

Newsletter

Menzies Centre for Australian Studies

Issue 75 July 2009

Head's message

At this year's Trevor Reese Memorial Lecture the Menzies Centre reached a new coming-of-age milestone. All three on the podium were Reese Lecturers: Sean Scalmer (2009), Frank Bongiorno (2006) and me (1991). I'm not sure what this means exactly, but it says something about the intensity of the Centre's tradition of encouraging and delivering high quality Australian analysis in Britain. I think we can be very proud of the range and depth of the activities described in this newsletter, from our imminent book on *Australians in Britain: the twentieth century experience* to some excellent symposia and talks and our winning of a prestigious AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award with the British Museum.

You'll also notice that our administration is moving across the Strand by September and the rest of the Centre is scheduled to move in due course. This is an important move to consolidate our teaching, research and administrative activities, though our public face in Australia House and elsewhere will remain much the same. Among our forthcoming events I would signal out Professor Graeme Davison's Menzies Lecture, 'Narrating the Nation in Australia', on 20 October. It'll be a cracker. See you there.

Carl Bridge

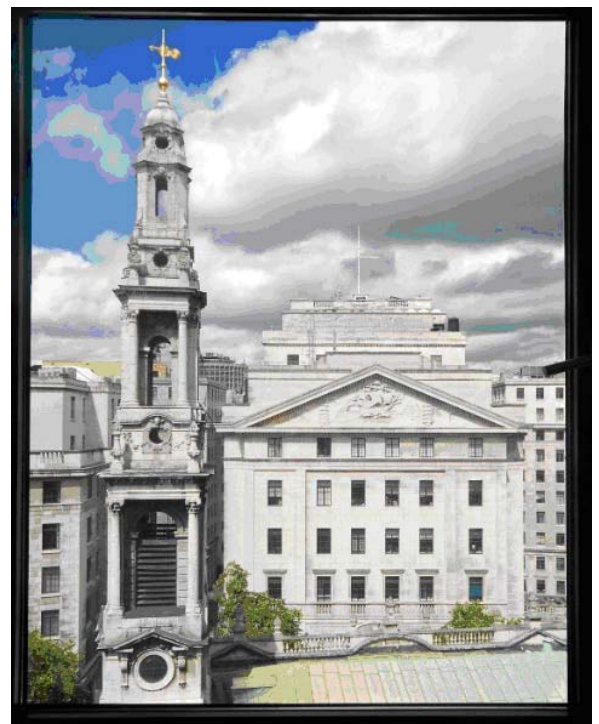
Contents

Head's message	1
Menzies Lecture.....	2
Reese Lecture	4
Reports on events	4
Scholarships & Fellowships	10
Seminars	12

We're moving!

The Menzies Centre is pleased to announce that we soon will be joining our colleagues in the Strand Building across the road. As of **1 September** our mailing address will be:

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View from the Strand's Building's 8th Floor where the Professional Services Centre for the Menzies Centre will be.

Welcome

Dr Andrew Dilley

Andrew joined us as Rydon Fellow in May for three months. He is a Lecturer in Modern History at the University of Aberdeen and has a DPhil from Oxford on Gentlemanly capitalism and the dominions: London Finance, Australia and Canada, 1900-1914. His fellowship involves preparing the Australian aspects of the thesis for publication and organising a research workshop, see report on page 7.



Dr Andrew Dilley

Menzies Foundation Fellow

Dr Rebe Taylor

My time as Menzies Foundation Fellow at the Menzies Centre has been very profitable, and I greatly appreciate the opportunity it has offered me. As I came to London with a small child and partner, I am grateful to have been able to carry out the Fellowship part-time, which I have done from 11 May 2008 to 6 May 2009. My project aimed to research Tasmanian Aboriginal material (non-human) artefacts in European Museums, including the collections' related documents, in order to create an updated database of holdings, and to understand how and why so much Tasmanian material was sent to overseas museums in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

I visited or contacted 33 museums in over 12 countries to create an up-to-date list of Tasmanian Aboriginal material artefacts held in museums outside Australia. Going beyond the previous research, I examined the collections' related documents, where they existed. (Museums do not always keep their records, let alone catalogue them, so this often meant tenacious and timely work.) I investigated on site documents in the British Museum, the Manchester Museum, the Horniman Museum, London, the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford, the

Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge, the Saffron Walden Museum, and the National Museum of Copenhagen. Many other museums sent papers and photographs of artefacts to me. These included museums in Brighton, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield, Bern, Cologne, Leipzig, Rome, Stockholm, Auckland, Cape Town and Harvard, Cambridge. This information will, for the first time, be compiled in a single database.

Collaborative Doctoral Award

Dr Henderson and Dr Lissant Bolton (British Museum) have been awarded an AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award. The grant will formalise longstanding links between the Menzies Centre and the British Museum, as well as funding a doctoral student to conduct research on the British Museum's extensive Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island collection. Applications for the three-year fully funded studentship closed on Friday 24 July.

