

Churchill Chatter

Churchill Fellows Association of South Australia Incorporated

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Rediscovering nature as a leading edge technology in water supply

A returning Fellow's Report - Declan Page

Water supply is a major problem for Australia. Most major cities have experienced water shortages in the past few years resulting in water restrictions in urban areas, ecological damage in stressed rivers and the increased uptake of alternative water sources such as water recycling.

Unfortunately the common methods for water recycling involve engineered systems and can be expensive and energy intensive. However, there are natural systems that can treat and improve water quality at a fraction of the cost.

I had the opportunity to study just this. In October and November last year, I travelled to the Middle East, Europe, the UK and the USA to assess natural treatment systems for Australian applications in water supply and water recycling.

In the United Arab Emirates, I attended the International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge. I presented Australian research which focuses on the use of a structured approach to design aquifer recharge systems. I explained how my research group determined how effective an aquifer is at reducing pathogens in recycled water to ensure it is fit for irrigation.

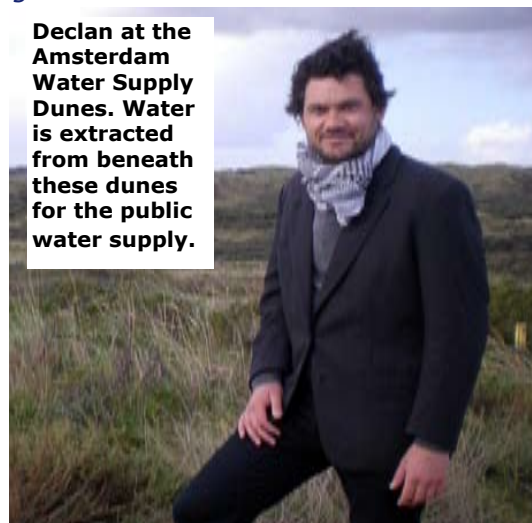


In the UAE near the Saudi Arabian "empty quarter" at a strategic aquifer recharge project where desalinated water is stored underground as a back up.

In Berlin, Germany, I learnt more about a treatment process known as bank filtration; a technique which has been in use for over a hundred years in Germany. I hope to take some of these lessons and apply them to similar situations in Australia where we use surface water such as the Murray River for water supply.

In the Netherlands, I visited the


Declan at the Amsterdam Water Supply Dunes. Water is extracted from beneath these dunes for the public water supply.



Amsterdam Water Supply Dunes to find out about the use of sand dunes for water treatment. They are one of the largest dune areas in the Netherlands, with a large part being used for the treatment of drinking water for Amsterdam which is so good that they do not need to chlorinate, unlike Australia.

At the University of Portsmouth in the UK, I met with researchers who have developed new techniques for monitoring organic chemicals in the environment. These new passive sampling methods may provide a low-cost way of measuring trace concentrations of organic chemicals in recycled water.

Finally, before returning to Australia, I visited the University of California, Berkley, USA. The scientists at Berkley are internationally renowned for pioneering work assessing organic chemicals in the environment and have developed novel methods to determine the fate of these compounds in the environment. Exactly how they degrade and indeed which chemicals will be persistent are important considerations when integrating natural systems with engineered treatments.

I have since further developed the methods and learning's from my fellowship and am now applying them at the Parafield Aquifer Storage Transfer and Recovery site in Salisbury. This is a large field site and where we have since begun a comprehensive research project funded by the National Water Commission and the new Goyder Institute for Water Research. This is a direct follow-on from my Churchill Fellowship and an opportunity to practice the skills that I developed to help meet the urban water needs of the future. 

President's Report

Christine Morris

Dear SA Fellows,

The Trust will shortly be announcing the names of the successful Churchill Fellows for 2011. We will celebrate their success with them at our AGM on 24 August at The Pavilion in the Park on South Terrace.

Keep a look out for the registration form and the call for raffle prizes. I warmly invite you to come along to the presentation dinner to hear about the new Fellows and to renew friendships and catch up on news of what others are doing.

