

May - July 2010

News



Serving the Community since 1956

Published by the Australian Asian Association of WA Inc.

Cocktail Reception to Farewell MR. PAUL FARRELL

“Thank you to Olga, Mel and everyone at AAA for a memorable evening. I was really humbled by the event and will always remember my dealings with AAA and all the communities very fondly. I’m sure we’ll catch up during one of my visits to WA in my new role but all the best for now.”



Mr. PAUL FARRELL, the former State Director of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship in Western Australia



New State Director, Mr. JOHN MOORHOUSE and his wife Jocelyn at the function



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SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR THE COMMUNITY

▶ SETTLEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM:

Funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Please contact Sophia Karutjindo in Joondalup Office on **(08) 9300 2720** or austasia2@iinet.net.au

Office Hours: 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday, except Tuesdays: Sophia meets with CaLD women's group at a Community Centre, Merriwa.

▶ EMERGENCY RELIEF:

Funded by Lotterywest and Department of Family and Community Services.

Available to those who find themselves in a financially difficult situation.

- AAA Perth 275 Stirling St, Perth (08) 9328 6262
- AAA Joondalup Lotteries Complex Office Suite 10/70 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup (08) 9300 2720
- AAA Gosnells Community Lotteries House Suite 3/2232C Albany Hwy, Gosnells (08) 9398 9156
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm

▶ TRIPLE A CARE:

Funded by Commonwealth and State Governments.

Please contact Chris Brama
CACP Coordinator on **(08) 9228 9833**

Please contact Sarojini Fernando
HACC Coordinator on **(08) 9328 7688**

Tholla Chan CPP Coordinator
on **(08) 9328 6202**

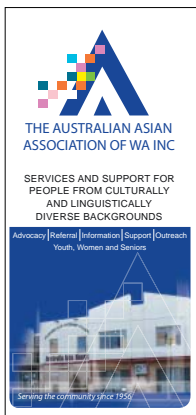
▶ IMMIGRATION:

Qualified Migrant Agent
available for free consultations and assistance.

Please contact Olga Ramasamy on
(08) 9328 6202
or email: austasia1@iinet.net.au



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has the capacity to seat 40-60 people

- Wall mounted white board
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- Charges from \$75 to \$150 + GST

Committee Room available for meetings seating up to 12 people (for member only).

FOR BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION (08) 9328 6202

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CONTACT THOLLA (08) 9328 6202

President's Message

Greetings once again to our dear family members. It was a great pleasure to meet so many of you at our Cocktail party to farewell the outgoing State Director of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship Mr. Paul Farrell and welcome the new State Director Mr. John Moorhouse and his lovely wife Jocelyn. Paul was deeply touched with the adieus and has promised to be in touch with AAA in his new expanded role as Global Manager for Citizenship, Settlement and Multicultural Affairs, Department of Immigration and Citizenship.



As promised I will keep you apprised of the personnel and their roles at the Association. In 2001 the Association received a Federal Government subsidy to care for Australians over the age of 70 from the South East Asian communities. This came about as a result of the lack of age care services for this target group and the high demand for residential care. The funding for Community Aged Care Packages (CACP) is now helping us provide age care in their own homes. Once you are recommended by your GP and referred to us by the Age Care Assessing Team team (ACAT) our Association sends out a carer to the home. The carer will help with Social Support, Domestic Assistance, Personal Care and Transport depending on the assessed needs. The co-ordinator for this Programme is Chris Bramananda, who with his ready smile and conversational style has been in charge since this arm of the Association, Triple A Care, was established. The funding for this service is on-going and we currently have a few vacancies. I appeal to you that if you are aware of any community members over the age of 70 who may be eligible to please call Chris at the Association on 92289833 to obtain further information. I would also appeal to academics in our Association to help with our submission to the Productivity Council on the Issues paper, Caring for Older Australians. This paper can be downloaded from the Internet. The submission will address service delivery to meet the future needs of CALD Communities. I cannot place more emphasis on the importance of our contribution to this Issues Paper. Whilst on the care issue many of our members who enjoy the facilities under our Federal/State funded HACC Programme may be slightly alarmed to be made aware that a new system of assessment to access the programme is being envisaged. It is planned to have a central agency for client referrals. A lobby has been established by the CALD HACC providers to challenge/modify this new system as it may adversely affect access by CALD clients.

It is very gratifying to note that the contributions made by the multicultural business community to the Australian economy are being recognized. The Belmont Business Council recently launched the Small Business Awards. Last week a new Multicultural Business Award was launched in Perth to recognize medium to large businesses. If any members are aware of businesses that may fit this category could you kindly inform the Association, as the awards will be presented in October and November respectively.

In the Youth area our Youth Worker is running a very busy programme with English Language and computer classes, plus driving workshops and networking with many of our target youth groups. It is also hoped to establish a Womens' sub committee at the Association. Please contact the Association if you are interested.

I would also like to make members aware of the disturbing trend in the severe reduction of the State Government funding to organizations which have been established for a very long time and have proven their worth with an excellent track record within the grass root ethnic communities. We urge you to write to the Minister John Castrilli on this issue. We must resist or be punished without a voice on the State and Federal agenda. Please contact the Association and we will show you how.

We had many ethnic organizations continue to join our growing conglomerate. I personally thank you for your personal support and tremendous trust you place in me as President to lead the Association into an exciting future.

Unity in Diversity

Mel Fialho



CEO'S Message

We are approaching the end of the financial year with which comes loads of work on getting the accounts audited, preparing acquittals for grants, and getting ready for the Annual General Meeting.

