



African Australian Network

March/April 2010 Newsletter

AAN Picnics

February Picnic

The February picnic was well attended at Johnson Park, Dulwich hill. Around 20 people attended including new members and new baby Mia.

Undeterred by the light rain the members adjourned to nearby Abla's café for coffee, nibbles and AAN chitchat. It was a good start to our 2010 picnics.

March Picnic

The March 2010 picnic is planned for this weekend on Sunday 28 March from 1.00pm at Central Gardens reserve in Merrylands at the corner of Merrylands Road and Cumberland Highway. If you need directions please check <http://www.facebook.com> or <http://www.africanaustralianetwork.org.au>.

Fine weather is forecast for this weekend but as with the February picnic we have plan B which is to relocate to nearby Abla's (on Sherwood Road) in case of rain.

Remember to bring some food to share. There is plenty of space for the kids to play and we look forward to your company.

AAN Events

2010 Celebration of African Cultures Festival

AAN will to have a stall at the 2010 Celebration of African Cultures that will take place on Saturday 10th April at Auburn Park, corner of Hutchinson and Macquarie Roads from 11am - 4pm.

Come and spend the day out with us at the park. The event organiser has planned an African market place, workshops, art, craft, music and performances. There will be

lots of children's activities including face painting, drumming, jumping castles, animal farm and sports.

AAN 2010 Calender

Look out for the AAN 2010 social calendar of events that is due for distribution early March. The big days on our calendar will be AAN Dinners and Fundraisers plus regular dates for our regular picnics.

We hope the calendar will help you plan forward to attend more of our AAN social events. Some events will be at new venues and as our community grows.

Committee meetings

The first committee meeting was held on February 14th. The committee discussed the 2010 calendar of events including the Auburn festival in April, the financial report summary and other business.

The AAN Committee plans to meet once a month this year and welcomes agenda items from members. Suggestions can be submitted through <http://www.facebook.com> or <http://www.australianafricannetwork.org.au> or directly with [AAN committee](#).

Our next committee meeting will be scheduled for a date in April.

Calling on Kenyans in Australia

African culture and African experiences in Australia

Filipa Bellette is a Macquarie University Creative Writing PhD student investigating the power that stories have in promoting cultural understanding.

As part of her research, Filipa would like to interview some Africans of Kenyan origin living in Australia in a 60-minute interview. There is \$50 for participants, a payment approved as part of her grant.

Please contact Filipa to discuss and arrange an interview on 0408 717 249 or email filipa.bellette@students.mq.edu.au

Community Rate Offer

Bela Fleck's African Project

American banjo virtuoso Béla Fleck is joined by African singing sensation Oumou Sangaré and her stunning Malian band for a joyous night of African spirit and song.

This is a rare opportunity to see Béla Fleck's 2010 Grammy award-winning album, *Throw Down Your Heart*, come to life as Béla and Oumou transcend barriers of language and culture to create some of the most glorious music of their careers.

The event takes place on 6th April at the Sydney Opera House concert hall and tickets are available from Sydneyoperahouse.com or 02 9250 7777 for \$30 when you quote "BELA"

Other

Working it out

Print copies are still available. *Working it Out: Stories from African-Australian Relationships* continues to be a great resource for people in mixed African-Australian relationships.

The booklet is based on interviews with fifteen people about their personal experiences and includes stories, links and suggestions on a range of issues such as parenting, finances, problem solving and cultural difference.

Pick up a copy at the picnic, email us and we'll post you one, or download it from this link: [Working it Out](#).

Joining AAN is Easy

Only \$15 for the first year and \$5 to renew each year after that. Details are at:

<http://australianafricannetwork.org.au/membership/>

National Day Celebrations - April

3 April	Guinea	
4 April	Senegal	
18 April	Zimbabwe	
19 April	Swaziland	
27 April	South Africa	