

# Oxfam - Diamond Valley Newsletter



April 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 April 19th,**  
**Nillumbik Living and Learning**  
**Centre, 739 Main Rd Eltham.**

## **CAA to Oxfam**

**Marc Purcell** from Oxfam will talk about the impact, five years on, of **Community Aid Abroad's transition to Oxfam Australia.**

## **The Perfect Storm**

A special presentation by **Andrew Hewett**, Executive Director of Oxfam Australia and Co-chair of Make Poverty History, **The Perfect Storm** will focus on how climate change, the food crisis and the global financial crisis are affecting poor communities in developing countries. Andrew will outline the various challenges that face Oxfam Australia as we aim to be an effective force for social change, equity and justice.

**When: Wednesday 6 May, from 5.30pm**  
(light refreshments will be served from 5.30pm – 6.00pm)  
**Where: Oxfam Australia, 132 Leicester Street, Carlton**

To register, please provide us with the number of people attending and whether you have any dietary requirements. You can register by:

Post to Sue D'Amico, Oxfam Australia 132  
Leicester Street Carlton VIC 3053  
By email: [www.Oxfam.org.au](http://www.Oxfam.org.au)  
By phoning Sue on 03 9289 9445

## **Close the Gap:**

**Tom Schauble, Victorian Campaigns Coordinator, Oxfam**, organizes events in Victoria and Tasmania. National Close the Gap day was on 7th April. There are 15 new cases of diabetes among aborigines per week. 13,500 people signed Oxfam's 'Close the Gap' campaign.

**Vicki Clark** feels connected to her country in NSW, where she walked in the footsteps of her ancestors and felt the presence of her mother, who died recently. At the Catholic Ministry in Darebin, she feels driven by the Great Spirit, God. People of the Stolen Generation had their inheritance ripped from them, and could not listen to the stories of their elders. At the Catholic Ministry, people can practise and reclaim the old ceremonies. The western suburbs will open a new health service. Vicki believes real reconciliation begins in the hearts and souls in all parts of the community, and has worked in schools and camps, sharing knowledge. Kath Walker (Oojeroo) said: "Don't waste your time on constipated meetings. Spend time on the young ones." Vicki doesn't believe in breakfast programmes - breakfast is the parents' job. The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry's job is to make children feel good, with a uniform and school books. A quarter of aborigines complete year 12 compared with half of non-indigenous students.

Vicki strongly supports a treaty and reparation for wrongs against her people.

## **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.

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**Understanding Globalisation: A Short Course about Global Crisis & Global Justice** - Melbourne, Monday evenings April 14 to June 15

Understanding Globalisation brings together 15 Australian and international experts in politics, economics and development to support participants in exploring the complexities of globalisation.

Through lectures, workshops and other activities, the course examines the relationships between the global economy and the current global crises, and equips participants to track future developments in globalisation and the global economic system.

For more information, download an information booklet and application form here:  
<http://tradewatch.org.au/globalisation/brochure.pdf>

Or apply online now:  
<http://tradewatch.org.au/globalisation>

Please email us at [info@tradewatch.org.au](mailto:info@tradewatch.org.au) <<mailto:info@tradewatch.org.au>> if you have any questions about the course.

## Climate Change: What should the federal government be doing?

The **Moreland Climate Group** is organising a forum with local members Kelvin Thomson and David Spratt. Thomson is quite engaged with the issue of climate change and has recently called on the ALP to have a higher 2050 target. It would be great to get heaps of folks from the climate movement there to express their views - non-Morelanders definitely welcome!

**7pm on April 20th Coburg Concert Hall,**  
90 Bell St Coburg  
More information:  
Ellen Roberts 0408 583 6944  
[www.morelandclimategroup.wordpress.com](http://www.morelandclimategroup.wordpress.com)

## Kiva

"I wanted to let you know about **Kiva** [www.kiva.org.au](http://www.kiva.org.au), a non-profit organization that allows you to lend as little as \$US25 to a specific low-income entrepreneur across the globe.

You choose who to lend to - whether a baker in Afghanistan, a goat herder in Uganda, a farmer in Peru, a restaurateur in Cambodia, or a tailor in Iraq - and as they repay their loan, you get your money back. It's a powerful and sustainable way to empower someone right now to lift themselves out of poverty.  
Have a look! "

Any members can talk about it to me:  
Heather McLaughlin 9437 1432

### 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