We took on an enormous job to prepare and submit a tender for the provision of Humanitarian Settlement Services to new refugee arrivals. We hired a consultant as it was too big a job for me to handle on my own, but at the same time, it was time consuming for me, as I had to be available several hours a day with all the necessary supporting information. We are hoping that we will be awarded at least part of the tender.

The Executive Committee has appointed a Constitution Committee to re-vamp the existing Rules to make it more relevant to the manner in which the Association currently does business. You are no doubt aware we have expanded our services and with it adopted new policies and procedures, which has made it necessary to ensure that the Rules keep pace with the new developments. The Executive Committee has also appointed a sub-committee to implement some or all of the Strategic Plan to move the Association forward.

Working with newly arrived migrants and refugees we have been made acutely aware that there are a lot of issues facing the women and families from this target group. A very disturbing trend is the frequency with which some of the men return to their country of origin and leave the wife and children to do it alone. We have been considering setting up a women's sub-committee to assist with dealing with many of the issues facing refugee and migrant women in their efforts to settle themselves and the children in a new environment. We hope to engage some of the women with leadership potential to help us achieve better outcomes in this area.

Whilst we have a large number of volunteers helping us in several areas, we have been lacking a structured program to utilise the many skills in a more productive fashion. I am currently preparing a submission to Lotterywest to access funding for the setting up of a structured volunteer program which will include training opportunities to improve their existing skills and learning new skills to be able to contribute to our existing and new programmes.

Thank you to our members for your ongoing support to the work of the Association in the past year.

Olga Ramasamy - CEO

The City of Gosnells in partnership with the Langford Aboriginal Association and the local Aboriginal Community present

NAIDOC WEEK 2010

Unsung Heroes – Closing the Gap by Leading Their Way



Monday 5 July to Friday 9 July

Flag Raising Ceremony - Monday 5 July, 11 am at Lyl Richardson Hall

Youth and Family Day - Tuesday 6 July, 10am to 2pm at Beckenham Community Centre

Elders' Lunch - Wednesday 7 July, noon at Lyl Richardson Hall*

Community Breakfast - Friday 9 July, 9am at Langford Aboriginal Association

All activities are free.
For bookings or information
please call the Community
Development team on
9452 9905 or email
soneill@gosnells.wa.gov.au

*Bookings are essential



From the Deputy CEO/ Editor

Dear readers/members

I am sorry to advise that this is going to be my last issue. It has been my pleasure to work as editor for AAA Community News for the last two years. I wish to thank everyone for their support in the production of the newsletters.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all our readers/members for their encouraging feedback.

My role as Deputy CEO will also cease at the end of June. I must say that I have enjoyed working at AAA since July 2008. I would like to thank the CEO, Olga Ramasamy, and the Executive Committee for the opportunity to learn and make some contributions in keeping with the Strategic Plan. It has been a real pleasure meeting with many interesting individuals and communities during the course of my duties as deputy.

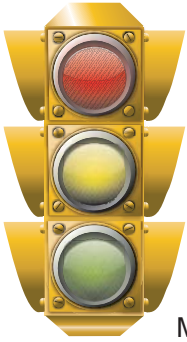
The good news is I will continue to work as coordinator of the Community Partners Program on a part-time basis.

You will still see me around AAA three days a week. I wish you all well.

Tholla Chan

YOUTH PROGRAMME

Become a good WA Driver



On the 15th May 2010, the AAA Youth Programme coordinator organised a workshop entitled 'Become a good WA motorist' to new migrants 18 to 25 years old in the lesser hall of Australian Asia House. The purpose of this workshop was to address the importance of having a WA Driver's Licence and the process of obtaining it.

More than 30 people from Thai, Burundi, Congo, Rwanda and Kenya communities attended the workshop. Mr Bruce Moore, Manager, Business Centres, Frontline Customer Service of the Department of Transport conducted the workshop with support of his team members as follows:

- **Ms Anita Evans** - Branch Manager, Joondalup Licensing Centre
- **Ms Shelley Dawson** - Supervisor, Counter Operations - Morley Licensing Centre
- **Mr Henslee Carroll** - Motor Drivers Licence Assessor
- **Mr Nigel Daddow** - Motor Drivers Licence Assessor
- **Mr Craig Aspinall** - Motor Drivers Licence Assessor

The guest speakers explained and gave clarification in regard to the authorisation to drive in Western Australia for people who hold Overseas Driver's Licence. Furthermore, they explained the process of obtaining a Learner's Permit – how to prepare for computer based driving assessment and the practical driving assessment. During the workshop, participants asked many questions and the speakers responded in friendliest manner. We received positive feedbacks from participants on the survey forms.

The Australian Asian Association was represented by Mrs Saowarak Srisukkho, an executive Committee Member of AAA.

The Australian Asian Association would like to express its sincere gratitude to the speakers and participants for all their support, without them the outcome of the workshop would have been very different.

Since the information on driving in Australia is seen as an important issue by CALD communities, everyone enjoyed and appreciated what they learned. We hope that the participants would spread the information to other members of their communities and join in other coming events in the future.



AAA Settlement Grant Program in Joondalup

On the 26 May 2010, Sophia Karutjindo, the Community Settlement Officer at AAA Office in Joondalup, and Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs Inc, co- hosted a workshop on Safety for Women at the Butler Community Centre. Eighteen women attended this session.

The presentation was given by a police officer. The session touched on many issues relating to personal security and home safety. It was strongly recommended

that people should lock doors and windows even when at home and putting in place a plan to keep themselves and their property safe.