Australian Prime Ministers Centre Fellowship

Professor Bridge spent March and April 2009 at the newly opened Australian Prime Ministers Centre in Old Parliament House, Canberra on an inaugural APMC Fellowship working on a biography of William Morris Hughes, Australia's Prime Minister during the First World War.

Menzies Lecture

20 January 2009

Universities in the English-speaking world dominate international league tables and retain enormous advantages but many are also vulnerable to competition from abroad. This was one of the messages of the 2008-9 Menzies Lecture, *The English Empire?: Global Higher Education*, which was delivered in the Edmond J. Safra Lecture Theatre at King's College London by Professor Glyn Davis AC, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, in January. The Centre's annual Menzies Lecture is designed to provide an opportunity for a distinguished person of any nationality to reflect on a subject of contemporary interest affecting Britain and Australia.

Professor Davis is one of Australia's outstanding academic leaders and administrators. Since 2005 he has been Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne. He has previously been Vice-Chancellor of Griffith University in Brisbane and Director-General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Queensland. A political scientist by training, Professor Davis is a leading

advocate of higher education reform and in April 2008 he co-chaired with Australian Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, the 'Australia 2020' public policy summit.

Professor Davis argued that the dramatic growth of the international fee-paying student market has provided major opportunities for Western universities to provide educational services unavailable in developing countries, yet it has also left these universities vulnerable to more intense competition and shifting patterns of demand. 'In hindsight', he said, 'the decision to take full-fee international students was one of the most significant Australian higher education policy changes ever made'. In the space of the last couple of decades, international students increased as a proportion of total Australian enrolments from 4 per cent to 25 per cent. Australia, like Britain, benefited from the strength of its educational institutions and the use of the English language which, as a legacy of Britain's colonial expansion, has come to dominate global commerce, research, travel, education and culture.

Yet many of the countries from which English-speaking universities have been attracting fee-paying students are developing their own higher education systems, and are increasingly able to provide for their scholars an alternative to overseas study. 'The familiar world will melt away in the decades ahead', he said, as China increases the scale of its research effort and its universities climb up the international league table.

In Australia, universities from the 1980s took advantage of their status as English-speaking institutions and their closeness to Asian markets, to attract large numbers of fee-paying students. This entrepreneurial effort to some extent disguised the extent to which governments reduced public investment in tertiary education, but increasing international competition has left many universities deeply vulnerable to a decline in overseas demand. In both Britain and Australia, he said, policy-makers face a major challenge in solving 'the underlying domestic policy problems behind over-reliance on international student markets'.

According to Professor Davis, the English Empire in higher education, based on the global ascendancy of the English language, remains a powerful one that 'offers protection and possibility to its speakers around the world'. Yet it is now entering new and dangerous territory that will demand re-consideration of how higher education is organised and funded.

A published version of the lecture is available for £3 from the Arts & Humanities online bookshop www.kcl.ac.uk/shop_humanities/

The next Menzies Lecture will be delivered at 18.00, 20 October 2009 in the Old Anatomy Theatre, 6th Floor, Strand Building, King's College London, by Professor Graeme Davison of Monash University. His subject is 'Narrating the Nation in Australia'.



Professor Jan Palmowski, Head of School of Arts & Humanities, Mr Michael Cook, Chairman, Menzies Centre Board, Professor Glyn Davis, Menzies Lecturer, Dr Frank Bongiorno, Dr Rebe Taylor, Mr Mottershead, Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) at the Menzies Lecture reception.

Trevor Reese Memorial Lecture

15 June 2009

This year's Reese Lecture was delivered in June in the Downer Room, Australian House, by Dr Sean Scalmer, Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Melbourne, on 'Insider's History: The chronicles of Australian politicians'. Dr Scalmer is a leading Australian historian of labour and social movements, with several books in this field. The Reese Lecture is hosted by the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies in association with the Institute of Commonwealth Studies in honour of Dr Trevor Reese, a distinguished historian of the British Commonwealth and Australia and Reader at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, the Centre's home from 1982 to 1999. The lecture is given by a younger scholar in the disciplines of history or political science.

Dr Scalmer pointed out that political memoirs have been among the most enduring and, in recent times, most popular forms of writing about Australian politics. Yet they have also changed dramatically over the course of the last century or so, moving away from the detached, rather dispassionate approach of some colonial and early-twentieth century examples towards the confessional and often sensational emphases of many recent accounts. Political memoirs, therefore, had the potential to help people re-engage with the political process, but at the cost of promoting an attenuated understanding of the nature of the political process itself.

A complete text of Dr Scalmer's lecture will be published in booklet form by the Centre.



