

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC**



**Patron His Excellency Dr Ken Michael, AC
Governor of Western Australia**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10
Western Australian Division**

**Presented at the Annual General Meeting
10 August 2010**

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UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

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UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA WA INC.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2009/2010

OFFICE BEARERS

<i>National Vice President & President WA</i>	Judith A. Parker AM DSJ
<i>Vice President</i>	Carolyne Gatward
<i>Vice President (Organisations) UNYA</i>	Mark Katsikandarakis President
<i>Honorary Treasurer</i>	Harvey Davies
<i>Hon. Secretary</i>	Vacant

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Neesha Seth
Curtis Clark - Office manager
Joseph Caruso - WA Ambassador
Dr Rob Hewson - Chair Environment Committee – resigned May 2010
Tony McRae
Caroline Pembroke - Minute Taker

ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS

National Council of Women - Joan Mann
National Council of Jewish Women WA - Ester Steingiesser
Esperanto Association - Owen Loneragan

Auditor

Mr Geoffrey Rackham

United Nations Association of Australia (Western Australia) Organisational Report 2009-10

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President's Report

The year 2009/ 10 has been a challenging and worthwhile year for the association. Backed by a hardworking committee I have been honoured to lead this vibrant association. I feel the committee and members can be justifiably proud of UNAA(WA)'s achievements this year.

UNAAWA Office: Firstly may I thank Curtis Clark and the office volunteers who are working under difficult conditions to keep the office open during the first period of renovations at Claisebrook Lotteries House. Due to flooding in the office there was a smell of wet carpet, making working in the area difficult. The office was closed in mid June to allow the builders access to the down stairs area. At this stage it is unclear when UNAA(WA) can return to Claisebrook Lotteries House, probably not until the end of September. Sincere thanks to Harvey Davies who has the computer system set up at his home enabling UNAA(WA) to keep in contact with members by email. Thanks to Curtis Clark who visits Lotteries House frequently to collect mail, process it and post to appropriate committee members. The Parkers, Harvey Davies, Carolyne Gatward and Caroline Pembroke have all stored some of the UNAA(WA) equipment.

Subcommittees have been working intensively throughout the year as listed in the various reports. Rob Hewson was farewelled from the Environment Committee. He has displayed strong leadership of this group and will be missed by the Association. We hope to welcome him back as a delegate for the National Conference in 2011. It is hoped UNAA(WA) will have a new chair for this committee in the near future.

- Both the Environment Committee and the Human Rights Committee have presented stimulating programs throughout the year.
- The 2011 National Conference Planning Committee has met five times and is well on track to present a stimulating conference in August next year.
- The Yolande Frank memorial Committee will present its first award this year. The Model UN group headed by Jan Ryan working in partnership with UNYA WA received generous funding from the Federation of University Women WA, which has enabled the continuation of this program.
- The Association has also been represented at number of lectures and events during the past year and UNAA(WA) business cards have been distributed at various functions. There is a continual need to market the Association and its work.
- A useful connection was made when Amnesty International called a meeting of like minded organisations focusing on Human Rights with the aim of establishing a network to facilitate partnerships.

Fundraising and Grants: The need for fundraising is important and essential to keep the Association viable. The loss of financial support from the state government has made it difficult to balance the budget. Carolyne Gatward and her grants team are to be congratulated for their work in securing two substantial grants from the WA Lotteries Commission. The first grant enabled the purchase of a new computer system and data projector. The second provides funding to develop a strategic plan. Sincere thanks to Harvey Davies, Treasurer, who has the difficult task of budgeting

National and International Conferences: Curtis Clark and Judith Parker attended the 2009 National Conference in Canberra. In October 2009 I attended an International Women's Conference in South Africa and was able to visit several projects assisting families living in poverty and extreme living conditions. The 2010 conference will be held in Sydney, beginning with the Status of Women event on Thursday 12 August. The conference will take place August 12 and the council meeting August 13. UNAA(WA) will be represented by Curtis Clark, Carolyn Gatward and Judith Parker. I will represent the Association at The UN

Global Conference, to be held in Melbourne August 30, 31 and Sep.1st. It is expected that the UN General Secretary will attend. In November I will attend the International Council of Women Regional meeting in Auckland New Zealand, representing UNAA. This meeting will examine issues relating to the status of women.

UNYA: On behalf of the committee and members I extend UNYA WA congratulations on hosting the National UNYA Conference in Perth in July. UNYA was active in securing considerable funding for the event. The opening was held at Government House ball room on July 5th and was hosted by the Patron His Excellency Ken Michael AC. Elections took place during the conference. I welcome Nicky Vreugdenhil, the new President of UNYA.

UNAA: Prof. Robert Hill was elected President of UNAA at the Canberra Conference. I have represented UNAA(WA) at the bimonthly teleconferences.

Publications: UNAA(WA) has recently produced a document detailing the Past Presidents and Life members of the Association. This document clearly outlines the strength of the Association and the work done by various Presidents and life members. It will be presented with applications for grants in the future and presented to delegates at the 2011 National Conference.

The human Rights committee has produced a fact sheet on the use of Taser Guns in WA.

The Environment Committee has produced a publicity post card.

The monthly update is an effective line of communication. I thank Neesha Seth for editing this monthly. Office volunteers compile the mail out each month.

The UNAA(WA) website has a number of "hits". Many of the new members and volunteers come to UNAA(WA) through the website. Harvey Davies regularly updates the site.

The UNAA(WA) Facebook page attracts younger members. An intern working for the Association is now working on speakers' kits for use of speakers visiting schools and other venues.

The UNAA(WA) Book club has been established this year. The club meets bimonthly and discusses books dealing with human rights issues. Congratulations to Harvey Davies for setting up this group. The club members share lunch together after the discussion.

UNAA(WA) Ambassador: Joseph Caruso has ably carried out this role throughout the year, representing the association at ANZAC Day services and meeting up with UN Associations as he travels overseas.

