



Jan - Feb 2024, Issue 122

## AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION

The Australia Day celebration in Toowoomba took place at Picnic Point on 26 January. The event commenced with a Peace Prayer led by Venerable Zhiyang and Rev. Dylan Miegel, representing the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group (TIWG).



## LUNAR NEW YEAR REUNION LUNCH

This year of 2024 marks the Year of the Dragon, commencing on 10 February 2024 and concluding on 28 January 2025. In Chinese culture, the dragon holds a profound significance as an auspicious and extraordinary creature, renowned for its unparalleled talent and excellence. It symbolizes power, nobility, honor, luck and success. On Lunar New Year's Eve, the Pure Land Learning College Association Inc. hosted a reunion lunch for all the Venerables, staff, volunteers and our students.





## TOOWOOMBA INTERFAITH WORKING GROUP

### FIRST MEETING IN 2024

The meeting took place on 7 February at the Pure Land Learning College. During the session, the organizing committee delved into planning the agenda for the upcoming Peace Conference scheduled for the 18 May.



## CALD PARTNERSHIP MEETING

### FIRST MEETING IN 2024

The first Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Partnership Meeting for the Darling Downs District of the Queensland Police Service in 2024 was hosted at the Pure Land Learning College Association Inc. The primary objective of this monthly gathering is to bring together individuals with a shared interest in fostering safer communities for culturally and linguistically diverse populations through the establishment of connected and engaged relationships.





### THE MORETON BAY GOODWILL COMMITTEE

#### FIRST MEETING IN 2024

The Moreton Bay Goodwill Committee, with support from the local government and the community, is orchestrating an Annual Symposium on Saturday, 13 April, at the Abbey Complex. This event is a collaborative effort with the Pure Land Learning College Association Inc. Simultaneously, the Youth Conference 2024 will also be taking place.

Pictured here are the key members of the organizing committee, chaired by Father George and assisted by Sister Veronica, engaging in brainstorming sessions and finalizing the conference details.



### THE TOOWOOMBA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION & PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE RESEARCH GRANTS

## APPLY FOR A RESEARCH GRANT.

Round 1 applications close  
Friday 29th March 2024.



The Toowoomba Hospital Foundation & Pure Land Learning College Research Grants provide Darling Downs Health staff with the opportunity to explore and implement life-saving and life-changing initiatives for patients. The aim is to promote and encourage research activities within Darling Downs Health, with two rounds of grants available each year.

These scholarships are awarded in two categories: Novice (up to \$20,000) and General (up to \$50,000). Applications for Round 1 of the Research Grants are now open and will close on 29 March, 2024.

For any inquiries, please contact the Research Grants Coordinator at DDHHS-Research@health.qld.gov.au or call (07) 4616 6696.

To apply, please visit the website:  
<https://www.toowoombahospitalfoundation.org.au/darling-downs-health-staff-hub>



# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC.

## MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

EVERYONE MATTERS - TOOWOOMBA, A MODEL CITY OF PEACE & HARMONY



### "NRITYA PONMALAI"

#### A GOLDEN EVENING OF BHARATHANATYAM AND INDIAN CONTEMPORARY DANCE

On 17 February at the Empire Armitage Centre, the Hridayam School of Dance, led by the Principal Amutha kandasamy, showcased a stunning classical Indian dance performance to raise funds for RACQ LifeFlight Rescue. The talented school-age students of the School left parents beaming with pride.

Mayor Geoff McDonald, Lisa McDonald, Councillor Bill Cahill, and Councillor Melissa Taylor attended, adding prestige to the event. Members from the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group also enjoyed the cultural celebration, highlighting the night's unity and appreciation for diverse traditions. Here's to more special moments like these!





# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC.

## MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

EVERYONE MATTERS - TOOWOOMBA, A MODEL CITY OF PEACE & HARMONY



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## THE MORETON BAY GOODWILL COMMITTEE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM AND YOUTH CONFERENCE 2024

The Moreton Bay Goodwill Committee, in collaboration with the Pure Land Learning College Association Inc, is hosting the third Abbey Annual Multi-Faith & Cultural Dialogue Symposium Saturday 13th of April 2024 "Embracing Diversity Celebrating Unity" at the Abbey Complex.

The Abbey Youth Forum "Youth 4 Youth" will be held parallel to the Abbey Symposium 2024. It is envisaged that the Forum will be led by our young people themselves, representing the wider Moreton Bay Region, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba and Camp Hill, Brisbane.



## NATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE 2024 CENTERED AROUND 'SOCIAL FLOURISHING'

We are announcing our first Peace Conference in 2024 which will be on 18 May, centered around the theme of 'social flourishing'. Link for registration: <https://events.humanitix.com/social-flourishing-a-toowoomba-community-forum>

National Peace Conference 2024

MAY 18

Guest Speaker  
Professor Edwina Pio

We are thrilled to have Professor Edwina Pio as our esteemed guest speaker. She is the University Director of Diversity and a Professor of Diversity at Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand, and holds a Ph.D., B.Ed., and MNZAC. Additionally, she serves as a visiting professor at Boston College, USA, and Cambridge University, UK. Prof. Pio's research delves into the intersections of management, work, ethnicity and spirituality/religion.

With notable publications such as "Sari: Indian Women at Work in New Zealand" and "Caste Away: Unfolding the Maori-Indian," she is currently exploring religious diversity in organizations from both employer and employee perspectives.

Beyond academia, Prof. Pio is a registered counselor and actively contributes to the board of the Australia New Zealand Academy of Management, providing pro bono services to migrants. Stay tuned for conference registration details!