

# MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Forum to focus on helping refugees from war-torn countries in Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is a sponsor of World Vision's *Just One World* Launceston public forum on Monday (May 14) to raise awareness of the war experiences of refugees who come to Tasmania.

*The Forgotten Victims of War* forum will feature speakers such as Najeeba Wazefadost, winner of the 2011 Young Woman of the West Award, president of the Hazara Women of Australia and case manager at Settlement Services Australia.

Also speaking will be Rebecca Cuthill, formerly of the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and now manager of the Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal based at UTAS, and Damien Kingsbury, director of the Centre for Citizenship, Development and Human Rights at Deakin University.

Launceston Deputy Mayor Jeremy Ball will be the forum's moderator. Singer and advocate for the poor Levi McGrath will perform at the event.

The forum will help Tasmanians understand the situation of refugees, some of whom are UTAS students or now live in Tasmania, who have been forced to leave their homes as a result of armed conflict, violence or human rights violations. It will also be presented to students at Newstead College the same day.

UTAS Global Education Project co-ordinator Dr Marion Myhill from the Faculty of Education, which is supporting the forum, said the toll of wars is immeasurable.

"Something needs to be done for those forced to flee the place they once called home," she said. "The forum will discuss what we can do for refugees who have already been through so much."

Anyone from the public can attend; there is no cost but those expecting to attend should RSVP at [www.onejustworld.com.au](http://www.onejustworld.com.au).

### **MEDIA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND TWO EVENTS:**

1. **Student forum** at Newstead College, Monday 14 May, 1pm-2pm;
2. **Public forum** at Launceston College, Monday 14 May, 6pm-7.30pm.

### **Information Released by:**

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