

BULLDOG



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

September 2009

2009 Victorian Fellowship Awards Presentation at Government House



Photography: Tegan Ringin

(Front row) Miss Elizabeth Alexander AM, Churchill Trust National President, Mrs Jan de Kretser, Professor David de Kretser AC, Governor of Victoria and Mr Robert Beggs AM, Chairman, Victorian Regional Committee with 2009 Fellows or their representatives at Government House.

Twenty-one Victorians received Winston Churchill Fellowships this year. By 10am on the morning of Friday 31st July a queue of cars could be found along Government House Drive waiting to be admitted to the manicured grounds of Government House. The air of anticipation was palpable since in the cars sat new Fellows, their family and friends who had been invited by the Governor to attend the awarding of the 2009 Fellowships. As one has come to expect on these occasions the winter sun came out to add to the thrill of the event. The successful applicants came from a wide range of professions and backgrounds and their projects were diverse ranging from an examination of indigenous education and leadership in Canada, to an investigation of public transport systems that incorporate bicycle and car sharing, to discovering new ways to deliver pulmonary rehabilitation for Australians with chronic lung disease and researching the design and production of original tenor recorders. After the formal presentation of the certificates all those present were invited by the Governor Professor David de Kretser and Mrs de Kretser to enjoy a morning tea. So the event concluded with much chatter punctuated with hearty congratulations being extended to the new Fellows.

Outgoing President's Report—2009 AGM

It is a delight to have you all here tonight as we combine our Annual General Meeting with a celebratory dinner to congratulate our 21, 2009 Churchill Fellows, 18 of whom are with us this evening. I would ask our New Fellows to stand so that we can applaud their achievement. As they are about to set forth on their Churchill adventure, so tonight we also recognise Churchill Fellows who have completed their investigations and obligations to the Trust by submitting their final reports. Would our 24 Medallion Recipients please stand so we can congratulate you on a job well done.

The past year has been another busy and rewarding one for the CFAV committee and particularly as this is my last official function as President, I would like to acknowledge our members for their enthusiastic efforts and thank them for the wholehearted support they have given me over the last two years. Please stand as I mention your name: our President Elect Shane Ringin and Shane I wish you all the very best as tonight you take on the mantle of President for the next two years; Secretary, Janine Barrand; Treasurer, Diane Lightfoot; Membership Secretary, Jen O'Brien; and our Members, Murray Ashby, Lou Chamberlin, Daphne Cheah, Dean Cox, Henry Gaughan, Andy Jay, Richard Grant and Jenny Dwyer. I would also like to acknowledge another CFAV committee member Mike Letch who due to ill health is unable to be with us tonight and on behalf of the CFAV we wish him a speedy recovery – Mike has had a tough time of late and I know he would much prefer to be celebrating with us tonight than be in a rehabilitation hospital – so best wishes to you Mike.

The CFAV committee continue to appreciate and recognise the partnership that we share with the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust and with the Victorian Regional Committee: thank you for your support and we look forward to that partnership continuing to grow in the future.

Before reviewing the past year, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of Sir John Holland in May this year and recognise his contribution to the Churchill Trust as an original fundraising doorknocker, a Regional Chairman and Life Member of the Trust and Patron of the CFAV. I would also like to extend the best wishes of the CFAV to 2006 Fellow Jim Stynes as he faces his health battles – a remarkable man who has given so much to the community through his Reach program.

Last year our AGM and dinner was held on Friday 18th July and 25 New Fellows were introduced to a gathering of 198 friends and family here at Bayview Eden. The following morning we met again at Airlie for our New Fellows seminar where 2006 Fellows and family members Jen O'Brien, Rita and Bill Bloomfield, Dylan and Murray Ashby, and Craig Clifton shared their experiences, insights and valuable Fellowship travel tips with the Class of 2008!

