



March 2009 Newsletter

March is packed full of events to keep you busy...

Events:

SWB Action Group Meeting – Friday 6 March. The first meeting of 2009 is a chance to get to know each other and to decide which campaigns we are interested in focusing on this semester. We will meet at 8.30am in the Social Justice Centre. Meetings will be fortnightly, although the time and day may possibly change.

Women & War Photographic Exhibition – Thursday 5 – Sunday 8 March. Compiled by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), this exhibition provides an insight into how wars around the world and their aftermath continue to affect women. Photographs from countries including Timor-Leste, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Sudan, reveal that women experience wars in a myriad of ways, through displacement, sexual violence, lack of access to food and vital medical care, loss of contact with loved ones, and as detainees and fighters.

The exhibition can be viewed from 10am-5pm, Thursday and Friday, and from 12pm-4.45pm on Saturday. The exhibition will also be open from 12pm-6pm on Sunday in celebration of International Women's Day. Entry is free. **Showcase Gallery, Central TAFE, Cnr Aberdeen St & Beaufort St, Perth.**

International Women's Day – Sunday 6 - 8 March. Sharing the Caring for the Future. A public symposium featuring some of WA's top experts in caring will lead this year's Department for Communities' IWD events. Events will provide an inclusive and inspirational program over 2 days on Friday 6th and Sunday 8th March 2009. The 2009 theme of 'Sharing the Caring for the Future' celebrates the contribution of women as carers, and explores innovative ways to share responsibility for caring across our community.

International Women's Day Public Symposium – Friday 6 March. The symposium will include keynote speakers of Lois Gatley, Chair of the Carers

Advisory Committee, Dr Tamara MacKean, Senior Research Fellow at UWA, and Gordon Trewern, CEO of Nulsen Haven, providing dynamic discussion on this year's theme *Sharing the Caring for the Future*. The IWD public symposium is a free event on Friday March 6 from 9am to 1pm at Central TAFE, 140 Royal Street, East Perth. To register email Wendy Barnard wendy.barnard@communities.wa.gov.au or phone 6217 8209.

International Women's Day Indigenous Celebration – Sunday 8 March.

Celebrations feature Indigenous women, and include performances from Kwarbah Djookian Dance Group, Thalia Skopellos and Moana Dreaming. Also at Central TAFE, this event will be hosted by Narelda Jacobs of Channel 10 and starts at 10.30am. To register contact Denese Griffin denese.griffin@communities.wa.gov.au or phone 6217 8212.

International Women's Day Public Expo - Sunday 8 March. Open between 10am and 3pm, the expo will include events and info from various community organisations. There will also be a lunch time sausage sizzle, sponsored by the Northern Suburbs Reconciliation Group and [Students Without Borders](#).

For more info on the Department for Communities' events go to www.communities.wa.gov.au or contact Department for Communities' Women's Info Service on 6217-8230, 1800-199-174 (regional), or email owp@communities.wa.gov.au

Critical Voice – Wednesday 11 March. “World Aware: Refugees, Youth and the Community”. Join Noushin Arefadib, Red Cross Youth Development Officer, for Critical Voice. Free coffee, spirited discussion on the issue of refugees in Australia, 12.30pm in Walter's Cafe.

“In the footsteps of Che?” – Saturday 14 March. Eyewitness report: after 50 years does Cuba still uphold the spirit of Che Guevara? Is the tumultuous process unfolding in Venezuela simply an extension of the Cuban revolution or is it something new? Can ordinary people raise themselves up from the lowest levels of poverty and organise an egalitarian, ecologically sustainable economy? Annolies Truman and Barry Healy have recently returned from a fact finding trip and they hope to demonstrate in their report that both the Venezuelan and Cuban process continue the inspiring work that Che Guevara began. This public meeting will be held in St. Cuthbert's Good Shepherd Meeting Room, Darlington at 4pm. Entry by donation.

Chester Forest Movie Fundraiser – Sunday 15 March. The Fremantle Greens are screening “The Reader” (starring Oscar winner Kate Winslet and Ralph Fiennes) at 3.30pm at the Luna on Essex in Fremantle. Join them for wine and cheese from 3.30, movie starts at 4.10pm. The Fremantle Greens are supporting activists who have set up camp in Chester Forest at Margaret River to prevent the State Government from logging it next month. 830 hectares of native forest

is to be logged for a paltry return of less than \$50,000 to the State Government. This is absurd and completely ignores the true value of our forests as carbon sinks, CO2 absorbers and habitat providers. With this fundraiser they aim to raise \$1500 as a down payment for a community buy back of this forest. It's time for us to end logging in native forests, because we know they are worth more alive than dead. Please help the Fremantle Greens through Adele Carles to put the public spotlight on Chester Forest by supporting this fundraiser. They are aiming to sell 150 tickets. Tickets cost \$20 and are available at Murdoch University through Gerry Georgatos, gerry_georgatos@yahoo.com.au

Globalise Me: An Introduction to Global Education - Tuesday 17 March.

