



The Waiters Union Newsletter 31/10/2005

Waiters Camp is coming soon - *Friday 25th November to Sunday 27th November.* **Calling for volunteers now** to help with: shopping for food, bringing games, Sunday morning, etc, etc. Contact Dave on 3844 1043. Please see the full flier below.

Community Meal this Friday at St Andrew's at 6:30pm. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Crashbed program (crisis accommodation for women) update. Friday night saw the first group of women use the facilities at Thomas St for a safe place to stay for the night. It went very well and was a good experience for all involved. Also, Dom is leaving in a few weeks time and the team is looking for someone to take on his role as coordinating the team of volunteers. Please contact him if you would like to help out in this way, or become a volunteer yourself, on 3846 2269 or 0407 327 505.

Below is a letter from Jim Dowling about an upcoming trip to Pine Gap (Joint Australian and US military base near Alice Springs) with **Christians Against Terrorism** and information on how you can support this non-violent resistance. Also attached is a statement of solidarity which can be used and returned.

The Monday morning meeting is considering the possibility of \$100/year membership to **The Micah Network**. The Micah Network is a group of 275+ Christian relief, development and justice organisations, from 74 countries and the people behind the Micah Challenge. Please contact anyone who attends the Monday morning meeting if you have any concerns about this proposal. More information about the Micah Network is available at <http://www.micahnetwork.org/eng/>

You are invited to an evening with **Revd Alex Gater**, Anglican priest who will speak about her experience of the 5th World Indigenous Christian Gathering in Kiruna, Sweden, August 2005. Forty Indigenous nations from around the world were represented at this Gathering. Many young

people were present and shared stories of how their people had risen above oppression in their countries. **Saturday, November 5th, 7 for 7:30pm** at 80 Chatsworth Rd, Greenslopes (cnr Upper Cornwall St & Chatsworth Rd). Bring a small something for supper. More information from Gwenneth or Joh on 0417 660 288 or 0419 644 137

A Symposium on Muslims, Christians and Jews - what brings us together?

The speakers are:

* Archbishop Most Rt.Revd.Phillip Aspinall (Anglican Primate of Australia)

* Bishop Most Revd.Brian V Finnigan DD (Auxiliary Catholic Bishop)

* Rabbi Uri Themal OAM (Rabbi of Temple Shalom Gold Coast)

Keynote speaker: Mr Keysar Trad, founder of the Islamic Friendship Association of Australia and Trustee of Australian Islamic Educational Trust. Community Dialogue - questions and answers

Facilitator: Ms Geraldine Doogue **Saturday, 05 November 2005, 6:00pm to 8:30pm**

LOCATION: Brisbane Muslim School, 724 Blunder Road, Durack,

CONTACT: Revd Peter Rama Rau 3365 7059 -

p.ramarau@uq.edu.au Full details including community even beforehand from 4:30pm at

http://www.uq.edu.au/events/event_view.php?event_id=1547

Join people from different faiths and cultures at a workshop exploring **Alternatives to Violence, 19 & 20 November 2005**. See full flier below.

Blowin' In The Wind is the latest film from two-time Academy Award nominee, David Bradbury - arguably Australia's most contentious and provocative documentary filmmaker. It examines the secret treaty that allows the US military to train and test its weaponry on Australian soil. It looks at the impact of depleted uranium (DU) weapons and the far reaching physical and moral effects on every Australian. This film shocked, angered and surprised large audiences recently when shown at the Sydney and Brisbane Film Festivals. This film will be showing this week at **Southbank Cinemas - 3-10 November - 6:45pm each evening**.

A flier can be found at <http://www.dusk-qld.info/e-flyer/blowin-e-flyer.gif> More information about the movie can be found at <http://www.bsharp.net.au/>

Church – 6/11 – Liturgy & KS – Karen & Russ, Speaker –Alan Moore,
Music – Dave Andrews, Bus (Greenmeadow & Colville St) – Rob Farago,
Glenhaven – ?? (this is as written on the roster, but I believe Russ and
Dave are away and have made other arrangements, perhaps with you!)

Next Monday morning meeting will be at **6:30am** – all welcome! There
will be some songs played by Ian. Sannie will share a reading.

Dear friends, this is a link to an article written by Bryan Law from
Cairns. It was posted on Web Diary on Monday. Please read it if you can.

http://margokingston.typepad.com/harry_version_2/2005/10/entering_the_ga.html#more

In it Bryan describes the trip we plan to make to Pine Gap with a small
number of other folks as "Christians Against Terrorism". The trip is the
culmination of a campaign to achieve some intellectual and moral
honesty on the issue of terrorism.

Soon after Sept11, 2001 we issued a statement against terrorism for
people to sign. . We quickly received the signatures of 400 people who
agreed to oppose terrorism in all its forms. This became the Anti-
terrorism Network We oppose Terrorism by suicide bombers as well as
Jet Bombers. We oppose those sitting in caves in Afghanistan planning a
car bombing as well as those sitting in airconditioned computer rooms of
Pine Gap working out the next targets for the dropping of Cluster Bombs,
Fuel Air Explosives, DU munitions. or other Weapons of Mass
Destruction.

Just as charity begins at home, so does the search for terrorism.

While the combined deaths from the Sept 11 attacks, the two Bali Bombings, and the British Subway attacks total nearly 3,000 deaths, the retaliatory terrorist attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq have claimed the lives of probably over 100,000 innocent civilians (see British Lancet Medical Journal report). This does not include the previous 12 years of sanctions and bombing of Iraq which have probably claimed over a million lives (see 1998 UNICEF report). The Pine Gap facility has played a significant role in what can only be described as the largest international terrorist attacks in recent history. In the words of Michael McKinley, strategic analyst at the ANU Canberra. "Certainly in relation to identifying specific targets, Pine Gap is important. The Pine Gap contribution (to the Iraq war) is very much more significant than any sending of Australian soldiers."

