



From the President

It is a great honour to have been elected to serve as President of the CFAV, particularly

at a time when there is so much to celebrate within the Victorian Churchill Fellows' community.

Having reached the significant milestone of fifty years since the Trust's inception, one is compelled perhaps more so than usual to consider the incalculable legacy that Churchill Fellowships have wrought within our society and reflect upon the extraordinary life of the man in whose memory the Churchill Trust was established.

For every New Fellow and their guests, the awards ceremony at Government House is a special occasion to be remembered for a lifetime. This year's ceremony was particularly special, as the 2015 Churchill Fellowships were presented by Victoria's first female Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AM. Awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 1994, Her Excellency assured the 2015 Fellows in her opening remarks that she was just as excited as they were when presented with her Fellowship at Government House by the then Governor McGarvie.

Having subsequently served on the Trust's Victorian Regional selection panels and then as Chair of the Victorian Regional Committee, Her Excellency also



October 2015

observed that she had been privileged to experience Churchill Fellowship awards ceremonies from various vantages within the State Drawing Room and was delighted to be presenting the awards to the 2015 Fellows in her new role as Governor of Victoria.

At the 2015 New Fellows' Dinner and AGM we had the pleasure of hearing from this year's Fellows and catching up with old friends. We were reminded of the significance of this 50th anniversary year and provided with an overview of national events to mark the occasion by Paul Tys, CEO Churchill Trust.

We also warmly welcomed Dr Jane Munro, 2003 Fellow, as the new Chair, Victorian Regional Committee. The large number of Churchill Fellows in attendance, including Ron Reid, 1967 Fellow and Joyce McGrath, 1968 Fellow and treasured guests including Elvie Mundy, is testament to the strength of our Association and the efforts of the CFAV Committee in organising these memorable nights.

The New Fellows' Workshop was well attended by many New Fellows the following morning and ran like clockwork thanks to the years of experience and effort made by Dean Cox, 2005 Fellow and his wife Maree as well as the contributions of Chelsea Roffey, 2014 Fellow; Jennifer Bowles, 2014 Fellow; Chris Mercier, 2013 Fellow and Gary Ryan, 2013 Fellow. Also well received were anecdotes and advice to New Fellows from CFAV Committee Members Julie Rees, 2002 Fellow and Anne Hooker, 2007 Fellow.

The CFAV's workplace visits continue to be well attended, with a visit to Port Phillip Prison recently gaining much interest, thanks largely to the excellent organisation and efforts of its Youth Development Officer, Anne Hooker. The CFAV Committee are keen to organise a visit to some of our rural Fellows in 2016 and look forward to liaising with CFAV members in both regional and metropolitan areas to produce a list of potential locations and gauge interest from Fellows in attending future workplace visits.

On the national scale, it was a great pleasure to recently attend the 7th National Convention in Sydney and to see some familiar faces from Victoria. The Churchill Fellows' Association of NSW in liaison with the Trust organised a wonderful series of events to showcase the beauty and history of Sydney. Of special note at the 50th anniversary dinner in the Stranger's Dining Room at Parliament House was a video message from Randolph Churchill, great-grandson of Sir Winston and the launch of 'Inspiring Australians – the first fifty years of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust', written by Penelope Hanley and launched by Geraldine Doogue, 2000 Fellow. Other highlights included a welcome reception at Government House, talks and tours and an emergency services display with presentations by numerous Fellows.

On the local front, the CFAV Committee has organised an event to mark the Trust's 50th anniversary at the State Library Victoria. This event to be held in late November will include the launch of interviews of selected Fellows to be broadcast online as part of the Trust's ongoing promotion of Churchill Fellowships in Australia.

In addition to this year's events I am looking forward to working with the CFAV Committee to investigate new ways to engage and support our urban and rural Fellows. The new CFAV website will provide an excellent opportunity to gauge your interest in attending events such as business breakfasts, or participating in a mentoring program. Stay tuned for an update on the launch of the new website next year!

When considering the amount of time and effort contributed by previous CFAV committees to countless

Fellow's events and meetings over previous decades, it is no small wonder that as President, I inherited six cardboard boxes of minute books, files, papers and photos! The CFAV Committee has embarked on an archival project to conserve important historic hard-copy material and create electronic scanned copies of other key documents. Part of the archival project involves cataloging, scanning and saving hard-copy back-issues of 'The Bulldog' into the CFAV's online GoogleDocs account. These will then be made available via the revamped CFAV website which is expected to be launched in early-mid 2016.

