

# BULLDOG



CHURCHILL FELLOWS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA NEWSLETTER  
GPO Box 7244, GPO St Kilda Road, Melbourne 3008 [www.churchillfellowsvic.org.au](http://www.churchillfellowsvic.org.au)

September 2010

## 19 Victorians awarded Churchill Fellowships



2010 Churchill Fellowship recipients or their representatives gathered on the steps of Government House after the award ceremony with (3rd from left) Miss Elizabeth Alexander AM, Churchill Trust National President, Mrs Jan de Kretser, Professor David de Kretser AC, Governor of Victoria and Mr Robert Biggs AM, Chairman, Churchill Trust Victorian Regional committee.

Photography: Tegan Ringin

# From the President

Recently I was fortunate to meet Dr Peter Ellyard, a Futurist, who theorised that we are moving into a future social model of Spaceship Earth. He theorised that the Spaceship Earth culture of the future will be inhabited increasingly by Cosmonauts, and less by Cowboys. He explained that the Cowboy Culture (or Modernism theory) gives priority to the nation through individualism, Autocracy and humanity against nature.

The Spaceship Earth culture on the other hand is about priority to the planet, and involves Democracy, Humanity as part of nature, sustainability and gender equality. He explained that Cosmonauts were change agents and innovators and therefore to remain a Cowboy in a cosmonaut 21<sup>st</sup> century would ensure failure. He argued that societies that encourage Cowboys, and discourage Cosmonauts, were doomed.

As I listened to Dr Ellyard I could not help but reflect that the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust could be considered a part of Australia's space program, in that by awarding Fellowships, it is allowing our Fellows to become Cosmonauts and future leaders; to pursue innovation and encourage change for the better; and for that we should be grateful.

July was another great month with 19 new Fellows (Cosmonauts!) being awarded 2010 Churchill Fellowships. Those Fellows who attended the AGM at Bayview Eden received their annual fill of optimism when the new Fellows shared with us their projects and the outcomes that they planned to achieve after completing their Fellowships. We all welcomed the new Fellows, and also shared in the accomplishment of those 2009 Fellows, who having completed their investigations and obligations to the Trust by submitting their final reports, were awarded their medallions.

The AGM was also a time to thank the CFAV committee members for their continued efforts in running the Association. Dianne Lightfoot stood down from the committee as she has taken up a position with the World Health Organisation in Manila, and we wish her well in her new position. We also welcomed two new committee persons, being Xenia Hanusiak (1998 Fellow) and Paula Kelly (2008 Fellow)

October promises to be an exciting month, with CFAV hosting the National Churchill Convention from Friday 22 October until Sunday 24 October 2010.



The program and registration is available online at our website at [www.churchillfellowsvic.org.au](http://www.churchillfellowsvic.org.au)

We have made a change to the program, with the Jim Stynes private dining room at the MCG now being made available to the CFAV for our formal dinner on Saturday night. James "Jim" Stynes OAM is a well known Irish Australian, a former professional Australian Rules footballer who is currently a businessman, philanthropist, writer, youth worker, qualified teacher and chairman of Melbourne Football Club. After finishing his AFL career, Jim began to concentrate primarily on his youth charity, the Reach Foundation. In 2006, Jim was awarded the 40th Anniversary Churchill Fellowship (VIC) to study evidence based youth programmes and models that support the building of self esteem and resilience in young people - USA, U.K.

Also on the Saturday night formal dinner, the committee has arranged for some additional entertainment, with a one day cricket match between Victoria and Western Australia being staged under lights.

With a great weekend planned, commencing on Friday night with a reception at Government House hosted by the Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser. Registration to attend this reception is now closed due to security regulations. However, it is not too late to register to attend the rest of the Convention program. The CFAV committee looks forward to welcoming members and interstate delegates and as always family and friends to the Melbourne Convention.

