



JULY 2007

Your Committee for 2006/2007:

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Presidents Report

This year's Fellows have been announced. 117 fellowships around Australia, totalling more than \$2.5 million dollars in value, will see these people travelling to a range of overseas locations in order to develop their knowledge and bring it back to Australia for the benefit of their communities.

The ACT warmly welcomes seven of these Fellows to its ranks. We congratulate them, wish them well in their travels and trust that they will find the experience rewarding and enriching. Those in the ACT whom they work with and for will surely reap the benefits of their experience.

Seeing their projects reminds me of just how diverse the Fellowships can be. Our new Fellows, men and women, aged from their early twenties to (dare I put a number on it?) probably their fifties, include people from the arts, education, aged care, policing, and environmental design. What other scheme is as flexible and inclusive as the Winston Churchill Trust Fellowships??

Please come to support and congratulate our new Fellows at the annual Churchill Fellows Association dinner on Monday, 10th September and relive the time that you were honoured in this way.

Helen Palethorpe

Seven New Fellows for ACT

Mr Phillip Brown

Special Education Teacher, Black Mountain School

To study abuse prevention training for people with intellectual disability or autism – USA, Canada.

Mr Stephen Cooke

Police Officer, Australian Federal Police

To assess the effectiveness of support programmes for families of police officers killed in the line of duty – UK, USA, Canada.

Ms Cadi McCarthy

Freelance Dance Teacher/Choreographer, Cadi McCarthy & Co

To investigate accessible dance theatre performances to boost Australian dance audiences – UK, Ireland, Germany, Denmark, Canada, USA.

Ms Alisa Moss

Senior Commercial Interior Designer, Daryl Jackson Alastair Swain

The AV Jennings Churchill Fellowship to study design aspects relating to indoor environment quality and healthy buildings – Denmark, USA, Japan, Germany, UK.

Mr Christopher Pidcock

Cellist/Teacher

To undertake cello performance masterclasses and workshops – Germany.

Mrs Helen Walker

Dementia Education Manager, Alzheimer's Australia ACT

The Vincent Fairfax Churchill Fellowship to study innovative models for care for people diagnosed with early stage dementia – UK.

Mr Douglas Wright

Clinical Educator, ACT Ambulance Service

To study the clinical assessment and treatment of older patients in their homes or in care homes – UK, Canada

Canberra Grammar School Chamber Choir

In April 2007, the Canberra Grammar Chamber Choir travelled to the United Kingdom and France for their first ever European Tour. The Chamber Choir is directed by **Ms Heather Barman, (Dame Roma Mitchell Fellowship for Excellence in the Performing Arts 2005)** Head of Primary Music and the accompanists are Mrs Jeannine Keenan (pianist) and Mr Adrian Keenan (organist).

The focus of this trip was to perform at the ANZAC Day services in London and on the Somme, France. The choir performed at some of the worlds most beautiful venues including La Madeleine in Paris, Australia House, St Mary le Bow Church and Westminster Abbey all in London. They also participated in the La Flamme ceremony held under the Arc de Triomphe in Paris as well as presenting concerts and singing at commemoration services at Villers-Bretoneaux, Dernancourt and Bullecourt on the Somme.

We were indeed honoured to work with Mr Ralph Allwood, Director of Music at Eton College. Singing in this beautiful Chapel surrounded with history was awe inspiring and contributed significantly to the overall development of the choir. We were also given the opportunity to sing at Westminster Abbey in the organ loft prior to the ANZAC day Service. This, for many of the boys, became the musical pinnacle of the trip. Other highlights included the concerts in Villers-Bretonneux and Dernancourt.

The Somme services and concerts were very moving and we were overwhelmed by the generosity and warmth we received from the people. The boys talk about the concerts we presented and the services with passion and enthusiasm and the musical and cultural experience will live with them forever. We all hope to be able to have this opportunity once again.

Update from Robin Anderson

Since my last contribution I have given some talks on older driver safety to various seniors and community groups and am giving similar seminars in the state capitals and NZ for the Australasian College of Road Safety. All of this of course, draws heavily on my Fellowship findings.

An Exciting New Development

Your committee with financial assistance from the Trust is working hard to put together a website for the ACT Churchill Fellows Association. The site is being modelled on the Queensland site and we are hoping that future Newsletters will be accessible through the site.

In the News

A photo Eulea Kiraly, one of our committee members was featured in the Canberra Times on Thursday 12th July. Arts Editor Helen Musa wrote a column about Australia's first national photography festival **Vivid** which will be held in Canberra

from July to October next year. The column featured a photo of Eulea today and as a baby being held by her mother.

Overseas News

Churchill dropped from England's history syllabus

Just not cricket ... the exclusion of Winston Churchill is likely to leave traditionalists aghast. (File photo) (Reuters: Toby Melville)

Britain's World War II Prime Minister Winston Churchill has been cut from a list of key historical figures recommended for teaching in English secondary schools, a government agency says.

The radical overhaul of the school curriculum for 11- to 14-year-olds is designed to bring secondary education up to date and allow teachers more flexibility in the subjects they teach, the Government said.

But although Adolf Hitler, Mahatma Gandhi, Joseph Stalin and Martin Luther King have also been dropped from the detailed guidance accompanying the curriculum, Sir Winston's exclusion is likely to leave traditionalists aghast.

A spokesman for the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority said the new curriculum, to be taught from September 2008, does not prescribe to teachers what they must include.

But he added: "Teachers know that they need to mention these pivotal figures. They don't need to be instructed by law to mention them in every history class.

"Of course, good teachers will be teaching the history of Churchill as part of the history of Britain. The two are indivisible."

Sir Winston's grandson Nicholas Soames, also a Conservative Member of Parliament, described the move as "madness."

"It is absurd. I expect he wasn't New Labour enough for them ... this is a Government that is very careless of British history and always has been.

"The teaching of history is incredibly important," he added.

"If you're surprised that people do not seem to care that much about the country in which they live, the reason is that they don't know much about it."

The History Curriculum Association said it was "appalled" by the move, saying the new curriculum would "promote ignorance" and was pandering to a politically-correct agenda.

The Conservatives' schools spokesman Michael Gove added: "Winston Churchill is the towering figure of 20th century British history.

"His fight against fascism was Britain's finest hour. Our national story can't be told without Churchill at the centre."

Schools Secretary Ed Balls defended the move, saying a slimmed-down curriculum was overdue and traditional elements in all subjects had been protected.

Among the few named figures that stay in the new history curriculum are William Wilberforce, the British law maker who was instrumental in efforts to abolish the slave trade.

Sir Winston, who was British prime minister from 1940 to 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955, was famous for his defiance to the Nazis, stirring oratory and trademark cigar and "V for victory" sign.

In 2002, a BBC poll with more than one million votes saw him voted the Greatest Briton of all time. **AFP**



A Note from Churchill kindly provided by Bruce Stark from his book “The Quotable Churchill – A Prime Collection of Wit & Wisdom”.

“One ought to be just before one is generous.”

All contributions for the next Newsletter should be sent to wendydodd@hotmail.com