

# ICCWA LUNCHTIME FORUM

**“Having Fun Safely”**

**“Planning University Events, the Student Experience”**

By Dom Rose, 96<sup>th</sup> President UWA Student Guild



*Social*

*Environment*

*Economic*

# Aim

- **The aim of this presentation is to provide an overview of evolving Guild event:**
  - **Policy**
  - **Processes**



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# Scope

- **An introduction to the Guild**
- **What events we hold**
- **Event management and risk assessments**
- **Why adopt standards?**
- **Future direction**



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# About the Guild

- **Established 1913**
- **96 years old**
- **Run by students**
- **20 councillors elected yearly (WAEC )**
- **Board of directors**
- **150 staff, 500 to 3000 volunteers**
- **Main responsibilities**
  - **Representation**
  - **Activities**
  - **Welfare**
  - **Commercial activities**
- **Environment**
  - **Voluntary fees**
  - **No 1 in Aust – 13296 or 77% of students members**
  - **National best practice**



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# Events Issues

- **Negative perception**
- **Changing community expectations**
- **Everyone can make bad choices**
- **Making mistakes is not the sole province of young people**
- **UWA Guild is ahead of the game**



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# Events – Some Stats

- **Major Events**
  - Orientation, Spring feast
  - Attract about 30,000 students each year
- **Competitions**
  - National Campus Bands, Assassins
  - Attract 4,500 students
- **Major Club Events**
  - Club Olympics, Club Carnival
  - Attract 5,000 students
  - Lots of smaller club activities attract another 5,000
- **Community Events**
  - Craft & Lifestyle fairs
  - 21,000 students & community members



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# What Does This Mean?

- Over **66,000** students and community members taking part in events at the Guild every year
- This figure **excludes** commercial interactions
- **Something is always happening at the Guild**



Three horizontal blue lines are positioned above the text. The text consists of three words in red, italicized font, stacked vertically: *Social*, *Environment*, and *Economic*.

# AS/NZS 4320:2004

- **2001 Guild Risk Management policy**
- **2004 adopts 4360 in response to poor behaviour & consequent risk exposure**
  - **1<sup>st</sup> event PROSH**
  - **Involves 2,500 volunteers all over Perth**
  - **Established 1931 – has evolved**
  - **Raised over \$1.3M for charity since 1992**



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# Current Situation

- **Guild employs EMPs and RMPs for events**
- **Off campus still area of concern**
- **Where does responsibility end?**
- **Policy or standard not enough**
  - **Training and explanation needed**
  - **Help people to make right choices enough times & behaviour changes (e.g. PROSH)**



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# Why Adopt Standards?

- **UWA has lots of rules & more rules**
- **Over-regulation and prohibition causes events to go underground – in our case off campus**
  - **Leads to much greater risk!!**
- **Why?**
  - **Community focussed & responsible**
  - **Longevity means continuous change & innovation**
  - **Risk was too great**
  - **Positive outcomes change behaviour**



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# Key Points

- **The Guild voluntarily adopted the standards**
  - Training essential
  - Workshops internal & external
  - Scaled approach – simple event simple plans, complex events complex plans
  - **Does not** eradicate poor individual choices



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# The Future

- **Continued cooperation with UWA initiatives & policy improvements**
- **Guild push for UWA to adopt 4360**
- **Working on ways to reduce off campus risk**
- **Guild Volunteering Project**
  - **Formalise student volunteering**
  - **Reduces risk**
  - **Adds value to student experience**
  - **Increase level of community support**
  - **Positive outcomes for all**



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# Conclusion

- **Easy to be critical**
- **Harder to change behaviour**
- **We use experiential approach**
- **Facing a major challenge (alcohol, drugs & violence)**
- **Guild is committed to having fun safely**



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# Your Questions???



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