In October, a number of Victorian members travelled to Adelaide for the 2008 4th National Churchill Fellows' Convention. There were 120 delegates altogether from all over Australia, and international delegates from New Zealand and the United Kingdom as well, and we were treated to a rich array of events to highlight the diversity of talents and interests of SA Churchill Fellows. The friendly atmosphere was evident at all functions and ensured there was much chatter and sharing of Churchill experiences throughout the weekend. From the Festival Theatre, the Town Hall, the Adelaide Oval, and the Adelaide Zoo, to bronze sculptures and the precincts of Carrick Hill we were introduced to a variety of Fellowship projects that encompassed the Churchill ethos of 'Australians Striving for Excellence'.



As our CFAV is hosting the 5th National Convention in 2010 on the weekend of October 22nd -23rd we have some busy months ahead planning how we can showcase our beautiful city of Melbourne and the specialities of our Victorian Fellows. Please aim to keep that weekend free so you can join in the convention activities.

The 2009 year began on a sombre note for all Victorians with the Black Saturday Bushfires in February and on behalf of the CFAV a donation of \$500 was made to the Australian Red Cross Bushfire Appeal. On behalf of the CFAV I would now like to acknowledge the work of the honourable Bernard Teague AO retired Supreme Court Judge and 2008 Churchill Fellow, who was appointed Chairperson of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission – such a daunting task.

On a lighter note our March Workplace visit was a most enjoyable event as our host Andrew Nixon, a 2007 Fellow, ushered a group of 20 eager members aboard the PV Burnley for a trip to Herring Island. We had time for some exploring there before continuing our fascinating journey along the Yarra to the Docklands precinct while Andrew shared details of his Fellowship.

Our next Workplace visit is next Saturday 8th August when 2008 Fellow Greg Williams hosts a baking extravaganza at William Angliss Institute and knowing Greg it is bound to be an experience to remember! Keep your eye out for a review of this Workplace visit with a difference in the next edition of the Bulldog.

As a committee we are delighted with the support that the CFAV members and alumni give to our Workplace visits and to our AGM and dinner – to have 210 of you here tonight is a remarkable feat. Thank you to those of you who have renewed your subscriptions already for the 2009-2010 year, we greatly appreciate your contribution which helps support our Workplace visits, our New Fellows seminar and our costs associated with publicity of events and the publication of the Bulldog. If you haven't renewed your membership as yet, please remember to pop that cheque and the subscription form in the mail in the next week.

Australians striving for excellence - Churchill Fellows certainly know what it is to have a dream that you have cherished, nurtured, protected, modified and adapted and that you have been able to follow through as it has grown from a tiny seed of an idea to an amazing reality.

Today 21 New Fellows stand on the threshold of an exciting Churchill adventure that will help them achieve their dreams just as it has helped other passionate Australians in previous years - Ordinary Australians with extraordinary goals

On behalf of all present here tonight, I again congratulate each of the 2009 Fellows and wish you inspiring investigations as you plan and participate in your Churchill travels. May discovery, enlightenment, achievement, motivation, innovation, success and satisfaction be your travelling companions and when we gather again at future CFAV events we look forward to hearing of your accomplishments and sharing the reality of your dreams, passions and aspirations coming to fruition. Thank you.

Julie Rees, 2002-1 Fellow

Incoming President's Report



Recently I was fortunate to attend an exhibition held at the Australian Academy of Design, where the students had been required to produce a work of art, based on the theme, "Senses". Whilst I was impressed by the talent reflected in the variety of art on display, what was more fascinating was the explanation that the artists detailed below their pieces. On viewing each piece I would personally interpret the work and then be surprised at the rationale behind the piece as explained by the artist.

Whilst I was absorbing these explanations, I recalled that Paul Tys, CEO of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, pondered at the recent Churchill Fellows' Association Victoria Annual General Meeting and new Fellow's dinner on 31st July, that *"if all the people in the room are thinking the same thing, then only one person is Thinking"*. I also recalled the words of the French composer, Claude Debussy, who believed that *"music is the silence between the notes"*. Whilst the interpretation of what our senses are exposed to is unique to each individual, we all benefit and grow when exposed to different people and different points of view, and with that in mind, the Trust is an excellent growth stimulator.