With so many events and activities organised throughout the year by the CFAV Committee, the time has also come to conserve the hard-won knowledge of its 'brains trust' and faithfully map and document the myriad tasks performed by various committee members across the year in an Operations Manual. This will enable future committee members to quickly understand and perform those tasks that keep our events on track.

In closing, I would like to thank Murray Ashby for his considerable efforts during his term as President and Shane Ringin for his ongoing support as Treasurer of the CFAV. I also thank new office-bearers Andrew Nixon as Secretary and Anne Hooker as President-Elect. It's a pleasure to serve on the committee with the ebullient Julie Rees, Jenny Dwyer, Dean Cox and Haig Burnell around the table. It's also great to have Daphne Cheah back on the committee and I welcome Martin Hardy and Leanne Hodyl as our new committee members.

The CFAV is arguably one of the strongest associations of its kind within Australia and I look forward to working with the committee and our wider membership during the next two years to continue supporting the legacy of Churchill Fellowships within Victoria.

Ben Nicholson
CFAV President
2008 Fellow

Comment from Churchill House



As Chief Executive Officer of The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, I am delighted to comment in this edition of Bulldog and specifically to make a few comments on the Trust's 50th Anniversary activities. 2015 is a very special year for the Trust!

A number of Churchill Trust Anniversaries during our fifty year history have already been commemorated. These have included the award of the 1000th Churchill Fellowship in 1982 when a Celebration Dinner was held in Melbourne along with the production of a special publication. The Silver Jubilee of the Trust in 1990 was commemorated by another speciality publication.

In 2005 the Trust celebrated its 40th Anniversary and the 3000th Churchill Fellowship was awarded. A special 40th Anniversary Annual Report was produced to commemorate this occasion, 40th Anniversary Fellowships were awarded and the 3000th Churchill Fellow was especially recognised. During this 50th Anniversary year, the Trust is doing much more to commemorate this significant milestone.

The Trust has recently awarded another 109 Churchill Fellowships for the 2015 application round taking our overall total of Fellowships awarded to over 4,000 (4,031 to be precise) during this our 50th Anniversary year.

Publications dealing with the Trust, and which relate specifically to the Trust's history, have also been published. These include an account of the *Churchill Fellows from 1966 – 1977* and the history of the first 20 years of the Trust, *A Perpetual Trust* (both written by Margaret Auchmuty).

These publications were out of print and only a handful of the originals existed. As a result, these two publications have been recently reprinted and are now combined into a single very impressive volume. This publication is now available for purchase through the Trust's website.

The Trust also tasked Dr Penelope Hanley to write the history of the Trust. Her book has a strong focus on the contribution Fellows have made to Australian society over the past fifty years. The Trust is also extremely

grateful and fortunate, that an important introductory chapter for the book has been written by Mr Graham Freudenberg, who is the acknowledged expert on Churchill and Australia. An excerpt from this chapter is published in the Trust's latest Annual Report.

Dr Hanley's book will serve as a public record of the stewardship of the Trust over the fifty year period. Her book was published and launched at the 50th Anniversary National Convention Dinner in Sydney, and is also available through the Trust's website. The National Convention was the Churchill Trust's 50th Anniversary signature commemorative event and was held over three days from 9 – 11 October 2015.

For the 50th Anniversary two overriding themes are the focus for the Trust's commemorative activities. These are:

- Theme one; the 50th Anniversary of the Formation of the Trust (1965-2015), and
- Theme two; the 50th Anniversary of the First Fellows Travelling (1966-2016).

By recognising these two themes the primary focus of the Anniversary activities, with the emphasis on Churchill and the Churchill Fellows, will be addressed. Commemorative events will, therefore, carry over into the first half of 2016.

The commemorative activities will be designed to showcase the Trust, the Churchill Fellows, the Churchill Fellows' Associations and what the Trust has achieved in Australia. The overall aim is to increase the general public awareness of the Trust and for it to be recognised as an institution of influence. The Victorian CFA has already had approved a plan which covers these themes.

In my time as CEO, I have commented that we must not forget the namesake of the Churchill Trust, Sir Winston Churchill, the individual. The Trust, after all, was established to commemorate and honour his memory and to send Australians overseas as Fellows – and in Churchill's name - to acquire knowledge for the benefit of Australia. There is also the somewhat understandable view that with the passage of time, fewer Australians will be aware of Churchill or of the qualities that made him such a great statesman and arguably the most influential individual of the last century.

