

# Oxfam - Diamond Valley Newsletter



May 2009 Web: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dvoxfam>  
Email: [AHIE.Stewart@bigpond.com](mailto:AHIE.Stewart@bigpond.com)

**Next Oxfam-Diamond Valley  
Meeting**  
**8pm Friday May 15th,**  
**Nillumbik Living and Learning**  
**Centre, 739 Main Rd Eltham.**

## 'The Voices of Disposable People'

Carole Wigg is planning to show a DVD, 'The Voices of Disposable People', which discusses the difficulties of the world's poorest people, including bonded labour, lack of influence in their economic environment, hard work, poor living conditions and exploitation. It also deals with the role of the World Bank, the IMF and wealthy corporations in creating poverty. She hopes that this will stimulate some good discussion.

## A Commonwealth Bill of Rights: Do We Need It?

A Panel Discussion with award winning thinkers and writers:

**Carolyn Evans.** Her expertise is in constitutional law, human rights and religious freedom.

**Simon Evans.** His research focuses on parliamentary mechanisms for protecting human rights.

**Klaus Neumann,** academic in Germany and Australia, historian.

**Spencer Zifcak,** Professor. His fields are international, comparative constitutional and human rights law.

This event coincides with the Commonwealth Consultation process on the

proposed implementation of a Commonwealth Bill of Rights. So come and have your say.

**At St Margaret's Anglican Church Hall,**  
**Pitt Street, Eltham.**

**Wednesday 13th May 7.00 – 9.30pm**

Entry \$12 (includes refreshments)

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: 9439 8700

[ELTHAMbookshop@bigpond.com](mailto:ELTHAMbookshop@bigpond.com)

To make a submission on-line go to [www.humanrightsconsultation.gov.au](http://www.humanrightsconsultation.gov.au) before 15 June 2009.

## Fair trade Fondue Party

Hosted by Diamond Valley Tear Group and the Fair Trade Nillumbik Project.

**Saturday, 16 May 9am – 1pm**  
**Under the Rotunda**

*Chocolatier* Fairtrade chocolate for sale. Help tackle child trafficking and labour - both major problems resulting from cocoa production which are sure to leave a bitter taste in any chocolate lover's mouth.

## Checkout Fairtrade

is a campaign to find Australia's most Fairtrade Friendly Super-market. Fair trade has sent postcards (available at Friday's meeting) on which you can nominate a supermarket after counting the Fairtrade products displayed in it. The aim is to increase consumer awareness of Fairtrade labelled products available, and to let retailers know that many consumers are concerned with the impact their purchasing decisions have on producers in developing countries.

[www.checkoutfairtrade.org.au](http://www.checkoutfairtrade.org.au)

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## Past Matters Festival

**Culture, history, family, reconciliation.**

Dates: **Friday May 29th 6.30pm.**  
**Saturday May 30th 10am.**

Venue: **Eltham Community Reception Centre**, Main Road, Eltham 3095

Cost : \$5 per session, \$20 for Saturday, 30th May or \$30 for the festival. Lunch:\$10.  
Book ahead, please.

## Asylum Seeker Resource Centre

As the cold approaches, our asylum seekers will be needing winter gear such as gloves, scarves, beanies, new thermal underwear and umbrellas - in new or excellent condition.

Also:

- Metcards
- Nappies, baby wipes etc
- Overseas phonecards
- blankets, linen etc

[barney.f@asrc.org.au](mailto:barney.f@asrc.org.au)

## Run Melbourne Sunday, 28th June

Run Melbourne, presented by *The Age*, is the community fitness event for everyone. Set yourself a personal fitness goal, get your friends and family to sponsor you and start raising funds for Oxfam today!

[www.oxfam.org.au/events/run-melbourne](http://www.oxfam.org.au/events/run-melbourne)

## Oxfam-D.V. Country Dance

The Oxfam-D.V. Country Dance, led by Michael Pender, will be held on August 8th in the North Eltham hall.

## In memoriam

Jo McCormack, a long time supporter of CAA / Oxfam, died recently, at 84 years of age. She donated thousands of books, and always came to our Book Fair.

## From the Climate Emergency Network:

We need 10,000 people to make a **Human Sign** on St. Kilda Beach on Sunday 17 May at 11am. We need you to advertise this event to your friends, colleagues and networks. It is probably best to go by public transport and the sign will be just behind the Sea Baths on St. Kilda Beach. Bring some water, something to sit on and warm clothes. The Human Sign will say "CLIMATE CHANGE – OUR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS", and we really need to tell our politicians that we are not going to take their inaction and sidestepping on the issue of Climate Change.

### DIAMOND VALLEY OXFAM

#### MEETINGS

8.00pm 3rd Friday of each month  
Living and Learning Nilumbik  
739 Main Rd Eltham, Melway Ref 21 J7

#### OFFICE BEARERS

Meeting Chairman - Stephen Lavender 9439 2063  
Meeting Organizers - Carole Wigg 9439 7272  
Marguerite Marshall 9439 3232  
or 0422 042 099  
Treasurer & Membership - Alister Rowe 9435 5958  
Publicity Officer & Webmaster - John Kent  
9434 6882  
Minutes Secretary - Elizabeth Stewart 9459 4429  
Book Fair Coordinator - Beth Pender 9439 1716  
Trade Winds Tea/Coffee - Val Byers