

BULLDOG



NEWSLETTER OF THE CHURCHILL FELLOWS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
GPO Box 7244, GPO St Kilda Road, Melbourne 3008

Special Issue
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5th National Churchill Fellows' Convention

Melbourne, 22-24 October 2010



Rugged up for the Yarra River cruise—arrival Scienceworks

Convention Program

Friday, 22nd October

5:30pm—7:30pm

Welcome Reception

Government House

hosted by the Governor of Victoria, Dr David de Kretser AC

Saturday, 23rd October, 10:00am—4:30pm

Yarra River cruise

Southgate to Herring Island, Scienceworks and Planetarium

Speakers: Andrew Nixon, 2007 Fellow; Lou Chamberlin, 1992 Fellow; Adrian Panozzo, 2007 Fellow; Penny Stoyles, 2000 Fellow; Greg Williams, 2008 Fellow

National Convention Dinner

Jim Stynes Room, Melbourne Cricket Club

Sunday, 24th October

9:00am

Breakfast

Sit down breakfast in the City Watch House,
Old Melbourne Gaol

11:00am—3:00pm

Self-guided visits & tours

Immigration Museum

NGV—International

Victorian Arts Centre

Royal Botanic Gardens

Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne

Melbourne Museum

Old Melbourne Gaol

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

State Library of Victoria

5th National Churchill Fellows' Convention, 2010



Whilst camaraderie is defined as the spirit of friendly good-fellowship, a more apt description could include the Churchill Fellows National Convention. Held in Melbourne from October 22 to 24, the immediate sense of warmth and friendship was evident from the initial Friday night reception, through to the Sunday functions. Over 170 Fellows and their guests from Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom were most privileged to be invited to attend Government House on Friday night, where the Governor of Victoria, Dr David de Kretser AC and Mrs Jan de Kretser, welcomed the Fellows. Mr Robert Beggs AM, Chairman, Churchill Trust, Victorian Regional Committee spoke of the work of the Trust, and Dean Cox, 2005 Fellow entertained the audience with his review of his Fellowship and a fascinating history lesson of the use of slate roofing in Australia.



On arrival back on board Fellows were treated to morning tea, which included a range of cup cakes specially made by 2008 Churchill Fellow Gregory Williams. As the cruise continued back down river to our next destination, 2000 Fellow Penny Stoyles gave us an overview of her Fellowship and what awaited us at her workplace. On arrival at the Scienceworks and Planetarium we experienced the highlight of the trip - a look at the museums innovative displays, coupled with the viewing of a presentation at the Planetarium of our effect of global warming on our universe. On our trip home we were again entertained by 2008 Fellow Greg Williams, who impressed all with his cup cake decorating. Typically Melbourne, we arrived back at Southbank at 3.30pm to brilliant sunshine.



Melbourne's weather reputation was reaffirmed after having enjoyed a warm and sunny Friday, we awoke Saturday to a wet and cold morning, where Churchill Fellows and partners met at the Southbank wharf for a cruise on the Yarra River. The camaraderie was again evident as old acquaintances were renewed and new friendships developed. As our cruise was underway, our host for the day, 2005 Fellow Dean Cox then introduced local 2007 Churchill Fellow Andrew Nixon who gave us a short talk on his subject National Parks and Wildlife, followed by 1992 Fellow Lou Chamberlin, who gave us some background information on our first destination, Herring Island. The weather gods were smiling on the Fellows when, shortly before we disembarked on the island for a short walk in this Environmental and Sculpture Park, the rains cleared.





Dr D. Barry Appleton OAM



Geoff Wilkinson OAM



Shane Ringin, Convention Chair

The formal Dinner was held on Saturday night in the Jim Stynes room at the Melbourne Cricket Club, situated within the Melbourne Cricket Club. Jim Stynes is a 2006 Fellow, a former professional [Australian rules footballer](#) and chairman of [Melbourne Football Club](#). Dr D. Barry Appleton OAM, 1971 Fellow, National Chairman, Churchill Trust spoke of the legacy of Sir Winston Churchill and the work of the Trust. Geoff Wilkinson OAM, 1985 Fellow explained how his Fellowship led to the introduction of Crime stoppers throughout Australia. Tania de Jong AM, 1996 Fellow detailed her work with the underprivileged through song and then amazed the audience with a performance in company with her partner, Mr. Jonathan Morton, which also included a cameo performance by Robert Beggs and Michael Katz. Cricket Australia were also kind enough to schedule a limited over cricket match at the MCG between Victoria and Western Australia, which was won by WA, much to the delight of the WA contingent.

