

ANTaR Victoria

WORKING FOR LAND JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION



Annual Report 2005-2006

ANTaR Victoria expresses sincere thanks for financial support from the following organisations



donkey wheel fund and charitable trust
kick-starts for the community

We also wish to thank ANTaR Vic volunteers for their invaluable contribution to the organisation throughout the year.

Committee of Management

Jill Webb, Chair
Peter Lewis, Secretary
Jen Rose, Public Officer
David Edwards/Frank Hytten, Treasurer
Julie Kun
Kate Spink
Angus Frith
Greta Jubb
Rosemary Iacono
Clare Land
Basil Varghese
Rae Perry

Staff

Frank Hytten, FtF Coordinator
Megan Evans, FtF Project Worker
Clare Land, FtF Project Worker
Paul Miller, Web & IT Technician
Brigid Anderson/Jacinda Kleidon, Office Coordinator
Gary Lucas, FtF Regional Project Worker
Jim Barrit, FtF Regional Project Worker
Jan Lucas, FtF Regional Project Worker

Cover images

Stolenwealth Games letters, courtesy of Megan Evans
Rap it up DVD cover, designed by Megan Evans
Treaty scroll thumbprints, courtesy of Rodney Dekker
White blindfold event, courtesy of Rodney Dekker

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Woven Histories, FFT Project, Image courtesy of Megan Evans

Chairperson's Report

Jill Webb

The extraordinary success of the Fanning the Flames (FtF) project and the ongoing work it generated, several highly successful campaigns and media events and the strengthening of our relationships with the Indigenous community are some of the highlights of the past year for ANTaR Victoria. We have much to be proud of. Our strength lies in the many people who volunteer, join our campaigns and support our work in a variety of ways.

Next year ANTaR Victoria celebrates its 10th birthday. We have made significant inroads at a local and state level over those ten years, yet across the country, the core issues of ongoing racism and violations of human rights remain unchanged. Our best efforts haven't delivered greater justice and equity for Indigenous Australians.

At the federal level, policy development over the past ten years has systematically eroded the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, a most recent example being the changes to the Northern Territory Land Rights legislation. There has been a dramatic return to policies of assimilation and paternalism, unchallenged by a majority of Australians who believe the myths promoted by the federal government to support this ideology.

In Victoria there is some cause for optimism, with progress at last in native title determinations, greater recognition of Indigenous Victorians in the new Children and Young Person's Act, and the development of new representative arrangements.

The challenge for us as an organisation is to continue to find new and arresting ways to sell our message and educate the broader community; to inspire increasing numbers of non-Indigenous people to stand in solidarity with Indigenous people, to join our campaigns and engage in political activism.

Early this year, funding for our Fanning the Flames project came to an end. The final project report and the final evaluation report are impressive documents detailing the breadth and depth of the project's work over the past three years. Some of this work is highlighted elsewhere in this report. We extend heartfelt thanks to the project team, Frank Hytten, Brigid Anderson, Clare Land, Megan Evans, Paul Miller, Jim Barritt and Gary Lucas. In the words of the Evaluation Report:

"The work of the Fanning the Flames project has established ANTaR Victoria's credibility and reputation as an organisation to which both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people turn for support, information and action. The activities of the project team through both FtF and their involvement in solidarity work beyond that has also made explicit the idea that 'reconciliation is whitefella business'. This is a huge achievement and the organisation and the

project team are to be congratulated for it." (From the Final Evaluation Report July 2006)

Two symbolic and highly successful public events, initiated by ANTaR over the past year, capture the essence of our recent work. These were the Stolenwealth Games campaign, and the White Blindfold event.

The Stolenwealth Games campaign, held during Melbourne's Commonwealth Games, drew the world's attention to the truth about the violent process of colonisation, land dispossession, murder, cultural genocide and its ongoing impact on the Indigenous peoples of Australia. The concept of 'Stolen wealth' captured the media's attention (see p.13) and the campaign attracted newspaper, radio and television coverage in local, national and international media. During this time, ANTaR actively supported the Indigenous led Black GST campaign and Camp Sovereignty, further consolidating relationships with Indigenous groups. ANTaR also wrote and coordinated an Indigenous Rights statement that was co-signed by 18 NGOs and published in The Age newspaper.

The White Blindfold event in August was another successful media event. The act of removing our blindfolds, was a symbolic acknowledgement that we as non-Indigenous people, are willing to remove the barriers that prevent us from seeing how racism and lack of respect for Indigenous culture, negatively impacts on Indigenous peoples. We demonstrated our willingness to explore what it means to be 'white', to be part of the dominant privileged culture, to examine our own ignorance, attitudes, opinions, and behaviours; attitudes and behaviours that perpetuate and reinforce the the ongoing racism and disadvantage in this country. I believe this process of internal exploration lies at the core of whitefella business.

The past year has seen an increase in our support for Indigenous events and Indigenous led activities and campaigns, including our support for the VAYSAR carnival, our solidarity with the Black GST and Camp Sovereignty. This has strengthened many relationships with the Indigenous community, evidenced by the increasing requests for support coming to the office from Indigenous groups, individuals and leaders. This strengthens our legitimacy as an activist organisation, and builds our knowledge and understanding of the experience and aspirations of Victoria's Aboriginal peoples.

Now more than ever we need more people to join the struggle for Indigenous justice in this country. Thankyou for your ongoing support, but we need more people like you! Please encourage your friends to join ANTaR and sign someone up as a regular donor. We need a critical mass of people to fight racism, demand change and hold all levels of government accountable.

Treasurer's Report

Frank Hytten

The 2005-06 year was one of mixed fortune for ANTaR Vic. The 'Fanning the Flames' (FtF) Project ended in late January 2006, although staff were offered continued employment through February using ANTaR Vic funds, to allow time to finish up outstanding work and while we waited for a final decision regarding a follow up funding application to CSF. David Edwards, ANTaR Vic's Treasurer resigned for family reasons in March 06 and Frank Hytten took on the job from then. We thank David for his work over the big developmental years of 04-06.

The CSF funding did not eventuate and with great sorrow, we bid farewell to the FtF project work and staff. However, Clare Land and Frank Hytten have continued their involvement with ANTaR Vic as co-opted Committee of Management members. Needless to say, after the great influx of funds from CSF for the FtF Project, we are on a much tighter budget and have to be very careful to spend only what we already have, while continuing to plan for funding income. In addition, the Anti-racism Project 'Rap it up' funded through DIMIA for the period Nov 2004-June 2006, was completed and the grant reporting finalized. This amount was \$25,827.