Please support the AGM raffle as it is one of our main fundraising efforts. Generous support by you of our Association means that we have been able to offer another sponsored SA Churchill Fellowship this year, our 4th.

One of the lovely aspects of getting to know the new Fellows is mentoring them and we will be asking some of you to do this again this year. This provides terrific support for the new Fellows as well as the wonderful new Fellows event run by Tony Phillips each year with assistance from newly returned Fellows.

The AGM is also a chance to join the committee of the SA Branch with the call for nominations coming out soon. I have two favourite committees and this is one of them.

The members are energetic, hard working and fun. So if you would like to join us I would love to have a chat about the role of the group and how you can get involved.

Some of us took the opportunity to catch up with other Fellows at a recent Churchill Chat in the Barossa.

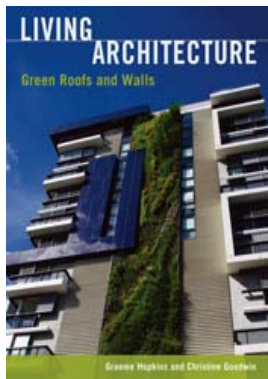
Despite the wintry conditions it was a lovely chance to hear how a Fellowship had made such a difference to not only the lives of the Fellows but to the South Australian community.

I would like to thank Pat Toolan, Colin and Maggie Beer, and Stephen Henske for their generosity in presenting their stories and for Maggie and Colin especially for the delicious food. Look further into the newsletter for an article and photos on the event.

The next Churchill Chat has been organised by Graeme Adcock and Bill Prior...continued next page...

Past Fellows News

Graeme Hopkins (2005 Fellow) has written a book (with partner Christine Goodwin) as a direct result of his Churchill experiences.



Living Architecture Green Roofs and Walls

The book description states: "Extensively illustrated with photographs and drawings, Living Architecture highlights the most exciting green roof and living wall projects in Australia and New Zealand within an international context..."

"This book will appeal to a wide range of readers, from students and practitioners of architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning and ecology, through to members of the community interested in how they can more effectively use the rooftops and walls of their homes or workplaces to increase green open space in the urban environment."

The book is available through CSIRO Publishing: www.publish.csiro.au (ISBN: 9780643096639)

Vale:

Dr Anthony R Clarkson AM

Dr. Anthony Clarkson (MBBS 1963, MD 1973) sadly passed away on the 25th of January, 2011.

An inaugural director of Royal Adelaide Hospital's Nephrology and Renal unit. He was awarded his AM (2004) for service to renal medicine and contribution to advancing the nephrology specialty in the Asia-Pacific through clinical research, teaching and professional organisations and the community. He was also patron of the South Australian Amateur Football League.

A 1969 Fellow, he traveled to the UK and the USA, "To work with a unit undertaking active research in chronic haemodialysis and renal homo-transplantation with special emphasis on the physiological disturbances associated with same."

Our Treasurer, Peter Elder (1986) recalls his Fellowship



interesting programs. Information about the programs came to me very much from 'hard copy' – journals, correspondence and meeting people at some international conferences. No internet to do a quick search!

Courses and workshops in the US were conducted by educational institutions, state and federal government agencies and by private education providers. A large number of courses were provided through universities – particularly focusing on entrepreneurship.

I visited Los Angeles, Denver, Dallas, Waco, Miami, Atlanta, Washington, Columbus and Chicago and came home with a suitcase full of materials – the days before sophisticated computers.

The Fellowship study showed that what small business owners wanted so far as management education was concerned were short courses or workshops – preferably on a single topic and lasting no more than about three hours. These needed to be up-to-date so far as the business scene was concerned and relevant to particular industries.

The Small Business Corporation together with TAFE and the trade and business associations of South Australia developed courses based on these findings and, even today in 2011, reference to the websites of Business Enterprise Centres and the SA Department of Trade and Economic Development will show that much the same thinking still prevails. 

In 1986, as Business Education Manager at the Small Business Corporation of SA, I was granted a Churchill Fellowship to study the marketing of small business management education programs in the United States.