Dr Sean Scalmer

Reports on events

Australian Research Roundtable

30 January 2009

The Menzies Centre hosted an Australian Studies Research Roundtable in January. Seventeen speakers attended, with King's College London, University College London, Imperial College London, Birkbeck and Oxford all represented at the British end, and James Jupp and Marian Sawyer visiting from the Australian National University, and Tony Hughes d'Aeth from the University of Western Australia. It was a truly interdisciplinary affair: literature, law, history and political science were all represented. Each speaker talked for about ten minutes on some recent research work, which was followed by a similar amount of time for questions and discussion.

The day was a very lively one, and an excellent opportunity for postgraduates in particular to meet others working on Australian subjects in other universities. The topics covered were as diverse as the convicts of Norfolk Island, the Aboriginal collection in the Saffron Walden Museum, Australian images of the Chinese, and law and literature in relation to indigeneity. The Centre expects to host a similar event in the coming academic year.

Kate Grenville, *The Lieutenant*

5 February 2009

The British edition of Kate Grenville's new novel, *The Lieutenant*, was given a London launch in February at an event co-hosted by the Menzies Centre and the Australian High Commission. Grenville spoke about her work in conversation with Dr Henderson and Dr Rebe Taylor (Menzies Foundation Fellow), who posed questions from their respective interests in Australian literary studies and colonial history. Grenville revealed *The Lieutenant* may be the second in a trilogy of novels focused on early colonial history in New South Wales, and discussed the challenges of representing Aboriginal Australian characters. In *The Lieutenant*, Grenville focuses on a character Daniel Rooke who resembles the historical figure Lieutenant Dawes in the relationship he develops with a young Aboriginal woman (Petyegarang in history; Tagaran in the novel) while learning the local language. All the Cadagal words in the novel are quoted from Dawes's notebooks. Grenville's deployment of these particular historical sources was discussed in depth. The reception of *The Secret River* in Australia was also debated. The evening was greatly enjoyed by an audience of students from King's, academics, and many of Grenville's British and Australian fans.

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Indigenous Performance

13, 15 February 2009

Dr Henderson has been involved in two of three projected workshops designed to bring interdisciplinary perspectives on Indigenous performance in 2009. The workshop series is supported by an AHRC Beyond Text grant awarded to Professor Helen Gilbert (Royal Holloway), with Dr Henderson as partner investigator. The Beyond Text grants programme at the AHRC is designed to enable new approaches to research to emerge through the use of digital technologies, to bring new perspectives to bear upon non-text-based creative arts, and to explore innovative outcomes for arts and humanities research. Gilbert's grant has enabled a range of scholars and practitioners together to discuss issues of performance in Indigenous cultures from around the world. Bringing scholars, practitioners, and activists together has proven to be a good recipe for lively, sometimes controversial, debate. For the first of the workshops, which took place at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, participants were asked to reflect upon issues of 'mobility and belonging' in Indigenous performance from the perspective of their scholarly expertise or creative practice. The second, which took place at William Goodenough College two days later, focused on issues of 'orality and transmission'. This workshop was designed to coincide with Bordercrossings Theatre's Origins Festival of First Nations.

Helen Liddell talk

26 March 2009

In March, the British High Commissioner to Australia, the Rt Hon Helen Liddell, spoke in the Western Australian Business Centre on 'The Financial Crisis and Australian-United Kingdom Relations'. The event was hosted by the Menzies Centre, in partnership with Australian Business and the Government of Western Australia. The High Commissioner began by paying tribute to the research work done within the Menzies Centre on the history of Australians in the United Kingdom. The following is an edited version of the remainder of her speech:

'No task is more interesting and more challenging than British High Commissioner to Australia. Seeing ourselves reflected in each other is the easy bit. Using our skills and values to shape the world for the better is the challenge. In the midst of the global economic crisis, the moment to meet that challenge has arrived.

If you came to hear a message of doom and gloom, you've come to the wrong place. I believe Australia and Britain will emerge stronger. Yes, times are tough. From Bradford to Bathurst, Generation Y are getting the fright of their lives. Until now, young people could download the solution to most of their problems. Not any more. We are paying the price for turning a blind eye, the price for believing the only good investments were the ones that

made us rich. We were wrong. Toxic debt was the hot potato of the business world – nothing to worry about as long as you kept passing it around.

The governments of Australia and the United Kingdom are as one; the drivers of our economy must change. We want effective stimulus plans, sensible regulation to nurture responsible enterprise, renewed commitment to shun protectionism. And we need global institutions to warn us of the dangers ahead rather than simply picking up the pieces.

Sober banking, a passion for free trade, economic resilience and innovation – that's what Australia projects to the world. Our prime ministers talk on what seems like an almost weekly basis. The relationship between Kevin Rudd and Gordon Brown is as good as any between two heads of government. It is one of strength, and now is the time to deploy it. Our shared purpose can be a multiplier for sound judgment around the world.

