

Oxfam - Diamond Valley Newsletter



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October 2009 Web: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dvoxfam>
Email: AHIE.Stewart@bigpond.com

OXFAM-DIAMOND VALLEY BOOK FAIR Saturday October 17th 8am-6pm

Please tell everyone that we have a **huge** number of books. If we don't sell them, we have to **cart them away**, starting at 6pm on Saturday evening, leaving Sunday free.

Our normal meeting night will be occupied by **setting up**. Conveying books from the Eltham Library 'dungeon' begins at 4pm on Friday 16th October, and will take until well into the evening. Please 'phone Beth on 9439 1716 to do a **shift on Saturday**.

Thankyou to Beth and Michael for all the pickups they have done, to Beth for all the organization and publicity, to all who helped sort and box the books, and to Brian and Ron for carting away too-heavy boxes of discards. Hopefully, no backs have been injured in the process.

Asia Pacific Disaster Appeal

Oxfam is sending additional emergency staff and supplies to respond to the deadly earthquake in Sumatra, Indonesia and the tsunami in Samoa. This is occurring on top of Oxfam and its partners responding to widespread flooding in the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Support the many people in our region who have been hit by tragedy by donating to:

The Asia Pacific Disaster Appeal
Oxfam Australia, 132 Leicester St Carlton 3053, or online:
<https://www.oxfam.org.au/donate/current-appeals/asia-pacific-disaster-appeal>

Note: *Should the funds raised exceed the amount required to meet the immediate and longer term needs of the people in the affected areas, Oxfam Australia will direct*

donations to our International Crisis Fund to enable us to rapidly address emergencies as they occur.

World Matters Eltham Bookshop

" Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter" Martin Luther King Jnr.

If the world matters to you, please join us for the fifth annual World Matters forums on Oct 17, 18, 19 and November 19 at Edendale Community Farm, Gastons Lane, Eltham, as we celebrate essays, books and poems that ask questions: What are we doing in Afghanistan? Why are we in a financial crisis? What can be done about people in Tuvalu facing rising sea levels? Why is managerial speak so out of tune with reality? Why is our indigenous health in such a dire condition? Why bloodshed? How can we find out who we really are? How can we write so that we move our readers' hearts and minds?

Listen to many writers (and Stephen Lavender, 10am Sunday) as they pose new questions and fresh alternatives. Come to be disturbed.

Please walk or bike to the venue, as parking is limited. There is access for the disabled.

Why New Coal: a film by Ekta Kothari (Excerpts from this film will be screened on Saturday 17th October as part of the session on Climate). This film is critical at a time when an agreement has been **done** between the Indian Coal ministry and Environment Ministry - to allow approx 50% of Indias forests as "Go" area for coal mining.

Bookings with payments are essential and lunch is highly recommended.

Please call *ELTHAMbookshop*,
970 Main Road, Eltham. Tel 9439 8700
elthambookshop@bigpond.com

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Asylum Seeker Resource Centre News 2nd October CEO REPORT

It's been a busy week! We gained asylum for our 133rd person this year and have been preparing submissions to the Federal Government demanding the Social Inclusion of asylum seekers into Australian society. We have been training volunteers in how to work with survivors of torture and trauma. Our employment Program has launched its new edition of ASSET, that highlights the terrific work we do in finding employment for asylum seekers. Sunday 11th October is our Run for Refugees day, the ASRC's biggest fundraising event, and our goal is to double last year's total of \$57,000. Register online at <http://www.melbournemarathon.com.au/>

The Material Aid and Advocacy Program (MAAP)

Mobile phones are necessary to help ASRC members stay in touch with services assisting them. They should be in good working order, have all parts intact and include a charger. MAAP also needs **Big W and Kmart vouchers**, vital for our most destitute members and help supply people with basic necessities. Post these vouchers to the ASRC MAAP program
12 Batman St, West Melbourne.

MEN'S SUITS NEEDED FOR ASRC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

They help our members look sharp for their job interviews and make sure that they are judged on their skills, and not by their clothes. We are fully stocked with shirts and now we are just putting a shout out for business suits. They are particularly looking for small to medium sizes. Please note that women's clothes are not needed.

To make a donation, please contact Gavin in the Employment Program
employment@asrc.org.au or 9326 6066.

Refugee Camp in Melbourne staged by Médecins Sans Frontières

Treasury Gardens on Spring Street
Saturday 3rd-Sunday 11th October.
The experience of living in a refugee camp can be interpreted in free, guided tours led by MSF Australian experienced field workers who have witnessed refugee camp life first-hand. Tours every 15 minutes. You'll see various types of shelter used in a refugee crisis, how food is distributed, how water sources are treated to prevent epidemic outbreaks and how MSF monitors the health of displaced people. They'll also discuss the dangers and insecurities commonplace in camps, and the effects of displacement on mental health. Here is a chance for better understanding of what displaced peoples and refugees endure. For more information: <http://refugeecamp.msf.org.au/about-refugee-camp.html>

Australian Plants Expo: Sustainable Gardening with Australian native plants
Templestowe College, Cypress Avenue
Sat 10th 9am-5pm & Sun 11th Oct. 9am-4pm
Sales, displays, presentations on landscaping, sustainable water use and wildlife, a DVD program, propagation demonstrations.

DIAMOND VALLEY OXFAM MEETINGS

8.00pm 3rd Friday of each month
Living and Learning Nillumbik
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