The FtF Project brought significant income to ANTaR Vic including nominal administrative costs budgeted into some projects. These monies were allocated to ANTaR Vic's general income. Expenditure wise, FtF came in very close to the mark, although the final payment due to the evaluators was over-looked and was paid from ANTaR Vic funds. Costs for printing the final FtF Report and the Evaluation Report have yet to be allocated.

The Reichstein Foundation has assisted with funding to maintain our web presence. This enables us to continue employing our web technician Paul Miller and to create a one-day a week position for a web-writer, filled by Jacinda Kleidon, who is our also our two-day a week office manager and one-day a week project worker. This keeps the office staffed for 4 days a week and helps maintain our activity, public and web presence.

A generous donation from The Donkey Wheel Fund allows us to aim for 3-4 projects a year – and is the money we use to pay for Jacinda's 'project day'. To date we have run the "StolenWealth Games" and "White Blindfold" events using this money. We have other such events planned, but that is the subject of someone else's report.

We continue to promote our regular donor program and a new funding arrangement has been developed with ANTaR National. The national office now manages our regular donations, and we receive a percentage of ANTaR National's new regular donations from Victoria.

In terms of reporting, we have now linked a detailed monthly Budget to our QuickBooks package (thank you Michel and Jacinda for all your work). This allows us to work to a budget and to keep much more accurate eye on how we are actually travelling month by month against both the YTD and full year budget. Having a total income below the required limit, we chose not to spend the money (around \$2000) on an audit, although we are confident that we would have got yet another clean audit, had we gone down that path. Jonny Lee from the BSL continues to assist us with all accounting matters – thank you too Jonny.

We also had to farewell Brigid Anderson, our stalwart all rounder as she left ANTaR Vic to pursue other challenges. Thank you Brigid for the terrific work you did with all the accounting and financial management and book-keeping for the bulk of the FtF Project's duration.

We continue to assist ANTaR Vic Local Groups by financially managing their grant money and offering insurance cover, resources, expertise and information. Given the reduction in staff this is an excellent outcome, but is dependant on the increased volunteer involvement of committee members. We also continue to offer student placements and to support campaigns, offer speakers, run workshops and make presentations to all and sundry, as requested. This is in large part thanks to the continued solid support from the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, who continue their generous in-kind support to ANTaR Vic.

In the Financial Year 2006-7 ANTaR Vic's budget estimates an income of around \$67,000 and an expenditure of around \$72,000, excluding a net income from merchandise of around \$5000. This leaves intact some \$17,000 in our savings account. All told this is a good effort – if we can raise the funds we anticipated.

Over the next year and beyond, ANTaR Vic will have to rely more on its membership base and Regular Donor income for ongoing financial sustainability. Please try to reengage the friends and colleagues who did support the cause of reconciliation; of basic human rights and social justice for Indigenous people. The situation has gotten worse rather than better for Indigenous people under the current Federal Government. Non-Indigenous support is now needed more than at anytime in the last 20 years.

It is with great pleasure that I present this year's Treasurers Report, however, I fear that without a considerable improvement in our membership base, the number of activists we have willing to come out on various issues and campaigns and to become Regular Donors, ANTaR Vic will struggle to make any impact. Your support is needed as is that of all those bridge walkers from yesteryear.

**AUSTRALIANS FOR NATIVE TITLE
 AND RECONCILIATION (VIC) INC.
 REG NO - A0036961C
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006**

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	198,498	319,544
Employee benefits expense	105,549	221,094
Merchandise expense	2,736	4,998
Project expense	15,622	20,854
Other expenses from ordinary activities	75,245	74,391
Expenses from ordinary activities	199,152	321,337
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	(654)	(1,793)
TOTAL CHANGES IN EQUITY	(654)	(1,793)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
 AS AT 30 JUNE 2006**

	2006 \$	2005 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash assets	21,674	46,945
Receivables	23,388	24,182
Inventories	15,414	7,497
Other	-	330
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	60,476	78,954
TOTAL ASSETS	60,476	78,954
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	4,345	12,091
Provisions	5,248	15,326
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	9,593	27,417
TOTAL LIABILITIES	9,593	27,417
NET ASSETS	50,883	51,537

EQUITY

Retained surplus	33,312	4,664
Reserves	17,571	46,873
TOTAL EQUITY	50,883	51,537

2006
\$

2005
\$

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Receipts from members, supporters, subscribers and customers	52,807	39,249
Receipts from grants	129,888	336,061
Receipts from merchandise sales	16,311	10,731
Borrowing costs paid	(726)	(442)
Payments to suppliers, contractors and employees	(223,837)	(345,597)
Interest received	286	232
NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(25,271)	40,234

Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(25,271)	40,234
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	46,945	6,711
Cash at the end of the financial year	21,674	46,945

Local Groups Reports

Reconciliation Banyule Inc.

Our group has undergone a name change from ANTaR JagaJaga to Reconciliation Banyule Inc. as the new name was seen to be more self-explanatory to the general community of our activities.

We continue to hold monthly film nights on Indigenous themes at the Ivanhoe Uniting Church and the average attendance is around 20 including members.

Items from our collection of resources on reconciliation have been lent to a number of different groups eg. information posters, data projector, flags.

We also have had contact with Daryl Naylor regarding his endeavours to make Austin Hospital a more friendly experience for Indigenous people.

Joan Pearson

Bass Coast/South Gippsland Reconciliation Group

2006 is the second year for our group, which meets at Inverloch, with about 14 members actively involved. We are greatly encouraged by the presence of two local Aboriginal women artists and also by the keen involvement of a Bass Coast Shire Council officer. We endeavour to keep in touch with the Bunurong Land Council and the Boonerwung Elders Council and inform them of our activities.

An Indigenous Arts and Craft Gathering in February, an initiative of the Uniting Church Campsite Committee, was supported. Over 3 days Aboriginal artists conducted workshops. Craft work was available, a cross-cultural awareness talk by Vince Ross of Narana Creations took place as well as informal opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to meet. 50 local children participated.

Sorry Day/ National Day of Healing was observed on May 26 in the main street of Inverloch with a local Councillor speaking and 50 children attending, bringing with them a moving scroll where each child had written their thoughts about the removal of Indigenous children from their parents.