Whatever problems there have been in financial services, the expertise is still there. We will learn and emerge stronger than before. When the dust settles, London will still be the world's greatest financial centre. The 250 foreign banks will still be here. We'll still be a springboard for investment into Europe. We'll still have Europe's biggest market for carbon trading and the London Business School MBA will still be the best in the world. And our financial markets will still be servicing the world's sixth biggest manufacturing nation. Openness and innovation are fundamental values intrinsic to the character of the people of Australia and Britain. We didn't discover those qualities overnight; they run through our veins. They will drive our economies with renewed vigour.

The relationship between Australia and Britain has never been just one-way traffic. It was never the story of a benevolent mother country and its aspiring offshoot in the southern ocean. Britain has always needed Australia, and one event exactly one hundred years ago made that crystal clear. It was the Imperial Press Conference of 1909. In a thundering speech by Lord Rosebery, Australian press barons were given a message for their readers – that some personal duty for the defence of the Empire 'rests on every man'. The press barons loved it, giving Rosebery a loud rendition of 'For he's a jolly good fellow'.

One hundred years on, our priorities may be different, our jingoism has thankfully subsided, but the need for collaboration is just as great. The same qualities that went into making that first bale of merino wool, exported from Sydney by John Macarthur more than two hundred years ago, are at work today: vibrancy, tenacity, openness and creativity. Despite the vast distance, the flow of goods and services between us is worth a staggering \$25 billion every year. That's like every person in Britain and Australia spending three hundred dollars a year on things from the other's country. And if you thought the economic slowdown deters the fifteen thousand young Australians who head to the UK in a year, think again. More twentysomethings are applying for work visas compared with the same time last year.

I've been inspired by our two nations solving problems and enriching our lives in business, education, security, travel and culture. There has to be a reason for this connection, this has to be a model from which others can learn. The relationship between Australia and Britain is better than ever. We're being put to the test but we will emerge stronger. Our tools are the values handed down over two centuries. Our opportunities are there for the taking.'

The Australian High Commissioners workshop, Canberra

4-5 April 2009

In April, with the support of the Australian High Commission to the United Kingdom, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Menzies Foundation, the Menzies Centre (Professor Bridge) and the Historical Documents Project (Dr David Lee, DFAT) organised the second of two, two-day workshops – the first was in the Downer Room at Australia House in September 2008 – aimed at producing an authoritative but accessible history to commemorate

the centenary of the opening of the High Commission which falls on 22 January 2010. The workshop met in the Scarth Room at University House, the Australian National University, and fifteen scholars and diplomats attended. The latter included, in a unique gathering, seven of the eight living former High Commissioners: Sir Victor Garland (1981-3), Alf Parsons (1983-70), Douglas McLelland (1987-91), Richard Smith (1991-4), Neale Blewett (1994-8), Philip Flood (1998-2000), and Richard Alston (2005-8). The academics included Professor Bridge, Dr James Curran (University of Sydney), Dr Kent Fedorowich (University of the West of England), and Dr Olwen Pryke (Sate Library of New South Wales); and the DFAT official historians, Dr Lee and Mr Jeremy Hearder. Draft chapters were read and discussed and Professor Bridge chaired a very lively round table session which involved each of the former high commissioners. DFAT is currently tendering for a commercial publisher for the book, which is to be edited by Professor Bridge, Dr Lee and Dr Frank Bongiorno (Menzies Centre).



A unique gathering of Australian High Commissioners to the UK. L to R: Sir Victor Garland (1981-3), Mr Alf Parsons (1983-7), Mr Doug McLelland (1987-91), Mr Richard Smith (1991-4), Dr Neale Blewett (1994-8), Mr Philip Flood (1998-2000), and Mr Richard Alston (2005-8)

Copenhagen-Dublin-London Centrelink Seminar

17 April 2009

The annual joint-seminar with our colleagues from the Australian Studies Centres at the University of Copenhagen and at University College Dublin was held in Dublin this year, hosted by Stuart Ward, Keith Cameron Professor of Australian History. Four members of the Menzies Centre headed to Dublin in mid-April. Tim Causer, our PhD student, gave a paper on the Norfolk Island penal settlement, the subject of his thesis, while Rebe Taylor, the Menzies Foundation Fellow, presented the results of some of her research on Tasmanian Aboriginal collections in British and European museums. A group of students came across from Copenhagen for the occasion, and there were also local participants from Dublin and Galway. Other speakers included the Visiting Professor of Australian Studies in Copenhagen, Professor Sue Kossew, who spoke on 'Saying Sorry: the politics of apology and reconciliation in recent Australian fiction'. Mads Clausen, University of Copenhagen, spoke on Whitlam, Asia and the New Nationalism. Ulla Rahbek, also of the University of Copenhagen, discussed the Australian children's author, Ivan Southall, while Helen Lambert, who is based in Dublin, gave a paper on Les Murray's poetry. The 2009-10 'Centrelink' event will be held in the Menzies Centre.

