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New Promises.... and
Blessed with Love and Happiness!*

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SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR THE COMMUNITY

► SETTLEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM:

Funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Please contact Sophia Karutjindo in Joondalup Office on **(08) 9300 2720** or austasia2@iinet.net.au
Office Hours: 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday, except Tuesdays: Sophia meets with CaLD women's group at a Community Centre, Merriwa.

► EMERGENCY RELIEF:

Funded by Lotterywest and Department of Family and Community Services.

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- AAA Perth 275 Stirling St, Perth (08) 9328 6262
- AAA Joondalup Lotteries Complex Office Suite 10/70 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup (08) 9300 2720
- AAA Gosnells Community Lotteries House Suite 3/2232C Albany Hwy, Gosnells (08) 9398 9156
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

► TRIPLE A CARE:

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Please contact Chris Brama
CACP Coordinator on **(08) 9228 9833**

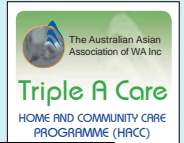
Please contact Sarojini Fernando
HACC Coordinator on **(08) 9328 7688**

Tholla Chan CPP Coordinator
on **(08) 9328 6202**

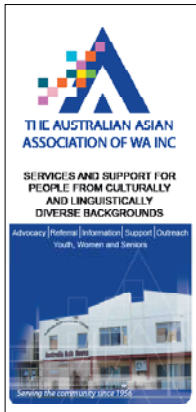
► IMMIGRATION:

Qualified Migrant Agent available for free consultations and assistance.

Please contact Olga Ramasamy on **(08) 9328 6202**
or email: austasia1@iinet.nt.au



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CONTACT THOLLA (08) 9328 6202

President's Message



It is with a great sense of delight that I greet you, our dear family members once again. Those of you who had a chance to view the Harmony Concert at the Perth Concert Hall would agree with the Minister John Castrilli and a vast majority of the audience that it was a stupendous performance. The committee at its March meeting passed a vote of thanks and congratulated the CEO, Olga, Marlene Robbins and Irina for this marvelous production and their time and effort. My thanks also to our committee members for their valuable support and to our sponsor's Lottery West, Healthway and The Office of Multicultural Interests.

As promised I will keep you apprised of the personnel and their roles at the Association. After having received the Youth Grant, a new co-ordinator was appointed. We congratulate Tewin Siripatanakakulkajorn. His work includes developing English and Computer programmes, for migrant refugees under the youth initiative "Engaging Youth to Forge Ahead". It is hoped that this would help refugee youth to integrate better into Australian custom and tradition. Tewin is also engaged in the dealing with clients needing emergency relief with their utility bills.

As members would be aware the Association has a branch office in Joondalup. Due to the large influx of migrants and refugees, the need for service provision has increased. Lotterywest is assisting the Whitford Church in a joint building venture. We have registered our interest in obtaining office space in this new building. The office will be located in Merriwa where we already provide services one day a week from Joondalup.

With the Community Aged Care Packages at the moment the programme has 6 client vacancies. If you are aware of any clients over 70 who may benefit by being cared for at home, please contact the co-ordinator Chris Brama.

A seminar on "Options in Aged Care" was organised at Australia Asia House for the Pakistani seniors by our CPP co-ordinator, Tholla Chan in partnership with the Pakistan Association. Tholla Chan, attended a function at Burswood where the Minister for Disability Services, Hon. Simon O'Brien, launched the Our Voices, Our Journeys DVD.

The recently concluded racial symposium at Murdoch University was well attended by the community, including our CEO. I had the great pleasure of meeting with Professor Jim Gates an Afro American, who was the invited guest and speaker from the USA. Jim is a very highly regarded theoretical physicist and is on President Obama's Science Advisory committee.

The Association continues to grow from strength to strength in the many and varied aspects of migrant welfare. We have responded to a request from the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship to comment on the complete overhaul of the Skilled Migration Programme to Australia which could potentially affect many of our members and clients. The Association was also pleased to hear about the re commencement of the funding from the Proceeds of the Criminal Property Confiscation Grants Program. We have been recipients of the funding in the past.

I take this occasion to thank you once again for your tremendous support and faith in me as President to launch your Association well into the future. May you and your families be blessed with the spirit of Easter and enjoy a well deserved safe break.