People need to take a special care about where they place their keys at home when they are at work in order to prevent easy access to those who might break in.

The session was well received and people asked a lot of questions especially on personal safety relating to family members especially for children or teenagers.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM (CPP)

During the month of May 2010, the CPP coordinator of the Australian Asian Association, Tholla Chan, organised two forums for health professionals and aged care service providers, in conjunction with the Independent Living Multicultural Aged care Service (ILC MACS) at the Australia Asia House.



Chelli Rajagopalan:
from The Hindu Community (Former Director of Nursing, Residential Aged Care)



Helen Walker:
Palliative Care Coordinator, Department of Health



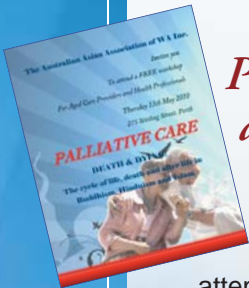
Mr. Andrew Allsop:
Support Manager, Psychosocial and Spiritual Service, Silver Chain



Ajahn Brahm:
Spiritual Director of the Buddhist Society of WA Inc. and Abbot of Bodhinyana Forest Monastery



Dr. Zarrin Siddiqui:
President of Pakistan Association of WA Inc. Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, dentistry and Health Sciences, UWA



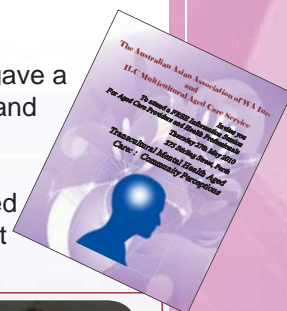
Palliative Care: Death and Dying: The cycle of life, death and after life in Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam - 13th May 2010

A variety of aged care agencies were represented by 50 attendees at this workshop. It was run as an interactive workshop where the guest speakers were moving among the participants after having introduced the topic for discussion at the beginning. The guest speakers as well as the attendees really enjoyed the opportunity of exchanging ideas at the discussion groups. There were five guest speakers for this occasion. Helen Walker, from Palliative Care Network, of Department of Health, started with the overall overview of the palliative care in Western Australia followed by Andrew Allsop, from the Silver Chain, who talked about the hospice services being offered and available to CALD communities. The Guest speakers representing the Buddhist, Hindu and Islamic faiths gave a very informative description of their spiritual perspectives in caring for the dying and the important role of emotional support from families.



Trans-cultural Mental Health Aged Care: Community Perceptions - 27th May 2010

There were approximately 50 people attending this information session. Dr. Bernadette Wright gave a detailed overview of trans-cultural mental health issues in Western Australia. Rosemary Wood and Ben Seikkhu gave an account of their vast experiences from their day to day work with regard to services delivered to older members from CaLD background. Representatives from the various faiths covered the community perspectives of mental health issues and how their family perceived mental health. Jan Mantell from ASSETTS talked about refugees who came to Australia with a lot of past traumatic life experiences and how they coped with mental illness.



The guest speakers on the day were:

Chelli Rajagopalan: from the Hindu community (Former Director of Nursing, Residential Aged Care)

Dr. Zarrin Siddiqui: President of Pakistan Association of Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, dentistry and Health Sciences, UWA

Ben Seikku: Community Liaison Officer, North Metropolitan Older - Adult Mental Health Service

Jan Mantell from ASSETTS



Chris Perrier:
Psychologist,
Representative of
the Buddhist Society
of WA Inc.



Dr. Bernadette Wright:
Specialist Clinical
Psychologist,
Department of
Psychiatry, Royal
Perth Hospital



Rosemary Wood:
Carers Liaison
and Educator
Coordinator
Older Adult Mental
Health Osborne
Lodge

Pamela Siu, the Coordinator of ILC MACS was the convener for both seminars. Lunch and refreshments were served on both occasions allowing time for people to network during lunch and afternoon tea breaks.

Ms Olga Ramasamy, the CEO of AAA, presented each of our guest speakers with a token of our appreciations at the end of both forums. She thanked them for their valuable contribution to the discussions on both topics of relevance in aged care services to the older members of CALD communities.

Once again, we would like to extend a big "THANK YOU" to all our guest speakers for volunteering their time and efforts in making these forums possible. The workshops were on the whole considered worthwhile professional development by the attendees as reflected in some of the following comments:

- Improve general knowledge of different cultures.
- I will have more of an understanding of family needs.
- Better network and resources.
- It was very good but would have been better if we had been given some hand outs of to read later and to refer back to.
- It was encouraging to see how diverse palliative care was with the different cultures. Very helpful but it would have been better with hand outs of each speaker.
- I really enjoyed the sessions. Very helpful. Thank you. Will be interested in future sessions.
- This apparently was very enjoyable meeting different people.
- The whole experience was extremely interesting and useful and useful.
- Has increased my awareness of cultural differences and re-enforced need to ask each person their needvery valuable.
- Enjoyed the ability to network.
- Raised awareness of various cultures.
- Asking appropriate questions
- Emphasise the value of exploring patients spiritual issues.
- Thank you for the delicious food and drinks. Your effort was greatly appreciated.
- Assisted me in supporting multicultural residents in their last days.
- Improve my cultural understanding and enable my work practices /knowledge to assist both my clients and their families including fellow colleagues.
- Everything is excellent.
- Information received is useful for future planning of our services.
- I thought the suggestion to use skype for CALD clients was a very practical solution.
- Yes, will be more sensitive to mental health problems in persons of diverse backgrounds and to seek appropriate solutions to enhance their lives.
- Would consider including aspects of cultural assessment guide in data collection during admission.
- Information received is useful for future planning of our services.