Origins Festival of First Nations

May 2009

Organised by Bordercrossings Theatre's director Mr Michael Walling, the Origins Festival of First Nations brought to London a packed programme of theatre, films, workshops, and discussion forums in the first two weeks of May 2009. The Festival included performances of *Windmill Baby*, written and directed by Australia's David Milroy, and a number of films about Indigenous Australian cultures. Dr Henderson introduced the latter with an essay in the Festival's programme. With Dr Ian Conrich (Centre for New Zealand Studies, Birkbeck), Dr Henderson also hosted a discussion by Vilsoni Hereniko, director of *The Land Has Eyes*, the Pacific island of Rotuma's first feature film, and legendary Canadian film-maker Alanis Obomsawin, who also delivered a stunning lecture on her life and work as part of the festival.

Australian and New Zealand Libraries and Archives Group

8 May 2009

Anchored by Dr David Clover (Institute of Commonwealth Studies), ANZLAG is a network of librarians, archivists and researchers who oversee or work with collections of Australian and New Zealand material in Britain and in Europe. The annual workshop for the network took place at the Menzies Centre on in May, and was an opportunity for members to socialise as well as here about the latest additions to archives and the research being conducted on Australian and New Zealand

topics. The workshop heard from speakers representing the Wellcome Library, the Met Office Hadley Centre, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies Library, the Trades Union Congress (TUC) Collections held at the Holloway Road Learning Centre (London Metropolitan University), the Royal Commonwealth Society Collections (University of Cambridge), and the Centre of Research and Documentation on Oceania at Provence University.

The Queen's Other Realms: The Crown and its Legacy in Australia, Canada and New Zealand

13 May 2009

In May, the Menzies Centre teamed up with the Centre for New Zealand Studies and the Canadian Studies Program to present a seminar by Professor Peter Boyce, University of Tasmania, and a former Vice-Chancellor of Murdoch University, on 'The Queen's Other Realms: The Crown and its Legacy in Australia, Canada and New Zealand'. The seminar, which was held in the Menzies Room of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, was chaired by the eminent historian, Professor Sir David Cannadine, Institute of Historical Research. Discussants included Professor Andrew Sharp, Centre for New Zealand Studies; Professor Phillip Buckner, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, and Dr Frank Bongiorno, who each responded to Professor Boyce's paper from their respective fields of national expertise. About 40 people attended this very instructive exercise in comparative studies.

The History of Australian Music

5 June 2009

The Menzies Centre co-hosted with the British Australian Studies Association (BASA) a highly successful symposium on this subject in the St David's Room, Strand Campus in June. The idea arose out of several offers of papers on this subject for our regular seminar series. The event brought together some of the world's leading authorities in this field in a wonderfully informal, yet intellectually high-powered event.

Stephen Banfield, of the University of Bristol, discussed the global mobility of nineteenth century musical culture, a theme that also featured, from a 'British World' perspective, in David Wright's paper on music examination in Australia and Fiona Richards's on 'Musical Migrations'. The enigmatic Percy Grainger was the subject of presentations from three speakers – Bruce Clunies Ross, who came to us from Copenhagen, traced the significance of Scandinavia for the Australian composer; David Pear, who used a 'slice' approach to tell us about Grainger's 1909; and Penelope Thwaites, who provided a concert pianist's more personal perspective on performing Grainger, and also some insights into the Performing Australian Music Competition, of which she is founder. Other Australian composers to receive notice included Arthur Benjamin, the subject of a paper by Wendy Hiscocks, and David Lamsdaine, on whom

Michael Hooper spoke. Both have carried out doctoral projects on their respective subjects. Kenneth Morgan shared his research on the formation of Australian symphony orchestras, a project originally supported by a Bicentennial Fellowship, which is administered by the Menzies Centre. In the day's final paper, Roger Neill played for us, and reflected on, Nellie Melba's earliest recordings, the masters of which were recently discovered in Germany.

Over lunchtime, we were privileged to experience a performance of an Australian musical repertoire by the Clerkenwell Collective – Phil Cornwell, Kwesi Edman and Uchenna Ngwe – which included works by Grainger, Benjamin, Peter Sculthorpe, Ian Keith Harris and Miriam Hyde. The symposium, which attracted about 35 participants overall, was followed by a reception and re-launch of the 'new look' British Australian Studies Association.