Unity in Diversity

Mel. Fialho





CEO'S Message



I feel so relieved that once again we were able to present a very enjoyable Harmony International FolkFest with a high level of professionalism. To get it off the ground takes a great deal of effort on the part of everyone on the Team. My sincere thanks to each of them. I also want to thank all the performing groups for their co-operation – especially

backstage and to Dante and his colleague for the perfect co-ordination of the Acts. With such a great demand for tickets, the smooth allocation of the tickets has always been a challenge. Every year we publish the application form in the December Newsletter, but every year people rely on phone calls, and that in the last two weeks, or sometimes in the last two days and naturally they miss out.

My passion for encouraging talent in the performing arts and desire to improve and perfect the acts is what motivated me to start the Forrest FolkFest 18 years ago. It has now grown into a household word and eagerly awaited by both the WA community and the performing groups.

In our application for Growth Funding for the HACC program in 2010, we applied and received money for Respite Care – which is something we badly needed to assist the primary carer, often a family member, to have a break.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members and their families a Very Happy Easter. I hope all you hard-working people come refreshed after the long Easter break.

Olga Ramasamy OAM

Chief Executive Officer



Congratulations to **SADIQ BUX** – one of our Founder Members – on reaching the **BIG 80!** His children Aalia, Adil, Tammy and Seema organised an enjoyable luncheon for family and friends at Nine Mary's Restaurant in the City – Their tribute to Dad:

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad

80!

COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM (CPP)

FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGEING



SPANISH SENIORS GROUP

Pakistani Seniors Group: On 19th February 2010, an information session was organized by the Community Partners Program Coordinator, Tholla Chan, in collaboration with the President of the Pakistan Association. It was held at Australia Asia House. Tholla Chan gave a power point presentation on "Aged Care Options". The main question from the discussion was whether the government would offer aged care services appropriate for Muslim seniors. We discussed a possibility of creating a cluster with some Residential Aged Care Providers, which will cater for the needs of seniors from Muslim background. Another similar information session for the Pakistani seniors will be on 30th April at Australia Asia House.

Spanish Seniors Group: On 22nd February 2010, the CPP Coordinator, organised an Information Session for the Spanish seniors on Mental Health for older people. Dr Bernadette Wright, Specialist Clinical Psychologist, from Transcultural Mental Health. There were many questions from the attendees who were concerned about their own state of mental health and services which are available in the community.

Bangladeshi Seniors Group: On 27th March 2010, Tholla Chan gave a presentation on "Aged Care Options" to a group of Bangladeshi seniors at Lynwood Senior High School. It was organized in partnership with the President of the Bangladesh-Australia Association of WA. Attendees were interested in finding out about aged care services and the application procedures in order to access the services which are more appropriate to their needs. The question of having aged care services that cater for Muslim seniors also came up in the discussion that followed the power point presentation.

Iranian Seniors Group: Two information sessions were organised at the Australia Asia House for the Iranian seniors. The topics of interest were Dementia and Mental Health for Older People. There were lively discussions on both occasions among attendees and the guest speakers.

Apart from giving information sessions to CaLD communities, the CPP coordinator has to attend many meetings to network with other agencies within the aged care industry.

There will be two CPP Forums in May 2010, which will be intended for service providers and health professionals. They will be conducted as a collaboration between the Australian Asian Association and the ILC Multicultural Aged Care Service.



IRANIAN SENIORS GROUP



BANGLADESHI SENIORS GROUP

For further information please contact
Tholla Chan on 9328 6202



Settlement Grants Programme

Funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship

At Merriwa Community Centre, on Thursday 25, March 2010 the SGP officer held an information session on "Happy Family". The characteristics of a happy family were identified and discussed. It was then concluded that in the absence of harmonious existence abuse prevail. Abusive behaviours were identified in all forms such as physical, emotional, financial, isolation, cultural etc. Clients were given information on what to do, where to go and who to call when facing these

challenges. The session was well received by those present and many thought that such session would be very helpful if both partners could attend. The session was attended by 17 women from various backgrounds and ethnicity.

Sophia Karutjindo, Community Settlement Officer
Suite 10/70 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup WA 6027

PH: 08 3900 2720



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Older People's Rights Service (OPRS)

A solicitor and social worker are available for assistance or educational talks.