As you read this report you will be amazed at the diversity of the work carried out by dedicated volunteers in the Association. I thank each and every one for their commitment to ensuring that the Declaration of Human Rights is understood and adhered to in WA and overseas. None of us can rest until the world is a safer and better place, until the millennium goals are achieved, until the people of the world have access to education, have food to eat and adequate health care.

May UNAA(WA) remain a voice for the people.

Judith A. Parker AM DSJ
President

Auditor's Statement

AUDIT OPINION

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) INCORPORATED

In my opinion, the attached:

- . Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010
- . Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2010

truly reflect the financial activity and the financial year end status of the Association in 2009/2010.



G E RACKHAM
A S A (CPA - AUST)
26-July-2010

Treasurer's Comments

Our major fundraising event in the 2009/10 financial year was the quiz night in July 2009. This night was a great success and raised about \$4680.

Subscriptions over the financial year provided about \$2360. So the sum of these two amounts (\$7040) just slightly exceeded our major expense of the office, which cost about \$6810. Other events were essentially self-funded with negligible net income/cost.

Note that the Model UN Funding of \$5000 is money received on behalf of UNYA for their Model UN and cannot be used for any other purpose.

Donations were received for the following two new funds:

1. The Yolande Frank Memorial Fund was created for an annual school competition and now contains \$1616.
2. The 2011 National Conference Fund, which currently contains \$730. This event should be self-funding but it seems wise to have some funds available for miscellaneous expenses.

Most of our funds are now in a BankWest telenet saver account and this earned interest of \$247. Our registration for GST commenced on 23rd February 2010. This obviates the need to pay GST on the Lotteries West grant for a Strategic Plan.

In summary, apart from the two funds created from donations, our income almost exactly balanced our expenditure. This suggests we will need to again raise about \$5000 from fundraising during 2010/2011.

Harvey Davies
Treasurer

United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division)
Statement of Income & Expenditure for the year ending 30th June 2010

Income

Bank interest		\$247.35	
Donations, raffles, etc.			
	Yollande Frank Memorial Fund	\$1,369.10	
	2011 Conference Fund	\$730.00	
	General	\$93.65	
		<u>\$2,192.75</u>	\$2,192.75
Sales			
	books	\$88.80	
	badges & office charges	\$48.00	
		<u>\$136.80</u>	\$136.80
Membership subscriptions			
	ordinary	\$1,240.00	
	concession	\$565.00	
	family	\$240.00	
	organisation	\$315.00	
		<u>\$2,360.00</u>	\$2,360.00
Events			
	UN Day	\$850.00	
	Huelin Lecture	\$510.00	
	Children's Day Workshop	\$197.40	
	Quiz Night	\$4,979.55	
	Environment Committee events	\$293.20	
		<u>\$6,830.15</u>	\$6,830.15
Model UN funding			\$5,000.00
			<u><u>\$16,767.05</u></u>

Expenditure

Bank charges			\$10.50
Federal UNAA levy			\$460.00
Office			
	rent	\$3,745.00	
	phone	\$808.43	
	computer & website	\$1,314.19	
	photocopying & general expenses	\$941.27	
		<u>\$6,808.89</u>	\$6,808.89
Environment Committee expenses			\$255.00
Global Ambassador expenses			\$100.00
Events			
	UN Day	\$830.00	
	Huelin Lecture	\$574.00	
	Children's Day Workshop	\$22.00	
	Quiz Night	\$300.00	
	AGM	\$44.00	
		<u>\$1,770.00</u>	\$1,770.00
Model UN funding			\$1,000.00
			<u><u>\$10,404.39</u></u>
Surplus			<u><u>\$6,362.66</u></u>

**United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division)
Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2010**

	30-June-2009	30-June-2010
Assets		
Current Assets		
BankWest cheque account	\$3,973.76	\$84.11
BankWest telenet saver account	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$10,246.61</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$3,973.76</u>	<u>\$10,330.72</u>
Non-current Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Assets	<u><u>\$3,973.76</u></u>	<u><u>\$10,330.72</u></u>
 Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Unpresented cheques		
chq # 531	<u>\$55.70</u>	chq # 578
chq # 578		<u>\$50.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$55.70</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
Net Assets	<u><u>\$3,918.06</u></u>	<u><u>\$10,280.72</u></u>
 Members' Funds		
Opening Balance	\$11,927.70	\$3,918.06
Current Year Surplus	<u>-\$8,009.64</u>	<u>\$6,362.66</u>
Total Members' Funds	<u><u>\$3,918.06</u></u>	<u><u>\$10,280.72</u></u>
 Allocation to Special-purpose Funds		
Model UN funding		\$4,000.00
Yollande Frank Memorial		\$1,616.45
2011 Conference	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$730.00</u>
Total Allocation		<u><u>\$6,346.45</u></u>
Remaining Members' Funds	<u><u>\$3,918.06</u></u>	<u><u>\$3,934.27</u></u>

Book Club Report

After a couple of failed attempts to get off the ground during the previous year, we tried again this year with more success. We met four times, with typical attendance of six or so, which proved ideal to have a good discussion in a friendly informal group.

In January we discussed Kaye Murray's book 'Voice for Peace: The Spirit of a Social Activist Irene Greenwood 1898-1992'. Irene was a life member of UNAA(WA).

In February we saw the film 'Invictus' about an incident involving Nelson Mandela.

In April we discussed Viktor Frankl's book 'Man's Search for Meaning'.

In June we discussed Greg Mortenson's book 'Stones into Schools: Promoting Peace with Books, Not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan'.

Harvey Davies
Book Club

Claisebrook Lotteries House Committee Report

UNAA(WA) has been represented at the monthly meetings of Claisebrook Lotteries House Management Committee by President Judith Parker and at times proxy Curtis Clark.

The main business of the committee has been taken up with reports and discussions regarding the renovation of the building. This has been a painful and difficult process for all the tenants. In retrospect it would have been a better proposition to close the building and rehouse tenants for the period of the renovations. The House manager Leena has had to deal with the site manager and the construction workers as well as managing the budget for the build. A number of tenants were rehoused to a City of Perth building in Plain Street. UNAA(WA) has had to contend with extremely difficult conditions and noise pollution until the office was officially closed in June 2010.