BAAWA ANNUAL CULTURAL PROGRAM 2010

7th AUGUST SATURDAY 2010

Bangladesh Australia Association of Western Australia (BAAWA)

BAAWA Annual Cultural Program 2010 will be held on 7th August 2010 at Rixon Theatre, Penrhos College, Como. Supported by Lotterywest, Office of Multicultural Interests, and Curtin University, about 750 people from across the multicultural communities are expected to attend this multicultural inclusive event. In addition to the 40-45 young talents of Bangladeshi citizen in Perth, colourfull multicultural teams from Nepal, India, Congo, and Macedonia are expected to perform at this inclusive event.



The Current Executive Committee of BAAWA

Hon. G M (John) Castrilli MLA, Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests or his representative is expected to inaugurate this inclusive grand program. Dignitaries from different Universities and Corporate bodies are also expected to attend the program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
DR MOHAMMED ALI ON 0421 968 168



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

The Australian Asian Association
IS LOOKING FOR
A VOLUNTEER

who might be able to come in a couple of days a week to handle the incoming telephone calls and assist with Emergency Relief clients.

WE ARE ALSO looking for a volunteer who may be interested in women's affairs in the community.

For further information please contact :
Olga Ramasamy on
9328 6202 or
austasia1@iinet.net.au



Tewin Siripatanakulkajorn, Youth Coordinator at AAA and **Mr. Denver Finch**, a volunteer.

Mr. Denver Finch
was presented with a
Certificate of Appreciation

for his contribution as teacher of English at AAA.



CONGOLESE COMMUNITY OF WA Inc.

“COCOWA”

You might not know about COCOWA, here is the opportunity to get the picture of who we are. As suggested by the name, COCOWA is basically an association whose members are mainly Australian residents or citizens originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, a country located in central region of Africa. However COCOWA welcomes any other individual or association within the broad Australian community who wishes to become member, regardless his country of origin as stressed in our current Constitution.

The Association was created in 2002 and became an incorporated organization in July of the same year. Most members arrived to Australia on humanitarian grounds having been assessed for resettlement from refugee camps in neighbor countries, but many others arrived in Australia on skilled or student visas. As the immigration resettlement program went on the number of new arrivals grew more and more over the years. The majority of newly arrived Congolese migrants became members of COCOWA and up to date, our association has the membership of more than 600 members.

The association got a new momentum since the election in August 2009 of the new executive committee with Mr. Kenasi Kagisi being elected the president/chairman of the association two years after he arrived in Australia to serve the community in a term of two years. The newly elected committee, soon after taking over from the previous committee, has been working hard to consolidate its partnership with other associations/communities, to get in Australian system of harmony and participation. We have participated in various activities such as workshops, training and celebrations of other communities, and have attended numerous government conferences. We really delight to be part of those activities and we feel our association has been greatly strengthened and matured from those various experiences. We always avail ourselves and are remaining eager to associate with other organizations or government services in partnership and sharing cultural and experience to become a fully participating element in the development of this beautiful country, Australia that we now call home.

We also want to seize this opportunity to look forward and invite all possible sponsors, partners and friends to join us on our great event of “the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the independence of the Democratic Republic of Congo” on early July. Many activities are planned to take place, such as Soccer game, Christian Mass, Congolese fashion parade, dance and Music show. At this event we also except other cultural groups to join us and perform and entertain the public. We have a special message to this occasion: “Do not tell me that you love your Community, your country, Australia..., but show that you love your Community, your country, Australia”. We do believe this is the time to get into ACTION.

THE CONGOLESE COMMUNITY CONTACTS

1. Kenasi Kagisi	President	kenasuk@yahoo.co.uk	0413433998
2. Kachuchu Rashidi	Vice/President	N/A	0401889535
3. Joskat Said	Secretary	jaskat18@yahoo.com.au	0403674683
4. Rachel Chikonga	Treasurer	rachelnya2000@yahoo.fr	0423206653

THE CONGOLESE COMMUNITY OF WA INC. “COCOWA”

P.O. Box 3203 Adelaide Tce WA 6832 / Ph: 9343 6529 / Mob: 0413 433 998 / E-mail: cocowainc@yahoo.com.au



SONGKRAN FESTIVAL PERTH 2010



Over the last 30 years the Thai-Australian Association of WA has taken responsibility for organizing significant events on the Thai calendar. For Thais, the temple is at the centre of the celebration of festivals and so for the first time, with the generous support of the Buddhist Society of WA, Songkran was held at the Dhammaloka Centre in Nollamara.

Songkran is the traditional Thai New Year, celebrated over three days in mid April, the hottest and driest part of the year. It typically begins with merit making by offering food to monks, releasing birds into the air and fish into streams and paying homage to one's elders, family and friends. It remains

an occasion when young men and women may begin courting and culminates with a procession of young women in beautiful costumes and the announcement of Miss Songkran. Songkran is always associated with water as a symbol of cleansing and renewal. The blessing ranges from respectful pouring with scented water to the dousing and drenching of everyone in sight.

And so it was that after much preparation the day of celebration arrived on Saturday 17th April. Food stalls were set up in the parking area, as well as marquees being erected in the park for a program of entertainments including traditional dancing, the Miss Songkran beauty pageant and a singing competition. The event commenced with the traditional blessing from the monks and a formal opening ceremony with speeches by the Association President, Ms Saowarak Srisukkho, in the presence of government representatives and other dignitaries. The highlight of the ceremony was the release of nearly 100 balloons loaded with sunflower seeds as a symbol of new beginnings.