For appointments contact the Older People's Rights Service on:

Phone (08) 9440 1663

OPEN

MONDAY to FRIDAY

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

10 Cobbler Place

Mirrabooka WA 6061

This metropolitan service is provided in partnership with the Northern Suburbs Community legal Centre Inc. and Advocare Inc.



AAA YOUTH PROGRAMME

Funded by



Government of Western Australia
Department for Communities

The AAA Youth Programme continues to deliver services to young migrants aged 18 to 25 who have recently arrived in Australia. The project "Engaging Youth To Forge Ahead" aims at promoting healthy living, creativity and necessary skills required for gaining employment in the new social environment.

As the saying goes, "Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him his entire life." AAA aims to provide practical and down to earth training workshops that would truly benefit all participants. Thus, we would like to encourage people who are eligible to join our Youth Programme.

We are currently running the following programmes:



- Free English lessons
- Free computer lessons
- English lessons for young mothers — raising a child in Australia
- Hip Hop dance lessons
- CV preparation and job application workshops
- Driving in Australia — what you need to know before you buy and drive
- Information Resource Centre — free internet access (prior bookings essential)



Migrants 18 to 25 years old
Are you interested in tapping into the workforce?

If so...come and join us in


Free
English Lessons
(Functional English – improving overall skills /
Conversation English – building confidence in speaking)

Computer skills
(how to use computer,
necessary software applications /
Free internet access)

Catch Bus
21, 22, 67, 68, 69
EASY!

Where: Australia Asia House
275 Stirling St, Perth, 6000
When: Mon, Wed & Fri 3.00 -5.00 pm




For more information please contact Tewin on 9328 1160, 9328 6202 youthcoordinator@iinet.net.au



8th WORLD ANGLO - INDIAN REUNION 2010 - PROGRAM

Day 1	Sat - 25/9/10	Meet & Greet	Gloucester Park
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A fun filled evening where you will get the chance of catching up with old friends and making new ones. The evening will also include music and dancing, some gambling and a sumptuous dinner.

Day 2	Sun - 26/9/10	Concert	Perth Convention Centre
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Showcasing some of the best Australian and Overseas AI talent

Day 3	Mon - 27/9/10	Swan Valley Tour	
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Tour of our popular Swan Valley where participants will sample our famous wines, savour mouth watering chocolates and finish off at Whiteman Park for lunch and games.

Day 4	Tues - 28/9/10	Perth Highlights - Bus trip	
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Journey through some of the highlights of Perth, finishing off at our own Cultural Centre for a typical Anglo-Indian high tea.

Day 5	Wed - 29/9/10	Jam Session & Lunch	Vasto Club
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*Presenting the best of AI Bands and AI Superstar,
Shayne Hyrapiet.
Dance the afternoon away and enjoy a delicious Indian buffet!*

Day 6	Thurs - 30/9/10 (a.m.)	Symposium/AGM	Vasto Club (snacks included)
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Hear the past and present achievements of our community and be part of the commitment to help those in dire need on the Indian sub-continent

Day 6	Thurs - 30/9/10 (p.m.)	Food Fair	Vasto Club (Buy your own food)
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A sumptuous range of authentic Anglo-Indian and Indian food prepared for your pleasure.

Day 7	Fri - 1/10/10	Fremantle Day Tour	
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Bus to exciting Fremantle and take in a tour of the old Prison. This will be followed by an afternoon of discovery in this Port city made famous when the America's Cup was won and brought to Perth.

Day 8	Sat - 2/10/10 (a.m.)	Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service	
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Thanking God for the graces bestowed upon us

Day 8	Sat - 2/10/10 (p.m.)	Gala Ball	Perth Convention Centre
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A sumptuous three-course sit down dinner will be served with unlimited beer, wine and soft drinks throughout the evening. The evening will also feature the world famous Anglo-Indian performer, Shayne Hyrapiet.

For ticket sales, please contact the office, or purchase via our website
www.australian-anglo-indian-association.org.au



HARMONY INTERNATIONAL FOLKFEST 2010 SUNDAY 14th MARCH

We are most grateful to Achim Burmeister OAM and Christine Nicol-Burmeister OAM the producers of TREFF WA (the only German Language magazine published in W.A.) for the wonderful coverage of the Harmony International 2010 event in their issue dated 27th March 2010. They have devoted 4 pages and the front cover to pictures of all the acts presented at the event with a long write up – all in German. We are delighted with this publicity and offered them our heartfelt thanks.