**Shane Ringin**  
2000 Fellow

## Information and enquiries

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For enquiries please Shane Ringin, President

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# Comment from Churchill House

Each year The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust awards over one hundred Churchill Fellowships. Many of these Fellowships are awarded to Australians who are already high achievers and who have impressive academic and professional qualifications. Given the prestigious nature of a Churchill Fellowship, awards to Australians who fit this mould is hardly surprising. These Fellowships are readily identifiable, studying topics that range from regenerating heart cells and chronic disease prevention/treatment through to programs for asylum seekers, Indigenous youth programs, eye bank retrieval systems, orchestral conducting, sexual abuse and the environment. Fellowships are also awarded to individuals who might better fit the mould of the archetype Churchill Fellow that I suspect Sir Winston Churchill may have had in mind when he agreed to the formation of a Trust to honour and commemorate his memory. These Fellows are just as passionate about their fields of excellence and are also high achievers. Certainly, there is room for both in the Fellowship awards and this is a real strength of the Trust. At the time of the formation of the Churchill Trust in 1965, research into the thinking shows that the objective for the award of Fellowships must be to ensure that the Fellowships are available to any Australian of general promise or ability, in his or her calling or occupation, without discrimination, and that the awards be spread as far as is possible, fairly and reasonably, across all walks of life. This follows on from the then Prime Minister Menzies' characterisation of the Trust which was to describe it as "a system of Churchill Fellowships, not necessarily confined to people in the academic world, but extending to people in industry, to tradesmen, to Trade Union officials, to musicians, to artists of all kinds – a great variety of people, who by proceeding overseas and improving their knowledge of some particular matter can improve their own capacity for being a citizen in their own land."

A Churchill Fellow who I believe fits very well the archetype Churchill Fellow that Sir Winston Churchill had in mind is Paul Smith, a 2008 Fellow from Victoria who is a stonemason. Paul was awarded a Fellowship to study ecclesiastical stone sculpture, restoration and conservation and visited Spain, France and the UK. In London, Paul attended the City and Guilds of London Art School, which is the only school of its kind in England that teaches stone carving from a traditional background. In his Fellowship Report Paul mentions that he could not have learned what he did by remaining in Australia and during his process of learning overseas he discovered many new fields of inter-related study such as iconography (the language of symbols) and the origins of man's creativity as evidenced by history and archeology, to name just a few.

Other Fellows who also fit this mould include:

- Mark Nugent, a 2007 Fellow from NSW who is a coach builder and who studied the techniques used by traditional coach building firms to design and fabricate the bodywork on vintage and classic cars and visited the UK, Italy, France and Germany;



**Paul Tys**, Chief Executive Officer, Churchill Trust.

- Gerry Cummins, a 2002 Fellow from Queensland who is a self employed stained glass artist and who studied the methods of repairing shattered heritage stained glass and visited the USA and France;
- Alfred Standen, a 1982 Fellow from Western Australia who is a foundryman and who studied developments in foundry supervision and computing and who attended the American Foundrymen's Society Casting Congresses and visited the UK and the USA;
- Tony Thorogood, a 2007 Fellow from South Australia who is a cider maker and who studied cider making culture and traditions and visited Germany, France, Spain, the UK and the USA;
- Philip Smith, a 2009 Fellow from Tasmania who is a bow maker and who studied traditional French bow making techniques from master-craftsmen in France;
- Greg Peters, a 2000 Fellow from the ACT who is an antique conservator and restorer and who studied antique furniture conservation and restoration in the UK, Germany and France;
- Natalie Jenkins, a 2007 Fellow from the Northern Territory who is an artist and who studied the design and technical aspects of recycled glass in art in the UK and the USA.

Churchill himself spans many of the professions, trades and the enormous range of skills, occupations and talents that many of the Trust's 3,485 Churchill Fellowships have been awarded for. Many of us would be aware that during his rich and full life, Churchill was a journalist, editor, war correspondent, soldier, Member of Parliament, Minister who held many different portfolios including that of Prime Minister, social reformer, great orator in the classic style, master of English prose and a fine historian. He was also a bricklayer, a painter of significant merit and a gardener.

