

School of Philosophy

Good Company

Yajna Barometer 2009

Our target this year is \$70,000. The total amount of **\$55,000.** was raised in 2008.

Due to falling interest rates, our monthly mortgage repayment has been reduced however, our overall commitment via regular donations has also fallen, therefore your generosity in helping reduce the current outstanding debt of \$232,000 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 2009

Christmas in JULY—more about this very soon.

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
Frank Butler 0408770069**

Albany Branch

The School of Philosophy WA has established a new branch of the School at the University of Western Australia's Albany Centre, Stirling Terrace, Albany. The branch ran its first Part One group last term with fourteen students.

One of the challenges of the School of Philosophy is providing residents of rural and regional areas with an opportunity to join the School and study Philosophy. Sustaining branches in regional towns is fraught with difficulties mainly because of the relatively small populations. Albany has a population of approximately 32,000 people but within a 50km radius are the smaller towns of Denmark and Mount Barker.

Dr Colin Macgregor, a long-term member of the School in the UK and Australia, returned to WA to join the Perth School in March 2006. Having provided tutor support to regional branches of the School in Scotland, and as a resident of Narrikup near Albany, Dr Macgregor felt there might be an opportunity to establish a branch of the School in Albany. With support from the Perth School, Dr Macgregor began investigating options for establishing a branch in Albany at the end of 2008.

After considering various locations, discussions were opened with the University of Western Australia. UWA Albany offers undergraduate study in Philosophy and its management felt that having a branch of the School of Philosophy at the campus might help publicise their philosophy course. The University management offered the use of the main meeting room of the campus to the School for its first Part One term free of charge.

With Dr Macgregor as tutor, the first Part One group in Albany started with fourteen students. The members of this group have been especially enthusiastic and at the end of the twelve introductory sessions of Part One six members are enthusiastically going on to Part Two. This course will begin on the 28th May.

Whether or not the Albany Branch is sustainable in the long-term is difficult to say; however, indications suggest there might be sufficient interest from the Albany community to start another Part One group in February 2010.

Anyone interested in studying Philosophy with the School in Albany can contact Dr Colin Macgregor for information: phone 9853 2007; email: Colin.Macgregor@uwa.edu.au. The School of Philosophy gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the management of the UWA Albany Centre.

Wedding!

Congratulations go to Frank Butler and Josephine Visic both members of the School who were married on May 3, at St Matthews Church in Midland.

Frank has been a member of the School for more than 10 years and is on the Fund Raising Committee. He and Josephine met at a dancing club! It was a beautiful day and the reception terrific with the Southern Cross Bush Band doing the honours entertaining the guests.



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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.

Sanskrit Exams

May 7 & 8 were important days in the Sanskrit calendar, as the annual Sanskrit Exams were held in many centres around the world. Perth was one such centre with Glenise Turner and Jean Wyder both sitting the Intermediate Exam and Patricia Kyrwood the Basic Exam. The exams are put on by the Oxford Cambridge Examination Board in the UK and this will be the last time these exams will be run by them. Next year the exams change from three (Basic, Intermediate and Higher) to just two (Option A and Option B) and will be administered by Cambridge International Exams. The Schools of Philosophy have been asked to support these exams as not enough people around the world study Sanskrit at this level, and most candidates come from the Philosophy Day Schools around the world and School of Philosophy adults who study Sanskrit 'just for fun'!

So congratulations to you three brave souls! Much study and many intense Tuesday afternoon classes culminated in the May exams. The results of which will not be know until late August!



AGM - New Executive Committee

The Annual General Meeting of the School of Philosophy Executive was held in February with the most significant item being the resignation of the Chairman, Mr Glen McLeod and long time committee member Mr Bernie Kroczek.

Both these gentlemen have been a major force in the running of the School through the committee and in their support to the School through their tutoring commitments.

In his farewell letter to the committee read at the AGM Mr McLeod said; *'The School is an unique organisation and I miss it already. I am grateful to all of you for what has been learnt and otherwise received by me and my family from the School in all its aspects: the many groups, study days and residentials. I would like in particular to thank all the Executive Committee and members of the Association, present and past, for their wonderful support and friendship over the years. I wish you every success in keeping its good work alive.'*

Mr Kroczek too, also expressed his sentiments to the School at large, in a letter to members saying; *'My time in the School has been a period of unimaginable personal growth; mentally, emotionally and spiritually. I am grateful for the support and friendship I have received ... during some of the most difficult periods of my life, without which life may well have been much more difficult than it is today.'*

While the committee acknowledged the contributions made by these two gentlemen it also expressed enthusiasm for the new members to the committee and for the work ahead.

Your new Executive Committee for 2009 is:

Chairman: Jason Hughston
Treasurer: Clive Lamond
Secretary: Gai Kroczek

Committee Members:
Clare Sack
Steve Mitcham
Fiona Macdonald