The Association was delighted to welcome about 700 guests and visitors during the day to enjoy the delights of Thai cuisine under the trees in the park, while watching the music and dance performances. Of particular interest was the parade for Miss Songkran. Dressed in silk of various hues and adorned with gold jewellery, each of the eleven entrants looked striking as they made their entrance. The judges had a difficult task but after a testing time for each of the beauties, Ms Marisa Lennie was judged the winner with Ms Wararad Yeatman and Ms Patra Upracaha as first and second runners-up. The singing competition was equally close, with Ms Thanida Plengpanich declared the winner and Ms Rhiannon Smith, a close runner-up.

As Songkran is incomplete without a liberal drenching of water for all and sundry, a visit by members of the local fire brigade had been arranged. While a dunking machine had received some interest and a respectful washing of hands had been visited on dignitaries, the arrival of the fire brigade heralded the real spirit of Songkran. Children emerged from the spray of the fire hose with soaked clothes and a look of delight on their faces. It was clear that New Year had arrived and the past had truly gone.



The day proved to be a great family occasion, suitably connected to the temple and cultural tradition. The Thai-Australian Association of WA was pleased to offer the event and be involved in bringing both the Thai and wider community together to celebrate the spirit of Songkran.



The 65th Anniversary for the End of World War II in Europe for the Russian People and the Rest of the World

Sunday 9th of May 2010 was a day of double celebrations. Not only was it Mother's day but it was also the 65th Anniversary for the End of World War II in Europe for the Russian People and the Rest of the World.

To celebrate this important day the RSCWA held a special gathering where Soviet veterans recounted their war experiences and others who lived through the war told of their lives during and afterwards.

Those who attended were treated to music, anecdotes, visual displays and reminders of both the horrors of war and the sacrifice of those who

died in the war, both military and civilian. The young people who attended experienced first-hand just what their forebears had survived.

A meal replicating what was eaten during the war consisted of a dram of vodka, pickled vegetables, fish, bread potatoes, gruel with pork and other meats, finished off by sweet cakes and tea/coffee.

After the meal there were sing-along and dancing and celebration of the 65th Anniversary of this Important Universal Historical Day.



Russian Social Club of WA Inc



A Big Thank You!



Cocktail Reception to Farewell MR. PAUL FARRELL



A Cocktail Reception was held, at the Australia Asia House on 15th June 2010, in honour of Mr. PAUL FARRELL, the former State Director of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship in Western Australia.

Up to eighty representatives from AAA member organisations and individual members came to farewell Mr. Paul Farrell who was described as one of the most approachable, friendly and helpful state directors of DIAC.

We wish him well in his new role as Global Manager of Citizenship, Multicultural Affairs and Settlement for the Department of Immigration and Citizenship in Melbourne, Victoria.

We also had an opportunity to welcome the new State Director, Mr. John Moorhouse and his wife at our function.

We look forward to working closely with Mr. John Moorhouse on issues related to immigration and settlement in our state.







13+ INTERNATIONAL.INCUBATE FASHION

You are invited to join us in
Perth, Australia
September 2011



INTERNATIONAL FASHION CONFERENCE HEADS TO PERTH

Carol Hanlon, Founding Manager of the Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre Inc. (TCFWA), Designedge Fashion Incubator and Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc (Belmont BEC) is delighted to announce that the 3rd International Fashion Incubator Conference will be held in Perth, September 2011 during the staging of Perth Fashion Festival.

The International Conference will offer new opportunities for fashion business educators and fashion trade events from around the globe to network, discuss best practice and expand global designer marketing and promotional opportunities. The event will also launch an International Fashion Incubator Organisation that will form strategic alliances, share networks and develop new opportunities for Fashion Incubators and its designer members.

The bid for the conference was made possible through a scholarship awarded to Carol Hanlon from the 2009 City of Perth Convention Scholarship program which provided Carol the opportunity to travel to Atlanta USA as a conference presenter and bid to bring the conference to Perth 2011.

Delegates attending the Perth Fashion Incubator Conference will gain new skills, create opportunities

and build new networks with other fashion incubators, support centres, educators, conferences, festivals, trade events. Carol has already received interest from speakers from the Fashion Incubators in Los Angeles, Toronto and Amsterdam to attend Perth in 2011. Additionally, expected in attendance will be organisers from other Incubators and Fashion Weeks in the world including New Zealand, China, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, the USA, Europe, the UK, Malaysia and Singapore.

Ms Hanlon said, "The scholarship I received enabled me to travel to Atlanta and attend the 2nd International Fashion Incubator and convince organisers to bring the next conference to Perth. This will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to highlight Perth as a fashion savvy centre, and will expose Western Australian fashion to the world."