It is, therefore, very pleasing to conclude that the Churchill Trust is very much achieving the purpose for which it was established. Fellowships are being made available to any Australian of general promise or ability in his or her calling or occupation without discrimination, and that the awards are being spread as far as is possible, fairly and reasonably across all walks of life. I am sure that Sir Winston Churchill would be delighted with his legacy in Australia and the manner in which his name is being remembered and commemorated.

**Paul Tys AM**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Churchill Memorial Trust of Australia



Robert Beggs AM, Chairman, VRC

*We make a living by what we get;  
We make a life by what we give*

Sir Winston Churchill

Rewarding Australians striving for excellence - in this case the 19 Victorians receiving Fellowships - I want to congratulate you on your outstanding achievements. You should all feel extremely proud of the fact that you have been selected from two hundred and eighty Victorians who this year applied for Fellowships. This year a total of one hundred and one Australians have been awarded Churchill Fellowships at a cost of approximately 2.3 million dollars. This brings the number to more than three thousand four hundred Fellowships that have been awarded since the Trust's inception 45 years ago.

This year's Churchill Fellowship projects range from asylum seeker support, disability rights history, regional crime and cultural change on alcohol consumption.

There are no prescribed qualifications, academic or otherwise, for the award of most Churchill Fellowships. Merit is the primary test, whether based on past accomplishment or demonstrated ability for future achievements in any walk of life.

The value of an applicant's work to the community and the extent to which it will be enhanced by the applicant's overseas project, are important criteria taken into account in selecting Churchill Fellows. As Sir Winston said 'with opportunity comes responsibility'.

Sir Winston Churchill died in 1965 and many Australians born since then would not be aware that The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust was formed to perpetuate and honour the memory of Sir Winston Churchill. Those who lived through the years of World War II are unlikely to forget the vital role Sir Winston Churchill played in ridding the world of a tyranny, the full magnitude of which was only revealed after the final victory was won. It is hoped that, with perpetual memorials, like The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, succeeding generations will come to

## Comment from the Regional Chairman

appreciate the debt that they also owe to Sir Winston Churchill for the freedom they now enjoy.

This year, eight (8) Victorians are awarded named sponsored Fellowships. To all of these people and organisations that support the Winston Churchill Trust, we are most grateful for that support.

The Winston Churchill Trust is administered from the National Office in Canberra, and we are delighted to have Paul Tys, the Chief Executive Officer of the Trust and Meg Gilmartin, Executive Officer, Fellowship and her husband Luke, here today. To assist with the running of The Winston Churchill Trust and the selection of Fellows, there are a significant number of people who act in an honorary capacity, assisting on committees, as selection panel members and the Churchill Fellows' Association. To all those people who help run the Trust in Victoria – our sincere thanks.

Gordon Dickinson, who has been a fellow Victorian Board Director, is retiring from this position. As a Director, Gordon has made a significant contribution to the Trust especially in the area of finance. We will greatly miss his support and wise counsel and thank him for the work he has done for the Trust over the years.

It is a proud day for this state to know that 19 Victorians have been awarded Sir Winston Churchill Fellowships to travel overseas to study a wide range of subjects and who, on their return, will pass this knowledge on to their fellow Victorians. This is an exciting day for all of you who are receiving Fellowships and in nearly all cases this will be a life changing experience. This day belongs to you and your families and we wish you every success in your endeavours. For you the challenge of a Churchill Fellowship is just beginning.

