

The Southern Yarn

January 2013



NEWSLETTER OF THE DOWN UNDER CLUB OF WINNIPEG INC.

downundercalendar

FEBRUARY

Friday February 1st, 6:30 pm
Waitangi / Australia Day Annual
cookoff - Spaghetti Sauce
POTLUCK DINNER

Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin

This is a fun social event where we celebrate our roots and enjoy great food prepared by some of the finest chefs in Winnipeg – YOU! So accept the challenge: cook up your favorite SPAGHETTI SAUCE recipe and compete for 1st Prize, Grand Champion, Best in Show and/or bring a complementary main dish, salad or veggie dish. The Club will provide the spaghetti. There might also be a fun trivia quiz on Australia and New Zealand knowledge – and more prizes! And don't forget – the Bar will be open.

Grug at MTYP
January 31 to
February 10, 2013
Running time: 45
minutes.

Australia's popular book series Grug is coming from Adelaide to Winnipeg! This is MTYP's first show ever for theatre lovers as young as one, and members of the DUCW are invited to bring their children aged 1 to 6 to see this wonderful play. And in the words of Lian Ferrer, "Everything theatre should be: imaginative, expertly performed and completely captivating." For more info and the trailer, visit: www.mtyp.ca/grug.cfm. For tickets, contact the MTYP box office at (204) 942-8898.



RSVP: If you let us know you are coming, we can be ready for you! RSVP to 204-228-9959 or email social@downunderclub.mb.ca.

Advertise in *The Southern Yarn*. Contact Jenny (228-9959, info@downunderclub.mb.ca) for all the rates. Send your submission by email to info@downunderclub.mb.ca or mail to PO Box 1655, Stn Main, Winnipeg MB R3C 2Z6.

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Betsy Burt, left, frineds, and Murray Burt, right, enjoy the Christmas festivities. Santa visited the Munns and everyone in attendance.



Southerly spins in a knit dress handmade by her mum while Leon tucks into the cake.

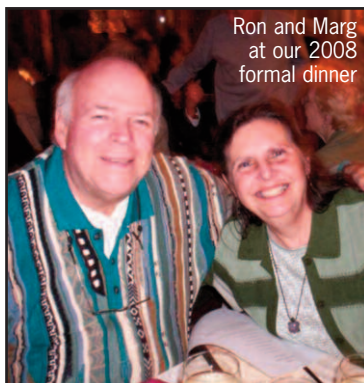
Christmas Party and Potluck

The young and the young at heart came out to the Scandinavian Culture Centre Sunday, December 16, 2012 to enjoy a brief visit with Santa (a.k.a. Father Christmas). He brought with him gifts for 6 lucky children. Afterwards, the bar was busy and we feasted on a potluck supper which included meatballs, casseroles, salads, and meat

pies from Molly's, courtesy of the DUCW, and desserts. If you weren't there you missed out on some really good food. Thank you to all the elves who helped with the kitchen, clean up, and making sure Santa arrived right on time.

This isn't an event just for the children, so be sure to plan to come out next year.

By Margaret Munn, Secretary.



Ron and Marg at our 2008 formal dinner

Ron Rochester

The Club is sad to announce the recent passing of Ron Rochester who, with his wife Margaret, was a long time member of the Club.

A few years back, Ron and Margaret moved to Napanee, ON, to be closer to family but continued their Club membership.

Ron passed away on December 10, 2012 in Kingston General Hospital. Our condolences to Margaret, Kathleen and Michael.

editorially yours

Charlie Powell



G'day, Happy New Year and best wishes for all four seasons of 2013!

I'll bet I'm not the only one to have been asked (1000 times!) "why would you choose to live in Winnipeg (instead of Australia)?" This inquiry gives the implied impression that the questioner believes Australia is paradise and that their home city is a cold and miserable hell where they are forced to live against their will.

Well, we happen to enjoy it here, especially the four seasons, with all their distinct advantages, beauties and delights. For example, we've just come through Christmas - a cozy, colourful white one is much preferred over a sweaty, fly-blown hot one!

But seriously, we all know that it is friends and family that help to make any place feel like home. Our next event, Australia / Waitangi Days, helps do that in several ways - friends and family can get together, enjoy great food, and reflect in a fun way on our birth countries. While the two downunder nations commemorate their respective historically significant defining days, we can do the same in our own way here amongst friends.

Gordon Keatch takes a break from interviewing members this month, but Part 2 of his club history is included.

And Murray Burt continues to inform us on news from the Commonwealth. There is also an interesting piece on Sir Donald Bradman which includes a link to a great clip of recently found archival footage of his visit to North America.