NAIDOC week celebrations took the form of an Indigenous Art Exhibition at the Wonthaggi Coalfields Gallery where Patrice Mahoney's work and one of her students' was displayed. Cross cultural talks and a display of artifacts took place. The Treaty Scroll was available. One of Patrice's paintings "Bunurong

Windmills" was presented to the Bass Coast Shire Council for its permanent collection (the first Indigenous art work in the collection).

A successful film night for Ten Canoes in September raised more than \$1300 for The Fred Hollows Foundation. A speaker night is planned in November when Prof Jim Bowler, discoverer of Mungo Lady, 1969 and Mungo Man, 1974, will speak on "The Lake Mungo Story: Reconnecting with Indigenous cousins".

Letters have been written and cards sent re petrol sniffing and the need for Opal petrol. A submission supporting the Bunurong Land Council's submission re the Aboriginal Heritage Bill was sent. The Bass Coast Shire has passed a flag flying policy and the Aboriginal flag is now permanently on display in the Council Chambers as well as being flown on significant occasions and Shire signage to acknowledge the traditional owners is being considered. Although we have not been able to attend Melbourne meetings and actions our group is very appreciative of the support and encouragement received from ANTaR.

Shirley Gunson

Bayside Reconciliation Group

Bayside Reconciliation Group works in cooperation with the local Advisory Group to Council on Indigenous matters, especially those covered in its current Indigenous Strategic Plan. We wish we had more Indigenous input on both! Local activists keep contact with local government and reconciliation groups in our broader region.

Council commissioned an Indigenous Heritage Study, now nearing completion. The construction of the Cultural Trail along Bayside's coast has been delayed, but will be finished this financial year, complete with appropriate art focus locations.

Council ran a flag-raising ceremony back in May. The Indigenous flags were flown in Reconciliation Week and for NAIDOC Week Council funded a bookmark put out through local libraries, illustrated by Ellen Jose, local Torres Strait Islander artist.

Currently work is starting to rehabilitate the 'Native Resource Garden' (1988) in Sandringham, with improved signage (to cover the full range of Ngaruk Willum resource use), restored planting and water reticulation on the tiny 'wetland' it includes.

We are working with Council to include appropriate Ngaruk Willum names in the ongoing local naming process for parks & streets.

We ran a successful discussion night on Native Title, led & addressed by Mark Brett from NTSV, and are piloting a film night in October. Late in 2005 we did a bit of lobbying on the draft Indigenous Cultural Heritage bill, and the changes to federal 'anti-terrorism' laws involving freedom of speech.

Coming up early next year will be a Council-supported forum, with several top speakers, on Reconciliation - the Next Step, and an Indigenous Concert, possibly in Reconciliation Week.

Ken Blackman

Darebin ANTaR

The main event of 2005/06 was the Batman Treaty Hypothetical, conducted at the Northcote Town Hall in August 2005, funded through a City of Darebin Community Grant and opened by Darebin Mayor Diana Asmar.

Moderator Jim Barr and impromptu role playing by the Indigenous and non-Indigenous panel members lead participants through an emotional roller coaster ride of culture contact and actions and reactions of those involved. The generous contribution of each panel member, often based on their personal experiences, helped the 80 participants explore our own experiences and assumptions.

"Batman's Treaty is interrupted by the appearance of a Kangaroo" Oil on canvas Sharon West 2005

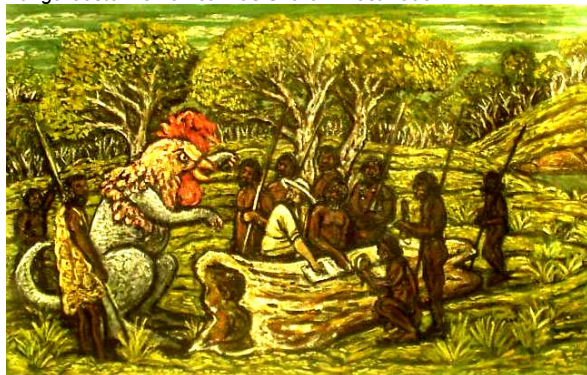


Image used with artist's permission

Throughout 2006 group members attended a number of meetings of the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Council (DATSICC), took the Treaty Scroll to several local events including the City of Darebin Sorry Day forum, the Northern Exposure's Dreaming in the City exhibition and reconciliation service, where artist Lorraine Nelson spoke about her life and work, and the Darebin Music Feast's Earth Music concert.

For 2007 Darebin ANTaR will continue regular meetings on the second Tuesday of every second month from February, with special meetings as

required. Meetings are held at the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry 434 St Georges Rd, Thornbury (contact Joan Hamilton ph 9480 3849) or the Northcote Uniting Church 251 High Street (contact Daryl Colless ph 9842 2884). New members and guests welcome (contact Chris Adams ph. 9489 0390).

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Chris Adams

ANTaR Manningham

ANTaR Manningham is a small but enthusiastic group. During this year we have been very involved with planning to reopen the Mia Mia Gallery, an Indigenous Art Gallery in Westerfolds Park, Templestowe.

The local community was very disappointed at the closing of Mia Mia, with many letters to the local paper. Mia Mia will now reopen administered by the Mia Mia Community Partnerships Committee, which has representatives from Manningham City Council, Parks Victoria and the Aboriginal Artists Development Trust with support from Monash University Graphic Art department, ANTaR Manningham, Rotary and Friends of Mia Mia.

ANTaR Manningham has initiated and planned the "Friends of Mia Mia" group which has already had two meetings and is holding public meetings on Friday October 20 at 10 am and 7 pm in the Manningham City Council Function Room 3. Persons attending will be given information on the progress of reopening Mia Mia and suggestions of how "Friends of Mia Mia" can give support.

The annual Aboriginal Cultural Festival will be held at Mia Mia, Westerfolds Park, Templestowe on Sunday November 19 from 11am. Indigenous artists and entertainers are being invited. There will be a number of workshops with an Indigenous flavour. We are working closely with the Wurundjeri Council for their advice, support and input to the festival.

Early this year ANTaR Manningham provided speakers, entertainers and resources to a cluster of 5 local schools who undertook Aboriginal studies. This

culminated in a presentation of music, dance and story telling and art and craft from the school students at a function at Manningham City Council.

Antar Manningham thanks Manningham City Council and RE Ross Trust for grants which have made these events possible.