Before the closure the office was flooded twice and office volunteers worked in extremely difficult conditions including the smell and dampness of wet carpet. A claim for a reduction on the rent of the office will be submitted to cover the period of extremely difficult and unsafe working conditions and the period when the office has been closed.

Once the renovations are completed the UNAA(WA) office will be recarpeted and painted. The meeting area will be twice the size and will be capable of accommodating 90 people.

The treasurer of the house committee has informed the committee and the tenants of an increase in rent for the 2010/11 financial year. The amount has not yet been announced. Claisebrook Lotteries House has one of the cheapest rents of any Metropolitan Lotteries Houses.

Other business has included the need to evict a tenant, behind in rent and not adhering to the rules of the house. Due warning of the eviction was given.

There has been a change of chairperson, Diane moving to Victoria with her job. An acting chairperson has been appointed for the last two months before the AGM.

I would like on behalf of UNAA(WA) to thank Leena, the House Manager, for her commitment to the renovations, her aim to communicate with tenants and the many extra hours she has worked.

Thanks are also due to Curtis Clark and his team of volunteers for their dedication in keeping the office open under difficult conditions and to those who have packed up the office and stored equipment. Particular thanks to Harvey Davies for relocating the computer system to his home and operating the email connection.

Judith A. Parker AM DSJ
UNAA(WA) delegate to Claisebrook Lotteries House Management Committee

Environment Committee Report

The past year has been busy for us keeping UNEP principles and profiles in the public eye.

Membership, partnership and liaison: We are a continuing member of the Conservation Council of WA, liaising with Greening Australia, Woorloo Brook Landcare, Men of the Trees, Scotch College, Department of Environment and Conservation (Manjimup), Bridgetown High School, and Sustainable Population Australia (SPA). In lieu of an annual fundraiser, environment members supported the greater need of UNAA(WA) and contributed planning, personnel and prizes to the annual Quiz night, which was a very successful night. Special thanks to Bevan Castle as an able and creative MC.

Seminar on WA Biodiversity hotspots, to celebrate 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, was held in May, at Lotteries House, West Perth, in conjunction with SPA. Speakers Pierre Horwitz, Bernard Bayern, Jill St John and Paddy Weaver.

Celebration: We held an afternoon for friends to celebrate the work of member Aleisha-Marie Caruso. We saw three of Aleisha's six-video series, Extinction Sucks. Aleisha created this series for the younger folk, to demonstrate the capacity of small groups and small donations to make a difference to those in the field, working to save our wildlife from extinction. Many thanks Aleisha, it's something we keep in mind when assisting the creation of habitat, locally and globally.

Bridgetown High School: Caroline Pembroke and Henk Stappenbelt visited Bridgetown High School, invited by Stuart Adhill. They spoke to two classes about the use of creative art in the fight to maintain our precious natural environment and endangered species. They spoke about the work of the UN, including UN programs for the rescue and protection of children in danger zones. Caroline spoke to the Armadale-Kelmscott University of the Third Age, on the history and work of the UN, with special reference to UNEP.

John Lemon, from Perth Zoo, and Chairman of the Foundation for the endangered African Wild Dogs, visited us to talk of his work. We hope to be able to run a joint fundraising function with him, probably by the end of the year.

Postcard: Aleisha and Caroline designed an Environment postcard that can be used for PR when we have general functions, along with the new brochures for UNAANA. It has a beautiful image, viewed from beneath, as well as the relevant contact details, etc.

Farewell to Dr Rob Hewson: Every convenor has a speciality, and Rob's was to organise a series of public seminars on topics of current environmental interest. He was very ably supported in this by Henk Stappenbelt, Harvey Davies, Carolyn and Joseph Caruso, Scott Lambert, Leslie and Bernie Keen, Manita Beskow and Caroline Pembroke. The Environment Committee is considering what we would like to do in 2011, the International Year of the Forests. We are looking for a Convenor who could help us put our plans into action. Many thanks to Henk for acting as Convenor until we find a permanent (three year) occupant for the job.

Other States: We received an invitation to the Victorian Division Annual Environment Award Dinner, just too late to inform Rob, who was somewhere east of Norseman at the time. We continue to receive the newsletter from the South Australian Division, thanks to Environment convenor Fr Peter Faulkner, informing us of some interesting and different issues, for example, with regard to nuclear testing.

Travelling Members: Caroline, Henk and Rob have been to Europe, Joseph and Carolyn are currently in Italy, towards the end of a four-month sabbatical, Harvey has been to USA, Aleisha-Marie, everywhere. Manita Beskow is about to take four months for a pilgrimage to her homeland of Brazil, and our best wishes go with her.

Many thanks to those supporters of our activities, whose great ideas and contacts give us ideas for future actions. Thank you to Judith Parker for her advice and hands on support at seminars and fundraisers; to Curtis and Harvey for keeping the information coming through and handling the finances; to Neesha and Curtis for the newsletter, and for making sure that we are represented!

Henk Stappenbelt
Interim Convenor, Environment Committee

Human Rights Committee Report

The committee has continued to meet bimonthly and has been pleased to welcome new members during the year.

In December 2009 in partnership with the WA Aids Council a presentation was held to mark International HIV AIDS Awareness Day. Participants heard about the high level of Aids in Africa and the plight of thousands of orphans, orphaned due to the death of the adults in families from HIV AIDS

Also In December the Huelin Human Rights lecture was presented to mark the UN Human Rights Day. Professor Colleen Hayward presented a thought provoking lecture on the human rights of Indigenous people in WA and throughout Australia. The lecture was presented in the Alexander Library lecture theatre.

In January the committee partnered with the Jewish Women's Council WA to arrange a viewing of the Holocaust museum at the Jewish Centre. Those attending were moved by an account of life before and during the Second World War by a survivor of the Holocaust and the extent of the graphic display. The UN Day for Remembrance of those who suffered in the holocaust will be marked in 2011.

In May the committee partnered with the World Early Childhood Association in an evening with the Children's Commissioner. Money raised that evening will be delivered to ORA Province PNG and used to train childcare workers in Popondetta.