In October 2002 a large group of people blocked the entrance to Pine Gap. In court I argued we were resisting the terrorist activities of the base. Later we delivered an Indictment for Terrorism to John McCarthy then Australian head of the base. Similar indictments were later delivered to Defence Headquarters and Department of Foreign Affairs in Brisbane. I rang the "Terrorism Hotline" a number of times to warn them about the terrorist activities of Pine Gap. I invited others to do the same. When the first photos of children mutilated by the 2003 bombing campaign started coming in I sent copies to the same "Hotline" and angrily demanded to know why my first warnings were not acted upon.

Now we are heading to Pine Gap to demand our own inspection of the base to expose the terrorist activities in which it is involved.

What you can do to assist our nonviolent resistance to terrorism:

* Attached is a statement of solidarity with our demand to inspect the Pine Gap facility for terrorist activity. You certainly don't have to be a Christian to sign it and many of our supporters are not. Please sign it and, if you can, get others to sign it. Please return the signed forms to "Christians Against Terrorism", P.O. Box 5187, West End, Qld 4101 before Nov 20th. We wish to show that it is not just our small group which is concerned about the base's activities.

* If you know people on the route (we are going via Rockhampton/ Townsville /Mt Isa/ Three Ways) let them know we are coming. They can phone us on 34253003 if they wish. Also we are travelling in a van powered by used cooking oil. If you know anyone who can line up some "fuel" from cafes or restaurants, that would be great.

* Can anyone lend us a lap top computer for two weeks? One that has a "video out" plug and a bit of room for photos.

* How about a video camera?

* Consider coming along for the trip

* Consider phoning the terrorism hotline (1800 123 400)and describing Pine gap's involvement in terrorist bombing campaigns.

You can also email them on:

hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au

Thanks for your support

Jim Dowling (Ph 07 34253003)

"In a time of universal deceit telling the truth is a revolutionary act" -
George Orwell

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web: www.avpq.org.au

Join people from different faiths and cultures at a workshop exploring Alternatives to Violence, November 2005

About FAIR

FAIR, an incorporated not-for-profit organisation, fosters peace and improves community relations between Muslims and people of other faiths. FAIR together with Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) in Australia has initiated a new approach to interfaith dialogue through AVP Interfaith workshops.

About the workshop

The AVP Interfaith program involves a two-day intensive, creative workshop developing strong community bonds and promoting a better understanding of the positives of conflict resolution. Workshops provide a unique perspective of the people behind the faiths.

Participants gain valuable skills in conflict transformation, learn about other cultures and make new friends.

Why should I do the workshop?

This is an opportunity for you to become part of the solution towards a less violent society.

The workshop will help you:

to understand people from different faiths;

to work out how together you can deal with violent situations;

to lessen your own violence and to reduce conflict in your life and in society.

We will look at developing responsibility for our feelings and behaviour. We will also seek nonviolent and win/win solutions to challenges in our lives.

Where: Multi-Faith Centre, Nathan Campus, Griffith University, Brisbane

When: 19 20 November, Saturday/Sunday

Time: 8.40 for 9.00am sharp start - finish 6.00pm Sat , approx 5.30pm Sun

Cost: *the workshop is offered freely there will be a donation box where you can contribute to the costs of the workshop and to support the work of FAIR and AVPQ.*

What do I need?

Comfortable clothes and a willingness to join in and to have fun! We eat lunch together on Saturday and Sunday, so please bring something to eat and possibly to share. We provide morning and afternoon tea suitable to the participants who register.

Participants must agree to attend all sessions

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To book You must register to attend the workshop, by 9th November.

We expect to be overbooked so we advise you to apply for a registration form as soon as possible and then to register at once.

Book through the Fair website: www.fair.org.au/interfaith or through AVPQ website www.avpq.org.au or by phone/email etc in Brisbane, (see letterhead above for AVPQ contact details).

End-Of-The-Year, Take-It-Easy, Waiters Union Camp.



Don't miss out on the chance to kick back, have fun, play games, and catch up with friends at the famous End-Of-The-Year, Take-It-Easy, Waiters Union Camp.

Time: >From Friday Evening 25th Nov to Sunday Afternoon Nov 27th.

Place: Camp Tamborine (Presbyterian Campsite) situated in Keswick Rd off Beacon Rd, North Tamborine, next door to the WEC site that we used to stay in. (Now parking in on Keswick Rd and not on Beacon Rd.)

Cost: As Always Is Negotiable - Infants up to 3 years are free!

(Friday, Saturday & Sunday - Adult \$40 Child \$15

Saturday & Sunday -Adult \$35 Child \$10

Sunday Only - Adult \$20 Child \$5)

Meals: Vegetarian and Nonvegetarian meals provided.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner on Saturday; Breakfast & Lunch on Sunday.
NB: Please bring breads, spreads, cereals, biscuits, cakes, snacks, slices, and nonalcoholic soft drinks, cordials and juices.

AND: toiletries, towels, sheets and blankets or sleeping bags, togs, hats, sunburn cream, mosquito repellent, cards, games, and tea towels.

ALSO: an item of sorts for the concert on Saturday night and a story about your year for the circle on Sunday morning.

Registration: Please contact Dave ASAP on 3844 1043 or Rob on 3846 3832 dandrews@thehub.com.au



Anyone who'd like to help with registering, shopping and preparing meals, organizing the Saturday night concert or the Sunday morning circle contact Dave on 3844 1043.