



United Nations Association of Australia
WA Division

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UNAA WA Newsletter

President's Report Judith A. Parker AM DSJ

Special points of interest:

- UNAA WA well-represented at recent ANZAC day services.
- UNAA WA Secretary, Kylie Kerin moving.
- Mayor of Fremantle will be placing a proposal forward for Fremantle to become a Human Rights City.
- Upcoming AGM: Sunday 21st August 2011 at 2 pm. Venue TBA
- Rev. Tim Costello will address the UNAA conference 2011.

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I attended two functions to farewell the WA Governor His Excellency Ken Michael. Ken has been a people's Governor, opening up Government House for the public each week and moving around the state visiting communities. Unfortunately Julie Michael is not well and I had the opportunity to convey our best wishes to her from UNAAWA at a function to farewell her held at the Karrakatta club. It is anticipated that the new governor will become the patron of UNAAWA.

Thank you to Joseph Caruso and Carolyne Gatward who represented UNAAWA at the Anzac Services at Perth and Fremantle. I was honoured to attend the dawn service at Anzac Cove in Gallipoli. It was a most moving service. The day before I visited Lone Pine memorial, the Turkish memorial and the New Zealand memorial on the Gallipoli peninsular. It was pleasing to observe the huge numbers of young Australians attending the services. The day before I met up with the Australian Anzac essay competition award winners. These young people were year 11 and 12 students who had entered a competition to write about Australians at Gallipoli and

the winners were awarded a trip to Anzac Cove. At dinner the night before I met members of the Australian Institute of Sport, an Australian Football team who also attended the Gallipoli services.

Sadly our secretary is moving away from Perth. We wish Kylie well in her new position in the north of the state. I am most appreciative of her work over the past nine months. She has worked hard to settle UNAAWA into the new office, setting up protocols which have streamlined the office work and made UNAAWA more efficient.

She has established a partnership with the young lawyers group to facilitate a partnership to present the 2011 Human Rights lecture. As Convenor of the Human Rights Committee she facilitated the production of a leaflet on the use of Tazar Guns. Kylie will continue in her secretary's role until the AGM in August, working using email.

It is time for the committee to think seriously about a proposed resolution to the National Conference. Several committee members are working on a proposed resolution which will deal with the language used by the media, particularly when

discussing issues related to asylum seekers. The association may submit two resolutions to the UNAA annual meeting. If you have thoughts on possible resolutions please ring or email the office.

We are also reaching the time for annual reports for the AGM in August. A call will go out soon for the reports. Last year's report was most impressive. It will be necessary to have the report finished before the time of the conference so please respond as quickly as possible with your report. The date of the AGM is Sunday August 21st at 2pm, Meeting Room in the office building. All positions will be declared vacant and I urge you to contribute to the work of the committee. Nomination forms will be available from the office next month.

I have been informed that Brad Pettitt, Mayor of Fremantle will be putting a proposal to the Fremantle council, that Fremantle become a Human Rights City. Thank you Jan Ryan for this initiative and your detailed information supplied to the council.

National Conference Update - Bus Tour



The UNAA National Conference will be held in Perth, Western Australia on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th August 2011. You can find more information in regards to the conference on our website: www.unaa-wa.org.au.

The Environment committee is organising an environmental bus tour on the three days following the National Conference. It will commence from the Metro Hotel

in South Perth at 9am on Monday 8th August and finish in Perth at 5pm on Wednesday 10th. Other details are not yet definite but are expected to be as follows:

The total cost (excluding lunches) should be about \$500 to share a room and \$580 for a single room.