Material has been collected to produce a Fact sheet on the use of Taser guns in WA.

Members of the committee have endeavoured to attend events presented by other organisations relating to human rights issues. Curtis Clark and Judith Parker attended a meeting arranged by Amnesty International to connect the various human rights focused organisations in the Perth region. A network was established to link groups working on similar issues. Partnerships will be encouraged.

A number of members attended the presentation conducted by DFAT on Australian sanctions and the effect of such sanctions on the people of the country.

Joan Mann and Curtis Clark have joined the committee of WARE (Western Australians for Racial Equality) and have committed UNAA(WA)'s support for its annual lecture.

The committee has had a close association with Students Without Borders, Murdoch University.

The Human Rights of those with disabilities and refugees are continually on the agenda.

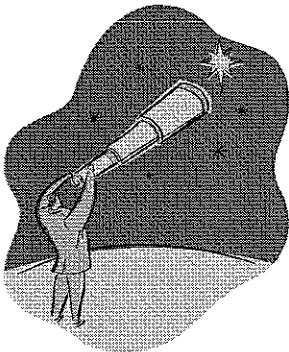
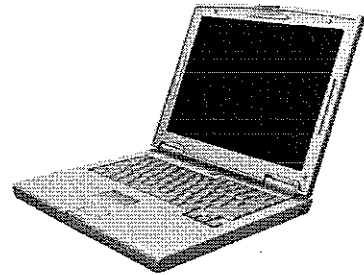
Judith A. Parker AM DSJ
Chair: Human Rights Committee

Lotterywest Grants Report

(i) IT Equipment

In June 2009, a Lotterywest grant of \$4,160 enabled UNAA(WA) to purchase new IT equipment. The equipment consisted of a desktop and laptop computer and a projector and screen.

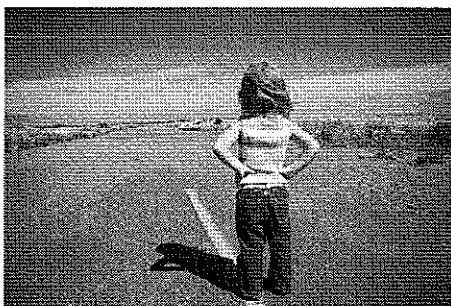
The laptop and projector proved immediately useful at the fundraising quiz night held in July 2009. The arrival of the desktop computer was also most timely as the old computer ceased working soon after the replacement equipment was installed in the office.



(ii) Strategic Planning

Recently, UNAA(WA) was delighted to learn that our strategic planning grant application for \$14,460 had been approved by Lotterywest. The grant will pay for professional fees for a strategic planning exercise for the Association during the 2010/11 financial year.

The strategic planning process will set out our vision for the future and the actions required to achieve the goals. The plan will focus on the next three to five years in terms of objectives, tasks, responsibilities and outcomes. In particular, the process will consider how UNAA(WA) should consolidate areas of strength (e.g. our environmental and human rights activities) and how we may grow in the future through increased membership, fundraising, partnerships and/or sponsorships. We look forward to the contribution of members in the planning process.



lotterywest
supported

The Executive Committee continues to diligently look for opportunities for the Association. The contribution of various Executive members to the grant applications process is much appreciated. These efforts form an essential and invaluable component of the process. The support of Lotterywest to help UNAA(WA) achieve its endeavours is most gratefully acknowledged.

Carolyn Gatward
UNAA(WA) Vice President

National Conference 2011 Planning Committee Report

The committee has been meeting bimonthly to plan details of the conference to be held in Perth. Judith Parker, Chair of the Subcommittee, met twice with the Perth Convention Bureau for advice on organisation and planning. The bureau will supply written material to distribute at the 2010 conference in Sydney. Staff of the Bureau used its network to advise hotel owners of the forthcoming conference, which resulted in attractive offers to accommodate the conference.

Conference Date: The conference will be held on Friday 5th August and Saturday 6th August, 2011. The academic network and Status for Women group will meet on Thursday August 4th in the afternoon. The National Annual Meeting will be on Sunday August 7th. The dinner will be held on Saturday night at the Metro Hotel. The dinner will have a WA focus using WA products. There will be a cash bar available at the dinner. Accommodation includes breakfast. It is anticipated that there will be a reception at Government House or City of Perth Council House.

Conference Theme: 'Progress towards the Millennium Goals - Goals for Life': A continuing Dialogue towards action and achievement. The theme will provide an excellent follow up from the UN Conference to be held in Melbourne in Nov. 2010. Each of the eight goals will be explored through keynote speakers and workshops. The international years of Forests and Chemistry will be featured.

Conference Venue. It has been decided to use the Metro Hotel, Canning Highway as the conference venue. The committee met there and were shown the conference facilities and accommodation. A package has been formulated including conference facilities, audio visual aids, accommodation, morning, afternoon teas and lunch. The conference dinner will be held at the Metro. The venue has spectacular views of the river, public transport at the door and free public parking. 10 rooms have also been blocked out in the CBD for those who wish to stay in the city. The Sunday annual meeting of UNAAWA will be held at Claisebrook Lotteries House.

Conference Bag: As UNAAWA is an environmentally friendly organisation, participants will ask to provide their own conference bag.

Expression of Interest Form: This form has been distributed and replies will be used to construct a mailing list. Bimonthly updates will be sent out beginning in August 2010. The updates will detail speakers and workshops and travel with WA.

Tourism in Western Australia: Discounts on accommodation and travel within the Perth region, North West and South West have been negotiated. Many of those travelling to Perth for the conference have indicated their intention to travel before and after the conference.

Volunteers Required: Volunteers are required during the conference to staff stalls, as recorders and move participants to sessions, provide transport to the reception. Please contact Judith Parker on Judithannparker@bigpond.com if you can assist.



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA (WA DIVISION)

Joseph A. Caruso
International Ambassador

In 2010, in his capacity as UNAA(WA) International Ambassador, Mr Caruso performed the following duties:

Global Water Conference - Zurich

May 2009

Mr Caruso attended the International Global Water Conference in Zurich, which addressed the world's needs of water in a changing climate, followed by meetings in London with "Water Aid" an organisation that provides water to the poorest of people in developing countries. Both conferences referred to the United Nations Millennium Goals (MDG's).