We are most grateful to Hon. John Castrilli and Mrs. Castrilli for gracing the occasion and remaining till the end. It was a great pleasure to have a Minister that appreciates and enjoys a presentation of a variety of cultures in song and dance form. Every year we attempt to vary the acts and work with the groups to fine tune their presentation. This has resulted in receiving many comments this year on the improved professionalism.

Olga Ramasamy
Harmony Folkfest Producer and Director

Comments

“The second event that had profound effect on me was the Harmony FolkFest organized by the Australia-Asia Association. The Perth Concert Hall was filled to capacity and guests were treated to a veritable feast of folk dancing and singing which truly reflected the innate spirit and character of each cultural group that makes up multicultural Australia and lives and works together in harmonious cooperation. Again I was struck by the power of many groups working together to reach common goals and also of the need to embrace and manage change in order to prosper.” President, NCWWA

Extracts from The National Council of Women of Western Australia (Inc.) Newsletter March 2010



Government of Western Australia
Office of Multicultural Interests





From left: John Hyde MLA - Shadow Minister for Culture and Arts, Loretta Castrilli, The Hon. John Castrilli MLA - Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests, Mel Fialho – the President of the Australian Asian Association of WA Inc.



Margaret Hall - the President of International Business Councils of WA and Maria Osman - Office of Multicultural Interests, Executive Director



AAA Executive members and the Hon. John Castrilli, MLA Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests and Mrs Castrilli



The Hon. John Castrilli, MLA Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests, members of Damayang Filipino Association and Ms Sushma Paul, Consul of the Republic of India

PERFORMERS



USA DIAMOND DOLLS



NEW ZEALAND MANAWA MAI TAWHITI



CHINA ZHDAN CHANG DANCE SCHOOL



SCOTLAND SCOTTISH HIGHLAND DANCE ACADEMY



INDONESIA PEACOCK DANCERS



SRI LANKA ACADEMY OF SRI LANKAN DANCE AND MUSIC



SPAIN, ANDALUCIA AFRAH ENSEMBLE



THAILAND



INDIA AAJA NACHLE



CHINA MULAN ASSOCIATION



Government of Western Australia
Office of Multicultural Interests





MEXICO FANTASIA LATINA FOLKLORIC BALLET



CHINA CHINESE LION DANCE



IRELAND A CAPPELLA WEST



IRELAND WA ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCING



SENEGAL ZIGGI MABEYE DIAGNE



HUNGARY KESZKENO HUNGARIAN FOLK DANCERS



SPAIN KAREN HENDERSON



**INDIA, Punjab State
NACHDA PUNJAB BY SIKH ASSOCIATION**



INDONESIA SELENDANG SUTRA DANCE TROUPE



ARGENTINA FANTASIA LATINA FOLKORIC BALLET



SRI LANKA PAVITHRA DANCE TROUPE



TUNISIA BELYSSA ACADEMY OF DANCE ORIENTALS



POLAND POLISH DANCE GROUP KUKULECZKA INC.



PHILIPPINES UNBREAKABLE CREW



UKRAINE ROZTIAZHKA UKRAINIAN COSSACK DANCERS



GHANA WALA



Government of Western Australia
Office of Multicultural Interests





PAKISTAN ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

www.pakistanassociation.com

Pakistan Association of Western Australia (PAWA) was established about 28 years back and since its inception PAWA has been active at supporting and strengthening its community. However there has been now a greater realization specially after 9/11 that the community needs to integrate more actively within the broad multi cultural framework of Commonwealth of Australia. This is one of the major areas for the current year as a roadmap is developed by the newly elected Executive Committee in July 2009. The Committee comprises of Dr. Zarrin S Sididqui (President), Sumair Sajjad (Gen Sec) and Mohammad Zaki as the treasure alongside with Dr. Farah Adeb, Ayaz Qaiser, Nazar Khan and Nizamuddin Ahmed. One of the strengths of the current Executive committee is that it comprises members who are relatively new migrants to Australia. Second, it also is a great mix of professionals from different fields and age groups. The other three priority areas that the Executive Committee is emphasizing through its activities are;

1. Participation and promotion of community members
2. Use of Web 2.0 technologies
3. Collaborations with state and national organisations in Australia and Pakistan



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BANGLADESH-AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (BAAWA)

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has declared February 21 as the International Mother Language Day, and this Day has been observed every year worldwide since 2000 to mark linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism, and to pay homage to the brave university students of Bangladesh who sacrificed their lives for Bangla, their mother language.