Those fortunate enough to have attended the AGM dinner on the 31st July would have again been impressed by the wide range of issues that the new Fellows presented to us. Over 200 members, guests and Fellows attended to hear from a remarkable group of new Fellows, full of enthusiasm and passion, and impart their vision.

On the Saturday morning following the AGM, the new Fellow's workshop was again conducted under the excellent supervision of Daphne Cheah, who has refined this workshop into a slick production. I was very impressed to hear from last years Fellows who gave some valuable advice and guidance to the new Fellows.

Some may argue that the Trust has an air of elitism attached to the awarding of the scholarships, but in reality, the Trust is universal in their application, with the fundamental theme that they can, and do, reward potential in everyone.

As such, the CFAV supports the work of the Trust; as well as assisting new Fellows, and encouraging continued interaction amongst returned Fellows.

I would like to thank past president, Julie Rees and the CFAV committee, who have contributed significant amounts of time and effort in their roles. This effort though, is obviously a labour of love, as the past years committee have again accepted the challenge of office. And what a year we have to look forward to.

The current CFAV committee will continue with the vision of Julie and previous committees in launching our new website, which will contain relevant contact details, CFAV information, Bulldog editions and calendar of events. One of the most important pages will be one detailing the coming **2010 National Convention**, hosted by Victoria. The Convention is an exiting opportunity for Victorian Fellows to showcase their talents, whilst at the same time proudly displaying the sights (or should that be the sites) of Melbourne. Pencil in the dates of Friday 22 October to Sunday 24 October 2010 to ensure your availability for a wonderful event. The Convention program will be distributed shortly, with some exiting venues and activities planned.

The past year has seen a significant effort by the committee, in particular Jenny O'Brien, as membership secretary, in reconciling and validating the CFAV membership list. Like most NGO's the CFAV is run on a shoestring budget, supported largely by volunteer labour, and as such the funds raised from our subscriptions are wisely spent to support our goals. A reminder for those Fellows who have yet to renew their subscriptions, the committee has decided to notify those members in writing before closing off our membership list to those current members only. As we progress towards 2010, I commend all members to attend the workplace visits, and continue to support the work of the CFAV and the Trust, and most importantly, keep listening to the music.

Shane Ringin, 2000 Fellow



Julie Rees handing over the Presidential badge to Shane Ringin.

2009 Fellows



Angela Ballard
 'Better Care' Project Officer,
 HMAS Cerberus

To study sexual assault prevention and intervention in a military environment – USA, Canada, UK



Jessica Thakur
 Swiss Watchmaker,
 Senior Technician, Precision Timing

To undertake an intensive training course in Swiss watchmaking – Switzerland



Nicholas Bochner
 Assistant Principal Cello,
 Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

The Dame Roma Mitchell Churchill Fellowship
 To study the use of improvisation in teaching classical music – UK



Lisa Anderson
 Self employed
 Indigenous Consultant.

To study Indigenous community education and leadership – Canada

Caroline Martin—Manager, Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Museum Victoria. To explore methods for presenting and interpreting cultures and history, in order to inspire and enrich the understanding of museum visitors - Finland, Sweden, UK, USA, Canada

Corinne Proske—Community Finance & Development Manager, National Australia Bank. To ascertain how to maximise the transfer of financial skills to individuals and families either on a low income and/or experiencing financial difficulty – UK, Ireland, USA, Canada



Anne Holland
 Associate Professor of
 Physiotherapy,
 La Trobe University & Alfred Health

The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship
 To discover new ways to deliver Pulmonary Rehabilitation for Australians with chronic lung disease – UK, Norway, Spain, USA, Canada



David McCarthy
 Research Fellow, Civil Engineer,
 Monash University

To investigate treatment technologies to reduce the risks of reusing urban stormwater – Japan, USA, Canada