I no longer think, that in Churchill's case, this last view is likely to materialise. In the Freudenberg chapter mentioned above, Freudenberg writes that Winston Churchill's reputation, like his career, had more ups and downs than most great figures in history. With the exception perhaps of Abraham Lincoln, the significance of Churchill's achievement is renewed with each change in historical perspective, and with each new setting of the human condition. This is mainly because he was so gloriously right on the One Big Thing when it counted most, at a supreme crisis for civilization. It is especially this last sentence which will ensure that Churchill's name and reputation lives on and in fact will continue to grow in stature.

Each year I always say to the new Churchill Fellows, prepare yourself for a life changing experience and embrace all the richness that the Fellowship offers. You have an opportunity to investigate the best ideas in the world, to do things you never thought possible and to meet people who inspire you in your chosen field. A Churchill Fellowship catapults you into a position to contribute to our country – few people have that opportunity and I urge you to grab it and make the most of it! As Churchill said in 1908, 'What is the use of living, if it be not to strive for noble causes and to make this muddled world a better place for those who will live in it after we have gone.' What a wonderful rule of life for Churchill Fellows to emulate.

Let all of us anticipate a splendid 50th Anniversary year and look forward to the next fifty years.

Paul Tys
Chief Executive Officer
Winston Churchill Memorial Trust



Inspiring Australians: The First 50 years of The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

"A good story deepens the heart."

For fifty years The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust has been enabling Australians from all walks of life to travel and study overseas and to enrich their communities by what they have learned. *Inspiring Australians* tells the story of the Churchill Trust and the travels and achievements of selected Churchill Fellows.

Interviews with Churchill Fellows from the last five decades give insights into the lives of men and women who have followed their passions, and changed their own lives and the lives of others for the better. These stories of enthusiastic and dedicated people demonstrate some of the benefits brought to Australian society by The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

Acclaimed author Dr Penelope Hanley has written a compelling book profiling some of the extraordinary Fellows who have become part of Churchill's living legacy in Australia. *Inspiring Australians* tells the story of some of the 4000 Churchill Fellows who have been awarded over the fifty year history of the Churchill Trust. The introductory chapter has been written by Graham Freudenberg, the acknowledged expert on Churchill and Australia.

"A Churchill Fellowship is the research and travel opportunity of a lifetime, and serves to both improve both an individual and their community," said Trust CEO, Paul Tys. The Trust was established after a groundswell of gratitude and remarkable generosity by Australians that followed after the death of Sir Winston Churchill. The Trust awards more than one hundred fellowships to Australians every year".

"This book catalogues some of these extraordinary people and their achievements, to raise Australia's awareness of the vast achievements and opportunities a Churchill Fellowship offers and continues to provide to our country."

Available for \$36.95 from
www.churchilltrust.com.au/shop

fellowship passion opportunity



Introducing Dr Jane Munro

Victorian Director & Regional Chair

DR JANE MUNRO
MBBS (Hons) FRACP MPH

Paediatric Rheumatologist

On behalf of the CFAV we welcome the appointment of Dr Jane Munro as the Victorian Director for The Trust, and Chair of the Victorian Regional Committee.

Dr Munro is a Paediatric Rheumatologist with a special interest in Pain Medicine. Jane is the Head of the Rheumatology Unit at the Royal Children's Hospital and Group Leader of the Rheumatology research group and Senior Research Fellow at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Jane is undertaking research in Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, childhood rheumatic diseases and paediatric pain management.

Jane grew up in Melbourne and completed her medical degree at Monash University with Honours. She then completed her training as a Paediatrician at the Royal Children's Hospital along with a Masters of Public Health and training in Pain Medicine. Jane did Paediatric Rheumatology training at the Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Medical Centre.

In 2004, Jane was awarded a Churchill Trust Fellowship and travelled to the leading Paediatric Hospitals internationally. She then undertook at National Institute of Clinical Studies Fellowship with a focus on improving clinical care.

Jane was the national Chair of the Australian Paediatric Rheumatology Group (2010-2015), is on the Clinical Leadership Group (Musculoskeletal) for the Victorian Government Health Minister and past Chair of the Victorian Paediatric State Committee. Jane has an ongoing involvement in teaching medical students and trainee paediatricians as well as her paediatrician colleagues.



Jane has a broad range of clinical interests in both inflammatory and autoimmune diseases as well as non-inflammatory and painful conditions. She specialises in Juvenile Arthritis, connective tissue diseases such as Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (Lupus), Dermatomyositis, and vasculitis. Non-inflammatory musculoskeletal pains including mechanical joint pains, growth related problems and sports injuries as well as chronic pain, chronic fatigue, hypermobility and complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS).

