



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
OF AUSTRALIA (WA DIVISION)

*A People's Movement for the United Nations*

[www.unaa-wa.org.au](http://www.unaa-wa.org.au)

## **July 2010 Newsletter – Vol 2, No 7**

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### **Letter from the President**

UNAAWA volunteers are working hard to keep the association viable while the office is closed for renovations. Harvey Davies is keeping the email and web site functioning from his home, Carolyne Gatward is assisting with mail outs, Curtis Clark checks the mail. It is anticipated that the office will be closed for another month. The executive committee will apply to Lotteries Commission for a reduction in rent during the period of non operation. My sincere thanks to the team.

Fund raising has continued with a successful sausage sizzle held at Bunning's Midland on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July. It was hard work but very worthwhile financially. Sincere thanks to all the helpers and to the staff of Bunning's Midland for their help on the day. The next one is on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November and volunteers are needed for 2 hour stints or to chop onions the evening before. Please contact Caroline Pembroke or Judith Parker if you can assist. If you are unable to assist you may consider donating some of the ingredients to be used on the day: bottles of Tomato, Barbeque and Mustard Sauce, packets of serviettes, rolls of paper towel, packs of cool drinks and water. This will mean the cost of these items do not have to come out of profits.

The AGM approaches [August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010] and UNAAWA is seeking nominations for committee members. It is a good way to learn more about the working of the association. Meetings are held bimonthly at present, however it is expected that monthly meetings will be required in 2011 as we plan the National Conference. Meetings are held at 5.30-7pm, with day to be decided by the new committee.

Congratulations to Carolyn Gatward for the work she put into the successful application to Lotteries Commission for funding to develop a strategic plan. Watch future updates for information on the meeting dates for the strategic plan sessions.

On the UN front there have been some major developments. Last week it was announced that the four UN organisations dealing with issues relating to women would be combined into one entity, streamlining a more efficient approach to the global issues relating to women and their families. This week it has been announced that the UN Mission to Colombo, Sri Lanka has been withdrawn. It is a troublesome time in that country, our thoughts need to be with the plight of civilians trapped in this difficult situation.

I was honoured to attend a ceremony held at the Flame of Remembrance, Kings Park to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the start of the Korea War in 1950. My husband is a Korea Veteran and he was moved when a South Korea woman thanked him for coming to her country and protecting the freedom of her people. It was the UN which sent the forces to protect the people of South Korea; too often we forget the role of the UN in Peace Keeping.

Congratulations to the WA UNYA team for arranging an excellent national conference. We all look forward to hearing of the outcomes of the discussions following excellent keynote speakers.

**Judith A. Parker President AM DSJ**

## **Diary Dates/Events**

<b>June 26<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>International Day against Drug Trafficking and Illicit Trafficking United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture</b>
<b>July 3<sup>rd</sup>:</b>	<b>International Day of Cooperatives</b>
<b>July 11<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>World Population Day</b>
<b>July 18<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>Nelson Mandela International Day</b>

## **UNAA (WA) Human Rights Committee**

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Venue to be advised - please check with Judith Parker 95272438 several days before. Business will include: Finalisation of the resolution on the detention of indigenous people and approval of the fact sheet on the use of Tazar Guns in WA.

National President, Professor Robert Hill has been invited to present the Human Rights Lecture in December. It is anticipated that the Human Rights Committee will partner with several organisations to present this lecture.

Negotiations are underway to put a motion to the Fremantle Council proposing that Fremantle become a Human Rights City. President Judith Parker and Past President Jan Ryan have had positive meetings with the Federal Member for Fremantle, Melissa Parke, State Member for Fremantle, Adele Carles and the Major of Fremantle, Brad Pettit to discuss the proposal.

## **UN Women Born: Civil Society Celebrates Creation of Gender Equality Entity after four years of Advocacy**

The Gender Equity Architecture Reform [GEAR] campaign celebrates the United Nations General Assembly Resolution, agreed to on 30 June and formally adopted by the General Assembly on July 2<sup>nd</sup> "UN Women"- the new gender equality entity at the UN. This move has been sought by women's organisations and other civil society organisations around the world since the UN established a System-Wide Coherence Panel for the UN Reform in 2006.

Particularly notable in the resolution are the paragraphs regarding the importance of civil society participation in the new entity. The body must have increased operational presence at the country level including engagement with women's groups and other civil society organisations invested in gender equity and the empowerment of women.

The new Gender Equality Entity is to be headed by an under- Secretary General, and will consolidate the four existing UN bodies on women, increase operational capacity at the country level and gain increased funding for work on the empowerment of women and advancement.

The UN currently has four separate entities dedicated to women's issues which will be combined in the new entity.

UNIFEM- UN Development Fund for Women

DAW- The Division for the Advancement of Women

INSTRAW- The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

OSAGI- The Office of the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary- General on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women.