Joanna Bosse
 Assistant Curator,
 Ian Potter Museum of Art,
 University of Melbourne

To develop new curatorial models for Australian Art Museums to work with indigenous artists and their communities – Canada, USA



Cynthia Holland
 Senior Clinician, Oncology Social
 Work, Royal Women's Hospital

The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship
 To gather data related to established children's programs catering for members of households significantly affected by either chronic illness or trauma in a parent – USA



Catherine Crock
 Physician, Royal Children's Hospital

The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship
 To investigate the benefits of family involvement in effective healthcare by examining patient and family centred care models – USA

Congratulations



Nicholas Bolto
Executive Director, Court Network

To undertake a review of innovation in court based information, support and referral services – USA, UK, Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy, New Zealand, Vietnam



Joanne Saunders
Self employed Musical Instrument Maker

To research original tenor recorders to design and make new instruments based on historical models – UK, Denmark, Netherlands, France, USA



Joanne Howard
Program Manager,
Inner South Community Health Service

The Sir William Kilpatrick Churchill Fellowship
To investigate methods for preventing and responding to adolescent violence towards parents - Canada, USA



Kate Prinsley
Executive Officer,
Royal Historical Society of Victoria

To investigate the sustainability of local history and its volunteers in the community – USA, UK



Monique Conheady
Co-founder & CEO of *Flexicar*

To investigate public transport systems utilising the latest technology to incorporate newer forms of transit such as bicycles and car sharing – China, Germany, Switzerland, France, Spain USA, Columbia



John Kassab
Self employed Sound Designer

To observe conceptual and technological innovation in animation sound design – USA



Jen Sainsbury
Facilitator and Program Developer,
Foundation for Young Australians

To study methods for building the capacity of the education sector, to support same sex attracted young people – UK, Netherlands, USA



Nina Rogers
Manager, Climate Change & Environment Policy,
Municipal Association of Victoria

To study regional partnerships and collaborative programs for enhanced local government adaptation to climate change – UK, Belgium,



Nola Firth
Research Officer,
Centre of Adolescent Health,
Murdoch Children's Research Institute

To assess resilience programs for children who have specific learning disabilities – USA, Canada, UK



Samuel Murray
Individualised Support Services
Team Leader, Yooralla

To assess the impact of compulsory registration and accreditation systems of support staff on disability service provision – UK, USA

From the Victorian Regional Committee Chairman



Introductory remarks by the Chairman of the Victorian Regional Committee at the presentation of the 2009 Fellowships, Government House, 31 July 2009

Governor and Mrs de Kretser, Miss Elizabeth Alexander, Mr Gordon Dickinson and Mrs Dickinson, Churchill Fellows and distinguished guests. The Churchill Trust is again honoured that you Sir, have agreed to present the Fellowships for this year's Fellows, and on behalf of the Trust, I want to thank you and Mrs de Kretser for hosting this morning's reception.

We are all sorry to hear about the death of Sir John Holland in May this year. Sir John was 94 and had a remarkable engineering career, establishing the John Holland Group, his forte being bridge building - the Melbourne Westgate being a notable example. He touched many groups and peoples' lives with his generous charitable work, the Winston Churchill Trust being one of them. Sir John was one of the founding group who raised money for the establishment of the Trust in 1965. He was the first Victorian Regional Committee Chairman, a Life member of the Winston Churchill Trust and Patron of the Churchill Fellows' Association of Victoria.

Rewarding Australians striving for excellence – in this case 21 Victorians receiving Fellowships, I want to congratulate you on your outstanding achievements. You should feel extremely proud of the fact that you have been selected from the 293 Victorians who this year applied for Fellowships. This year, a total of 106 Australians have been awarded Fellowships, at a cost of approximately \$2.6 million dollars and this brings the number to 3,389 Fellowships that have been awarded since the Trust inception 44 years ago. There are no prescribed qualifications, academic or otherwise for the award of most of the Churchill Fellowships. Merit is the primary test, whether based on past achievement or demonstrated ability for future achievement 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 Churchill said, 'with opportunity comes responsibility'.

