



## December Newsletter

### Events:

**India Film Night – Thursday 11 December.** The Edmund Rice Institute for Social Justice invites you to a free film night, featuring 'Salaam Bombay', directed by Mira Nair (Monsoon Wedding). It tells the story of an 11 year old boy who heads to the big city and joins the many other homeless kids struggling to survive on the streets. This movie is especially topical given the recent violence in Bombay (Mumbai).

ERISJ are running an India immersion in January, which provides you with the opportunity to take a life-changing journey to India to experience the contrasts and diversity of life in India. This film night is open to all, but is also a last chance for those still interested in joining the journey to India. Come along and enjoy a great film, discuss India, and find out more about the immersion in January.

**The movie starts at 6.15pm.** Please call Khristo on 9432 2411 to RSVP.

**Just Music – Friday 12 December.** Come along and enjoy a night of live music in celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Line up: Archie Roach & Ruby Hunter, Kavisha Mazzella, Bernard Carney, The Working Voices, and The Yabu Band.

Samson Courtyard, Fremantle Arts Centre. 6pm-10pm. Tickets available from [www.heatseeker.com.au](http://www.heatseeker.com.au)

Adults: \$30; Concession: \$20; Family \$70 (2 Adults & 2 Children)

[More info](#)

**Community Campaigning and Activism: 1 Day Intensive – Saturday 13 December.**

This practical workshop will look at various strategies and tools for use in a range of community campaigning and activism. In the context of ordinary people wanting to create a better world, this intensive may be of interest to anyone looking to work on issues around them, whether large or small.

The day will focus on where to start; how to build a campaign; and tools and strategies for various types of campaigns. This may range from a small group of neighbours advocating on local development to being part of something like the international movement to tackle global warming. It will also look at styles and strategies ranging from lobbying to community education, from advocacy through to non-violent civil disobedience.

Community campaigning and activism can be very powerful and effective. Come along and learn the 'how-to' for the issues you are passionate about.

Unwaged/student = \$25, Waged adult = \$50.

[Book your place here](#)

**Understanding the Global Economic Crisis: Public Forum & Discussion – Monday 15 December.** For thirty years we were told there is no alternative. We were told that embracing free trade, deregulation and privatisation was the best and only way to run society. When the Cold War ended, the winners patted each other on the back and assured the world the system worked, that the boom days would never end and eventually a piece of the pie would "trickle down" to everyone.

Earlier this year the smoke ran out and the mirrors shattered. The Wall Street party was over and ordinary people were left to clean up the mess. The International Monetary Fund predicts all of the world's advanced economies will shrink over the course of the next twelve months, something that has not happened since 1945. Economists have said a long and severe downturn, even a depression, is possible. The bottom line is that the system does not work.

The millionaire bankers and speculators who made the crisis go from bad to disastrous were rewarded with tax-payer funded bail-outs while ordinary people across the developed world face the loss of their job and home. In the Third World, the daily struggle for survival will get harder than ever.

How can we make sense of the unfolding crisis? Will Australia be spared the worst of it, as 'our' leaders keep telling us? What can we do to make sure it never happens again?

**On December 15 at 7pm at the Irish Club, 61 Townshend Road, Subiaco, concerned citizens will hold a forum on the crisis and the uncertain future.**

Participants to include Prof. Rob Lambert (Professor of Industrial Relations at UWA), Cedric Beidastch (PhD Candidate in History at UWA) and Tonja Boyd (postgraduate researcher in Environmental Science at ECU), plus historians, trade unionists and journalists.

If you are sick and tired of being a frustrated spectator and want to be part of the solution – please come, bring your ideas, your questions, your family and your friends.

Because the problems we face cannot be solved by the minds that created them.

**For more information, call Phil on 0417904329**

NB: This event is being organised by an independent ad hoc group of concerned citizens, and is NOT a front for any particular political organisation or party.

## **News/Updates**

### **Students Without Borders Wins More Awards!**

Students Without Borders has won for category 1: Working Creatively To Make A Difference (small organisation) in WA. We won on the strength of the website and the scope it has for encouraging students to play a part in their community. Gerry Georgatos, the SWB creator and Guild Manager, won 2008 Outstanding Commitment by an Individual for his contributions to education and indigenous rights. SWB was also delighted to be a finalist for Category 3: Strengthening Volunteering (small organisation) in WA for the 8Ball Program.