In June we were delighted that at the initiation of one of our members a sign was made and unveiled at Westerfolds park acknowledging that the Wurundjeri People are the traditional custodians of that land.

During this year we have also taken part in an Australia day event at Ruffey Lake Park and during the Commonwealth Games a "Come and Try" event at Currawong Bush Park.

We are very keen to hear from any people who would like to join our group. Phone Gwyn 9848 2039.

Gwyn Roberts

Moreland ANTaR

The Moreland ANTaR group's main activity is an annual Indigenous Heritage Tour of the Moreland area, with sites including Aboriginal Community Elders Service (ACES), Merri Creek, Pentridge Prison and Koori Open Door Education (KODE). The tour has sparked the interest of a number of community groups and organisations in the area as well as enabling us to strengthen our links with some of the Indigenous organisations in Moreland.



Koori Open Door Education, Glenroy

We have been involved throughout the year in volunteering for activities with both ACES and KODE. We also held an ANTaR stall at the annual Sydney Road Street festival in Brunswick.

The Moreland group meets on the first Thursday of the month (except January) at Café Mingo, 600 Sydney Rd Brunswick and welcomes interest from new members.

Port Phillip Reconciliation Group for ANTaR

A busy year of activities was undertaken largely by our core group of hard-working members whose commitment, dedication and continued enthusiasm is inspiring.

One of the most satisfying aspects of the past year was the number of invitations received from various community organisations asking us to be involved in their events via information stalls and/or boomerang painting for children. These included:

- 'Once Upon a Story' children's festival at Gasworks Arts Park, South Melbourne, that attracted some 1000 people and used up our supply of wooden boomerangs (an enterprising person added to the supply by cutting boomerang shapes out of cardboard!).
- 'Taste of Living' festival, also at Gasworks.
- Inaugural two-day Yalukit Willam Ngargee cultural festival in St Kilda that attracted hundreds and some new members. Dozens visited our stall that included merchandise from ANTaR and Reconciliation Victoria.
- Local community festivals.
- An invitation from their local hosts led to a dinner being held at a member's house to meet some Aboriginal elders from Yarrabah in Queensland visiting Melbourne under the auspices of the Anglican Board of Mission. Indigenous and non-Indigenous friends shared good food, conversation, stories, singing and music.
- A series of 'free, family friendly' film nights at the St Kilda Library held with associated information displays in the library foyer leading up to each screening. We greatly appreciated the advice and support (with the projector) given by Peter Harvey from the Banyule Reconciliation Group.
- Attendance at Bayside Health's inaugural National Day of Healing Ceremony at the Alfred Hospital, the Western Suburbs Indigenous Gathering Place Reconciliation Week dinner in Williamstown, functions to support the newly established Unity Foundation and NAIDOC Week flag-raising and other events staged in the City of Port Phillip.

Our group's major annual event, staged in collaboration with the City of Port Phillip, a loyal supporter and financial provider, is Sorry Day. It was commemorated on Saturday, 27 May, 2006 in O'Donnell Gardens, St Kilda, attracting the largest ever crowd, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous. It included a smoking ceremony performed by Ron Murray, the Welcome to Country by Boonwurrung Elder Carolyn Briggs, speeches from Mayor Janet Bolitho, State Member for Prahran Tony Lupton, Pastor Digby Hannah, Fr Terry Keane and Fr Ray McInness, poetry from Dennis Fisher, and a premiere performance of "Funny Bones – a Sit Down Comedy" directed by Pauline Whyman and music from Joe Geia and his band.

PPCfR members also attend the networking forums initiated by Reconciliation Victoria and Australians for Native Title & Reconciliation (ANTaR) and continue to liaise with our southern regional group friends from the Stonnington and Bayside Reconciliation groups.

Producing Mungo, the group's monthly newsletter, remains our most visible external 'presence' and strongest communications tool, distributed to a wide range of people and organisations by e-mail and snail mail.

There are around 300 people and organisations on our membership list. However, only a few come to meetings and help with our activities resulting in a huge amount of work being done by a small few. We are constantly seeking ways to address this issue.

Rosemary Rule

Learning And Reconciliation Maroondah Inc.

After much deliberation and a vote by our members, a new name for our group became reality. We are now known as 'Learning and Reconciliation Maroondah Inc.' (formerly Learning Together Group Inc.). The official date was 21 March 2006.

The Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place has had its Official Opening and we are very pleased to have been involved with their Christmas Family Day and also their Family Day during NAIDOC Week. Trevor Pearce, the Manager of the Gathering Place, has received an Emerging Leader Fellowship Award. We congratulate Trevor.

Reconciliation Groups in the Eastern Region are meeting quarterly and the response, so far, has been fantastic. We now meet at the Gathering Place and each group takes responsibility for a meeting on a rotation basis, by providing a convenor, minute-taker and supper. Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation were the first group to produce a Newsletter for the Region. In future each group will take their turn to gather reports from the other groups and Trevor Pearce has volunteered to print and distribute them.

Members from Maroondah Movement for Reconciliation and our group met with Maroondah Council staff regarding Reconciliation Week activities. This year the flag-raising was held at Cheong Park, a film was shown at Federation Estate and an art exhibition presented at Wyreena.

We are pleased to announce that Maroondah Council has drafted the Terms of Reference for its inaugural Indigenous Policy Working Party, with the first draft expected in December. There have been two Working Party meetings already, with a further meeting on 13 November. At the meetings there have been representatives from various areas within Maroondah Council, together with participants from

the Department of Human Services, Eastern Access Community Health, Primary Care Partnership, Maroondah Movement of Reconciliation Inc. and our Group. The Facilitator is Ralph McLean.

Ann Longridge

Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation

The City of Whitehorse formally opened the new Reconciliation Garden in the grounds of the Civic Centre, Nunawading, on 16 May. The Nangnak Garden is the culmination of eighteen months of work by members of Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation, children from local schools and Worawa Aboriginal College, Toor-rong CDEP, Swinburne TAFE and Oonah Learning Centre, Box Hill Community Arts Centre, and of course staff of the City of Whitehorse.

WFFR were very active members of the Reference Group which created the concept and worked through the details of implementation. This included the wording of a plaque declaring the commitment of the City and its citizens to Reconciliation. Group members also made some 700 clay pavers, and transported these to the participating schools for the children to decorate, with the help of Aboriginal artists.