Sir Winston 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 his memory. When World War II broke out in September 1939, Winston Churchill was 65 years old. In the dark days of May 1940, when Hitler's Nazi war machine was conquering all before it, Churchill, from a seemingly hopeless position, rallied the British people by his dauntless and vigorous leadership to resist an invasion and to sustain air attacks during the Battle for Britain and then the Blitz. Sir Winston died two months after his ninetieth birthday after a remarkable public life in which with only one break he was a Member of the British House of Commons for nearly 60 years across the reigns of six sovereigns.

This year five Victorians are awarded named Fellowships. To all of these people and organisations that support the Trust, we are most grateful for that support. In particular, I want to thank the Jack Brockhoff Foundation for their continuing support. This year three recipients will study aspects of health/community welfare thanks to the Foundation's sponsorship. To Jan Robins, Executive Officer of the Brockhoff Foundation, who is present here this morning, please convey our gratitude to the Foundation Board for their generosity. The Trust is administered from the National Office in Canberra and we are delighted to have Paul Tys, Chief Executive Officer of the Trust, together with Meg Gilmartin, Executive Officer – Fellowships, here today. To assist with the running of the 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 of Victoria, to all these people we offer our sincerest thanks.

The Trust has not been immune from the global economic downturn. While the Trust's investments are in good shape, the income from these investments is down and so the Board felt it prudent to award 14 fewer Fellowships across Australia in 2009. It is a proud day for this State to know that 21 Victorians have been awarded Fellowships to travel overseas to study a wide range of subjects and who, on their return, will pass this knowledge to their Fellow citizens. This is an exciting day for all of you who are receiving Fellowships and for most of you this will be a life changing experience; the 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.

PS. The wonderful working relationship between the Trust and the Churchill Fellows' Association of Victoria is well established. The Association's dinner and welcome of the new Fellows to the Association, held on the evening of the 31st July, was a wonderful occasion, well attended and a great tribute to Julie Rees, President, and her hard working committee. As I understand, over 210 people attended the event. I want to congratulate Julie Rees on her two year term as President of the CFAV, for her dedication, enthusiasm and professional leadership. We will certainly miss her valuable contribution at the final interview panel and wish her well for the future. Our congratulations to Shane Ringin who has taken over as President of the Association. The Trust looks forward to working with him and his committee during his term as president. We are looking forward to welcoming Shane onto the final interview panel.

Robert Beggs AM
Chairman, Victorian Regional Committee, the Trust.

Comment from Churchill House

One of the many comments made to me by Churchill Fellows about their Fellowship experience is that they often describe their award as a 'life-changing event'. When this comment is made by Fellows who received their award 25 years ago or even longer, the comment clearly carries considerable weight and validity. I can even relate to this personally to some extent as my father is a 1970 ACT Churchill Fellow and I can recall the profound impact his Fellowship made on his life in both a professional and personal way.

Fellows comment that as a result of their Fellowship, doors opened, business and professional opportunities arose, their own self-confidence grew enormously and their standing in the organisation from which they came was enhanced. Fellows comment further that when a career change was considered and eventually embraced the Fellowship experience influenced their lives in directions they had not even contemplated when they first applied for a Fellowship.

I think it accurate to say that with a Churchill Fellowship everyone benefits – the individual because their determination, drive, dedication and enthusiasm is recognised, their organisation because one of their own number is recognised for excellence, and Australia because the Churchill Fellow returns with skills and information not readily available here.

In the words of one Fellow (Peter Batten 2008 CF), 'I left Australia aware of how much I didn't know and I returned having learnt that it is not what you know or what you don't know, it is what you do with the resources you have at hand. During my Fellowship I met a group of people who were further ahead of me on their learning journey, but equally passionate about working with this population (people with Autism/Asperger's Syndrome) and brutally honest about their own lack of wisdom when they started. What follows (in my report) is my attempt to improve the way we in Australia work with young people with Autism/Asperger's Syndrome.' I am sure that many Fellows can relate to these sentiments expressed so well by Peter.