For more information:

Media Contact: **Carol Wallbank**

Create Enterprises

Ph: 0408 201 610

www.tcfwa.com



CALL FOR PAPERS

**3rd International Conference of Fashion Incubators
11-13 September, 2011**

Conference Themes

- Fashion business growth and professional development
- Incubator best practice, financing and business support available
- International fashion trade exhibitions, festivals and marketing opportunities
- Sourcing global networks for raw materials, manufacturers, agents, retailers

- Indigenous fibres, textiles, traditional crafts, global village sewing projects
- Expand the global fashion 'helpline' network and designer exchange
- Managing Intellectual Property in global fashion and design industries
- Environmental and Eco Friendly Sustainable fashion development
- International trend development and forecasting services
- Virtual Business Incubation, mentoring online, webinars
- Doing Business Online, social media fashion networks

CLOSING DATE FOR PAPERS - JANUARY 31ST, 2011

Email to conference@tcfglobal.com

Community Services, Seniors and Volunteering, Women's Interests

\$106million earmarked to feed rising needs of community

Mrs McSweeney said at least \$106million was allocated to compensate the victims of historical abuse, seniors cost of living rebates, seniors security rebates, fund Foodbank (enabling those in need to save on the costs of food) and maintain and expand community infrastructure such as childcare facilities and neighbourhood centres.

The Minister said demand for food relief had continued to steadily increase over the past years.

"The State Government has allocated \$6million to Foodbank, which distributes food to more than 650 welfare and community agencies, in addition to a further \$6.39million delivered by Lotterywest in the next three years," she said.

Mrs McSweeney said the Department for Communities has responsibility for 71 child care, family and neighbourhood centres across WA, with a current replacement value in excess of \$80million.

"In addition, the Government will continue to ensure WA seniors can access a series of measures designed to lessen their everyday costs with the delivery of free public transport to WA Seniors Card holders and a cost of living rebate that will again be delivered in 2010-11."

The Minister said the Seniors Security Rebate Scheme was implemented in 2009 with Seniors Card holders able to access a rebate of up to \$200 for a selection of security devices.

"This rebate scheme will continue during 2010-11 with an allocation of \$2.5million," she said.

"The first payments to applicants under the Redress WA scheme began early in 2010 and are expected to be finalised in mid-2011."

The allocated \$114.3million budget to deliver the Redress scheme will remain unchanged.

Energy

Rebates and assistance for electricity consumers



The State Government has increased funding for rebates and hardship assistance measures for electricity consumers.

Energy Minister Peter Collier said more than \$18.8million would be provided to eligible customers to help ease financial pressure of rising energy prices.

"We are mindful that price increases are impacting on West Australian householders, particularly struggling families, and have provided a considerable assistance package for those people who are deemed to be in financial hardship," Mr Collier said.

"This is on top of \$12.6million in rebates and hardship measures provided last year to offset electricity prices.

"These families will once again be a priority this year, with rebates increasing in line with electricity tariff rises."

Payments provided through the Hardship Utilities Grant Scheme (HUGS) increased from \$380 to \$408 from April 1, and \$450 from July 1 for households in

the State's south, while payments for households north of the 26th parallel increased from \$633 to \$680 on April 1, and \$750 from July 1.

Other assistance measures include the Fridge Replacement Program; Hardship Efficiency Program; Public Housing Energy Efficiency Program; Solar Hot Water Scheme; and delivery of Hardship and Energy Efficiency Programs in regional locations.

Additional support includes providing efficient water heating in public and community housing, and increasing the number of financial counsellors funded through the HUGS program.

In addition, the Government is working closely with the WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS) to examine alternative electricity pricing structures for low income earners and also consider a more equitable concession framework.

Eligible customers with dependent children can also receive additional funding and rebates are available for air conditioning.



Environment: Tough new penalties for littering

The State Government will encourage people to keep WA beautiful by toughening up Western Australia's littering fines.

The proposed changes will make WA's litter and unlawful dumping penalties among the highest in Australia.

For the first time, higher fines would apply for serious littering offences that pose a safety risk to people, property or animals. This could include the littering of lit cigarettes, syringes or broken glass.

"Littering has the potential to threaten WA's reputation as a clean holiday destination, and to adversely impact on our beautiful natural environment.

"WA unfortunately has a high level of littering compared to other States and Territories. It is estimated clean-up costs for local government, State Government agencies and community groups are more than \$20million a year.

The proposed new penalties are:

Offence	Existing Penalties - WA			Proposed Penalties - WA			
	Infringement notice	Prosecution	Infringement notice	Prosecution		Infringement notice	
	Indiv.	Body corp.	Both	Indiv.	Body corp.	Indiv.	Body corp.
Cigarette butt	\$75	N/A	\$1,000	\$200	\$500	\$5,000	\$5,000
General littering	\$200	N/A	\$1,000	\$200	\$500	\$5,000	\$5,000
Littering that creates a public risk	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$500	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Unlawful dumping (EP Act)	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$62,500	\$125,000

More support for ESL students to be allocated

More than \$7million has been allocated in the 2010-11 State Budget to support school students who speak English as a second language (ESL).

"The additional funding announced today will provide for more intensive English programs, which provide specialist English language tuition for newly-arrived students for up to two years before they enrol in mainstream public schools.

"It will also enable additional specialist resources and training to be provided to staff from kindergarten to Year 12, ensuring WA schools and teachers are better equipped to meet the learning needs of students who do not speak English as a first language."

The Minister said students who enrol in public schools and who previously were not eligible for this tuition, such as those on temporary visa 457, would now be able to access intensive English support. "Three of the existing Intensive English Centres, at Greenwood, North Lake and Koondoola, have the capacity to increase the number of classrooms to accommodate more students," she said.

Perth Waterfront Project

The State Government has reaffirmed its decision to make the Perth Waterfront Project a reality with the allocation of \$21.5million over the next four years.

The Perth Waterfront development will cover nearly 10ha, focused between Barrack and William streets, with a 2.8ha inlet centre piece to bring the river back to near its original banks.