The third annual Reconciliation Picnic was held in Blackburn Lake Sanctuary at the beginning of April, and was another successful occasion for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to come together in an informal and relaxed way. Planning is well underway for the 2007 Reconciliation Picnic on Sunday 18th March, to be preceded by a Long Walk.

Work has commenced on a message stick pilot programme in conjunction with Boroondara ANTaR and Learning and Reconciliation Maroondah. It involves a memory stick housed in a beautifully decorated message stick made by Shane Charles. Initially four schools are to participate. Each school will place on the memory stick the students' messages about Reconciliation, in paintings, poetry, essays, etc. It is planned to place the work on the Reconciliation Victoria website in due course.

We are also involved with a number of organisations and events as opportunities arise. We work with the Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place when requested, are members of the Eastern Region Reconciliation Groups, attend meetings of the Eastern Region Wurreker network, and with Gateway Local Learning and Employment Network. We are also working with the City of Whitehorse on its new Reconciliation Policy and Action Plan, as part of the advisory group, which includes Indigenous and non-Indigenous members.

Eleanor Dilley

Fanning the flames of reconciliation

ANTaR Vic Committee of Management & Brigid Anderson

The Fanning the Flames project, funded by the Community Support Fund and supported by the Brotherhood of St Laurence, finished up at the end of February in this year. Over the three-year life of the project some great achievements were made, and much of the work started in this period has gained its own momentum and is continuing in various forms. The Committee of Management would like to thank all those involved in the project. A full final report of the project will also soon be available from the ANTaR Vic office.

What was the FTF Project?

"Fanning the Flames" of Reconciliation (FtF) was a community development project designed by ANTaR Victoria. The project brief involved informing, educating and activating as many people as possible in regard to the issues of the history of colonial relations in Australia, past and continuing Indigenous disadvantage, lack of opportunity, access and fairness, and the means of working towards reconciliation. It was based on an understanding of injustices of the past and the present and an acceptance of responsibility by non-Indigenous people to remedy them.

Therefore, our work focused primarily on enabling non-Indigenous people to come to terms with and address the unfinished business of reconciliation: land justice, the history of stolen children and stolen wages, developing respect for Indigenous cultural heritage, self-determination for Indigenous people, and the question of treaties.



Second Helping poster, designed by Megan Evans

Some achievements of FtF

The diverse work of FtF has achieved significant recognition, including several awards and nominations.

Examples of awards and recognition include:

- The 2004 Victorian Aboriginal Youth Sport and Recreation (VAYSAR) Football & Netball Carnival was named East Gippsland Shire Council's Community Event of the Year on Survival Day 2005 (FtF worker Jim Barritt).
- NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee) in the Park, held on 10th July, 2004, won the City of Yarra Major Events Australia Day Award (2005), and was short listed for the Judith Wright National Reconciliation Prize 2005 (FtF worker Megan Evans). It is now a major annual event in the City of Yarra, run by Parkies Incorporated - Indigenous people from the Collingwood Housing Estate.
- Sit Down At My Table was short listed for the Judith Wright National Reconciliation Prize 2005 (FtF worker Megan Evans). Research during this project was developed into a major play, Second Helping.
- Woven Histories was short listed for the Judith Wright National Reconciliation Prize 2005 and Highly Commended for the Australian Conservation Foundation Environmental Art Award 2005 (FtF worker Megan Evans). Art installation reworked for exhibition at the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, July 2006. FtF invited to replicate 'Leaf Blanket' concept for the Sustainable Living Festival 2005 in Federation Square and the MAD Project on Harmony Day 2005 in the City Square, involving several hundred school children.
- ANTaR placement student, James Ibrahim (along with his sister Josie), was named Young Citizen of the Year by Latrobe City Council on Australia Day 2006, for his volunteer work, including his work at ANTaR (FtF workers Frank Hytten and Clare Land).
- 'Thinking for ourselves', by Clare Land and Eve Vincent, re-published in 'Best Of' New Matilda 71, Christmas/New Year, 2005/6.
- ANTaR awareness-raising postcard "Indigenous rights are being eroded" was shortlisted for Avant Card design award, 2005 (FtF worker Frank Hytten; designer Len Taylor).

The reach of FtF

During FtF, staff and ANTaR CoM spokespeople (chiefly Peter Lewis and Jill Webb) gave at least 85 interviews for television, radio and newspapers. 14 of these were on radio/TV/newspaper for the Stolenwealth Games letters gesture including South African TV, New Zealand Radio and newspapers in India, China and Malaysia. Through this action, ANTaR literally reached hundreds of thousands of people domestically and internationally.

We also estimate that via the many the speeches, addresses and papers delivered by Frank Hytten and others to more than a hundred meetings, classes, workshops and conferences we reached at least 2000 people. This kind of work was an in-depth and interactive opportunity for people to learn and discuss our community education messages.

When we sat down and calculated how many people were involved in the project, the numbers were incredible. Organisers and volunteers were close to 1000, and participants and attendees reached over 20,000!



Batman Treaty 170th anniversary history tour organised by FtF worker Clare Land

What were the key learnings of FtF?

Actions speak louder than words.

During the life of FtF, ANTaR developed its commitment to supporting Indigenous campaigns when called upon for moral and political support. This stream of work is underpinned by the conviction that genuine reconciliation is contingent on a fundamental shift in relations between Indigenous people and the dominant culture and its institutions.

The three years of FtF provided for an intense period of hard work, reflection and learning by staff, the FtF committee, CoM and our membership. This opportunity has enabled us to reflect upon the structures that work for us, the difficulty of evaluating the long-term attitudinal change that we seek, and brought about a shift in our thinking about how and why we do what we do.

Fanning the Flames of what? How we see 'reconciliation'.

Reconciliation from ANTaR's point of view is a contested construct. Working to encourage reconciliation requires considerable effort to seek out and hear the truth, to analyse stories and to offer evidence of the veracity of different stories. It takes immense energy to engage ordinary people in finding

ways by which the injustices of the past can be reconciled to our cultural ambitions and rhetoric of a 'fair go', and to take social and political action to ensure that such action happens.

FtF: A commitment to social change

ANTaR's existence and the FtF project is premised on an understanding of reconciliation that embodies a commitment to bring about social change. We seek:

- changes to the knowledge ordinary people have in relation to Indigenous people;
- changes to the priority ordinary people give to creating a just society that includes Indigenous people as having particular and respected rights as First Peoples; and
- changes to the political landscape that currently largely ignores the voice of Indigenous people and therefore, genuine change.