*(Edited extract of the address by Robert Beggs at the presentation of 2010 Fellowships at Government House by the Governor Professor David de Kretser AC, 30th July 2010.)*

**Robert Beggs AM**  
Chairman, Victorian Regional Committee



# 2010 Churchill Fellows



**Christopher Povey**

Senior Lawyer,  
PILCH Homeless Persons'  
Legal Clinic

To investigate programs for  
sustaining the tenancies of  
high risk tenants - UK, USA



**Dennis Witcombe**

Interpreter,  
Able Australia

**The Jack Brockhoff  
Foundation Churchill  
Fellowship** to research  
advanced communication for  
the Deafblind community -  
USA, Finland



**Kate Brady**

State Coordinator,  
Recovery (Emergency  
Services Department) -  
Australian Red Cross

**The Peter Mitchell  
Churchill Fellowship** to  
study disaster recovery  
services following a variety  
of emergencies - USA, UK,  
China



**Johann Kirby**

Executive Director,  
Victoria Law Foundation

To develop plain language  
community legal education  
programs by researching  
how these services are  
being effectively delivered  
through overseas programs  
- USA, Canada, UK,  
Portugal



**Clancy Wright**

Youth Strategy Officer,  
Australian Drug Foundation

**The Sir William Kilpatrick  
Churchill Fellowship** to  
study methods for initiating  
cultural change regarding  
alcohol consumption - UK,  
Ireland, Sweden



**Daniel Martin**

Apiary Officer/Inspector,  
Victorian Department of  
Primary Industries

To investigate integrated  
Varroa mite control for the  
future benefit of Australian  
beekeepers and  
farmers - USA

# 2010 Churchill Fellows



**Lally Katz**

Commissioned Playwright,  
Malthouse Theatre/Legs on  
the Wall/Company B/Arena  
Theatre

To gain knowledge of current  
German, Irish and North  
American playwriting  
techniques and processes -  
Germany, Ireland, USA



**Kon Karapanagiotidis**

Chief Executive Officer,  
Asylum Seeker Resource  
Centre

To visit leading refugee  
organisations to ascertain  
strategies for advocating and  
supporting asylum seekers in  
Australia - UK, Belgium,  
Canada, Switzerland, Greece,  
USA



**Lincoln Weddell**

Managing Director,  
Magnus Kahl Seeds Pty Ltd

To investigate world  
production of vegetable  
seeds within the framework  
of possible widespread  
shortages - USA, France,  
Netherlands, South Africa



**Michelle Roberts**

Psychologist,  
The Kilmore International School

**The Nancy Fairfax Churchill  
Fellowship** to investigate  
strategies that contribute to  
creating a classroom environment  
where school aged children who  
have experienced emergencies  
and disasters are able to maintain  
their social, emotional and



**Marcus Ryan**

Nursery Manager,  
Lambley Nursery Pty Ltd

To investigate landscaping  
practices and plant selection  
for ornamental horticulture  
within dry climates - UK,  
Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Neth-  
erlands, France



**Natalie de Morton**

NHMRC Research Fellow and  
Allied Health Research Leader,  
Northern Health and La Trobe  
University

**The Vincent Fairfax Family  
Foundation Churchill  
Fellowship** to study physical  
ageing in community dwelling  
older adults - USA, Canada



# 2010 Churchill Fellows



**Susan Salau**

Policy Manager -  
Palliative Care Victoria

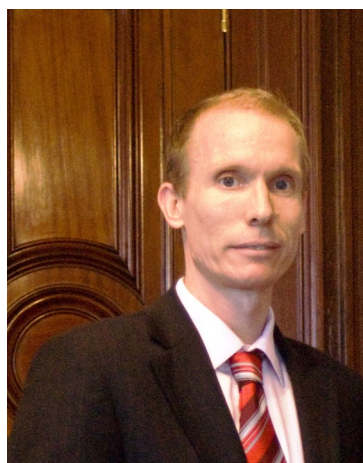
**The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship** to explore leading palliative care volunteer service models to ensure volunteer service and resource development in Australia is sustainable -