"With the Perth City Link, development of the Cultural Centre and other CBD projects, the Liberal-National Government has a comprehensive plan to revitalise Perth and its surrounds."

Child Protection

The State Government will continue to roll-out new and reformed residential care facilities across Western Australia with an additional \$13.6million in 2010-11.

The Government will also establish and operate a short-stay secure care service in Perth's metropolitan area for young people at significant risk to themselves or others, starting with a nine-bed facility in 2010-11 to cost an annual \$3.5million to run.

Child Protection Minister Robyn McSweeney said the State Government had already established 23 residential care properties across the State.

"A further 27 facilities will be purchased or constructed from 2010-11," Mrs McSweeney said.



Government of Western Australia
 Department of Commerce
 EnergySafety

Do you have pre-1980 gas appliances?

Changes to Western Australia's natural gas supply mean that some domestic natural gas appliances manufactured and installed before 1980 could pose a safety risk and may be replaced free of charge. The changes to the natural gas supply are currently scheduled for early 2012.

**APPLIANCE
 RECTIFICATION
 PROGRAM**

New Laws

The Western Australian Parliament recently made changes to the Gas Standards (Gas Supply and System Safety) Regulations 2000, providing for the broadening of the gas quality specification for natural gas supplied to consumers. Domestic gas consumers will benefit from these changes as it will allow more gas producers access to the market increasing competition and security of supply.

Appliance Rectification Program

It is possible that some pre-1980 domestic natural gas appliances may not perform as well as they should on the changed gas.

Pre-1980 domestic natural gas appliances that may be affected include:

- cookers, such as cook tops, ovens, and freestanding cookers;
- space heaters, including flued, flueless and wall furnaces; and
- water heaters, both storage and instantaneous.

For safety reasons, EnergySafety proposes to prohibit the use, sale and installation of pre-1980 gas appliances that are not inspected and certified as safe, at a date to be determined by the Director of Energy Safety, but prior to the changed gas coming on stream.

What to do if you think your gas appliance needs replacing

If you have domestic natural gas appliances that were manufactured and installed **before 1980** it is important you contact the Appliance Rectification call centre on 1800 110 464 or complete the application form online at www.gasapplianceprogram.com.au as soon as possible. Following completion of the online form you will be contacted by the call centre to arrange for a licensed gas fitter to inspect the appliance(s) at no cost.

Brand new replacement appliance

If, following inspection the appliance(s) is considered unsuitable for use after the gas supply has changed, you may qualify for a brand new replacement appliance(s) at no cost to you.

This publication is available in other formats on request to assist people with special needs.

For additional information on the program visit

- www.gasapplianceprogram.com.au
- Appliance Rectification Call Centre on 1800 110 464
- EnergySafety website www.energysafety.wa.gov.au



Emergency Services

Emergency Services Minister Rob Johnson is urging West Australians to begin preparing their homes and properties for the start of the storm season after the State was recently battered by one of its worst storms in 16 years.

“To prepare for this year’s storm season, residents should:

- check roofs and gutters.
- trim branches around the home to prevent and clear trees from powerlines.
- store or weigh down loose objects around the home;
- prepare an emergency kit with portable battery-operated radio, torch, spare batteries and first aid kit.
- organise an emergency plan, including a relocation plan for family members and pets in case the home becomes flooded, and know how to turn off the gas, electricity and water supplies.”

INSURERS SIGN UP TO SECURE HOME BUILDING INDEMNITY COVER

In Western Australia, all residential building work valued at more than \$20,000 must be covered by Home Indemnity Insurance. Under a deed with participating insurers, the State Government provides indemnity for claims between \$10million and \$90million from the collapse of any one builder.

The Government has agreed to retain the current mandatory scheme for a fixed period of three years.

Home Indemnity Insurance protects homeowners from loss during the building process should their builder die, become insolvent or disappear during the six-year warranty period.



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VIII WORLD ANGLO-INDIAN REUNION 2010 PERTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA

'We Are One Family'

Once every three years the Anglo-Indian Community worldwide organises a reunion to celebrate their culture. Over the years similar reunions have been held in Australia, Britain, India, New Zealand and Canada. These reunions draw large numbers of people from both overseas and the host country.

The first Reunion was held in the UK in 1989. This year the Australian Anglo Indian Association (Inc) Padbury has the privilege to host this event.

The Reunion VIII Logo (above) **“We are one Family”** represents the diaspora of Anglo-Indians coming together at the Reunion to celebrate their heritage and culture and to strengthen the belief that, despite living in all parts of the world, Anglo-Indians still see themselves as one community.

An eight-day programme, **commencing on 25 September**, with a Meet and Greet at Gloucester Park, provides the exciting opportunity to catch up with old friends. The evening will also include music, dancing, and a dinner/smorgasbord meal. (\$45.00 per adult \$25 per child)

Day 2 (26/9/10) is the Official Opening with a Variety Concert at the Perth Convention Centre where the best Anglo-Indian and local talent will be showcased in a three-hour extravaganza. The show will trace the show-biz history of Anglo-Indians, whilst acknowledging its roots and the country of its adoption. The programme promises an excellent, fun filled night. (\$65.00 per adult \$50.00 per child)

Day 3 (27/9/10) A Tour of the famous Swan Valley an opportunity to sample their wines, savour mouth-watering chocolates finish off with lunch and games at Whiteman Park. (\$60.00 per adult)

Day 4 (28/9/10) View Perth's landmarks, visit Caversham Park, on to the Association's Cultural Centre for a typical AI meal, returning via King's Park for Perth's stunning views. (\$45.00 per adult \$35.00 per child)

