

international speakers photographic displays

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT activities RAINBOW ALLIANCE PO BOX 122 NIDDRIE 3042 music stalls drama food

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he Rainbow Alliance has been operating for the best part of eighteen months. During this time a great deal has been accomplished. We have clarified the role of the Rainbow Alliance as a political movement (as distinct from a political party), developed policy ideas in several areas (e.g. environment, economy, security, education, relations with Aboriginal Australia), set in train a nationwide campaign around the theme "sustainable communities", and created the skeleton of a regional and national organisation.

At its National Conference in August, the Rainbow alliance decided the time had come to go public in the true sense of the word. It was left to each state to decide the timing and manner of its public launch. The Victorian group has decided to have its public launch on Sunday 16th of April. It will be held at the Pharmacy College, Royal Parade, Parkville.

This will be a major event in the development of the Rainbow Alliance. In one sense the idea is to spread the message of this new movement to a much wider audience or, if you like, to put the Rainbow Alliance on the map. In fact, there is an even more important objective: to develop an on-going dialogue between the social movements, and establish new bridges between people, issues and campaigns. Perhaps the most important aim is to generate a new politics of hope - to offer a new sense of purpose and a new home for those who feel disillusioned and disempowered by the economics of greed and the politics of deceit.

The public launch will of course present the message of the Rainbow Alliance in words, that is through the contribution of an international speaker. But formal speeches will take only about one hour. The rest of the four-hour programme will include music, drama, children's activities, food, socialising, and use of visual arts, in particular a photographic exhibition. The idea will be to blend the cultural and the political, the local and the international, the serious and the humorous. April 16th promises to be a significant moment in Australia's political life.