When not at work Jane loves being with her husband and three primary school aged children, reading, planning events and trips, exercising and cooking.



PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

The 50th anniversary of the death of Sir Winston Churchill gives us pause to reflect on the man who at times seemed larger than life and left an indelible imprint on world history.

Sir Winston was of a generation that knew hardship, and whose stoicism we can only admire.

The man himself would tell you he was not perfect; his defeats are as well documented as his successes.

But, in his own words ‘Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts’.

Winston Churchill knew that lessons born of failure were the most fertile if you had the humility to embrace them; he knew the value of learning.

It was only fitting that a memorial to him should be devoted to such a noble pursuit. Churchill Fellows across the globe continue to honour his legacy.

Almost 4000 of Australia’s best, most inquiring minds have now gone out into the world to expand their understanding of a diverse range of subjects—from Baroque music and credit card fraud to palliative care and domestic violence.

More importantly, they have come back and shared their newfound knowledge with Australia.

I thank all those who commit to continued learning and I thank the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for supporting an initiative which engages and enlightens and, as such, can only be for the national good.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister of Australia

15 October 2015

2015 Churchill Fellows Congratulations



Jacqueline	Anders	Manager, Student Engagement, Education Justice Initiative	Parkville College	The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship to investigate effective approaches to re-engaging youth offenders with education - Denmark, UK, USA
David	Barnard	Head of Music	State Opera of South Australia	The Mr and Mrs Gerald Frank New Churchill Fellowship to undertake professional development as a Head of Music and Opera Repetiteur - Germany, France, Italy
Erin	Bromfield	Protection Visa Case Officer	Department of Immigration and Border Protection	To study approaches for assessing gender-based claims for refugee status put forward by women - Belgium, USA, Indonesia
Jonathan	Craven	Agribusiness Manager	Gippsland Water	To investigate effective recycling of urban and agricultural wastes to provide positive outcomes for agriculture - Israel, Austria, Germany, Netherlands, UK, USA, Canada
Emma	Crimmings	Director	Gertrude Contemporary	To research innovative and successful artists residency programs to apply in an Australian context - Canada, USA, Hong Kong, Germany, Netherlands, UK

2015 Churchill Fellows Congratulations

Mary	Delahunty	General Manager - Business Development	HESTA Industry Superannuation Fund	To investigate campaigns for gender equity reforms in international retirement systems - Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, France, USA, Chile
Thomas	Duff	Postdoctoral Research Fellow	University of Melbourne	The Lord Mayor's Bushfire Appeal Churchill Fellowship to investigate examples of extreme fire behaviour to improve the Australian bushfire model - UK, Portugal, USA
Michelle	Enbom	Disability Unit Coordinator	G4S Custodial Services Pty Ltd	To learn new ways to manage intellectually disabled offenders including transition to the community - Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, UK, USA
Kate	Fitz-Gibbon	Lecturer in Criminology	Deakin University	The Peter Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to examine innovative legal responses to intimate homicide - UK, USA, Canada
Simon	Lewis	Chief Executive Officer	Onemda Association	To explore short term live-in intensive models for intellectually disabled students - Canada, USA, Peru
Emma	Littleton	Senior Solicitor/Northern Region Unit Manager	Department of Health and Human Services	To investigate ways in which medicinal cannabis is regulated for the treatment of seriously ill children - USA, Netherlands, Spain, Italy
Phoebe-Anne	Mainland	Specialist Anaesthetist	Alfred Health	To enhance the safety of Australian patients by reducing misconceptions between medical devices - UK, USA
Nick	McKenzie	Investigative Reporter	Fairfax Media	To improve Australia's fight against bribery of foreign officials and asset seizure regime - USA, UK, Ireland
Jane	Melville	Senior Curator of Terrestrial Vertebrates	Museum Victoria	The Australian Biological Resources Study Churchill Fellowship to advance Australian taxonomic research by integrating genomics and micro-CT with traditional techniques - Germany, Austria, Sweden, UK