**Craig Howard**

Superintendent of Police -  
Victoria Police

**The Donald Mackay Churchill Fellowship** to investigate techniques for regional investigators to identify and disrupt groups on the path to criminal organisation - UK, Netherlands, Canada, USA



**Alexander Collie**

Associate Professor, Institute  
for Safety Compensation &  
Recovery Research - Monash  
University

To study the impact of  
compensation on health and  
work outcomes following  
injury - UK, Switzerland, Ger-  
many, Canada, USA



**Sharon Haymes**

Research Fellow,  
Population Health Unit  
Centre for Eye Research  
Australia

**The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship** to undertake research and training in the systemic review of new treatments for eye disease - UK, USA



**Susannah Tye**

Lecturer,  
Deakin University

To study the development  
of sub-second neurotrans-  
mitter monitoring tech-  
niques for behavioural  
research and neurosurgical  
procedures - USA



**Sarah Barton**

Independent Documentary  
Film Maker,  
Fertile Films Pty Ltd

To research the content for  
a landmark documentary  
about the history of the disa-  
bility rights movement -  
USA, UK

**Mark Reeves**

Principal - Alpine School

To study approaches to the adolescent experience of a Rite of Passage in contemporary education - Canada, USA



# 2010 New Fellows' Seminar

Saturday 31 July at Bayview Eden, Melbourne

Nineteen recipients were awarded Fellowships by Professor David de Kretser AC, Governor of Victoria at Government House on the morning of Friday 30th. As usual the sun came out just in time for the group photograph on the steps of the western lawn. In the evening the new Fellows spoke briefly of their projects at the AGM dinner held at Bayview Eden on Queens Road, Melbourne. After this exciting and memorable day the 2010 Fellows fronted up at 9:00am for the New Fellows' Seminar and despite a rather late night were full of enthusiasm and eager to hear about lessons learnt by returned 2008 Fellows.

Sophie Heywood spoke passionately about planning and preparation emphasising the need for Fellows to look after themselves and not trying to do too much in a day. She stressed the importance of including work colleagues in the planning process and the need to have appropriate spread-sheets to track budgets and appointments. Martin Hardy demonstrated the need for Fellows to prepare presentations on their workplaces that should include something about Victoria and the history of the Trust. Martin's wife, Dianna, later in the program spoke on how partners can be involved in the Fellowship experience.

Another tandem act was by Molly and Phil Carlile. Molly, 2008 Fellow, spoke enthusiastically about report writing making many useful suggestions not only in keeping notes but also about circulating the report to target audiences that needed to read about the Fellowship outcomes. Phil concluded the program with an impressive 'show-and-tell' on the effective use of computer technology to help with recording information and keeping in touch with family and friends back home. A delicious morning coffee break gave Fellows and their 'supporters' the opportunity to talk informally about where they were up to in their planning. Reluctantly the group broke at the end of the session promising to stay in touch and to that end planned the setting up an email network.

**Henry Gaughan**  
(1991 Fellow)



Janine Barrand enjoying a morning coffee break with new Fellows



Sophie Heywood (2008 Fellow)



Martin Hardy (2008 Fellow)



Molly Carlile (2008 Fellow)



Dianna Hardy



Phil Carlile



# Historical societies and beyond

How could I have appreciated the benefits of a Churchill Fellowship – after all even just preparing my application and interviews had served its purpose – thinking more broadly, creating contacts and exchanging information? But it was the benefit of the time, the luxury of being able to follow one line of thought, to research and develop an idea across a number of countries that could only come with actually doing it. And nothing could beat the absolute adrenalin hit of meeting like minded professionals, the stimulation of exciting ideas, the meetings where the conversation went too fast, rapid thinking, quick visits to country towns, flashes of inspiration, the promises to keep in touch - the absolute importance of being there.

My Fellowship took me to the USA and UK looking at local history – my research problem was to ask where will the next generation of volunteers come from to manage our historical societies - what programs have been successful in “firing up” a passion for local history?