Australia Commemoration Service - Kings Park

September 2009

It was with pleasure that Mr Caruso was invited and attended to represent and lay a floral tribute on behalf of UNAA(WA) at the RSL Battle for Australia Commemoration Service at Kings Park on the 2nd September 2009.

Single Noongar Claim History Book Launch "It's Still in my Heart, this is my Country"

October 2009

Mr Caruso attended the Book Launch at the University of Western Australia on 7 October 2009 as an initiative, the launch of the book entitled, "It's Still in my Heart", in which the plight of our first Western Australians, the Noongar tribes, advocating land rights to Western Australia.

United Nations Day 2009

October 2009

It was with pleasure that on 24 October 2009, Mr Caruso attended, at the Good Earth Hotel, Perth, a Peace-Keeper's Morning Tea was held.

Remembrance Day Commemorative Service

November 2009

It was with pleasure that Mr Caruso represented UNAA(WA) at this service on Wednesday 11 November 2009 at 11:00am to lay a wreath and in addition attended the Poppy Day Luncheon at Anzac House on the same day, hosted by the President and Executive of the RSL.

Haiti Earthquake

January 2010

It was with great sadness that Mr Caruso learned, via the global media and TV coverage, of the total catastrophic loss of life, destruction and devastation to property in Haiti in the Dominican Republic, the coverage from the media was "heart wrenching". On that day, Mr Caruso urged all Members to contribute, no matter the value, and on behalf of UNAA(WA) as Ambassador, he pledged \$1,000.

World Water Day

March 2010

World Water Day was held on 22 March 2010 and Mr Caruso urged Members to recognise the importance of water, for without water, humanity would perish and at the same time, water is a carrier of disease that infects millions each year to the point of fatality. UNEP has the responsibility to take a lead role in 2010 to deliver policy and actioning to deliver "Clean Water for a Healthy World".

Anzac Day - Villiers Bretonneux Dawn Service

April 2010

It was an honour and a privilege for Mr and Mrs Caruso to report from the Anzac Services in Villiers-Bretonneux on French soil where over 50,000 of our young Australian troops lost their lives. ANZAC Day 2010 was the 92nd Anniversary of the Battle of Amiens, as it is known to the locals in The Somme. There are museums in Villers-Bretonneux Bullecourt and Peronne that are dedicated to the diggers of WW1. The Victoria School in Villers-Bretonneux carries the sign in English "Do Not Forget Australia".

Mr Caruso also had the pleasure of meeting with the Hon Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Anzac Day event where photographs were taken of their meeting.

Miracles Charity UK, UNDP Bosnia Herzegovina, UNICEF Bosnia Herzegovina

May 2010

During May 2010, Mr and Mrs Caruso were privileged to meet with the following:

- Mr James Burton and Mr Matthew Proctor, Project Directors - Miracles Charity UK
- Ms Amna Berbic, Cluster Co-ordinator - UNDP Bosnia Herzegovina
- Ms Melinda Djuliman, Executive Assistant - UNICEF Bosnia Herzegovina

A full Report on Mine Clearance and Humanitarian Aid, which was the purpose of the meetings, will be issued to UNAA(WA) when Mr Caruso returns from Europe.

In the meantime, at the Mine Site Constructions Services yard in Welshpool, a 20ft Sea Container has been delivered and this will be filled with items, such as clothing etc., which will be donated and shipped to Sarajevo during October 2010.

UNAA(WA) Monthly E-Newsletter Report

In 2009, the UNAA(WA) established a monthly e-newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide up-to-date information from both a national UNAA perspective as well as information regarding local UN-related matters. The e-newsletter is also posted to members that are not online.

The newsletter is composed of the Presidents message, committee reports, key dates and event information. The newsletter is a great communication tool for the UNAA(WA) to inform members of the latest information.

For more information regarding the e-newsletter please contact Neesha Seth on NCseth@optsunet.com.au.

Neesha Seth
UNAA(WA) Committee Member

Website Report

The UNAAWA website <http://www.unaa-wa.org.au> has been greatly improved over the past year.

The simpler home page provides easier navigation to the whole site. Problems with the interactive membership form have been fixed.

Features now include:

- Monthly newsletter archive
- Events page listing coming events with links to maps
- Yolande Frank Memorial Award page
- 2011 UNAA National Conference page (planned to expand to provide comprehensive information and facilities).

Harvey Davies
Treasurer

UNAA(WA) Office Report

Curtis Clark, office manager, has coordinated the work of the office volunteers over the past 12 months. Through the work of this dedicated team the office has been open four to five days per week.

Thanks to Curtis, Harvey, Nola, Scott, Katarina, Eddie, Kelly Anne for their volunteer hours handling phone enquiries, mail, office work, and visitors to the office. Regular enquiries concerning Human Rights issues and Social Justice are referred to relevant organisations if further information is required.

The insulation of the new computer system has facilitated work and record keeping.

A book sale has been operated from the office. The money raised has been used for petty cash requirements such as stamps.

Those working in the office have worked in difficult conditions in 2010 once the renovation work at Claisebrook Lotteries House began. The office was flooded on March 22nd and again several weeks later, leaving a smell of damp carpet. This, along with the banging, noise of demolition of walls and general disruption to the building, was not conducive to a working environment.

In mid-June, volunteers helped the pack up and the closure of the office. A number of the volunteers have continued to work on email and collecting and processing mail. Disruption to the phone system has caused difficulties. It is anticipated that the office will reopen in September 2010.

Judith A. Parker AM DSJ
for the Office team

Presentation of Model UN Days

Jan Ryan in cooperation with UNYA WA has planned, developed and presented several model UN Days during the year. More information about these events can be found in the UNYA WA Report in this 2009/10 UNAA(WA) Annual Report.

UNAA(WA) acknowledges the support of the Federation of University Women WA for its donation of \$5000 to enable this essential work to continue.

Negotiations are underway with Business and Professional Women WA to present a model UN to mark International Women's Day 2011.