The Australian community is enormously enriched by the knowledge gained from overseas and I think it interesting but not surprising, that the topics proposed for study in the Churchill Fellowships often mirror the concerns of our society at the time. In 2009 for example, the topics range from assisting Indigenous communities, climate change, the national curriculum for schools, helping children with learning difficulties or hearing loss, child sexual abuse intervention strategies and managing chronic disease. I also think it a real strength of the Churchill Trust that a number of Fellowships outside these core or mainstream concerns are awarded. Hence a number of Fellowships deal with topics such as identifying lost portraits of Australians killed in the First World War, improving the quality and rigour of secondary education in the area of philosophy and ethics, and developing innovative cultures of entrepreneurship and venture investing. There are also Fellowships for the Arts including orchestral and operatic conducting and classical music teaching.

To the 2009 Churchill Fellows I say prepare yourself for this life changing experience and embrace all the richness that it offers. The Fellowship gives you 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.

Paul Tys

Chief Executive Officer
The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust 7

Music anyone!

When I was in my teens and studying piano, we were expected to attend the Youth Concerts at the Melbourne Town Hall featuring the Victorian Symphony Orchestra (now the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra) and were administrated by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. I have to admit that unless there was a piano concerto soloist we all found the concerts quite boring. There was no introduction to the music by any of the conductors and the compulsory symphony seemed interminably long.



Conducting lesson with conductor, Pat Miller; pre-concert activities.

Many years later I was given the opportunity to organize concerts at the Victorian Arts Centre as part of their Arts Ed Program. I was determined to provide much more interesting orchestral experiences than the ones I had been subjected to. Scores of primary children were bused in and teachers told me that it was one of the best excursions in the year. I put the orchestra together, conducted, introduced the instruments and made the whole experience very interactive. Even teachers were encouraged to stand up and dance a *Can Can*, much to the delight of their students.

Knowing the educational value of these events I managed to meet the Education Directors of a couple of major orchestras when I was visiting the USA in the 1990s. However, I was desperate to research much more over a longer sustained period of time. Receiving a Churchill Fellowship in 2003 opened many doors and during my six weeks in the US in 2004 I not only attended family and school concerts given by the LA Philharmonic and other major orchestras in California, Texas, Chicago, NY, New Jersey and Colorado but was invited to planning meetings.

On my return I began to plan my own Family Orchestral Concerts which were going to be the best that Melbourne audiences had ever seen, with interaction between orchestra and audience as a feature. So I met with Jeff Kennett, then the Premier of Victoria, whom I had met on many occasions as he had expressed interest in taking piano lessons with me when he had "got the State in order!" Knowing he had influential friends I naturally thought he could help me get started. Sitting in his office board room I outlined my plan for beginning the best Family Orchestral Concerts Melbourne had ever seen. He asked me where I was planning to hold these concerts and I said: "BMW Edge, Federation Square". However I couldn't tell him any dates as I hadn't even approached the venue; nor did I have a budget or an orchestra – in fact I realized there was much to find out and organize!

Five years on and 20 concerts later we have a Board of Directors, some sponsors and donors, an enthusiastic and creative conductor, an excellent orchestra of young professional musicians and loyal families who wouldn't miss bringing their children. Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, conductor John Hopkins and the late Diana Jones all agreed to be Patrons and have been most supportive. Conductor



Nehama Patkin and conductor Pat Miller

Pat Miller and I devise the programs which have involved dance, with Steven Heathcote, Principal Dancer with the Australian Ballet, as presenter; stories with music like *Babar and Tubby the Tuba* with Derek Guille, ABC Radio, narrating and even African drummers and a flamenco dancer and guitarist. Concerts are all interactive, especially the pre-concert activities which begin 45 minutes before each main concert in which there is a conducting lesson and musicians from the orchestra talk about their instruments and give a sneak preview of what is going to happen in the concert.

