

## News from Western Sydney Community Forum

### Forum Flash

21 April 2010

#### Positive images of Western Sydney

The Stronger Voice for Western Sydney working party is taking a focus of developing more positive images of WS.

We are developing some resources that can be shared by workers in the sector and are looking for good examples of community cultural development projects that have been run in local areas of Western Sydney & have taken an assets-based approach resulting in improved eg Festivals, PhotoVoice, exhibition or other ideas. Can you let us know if you have a good project and are willing to be contacted to get the details [eo@wscf.org.au](mailto:eo@wscf.org.au)

#### Feedback from FONGA (Forum of Non-Government Agencies)

FONGA meets every 2 months - a summary of some issues follows:

- **The Associations Incorporations Act has still not been finalised** - while NCOSS and members contributed to the draft and we have concerns about recommended clauses in the new Act, it is premature to be making any changes to your organisations operation as yet. Once it is passed, Fair Trading is to facilitate training on the new Act.
- **Henry Tax Review** - again this has not been released and while there have been leaks & rumours about its impact on the sector, especially in relation to salary sacrificing the content is unknown. Once released, the Federal Government will then make decisions about which recommendations they will adopt and when, so again it is premature to make internal plans, especially as a Federal election in October means that unpopular changes are not likely.
- **Equal Pay:** The ASU claim has been lodged. There is to be a national Day of Action on June 10th to support the campaign for pay equity. SPRC has been commissioned to do a survey of the sector in relation to sector staffing levels & categories of work that will enable government costing of the claim.
- **Keep Them Safe:** The Regional Intake and Referral Service for Western Sydney have been tendered to Relationships Australia. A KTS Forum will be held on June 27th to update the sector on progress.

#### WSCF's role in resourcing Interagencies!

Did you know there are **164** active Interagencies with the majority meeting on a monthly or bi-monthly basis in Western Sydney?

**What is WSCF's role with Interagencies?** This question is often asked and we thought we

would highlight what we see as our role in this edition of the EFlash.

We consider our connection with the Interagencies to be an essential and important priority in our resourcing role which includes a range of strategies, e.g.

- Attending interagencies/networks/forums to identify needs, make contacts, provide information and publicise the work of the WSCF
- Advise about the current status of interagencies/networks/ forums and the emerging trends in their organisation and their connection to WS issues.
- Facilitate “Running Successful Interagencies ” sessions to assist workers to convene their interagencies/networks/forums effectively
- Provide resources to interagencies/networks/forums in the form of planning, short term and long term intensive support as needed or when relevant.
- Provide support/advice on government policy, operational /management issues.

As you can imagine with so many Interagencies we can't attend them all, even if we wanted to. However please let us know if you want the Forum's support to enhance your Interagency; contact Semra ph: 02 96876974 / email: [semrag@wscf.org.au](mailto:semrag@wscf.org.au) or Rocellita ph: 9687 6804 /email: [rocellita@wscf.org.au](mailto:rocellita@wscf.org.au)

## WSCF Staff Profile - What We Do!

The third in our staff profiles is... **Hugh Worrall**.

I started work in the community sector as a casual youth refuge worker during the 1980s while studying as Sydney Uni. I did a stint as a Youth Development Worker and also with NSW Housing as a 'Specialist,' working with high needs tenants. Immediately prior to coming to WSCF, I was the NSW Manager for The Big Issue magazine, supporting long-term unemployed and homeless people. I've also worked on the Insurance project at NCOSS for a while.



At WSCF I work with Amy Williams, on the Transport project which is funded through NSW Transport and Infrastructure. I have a strong interest in transport and land-use issues because I see the way in which transport and land-use is organised and resourced effects the wellbeing of people and families, the economic health of the community and the health of the environment both locally and globally. The idea of 'the Gap' has become a focus of my work. 'The Gap' refers to the difference in access between the local route bus services and the community bus service and the difficulty that many people, mostly older people who aren't ready or eligible to use community transport, are having accessing the route bus system.

One of the projects I am most proud of at WSCF is the development of the Western Sydney Public Transport Users (WSPTU) group. This group works as an umbrella to support the work of local transport advocacy groups as they try to improve the transport systems in their local areas. You can follow their work via [www.wsptu.blogspot.com](http://www.wsptu.blogspot.com). You can also refer local groups to the WSPTU for support. The WSPTU is starting to plan a Transport Symposium for August 7 in Granville. I also play music and I'd love you to come and see my band play before I turn into an old man:

[www.myspace.com/meanfeetbrassband](http://www.myspace.com/meanfeetbrassband)

## WSCF Training Calendar

There is only a few training sessions on offer for the February to June Training Calendar. The following workshops still have some limited spaces available.

### Submission Writing for Beginners

*This workshop targets those who have no knowledge or very limited knowledge on submission/grant writing. You will gain an understanding of the basic components of a submission application and the steps you need to take before writing the application.*

**Facilitator:** Miguel Ferrero

**Date & Time:** MON 3 May 5:30pm - 7:00pm (Please register by 26th April 2010)

**Venue:** Western Sydney Community Forum, Level 4, 146 Marsden Street, Parramatta

**Cost:** Member - \$10, Non Member - \$10

### Marketing for Youth Services In Partnership with YAPA

*Drawing on business marketing principles, this workshop will teach you how to adapt these principles to a community services framework, and give you basic skills in marketing and promotion.*

**Facilitator:** Leah Weber - YAPA

**Date & Time:** WED 19 May 9:30am - 12:30pm (Please register by 5th May 2010)

*(Will be cancelled if no more registrations received)*

**Venue:** Western Sydney Community Forum, Level 4, 146 Marsden Street, Parramatta

**Cost:** Member - \$25, Non Member - \$50

### NSW Interagency Protocol for Responding to Abuse of Older People

*This session is an introduction to the new Interagency Protocol, and consists of two parts, covering the following topics: Identifying and Responding to Abuse of Older People and Implementing the Interagency Protocol.*

**Facilitator:** Miguel Ferrero

**Date & Time:** THUR 10 June 9:30am - 1:30pm (Please register by 27th May 2010)

**Venue:** Western Sydney Community Forum, Level 4, 146 Marsden Street, Parramatta

**Cost:** Member - \$10, Non Member - \$10

## Joke Spot

Suburbia: where they tear out the trees and then name streets after them

## For a full copy of the WSCF HACC Flash

[Click link to HACC Flash in Flash file](#)