Judith Parker AM DSJ
President UNAA(WA)

UNAA(WA) Past Presidents and Life Members Report

The Western Australian branch of the United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA(WA)) was established in 1948. It has a proud history of members and presidents, who are well known to the community and actively engaged in supporting the aims of United Nations. These aims include world peace, the promotion of human rights, freedom and equality, as well as environmental protection for a sustainable future.

This year, Katharina Rieniets, intern to the UNAA(WA), researched and produced a report detailing the contributions of past Presidents and Life Members of UNAA(WA) as listed below. The report highlights the commitment and diversity of contributions from the Western Australian community over the last 62 years to promoting the aims of the United Nations. We hope to access funding for publication of this report by the end of 2010. Please contact UNAA(WA) to register in advance for your copy.

Past Presidents

1948 – 1951	Harold Boas
1952 – 1955	Reverend Joseph Green
1955 – 1957	Norman Roy Collins
1957 – 1966	John Raymond Huelin
1966 – 1968	Reverend C. O. Leigh Cook
1968 – 1971	Mervyn Knight
1971 – 1974	Miss Claire Casey
1974 – 1977	Mervyn Knight
1978 – 1982	Sir Thomas Wardle
1982 – 1985	Owen Loneragan
1985 - 1987	Rev. Wesley Hamilton Hartley
1987 – 1990	Dr. Keith Suter
1991 – 1993	Shirley Landquist
1993 – 1994	Keith Dowding
1995 – 1997	Willem Bouwer
1997 – 2000	Curtis Clark
2000 – 2001	Michael Beahan
2001 – 2002	Allyson Ladhams
2002 – 2003	Dr. Nancy Hudson-Rodd
2003	Christopher Steytler
2004	Anthony Kay
2005 – 2008	Dr. Jan Ryan
2009 – Pres.	Dame Judith Ann Parker, AM

Life Members

Date unknown	Lawrence Degenhart Wilkinson
1969	Mr. J. Turnbull
1972	Mrs. M. E. Haselhurst
1972	Three Policemen
1977	Reverend Ron Limb
1977	Mrs. E. Nicholls
1981	Dr. Irene Greenwood
1982	Reverend Llyod Semple
1984	Mrs. Dorothea Squires
1991	Owen Loneragan
1991	Beryl & Jack Boardman
2010	Shirley Landquist

Katharina Rieniets
2010 Intern, UNAA(WA)

UN Holocaust Remembrance Day Report

On Wednesday, the 27th of January, National Council of Jewish Women of Australia (WA) organized in partnership with the UNAA(WA) and the Holocaust Institute of WA a visit to the Holocaust Museum of WA to commemorate the UN International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Judy Parker AM DSJ, President of the UNAA(WA), opened the afternoon, after which a short documentary of the UN session of 1 November 2005 was shown. At this session a resolution co-sponsored by 104 Member States approved and designated the 27th of January as the UN International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

In a statement by his spokesman welcoming the resolution, Secretary-General Kofi Annan called the 'International Day of Commemoration to honour the victims of the Holocaust' an important reminder of the universal lessons of the Holocaust, "a unique evil which cannot simply be consigned to the past and forgotten."

Mr. Annan said he looked forward "to taking the measures which the Assembly has requested from him; to establish a program of outreach on the subject of 'The Holocaust and the United Nations' and to mobilize civil society for Holocaust remembrance and education, in order to help prevent future acts of genocide."

Following the documentary one of a group of dedicated volunteers with the Holocaust Institute guided us through the Museum. A Holocaust survivor then shared his experiences as a child growing up in Hungary and the discrimination he and his family endured. He described events and occurrences throughout both his childhood and his student years which brought home to the audience some of the unbelievable horror of the Nazi war years. His open and honest delivery of such a traumatic beginning to his life so moved the audience that their reluctance to leave and their clamour for more time with him will ensure that the words and events of the Holocaust will never be forgotten.

We would like to thank the UNAA(WA) for their support in organizing this event and the Holocaust Institute for making it possible.

Ester Steingiesser
NCJWA (WA)

UNITED NATIONS YOUTH ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Report to the UNAA WA Annual General Meeting 2010

The 2009/2010 year has been an incredibly strong and productive year for UNYA WA. Over the past year UNYA WA has consolidated and grown its major events, improved engagement with regional WA, run many successful minor events, maintained a proactive role in the work of UNYA Australia, streamlined the administrative and organisational duties of the executive, increased our engagement with tertiary students and successfully organised the UNYA National Youth Conference (UNYC).

Consolidation and growth of the main events

State Conference is held every year in March and sees 100 enthusiastic and intelligent young Western Australians educated about the UN and the world in which they live, develop expressive skills through discussions and structured debates and empowered to express their individual views and advocate on them. This year State Conference was themed, "Global Change; Exploring the New World Order" and took delegates down the path of examining the recent changes to our world and global politics. The conference began at the University of Western Australia (UWA), where students enjoyed a number of speakers. Ten outstanding delegates were selected from State Conference to attend the UNYA National Youth Conference, held this year in Perth.

At State Conference 2010 UNYA launched YouthChange, a new initiative of UNYA which asks young people the simple question, "What do you want to change about the world?" and encourages them to express their answer through any medium they wish. This was the highlight of the conference for many delegates. YouthChange workshops were replicated at other State Conferences around Australia, at the UNYA National Youth Conference and will now become a major initiative of UNYA Australia.

Finally, at State Conference delegates developed a comprehensive and empowering document called the Youth Motion. This document states the views and opinions of the delegates to State Conference on a wide range of issues, like health care, poverty, international security, public transport and so on. With more clauses than ever before and a new and improved structure, the Youth Motion was a huge success. This year, in order to empower the delegates on a greater level, UNYA WA officially launched the Youth Motion, and YouthChange at an event hosted at UWA. The Minister for Youth, the Hon Donna Faragher MLC, Chris Tallentire MLA and the Hon Alison Xamon MLC each accepted the Youth Motion on behalf of their political parties directly from the delegates to State Conference. The delegates were excited by the opportunity to have their views heard directly by key decision makers in the state and engaged the members of parliament directly with some tough and intelligent discussion.

