

# Churchill Chatter

Churchill Fellows Association of South Australia Incorporated

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## Committee:

### President

Greg Chambers  
(08) 8391 1191  
wetland@senet.com

### Treasurer

Peter Elder  
(08) 8383 0384  
elderp5171@aol.com

### Churchill Chatter Editor

Rebecca Knol  
(08) 8242 1690  
verticordia@bigpond.com

### Secretary

Bill Prior  
(08) 8336 1629  
billprior@yahoo.com

### Committee Members:

Graeme Adcock, Christine Morris  
Elizabeth Koch, Tony Phillips  
(New Fellows Co-ordinator),  
Gillian Wiess, Loris Glass, Colin  
Drake.

## Returning Fellow *Gregory Crammond*



*Greg & Family hiking in the Dolomite Mountains of Italy, October 2005*

I won't go into detail about the reason for my Churchill Fellowship as this is covered in my report, which can be read on the Churchill Trust website. However, my travel was to Europe for 10 weeks following the fruit harvest through the major production regions of France, Italy and Germany. My field of research is in deciduous fruit varieties.

There are thousands of these varieties all through the world and finding suitable varieties for different climates and markets is where my interest lies. There are many large breeding programs and variety evaluation systems in Europe. It was my hope that by working with some of these, I would be able to incorporate some of the learning's into establishing an integrated variety evaluation system for Australia. We need to develop better varieties that improve production, profitability and resistance to disease to help Australian growers remain competitive. Also the end-consumer will benefit from these developments.

Fortunately for me the fruit growing areas of the world are often very scenic. I traveled to the Loire Valley region in France with its Chateaux and archetype French countryside. Then I jumped on the TGV bound for the South Tyrol in Italy. The South Tyrol is widely recognised as one of the most picturesque in Europe wedged as it is between the Dolomites and the Alps. Finally I moved a little to the north to the Bodensee (Lake Constance), which is a large lake bordered by Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

In each of these places I worked closely with researchers who share my field of interest. Mainly apple and pear varieties are evaluated for climatic suitability, levels of disease resistance and consumer appeal. Each of the production regions visited far exceed Australian production of deciduous fruit and enjoy healthy government support for research in these fields. As a result there are many institutions that have extensive evaluation programs.

This was a great trip with no great dramas apart from breaking a camera and missing the odd train. I learned a lot, soaked up some European culture and visited some truly beautiful spots. I sincerely thank the Churchill Trust for the opportunity. My family accompanied me the whole way and I thank them for their patience, though for their trouble they had time to soak up more culture than I.

# New Fellows Helpful Hints Meeting Tony Phillips

Two of the new Fellows met at the home of Tony and Sue Phillips on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September for an afternoon of tips and hints on how to go about the Fellowship procedure. Unfortunately two of the six Fellows had departed early in order to attend Conferences and one was on Ayres Peninsula.

Sadly only one of the 13 returned Fellows from the previous two years was able to attend but thanks go to Hugh Middlemis who more than made up for the absence of other Fellows and much useful information was imparted.

Our thanks also go to Penny Cavanagh for the large amount of photocopying involved.

The Committee cannot stress enough the importance of returned Fellows attending this meeting and passing on all they have learnt from their own Fellowship. It is a very small price to pay for the effort that goes into raising funds for the Fellowships, preparing literature, arranging meetings, etc.

**Tony Phillips**  
Committee Member

## 2006 Churchill Fellows Welcome

**Ms Christabel Alliston**

**Senior Coordinator Rehabilitation/Recovery Murray Mallee  
Community Health Service**

To study the psychosocial rehabilitation/recovery mental health services—Canada, UK, Greece & Italy

**Mr Michael Clarkin**

**Independent Producer**

To research the business models of successful American independent film production companies and to apply their methods to building a sustainable feature film production company from Adelaide—USA

**Ms Lorraine Edmunds**

**Self employed Consultant “Breathing the Flinders”**

To study how rural communities effectively protect and utilise their rich natural heritage with emphasis on the revitalisation of regional economies—Canada

**Ms Suzanne Jarrad**

**Policy, Research & Development Director Alzheimer’s Australia SA  
Inc**

The Vincent Fairfax Churchill Fellowship to investigate current practice in the protection of vulnerable older people with impaired decision making in community care, residential care and hospitals—Canada, UK

**Mr Martin Phillips**

**Self employed Instructor/Lecturer SA Underwater Training School**

To study methods of diver training delivery used by government accredited facilities with a view to identifying areas of benefit which could be incorporated into the Australian training format with emphasis on occupational health and safety—UK, Norway, Sweden, Canada, USA

**Dr Christine Sanderson**

**Consultant in Palliative Care, SA Palliative Services**

The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship to study current research in basic science, diagnosis, assessment and management of delirium, and the implications for improving care of palliative care patients—USA, Canada.