There is a significant history behind February 21. On this day in 1952, a number of Dhaka University students were killed by Pakistani police and army in Dhaka, the capital city of former East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. The students had been marching peacefully to protest the imposition by West Pakistanis of their language Urdu as the national language, even though Bangla was the main language spoken in East Pakistan. The deaths of the students provoked widespread civil protest and agitation in what is known as the Language Movement, forcing the Pakistani government to give official status to the Bangla language in 1956. The Language Movement played a crucial role in developing Bangla national identity in East Pakistan, which ultimately led to the War of Independence whereby Bangladesh gained freedom from Pakistan as an independent country in December 16, 1971.

February 21 is commemorated every year in Bangladesh, where it is a national holiday and is marked by various ceremonies, including the laying of floral wreaths at numerous memorials around the country in memory of the students who laid down their lives for the Bangla language. In Perth, Western Australia, the local Bangladesh-Australia Association of Western Australia (BAAWA) organized a colourful ceremony to mark February 21 at the Forster Park Community Centre in Cloverdale. There were brief speeches, songs, poetry recitation, dances and a children's painting activity to celebrate Bangla culture and language. Ms Tholla Chan of the Australian Asian Association of WA spoke on the occasion, to highlight the activities of the Association and how the Bangladeshi community in Perth could participate and contribute.

Best regards

Mohammed Ali

General Secretary

Bangladesh-Australia Association





European Wasps Discovered in Metropolitan Perth



The public is urged to be on the lookout for European wasps following the discovery of 15 nests in Perth this year.

Agriculture and Food Minister Terry Redman said mature nests posed a

serious threat to Western Australia's agriculture industries, human health and the environment.

"Eight of these nests have recently been found in the Kewdale and Welshpool areas. Three nests were particularly active, with more than 200 wasps flying in and out of the nest entrance each minute," Mr Redman said.

"We are fortunate in WA that these wasps have not established and it is important to find and remove all nests before new queens are released into the environment.

"If they were to establish, European wasps will become pests in orchards, vineyards, apiaries and the general environment.

"They have a nasty sting and can impact on the WA outdoors lifestyle.

"European wasps are attracted to beer and soft drink

containers, along with fish and meat at barbecues. They are also attracted to pet food and have become a serious outdoor pest in the Eastern States of Australia."

European wasps are a declared pest and nests are removed free of charge by the Department of Agriculture and Food.

"Biosecurity is everyone's business and this is a great example of the State Government investing in an area that will benefit the whole community," the Minister said.

"Every year we invest about \$38 million towards biosecurity surveillance, quarantine and border protection to ensure we keep WA pest and disease free."

European wasps can be confused with the common yellow paper wasp. The European wasp is bright yellow with black stripes and is identified by its all-black antennae, whereas the paperwasps antennae are orange/brown.

Reports of European wasps or nests should be made to the department's Pest and Disease Information Service on free call 1800 084 881, which can also provide further information. For more information go to <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au> and search for European wasps.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Commerce**
Consumer Protection

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- your rights and responsibilities
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- understanding notice periods

Information is available on our website

www.commerce.wa.gov.au/tenancy

State Government Encourages People to Register for StateAlert

From 7 December 2009, Western Australians can register to receive emergency warnings direct to their mobile or email during emergencies such as bushfires.

Emergency Services Minister Rob Johnson said the automated system StateAlert was developed by the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) and WA Police to issue community warnings where lives could be in danger.

“The State Government is committed to boosting community safety and StateAlert is another way to alert people in life-threatening situations,” he said.

“StateAlert can send warning messages to an area as small as a suburban block through to an area as large as a local government shire.

“It is a free service and all home phones, including silent numbers, and mobiles will automatically be registered to receive a StateAlert message.

“However, mobile phone users will need to register if their residential address is different to their billing address.

“People can also register if they want to receive alerts via email or for up to three additional addresses.

“This will be especially useful for people with friends

or family with special needs such as the elderly and people with hearing, visual or physical impairments.

“It is also useful to small businesses and people who own multiple properties.”

The Minister said StateAlert would not replace existing public information tools such as websites, information lines and the media - particularly ABC local radio.

“It is an additional tool that will be used to alert people in a specific location where there is immediate danger,” he said.