Finance, Empire, and the British World, c.1850-1914

15 June 2009

In June the Menzies Centre hosted a one day symposium, organised by our current Rydon Fellow, Dr Andrew Dille, Lecturer in Modern History, University of Aberdeen, entitled 'Finance, Empire, and the British World, c.1850-1914'. The event considered the multiple roles played by British finance in the dominions, focusing on Australia while setting Australian history in a broader context. Speakers and participants came from a range of backgrounds, including: economic history, business history, political history, and historians of Australia mingled with historians of Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, and of the British Empire more broadly. Six papers were heard. Professor Gary Magee, La Trobe, discussed patterns of investment in the British World. Dr Bernard Attard, Leicester, focused on Queensland's difficulties on the London capital market in the 1860s. Dr Dille used the figure of T. A. Coghlan to discuss the structural links between Australian politics and the City in the Edwardian period. Dr Kevin Tennent, LSE, examined the role of the New Zealand and Australian Land Company in linking rural New South Wales and New Zealand, and parts of Scotland. Dr Andrew Smith, Laurentian, considered the rationality, or otherwise, of British investment in Canada. Professor Ian Phimister, Sheffield, re-examined the role of the mining industry in the run up to the South African War. Professor Peter Cain (Sheffield Hallam) reflected broadly on the day, which closed with a round table discussion chaired by Dr Sarah Stockwell, KCL. The day was well attended and saw a good deal of lively discussion showing the continued importance of the global economy in the study of Australian history, and in the history of the British World more broadly.

Cook Society visit to King's

15 July 2009

Forty-two mostly Australian-based members of the Cook Society visited King's for a half-day education briefing organised by Professor Bridge and the Hon Sarah Joiner, Chairman of the Society. Professor Keith Hoggart, Vice-Principal (Arts & Sciences) welcomed the gathering. This was followed by: a visit to the Chapel with the Revd Tim Ditchfield, Chaplain; and talks by Dr Trudi Darby, Deputy Head of Administration (Arts & Sciences) introducing King's; Sir Lawrence Freedman, Professor of War Studies and Vice-Principal (Strategy and Development) on the international strategic situation; Professor Bridge, on the Centre's research on the Australian community in Britain; Professor John Hawk, Skin Sciences, School of Medicine on sunlight and skin; and Dr Tanya Aplin, School of Law on law at King's.

Book launches

The Menzies Centre has launched five publications since our last *Newsletter*. In November 2008, we were fortunate to be able to celebrate the publication of Jill Roe's monumental *Stella Miles Franklin: A Biography*. Professor Pat Thane, Institute of Historical Research, spoke on this occasion. In the following month, it was the turn of Frank Bongiorno and David Roberts's special issue of the *Journal of Australian Colonial History*, *Russel Ward: Reflections on a Legend*, which was launched by Professor Phil Buckner (Institute of Commonwealth Studies). More recently, we have seen on their way Traudi Allen's *Homesickness: Nationalism in Australian Visual Culture*, launched by Geoffrey Robertson QC on 6 May, and Dr Garth Pratten's *Australian Battalion Commanders in the Second World War*, for which Professor Richard Holmes (Cranfield) did the honours in the Downer Room on 28 May. On 24 June, in partnership with the Monash University, the Australian High Commission and King's College London's Centre for Cultural, Media and Creative Industries Research, the Menzies Centre hosted a launch and panel debate centred on *Making Meaning, Making Money: Directions for the arts and cultural industries in The Creative Age*, edited by Lisa Anderson and Kate Oakley. John Newbiggin, cultural entrepreneur and former policy adviser to Labour leaders Chris Smith, Neil Kinnock and Lord Putnam, chaired a lively discussion on the topic of 'Culture or Coal?'; that is, the relationship between creative industries and economic prosperity. The speakers were Kate Oakley, Tony Moore, David Throsby and Justin O'Connor.

Western Australian and South Australian events

State loyalties are resilient in Australia, so it was a pleasure for the Centre to be able to join with two of the State Government offices for recent events. On 4 March, Tony Hughes d'Aeth, a Lecturer in English at the University of Western Australia, spoke in the Western Australian Business Centre on his literary history of the Western Australian wheatbelt project. The Western Australian Agent-General, Kerry Sanderson AO, graciously agreed to join with the Centre in hosting this excellent talk, which attracted an audience of about 35. Tony's imaginative and beautifully illustrated paper surveyed the diverse ways in which the wheatbelt has been represented by writers across the last century. On 4 June, it was South Australia's turn, and Bill Muirhead, the Agent-General for South Australia, partnered the Centre in hosting a talk by Hon. Dr John Bannon, political historian and former State premier. John spoke on the life and times of an earlier South Australian premier, Charles Cameron Kingston, and particularly on the scandals in his private life that, from time to time, rocked the great South Australian politician's career. He also reported on the recent exhumation in Adelaide of Kingston's body, aimed at clearing up a number of paternity claims. Samples of the viticultural products of these two great Australian states were generously provided by our co-hosts on these two evenings.

