

School of Philosophy

Good Company

Yajna Barometer 2008

Our target this year was \$70,000. The total amount raised was **\$55,000**.

Some relief has been experienced in our mortgage commitment due to falling interest rates over the past year, however, our mortgage repayments have increased significantly as our interest only period has come to an end. Therefore your generosity in helping reduce the current outstanding debt of \$238,000 is most welcome and sincerely appreciated.

Fund raising events are now being considered, so if you have any suggestions please let me know.

Upcoming Fund Raising events for 2009

Major Raffle with first prize
of a Gold Sovereign Coin

Cultural Day 2009
Sunday November 22

Sattwa Wardrobe

If you have any ideas for
Fund Raising Events
please give your

Gai Kroczek 0413433062
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Cultural Day 2008

This year's Cultural Day was a great success, attracting the biggest number of students to date. The purpose of the day was threefold, to allow for:



- the demolition of untrue opinions/ideas,
- the origination of knowledge not previously known,
- the dissolution of doubt.

While the venue was stretched to the seams, the weather was kind and so everyone enjoyed a comfortable day demolishing previously held ideas, gaining new knowledge and dissolving doubt!

Topics presented discussed Forgiveness, Enthusiasm, Vedic Mathematics, the Mind, Life's Purpose, the Universe, Mind-Body Medicine, Listening, Success, Anger, Domestic Violence and Eloquence to name just a few!

Among the highlights were the talks given by our visiting tutors, Dr Gary Grohman, Dr Hased and his wife Deidre and Peter Whyte. All talks were well attended and some were fully booked even before the day arrived.

Lunch, of course, featured high on everyone's feedback sheets. This year due to the numbers we had to lay out the lunch on tables in the car park underneath the building, and amazing as it sounds this worked out very well.

In January on Thursday evenings, a number of talks were repeated for the benefit of those who would have liked to have been in two places at once on the day! These talks too were very well received and the money raised from the Thursday Lecture Series will go to the Building Fund.

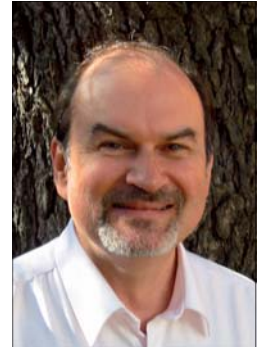
Plans for the 2009 Cultural Day are underway, with a new and bigger venue being sought for the occasion. Keep an eye on the website for new topics and the new venue later in the year.

Renovations

As you come to your Philosophy group this term you'll notice the hallway is looking great. New carpet was laid in the entry hallway over the break to match the carpet in the main group rooms which was laid during the last term, and the walls and doors have been painted.

Those of you meeting at Teague Street will be delighted to find that air-conditioning has been installed thanks to the many generous donations collected specifically for this purpose at the end of last term. So well done!

However, there is still more to be done! Not least is the need to purchase new chairs for both premises. So keep those donations flowing, every donation counts!



Gary Grohmann



Peter Whyte



Craig Hased

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The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of fund raising and social events within the school and also to keep you informed of the progress at Teague Street. As students of the School you are the school and without the support and generosity of your time, effort and money the school could not exist.

This then is your newsletter. It is hoped that it can be published both on the web and in print for the beginning of each term. The events of the previous term will be reported and up coming events advertised, both social and fund raising.

We look forward to receiving your suggestions and support.

Plato Day 2009



On January 1, long-time member of the School of Philosophy in Dublin, Ireland, David Horan and his wife Frances conducted a Plato Day here in Perth which was attended by more than 30 of our students. The basis of the study was 'Parmenides' which is Plato's definitive work on the subject of Unity. The dialogue recounted in this work took place in Athens in 450BC. At that time Socrates was 19 years old and Plato was yet to be born! Mr Horan is a master of his subject and study on a day such as this may challenge our preconceived ideas and set us on a new path of discovery. Mr and Mrs Horan left Perth on January 2nd for Melbourne, where they conducted a Plato Study Week which was attended by students of Philosophy from Australia and New Zealand. David has been running Plato Study Weeks world-wide since 2004, and has conducted group tours to Greece, incorporating the study of Plato with visits to key sites of the ancient world. The Perth School was represented in Melbourne by Mr Bob Limpus, Mr David McDermott and Mrs Clare Sack who all enjoyed the week immensely.

Sanskrit Week 2009 - Auckland NZ

This year's annual Australasian Sanskrit Week was held in Auckland from January 10 to 17. The Auckland School house offered a superb venue for this event with sweeping views



Phyllis Farnell

across the Tamaki River estuary to the Coramandel Peninsula. What a perfect way to study Sanskrit. Over 60 students from Schools throughout Australia and New Zealand gathered for a week of intense study of verses from the Katha Upanisad. This study was enhanced with a series of lectures after lunch each day from among the gathered guests. The topics covered were all related in some way to Sanskrit and included talks on eminent Indologist Max Muller's and musician Gustav Holst's connections to the Rig Veda; NASA's view on the Sanskrit language; Meters and Chanting rhythms; and the Derivations of English Words from the Sanskrit; to name just a few. Entertainment was also a feature of the evenings and we were privileged to hear Dr Grohmann speak of Beethoven's spiritual journey, but even better, we were delighted to hear Dr Grohmann play some Beethoven on the piano, and for the first time in public a tribute to Beethoven penned by Dr Grohmann himself.



Dianne Kruger & Mary Dodd



Gary Grohmann



Auckland School House

The event was also blessed with the company from London of visiting tutors, Arthur and Phyllis Farnell. Arthur has been a member of the Ficino translation group in London for many years and the group has published a total of 7 volumes of Ficino's letters to date. Mr Farnell graciously allowed us to view a DVD of an interview he and Phyllis gave on the translating of Ficino for a TV station while in Malta recently. Next year, 2010, will be the 20th Anniversary of the Australasian Sanskrit Week and a huge program and celebration is now being planned for that event, likely to be held in Sydney from 9th to 17th January 2010. Put this one in your diary today!