

# President's comment:

With the end of the financial year drawing near, I am sorry to report that DCI-A was unsuccessful in its bid to obtain gift deductible status from the Australian Taxation Office. It seems that our advocacy, policy analysis and advice services in respect of children's rights are not seen to deserve this significant benefit.

That makes your continued support all the more critical to the survival of our organisation. Please help us start the new financial year on a confident footing by promptly renewing your association with DCI-A using the enclosed form.

At our May National Committee meeting, we canvassed the question of increasing our subscription/membership/affiliation rates to meet rising costs but decided we should not. Instead, we resolved to appeal to *each of you* to try to increase our support base by inviting at least one colleague to join DCI-A.

Please make that commitment and act on it.

To help you use your powers of persuasion, we have put together in this edition of *Australian Children's Rights News* is a showcase of our commitment to provide both depth and breadth of news coverage on children's rights issues and reports of our work on a host of topics.

As promised, we have compiled a special selection of pieces about missing and abducted children, a subject of significant local and international importance and complexity, which the authors' contributions illustrate. We have also put together feature updates on two "hot topics" we have been actively pursuing: juvenile justice and the plight of asylum seekers.

If you would like extra copies of this edition to entice colleagues to join, please feel free to contact me (0409 311 510).

**Please note too that I have a new e-mail address: [dannysan@uunet.com.au](mailto:dannysan@uunet.com.au).**

Finally, if you have a fund raising idea, our Treasurer Sophia Cason would love to hear from you. Contact her by e-mail: [sophia.cason@dfat.gov.au](mailto:sophia.cason@dfat.gov.au) or 0412 843 594.

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The views expressed in Australian Children's Rights News are not necessarily those of DCI. Articles, reports, information about meetings and conferences can be faxed to the Editor, (02) 6257 6722 or emailed to: [dci-aust@dynamite.com.au](mailto:dci-aust@dynamite.com.au)