**Ms Miranda Starke**

**Manager, Marketing & Development, Art Gallery of SA**

The 40th Anniversary Churchill Fellowship (SA) to explore marketing methods in art museums to assess effective strategies to aid audience and business development in the cultural sector—USA, UK, France

**“Never give in, never give in,  
never, never, never, never, -  
in nothing, great or small, 'large or petty -  
never give in  
except to convictions of honour  
and good sense”**

**Churchill’s Address to the boys of Harrow School,  
29<sup>th</sup> October, 1941**

## Editors Desk...

This exciting edition of Churchill Chatter profiles three returning Fellows—Greg Crammond, Gaelle Mellis & Sue Chase as well as providing a brief summary of the recently appointed 2006 Fellows. We look forward to hearing from them in future editions.

The AGM was again a great success and Bill Prior has provided an overview of the evening on page 4. At the AGM Paul Tys asked us to visit the recently redesigned Churchill Fellowship Trust website ([www.churchilltrust.com.au](http://www.churchilltrust.com.au)) to increase our own knowledge of Churchill and to spread the work to any potential candidates.

We received positive feedback on the Selection Committee profile and hope to bring you another profile in the December issue.

The July edition of Churchill Chatter included a subscription renewal. This will be the final newsletter for non financial members so I encourage you to renew your membership so that you can stay in touch.

Email recipients of our newsletter are helping to significantly reduce administrative costs. I would encourage those of you who have not provided email details to do so. Any Fellows who have provided email details but are not receiving the newsletter electronically please send me an email as many addresses have been rejected in the last mail out.

Again thank you to Fellows who have helped me to locate a further 2 "lost" Fellows, one of whom we tracked down in the USA! Our list increased slightly after the last mail out. Do you know where I might find the following people?

- Dimitri Dalgiorgos (2002)
- Angela Black (2000)
- John Moriarty (1971)
- Emma Bailey (1995)

**Rebecca Knol**  
Editor  
([verticordia@bigpond.com](mailto:verticordia@bigpond.com))

## Returning Fellow Gaelle Mellis



### Trafalgar Square Fourth Plinth

Marc Quinn's *Alison Lapper Pregnant* is a sculpture of a naked, eight and a half month pregnant, disabled woman. The sculpture carved from a single piece of Carrara marble from a quarry in Pietrasanta, Italy; stands at over 3 metres high and weighs over 12 tonne. The sculpture was unveiled September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Marc Quinn said that his inspiration came from the fact that there was 'no positive representation of disability in the history of public art' while Alison Lapper said, 'I regard it as modern tribute to femininity, disability and motherhood' and that 'it makes a powerful statement about where we are trying to go in the 21st century – a future with truly equal opportunities for all'

*'Only when disabled artists have a fair and representative degree of exposure will exclusion and discriminatory attitudes start to shift'*

Jenny Sealey, Artistic Director, Graeae Theatre Company

Disability Arts is generally defined as 'art made by disabled people, which may or may not reflect the experience of disability'. My Churchill Fellowship allowed me to research leading professional disability-related performing arts practice focussing on the inclusion of disabled artists in mainstream theatre and thus allowed me to experience truly inclusive professional work environments.

I found vast differences, particularly in the United Kingdom from that of Australia. There is a healthy disability arts culture in the United Kingdom that has developed over a period of 20-30 years, underpinned by the implementation of a vast array of training programs. Much of the activity is disability led. There are professional companies, arts festivals, magazines, film festivals, exhibitions, training courses, conferences and a large network of organisations that support and promote the work of disabled artists.

In the disability arts sector, accessibility, good training and professional opportunities is leading to excellent and high quality performance outcomes proving that access and inclusion leads to excellence. The artists I met are challenging society's preconceptions about ability and aesthetic.

I found it interesting that I came across a number of Australian disabled performers working abroad because professional opportunities in the performing arts are extremely limited in Australia whilst, access to training, performance and work opportunities in the performing arts abroad increases immensely.

In Australia, we need to bridge the gap between how existing disability related performing arts is seen as community cultural development and the need for more professional opportunities for disabled artists.