Teachers: explore the themes of global education in a fun, interactive workshop with activities and strategies that you can use in your classroom. Also, examine what being a global educator means for your classroom setup, teaching style and use of resources. 4pm-6pm, at the One World Centre, 5 King William St, Bayswater, 6053.

<http://www.oneworldcentre.org.au/teachers/>

Contact Kylie Hosking: education@oneworldcentre.org.au, 9371 9133

Coalition for a Safe Climate Public Meeting – Friday 20 March. This group of activists based in WA want a safe climate and have joined forces to build the climate action movement here. They support the outcomes of the [Climate Action Summit](#) held in Canberra January 31-February 3, 2009, and are planning events to link up with the national climate action movement. Their first event will be a public meeting with Climate Code Red author David Spratt, at 6pm, Friday March 20. Put it in your diary and watch out for the email with the venue (it'll be at UWA, but room to be confirmed). For a cooler planet, Kamala Emanuel, Coalition for a Safe Climate, kamala@greenleft.org.au

Mixed Cultural Cook-Up Day - Saturday 28 March. INVITATION TO ALL CULTURES. You are invited to participate in this event: **4.00pm to 8.00pm** at the Nyungar Healing and Storytelling Circle, Booyeembara Park, Corner Stevens and Montreal Streets, White Gum Valley. The Mixed Cultural Cook-Up Committee would like to invite you to join us in a day of sharing stories, dance, food and music. For more information please contact:

Erin Phipps – 0400 062 507 or ephipps@bigpond.com.au or Marie Thorne – 9314 5718.

Festival of Trees - Sunday 29 March. 10am to 4pm at Men of the Trees, St. Barbe Grove, Lot 2 Stirling Crescent, corner of Amherst Road, Hazelmere (near the Helena River bridge). Discover the magic of native plants, hobby farms, drought proofing your property, the magic of mulch, water wise irrigation, composting, the Children's Forest at Whiteman Park and more! Call 9250 1888 or contact@menofthetrees.com.au. Gold coin entry.

Teaching About Other Countries – Tuesday 31 March. This workshop for teachers or education students will introduce participants to issues to consider when teaching about other countries. It is based on an Australian resource that provides a teaching model that teachers can adopt. The model focuses on students discovering what countries have in common and how they are interdependent, yet have their own identities. 4pm-6pm, at the One World Centre, 5 King William St, Bayswater, 6053.

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News:

Language Classes

This semester we are offering the following classes for beginners:

Tuesday	4.30pm - 5.30pm	Malay
Wednesday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Cantonese
	3.00pm - 4.30pm	Mandarin
Thursday	12.30pm - 2.00pm	Russian
	3.00pm - 4.30pm	German
Saturday	10.00am - 11.00am	Arabic
	11.00am - 12.30pm	Mandarin

All classes cost just \$2! They will be starting soon so please email Vicky to enrol – swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au. Please make sure you tell me which class you want to enrol for. Classes will run until the end of semester, not including study breaks.

We have not been able to find a Spanish tutor for this semester, but if already speak some Spanish and would like to form a practice group with other students, please let Vicky know which days and times are most suitable for you. There will be no charge to attend this group.

JET Scholarships

Are you a parent struggling to make ends meet whilst you study? Has your entitlement to JET come to an end? SWB volunteers held barbecues on Bush Court throughout 2007 & 2008 to raise money for scholarships to help single parents when the government cut them off.

We are now offering the first 2 x \$250 scholarships to help you through the beginning of semester. To be eligible, you must meet the JET requirements, but have reached the end of your entitlement. **Applications close March 20 2009.** Please email Vicky - swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au - with a letter outlining your eligibility.

SWB on Facebook

We have finally created a Students Without Borders group on Facebook. There's not much on it at the moment, but feel free to add comments, photos from any volunteering events you have done through SWB, questions and suggestions onto the wall...

