

School of Philosophy

Good Company

Yajna Barometer 2009

Our target in 2009 was \$70,000. The total raised in 2009 was **\$68,000**.

Due in part to falling interest rates, and a change in Bank. We transferred the loan to Bankwest to take advantage of a much lower monthly interest rate than our previous lender.

The monthly mortgage repayment has been reduced however, we are able now to pay the mortgage fortnightly. Regular donations have however, fallen over the last year therefore your generosity in helping reduce the current outstanding debt of \$236,000 is encouraged and most welcome in the current economic climate.

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

Upcoming Fund Raising events for 2010

Cultural Day 2010
Sunday November 21

Discover Plato Study
December 31st (tentative)

Festival of Spirit
London September 2010
Visit the website for more
information.

If you have any ideas for
Fund Raising Events
please give your
suggestion in writing to :

Gai Kroczek 0413433062
Frank Butler 0408770069

Cultural Day 2009

The 2009 Cultural Day was another successful day. This year the event was held at a new venue, Christ Church Grammar School, and this proved to work very well. There were a few teething problems with group rooms and catering, however, the overall experience was gratifying. With a few minor adjustments we are sure to have an even better event this year.



Our guest and keynote speaker, Dr Craig Hased, from the Melbourne School of Philosophy and a lecturer at Monash University, was well received with over 70 of the 150 students registered for the day attending his first session entitled "Mindfulness". His other talk 'Dialectic Rules' was also very well attended.

Dr Gary Grohmann too was another popular speaker with many attending his talks 'What is Truth' and 'Prayer, Meditation and Stillness'. Gary from the Canberra School of Philosophy and a research scientist at Sydney University, is now a regular at our Cultural Day event and speaks on a wide variety of popular topics.

First time speakers to this event included the Roshi Ian Sweetman who with the assistance of some of his colleagues too a session on Zen Meditation.

Thanks to Peter Whyte for joining us again and relating his real life experience of domestic violence and his amazing recovery from horrendous gunshot wounds through the wonderful support of family, friends and philosophy.

Deirdre Hased too facilitated a wonderful, hands on session in Illumination in calligraphy, which was a most delightful and relaxing experience.

Perth School of Philosophy Students also contributed as speakers at the event, notably Dr Clive Lamond, always a popular speaker, Dianne Kruger, Phillip Kruger, Philip Avard, Margaret Smith, Gai Kroczek, Frank Butler, John Cahill, Veronica McGuire and first timers, Colin Macgregor, Iris Whitelock and Brian and Anthea McGurk.

Thank you to everyone for your support and encouragement and we look forward to seeing you all again at this year's event in November 2010.



Cultural Day

School of Philosophy

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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.

Discover Plato Weekend

The 'Discover Plato Weekend' was held on December 19 and 20, with special guests David and Frances Horan from Dublin and Marita Brewster from Melbourne. The study was Plato's dialogue 'Euthyphro'. The audience was treated to a movie version of this interesting dialogue on murder, the sacredness of life, and the divine world and the relationship to our world. In the movie the usual discussion based on opinionated argument and counter argument is diverted by Socrates into a genuine enquiry into universal truths and raises issues which are just as relevant today as they were 2,500 years ago. A number of questions were posed and much discussion ensued culminating in the real experience of Socrates' words that 'an unexamined life is not worth living'.



20th Anniversary - Sanskrit in Australasia



In January 2010 the annual Sanskrit Residential was held in Sydney at the School's premises 'Mahratta' in Waroongah, marking the 20th Anniversary of these weeks with all but one being held here. The 2009 week was held in New Zealand with many students from Australia attending that week. This year over 50 students of Sanskrit from Australia and New Zealand took part in a wonderful week of study culminating in a day of celebration on the Friday. Guest tutors for the week included Vincent Wallace from the Dublin School in Ireland, Helen Harper from the School in London and Mr Richard Elias who chaired the event for the week. Special guests for the celebrations included Veena O'Sullivan performing Indian Classical Dance, Professor McComas Taylor from the Australian National University, speaking on the 'Joys of

Spoken Sanskrit' and Jennifer Cover, from Sydney University who related to the eager audience her study and translation of an Eighteenth Century Sanskrit treasure, the Bodhasara. A work by the Sydney Sanskrit Faculty was launched in book form by Elizabeth Rochetta. The work entitled Brahmajnanawalimala and Dasasloki: A 'New' translation, took 2 years to complete. Other

guests included School leaders from Brisbane, Mr Rex Howard; Wagga Wagga Mr Klaus Van Deet; Newcastle, Mr Terrance Garrett; and Perth, our own Mr Phillip Kruger. After a traditional Indian dinner the gathering was treated to a concert which included Indian Dance, and Gary Grohmann playing Mozart to bring the evening and the day to a close. Visit the website for a report and gallery of photos.



Summer Lecture Series



Also in January a series of lectures was held on Thursday evenings. These lectures were some of the most popular talks given at last year's Cultural Day. Many students took advantage of this opportunity to hear lectures from the Cultural Day which they would have also liked to attend. These included 'The Undiscovered Country', 'Visual Journaling', 'Dynamics of Karma', 'Charity: What does it really mean?', 'Science and Philosophy', 'In Search of Eloquence' and the ever popular 'Anatomy of Anger'.