Whilst in London, I attended the unveiling of a new sculpture in Trafalgar Square. The sitter for the sculpture was disabled artist Alison Lapper. In light of my fellowship study, I found the reactions to this work of public art and disabled representation in such a major public space extremely interesting. It caused much controversy. It seemed that it was not nakedness, gender or pregnancy but disability that divided opinion amongst art critics, disability campaigners and the general public. I think that the sculpture is stunning and if it confronts people and raises questions of aesthetics and beauty than that is a good thing

The opportunity to meet other peers who are professional disabled artists has been invaluable. I am so grateful to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for providing me such an extraordinary opportunity. My Churchill Fellowship has given me personal and professional experiences more profound than I ever imagined possible. Personally, I feel empowered as disabled person and professionally, I feel empowered as a disabled artist.

# 2006 AGM

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2006 approximately 80 guests attended the 2006 Annual General Meeting.

President, Greg Chambers, officiating at his first AGM welcomed everyone and particularly the newly awarded Churchill Fellows and their partners.

Chief Executive, Paul Tys also addressed the meeting and highlighted that he had recently been to the United Kingdom to visit his counterparts and advised the meeting that the Australian Churchill Fellowship Trust was now larger than the United Kingdom equivalent, with greater funds held by the Trust, more applicants received and more Fellowships awarded. However, he also warned us of complacency, stressing that the greatest advocates for expanding the knowledge of Churchill Fellowships was those who had previously received an award.

Committee member Christine Morris very capably interviewed the new Fellows. It is always amazing to hear the diversity of studies to be undertaken and the new Fellows passion for their individual subject.

Unfortunately none of the four known Churchill Fellowships from 1981 (25 years ago) could be present on the night, but Greg provided an outline of their studies.

In his President's address to the AGM, Greg announced that SA would host the 2008 National Churchill Fellows Gathering. You will hear more about this in coming editions of Churchill Chatter, but if you would like to be involved with organizing this event, or have any ideas you would like to put forward, please contact the President.

Past Editor & President Frank Caspers conducted the re-election of the committee in record time (19 seconds).

The evening ended in the usual friendly exchange of ideas and information in the usual informal manner.

**Bill Prior, Secretary**

# Returning Fellow *Sue Chase*

The purpose of my Churchill Fellowship was to study small scale wind generation (1-3 turbines of up to 1MW each) providing power into electrical distribution systems at voltages of up to 33kV, while also determining the technical and financial feasibility for the development of community co-operative wind farms in rural and remote areas of Australia, with further potential for export to the Asia-Pacific regions.



I found that the development process and associated costs were major deterrents to establishing smaller scale wind farms, and that there was a distinct lack of choice available in the smaller turbines ranging from 100kW to 600kW. The turbine manufacturers have significantly increased the size of turbines in an attempt to reduce costs per kWh, and as a consequence have ceased to manufacture the smaller turbines. However, there is an opportunity to manufacture these turbines in Australia under licence.

The future of the wind industry is tied closely to government regulation, policy and support. Wind energy will never be economic without three conditions being supported by Government regulation:

- The rights for turbines to connect to the grid (interconnection)
- The obligation to buy (power purchase agreement)
- Fair tariffs (which reflect the true cost of fossil fuel generation)

Denmark, Germany and Spain are the only countries which truly support these conditions, and this is reflected by Germany having 80 times the wind generation of the UK. In Denmark and Germany there is a legislated right to connect to the grid, permission is not required, and the utility meets the cost of the connection to the HV system.

I have come to the conclusion that wind farming in the range of 1 – 3 wind turbines up to 1MW each is very difficult to make a reasonable return on investment, due to the high development and construction costs in relation to the capital cost of the turbines. This makes the cost per kWh of output higher than the price that can be obtained under power purchase agreements from electricity retailers in Australia.

However, there are opportunities for smaller scale wind farming through:

- farm in arrangements with large wind farm developers, whereby a community co-operative can own one or more turbines in a wind farm development of several MWs.
- individual large users of power who are paying full retail price (including generation, transmission, distribution and retail costs) for electricity. The electricity generated by the wind turbine can reduce the user's reliance on grid power, which at retail price level is higher than wind generation costs.
- non-grid connected electricity users who generate electricity using diesel. The fuel cost alone of diesel generation is significantly higher than the cost of wind generation.
- the use of secondhand wind turbines which significantly reduce the capital cost of the project
- the manufacture of smaller wind turbines in Australia under licence

Developments in South Australia since my return include the announcement by Lew Owens of the Essential Services Commission of South Australia that there will be no further room on the transmission system for wind farms in South Australia once those already approved have been constructed. This will encourage the wind industry to turn to smaller scale wind farming strategically located in geographic areas near distribution systems and where there is growth in the local load.

I intend to pursue these opportunities with great endeavour. While there are impediments to achieving these opportunities, I do not believe they are prohibitors. There is a niche market for smaller wind farms.