“StateAlert will only be used for known hazards and where there is sufficient time to send a warning, so individuals still need to take appropriate measures to ensure their own safety.

“People should always be aware of their own surroundings and at times of increased risk like during bushfire season, be prepared well in advance and always monitor local conditions for change.”

People can register online at <http://www.statealert.wa.gov.au>

People without internet access or who need help registering can call **1300 ALERTS (1300 253 787)**.

Supporting Australia's Volunteers

The Rudd Government is continuing to deliver on its commitment to support Australia's volunteers with \$21 million worth of one-off grants now available to volunteer organisations.

Applications open today for the Volunteer Grants 2010 initiative.

Grants between \$1,000 and \$5,000 are available to help eligible non-profit organisations purchase much-needed equipment, cover fuel costs, and for the first time, provide training courses and background checks.

This year volunteer organisations can apply for grants to help contribute to the costs of training for volunteers, such as first aid or cultural awareness training. The funding can also be used to help pay for background checks to make it easier for people to volunteer.

In 2009 more than 6,700 organisations received Volunteer Grants, supporting more than 366,000 volunteers.

Last year volunteer organisations across Australia used their funding to purchase equipment such as computers, cameras, barbeques, refrigerators and first aid kits, as well as helping to cover the fuel costs incurred by their volunteers.

The Rudd Government recognises and values the hard work of volunteers, who make a real and lasting difference in our local communities.

Volunteers play a crucial role in our communities. They are out in their local communities every day, helping the vulnerable, disadvantaged, and those who have hit hard times. They also enrich our communities by supporting cultural and supporting events and preserving our environment and heritage.

The Volunteer Grants 2010 initiative will provide practical and tangible support to community organisations across Australia to support volunteers and encourage more people to take up volunteering.

Applications close at 2pm on Friday 16 April 2010.

To apply, or for more information, please visit **www.fahcsia.gov.au** or call **1800 183 374**.

Date: 11 March 2010

Media contact: Keely Bell 0417 297 157



Rock Throwers Face Seven Years Jail

Offenders who throw rocks at vehicles will face up to seven years jail under tough new legislation

Attorney General Christian Porter said the legislation made it an offence to cause fear or alarm in a driver by throwing an object at or near a vehicle.

The legislation also made it an offence to cause fear or alarm in a driver by directing a laser pointer at a vehicle. The maximum penalty for these offences will be up to seven years jail and a \$36,000 fine.

"These laws recognise the inherent and serious nature of this particular type of anti-social behaviour in our State," Mr Porter said.

"Between January and November this year there has already been 1,170 incidents where objects were thrown at a bus or security vehicle.

"The community should not have to fear objects being thrown at their vehicles and this legislation shows just how seriously we are taking this offence."

The Attorney General said the new laws created an entirely new offence, which does not require a prosecutor to show that a person's life was put in danger or that the offender intended to hurt anyone.

Natural Disaster Relief Funding Provided for Perth Storm

After touring storm affected sites in Perth, and taking advice from emergency service leaders, Premier Colin Barnett announced the severity of the storm damage met the criteria to be declared a natural disaster.

"Severe thunderstorms that caused damage to the Perth metropolitan area yesterday have been confirmed as eligible for disaster assistance through the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA)," Mr Barnett said.

"All local governments within the metropolitan area and surrounding suburbs affected by the storms are eligible for the funding which will help them meet the cost of rebuilding their community assets."

"This incident is going to cost the State, tens of millions of dollars to repair buildings, restore power lines but that's what we do -

that's what government is for and all of the government agencies are there doing that work and doing all that is possible to reopen the schools ensuring the hospitals return to full operation and that life continues on..."

If you have any insurance concerns regarding your insurance coverage contact the Insurance Council of Australia on **1300 728 228**. This number is not to be used for claims.



Emergency Assistance Available for Storm Victims

The State Government is offering further financial help to people still in need as a result of the severe storms which hit Perth on Monday.

With the Premier's announcement that the storm was classified as a natural disaster, and thereby activating Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA), Child Protection Minister Robyn McSweeney said help was available to cover accommodation, food, essential clothing and other personal items including medical and pharmaceutical items.

Under the arrangement, individuals needing financial help for food, could receive up to \$100 and families could receive up to \$200 (not income or assets tested) through the Department for Child Protection.