2015 Churchill Fellows Congratulations

Tom	Noble	Media Director	Ambulance Victoria	The Sir William Kilpatrick Churchill Fellowship to improve the awareness, availability and use of Automatic External Defibrillators - Netherlands, Denmark, UK, USA
Karrina	Nolan	Consultant	Oxfam/Australian Youth Climate Coalition	To enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's leadership capacity and engagement in community and civic life - Canada, USA
Jim	Pavlidis	Artist	The Age	To explore the latest developments in combining modern techniques with stone lithographic printmaking - France
Deanne	Riddington	Manager, Nursing Education Centre	St Vincent's Hospital	The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship to build upon the pilot Aboriginal Graduate Nurse Program at St Vincent's Hospital - New Zealand, USA, Canada
Murray	Robinson	Manager Client Services, Secure Services	Department of Health and Human Services	To examine trauma-informed models of youth detention - USA, Norway, Netherlands
Pamela	Ross	Grade 4 Senior Occupational Therapist	Epworth Healthcare	To investigate driving simulator use in assessment and rehabilitation of disabled and older drivers - Netherlands, France, Switzerland, USA, Canada
Stefano	Scalzo	Principal Architect	Lyons	To research the design of high amenity mental health facilities built over multiple levels - Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, France, Spain, USA, Canada
Claire	Seppings	Social Worker	Department of Human Services	To study the rehabilitative role of ex-prisoners/offenders as peer mentors in reintegration models - UK, Ireland, Sweden, USA
Steven	Wells	Gardens & Grounds Project Officer, Horticultural Therapist, Registered Nurse	Austin Health	To research the development, use and management of therapeutic gardens within healthcare settings - Singapore, UK, USA

Forensic investigators: Fellows who have carved a career in criminology.

the severity of their actions.”

“The Ramage case confused me and it aroused my interest in how the courts work — or don’t work.”

In her honours year, Fitz-Gibbon looked at sentencing judgments against men who killed their wives. She is currently researching one-punch homicide cases and the law’s response to such killings.

Her research has taken her across Australia, to the US and the UK, where she has interviewed defence and prosecution lawyers and judges.

“I think criminologists have a responsibility to ensure the law is working as intended and is resulting in just outcomes for victims and offenders. I’m in a privileged position to have a seat at that table and to play a small role in influencing some of those laws.”



THE CRIMINOLOGIST

2015 Fellow—Dr Kate Fitz-Gibbon (Above), is a Deakin University criminologist. Her research delves into the law’s response to violent crime, such as one-punch homicides, and examines how the law responds to victims and offenders.

AFTER leaving high school, Kate Fitz-Gibbon thought she’d be an actor and enrolled in an arts degree. With an elective to fill, she chose criminology and gradually the subject took over.

“I did lots of acting as a kid and went to drama school at weekends,” Fitz-Gibbon says. “Acting was a massive passion — but as a kid I also read a lot of true crime books.”

She remembers reading media coverage of the killing of Julie Ramage by her husband, James, and the resulting legal case where, at times, the victim appeared to be blamed for contributing to her own death.

“It was so skewed. Julie was put on trial and I didn’t understand why when he had killed her. But there was this reporting of events in the media that made her look at fault. I was naive about the criminal justice system and that case shocked me. I thought if someone killed their wife, they would go through the justice system and be convicted of murder and get a sentence that reflected

THE FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGIST

2013 Fellow—Dr Soren Blau (Below), was an archaeologist but, fascinated by the stories to be told by human remains, she became a forensic anthropologist. She analyses human remains, especially bones, to help police identify victims of crime and to find out how they may have died.

SOREN Blau imagined she’d spend her life as an archaeologist, travelling the world and working on historic digs. At an ancient site in Israel she was involved in the recovery of a cemetery and has had a fascination with human remains since. She has spent 10 years as a forensic anthropologist at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine.



“I look at the recovery and analysis of remains that are believed to be human,” Blau says. “I might go to a scene

where police think someone has been buried and my skill is to understand what happens to an environment when someone digs a hole or when a body is exposed, in terms of scavenging and weathering. But I may also look at remains found in a house or washed up on a beach."

Blau will look at a skeleton or remains to help identify the age and sex of a victim and any trauma they may have suffered.

"I've worked on missing persons cases and it's rewarding then to help give families some closure about the fate of a loved one."

She also remembers one of her more complex cases — an apparent motor vehicle accident where the vehicle was burned and a person inside the car died.

"An autopsy was carried out and the person was buried with the cause of death as a motor vehicle accident following the effects of fire. But police then got information that aroused suspicion and the person was exhumed. Their skull was very fragmentary and there was a question around a particular fracture on a fragment.

"I pieced the cranium together and it became clear the individual had a very circular defect at the back of the head that wasn't an effect of the fire or accident. I felt the deceased had been involved in some kind of altercation. Later in court the wife of the deceased pleaded guilty to hitting her husband on the back of his head and staging the accident.

