

The Southern Yarn

August 2013



NEWSLETTER OF THE DOWN UNDER CLUB OF WINNIPEG INC.

downundercalendar

AUGUST

Saturday August 10th Annual Golf Tournament The Players Course

The DUCW Golf Tournament is being played at the Players Course, 2695 Inkster Boulevard. We have enjoyed this course in previous tournaments, as it enables us to have the choice of playing either 9 or 18 holes of golf. Come enjoy yourself with other members and friends in this lighthearted event, where no one takes their golf too seriously. **DETAILS:** Tee off time for 18 holes is 10.30am; and Tee off time for 9 holes is 1.00pm. Cost is \$40 for 18 holes (\$35 for seniors), and for 9 holes is \$22, (and \$18 for seniors). Seniors cut-in is 55+. We will make the presentations in the casual eating restaurant straight after the round, and you can order food as you require there. We have had some good response to date, and as there are limited spaces available, please call Peter at (204) 237-1805 as soon as you can. I will be contacting all participants prior to the tournament to verify tee times, etc. Hope to hear from you shortly, Peter (pjbmun@hotmail.com), (204) 237-1805.

SEPTEMBER

Friday September 13th Wine and Cheese

Bring your bad luck stories .. at SCC

OCTOBER

Saturday October 26th Formal Dinner - details to follow

NOVEMBER

Friday November 29 AGM - at SCC

DECEMBER

Sunday December 8th Christmas Party - at SCC

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.



Summer socializing poolside is always appreciated by DUCW members.



Everyone into the pool!

Members gathered at the home of Lynley, Jason and Ryan Davidson on Saturday, July 27 to enjoy their hospitality, swim and have fun in the pool (yes, we are referring to those terrific water sprayers!) and, later in the afternoon, a tasty barbecue. It was good to see adults and children enjoying themselves under the shady grape arbour, surrounded by the pretty garden and lovely shade trees. Can there be anything better than relaxing with a cool one, bowls of potato crisps, platters of fresh fruit, chatting with friends, and listening to the sounds of the outdoors sprinkled with the laughter of children?

The DUCW provided the meat and buns, and Jason was the BBQ cook, roasting the smokies and hamburgers to perfection, as well as the tasty chicken on skewers provided by Wayne Dietrich, along with the recipe. And can there be any NZ/Aussie potluck without

finishing off with, among other things, Anzacs (from Lucia) and a delicious pavlova (made by Les Fitt).

Thanks to all for the delicious food provided for the potluck. 13 adults and 5 children attended - check out the photos and see what you missed!

Judy Powell

Also: Congrats to **Jacqueline Cassel-Vernon** who celebrates a significant something-zero birthday this month!

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.

online



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editorially yours

Charlie Powell



G'day,

So it's Folklorama time again – another of the many things that make Winnipeg famous. Just in case you're not a local and have never heard of Folklorama, go to <http://www.folklorama.ca/> and check it out. Better still, come to Winnipeg and check it out! You won't need to go anywhere else – you get to tour the world in just two weeks, and will be treated like a VIP! My brother and sister-in-law visited us in August back in 2000 or '01 and it was just when our family was fully committed to our pavilion for the week. No problem – they happily came along with us every evening and enjoyed helping in the Cultural Display area as fair dinkum Aussie 'ambassadors'.

We haven't done a Downunder pavilion since '04, when Rob Bruce-Barron headed it up for us. Since our main problem in not running one since then seems to be the major commitment necessary on the part of the pavilion coordinator, I told our Board some time back that I would take it on when I retire (in a couple of years from now). The offer still stands, but the question is: can WE still do it? Because, if we think we can, we would need to start some serious brainstorming, preparation and planning before too long. I for one hope we can do it again. And Winnipeg, for sure, will be excited to have us back. The Board would love to hear your opinion – you can phone, mail, text or email to the contact on the back page – please do!

This month we get to know Darryl and Wendy Shave, thanks to Gordon. Murray again is keeping us in the know on happenings in our part of the Commonwealth; the "Ashes" are being contested in England, so I've included some explanation (p.6); and there are other interesting stories to just scan or follow the links for more detail.

Thanks to Gordon, Murray, Lucia Barron, Eddie Powell, Judy, Jenny and Brian.

Enjoy!

Ooops! We have mislaid our President, apparently somewhere down in the south-eastern part of the province looking for lost golf balls (his) on a very sunny Manitoba week-end. And so for this edition of the *Southern Yarn*, we will have a Vice-



President's report instead. Margaret and I have just come back from the DUCW pool party, which was a great time, and is being reported on by Lynley elsewhere in the Yarn. I am looking forward once again to holding the Annual DUCW golf tournament at the Players course on Inkster. Some people play 9 holes, some people play 18, and the course is very suitable for all skill levels. After the game, we sit down at the open air patio for the prize presentations, and cold drinks and snacks/meals are available there. So don't be shy, it would be great if you could come along. You can call me at (204) 237-1805. On a personal note, we have enjoyed the company of our younger son this week, Tyler, who flew in for 10 days from his home in Toronto, spending time with his friends and family in Winnipeg, and renewing ties with a certain Karaoke bar. And our younger daughter Jodi,

and husband Chris, are awaiting the birth of their first child, due early August, so that makes for some exciting times. So that's it for me, enjoy the warm weather.