The plan is to stay both nights at Pemberton and travel to Walpole on the Tuesday to experience the

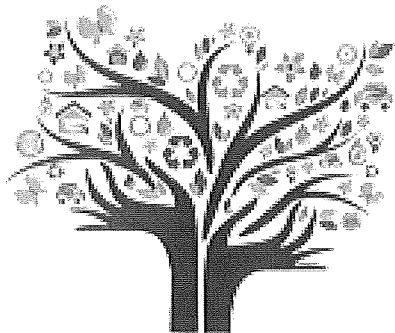
Treetop Walk and WOW Wilderness Eco-cruise. Joseph Caruso has organised a visit to a rehabilitated mine site at Wonnerup near Bunbury. Other possible places to be visited include Penguin Island and the Thrombolites at Lake Clifton.

Harvey Davies

UNAA WA Book Club Update

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th June 2011 at 11am in the UNAANA office. We will be discussing *Mao's Last Dancer* by Li Cunxin. For more information, please visit his website <http://www.licunxin.com/>. Each participant is welcome to bring a plate of food that will be shared with the group for lunch following the completion of the meeting.

Welcome to the New Chair of the Environment Committee

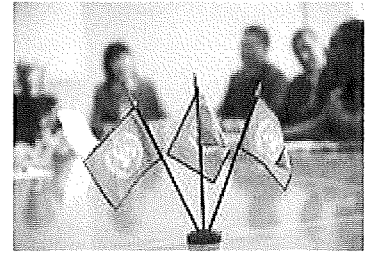


Paul Elkington has agreed to be temporary chair of the Environment committee. Curtis Clark has had to step down for health reasons. On behalf of the committee and members of UNAANA I thank Curtis for "holding the fort" over the past few months. His work has been much appreciated. Paul may be contacted through email: pelkington@djcar michael.com.au or phone: 95285911 if you have environmental matters to discuss.

The Environment committee will be liaising with various environmental associations and issuing a media release to mark World Environment Day on 5th June. Please stay tuned to the UNAA WA website for more details.

New Addition to UNAA WA Committee

Following the resignation of Donald from the executive committee, the executive at its last meeting co-opted Gerry Georgatos to the committee. Gerry brings a wealth of expertise to the committee with particular knowledge of students without borders. Gerry has also joined the 2011 Conference Planning Committee. Welcome to the team Gerry.



Positions Vacant: Your opportunity to get involved

Environment Committee Chairperson: If you have a particular interest in the environment here is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the work of UNAAWA. This leadership role involved arranging meeting dates and chairing meetings of the environment group at a time to suit the chairperson, once a month. Early evening and weekends are an option. Preparing a short report on the ongoing work of the committee for the executive meeting [once per month and for the monthly newsletter. Monitoring current environmental issues and UN initiatives regarding the environment. The committee is at present functioning with a temporary chairperson Paul Elkington. At present the committee consists of approx 10 members interested in environmental issues. Contact: judithanparker@bigpond.com or leave a message at the office if you wish to discuss this position.

National Meeting Refreshments Coordinator: The UNAA National meeting will be held at the meeting room in the office building Sunday August 7th 9am to 4pm. UNAAWA will provide morning and afternoon tea and a light finger lunch. Money will be provided to buy food required. Morning tea will consist of biscuits, tea/coffee. Lunch: Fresh breads [from Subiaco Markets] cold meats, salad, dip, slices, cheese and fruit. The excellent kitchen in the office building will be available; it includes a dishwasher, microwave and oven. Morning tea will be served 10.30 am, lunch at 1pm, afternoon tea 3.30 pm. Kitchen will need to be left tidy following the function. Most food can be purchased several days before and stored in the large fridge/freezer at the office. It would be useful if 2 people can work together as a team. Please contact Conference Chair Judith Parker if you can help, please email: judithanparker@bigpond.com phone 9527 2438.

Further Resources

- **The United Nations Information Centre for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific:** <http://www.un.org.au>
- **The United Nations Youth Association Australia (UNYA) WA Division:** <http://wa.unya.org.au/>
- **For international updates, sign up for UN Wire:** http://www.smartbrief.com/un_wire/index.jsp Read more about the Millennium project: www.unmillenniumproject.org