

THOM WOODROOFE
Founder of Left Right Think-Tank
2009 Young Victorian of the Year



thom@leftright.org.au | 0419 668 093

Thom Woodroffe, 20, is the **2009 Young Victorian of the Year** and the **founder and Director of Left Right Think-Tank**, Australia's first independent and non-partisan think-tank of young minds.

Thom is currently completing a **Bachelor of Arts (Global)** at **Monash University** where he is a past member of the **Vice Chancellor's Leadership Program** and is currently studying on exchange at the **University of California in the United States**.

In addition to Left Right, Thom is also a **youth expert consultant to Flamingo International based in Tokyo** and on an **advisory board to Peace Child International based in London** which holds consultative status with the United Nations.

Thom has previously been on the boards of the **Youth Affairs Council of Victoria** and the **Australian Youth Affairs Coalition**; on advisory boards of the **Australian Red Cross** and the **Victorian Youth Mental Health & Wellbeing Summit**; held ambassadorial roles with the **Victorian Equal Opportunity & Human Rights Commission** and the **Jane Goodall Institute of Australia**; and been the **Senior Air Force Cadet** for Australia representing 6,500 teenagers across the country.

In 2008, Thom was handpicked by Dr. Jane Goodall, a United Nations Messenger of Peace, to represent Australia at a **Global Youth Leadership Summit in the United States of America**. In 2009, he was recognised as a **Global Changemaker by the British Council** and invited to attend a **Youth Forum in South Africa alongside the World Economic Forum** which was hosted by Kofi Annan, the former United Nations Secretary General.

Notably, Thom has also been the youngest participant at such high-level gatherings as **Demos' Global Interdependence Forum in Turkey**; **The United States Studies Centre & Harvard University National Summit**; **The Australian Davos Connection Future Summit**; **The Australian Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific**; **The Australian-American Leadership Dialogue at Stanford University**; and **The Global Foundation's Australia Unlimited Roundtable**.

Thom's community work has taken him around the world to **Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North America and the Pacific**, including on an **official parliamentary delegation to Malaysia**. Thom has also spent time **working overseas in the United States Congress during the inauguration of President Obama**.

Thom has **written for *The Age* and *Herald Sun* newspapers as well as *On Line Opinion*** and is a contributing author of ***In Their Own Hands: Young People Changing Australia*** due for publication in July 2010. He also **regularly appears on radio and television**, including previously on **ABC2 TV's News Breakfast and 774 ABC Radio Melbourne**.

Thom has **spoken to a wide variety of audiences**, from schools and local community groups to the **Pacific Youth Festival in Fiji**, the **Congressional Youth Leadership Council** and the **White House Press Corps at the National Press Club in Washington D.C.** and has facilitated the **Victorian State Government's Young People Direct Forum**.

Thom has also been the recipient of a **United States Congressional Certificate of Special Recognition**, the **Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award**, the **Vice Chancellor's Ancora Imparo Scholarship**, the **Trehwella Graduation Scholarship**, the **RVAC Mobil Aviation Flying Scholarship**, the **RSL Spirit of the ANZAC Award**, the **Air Vice Marshall Wrigley Sword of Honour**, the **Daylesford & Hepburn Shire Lions Youth of the Year Award**, and was his school's nominee for the **VCE High Achiever Award**.

In the future, Thom plans to focus on international affairs through further study and continued leadership positions with a desire to ultimately see Australia as a nation renowned for its ideas, vision and idealism.

NB: Thom currently splits his time between Melbourne and San Francisco. Please contact directly to ascertain availability.

Hard Heads, Soft Hearts & Young Minds...

C/O YACVic Inc, Level 2, 172 Flinders Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
ABN 94135844030 | info@leftright.org.au | www.leftright.org.au