To that date in Australia, programs to skill small business owners in starting and managing their businesses were few and far between and for those courses which were held, attendances were very small. Was it the content of the courses which kept them away? Was it the presentation times? Was it the venues? These questions had been asked in Australia by several researchers and it was evident that all these matters were relevant.

In the United States the Small Business Administration and the Small Business Institutes seemed to have made headway in providing relevant, timely and

at the Police Historical Society, Jail Rd, Thebarton on 17 July at 1- 5 pm. We look forward to seeing you there. A flyer will be coming out soon with more details.

Loris Glass and I caught up with our Patron, Lieutenant Governor of South Australia Hieu Van Le. We met him as part of his annual consultation to discuss how best he can work with us to promote the Fellowships.

He has suggested that we accompany him on a couple of his country trips to promote the application process and the Fellowships in general. Currently, he has trips planned to the South East in June and the Riverland in November so we will be looking to our rural members to assist with the promotions. We are also exploring some ideas with him about promoting the contribution that South Australian Fellows have made to our state.

So there is a lot on over the next couple of months, the Churchill Chat in July and the AGM and dinner in August, so keep a look out for nomination forms, dinner and Churchill Chat flyers come along and to enjoy the friendship and fellowship that is a hallmark of SA Branch Churchill Fellows Association functions.

Editor's Desk..

As I sit here waiting for my combustion stove to slowly warm the room, I pass on my thanks to all those who have contributed once again, ensuring that my life is easier and allowing me more time to fetch another log for the fire.

If any reader has material of interest and relevance feel free to contact me via email and I'll happily consider it for the next issue. Cheers.

Churchill Quiz

1. True or False: Churchill was a large collector of toy soldiers.
2. In what year did Time magazine name Churchill as it's "Man of the Year"?
3. What was Churchill's favorite subject at school?
4. For what London newspaper did Winston work as a journalist?
5. Churchill was 33 years old when he married. How old was his wife Clementine on the date of their marriage?

Answers:
 1. True
 2. 1940, and again in 1947
 3. History
 4. Morning Post
 5. 23 years old

As the second son of the 7th Duke of Marlborough, Randolph Churchill was expected to find a suitable wife from within the peerage.

In the face of fierce parental opposition he married the beautiful American heiress, Jennie Jerome, in April, 1874.

Their son, Winston, was born a mere seven and a half months later during a visit to Blenheim Palace. Asked about this possibly scandalous circumstance in later life, Winston would say "Although present on the occasion, I have no recollection of the events leading up to it"



Images from the universally rated, "excellent... despite the inclement weather", Churchill Chat of the 22nd of May, which started with a tour and talk at Pat Toolan's old rose garden at Angaston, before a short trip to Colin and Maggie Beer's property, *The Pheasant Farm*.



Towards end of the war, just after he had lost the first post war in Europe election, King George VI offered to make Churchill a Knight of the Garter.

Churchill retorted "I could not accept the Order of the Garter from my sovereign when I have received the order of the boot from my people"!

He did, however, become a Knight of the Garter when it was offered again by Queen Elizabeth in 1953. This time Churchill is said to have told a friend "I only accepted it because I think she is so splendid."

Notice of Churchill Chat

Sunday the 17th of July 2011 at 1pm.

South Australian Police Historical Society

The South Australia Police Force was modelled on the London Metropolitan Police and when established on 28th April 1838 was just the third police force in the world to have adopted that model.

In 1977 a small group of serving police officers formally established the South Australian Police Historical Society with the principle aim of collecting, recording and maintaining important documents and objects which relate to the history of South Australia Police.

The Society has developed an extensive museum within heritage listed buildings at the Thebarton Police Barracks. The Museum consists of five main Galleries outlining the history of South Australia Police and includes displays dedicated to the outback, women policing, aboriginal policing and replica uniforms of the marines who had arrived on the Buffalo.

The museum also houses a huge collection of historical photographs, police memorabilia, enforcement items, dioramas and police vehicles.