"The job isn't for everybody and sometimes I'm struck by the awful capacity of what people can do to each other. But my job doesn't affect me outside of my workplace — my children make sure of that."

THE MAGISTRATE

2014 Fellow— Jennifer Bowles (Right), Is a Magistrate at the Melbourne Children's Court, whose research to review options for residential therapeutic treatment for young people suffering substance abuse/mental illness took her to New Zealand, the UK and Sweden



According to Ms Bowles, drug-addicted teenagers should be required to live in rehabilitation centres, with the current system failing to help many of the state's most vulnerable get clean.

Children's Court Magistrate Jennifer Bowles realised how little she could do to help such children when confronted by the mother of teenager Greg,* who had tried and failed six times to complete a voluntary drug treatment program. In open court, the mother asked the Magistrate some years ago: "What can you do? I am watching my son die before my eyes."

"And all I had after the voluntary de-tox had not worked was 'We can detain him in custody'. And when it's a health issue, it's not a punitive response that we'd like," Ms Bowles said.

Last year, she travelled on a Churchill fellowship to Sweden, where children can be ordered to live in secure homes to treat their drug problems and mental illnesses. Ms Bowles said such therapeutic facilities were urgently needed in Victoria for children aged about 13 to 17 who were often abused or, like Greg, self-medicating their mental illnesses. "We'd like to be able to have somewhere to treat (children like Greg) with specialists ... to try to work out the underlying issues for why young people are using substances."

In her fellowship report *What can be done?* she said, "These young people will lead the most damaged lives and be the most resource-intensive unless their needs can be addressed now."

Currently, magistrates can order children to attend treatment for drug and alcohol problems and mental health issues, which can include weekly counselling sessions. But because these rehabilitation facilities are voluntary, children cannot be compelled to attend them, and often struggle to do so. Ideally, Ms Bowles said that children in different age groups would be separated, with specialist help to move back into the community as soon as possible. The court would also monitor their treatment to protect them from potential abuse while they were inside.

While Ms Bowles stressed that she was not critical of voluntary facilities, without "radical" change, she said the system risked perpetuating harm. Almost 90 per cent of young people in custody have a history of alcohol and/or drug misuse and 59 per cent have a history of being in child protection. "We have to do something to stop this cycle because some of my colleagues ... have seen nearly three generations of parents coming through our court," she said.

Ms Bowles understood the community's reluctance to contain children but said this would be a last resort for those who could not benefit from voluntary treatment: "Their lives are really tragic and they're not only hurting their own health, they're limiting their options for the rest of their futures. I really worry about where they're going to end up."

A spokeswoman for Families and Children Minister Jenny Mikakos said: "The Minister will soon be meeting with Magistrate Bowles and looks forward to discussing her report and recommendations then."

THE POLICE OFFICER

Superintendent Pat Boyle APM MA (2004 Fellow) liaised with law enforcement agencies who were experiencing criminal gang problems with a view to developing bi-partisan community/policing strategies to prevent the further entrenchment of criminal gangs in Victoria. On 29 October 2015 Pat graduated from Monash University, having completed Master of Education researching street gangs.

It sounded as if firecrackers were being let off in Chinatown. But when the noise stopped, two men lay bleeding on the footpath. Two groups of Asian men had spilt from nightclubs into the street and the writhing mass was dispersed only by the gunshots.

It was 2002 and, after going through the fingerprint dust, statements from Russell Street bouncers and hours of CCTV footage, the then head of the Asian crime squad, Pat Boyle, reached a disturbing conclusion: Melbourne street gangs were becoming more violent and could no longer be ignored.

Two reprisals over three months, including the shooting of a 17-year-old who survived two bullets to the head only because a car windscreen slowed them, reinforced his view.

The first challenge was for the authorities to acknowledge there was even a problem. Today, says Detective Superintendent Boyle: "Victoria Police is not in denial about gang presence." He admits it was different in the past. "Yes, we were evasive, I think. But we're not now."

The next step, Boyle realised, was to work out the parameters of a phenomenon whose boundaries remained indistinct at best. A gang could be simply defined as a group who identified with each other and were involved in criminality. But how did that definition fit Victoria?

Boyle set out to find the answers. In the 10 years since the Chinatown shootings, he has become familiar with the bloodthirsty Los Angeles-formed Mara Salvatrucha, the tattoo-faced Mongrel Mob from New Zealand and the US-wannabe gangsters found in London.