Here's the link: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=48979050487&ref=mf>

Over the internet, a group of Palestinian graffiti artists is offering to spray paint your personal message on Israel 's towering security wall in the occupied West Bank. It costs 30 euros per message and they can be as solemn or wacky as you want. Everything goes, except for obscene, offensive or extremist hate speech. Clients get three digital pictures of the finished product. The eight-metre high barrier of massive concrete slabs is part of a 620-kilometre fence Israel says is intended to keep suicide bombers out. But with its slit-eyed watchtowers and burgeoning Palestinian protest graffiti, it is already reminiscent of the hated Berlin Wall, which divided the German capital for 28 years before it was torn down 20 years ago. The taggers at www.sendamessage.nl are members of the Palestinian Peace and Freedom Youth Forum, which set up the scheme in collaboration with a Dutch Christian organisation. "It is a new way to speak with the people, that we the Palestinians exist," said graffiti artist Yusef Njm. Organisers stress that revenue does not go to buy weapons for the Palestinians. It is intended to support grassroots social and cultural projects in the West Bank. Students Without Borders will sponsor a message on the Wall, "Freedom to all, we all have the right to it, every single one of us. Students Without Borders."

Chester Forest

Chester Forest is located just outside of Margaret River, and covers an area of 800 hectares of pristine forest. The Forest Products Commission (FPC) was due to log this area in February, despite the fact that the coupe contains jarrah, marri and karri trees, along with many other native plants and wildlife species.

The Chester Forest Rescue Camp has been established to support the forest defense. There are actually two camps – one is the public face of the Chester Forest protest with a warm communal tent, open camping area, a tree platform and the Rescue camp's kitchen. The other site is manned 24/7 by protesters who are blocking entry to the forest.

Camp spokesperson Simon Peterffy reports a strong, positive community reaction from locals, interstate and international visitors as well as passing traffic. "There have been hundreds of visitors and protesters to Chester, some staying from day one, others dropping in for a day visit", says Simon. "This is a serious campaign, in true forest rescue tradition. We are here to save this pristine wilderness".

Supporters are both welcome and vital to the Chester Forest Rescue Camp.

Essential supplies of human energy, food staples and building supplies are needed to sustain the protest effort. Drop-off points for equipment at this time are the Brockman Highway camp and in Margaret River. For Margaret River donations, contact Gerry on 0439 994 932. For ideas on what may be useful goods for donation, contact recent visitor to the camp, Maxine Drake on 0409 016 104 or Simon Peterffy.

“This forest belongs to everyone and everyone can help to save it, in whatever capacity they are able”, says Simon Peterffy. Simon can be contacted on 0422 535 328.

If you would be interested in going down to the Chester Forest camp for a day, or possibly even a weekend trip, please email Vicky – swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au. If enough people are interested we will organise a bus.

Murdoch University Greens WA

The Murdoch University Greens will attempt to convene every month. If you are interested in participating in the Greens WA movement for change on Green issues, such as in line with Climate Change campaigns, in the saving of our environment and habitats, and in ensuring the unfolding language of human rights and social justice then consider joining and building a Greens movement at Murdoch University.

Come to a meeting of the Murdoch Greens, and get involved in making a difference in the ways that matter. The venue will be somewhere at Murdoch University, with date and time to be announced. Please email gerry_georgatos@yahoo.com.au to find out more or to express an interest.

The Fremantle and Willagee electorates have their Greens Meetings one Thursday each month at Fremantle. If interested, email to find out more or go to the Greens WA website.

Volunteering/Paid Opportunities:

Tutoring

The Students Tutoring Students Program is looking for more tutors. If you have achieved a Distinction or High Distinction in any of your units, you could earn up to \$20/hr whilst helping other students. To sign up, or to find out more, contact Vicky – swb@guild.murdoch.edu.au

There are students waiting for help with:

LAW120
BUS165
EGL284
EDU231

One World Cuisine

Volunteers are wanted for food serving at One World Cuisine in Kardinya. The food is entirely vegetarian and they do not charge to serve food (payment is by donation). They also need kitchen helpers. Hours: 11.30am – 2.00pm, 5.45pm – 8.00pm. Contact Leelin – 9331 6677.

Guild Events

The Murdoch University Guild of Students is looking for volunteers to help organise events on campus, such as the upcoming Foam Party. If you would like to get involved, please contact events@guild.murdoch.edu.au

Vet Students

There is a possible opportunity for Vet students to travel to Egypt to undertake voluntary work with Animal Aid Abroad. They are hoping to develop an exchange program with Murdoch vet students. For more info, visit <http://www.animalaidabroad.org/>

Palm Oil Action

Palm Oil Action are seeking volunteers to help with an event to be held in Perth in April. They are raising awareness of the devastating impact of oil palm plantations in Indonesia and on the environment in general. For more info, visit <http://www.palmoilaction.org.au/>, to volunteer or to organise your own event to raise awareness of this issue, please contact Jodie on bkind@westnet.com.au

[Support the Guild that supports SWB](#)