The Hammarskjöld Trophy Competition was a resounding success in 2010. With 5 metropolitan rounds and 2 regional rounds UNYA WA saw approximately 90 teams (180 students) compete in the model Security Council competition. Students debated resolutions dealing with the situation in Cote d'Ivoire to the treatment of political prisoners and more.

In 2010 UNYA WA also successfully ran 2 regional rounds. The South West round held in Bunbury produced 15 strong teams who engaged in-depth with the issues at hand. The South West round of HTC is an institution for UNYA WA and continues to strengthen our reputation in the region. For the first time in two years, the North West round of HTC was convened successfully in Geraldton. The delegates were strong in debate with two teams making it through to the final. The support afforded to UNYA by teachers in the region is invaluable and if this support continues, the North West round can only continue to grow.

The quality of debate at the HTC this year was extremely high, reflected by the difficulty the judging panel faced in selecting teams to progress to the final. The final was held at the Western Australian Parliament House and was well attended by parents, spectators and teachers. Organisationally, HTC runs seamlessly with effective planning earlier on in the UNYA year. With most preparation done well before the competition started, the HTC ran according to plan and now has the capacity to grow much more over the coming years.

Regional Activities

In 2010 UNYA WA saw increased engagement with regional Western Australia. In September of 2009 four UNYA members traveled to Geraldton where they engaged with a varied range of High School students. The facilitators performed several school visits where they educated students about the United Nations and held some very candid yet constructive conversations regarding Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Internally Displaced Persons. Workshops and consultations were conducted at Geraldton Senior High School, Nagel Catholic College and Geraldton Grammar. These visits created some very valuable contacts in the region and increasing UNYA's presence in the North West led to a very successful North West round of the HTC.

UNITED NATIONS YOUTH ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Successful minor events

In addition to the major events listed above UNYA WA ran the following events that engaged directly with Young People:

- Metropolitan Day Forum – A year 10 day event that focused on the issues surrounding refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons. 80 students attended the event held at UWA.
- School Visits – UNYA WA performed visits to year 10 classes at Newman College and Christ Church Grammar School running lessons and workshops on the United Nations, Korean War and Refugees.
- 2 Policy Nights – These events are dedicated for UNYA members. Members are encouraged to voice their opinions on a wide range of issues and these opinions are used to formulate UNYA policy documents.

Relationship with UNYA Australia

In July 2010 UNYA WA also hosted the National Council of UNYA Australia. This meeting brings together the 8 divisions and national executive of UNYA and is the key decision making body of the organization. National Council was held in Fremantle at Notre Dame University (NDU) and was a huge success. The 60 UNYA members who descended on Fremantle continue to rave about the beauty of the city. The four days of meetings and the UNYA AGM were incredibly productive and UNYA WA was heavily involved in the discussions about UNYA's future direction.

Executive Restructure and Internal Processes

At the 2009 UNYA (WA) AGM a comprehensive restructure of the divisional executive was passed, unanimously. One year on, and this structure is functioning extremely well. Moving into 2009/2010 the division identified the areas of Education, Media Engagement and Regional Activities as distinct priorities. In 2009 the division voted to create the Education, Regional and Media, Communications and Membership positions. By identifying these areas as important areas for growth, and then taking steps to assign leadership to these areas through the executive restructure, real and positive change has been observed. The division has seen an improvement in quality and quantity of engagement with young people in metropolitan and rural Western Australia.

The other major change was introducing the Vice President Administration (VP Admin) role. This models the National Executive of UNYA and has been a much more efficient arrangement for managing the divisions' administrative tasks. In addition to the administrative duties, the VP Admin is the second in charge of the division. This is not only implemented in succession but also in the day-to-day running of UNYA (WA).

Tertiary Engagement

UNYA WA's branch at the University of Western Australia (UNYA (UWA)) continues to grow. UNYA (UWA) is a critical part of UNYA (WA)'s tertiary engagement strategy. Through on-campus events, UNYA directly engages with tertiary students. UNYA (UWA) has run two Mini MUN's (MUNdays), a policy and pizza evening, Bowling for Ban-ki and has the 2010 Kofi Trophy (a totally voluntary MUN with 60 participants in 2009) in planning.

In cooperation with UNAA (WA), UNYA (UWA) ran a Model UN debate at NDU in May for the second year running. Comprising part of the assessment structure for a first year social justice course, the Model UN was a resounding success and was another valuable opportunity for the division to engage tertiary students. The students debated a resolution on Asylum Seekers and proved to be great debaters and natural negotiators. Many of the students are interested in attending the UNYA National Youth Summit and StatesMUN tour, which attends the Harvard Model UN competition.

UNYA National Youth Conference 2010

For the first time in seven years, the UNYA National Youth Conference (UNYC) returned to Perth. This week long conference is the flagship event of UNYA Australia and in 2010 UNYA WA organised this conference. Organising a UNYC is a task of gargantuan proportions and in 2010 the conference underwent a revolution. The theme for 2010 was "Advocating for Change" and set delegates and facilitators alike the challenge of thinking and acting to effect real change in the world on issues that they felt passionately about. The conference also explored the issues surrounding minority groups within Australia and on an international level.

The Official Opening was hosted by the Governor of Western Australia in the Government House ballroom. This was a fantastic setting that set the scene and laid out the path for the delegates to walk over the entire week. Inspiring speeches were heard from the conference convenor, Katherine Broad, UNYA Australia president Alice Bleby, the Governor, His Excellency Ken Michael, Sharryn Jackson MP, Member for Hasluck representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Alex Rafalowicz a prominent youth activist and past president of UNYA Australia. The first sign of advocacy came at the official opening when Alex directly questioned Ms Jackson on the government's policies regarding the environment. This set a tone well considered engagement for the rest of the week.