Day 5 (29/9/10) A Jam Session at the Vasto Club, Balcatta in typical AI tradition - good music, dancing and a delicious Indian buffet. (\$45.00 per adult)

Day 6 (30/9/10) The Symposium at the Vasto Club Balcatta. Mr. Basil Sellers will be the keynote speaker. The Symposium will provide an overview of how Anglo-Indians have succeeded in their adopted countries together with an outsider's perspective, (an anthropologist who has studied the community, will provide her findings from extensive studies she has undertaken of Anglo-Indians) and finally to hear from Anglo- Indian Organisations both on the Indian Sub continent and overseas, their views on what can be done to alleviate this cycle of poverty. (\$35.00 per adult \$10.00 per child)

Day 6 evening continues with a Food Fair at the Vasto Club a sumptuous range of authentic AI and Indian food available for sale. (\$10.00 per adult)

Day 7 (1/10/10) Bus to exciting Fremantle, take in a tour of the old Prison wander this old city, shop in their famous markets or enjoy a coffee or gelato. (\$30.00 per adult)

Day 8 (2/10/10) an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service St Mary's Cathedral to thank God for the graces bestowed upon the Community and praying for its future prosperity. (No charge)

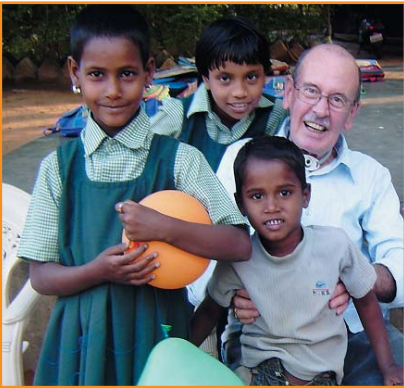
The closing event on Day 8 is the Gala Ball at the prestigious Convention Centre. The evening will include a sumptuous three-course dinner (table service) with unlimited beer, wine and soft drinks throughout the evening. An AI Band will play your favourite music and Shayne Hyrapiet, a young and talented Anglo-Indian entertainer from Kolkata, India will perform. (\$175.00 per adult)

The organizing committee has worked hard and long to make these events “special” for all who attend and welcome the general community to share in these celebrations.

For further information call the Association's office 9.00 am – 12.00 noon Monday to Friday on 9401 3482 or visit <http://reunion.australian-anglo-indian-association.org.au/Home>



AUSTRALIAN CHARITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO HOMELESS KIDS



PKFI Founder John McCulloch of Wagin, WA at PCS

In India trains are the most common mode of long distance transportation and on these trains there are groups of dirty, skinny children who sweep the floors of compartments or do other lowly work to scavenge a living. During a trip to India the plight of these children broke the heart of West Australian man John McCulloch and he was determined to make a difference in their lives. When he returned to Australia he founded Platform Kids' Fund Incorporated (PKFI) for the purpose of raising funds to rescue and rehabilitate children trapped in the cycle of begging in India.

In 2000 he returned to India and started Platform Childrens' Society (PCS) which is registered and based in the state of Andhra Pradesh (AP). PCS is managed and run by a qualified group of local people with financial support from PKFI. PCS is run and supervised by Appalu Raju, Ramu (former platform kids) and Jyothi who cooks and

looks after their welfare. Many of the children who choose to take refuge at PCS premises are orphans or kids who are caught in a life run away and gravitated to their wits either in groups begging or doing menial work robbed of their innocence live from day to day drinking, and doing what it takes to usually in an environment is virtually non-existent. PCS children who choose of their free to come and go with no they are cleaned, given medicine, food and importantly a safe and nurturing environment. PCS also runs a school (which becomes a safe home by night) at Kantakapalli (AP) for some 30 children from as little as 5 years, with qualified teachers attending to them in accordance with the State government's curriculum. All this has been possible through donations raised by PKFI overseas and in Australia.



Some of the children at PCS celebrating our 10th anniversary

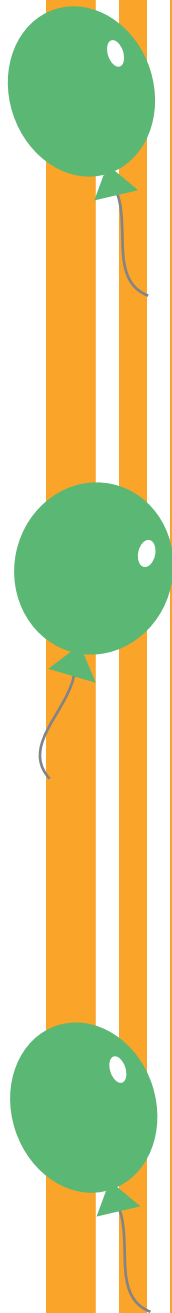
of abuse. They have railway stations where and try to survive by or on their own by work. Often they are and childhood and gambling, stealing survive on their own where social security runs a shelter for free will to get away is located near a busy (AP). Children are strings attached. Here

John and PKFI are seeking help to raise funds to support the ongoing care of these children. Annual memberships are: Couples \$35/yr, Individuals \$25/yr, Students and Concessions \$20/yr. There are no other obligations on members. Donations, memberships or enquiries can be sent to John McCulloch by email:

platformkids@hotmail.com or by
SMS on 0400577820
Website: www.platformkids.org.au



Jyothi who cares for the children with some of the kids at PCS



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Celebrates:

DR Congo Independence Day

The 50th Anniversary

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5:30 –11:30 pm.**

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