclear waste dump and spoke again about their campaign to stop the dump.

When the Peace Boat docked in Melbourne the Making Waves event at ACMI saw Karina Lester present on her late father's and family's experience under the nuclear bomb test at Emu Fields. Janice Wingfield spoke about her mother's work and opposition to uranium mining, nuclear waste dumps and shared her commitment to keep fighting.



Group photo on the Peace Boat.



Top: Sonja Gaston, Akira Kawasaki - from Peace Boat, Mr Hasegawa, Mrs Hasegawa, Janice Wingfield and Marlin-Jack Melis. Left Karina Lester is interviewed for Umeewarra Radio station and Karina Lester presenting at the Making Waves forum in Melbourne.

We are truly grateful for the amazing opportunity and wish to thank the following organisations for their support: Peace Boat, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) SA Branch, Anti-nuclear and Clean Energy Collective (ACE), Flinders Local Action Group (FLAG), Graham F Smith Peace Foundation, Conservation SA (CCSA) which made this event possible. We send a very special thanks to Meri Joyce and Akira Kawasaki – Peace Boat, Gem Romuld – ICAN and Mara Bonacci – CCSA for efforts to coordinate events and travel for South Australian reps.

Peace Boat: www.peaceboat.org
 ICAN: www.ican.org
 CCSA: conservationsa.org.au



Top: Karina Lester, presents a guest lecture on the Peace Boat; Sonja Gaston, Regina McKenzie, Akira Kawasaki, Janice Wingfield and Vivianne McKenzie at Making Waves event in Melbourne. Below: Some of the SA crew onboard the Peace Boat.