Thank you to this month's contributors and to Brian Hydesmith, my co-editor, for his magic with web-publishing.

Enjoy!
Charlie

Happy New Year and all the best for 2013. I hope the upcoming year brings you and yours good fortune and health.

Those of you who attended the DUCW Christmas

president's ramblings

Terry Roberts



Party saw Santa and received presents or at least got your picture taken with the big guy. Great food (lots of it) and good company prevailed and everyone had a good time. We ended up down stairs due to a bar mix up (couldn't get to the booze ah!) but everything turned in the end and we had a bigger room. Next year though, let's see more of you ah!

This year looks to be a good year for the club, with the web site being improved and more people getting to know about us and our events. Remember to get involved and get the most out of the club.

Here's a story for you to start the year. New Years eve, it was about 10.30 pm and not being out at any New Year event I was checking my email and looking on the internet. On a whim I decided to try and look up an old friend of mine from home. I have tried before but without any luck. Tried putting his name into Facebook and after a few people, not him, appeared I got a hit on inlinked (those of you on it will know it)

and low and behold this company comes up with his name as the owner/director. I figured I'd give it a shot so I emailed the address to see if it was him. Not figuring I'd get any response due to the fact its New Years eve /

New Years day down there. At

about 11.30 I'm about to go to bed and decide to check my email before retiring and I have an email back with this first line: Holy s... You have no idea how many times I have tried to find you!!! So at a quarter to twelve on December 31st 2012 I have found a guy who was my best mate back in the early seventies. We were inseparable during our early to late teens and into our twenties. He was a year younger than me and even though we went to different high schools, we spent most of our free time together. It helped later on to that I had a licence and a car so I was the transport. Anyway now after some 30+ years we are in contact again, that is a good New Year present.

Terry

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More than 40 years' South Pacific experience

Don Bradman in North America – footage.

(Thanks to Ed Powell and the ABC) Footage of Don Bradman and other Australian cricketers touring Canada and the US in 1932 has surfaced after 80 years hidden in a Canadian archive. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-12-10/don-bradmans-north-american-tour-opens-up-on-film/4419966>



Cassandra Scott with son Ewan, 9, and rescuers Luke Twitchings (left) and Neil Clugston at Coogee beach yesterday. Picture: Anthony Reginato
Source: The Daily Telegraph.

Mum revived before Christmas

AFTER she was found face down and unconscious in the water at Coogee Beach, the outlook for Sydney mother Cassandra Scott was not good.

For a quarter of an hour, Ms Scott, 38, showed no sign of a pulse, as frantic lifeguards worked to bring her back.

Ms Scott was clinically dead, with her body a deep shade of blue, as lifeguard Luke Twitchings pumped on her chest in a desperate attempt to resuscitate her.

It took 15 minutes, but thanks to the help of the lifeguard and a number of others on the beach, she regained a heartbeat and began coughing up water.

Cass and her husband Jim were members of the DUCW in the early 2000s.

Full Daily Telegraph story online.

Kiwi

A white kiwi, only the third of its kind in captivity, has hatched at a nature reserve on NZ's North Island.

At little more than 300g, the most recently hatched kiwi chick at Pukaha Mount Bruce National Wildlife Centre, in New Zealand's North Island, has the weight of a species on its shoulders.

The chick is the third white-coloured chick ever to be born in captivity.

<http://www.austliangeographic.com.au/journal/rare-white-kiwi-bird-hatched-in-new-zealand.htm>



The aroma lingers on...

Former owners of Molly's Meat Pies, Maureen and Jim McKeown, handed over the reins (and recipes) on December 1, 2012, and headed for a warmer climate.

Ki Yong Park and Claudia Kang have taken over the iconic business at 390 Provencher Boulevard, promising to keep producing the trademark products in which we all delighted – meat pies, tourtiere, Cornish pasties, sausage rolls, etc.

Park stressed they wanted to keep the same recipes – “we want to maintain things for our customers. The main principle is no change.” (From an article in “The Sou'wester”, December 19, 2012.)

100 years ago...

Issued in January 1913, The Kangaroo and Map is the commonly used name for the first stamp issues of the Australian Commonwealth.

They were issued in 1913, over 12 years after Federation. Although the delay had several causes, one of the major reasons was political wrangling regarding the design. There was a considerable amount of opposition to any inclusion of British royal symbols or profiles[1].

A design completion was announced in 1911, and several designs, including royal profiles were chosen. The government decided on having only one design, and Charles Frazer, then postmaster-general, inspired the basic outline of the new design[2].

Blamire Young, a local watercolour artist, was commissioned to produce the final design.