But what soon became clear was that none of those gangs explained what he was seeing in Victoria: groups who had formed because of government housing clusters in their neighbourhood, for example, rather than being born into gangs that had existed for decades, as was happening in California. The shape of these groups has also mutated over time.



Today, Boyle says, there remain issues with Asian and Middle Eastern gangs, forged after large-scale migration in the 1970s and '80s, who have now become major players in more serious crimes such as drug trafficking. There are also criminal groups who disappear as quickly as police realise they exist, described by Boyle as "gang today, gone tomorrow".

But of growing concern, he says, is the emergence of a new generation of gangs, often involving Pacific Islander or African youths, who, under a guise of robbery, bash strangers for kicks.

While that night in Chinatown was vicious, with both men narrowly escaping with their lives, at least the violence had an internal logic, albeit ugly. Last month, eight Islander teenagers as young as 14 were charged over a spate of robberies and bashings of taxi drivers. "All you can put that down to is recreational violence," Boyle says. "There's no reasoning behind it. The objective is to do what they wanted to do, steal an item. For them to still assault them afterwards just doesn't make sense."

Local community leaders are also concerned. While some dispute the notion of organised gangs and object to the labelling of young people as gang members, they see an escalating problem. Abeselom Nega, who works with young refugees, particularly Africans, says he was recently shown Victoria Police data demonstrating that African and Pacific Islander youth are over-represented in the crime rates.

Pacific Islander community leader Ikani Taliai has already seen too many young people fall into street gangs.

"These kids see a gang as their new form of community. They don't fit into their parents' community and they don't fit into the Australian community. It's as simple and as complex as that," he says.

Taliai, from the United Pasifika Council of Victoria, a body designed to bring together registered Maori and Pacific Islander community groups, thinks some Islanders have already graduated from street crime to organised crime.

"It's reached a critical mass now. You can't ignore the fact that the focus has now been put on our communities for a negative," Taliai says. "Because of these issues around violent crime, it's bubbled up. If it's left to fester, you will end up with serious organised crime."

Boyle was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 2004 to study Asian crime. To some youths, he says, the appeal of belonging - and being seen to belong - to a gang is clear. "A gang leads to sex, drugs, rock'n'roll. It leads to things you wouldn't normally get access to."

He hopes his research project will not only define street gangs in Victoria for the first time, but also help police stop their spread, both through providing better criminal intelligence and a foundation for community or proactive policing.

He has interviewed 35 Victorian police about their experiences for his Monash University master's thesis, to be completed in March, and hopes to speak to many more.

Among themes he has identified are an obsession with US gang culture, from the wearing of the red and blue of feuding LA gangs the Bloods and Crips, to spraying 187 - the penal code for homicide in California - on walls.

The suburbs where gangs are most prominent, such as Footscray, Sunshine, St Albans, Broadmeadows, Springvale and Dandenong, have long battled with youth crime, partly, Boyle says, because they remain primary locations for the settlement of migrants and refugees. Their streets are filled with poverty, uncertainty and other youths in similar situations.

But it is also from these streets that solutions are growing, with police and community leaders coming together to try to tackle some of the causes of the violence.

Criminologist Greg Martin blames the media for the often hysterical reaction that leads to any group of young people being labelled a gang. Dr Martin, who has researched crime gangs in Britain and is now based at the University of Sydney, says Boyle's thesis, in an area short on research, may debunk those perceptions. "If we can understand more at the grassroots level about youth crime and gangs, it can lead to better relationships with police and early intervention, rather than youth crime being such a politically charged issue."

Boyle says perceiving gangs as solely the domain of migrants and refugees from Melbourne's down-and-out neighbourhoods is also misguided. He speaks about a former gang formed by well-educated white kids from the middle-upper class in Caulfield, who evolved to far more serious offending than their counterparts from poorer suburbs.

He also cautions against assuming Melbourne is awash with roaming posses intent on unbridled chaos. "Yes, we've had some bad activities happening in Melbourne, but it doesn't mean we've got mayhem. Not even close," Boyle says.

"To the extent that there are absolute no-go zones, you can't compare the back streets of Melbourne to the back streets of LA. We'd be laughed at. They would think this is a sanctuary."