More information: [www.gearcampaign.org](http://www.gearcampaign.org) or email [gearcampaign@gmail.com](mailto:gearcampaign@gmail.com)

## **UNAA(WA) Environment committee activities**

Rob Hewson has completed his final year as our Convenor, and the search is on for someone to move into this position. In the interim, Committee members are considering a project to be held in partnership with WA Zoo, featuring the 2011 theme, International Year of the Forests. Planning so far is at the creative stage, with a preference to work within the Indian Ocean area. So far we are thinking of an activity which will link countries-indigenous trees-children-website-UNEP.

We have also been invited by the Men of the Trees to consider joint activities for next year. The Environment Post Card, featuring a whale shark, is at present with the printers, and should be available well before the AGM.

An invitation to the Victorian Environment Awards Presentation Dinner was received just a bit late to get Rob Hewson to attend on our behalf, I think Rob was in Norseman on his way to Victoria, when we received it.

We received the UNAASA newsletter, outlining an invitation to walk in the Flinders Ranges in September, guide UNAASA Environment Convenor Peter Faulkner. Caroline and Henk will take part, and are now in training.

We have received news from Carolyn and Joseph Caruso, who have been soaking up the Eastern Europe culture. They are now in Sicily, where Jo is researching the family tree.

As this is our last report for this year, we would like to thank Curtis Clark for all his timely and spot-on forwarding of items of interest to the Environment, keeping us in touch with Greening Australia, Conservation Council and general activities within the community.

## **UNYA(WA) Report**

### **United Nations Youth Association of Australia National Youth Conference Perth WA 4-11 July 2010**

President, Judith Parker and Vice President Carolyn Gatward represented UNAABA at the opening of the conference held at Government House Ballroom on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

The theme of the conference is Advocating for Change. His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC Governor of Western Australia hosted the official opening. The UNYA National Conference is the largest residential youth conference held annually in Australia and is consistently recognised by government and the NGO Community as Australia's premier conference for young people. The conference that runs for 1 week brought together 150 bright minded and passionate young people from every state and territory as well as New Zealand.

Master of Ceremonies of the official opening was Tom Antoniazzi and included a welcome to country by Eric Hayward, Official opening by the Governor, an address by the National President Alice Bleby. The keynote address was given by Ms Sharryn Jackson, Federal Member for Hasluck, on behalf of Hon. Stephen Smith. Sharryn has agreed to email me her address and has given permission for it to go on the UNAABA website. Mr Alex Rafalowicz a past president of UNYA, now working in New York gave a spirited challenge to the delegates and the government concerning the signing of the protocol 2 to Kyoto.

UNYA Australia, believing in the purpose and principles of the United Nations, aims to encourage young people to strive towards a greater understanding of global issues, and to educate them about the United Nations Structure, functions and future. Operating as a national network of young volunteers, UNYA Australia is based firmly on a philosophy of best practice youth-for-youth leadership.

I was most inspired by the quality of the young people attending and their interest in the work of United Nations. These people are the decision makers of the future and the next generation of UNAA Division committees and volunteers- there is hope for the future.

The conference convenor is to be congratulated on designing such a worthwhile meeting of minds. Judith Parker President.

### **International Year of Youth**

The International Year of Youth will be launched globally on 12 August 2010 in New York as well as at other duty stations. Under the theme Dialogue and Mutual Understanding, the Year aims to promote the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and solidarity across generations, cultures, religions, and civilizations. Additional background information is provided below.

Events may be added to an online calendar of events

(<http://social.un.org/iyyevents>). It is hosted by the UN Programme on Youth which serves as a central, publicly-available hub for related events throughout the world. Organizers wishing to make use of the official logo of the Year on related promotional materials may do so by submitting a signed waiver form to [youth@un.org](mailto:youth@un.org). Additional information is available on the same web site.

The text of the International Year of Youth brochure in English is attached for your use.

### **Background Information**

In December 2009, the General Assembly adopted resolution 64/134 which proclaimed the year commencing 12 August 2010 as the International Year of Youth under the theme: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding. As 12 August is the International Youth Day, the Year will be launched on this significant day for young people.

The International Year of Youth is expected to generate much needed attention for youth participation and youth development and provide an impetus to partnerships among youth organizations around the world.

Youth organizations, governments, and civil society are encouraged to organize activities throughout the year that promote an increased understanding of the importance and benefits of youth participation in all aspects of society, as well as those that support youth to devote their energy, enthusiasm and creativity to development and the promotion of mutual understanding. The year also serves as encouragement for young people to dedicate themselves to fostering progress towards the attainment of the UN Millennium Development Goals.

### **UN System Global Launch**

The global launch of the International Year of Youth in New York will demonstrate the entire UN System's commitment to youth development.

### **Objectives of the global launch:**

Promote the Year and its theme

Raise awareness of young people's contributions to national and community development, their role in achieving the Millennium Development Goals

Demonstrate Member States' commitment to youth and the Year

Demonstrate the UN System's commitment to youth and the Year

The United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development is coordinating the activities of the UN System for the Year, with the UN Programme on Youth leading this effort. The Network works to increase the effectiveness of UN work in youth development by strengthening collaboration and exchange among all UN entities working on youth.

