

The human rights community shows their support for the Castan Centre



Prominent supporters of the Centre Julian Burnside, Stephen Curry, Michael Kirby, Myf Warhurst and Jessie Taylor proudly don the 'tee.

For our 2015 Annual Appeal we decided to try something a little different and ask some of our prominent supporters to show their support by donning an "I support the Castan Centre" tee shirt. Sharing the photos of these 20 supporters (19 human, 1 space exploring dog), we created a huge buzz across our social media with more than 20,000 people seeing the photos on Facebook alone.

Our first photo featured Castan Centre patron Michael Kirby and he was followed by prominent human rights supporters from both the Legal and Entertainment industries, including comedians Stephen Curry, Meshel Laurie and Tom Ballard, activists Jessie Taylor and Senthoran Raj, Australia's favorite marsupialist cartoonist First Dog on the Moon, former Judge of the International Court of Justice, Christie Weeramantry,

commentator and presenter Waleed Aly, and, leading advocate for asylum seekers Julian Burnside.

Our Annual Appeal is a vital fundraiser for the Centre and without it we would not be able to contribute to shaping policy debates in Australia and overseas.

Already this year we have:

- Spoken out against the unacceptable treatment of asylum seekers, LGBTI discrimination, prison overcrowding, the attacks on the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and many more issues.
- Made submissions to the Victorian and South Australian parliaments urging them to legalise same-sex adoption, and to the Federal Parliament on conditions at the Nauru detention centre.

- Worked for stronger human rights laws by engaging with the federal inquiry into the protection of traditional rights and freedoms in Australia and the Victorian review of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.
- Highlighted the issues of foreign fighters, racialised policing and current humanitarian crises by hosting free public events for capacity audiences.

Our Annual Appeal is one of the most important events on the Castan Centre calendar and this year we had a lot of fun raising money for a serious cause.

It's not too late to make a contribution to our work. Just go to law.monash.edu/castancentre/donate

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