The award winners were:

Category 1: Working Creatively To Make A Difference (small organisation) in WA - [STUDENTS WITHOUT BORDERS WEBSITE](#)

Category 2: Working Creatively to make a difference (large organisation) in WA - [ASSOCIATION FOR SERVICES TO TORTURE AND TRAUMA SURVIVORS \(ASeTTS\)](#)

Category 3: Strengthening Communities - [WALPOLE COMMUNITY RESOURCE TELECENTRE](#)

Category 4: Strengthening Volunteering - [VOLUNTEER TASK FORCE](#)

Category 5: Strengthening the Community Services Industry - **NO FINALISTS SELECTED**

Category 6: Business & Community Partnerships - **VINCENTCARE SCRAP TO GOLD PROGRAM**

Category 7: Strengthening Rural and Remote Communities - **REMOTE ABORIGINAL SWIMMING POOLS PROJECT**

Category 8: Organisational Excellence - **KIDNEY HEALTH AUSTRALIA**

Category 9: Outstanding Commitment by an Individual - **GERRY GEORGATOS (the Students Without Borders Coordinator, & Murdoch Guild of Students General Manager)**

Congratulations to all of the organisations and individuals who were recognised as finalists and/or winners for their dedication and hard work.

### **I WILL NOT FALL – Stop Domestic Violence Against Women Fundraiser**

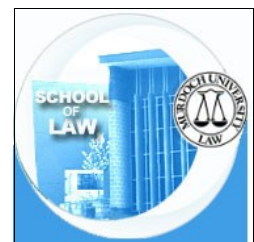
SWB would like to thank Assoc. Prof. Glen Stasiuk, Director of the Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre for a donation of \$500, Fernand De Varennes, the Acting Dean of Law for a donation of \$500 from the Murdoch University School of Law, and Nathan Giles and the Office of Corporate Communications and Public Relations at Murdoch University for a donation of \$1550. Their generous support made it possible to run 'I Will Not Fall', an event organised by the Students Without Borders Action Group. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of the issue of violence against women, and all funds raised at the event will be donated to Zonta House Women's Refuge.



I Will Not Fall was held at Ginger's Garage in Perth in November (total raised \$1000 for Zonta House Women's Refuge, with more being calculated), and the funds will be used to fund an outreach program



held in November at Ginger's Garage in Perth. The event raised well over \$1000 for Zonta House Women's Refuge, with more being calculated. The funds will be used to fund an outreach program to help fund the self-esteem



of women who have experienced domestic violence. The night featured performances by Damien Thornber and the Orphans, Joe Bludge, Hayley Beth, One Tiger Down, Nat Ripepi, Zxspecky, and Charlotte, a tribal dancer.



### **Give Meaningful Gifts This Christmas**

Are you stuck for what to buy friends and relatives for Christmas? Check out the gift ideas available from [Oxfam](#), [Greenpeace](#), [the International Rescue Committee](#) and [Amnesty International](#). Prices start from as little as \$10, and you will have the benefit of knowing that you are giving a struggling family, or even a whole community, a helping hand this Christmas.

### **Volunteering/Paid Opportunities:**

The WA fund-raising arm of HIAM Health in Australia, Friends of HIAM, is looking for a part-time webmaster. Every dollar that the charity raises here goes directly into HIAM

Health, because everyone provides their services gratis. HIAM is audited/supported by AFAP (The Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia & Pacific) so its all kosher, well behaved & tax deductible. See <http://www.afap.org/>

The webmaster will be required to maintain basic content on the website (about 1 - 2 hours per week). The current website is operating using aspx on an IIS server so they would need to be familiar with this environment. **This is a voluntary position.**

To volunteer for the position, please send your resume through to Andy Dinnie – [dinnieas@bigpond.com](mailto:dinnieas@bigpond.com)

### **8Ball Computer Recycling Program**

Do you have good IT skills? Can you spare a couple of hours each week to help refurbish computers? The 8Ball Computer Recycling Program needs you!

We are currently preparing to send up to 500 computers overseas and need as many volunteers as possible to help us achieve our goal. If you can help please contact Vicky Edwards – [swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au)

We also need more computers – if you have any surplus computers that you are willing to donate to the 8Ball Program, please contact Vicky Edwards – [swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au) Computers must be no more than 5 years old, monitors must be minimum 17” and in good working condition.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



**Support the Guild that supports SWB**