The Sunday September 13 concerts, titled *Pictures from an Exhibition*, will feature music from five different countries. We have always felt it important to program an Australian composition and so we asked 26 year old Melbourne pianist and composer, Stefan Cassomenos, to oblige. He has composed a concertino for trumpet and orchestra which the soloist, Huw Dann describes as "a 5-minute trumpet Olympics!" Other works include French composer Milhaud's *Brazileira* with a 17 year old saxophonist as soloist. Also included are pieces from USA, Spain and England. While the music is being played, artist Vahid Payman (who is also a violist) will paint his impressions of the music and children in the audience will receive free coloured pencils and notepads to draw their impressions of the music.

The best publicity for these concerts has been via *What's On* columns in newspapers, music teachers and music organizations. The biggest challenge is always sponsorship so we can keep ticket prices affordable for families. I am so appreciative of having received a Churchill Fellowship which certainly gave me the impetus to follow a passion to give everyone the opportunity to experience classical orchestral music in an entertaining and educational way.

Nehama Patkin OAM, 2003 Fellow



August workplace visit
with Greg Williams, 2008 Fellow,
Baking teacher,
William Angliss Institute

Greg Williams, whose Fellowship project was to study cake decorating, cupcakes and bakery training in the USA; started a full day program with an informative but amusing account of his research, sartorial in a cupcake designed waistcoat.

After a morning tea break at which delicious cupcakes were served and a hearty lunch of gourmet sandwiches participants rolled up their sleeves, donned aprons and adjusted their hairnets! Groups of five were given the task of preparing bread dough for baking. With much enthusiasm 58 tins were readied for the final rising and later in the program put into commercial ovens for baking. The result was each of us had two crusty loaves to take home for dinner.



We then had the thrill of seeing the production of a few dozen lemon curd cupcakes—which we later ate. Finally we got to try our hands at decorating cupcakes using some of the techniques Greg had demonstrated during his opening presentation. Using an array of pre-prepared coloured icing we attempted to create our version of the cupcakes we had seen like those in the photograph.

The day concluded with Greg decorating a scrumptious chocolate cake which we then devoured. Our thanks to Greg, and his assistants Jennifer, his wife and Daphne, CFAV Committee.

Henry Gaughan, 1991 Fellow
Photography:
Tegan Ringin & Robert Hoskin



Greg with Julie Rees, Immediate Past President and Shane Ringin President

Vale Geoffrey Tozer

4 November 1954—20 August 2009



Geoffrey Tozer being presented to the Queen at the Promenade Concert, St James Palace, London, 17 August 1970.

Copyright—Royal Overseas League.



Geoffrey Tozer, Australia's greatest and most recorded concert pianist, died from a liver disease at his home in East Malvern, Melbourne aged 54 on 20th August.

Born in a Himalayan hill station of Mussoorie, northern India in 1954, Tozer arrived in Australia at the age of four and first came to prominence in 1962 at the age of eight when his performance with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra was broadcast nationally by ABC-TV. As a 1969 Fellow aged 14, Geoffrey was the youngest ever recipient of the award. His 12 month project, to advance studies in pianoforte and enter Leeds International Pianoforte Competition, lead him to making his debut at the Royal Albert Hall. In the following decades he toured extensively throughout Europe, Asia and the US while continuing to live in Melbourne. He performed at the inaugural concert of the Melbourne Concert Hall (now Hamer Hall) in 1982. From the early 1990s he taught at the Canberra School of Music.

Geoffrey was the recipient of a number of awards including two consecutive Australian Artists Creative Fellowships in the 1990s. Geoffrey championed many under-recorded composers and was well known for his improvisations sometimes ending his recitals with improvisations on composers suggested by the audience. Geoffrey Tozer's premature death is a great loss to music in Australia. He is survived by his siblings Peter, Tim, Meredith and Bliss.

Henry Gaughan, 1991 Fellow

Photograph: National Library of Australia

2009—2010 CFAV Committee

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