Forthcoming conferences

Monash-Menzies Comparative Australia/New Zealand/South African communities in the UK Research Workshop

3 September 2009

In September, the Menzies Centre and the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements will be staging 'Antipodean Experiences: Australians, New Zealanders and South Africans in the UK' symposium at Australia House. The one-day symposium will examine the ways that Australians, New Zealanders, and South Africans living in the UK interact with their new home and, indeed, with one another. The keynote address will be delivered by Professor John Eade, Centre for Research on Nationalism, University of Surrey. In addition to scholarly papers focusing on each nationality, a panel of journalists from the different countries will reflect more broadly on the personal and professional experiences of being an 'Antipodean' in the UK. Further information on the event can be obtained from Dr Robert Crawford at Robert.Crawford@uts.edu.au.

Patrick White

23-25 June 2010

The Menzies Centre will be hosting an international conference on Patrick White in June 2010, to mark the twentieth anniversary of White's death. Expressions of interest in this conference are invited by Dr Ian Henderson, ian.r.henderson@kcl.ac.uk

Menzies Centre in the media

The Menzies Centre has featured in the media quite frequently in the last few months. There was an article in the *Australian Higher Education Supplement*, 14 January 2009, 'Tasmania's mislaid history', which featured the work of our Menzies Foundation Fellow, Dr Rebe Taylor, but also discussed the role of the Centre more generally. Professor Glyn Davis's Menzies Lecture was featured in the same publication on 21 January, as well as in the *Independent* on 22 January and *The Times Higher Education Supplement* on 29 January.

Frank Bongiorno was interviewed by the BBC News Hour (radio) about the Victorian Bushfires on 9 February. He also recorded an interview in May with Jennifer Bowen of the ABC Radio National's History Unit for a documentary on Vance and Nettie Palmer. He has been writing a monthly article since October 2008 for the Melbourne-based online magazine, Inside Story, while his 'Cruel Britannia: Labour's out of moral credit' appeared in the Canberra Times, Forum Section, on 7 March, 2009.

Posters and Photograph Donation

Thank you to Roslyn Poignant for donating two framed posters advertising 'Some Connections: Australian Artists in London in the 1960s', an exhibition held at the Royal Society in 1988. Each poster features a photograph by Axel Poignant of a costume design by Sidney Nolan for Kenneth Macmillan's 1962 production of the ballet *The Rite of Spring*. The exhibition was supported by the Menzies Centre in 1988 and had an associated conference. Ros also donated a framed photograph by Axel Poignant of an Aboriginal stockman.

Publications

Australians in Britain: The Twentieth Century Experience

Australians in Britain, edited by Carl Bridge, Robert Crawford (UTS) and David Dunstan (Monash), is a collection of papers of international research on the character and experience of overseas Australians and Australian communities in Britain since c.1901. It offers a comprehensive overview of current scholarship in this exciting, new and developing field of inquiry. This book has a contemporary focus, drawing on both recent and

historical experiences with a view to understanding continuing trends, such as the consistent preponderance of women and the recent surge in young professionals, and issues such as expatriality, imperialism, globalisation, national identity and overseas citizenship.

www.epress.monash.edu/ab

The English Empire? Global Higher Education

2008-9 Menzies Lecture by Glyn Davis

This lecture is available for £3.00, from the Arts & Humanities online bookshop

www.kcl.ac.uk/shop_humanities/



Cover illustration for *Australians in Britain: The Twentieth Century Experience*. Australian nurses outside Australia House, London, during the Second World War. Courtesy of the Australian War Memorial Collection: AWM Negative no. 00281

Australian Bicentennial Scholarships & Fellowships

2009 awards were made to:

- Melissa Bubnic, Red Stitch Actors' Theatre, for an MA Writing at Performance at Goldsmith's, University of London
- Angelo Capuano, Federal Court of Australia, for a BCL Law at the University of Oxford
- Julia Carland, Blake Dawson Lawyers, for an LLM at the University of Cambridge

- Somali Cerise, Australian Human Rights Commission, for an MSc in Gender, Development and Globalisation at the LSE
- Andrew Cichy, UWA, for an MSt in Musicology, at Merton College, Oxford
- Ann-Marie Cook, Menzies Centre, for a research trip to the National Film and Sound Archive, Canberra
- Richard Cox, Menzies Centre, for a research trip to the UNSW
- Felicity Errington, HammondCare, for an MA in Anthropology at the LSE
- Alexandra Ginsberg, Royal College of Art, for a residency at SymbioticA, Anatomy and Human Biology, UWA
- Zubin Kanga for a PhD at the Royal Academy of Music