My project took me to historical societies scattered amongst the “knee high by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July” corn fields of Indiana, to Nashville where the American headquarters of local history sits between the Civil War and Elvis Presley, to Illinois, to Washington, to Troy in New York State, New York City, London and finally Norfolk. It was a brilliant mix of the “grass roots” to the more established; from country societies to more urban; from entirely volunteer run, to historical societies with eighty staff; from the “can do” culture in the USA, to well funded from the Heritage Lottery, policy driven programs in the UK.

A highlight would have to be the time spent with the “rock stars” of the local history world – the Indiana Historical Society Local History Services – who took me on a three- day tour of historical societies in that state. I was ‘gob smacked’ at the ability of some volunteer led historical societies to so confidently develop projects, raise money, work in local partnerships and put local history on their state’s map.

Local History, both here and in the UK and USA is seen as the Cinderella of the history movement but it was interesting to find that in some ways in Australia we do things better, or at least different to either of these countries. I felt quite proud that some of my meetings would begin with “we look to your websites for information”, or “you seem to do things really well in Australia”.



Kate Prinsley stands between a grandfather and grandson - volunteers at the Wabash and Eerie Canal Historical Society in Delphi Indiana



Kate Prinsley visits Sheridan Historical Society in Indiana and is invited to draw the winning ticket for the Sheridan Public Library's 100th birthday celebrations.

Although I have only recently returned from my travels and I am still distilling my thoughts, recommendations I would make for the support of historical societies and volunteers would include: strengthening and training of volunteer networks in local history at a “grass roots” level; further research into a range of funding of historical societies; the introduction of the County Historian program; working closely with state history challenges to use local history sources; the maximising of the local history component in the soon to be introduced National History Curriculum.

Despite having been back in Melbourne for several weeks, parcels of notes and reports are still arriving from the post office and my beautiful Churchill Fellow filofax crammed full of business cards, tickets and receipts is a constant reminder of my wonderful travels. While our world is now made so small via the “www” – these business cards and notes will be carefully put away (as any good historian would) – and will serve as constant reminders of the importance of personal contact, the professional networks made, and the wonderful opportunity and benefits of a Churchill Fellowship.

**Kate Prinsley**  
2009 Fellow

# Attention

## 2010 Churchill Fellows travelling to the UK in November 2010

May I introduce myself - I am Neil Morris a 2008 UK Churchill Fellow and I am on the committee of the **East Pennine Association of Churchill Fellows** here in the United Kingdom.

I travelled to Australia and New Zealand as part of my Fellowship in 2008 and attended the 4th National Australian Churchill Fellows Convention in Adelaide where I received a warm and hospitable welcome.

As an association we are holding our 2010 Autumn Meeting in Sheffield, South Yorkshire on Saturday 6th November.

At our committee meeting last weekend it was agreed that we would offer an invitation to this event to any of your current Fellows who may be travelling in the UK at this time.

My contact details are:  
Neil Morris - 0044 7736449976; 0044 1226 740779; email [astonnm@aol.com](mailto:astonnm@aol.com)

8 Cortworth Place, Elsecar, Barnsley, S74 8HX.

If anyone is interested in being a guest at our event they should contact me directly; we also may be able to offer accommodation as there are several Churchill Fellows in the South Yorkshire region.

Warmest Regards  
Neil Morris  
2008 Churchill Fellow, UK



## Churchill Fellows

### 5th National Convention Melbourne

22-24 October 2010



#### Program Highlights

*Government House reception*

*Yarra River cruise to Scienceworks*

*National Convention Dinner, MCG*

*Breakfast at the City Watch House*

*Visit heritage & cultural institutions at leisure*

*Register via the CFAV website*

*[www.churchillfellowsvic.org.au](http://www.churchillfellowsvic.org.au)*



#### 20010—2011 CFAV Committee

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