UNITED NATIONS YOUTH ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

UNYC 2010 saw speakers sessions handled completely differently. There were three separate speakers' sessions at UNYC. The first was *Rotations*. Delegates heard from 2 of 6 speakers on a rotational system in small groups. The speakers shared inspiring and deeply personal stories on how they were working to empower minority groups on a local level in WA. The second speakers session was a three on three *debate* that asked the participants (including lecturers, experienced debaters and university students) to discuss whether minority issues were better tackled on a local or international level. Based on Geoffrey Robertson's BBC show, the final speakers session *Hypothetical's*, hosted a panel of 13 people; teachers, lecturers, politicians, activists, lawyers and professionals discussed the question of education being the great divider or the great equalizer through a range of hypothetical scenarios presented to them. With often intense and fiery discussion erupting from the scenarios, the session was educational and entertaining for the delegates.

YouthChange, as discussed above, is a new initiative of UNYA Australia that asks young people a simple question, "What do you want to change about the world?" and encourages them to express their answer through any medium they wish. Delegates wrote on furniture their messages for change. Delegates participated in a thoughtful and extensive discussion of issues in a developed a set of resolutions outlining their ideas for change. This document was presented to the Office for Youth and Simon Sheik, the Australian director of GetUp. Delegates participated in a flash mob dance in Murray Street mall writing their messages for change on blackboards and participating in a choreographed dance. Delegates heard confronting yet inspiring personal stories from Samaah Hadid, the 2010 youth representative to the UN who then asked delegates to express their ideas for change in a range of different media. Delegates wrote poems, songs, drama performances, letters and drew pictures to express their ideas for change. All of these things form a part of YouthChange and will be used by UNYA to advocate for change.

A critical component of UNYC is model United Nations debate. Delegates participated in committee debates, with approximately 25 member states represented in prestigious venues in Perth such as Parliament House, the constitutional centre and Perth City Council Chambers. Debate was of a high quality and delegates successfully represented their countries views in the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Council, the Environment Committee and the Peace and Security Committee. The General Assembly debate, featuring 86 member states, was held at Perth Town Hall and was of epic proportions. Record numbers of delegates requested to speak on the resolutions and the level of engagement delegates had with the process was awe-inspiring.

Workshops and interactive problem solving are two of the more informal components of UNYC. The workshops explored the issues of discrimination facing minority groups. In small groups delegates considered these issues, explored historical scenarios where minority groups overcame discrimination, identified minority groups that still face discrimination today and discussed how we can best fight discrimination today. The interactive problem solving presents delegates with a hypothetical scenario, forcing them to resolve a conflict through negotiation and discussion working in small groups. This interactive problem solving is always a highlight of the conference and this year delegates successfully negotiated the building of a dam between two developing countries whilst considering the needs and wants of an indigenous community.

One of the new innovations of UNYC 2010 was change excursions. For an afternoon delegates were selected one of 6 excursions, taken to community organizations around Perth and engaged directly with minority groups. Excursions were provided, at no cost, by the following groups:

- Wheelchair Sports WA where delegates played wheelchair basketball,
- Ethnic Community Council where delegates partook in ethnic cooking classes,
- The Freedom Centre where delegates were asked to walk in the shoes of young Gay and Lesbian people,
- The Chung Wah Association where delegates were exposed to the unique culture of the east,
- Afrotonic where delegates were taught how to African dance,
- City of Melville PAHZE Program - delegates experienced street art engaging disadvantaged young people in Perth.

Although excursions were a lot of fun, delegates were really enlightened to experience and hear about the issues facing minority groups first hand. UNYC was an exciting and rare opportunity for the division but also a huge responsibility. The UNYC Organising Committee of 10 people has been functioning largely independently from the division and have invested a lot of time and effort into bringing UNYC together. Ultimately, the division has coped extremely well given the devotion of several active members to UNYC, most of whom have remained active within the division. All in all, UNYC 2010 was a resounding success. The delegates were an extremely social bunch and made the most of every opportunity afforded to them by the conference. UNYC 2010 has very deservedly earned the tag line 'best UNYC ever' and UNYA WA is incredibly proud of the efforts of the organising committee in putting together such a remarkable conference.

Mark Katsikandarakis
UNYA (WA) President 2009/2010

Yolande Frank Memorial Award 2010 Report

As suggested by our President Judith Parker and a number of our members, we discussed the viability of starting an award in the memory of Yolande Frank. The idea was for a Creative Expression of the Declaration of Human Rights.

Yolande Frank was a long time member of United Nations Australia Association (WA) and survivor of the Holocaust. She died in 2009. She had a passion to ensure that the children of WA should understand importance the Declaration of Human Rights. The idea was to choose each year another article from the Human Rights declaration as an inspiration for the art design.

This year the Yolande Frank Memorial Award Subcommittee chose Article 1 of the declaration as the basis for the children's work.

Article 1: All Human Beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Details of the award: The award is open to children aged 9 to 14 years at the date of the award, Friday 6 August 2010.

Prize: A cheque for \$200 and book presentation for the artist and a cheque for \$100 to the school library.

How to enter: Entries may be submitted in the form of drawing, painting, collage, screen print, charcoal, watercolour or pastels. The winning entry remains the property of UNAA(WA). Entries should be clearly marked on the back with the child's name, age, school and contact details.

Size: Minimum A4 (21cm x 29 1/2cm) and maximum 37cm x 70cm.

Closing date: 3pm Friday 30 July, 2010. Award will be announced on Friday August 6, 2010.

Arrangements will be made with the school of the winning entry to present the award at a school assembly. All children who enter will receive a participation certificate.

The decision of the judges is final. The appointed judges are Diana Warnock, Owen Loneragan (UNAA(WA)) and Jillian Green (NCJWA(WA)).

Money for the award has been raised from individual donations. UNAA(WA) thanks those who have supported this award. Donations are still accepted. If you would like to donate, please send to the Treasurer, with cheques made out to UNAA(WA), and clearly marked as "Donation for the Yolande Frank Memorial Award".

The principal amount has been invested. It is hoped that sufficient money is raised to ensure the award is made annually.

In this inaugural year of the Award, the United Nations declared the year commencing 12 August 2010 as the International Year of Youth. A fitting tribute to Yolande Frank.

Ester Steingiesser
Yolande Frank Memorial Award Subcommittee