- Angela Langdon, Psychiatry, UNSW, for a research trip to the School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Nottingham
- Jay Marlowe, Social Work, Flinders University, for a research trip to the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford
- Chris May, University of Sydney, for an MA in Musicology at the University of Oxford or Cambridge
- Jennifer Newell, National Museum of Australia, for a research trip to the Department of Ethnography, British Museum
- Neil Ramsey, English, ANU, for a research trip to the School of Social Sciences, University of Northampton
- Sarah Thomas, Art History, University of Sydney, for a research trip to the University of Warwick
- Tolga Yalkin for a DPhil in Law at the University of Oxford.
- Glyn Davis (Vice Chancellor, Melbourne)
- Laurie Duggan, poet
- Mark Finnane (Griffith)
- Rae Frances (Monash)
- Harry Gelber (Tasmania)
- Peter Grant
- Erin Guilian (Queensland)
- Russell Hogg (UNE)
- Tony Hughes-d'Aeth (UWA)
- Jim Jupp (ANU)
- Josephine Laffin (Flinders)
- Cindy Lane (UWA)
- Helen Liddell (British High Commissioner to Australia)
- Gary Magee (La Trobe)
- Patrice Mertova (Monash)
- Margaret Moussa (UWS)
- Kerry Neale (ADFA)
- John Nieuwenhuyzen (Monash)
- Emily Potter (Melbourne)
- John Rickard (Monash)
- David Rowe (UWS)
- Helen Saunders (ANU)
- Marian Sawer (ANU)
- Sean Scalmer (Melbourne)
- Lisa Slater (RMIT)
- Paul Smyth (Melbourne)
- Peter Sloman
- Rebe Taylor (Melbourne/Menzies Centre)
- Alan Tiddwell (Georgetown)
- Rodney Tiffen (Sydney)
- Richard White (Sydney)
- Sonia Wilkie (UWS)
- Frances Zhang (East China Normal University)

Visitors

Since December the following have visited the Centre:

- Traudi Allen (Monash)
- John Bannon (Adelaide and Flinders)
- Melissa Bellanta (Queensland)
- John Bennett, poet
- Kathleen Birrell (Melbourne/Birkbeck)
- Ann Blackmore
- Rupa Borah (Jawaharlal Nehru University)
- Peter Boyce (Tasmania)
- Sally Brockwell (ANU)
- Sophie Chapman
- Bruce Clunies Ross (Copenhagen)
- Jenny Courtney (Melbourne)
- John Dale, UTS

Menzies Centre Staff

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Divisional Manager Laura Clayton laura.clayton@kcl.ac.uk

Seminars

Time and day

17.15 Wednesday (unless otherwise indicated)

Venue

Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, Australia Centre,
Corner Strand and Melbourne Place, WC2B 4LG
(unless otherwise indicated)

All seminars are free, and all members of the public are welcome to attend. For security reasons please **RSVP** to menzies.centre@kcl.ac.uk

First Semester 2009-10

30 September 2009

Liz Harvey (UCL)

Fashioning Mothers of the next Generation: Philanthropy in Birmingham and Sydney, 1860-1914

7 October 2009

Penny Russell (Sydney)

Australian Manners: reflections on colonial civility

14 October 2009

Anne O'Brien (UNSW)

Race and the language of charity: Australia in the nineteenth century

18.00 Tuesday 20 October 2009

Menzies Lecture

28 October 2009

Margo Huxley (Sheffield/Queen Mary, University of London)

Unsettling the Colony: home colonies, systematic colonisation and the management of population

11 November 2009

Erin Giuliani (University of Queensland and Menzies Centre)

Aliases: Police Identification and Surveillance Technologies across the British Empire, 1850 to 1900

18 November 2009

Judith Raftery (University of Adelaide)

The Health of Australian Aboriginals: historical legacy and current challenges

25 November 2009

Susie Khamis

Shopping for Oz: branding Australia in the UK

followed at 18.30 by Alan Wearne

Reading poems from his *The Australian Popular Songbook* and some more recent work

2 December 2009

Andrew Thackrah (University of Western Australia)

Think-tanks and 'neoliberal' identity during the Howard Years

Menzies Lecture

The 2009-10 Menzies Lecture will be given by Professor Graeme Davison, Monash University, on

Narrating the Nation in Australia

at 18.00 on 20 October 2009

in the Old Anatomy Theatre, 6th Floor, Strand Building,
King's College London, Strand, WC2R 2LS.

RSVP +44-(0)20-7848 1078/9, menzies.centre@kcl.ac.uk

Graeme Davison is Sir John Monash Distinguished Professor, History Department, Monash University. Author or editor of *The Rise and Fall of Marvellous Melbourne*, *Australians 1888*, *The Unforgiving Minute*, *The Oxford Companion to Australian History*, *The Use and Abuse of Australian History*, *Car Wars: How the Car Won our Hearts and Conquered our Cities*, and *Yesterday's Tomorrows: The Powerhouse Museum and its Precursors*.