There was some criticism and minor changes made, and the first issues were released in January 1913[3].

When Joseph Cook took over as Prime Minister in mid-1913, he promptly had issued a series of stamps featuring the profile King George V. However, the Kangaroo and Map series continued to be issued, and was not removed from sale for over thirty years.



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Australia Day

(<http://www.australiaday.com.au/>)

The quest for the celebration of a united Australian Day and the parallel search for a unique sense of 'Australian identity' commenced within a few short years of the First Fleet landing of 1788 and subsequent white settlement of the land.

Since the initial years of white settlement, Australians have celebrated a national day. In the process, they have also defined what it means to be Australian. January 26 has traditionally marked the landing of Captain Arthur Phillip at Port Jackson in present-day Sydney, thereby claiming Australia for the British Empire. Early settlers, perhaps naturally, marked the anniversary of the colony's establishment. Australia Day has consequently evolved from a small commemorative New South Wales holiday into a major national celebration. Though it has often been criticised, it has nevertheless emerged as the most inclusive celebration of a national day in Australia, expressing the national diversity which has become such an important part of the Australian national character. Whereas once it celebrated the staunchly British nature of Australian society (or was disparaged for this approach), it now embraces multicultural Australia, including all ethnic backgrounds, racial differences and political viewpoints. Australia Day today is a celebration of diversity and tolerance in Australian society.

Chronology

1788: Captain Arthur Phillip unfurls the British flag at Sydney Cove and proclaims British sovereignty over the eastern seaboard of Australia

1808: First recorded celebrations on 26 January

1817: Governor Macquarie recommends the adoption of the name Australia for the entire continent, replacing New Holland

1818: Governor Macquarie holds the first official celebrations on 26 January, marking thirty years of white settlement

1836: First Anniversary Regatta held on Sydney Harbour. This is now the Australia Day Regatta, the oldest continuous sailing regatta in the world

1901: January 1, Federation of the Commonwealth of Australia

1946: All States and Territories celebrate the 26 January as Australia Day

1954: February 3, Elizabeth II was the first reigning monarch of Australia to set foot on Australian soil, coming ashore at Farm Cove, Sydney.



1960: The first Australian of the Year award was presented to Sir Macfarlane Burnet.

1968: Lionel Rose became the first Aboriginal Australian of the Year

1988: The largest Aboriginal protest march in history occurred on 26 January and Australia Day was labelled by Indigenous Australians as 'Invasion Day'

2000: The first Aboriginal woman to be awarded the Order of Australia (1976) and recipient of the Australian of the Year award in 1984, Lowitja O'Donoghue, delivered the Australia Day address and called for reconciliation between white and Indigenous Australians.

2007: The Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd, delivered an official apology to indigenous Australians for past injustices.

Waitangi Day

(<http://www.waitangi.net.nz/waitangi-day/index.htm>)

On the public holiday of 6th February New Zealanders of all ethnic backgrounds and creeds gather to commemorate the first signing of the Treaty at Waitangi. Waitangi Day at the Treaty Grounds is a family-oriented event. It involves performances by cultural groups and performances from the Royal New Zealand Band, Beat Retreat and Royal Guard of Honour at ceremonial sunset at the flagpole.

In recent years, a family festival of sport and culture during the days prior has set the tone for ever more celebratory events. This year for the fourth year running will include the Ki-o-rahi Waitangi Bowl, a championship Maori game now promoted internationally. Ceremony, music, sports and fun are part of the family-themed festival.



Brief history:

<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/politics/treaty/treaty-timeline/treaty-events-1800-1849>

1814: First mission

Reverend Samuel Marsden of the Church Missionary Society preached the first sermon in New Zealand, on Christmas Day 1814.

1831: Maori petition the British government

Growing lawlessness among Europeans in New Zealand and fears of a French annexation of the country led 13 northern chiefs to ask King William IV for his protection

1835: Declaration of Independence

He Wakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene (the Declaration of Independence of New Zealand) was drawn up by British Resident James Busby without authorisation from his superiors. It asserted the independence of New Zealand, with all sovereign power and authority resting with the hereditary chiefs and tribes. By 1839 the declaration had been signed by 52 Maori chiefs.

1840: Treaty of Waitangi signed on 6 February

1934: First celebration of Waitangi Day

1947: Native to Maori

The government replaced all official references to 'Native' with 'Maori'. The Native Land Court became the Maori Land Court.

1974: National Holiday

Waitangi Day had been a holiday since 1963 for Northland only (replacing the Auckland provincial anniversary holiday). In 1974 it became a national holiday, and Queen Elizabeth II attended her first Waitangi Day ceremony.