Refining FtF's aims, methods and meanings

As a result of our experiences over the three years we began explicitly to incorporate into our work two operational principles:

- Build trustworthy relationships with a wide range of Indigenous people as individuals and through community groups and organisations; and
- Take political action, either to support a campaign being run by Indigenous people, or more importantly, to instigate and run a campaign that Indigenous people support, but do not have the time, energy or other resources to run themselves.

Building trustworthy relationships with Indigenous people

An ongoing question for ANTaR Victoria is how to find a voice to speak about, and a means to contribute towards, a movement that concerns the social, cultural and political situations of Indigenous people without speaking for Indigenous people or taking over.

To ensure that we were not to make the same mistakes of the past in assuming that 'we know best', we needed to find ways to listen to Indigenous voices, and most importantly understand what was being said, accept it as a valid voice, and to demonstrate this acceptance by acting in accordance with Indigenous views. This was not easy or enough.

A key operational principle of FtF became strengthening relationships with Indigenous people. We learned that to build relationships takes time, patience and being prepared to deliver something without expecting anything in response. We made a proactive effort to undo our own (whitefella/colonist) mindsets and provide instances that encouraged Indigenous people (dispossessed/distrustful) to undo their mindsets towards non-Indigenous institutions and people and even to the 'do-gooders' of organisations like ANTaR Victoria. This effort had to

be made with a wide range of Indigenous people as individuals and through community groups and organisations. For such relationships to be trustworthy, we had to be careful what we offered and to always deliver on what we promise.

The necessity of building trustworthy relationships has had a snowballing effect as individual (and therefore organisational) credibility has built, albeit, slowly. Increasingly, we see and hear indications that ANTaR Victoria is considered an organisation that does understand Indigenous points of view, can be trusted to act respectfully, will contribute to the debates and plans and deliver on what we agree to do. We have shown that as an organisation we will act when requested, standing alongside Indigenous people in their struggle for justice. We have learnt too about the richness of the Indigenous community in Victoria, with all its political and cultural diversity and also about the quite incredible resilience of Indigenous people who have survived and thrive in spite of the best efforts of the dominant culture to assimilate them.

Taking political action to redress inequality

To develop trustworthy relations, we had to take actions aimed at changing fundamental disadvantages, to demonstrate that we had listened and were willing for Indigenous voices to guide this project.

The conditions for genuine reconciliation, and the conditions for a workable partnership with Aboriginal advocates and communities more broadly, rest on a fundamental shift in the state of Indigenous-non-Indigenous relations in this country. ANTaR's work has come to reflect this conviction.

ANTaR, through the work of FtF staff, and in conjunction with members, volunteers and the CoM, has created a stream of work that engages with Indigenous rights campaigns. We have also created a significant learning and action tool, 'What do Indigenous people want?! And what can I do about it?', and adopted a constitutional amendment for ANTaR Victoria recognising all Indigenous people in Victoria, as a model for others.

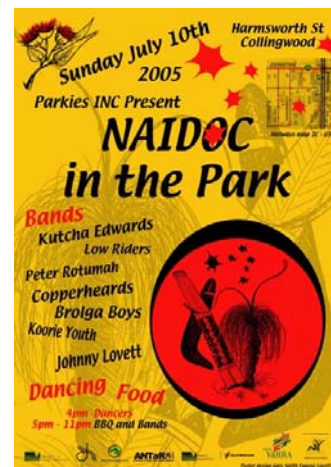
Reconciliation is whitefella business

Our experience has led us to believe that reconciliation is whitefella business. What this means is that the time has come for non-Indigenous people to take ownership of reconciliation as a non-Indigenous issue. Too often, reconciliation is seen as being an "Aboriginal problem". This view is rooted in past government policies, but astonishingly, still forms the basis of Indigenous affairs policies and public opinion today.

Australia is built on the wealth of land that was stolen and non-Indigenous people have benefited from that. Non-Indigenous people now make up 98% of the

population and have done 99.9% of the damage to Indigenous culture, traditions and meaning; we are responsible for this mess and we have to accept the task of working with Indigenous people in setting it right. A 2% minority cannot shift the thinking of the majority.

Therefore, it is up to non-Indigenous people to make a commitment to acknowledge what has happened in the past and address present power imbalances and inequalities. It is up to non-Indigenous people to restore integrity and honour to the process of reconciliation.



NAIDOC in the Park, promotional poster by Megan Evans

Future directions – independence and sustainability

Traditional funding comes for specific, typically short-term projects, with all the details tied up into nice neat little bows; specific partners, budgets, timelines, staffing requirements and so on.

Therefore, ANTaR Victoria will need to find its own funds to sustain the core work of the organisation, upon which projects can be built to ease some of the burden on project staff and allow the employment of a small core team, who can become the 'desk jockeys' necessary to make it all happen. We would need around \$150,000 per year as our core income, assuming that the BSL continues to support us at the current levels. Our current income sits at around \$20,000 per year, including membership, merchandise and fund-raising. Obviously there is a shortfall.

Conclusion

We have done a great deal and learnt a lot over the last three years. We have practiced 'community development' in a number of forms, from the fairly 'conservative' to the 'activist' oriented. But mostly we have been willing to do whatever it takes to build trust, educate non-Indigenous people and support change to the existing values and policies that negatively impact on Aboriginal people in Victoria.

Although it does not sound like not much, the sum total of our experience over the last three years can be said to be our very deep realisation that “Reconciliation IS whitefella business”. This will be the title and focus of project work we do next.

Finally we would like to thank all those Indigenous people who have taken the risk of trusting a motley band of ‘whitefellas’ and have made the greater contribution to all the projects under the banner of FtF. As always we are amazed at the astounding graciousness of Indigenous people.

Stolenwealth Games Letters

Clare Land

The Stolenwealth Games letters action was one of two ANTaR Victoria strategies designed to respond autonomously to and generate support for the Black GST campaign around the Commonwealth Games. (The second strategy was the successful ANTaR-led co-signed letter on Indigenous rights, developed in collaboration with the NGO network for rights and reconciliation.)

The term ‘Stolenwealth Games’ was devised by Robbie Thorpe, Ginnai/Maar man, genocide litigator, radio broadcaster and member of the Black GST collective.