SMARTtimbers

Andrew Lang 2012 Fellow - Private Forestry timber marketing, value adding and sustainable management certification in North America, Europe, Scandinavia and Japan

**Vice President and board member World Bioenergy Association,
Chairman SMARTtimbers Cooperative
Secretary Farm Forest Growers Victoria**

During my Churchill Fellowship in 2003 I visited ten countries in ten weeks looking at how forestry cooperatives were managed. This included up to a week in each of Canada, USA, Ireland, Bavaria, Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Japan. I was a director of a new farm forestry cooperative in Victoria that had started up to manage the value-adding of farm grown timber, but we could find no Australian model of how best to go about managing the cooperative and marketing the timber.

We only knew the path was most precarious, and that most cooperatives die young. Partly due to information gathered during my Churchill Fellowship the cooperative has achieved its aims and survives to this day, contributing information to farm forestry growers across Australia, and to state and federal government policy makers.

I had come to the end of this fruitful, stimulating and enjoyable Churchill Fellowship trip having learned much useful information. But I had also become aware of other subjects that needed exploring, other questions needing to be asked and where some places were that could supply answers. I had developed many useful contacts, and a knowledge of which countries provide models Australia could adapt. I made two more trips in 2005 and 2006, raising the funding from various state and federal sources. This time I concentrated mainly on the area of northern Europe, and several states in northern USA.

The climate change debate was beginning and what I had learned of biomass to energy in Scandinavia looked very appropriate to Australia. Frustratingly, there appeared to be no Australian state or federal policy recognition of this.

In 2008 I was awarded a Gottstein Fellowship to study the economics and logistics of energy from woody biomass, and the underpinning policies in Denmark, Sweden and Finland.



My established contacts helped me set up appointments with people in relevant government departments and research organisations. Because of this trip I became an interim board member of the newly formed World Bioenergy Association.

This role over the last few years has taken me to conferences, study trips and forums in China, Sweden, Bali, Malaysia, Zambia, Brazil, Turkey and the USA. All these have equipped me with extra information to bring back to state and federal policy makers in the areas of sustainable agriculture, farm forestry, carbon sequestration policies and bioenergy.

I feel the outcomes of my 2003 Fellowship are very much in line with what the Churchill Trust's philosophy and objectives are. Useful and timely information has come back to Australia that could help our national development in this area (given political interest).

It has certainly taken me into a new and stimulating role in life that I had not anticipated, and that has real potential value for Australia. As part of this it has brought me into contact with many interesting and committed people here and overseas. That it has meant sleepless intercontinental flights followed by days of jet lag a few times a year is the only minor downside.

Andrew Lang (2012 Fellow)



Churchill Fellows'
Association of Victoria
requests the pleasure of
your company at the

50th Anniversary Celebration Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Promotional Screening

Thursday 26 November 2015

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

State Library of Victoria

Red Rotunda

328 Swanston Street, Melbourne

(Cnr Latrobe Street)

RSVP info@churchillfellowsvic.org.au

Friday 13 November 2015

Phone **Shane Ringin**
0411 350 217

Dress **Business Attire**

Public transport

- Train – Melbourne Central station is directly opposite the Library's Swanston Street entrance. Country travellers can transfer to metropolitan trains at Southern Cross or North Melbourne stations.
- Tram – there are tram stops near our entrances on Swanston Street and La Trobe Street
- Bus – the nearest stops are in Lonsdale, Russell and Exhibition streets

Car

The Library doesn't have on-site parking, but there is paid street parking on La Trobe Street and several pay car parks close by, including at Melbourne Central and QV. There are three parking spaces for people with a disability permit in La Trobe Street.

fellowship passion opportunity



Ben Nicholson, President (2006)
Murray Ashby, Past President (1999)
Andrew Nixon, Secretary (2008)
Shane Ringin, Treasurer (2000)
Anne Hooker President Elect (2007)

Haig Burnell (2011)
Daphne Cheah (2002)
Dean Cox (2005)
Jenny Dwyer (2005)
Leanne Hodyl (2014)
Julie Rees (2002)
Martin Hardy (2008)

Bulldog, CFAV Newsletter Editor
Shane Ringin

info@churchillfellowsvic.org.au



Contributions to the newsletter most welcome. Let us know about your achievements and keep your fellow Fellows informed.

info@churchillfellowsvic.org.au



50th Anniversary Celebration
Thursday 26 November 2015

CFAV 2016 Medallion Dinner
& CFAV AGM

TBC: August 2016

2016 New Fellows Dinner
TBC: February 2017

NOTE: As all future Fellowships will be awarded by the Trust in the November of each year, the New Fellows Dinner for 2016 Fellows will be held in February 2017.

The date will not be finalised until the Governor has confirmed her availability.

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHURCHILL
FELLOWS' ASSOCIATION OF
VICTORIA

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