Mandela news is good for now, but increasingly flawed politics

Dogs a drifting South Africa

The good news was that South Africa's beloved anti-apartheid hero, Nelson Mandela, 94, had recovered enough to be released from the hospital. He still needs treatment, but he's back from death's door. That was the joy of all South Africans, especially the masses who consider "Madiba" (their pet name for him) as an icon of worthiness.

The not-so-good-news there was that President Jacob Zuma beat some challengers and emerged as conference election winner at the Africa National Congress (ANC). And this ensures the scandal-chased populist will get a new term as president later in the year. Considering he is a known quantity, that may not be all bad. But he carries the baggage of scandal (example: \$27-million renovation of his country seaside place at taxpayer expense; sex appetites; and lawsuits).

Meanwhile, all Africa and the world chafes with anticipation at how much a new term for Zuma and a new ANC-driven government will enhance/destroy the richest country in Africa. Probably there'll be some leftist legislation. The corrupt administrative middle will be secure. Moneyed upper class whites will be okay. Criminality will continue as a growth industry. And the poor will find little to ease in their suffering.

Prof looks at options for Pacific islands facing extinction by drowning

The existence of many small South Pacific island states are threatened with extinction by rising sea levels attributed to climate warming.

Tuvalu, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands and the Maldives, among others, are all facing it.

And Dr Rosemary Rayfuse, who teaches international law at both the University of New South Wales, and Lund University in Sweden, writes that if the international community cannot, or will not, slow global warming the least it can do is help those states prepare for life-after-land-loss by recognizing a new nation category – the de-territorialized state.

"If we do nothing and these nations become uninhabitable, their citizens will not only become displaced persons seeking refuge in other countries; they will also lose

control of their vast maritime zones, including valuable fisheries and mineral deposits, which will likely become the property of neighboring states or the global commons." Prof Rayfuse says a few solutions have already been offered and deserve serious consideration.

For example, the disappearing states could try to acquire territory from another state. But, governments approached are unlikely to provide land and authority over it, no matter what the price. Another proposal is the construction of artificial islands but the financial, engineering, cultural and legal challenges are barely surmountable.

Best option under current international law appears to be for disappearing states to enter into some form of federation with another state. But such a measure would threaten and certainly hasten dilution of cultural identities. It would likely oblige the applicant states to relinquish control over their resources.

A better solution? Simply continuing to recognize "deterritorialized" states as having full statehood. Such an entity would consist of a government body to continue to represent the rights of its citizenry at the international level and vis-à-vis their new host state or states.

It would manage, for fee no doubt, the sunken state's maritime zones and other assets for the benefit of its citizens wherever they might be located. This way, displaced populations would be able to finance their future in a new country, instead of depending on goodwill alone.

Cellphones changing prostitution profession for the worst in India

Kamathipura is the horrid, bustling red-light slum district in Mumbai, India's most populous city. And today it is finding that one of its primary businesses is being challenged by the new communications technical age in many of its hundreds of ancient brothels serving millions of customers.

Nowadays, working girls with cheap mobile phones are successfully diverting customers to themselves at more salubrious and independent rendezvous sites.

It could be called progress, but a NYT report last year said it has been identified as having a high negative social price. It is endangering the astonishing progress India has launched against AIDS, which can be somewhat better controlled in bordellos.

Hundreds of the old brothels are feeling the pinch, as it were, which should be good. But it's an economic victory for prostitutes. However, the price for them in the long run

may be shorter lives – and health dangers or death for their clientele.

"The place where bordello sex slum happens turns out to be an important HIV-prevention point," said Saggurti Niranjan, program associate of the Population Council. "And when we don't know where that [business] is, we can't help stop the disease transmission."

Southland Kiwis develop really revolutionary (pardon the pun) boat propeller system

Two Kiwis, a schoolteacher and a farmer, have worked together for 10 years to develop a hybrid propulsion system they claim will revolutionize the way propeller driven boats are driven, and with qualities that negate many of the current inefficiencies of the popular jet boat systems.

Barry Davies of Tuatapere and Paul Paterson of Waikaia say their "Contrapel Propulsion" will lead to the first major challenge to the propeller in 170 years, according to writer Neil Ratley, reporting in Fairfax News.

The process was developed by the two men in 1954, Mr Paterson, the designer, said. It is protected by patents formalized over eight years and covering North America, Britain, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

The unit's working details are interesting. Externally it resembles a traditional water-jet, but internally the method for developing thrust has much more in common with conventional propeller systems, the developers say.

The drive uses a pair of contra-rotating, fully enclosed hybrid propellers, capable of operating above the water line. These accelerate the water from out of an intake duct and then discharges it through the outlet, requiring only enough back-pressure downstream from the propellers to keep the system primed.