The Black GST collective invited autonomous actions by supporters to draw attention to the issues of G (genocide), S (sovereignty) and T (treaty) in the presence of international media during the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, March 2006. ANTaR Victoria responded with a procession of 6-foot white wooden letters spelling ‘STOLENWEALTH GAMES’.



Stolenwealth Games letters at Southbank

ANTaR intended to draw attention to the many things that have been stolen from Indigenous people as an ongoing result of colonisation – stolen land, stolen lifestyle, stolen wealth, stolen language, stolen children, stolen ancestral remains, stolen wages.

A key aim was also to encourage Australians, at a time of national pride and celebration, not to forget those areas in which we don’t perform well; to learn from those comparable Commonwealth nations that have treaties and self-government and consequently, better outcomes for Indigenous peoples.

The procession, held in Melbourne’s CBD was timed to coincide with the annual Moomba parade on 13 March 2006 – two days before the opening ceremony of the ‘Stolenwealth’ Games. Following a long display of the letters on the footbridge linking Southbank and Flinders St Station, the letter bearers walked in formation up St Kilda Rd to Camp Sovereignty at Kings Domain, where the Black GST and supporters had created space for Indigenous people and supporters to camp and converge. The reception of the letters at Camp was rapturous, with people laughing, and cheering as the letters appeared over the rise. The members of the procession were invited to participate in a welcoming ceremony around the Sacred Fire at the camp.



Stolenwealth Games letters aerial view

The letters were installed at the Camp for the duration of the Stolenwealth Games where the many media helicopters hovering above the MCG - the sporting headquarters of the Games - had a prime bird’s eye view.

The overt response of the public to the procession was unanimously positive, with many passers by expressing curiosity and engaging in conversation or just interpreting the message... “S, T, O.. Stolen... Wealth... oh! Stolenwealth Games! Ha ha!” was heard countless times.

Media coverage was extensive. The procession and comments by ANTaR Victoria’s chair and spokesperson, Jill Webb, were reported on Channel 7 News, ABC News, The Age, The Herald Sun, AAP, SBS Radio, ABC Radio, TripleJ, 3CR, RRR, South African TV and New Zealand Radio. The Herald Sun also printed an opinion piece refuting the ‘stolen wealth’ proposition in days following, setting off a flurry of letters to the editor. We were very pleased to receive this in-depth response and debate around the substantive issues we sought to raise via the action.

White blindfold event

Peter Lewis

On Sunday 13 August close to two hundred people participated in a powerful symbolic act of commitment to Australia's ongoing journey towards reconciliation. The day marked the 12th International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. ANTaR, Rec Vic and VCOSS sponsored the event which was said by many participants to be deeply moving.

At Melbourne Town Hall people gathered, dressed in black and white, wearing white blindfolds to symbolise how non-Indigenous Australians are so often blind to how racism and a lack of respect for Indigenous cultures and communities impacts on Indigenous people. In a public ritual witnessed by Indigenous leaders, participants removed their blindfolds and placed a thumb-print on the Treaty Scroll, demonstrating their commitment to 'seeing things differently' and to working in solidarity with Indigenous people.

Speakers at the event included Julian Burnside QC, ACTU President Sharan Burrow, Indigenous Academic Lillian Holt, Traditional Owner Joy Murphy Wandin, VCOSS Board member Pauline Spencer, and Aboriginal community leaders Alf Bamblett, Muriel Bamblett, Monica Morgan and Henry Atkinson.

"The message is about owning, as non-Indigenous people, our inability to see the truth and taking the next step to committing to a just resolution of the unfinished business of reconciliation" said ANTaR Victoria Chairperson Jill Webb. "This includes cultural respect, self determination and justice for the Indigenous peoples of Australia."



White Blindfold participants, Image courtesy of Rodney Dekker

ANTaR hopes that the publicity generated by the event in the Age and the Australian will inspire other community groups to run similar events using the Treaty Scroll. If you are interested in running such an event please contact Jacinda at the ANTaR office on (03) 9419 3613.

NGO network for rights and reconciliation

Brigid Anderson

ANTaR Victoria enjoys the support and recognition of over 60 Supporting Organisations and Affiliated Organisations. Over the life of the FtF project, ANTaR Vic worked, often with VCOSS, to catalyse and coordinate support for Indigenous rights through these organisations and more broadly the NGO and social services sectors.

In December 2005, ANTaR co-convened with VCOSS a forum of NGOs in recognition of Human Rights Day. This meeting was intended to gauge the support amongst this sector for Indigenous rights and to develop strategies to act in solidarity with rights-based Indigenous movements.

The meeting was attended by 46 representatives and was addressed by Gary Foley of the Black GST collective, and Peter Lewis and Clare Land (ANTaR Vic) and Cath Smith (VCOSS).

Peter Lewis spoke about the reversal of the rights agenda under the Coalition decade in Federal politics. Gary Foley discussed the Black GST campaign and the state of social justice in Australia. Clare Land outlined the responses proposed by ANTaR to the Black GST and other campaigns, and the potential for organisations present to re-commit to rights and reconciliation with the help of ANTaR.

Those present supported the continuation of major NGO forums 3-4 times per year and several NGOs formed a working group for campaign responses and to carry the re-invigorated NGO network forward.

Activities and achievements of the network include:

Cultural Heritage Bill campaign – distribution of several thousand postcards outlining Indigenous concerns; meetings with Minister for Aboriginal Affairs by several NGOs.

Black GST – distribution of information; Fitzroy Legal Service and the Federation of Community Legal Centres committed to provide legal rights information to the Black GST and supporters; OXFAM released a report on Indigenous health to coincide with the Commonwealth Games.

3CR provided a special daily broadcast from 13-26 March covering the Black GST campaign.

Stolenwealth Games letters action - assistance planning and implementing

"Open letter – ANTaR Victoria - justice and equity for Indigenous peoples" – co-signed by 18 organisations from trade union, church, community, NGO and social services sectors; The Age, 17 March 2006.

“Rap it up” Young people taking a stand against racism

Clare Land

'Rap it Up' is an 18 minute film intended as a continuation of a dynamic education project fostering understanding.

'There is still a lot of racism in schools to this day, and there will be for a very long time in the future'
(Rachel, 18 Yrs old, Yorta Yorta/Gunditjmara)

This unique film is a peer based educational resource designed to address racism and discrimination among young people in a constructive, positive way. Augmented with supporting teacher's notes, it is a valuable tool for teachers and community educators.