Members of the Network adopted the UN Framework Approach for the International Year of Youth in February 2010 to provide a concrete framework for collective efforts and to set the strategic objectives for the Year. The Framework identifies the following three key objectives:

#### *1. Create Awareness: increase commitment and investment in youth*

Increase recognition of youth development as a smart investment by the public and private sectors;  
Advocate for the recognition of young people's contributions to national and community development and to achieving the Millennium Development Goals; Promote understanding of inequalities amongst youth and how to effectively address the needs of the most disadvantaged;  
Foster research and knowledge building on youth to better inform youth policies and programmes.

#### *2. Mobilize and Engage: increase youth participation and partnerships*

Institutionalize mechanisms for youth participation in decision-making processes; Support youth-led organizations and initiatives to enhance their contribution to society; Strengthen networks and partnerships among Governments, youth-led organizations, academia, civil society organizations, the private sector, the media and the UN system, to enhance commitment and support for holistic youth development.

### *3. Connect and Build Bridges: increase intercultural understanding among youth*

Promote youth interactions, networks and partnerships across cultures; Empower and support youth as agents of social inclusion and peace.

Progress achieved during the Year will lay the foundation for further work in youth development, including the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth. The Framework has been disseminated to the UN System, including to Regional Commissions and Country Teams.

#### UN Conference on Youth

In its resolution 64/134, the UN General Assembly decided to organize a UN Conference on Youth as the highlight of the International Year of Youth.

Consultations of the General Assembly on the details of the Conference began in May 2010. The United Nations Programme on Youth will update its website (<http://social.un.org/youthyear>) as information on the Conference becomes available.

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## Upcoming Events

### **Notice of Annual General meeting of United Nations Australia Association WA Division 2010**

All financial members are informed that the Annual General Meeting of United Nations Australia Association WA Division will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at 5.30 pm at the Craft Room Rod Evans Community Centre 160 Hay Street East Perth (corner of Plain and Hay Streets). Parking is available at the back of the building or in Hay Street. Enter through the back door of the building, access from the back car park of the building. Venue can be reached with public transport before 6pm by RED CAT bus east bound (Queens Gardens stop) or buses along St Georges and Adelaide Terrace- alight at Hyatt Hotel and walk up Plain Street one block.

All positions are vacant. Nomination forms are available from the UNAAWA office phone 92219455 or email: [unaawa@tpg.com.au](mailto:unaawa@tpg.com.au)

Apologies to the President Judith Parker 95272438 or email [judithannparker@bigpond.com](mailto:judithannparker@bigpond.com)

Meeting will include presentation of the annual report, financial reports, election of office bearers and a guest speaker. Light refreshments will be served.

The meeting will be held in this venue due to the renovations at Claisebrook Lotteries House.

#### **UNAA WA Book Club**

The club will meet again on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 11 am in Room 2, City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth. Ask at the Conservation Council Reception if you need help finding this

room. The book to be discussed will be *The Audacity of Hope* by Barack Obama. Bring along some lunch to share. Further information: [harvey.davies@graduate.uwa.edu.au](mailto:harvey.davies@graduate.uwa.edu.au)

## **Yolanda Frank Memorial Award 2010**

A Creative Expression of the Declaration of Human Rights:

2010 marks the inaugural award in memory of Yolanda Frank, a long time member of United Nations Australia Association WA Division and survivor of the Holocaust who died in 2009. She had a passion to ensure that the children of WA should understand importance the Declaration of Human Rights.

United Nations Australia Association WA Division calls for creative expressions of Article 1 of the Declaration.

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.

The award is open to children aged 9 to 14 years at the date of the award, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010,

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

Entries may be submitted in the form of drawing, painting, collage, screen print, charcoal, water colour or pastels. The winning entry remains the property of UNAAWA

Size: Minimum A4 [21cm by 29 1/2cm] or maximum 37cm by 70cm

Entries should be clearly marked on the back with the child's name, age, school and contact details.

Posted or delivered to United Nations Australia Association WA Division President Judith Parker AM  
516 Safety Bay Rd Waikiki WA 6169 Entries must be received by July 30 2010

Enquiries to: phone 95272438 email [judithannparker@bigpond.com](mailto:judithannparker@bigpond.com)

Closing date: 3pm Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Award will be announced on Friday August 6<sup>th</sup> 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 and Gillian Green.

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### ***Further Resources***

- Subscribe to UNity for 2009, as well as earlier issues are available at: [www.unaa.org.au](http://www.unaa.org.au)
- For international updates, sign up for UN Wire: [http://www.smartbrief.com/un\\_wire/index.jsp](http://www.smartbrief.com/un_wire/index.jsp)
- Read more about the Millenium project: [www.unmillenniumproject.org](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org)
- For more UN Observances: <http://www.un.org/observances/days.shtml>

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