Murray Burt writes this Commonwealth column to lift the curtain on our understanding of a third of the population of the world. Enjoy.

Burt is president of the Manitoba branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society; past president of the Commonwealth Journalists Association; secretary of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada advisory board; Hon LCol of the 78th Fraser Highlanders; a senator of the 166th Battery RCA (Kenora) and a director of both the Royal Military Institute (Manitoba) and The Intrepid Society. He is retired from more than 50 years of journalism.

A Retrospective Update...

[the balance of Gordon's club history.]

Since our retrospective of May 1997, the Club has continued to prosper and attract new members.

In reviewing the past five years' activities, it is obvious the glue that holds the Club together is our monthly newsletter. The diversity of information contained in each issue is truly amazing. Jenny Gates goes the extra mile in rounding up articles from all manner of sources. A few years ago, the name of the newsletter was changed from The Down Under Club News to The Southern Yarn – most descriptive. About the same time, the Club logo was altered to include some Canadian content!

Folklorama pavilions in 1997, 2000 and 2001 kept our members and other volunteers busy. We are truly indebted to all who helped out. Enthusiastic crowds responded positively to the entertainment provided by Tal-Kin-Jeri, an Aboriginal group from Australia (2000) and Kahurangi Rangatahi, a Maori group from New Zealand (2001).

We have also been active in fund raising for local charities through participation in the Dragon Boat Races (2000) and the 24-Hour Relay (2001, 2002).

Our web site is up and running – www.downunderclub.mb.ca – and our email address is info@downunderclub.mb.ca if you have any questions or suggestions, or want to get in contact with us. Monthly Club events are varied and entertaining with the mainstay being ANZAC Day and Australia/Waitangi Day ceremonies.

Every year sees Australian and New Zealand service personnel at the CFB Winnipeg Air Navigation School and many of them join us at our events.

With a current membership close to 190, the Club is still growing in stature. We appear to be doing something right and the future looks interesting, bright and challenging.

Gordon Keatch, May 2002

And from 2002 to 2008

The main source for Club information continues to be our monthly newsletter – The Southern Yarn. Editor Jenny Gates and designer Brian Hydesmith do an extraordinary job of producing this outstanding publication.

Chronologically, Club events have as

their mainstay Australia Day and Waitangi Day celebrations, Five-Pin Bowling, ANZAC Day Service, the Annual Golf Tournament, Formal Dinner, Annual General Meeting, and the Christmas Party. As well, occasional events such as river boat cruises, Prairie Dog Central rail trips (steam engine), picnics and pool parties are interspersed.

During this period, the Club contributed to the Easter Seals Relay and the Tsunami Disaster Fund. Attendance at our ANZAC Day services was enhanced by Australian and New Zealand Air Force trainees at the Air Navigation School in Winnipeg and members of the Wartime Pilots' and Observers' Association (WPOA).

Sadly, the WPOA disbanded in 2008 and no more trainees from down under are coming to the Navigation School, so these long-standing traditions will no longer continue.

When the rules governing Australian/Canadian dual citizenship were changed, many of our members also became Canadians. In 2004, we were visited by the Australian High Commissioner Tony Hely and the Senior Trade Commissioner Sally-Ann Watts from Ottawa. Later in the year, the New Zealand High Commissioner Graham Kelly also came, and the newly appointed Australian High Commissioner Bill Fisher visited us in 2006.

In August 2004, we sponsored another successful Folklorama Pavilion, which featured live entertainment by the Australian Aboriginal group Tal-Kin-Jeri and additional performances by Powerage (Tim Debenham and friends) and Up From Down Under (Jenny Gates and Gerry Gordon).

And December 2004 saw our first ever survey mailed out to members. Forty four responses provided valuable info to help move the Club forward.

September 2006 saw the start of a new newsletter series "Getting to Know ..." people in our Club. So far, we have featured 26 families. [Ed: Special thanks to Gordon Keatch for taking up the challenge to showcase our membership in this way.]

At our Formal Dinner in October 2007, Life Memberships were awarded to Ken and Lea Clark, Ken and Marg Coad, Al and Millie Hansen, Terry Ryan and Faith Batt-Ryan, and Peter and Ruth Thomas.

Membership continues at a steady level and the future looks encouraging.

Gordon Keatch, July 2008

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THE DOWN UNDER
CLUB OF WINNIPEG INC.

Station Main, PO Box 1655,

Winnipeg Manitoba Canada R3C 2Z6

1-204-832-4405

info@downunderclub.mb.ca

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