Rap it Up is designed for use in the classroom or youth programs and events. It brings together personal stories with rap, song and dance, to develop a story about the impact of racism and having the courage to overcome it.

The DVD was inspired by and shot during ANTaR Victoria's 'Indigenous and Refugee young peoples' anti-racism peer education project.' This project was launched in March 2005, during cultural diversity week, and centred around a 3-day camp in June 2005.

On the camp, Anglo-Saxon, Indigenous and refugee young people came together to learn from each other and using drama, rap and dance, explored ways to educate their peers against racism. In group discussions and impromptu interviews, young people from different cultural backgrounds absorbed each other's experiences, and found similarities and differences with their own. They talked about coping racism at school, what it's like to be the child of parents from the stolen generation, what its like growing up in Serbia and Iraq, and of how it feels to be a teenage refugee in a foreign country.

The team behind the DVD were Jon Staley (filming and drama facilitation on the camp, and writer of the teachers notes), Megan Evans (filming performances and interviews after the camp, director for the DVD) and Clare Land (Anti-racism project manager, camp leader, producer for DVD).

Students from the following schools and youth services participated in the camp: Eaglehawk Secondary College, Bendigo; Maribyrnong Secondary College; Cutting Edge Youth Services, Santa Maria College; Northcote Secondary College; Reservoir District Secondary College; Thornbury High School.

The project received grants from DIMA (Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs) and AMES (Adult Multicultural Education Services).



Rap it up DVD cover

The DVD is available for sale from ANTaR Victoria and for loan at the National Film and Sound Archive and at Information Victoria.

Stolen Wages Report

Julie Kun

Stolen wages has been an issue simmering below the surface in Victoria for a couple of years. The Wampan (payback) Wages Working Group established this year has been working on issues such as the senate enquiry into stolen wages and a submission to the Victorian Government for the funding of a research officer position. The Wampan Wages Working Group is a group of volunteers from various sources including ANTaR, the union movement, Indigenous organisations and other concerned community members. The working group has submitted a report on stolen wages in Victoria to the Federal senate enquiry into stolen wages. The working group has nearly completed a submission for the state funding for a research officer to investigate the probability of stolen wages having occurred in Victoria. ANTaR also conducted a Sea of Hands vigil for stolen wages in the city.

In October 2006 the Wampan Working Group and other like-minded organisations coordinated a range of public forums on government accountability for Indigenous trust money. These forums were aimed at the Indigenous and non-Indigenous community. The Guest speakers for these forums were of a very high profile. Dr Elouise Corbell an Elder from the Blackfeet Nation, Dr Rosalind Kidd, Campaigner for the payback of stolen wages in Queensland and Joel Wright, Victorian Campaigner for the payback of stolen wages.

With the Wampan Working group, established and the completion of the public forums, stolen wages is going to become an issue that the Victorian Government is going to have to reckon with.

Membership Report

Julie Kun

The lifeblood of ANTaR is our members. Our members ensure the valuable work of ANTaR continues. Financially, membership fees and donations enable ANTaR to employ staff, which in turn enables ANTaR to remain an active force in the community.

A lot of the vital and important work that ANTaR does is undertaken by members who volunteer their time. Without our members, for example, the White Blindfold event would not have taken place, fund raising would not happen and our presence in many community events would not occur.

Although we already do so much with the members currently we have, just think of what could be achieved if we had even more members. If every ANTaR member committed to recruit just one new member then what could be achieved would be mind boggling. Membership forms can be downloaded from the Web at www.antarvic.org.au or call the office on 9419 3613.

If you wish to talk to some one regarding member recruitment strategies please call Julie Kun at home on 9387 3752 or 0419 506 178.

Fundraising Report

Rosemary Iacano

A film fundraiser was held in November 2005. The film 'Red Dust' by director Tom Hooper was shown at the Kino Dendy and raised over \$1300. The film was set in South Africa and explored themes of human rights and racism. The audience had a chance to get together before and after the film, meet other ANTaR supporters, sign the Treaty Scroll and to join ANTaR.



Red Dust film

On Friday 28 July 2006 a fundraising Turkish Feast was held at Zara Turkish restaurant in Coburg. The event was organised by Julie Kun, Kate Spink and myself. Targan, a young local Indigenous artist and activist spoke about his experiences growing up as a multicultural, Indigenous Australian. Guests had a

banquet meal and were entertained by a male and a female belly dancer. In total we had 140 people pay \$35 a head (approx) and total takings for the night were \$2300. I would like to thank Jill Webb and Clare Land who helped MC, to Jacinda who helped with taking the bookings and collecting the money and to all the ANTaR committee members who encouraged friends and family to come along on the night.

Office & Volunteer Report

Jacinda Kleidon

While there have been many changes in the ANTaR Vic office over the past year, one thing that has remained constant is the fantastic work of volunteers. In the office, on the Committee of Management, at ANTaR events and in the community, volunteers are at the core of what ANTaR does, both in ideas and actions. I'd like to thank volunteers for the time they have put into working for ANTaR and for the skills they contribute to the organisation.

The end of the FtF project meant ANTaR's close-knit staff team completed many of their projects and moved into other jobs or study. The efforts of their work are still strongly felt in the office, both visually with posters, DVD's, photographs, newspaper articles, and teaching resources filling the office walls and shelves, and also through the continuation of work they initiated including the Treaty Scroll, cultural awareness workshops, the NGO Network and the links built with Indigenous organisations. Having known all that had been achieved when I started as Office & Volunteer Coordinator in May this year was exciting, and at times overwhelming.

Paul Miller, ANTaR Vic's Web & database technician, has continued to do an incredible job, improving our website, creating ANTaR Vic's tailor-made member and contact database, writing a web manual, and training volunteers on website updating - all in one day per week! ANTaR has also been lucky to have dynamic and motivated students working on projects from Indigenous health rights to recruiting volunteers for the VAYSAR sports carnival. Thanks for your commitment and contribution.

Other recent highlights in the office include the high level of public interest and sales of ANTaR Vic's plaques acknowledging Traditional Owners (thanks to Ken Blackman and Frank Hytten); a great new format for the newsletter "ANTaR Update" (thanks to Kate Spink); and an overwhelming response from teachers to the "Rap it up" DVD (thanks to DIMA and Clare Land).

The ANTaR office is a central hub for knowing of the many activities of the ANTaR network. I feel very aware of how much hard work people are putting in throughout Victoria (and Australia). Thank you to all involved in keeping this flow of activity going.