"It's important for people to know that help is available to help them get back on track with food, clothing and medicine if needed," Mrs McSweeney said.

"Money to buy food that has been lost due to flooding and electricity shortages is available to help ease the burden for thousands of individuals and families.

"I encourage anyone in the community affected by these storms and in need of basic living needs assistance to make contact with their local Department for Child Protection District Office to get access to the help on offer."

The Department for Child Protection can be contacted on **(08) 9222 2555**

INTERNATIONAL FASHION CONFERENCE HEADS TO PERTH

Carol Hanlon, Founding Manager of the Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre Inc. (TCFWA), Designedge Fashion Incubator and Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc (Belmont BEC) is delighted to announce that the 3rd International Fashion Incubator Conference will be held in Perth, September 2011 during the staging of Perth Fashion Festival.

The International Conference will offer new opportunities for fashion business educators and fashion trade events from around the globe to network, discuss best practice and expand global designer marketing and promotional opportunities. The event will also launch an International Fashion Incubator Organisation that will form strategic alliances, share networks and develop new opportunities for Fashion Incubators and its designer members.

The bid for the conference was made possible through a scholarship awarded to Carol Hanlon from the 2009 City of Perth Convention Scholarship program which provided Carol the opportunity to travel to Atlanta USA as a conference presenter and bid to bring the conference to Perth 2011.

The 3rd International Fashion Incubator Conference will aim to build on past successful conferences of International Fashion Incubators held in UK and USA. The conference will assist the growth and development of fashion industry business educators and those that nurture and support emerging designers, as well as elevating Perth on the international fashion stage.

Delegates attending the Perth Fashion Incubator Conference will gain new skills, create opportunities and build new networks with other fashion incubators, support centres, educators, conferences, festivals, trade events. Carol has already received interest from speakers from the Fashion Incubators in Los Angeles, Toronto and Amsterdam to attend Perth in 2011. Additionally, expected in attendance will be organisers from other Incubators and Fashion Weeks in the world including New Zealand, China, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, the USA, Europe, the UK, Malaysia and Singapore.

TCFWA was founded by Carol in 1998, the first Industry TCF support centre of its kind in Australia and Designedge Fashion Incubator was launched in 2003 as a trade exhibition and later developed into a retail incubator and more recently a virtual fashion incubator, providing online shops, designer profiles and online mentoring, marketing and promotional support

to fashion designers across Australia.

Ms Hanlon said, "The scholarship I received enabled me to travel to Atlanta and attend the 2nd International Fashion Incubator and convince organisers to bring the next conference to Perth. This will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to highlight Perth as a fashion savvy centre, and will expose Western Australian fashion to the world."

Carol Hanlon has received many accolades during her service at TCFWA and Belmont BEC, aside from her scholarship to attend the 3rd International Fashion Incubator including:

- Best National BEC Manager in Australia 2004, 2008
- City of Perth – Top 100 WA Champions (2007) – Industry Category
- WA Citizen of the Year nominee (2006) Industry and Commerce Category

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www.designedge.net.au





New Appointments to The Lotterywest Board

Friday 26 March, 2010

Premier Colin Barnett today announced the appointment of a new chairman and board member to the Lotterywest board.

The appointment of chairman will be taken up by Mr John Atkins, current chairman, Western Australia - ANZ.

“Mr Atkins comes to this important role at Lotterywest



with strong credentials including a background in commercial law, and was head of the Perth office of the national law firm, Freehills,” Mr Barnett said.

Mr Atkins also has a long history of community involvement with previous board appointments on a number of hospital boards, Foodbank and Asialink.

In addition to the new chairman, the Premier also announced the appointment of Professor Linda Kristjanson as a board member. Professor Kristjanson is the deputy vice chancellor, Research and

Development at Curtin University of Technology.

Professor Kristjanson has held the position of The Cancer Council WA chair of Palliative Care (until 2006) and served as a member of the National Health and Medical Research Council (2003-06).

In 2002, Professor Kristjanson was selected as the Australian Telstra Business Woman of the Year for her entrepreneurial work in health research and science.

“Mr Atkins and Professor Kristjanson will take up their appointments on Monday, March 29 and will bring a wealth of experience in business and the community to the Lotterywest board,” Mr Barnett said.

The Premier expressed his appreciation to outgoing chairman Clyde Bevan and board members Patricia Tassell and Freda Crucitti. Mr Bevan has completed a six-year term as chairman and led the Lotterywest board during a time of record business success and innovative grant-making to the West Australian community.