The final group event on Sunday morning saw Fellows venture back in time and enjoy a gourmet breakfast in the unique environment of the City Watch House, Old Melbourne Goal. The Watch house has been left in the exact condition of its last working day when it operated as Melbourne's central custody centre or 'holding place' for people arrested and awaiting trial from 1913 until 1994. After escaping from the watch house, Fellows undertook a self guided tour of Melbourne's museums and art galleries, which were hosted by the following Fellows;

- Immigration Museum,**
Host: Padmini Sebastian, 2000 Fellow
- NGV—International,**
Host: Henry Gaughan, 1991 Fellow
- Victorian Arts Centre,**
Host: Janine Barrand, 1999 Fellow
- Royal Botanic Gardens,**
Host: Richard Barley, 1999 Fellow
- Ian Potter Museum of Art,**
Host: Joanna Bosse, 2009 Fellow
- Bunjilarka, Melbourne Museum,**
Host: Caroline Martin, 2009 Fellow
- Old Melbourne Goal,**
Host: Diane Gardiner, 2002/1 Fellow
- Royal Historical Society of Victoria,**
Host: Kate Prinsley, 2009 Fellow
- State Library of Victoria,**
Host: Paula Kelly, 2008 Fellow



Tania de Jong and Mr. Jonathan Morton



Julie Rees passing 'the convention cigar' on to WA.

Yet again, the Churchill Fellows National Convention showcased a small selection of talented individuals bonded by membership to a very special club, that of Churchill Fellowships. The Churchill Fellows Association Victoria would like to thank all those who donated their time and effort in the organisation of the Convention, and we look forward to the hospitality of our friends in Western Australia, when they host the 2012 convention.

Shane Ringin
Chair 2010 National Convention Committee, Melbourne
CFAV President
2000 Churchill Fellow

Cruising down the Yarra

On a wet and cold Saturday morning, Churchill Fellows and partners met at the Southbank wharf for a cruise on the Yarra River.

The mood lifted as old acquaintances were renewed and new friends made. Led by our host CFAV President Shane Ringin, we boarded our vessel for the day and on entering the boat I immediately saw a bar lined with glasses of champagne, wine and beers and quickly checked my watch but decided it was too early to partake just yet, as did everyone else.

We commenced our cruise down the Yarra and were entertained by commentary from the boat's captain. He was very informative and pointed out places of interest as we passed by. He truly missed his calling in life, as he should have been a comedian as he had all the passengers in fits of laughter from the outset. Fellow Dean Cox then introduced local 2007 Churchill Fellow Andrew Nixon who gave us a short talk on his subject National Parks and Wildlife. We knew Andrew was a local as he was wearing a short sleeved shirt whilst us tourists were rugged up in jackets and scarves. 1992 Churchill Fellow Lou Chamberlin gave us some background information on Herring Island before we disembarked on the island for a short walk in this Environmental Park area.

On arrival back on board some 30 minutes later it was not too early now to have a champagne or two. There was also a range of cup cakes specially made by 2008 Churchill Fellow Gregory Williams and tea and coffee. As the cruise continued we socialised with other Fellows, enjoying the atmosphere and conviviality of the moment. As lunch time approached, we saw staff begin to assemble a large variety of food on several serving tables into a very impressive display. This was later followed up by a large range of desserts.

After lunch we arrived at the Scienceworks and Planetarium where we experienced the highlight of the trip - a visit to the Melbourne Sewerage Plant. We could peer into an opening and look down at the Melbourne sewerage travelling along a canal some 25 metres below. It fascinated some people but not others. At the Planetarium nearby we were treated to a spectacular show on the universe.

It was soon time to board our vessel again for the trip home and afternoon tea. During this time a presentation of cup cake decorating was given by Gregory Williams ably assisted by his apprentice, Danny. We arrived back at Southbank at 3.30pm. to brilliant sunshine. A most entertaining and pleasant trip was enjoyed by all.

Jim O'Donnell

1993 Churchill Fellow (Queensland)



Scienceworks



We began our visit with a most interesting excursion through Marvellous Smellbourne's Spotswood Pumping Station, where sewage was raised 25 metres from the underground sewers and then pumped to the Treatment Plant in Werribee from 1897 until the 1960s. The straining well attendant's job stirred our sympathy! Most observed today's sewage flowing under the site on its way to Brooklyn and the Western Treatment Plant at Werribee.

To then program an "afternoon rest" was a stroke of genius! In darkness under the 16-metre diameter dome, relaxing in comfortable, fully reclining seats, and ordered to desist from conversing, we were given the opportunity to recharge our batteries. This was a siesta with a difference as we were treated to the latest Planetarium show - Our Living Climate, a visually spectacular story, while we lay back. To then watch the October night sky in astonishing detail was a grand finale to our Scienceworks visit.

Ross Squire

Churchill Fellow 1976 (Victoria)