Volunteers from the Police Historical Society will escort visitors, in small groups, through the various Galleries and the Mounted Cadre facilities and explain the significance and/or history.

Churchill Fellow Bill Prior, a past President of our Fellows Association, is the President of the Police Historical Society and will give a short presentation on his Fellowship.

Our Association Secretary and Churchill Fellows, Graeme Adcock, led a South Australia Police contingent to the recent Christchurch Earthquake disaster zone for 2 weeks and will give a presentation on the experience.

The Churchill Chat will be between 1 and 5pm at the Thebarton Police Barracks, Jail Road, Thebarton. There is plenty of parking in Jail Road and inside the Barracks themselves. A Devonshire afternoon tea will be provided for a small fee.

Numbers are limited to between 55 and 60. RSVP to Graeme Adcock ghadcock@bigpond.com as soon as possible however before 10 July 2011. Or give Graeme Adcock a call on (08) 83544951 and, if no answer, please leave a message.

Martin Phillips, 2006 Churchill Fellow

Editors note: (A previously unpublished returning fellow report)

The aim of the my Churchill Fellowship was to make a comparative study between the chosen international occupational diver training establishments and the Australian system with a view to identifying areas of benefit which could be incorporated into the Australian training system. Travel was undertaken between June 21st and August 21st 2007 allowing time to observe schools in the UK, Norway, Sweden, Canada and USA.

ADAS Occupational Diver Training Establishments (there are currently four 'private enterprise' schools in Australia) have developed largely in isolation but have always maintained a philosophy for continual improvement, constantly striving to maintain 'worlds best practise'. Travelling overseas gave a much needed opportunity to comparatively evaluation against other nationally approved schemes.

All the overseas schools visited hold high level government accreditation. Each visit resulted in a process of observation, discussion and recording of the various training methods, equipment usage and other procedures used in support of occupational diver training methods. An analysis of the results has resulted in possible areas for improvement within our own training system.

Diver education, at the highest level was clearly demonstrated by the Norwegian State Diving School. This magnificent, well-equipped facility is the epitome of what can be achieved when the State education system underwrites the facility. The director of the school, whilst not having a diving background, is passionate in his vision for the future of diver training. His policy of continuous improvement in attaining the highest practicable training standards is driving the issue of international cooperation between schools.

Seneca College (Toronto) campus is another example of a superbly equipped and well staffed government funded training infrastructure.

Occupational diver training at the international level demonstrates significant differences in the way training is applied. All the schools visited (with the exception of the Farenjas Diving School, Sweden) have reciprocal recognition of each country's nationally issued qualification. However, the training path by which this qualification is achieved does vary significantly. If the ultimate aim is to provide a truly international qualification format then there is obviously a need to evolve a standardised training format common to all participating countries.



A trainee diver using surface supplied equipment about to enter the water in Seattle USA

This need has been highlighted at the recent International Diving Regulators Forum (IDRF) and it is likely to evolve over the long term.

In terms of training standards for occupational diver training, the Australian training format appears to be an ideal and robust model with the ability to produce high quality occupational divers on "short courses".

In terms of improvement to the Australian system - there is a considerable weight of opinion that Scuba training (which is normally conducted as the first point of entry into occupational diver training in Australia) also has the highest degree of risk associated with it (finite air capacity). Surface supply training due to the increased levels safety associated with this type of diving offers a much-improved entry level training system. This system is common overseas.

At a recent meeting between the Australian diver training establishments and the governing body ADAS, the possibility of making such changes as listed above aimed at an improvement to the overall levels of safety and quality in training was tabled.

The overall response was extremely positive, changes of this nature are not necessarily easily and quickly achieved. (The training requirements are enshrined in published standards which require significant consultation with industry stakeholders before changes can be made).

As a direct result of my fellowship, this process of change has commenced. I therefore extend my sincere appreciation to the Churchill Trust for allowing me this unique opportunity to further enhance the quality of our diver training within Australia.