In 2008-09 for the first time in its history, Lotterywest gave more than \$100million in direct grants to over 1,000 community organisations across the State, as well as statutory funding to health, sports and arts which totalled more than \$234million.

Premier’s office - 9222 9490.

Recycling - Mattresses

Environment Minister Donna Faragher said gone are the days of dumping old mattresses on street verges.

The program is supported under the Strategic Waste Initiative.

“The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) began recycling old mattresses this year, following a successful three-month trial,” she said.

“For the first time in WA, residents, businesses and local governments have a sustainable disposal option for mattresses.

“The EMRC is extending its mattress storage and processing area at the Hazelmere Recycling Centre, as well as buying new equipment to improve the recovery

of mattress components for recycling.

“This expansion will allow up to 10,000 mattresses to be recycled each year.”

Depending on the brand and construction, most parts of a mattress can be recycled.

Springs are melted down to make new steel; foam is turned into flooring underlay; and the timber is reused in particle board, animal bedding and mulch.



WA Bans Toy-like Novelty Cigarette Lighters

5 February 2010

Toy-like novelty cigarette lighters are being banned in Western Australia from today (5 February 2010), amid fears children could literally end up playing with fire.

WA shops which stock lighters deemed to be appealing to kids under-five will be made to remove them from shelves and any company caught supplying the products will face a fine of up to \$100,000. Individuals who supply them can be fined up to \$20,000.

The lighters, which look like ordinary toys, have shocked Commissioner for Consumer Protection Anne Driscoll.

“Among the lighters our Product Safety team found in WA was a bright yellow duck that could easily be given to a small child, however as you push the button to make it quack a long flame shoots up from its head!” she said.

“Another that disturbed me was a red racing car with moving wheels. On further inspection the bonnet flipped down and a flame could be ignited by pushing a shiny silver lever on the side of the toy.

“The lighters take many forms - from a frog to a gun, to playing cards. Many make cute noises or have flashing lights and would not be recognisable as cigarette lighters to an adult.

“These items are quite clearly enticing to youngsters, which is why we have moved to ban them before a tragedy occurs. Children are told ‘never play with fire’ yet these products are encouraging it.”



To be kept up to date with product recalls, regulations and product safety news, consumers and traders can sign up to a Product Safety Alerts Register via the Consumer Protection website:
<http://bizline.commerce.wa.gov.au/productsafety/>

(Consumer Protection is a division of the Department of Commerce)

You can now follow us on Twitter @ConsumerWA or become a fan of our

Facebook page - Consumer Protection WA.

Media Contact:

Alina Cavanagh

9282 0679 or 0423-846397

alina.cavanagh@commerce.wa.gov.au

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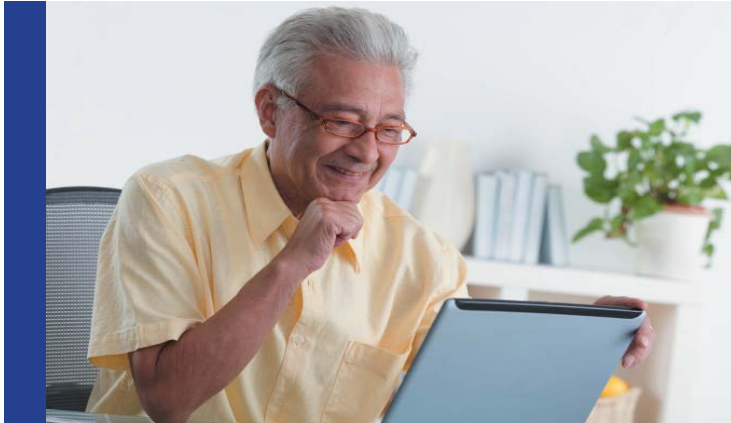
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Australia Asia House
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- Thai Performances
- Dance & More ...
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1. More information: Contact Khun Tewin on 0423 846 780 or Khun Saowarak on 9367-9698
2. Food Stalls: Contact: Khun Seefah on 9367-8897/0438 806 899
3. Miss Songkran Entrants: Contact: Khun Jirawan on 0428886604 [\$ 250 for Miss Songkran Winner]
4. Karaoke Competition Entrants Contact: Khun Preecha on 0431 418 643



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