

Oxfam - Diamond Valley Newsletter



June 2008 Web: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dvoxfam> Email: AHIE.Stewart@bigpond.com

**Next Oxfam-Diamond Valley
meeting
Friday 20th June at 8pm
Eltham Living and Learning Centre.**

**Ant Clark
"Lifting the Lid on Toilet Injustice"**

Safe toilets and clean water are essential to human health and dignity - yet almost one third of the world's population is missing out on access to adequate sanitation. This isn't merely inconvenient; it's unfair and unjust. It's time to take action! The UN has declared 2008 the Year of Sanitation, and Ant will bring us up to speed on all things water and sanitation, so that as a Group and individuals, we can join the call for toilet justice.

**Doug Franklin
"Desalination"**

A short talk on sea water desalination will be presented by Doug Franklin. Doug is a Civil Engineer who works as a consultant in the water industry. In recent years he has worked on the detailed design of sea water desalination plants in Perth, the Gold Coast and Sydney. He will show some photos of construction works in progress and discuss some of the engineering details.

**Thought from our last meeting
with Oxfam's Bruce Eady:**

Low-lying Bangladesh is experiencing severe effects of climate change, with excessive flooding, drought, and increased cyclone warnings. Who is responsible for all of this?

Australia uses 18 tons of CO2 per person per year
Bangladesh: 0.3 ton - It's very vulnerable, but least responsible.

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses *yearning to breathe free*,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

**The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre,
Montsalvat, ELTHAM bookshop,
The Federation Press,
Eltham Amnesty International Australia
and
Oxfam-Diamond Valley
all invite you to mark the start of Refugee
Week with a panel discussion on:**

**'Yearning to Breathe Free –
Seeking Asylum in Australia' with:**

Dean Lusher, *editor*

**Pamela Curr, *Campaign Coordinator,
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre***

**David Manne, *Coordinator, Refugee and
Immigration Legal Centre***

And An Asylum Seeker

This overview of the historical, social and political contexts that have shaped Australia's recent treatment of asylum seekers offers a clear-eyed view of the many dimensions of the asylum seeker predicament, including its psychological and humanitarian consequences, and lays out an agenda for change in policy.

Sir Gustav Nossal, the Rt Hon. Malcolm Fraser, Senator Lyn Allison, Phillip Adams, Professor Stuart MacIntyre, and Lindsay Tanner MP introduce the six sections. Julian Burnside QC, Dr Carmen Lawrence, Peter Mares, Pamela Curr, Michael Clyne, Linda Briskman, Derrick Silove, Michael Gordon, Arnold Zable and David Manne are among the contributors.

Yearning to Breathe Free, edited by Dean Lusher and Nick Haslam

SUNDAY 15th JUNE 6.30pm for 7.00_9.00pm
MONTSALVAT, 7, HILLCREST AVE, ELTHAM
ENTRY \$12.00
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 9439 8700
ELTHAMbookshop@bigpond.com

All royalties for this book go to the **Asylum
Seeker Resource Centre.**

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An Invitation to a Night in Tasmania's TARKINE Diamond Valley Bushwalking Club

**Metzner Hall, Judge Book Retirement
Village, Diamond St, Eltham.
Melway 21 J4
8.00pm Thursday 21st August 2008**

In the north west of Tasmania, Australia, lies the largest temperate rain forest in the southern hemisphere, the Tarkine and it contains one of the world's last remaining Gondwanic old-growth rainforests. To experience the Tarkine's giant old-growth rain forests and powerful coastline is nothing short of extraordinary.

Born in Tasmania, Darvis is a founding member of Tarkine Trails and has a passion and commitment to the World Heritage listing of the Tarkine. With over 200 nights experience in the Tarkine, and a passion for the place that's hard to contain, he'll inspire you with his love for the Tarkine that is unbridled. Darvis genuinely cherishes the opportunity to share it with you.

**Learn what it has to offer for us
and future generations.**

**Chris McQuillen
Secretary DVBWC
Ph: 9432 4760**

**RSVP with numbers attending by
7th August 2008**

Come and see **CLOSETHEGAP in action**

You're invited to an Open Day Celebration at the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) being held on Wednesday 25 June 2008. The event celebrates healthy living and the great work, for over 30 years, of VAHS and is free and open to the public. Please see your invitation for RSVP, event time and location details.

ANTaR Vic Events

**Wed 18 June 2008, 5.45 for 6.00 – 7.45pm, Allens
Arthur Robinson, Level 34, 530 Collins St, CBD**

Speakers will be Michael Jackson who is an advocate and academic specialising and teaching in the areas of prisoners' and Indigenous rights. He is a Professor of Law at the University of British Columbia, Canada and Jim Kennan who has been involved in a number of landmark cases since returning to the Bar in 2001, including R v Benbrika & Ors (Ruling No 20) [2008] VSC 80, in which the Supreme Court held that the conditions of detention of certain remand prisoner were so 'austere' as to render their trial unfair. Cost: \$25 / \$15 concession, RSVP: 11 June 2008. Booking Form and more information available at www.hrlrc.org.au.

**Public Forum with Tom Calma (Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Social Justice
Commissioner and National Race Discrimination
Commissioner)**

Tue 24 June 2008, 7-9:30pm Peninsula Comm

Theatre (cr Wilsons Road and Nepean Hwy), Mornington
The forum will be on Reforming Federal Indigenous Affairs Policies: Lessons from the immediate past and guidelines for the future. Chair: Dr Ray Cleary (Chief Executive Officer, Anglicare Victoria) The Forum will commence at 7.00 pm sharp with a welcoming ceremony for Tom Calma by Boon Wurrung elder Carolyn Briggs, dancers and didgeridoo player. Admission is free.

DIAMOND VALLEY OXFAM VENUE

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,
John Kent, 9434 6882,
Joan Pickard
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