Peter Munn

Lamburgers

According to the latest issue of Ciao! Magazine, Jolly Friar Café is offering a \$12 lunch: Spiced lamb burger with tzatziki, fresh locally farmed tomatoes, pea shoots on a bianco roll, served with a side of Greek salad.

Norwood Hotel, 112 Marion St.
204-233-4475

Lawn Bowls

DUCW members and friends have an open invitation to join the recreational West End Lawn Bowlers. Most Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 6:30pm at the Cindy Klassen Recreation Complex (Sargent and Wall) – weather permitting.

Judy and Charlie Powell and Bill Pooley can be found having fun most days. Ph. Pooley: 204-783-1632

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New telescope the 'frontier of astronomical science'

ASTRONOMERS ARE PREPARING for a wave of revelations, following the launch of the \$51 million Murchison Widefield Array (MWA) radio telescope in Western Australia this week.

The MWA, which was officially opened on Tuesday, is part of the Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory in a remote part of the state's mid-west, where radio frequency interference is almost non-existent.

The MWA is a precursor to the \$2 billion international Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio astronomy project. It comprises 2048 antennas that capture low frequency radio waves – some more than 13 billion years old – allowing scientists to image the first stars and galaxies to form after the Big Bang.

The MWA will also step up observations of the Sun to detect and monitor massive solar storms, offering an early warning system that could save billions of dollars for countries threatened with a loss of power. Another MWA program will investigate the possibility that stray FM radio signals can be used to track dangerous space debris. [WebLink]

40 Tassie devil babies boost ark population

THEY ARE A LONG WAY from home, but the 40 Tasmanian devil joeys born this year in the mist-shrouded hills north of Barrington Tops, in NSW, are a lifeline for the species.

Still in pouches, the young are the latest additions to a population of more than 100



Tasmanian devils living at Devil Ark, a 500ha breeding facility that was founded in 2010 to safeguard the species from extinction. Located at Tomalla Station, at an altitude of 1350m, the site has a similar climate and topography to the devils' native Tasmania. (See a VIDEO about Devil Ark)

In the wild, Tasmanian devils are fighting a losing battle against Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD), a transmissible cancer – recently thought to be parasitic in nature – that was first reported in 1996 and has already reduced their numbers by about 85 per cent.

"Any hopes of resistant animals in the wild are fading," says Adrian Good, a supervisor at Devil Ark. "It's inevitable that the disease will wipe out the wild Tasmanian devil population, so we're breeding a genetically viable insurance population that we can eventually release back into Tasmania." [Weblink]

newszealand

source: NZ Herald, unless otherwise noted



Maori passion leads lads into barbershop singing

As the finals of the Barbershop Harmony Society's international competition begin in Toronto, the New Zealand group Musical Island Boys will be first on stage.

The quartet, which began singing together 10 years ago while its members were still

in high school, say the barbershop style taps into the passion for singing from their Maori heritage.

Musical Island Boys have twice earned a silver medal at the international competition, which is dominated by groups from the U.S.

No Canadians earned a place among the top 10 barbershop quartets which will compete at the Air Canada Centre, but the New Zealanders are thrilled to again vie for first place. [WebLink]



Catching up Down Under

from when Lucia Barron was in NZ

It was great meeting up with Lynley, Jason and Ryan over a tasty lunch in Rangiora, New Zealand, on Christmas Eve Day. Ryan did a great job of decorating a gingerbread Christmas tree which was indeed, good enough to eat!

Also visited with Susanna and Keith Larue who, in February, became proud owners of a lovely home in Christchurch.



The earthquakes have not deterred them at all from settling there and they are very thrilled and happy with their new home. It is tucked at the end of a cul du sac with a picturesque reserve across from their right of way so they cannot be built out. A beautiful patio is just perfect for a cold beer or chilled white wine on a hot day, and Christchurch certainly produced an abundance of them this past summer.

They send their best wishes to all the Downunder folks in Winnipeg and always enjoy reading the *Southern Yarn*.

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Wendy and Darryl Shave

Like many DUCW members, the Shaves have travelled the world – a lot!

Wendy comes from the Waihi area of New Zealand, on the North Island's east coast, south of Auckland. She attended Waihi School from primary to high school, and Hamilton Polytechnic for a three-year course in marketing. It was then off to UK for three years of working and travelling – Europe, South Africa, Egypt, Turkey and Morocco. Once back in NZ (Auckland this time) she worked two years in marketing.

Wendy was attracted back to UK, and went from there to South America – Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia where she volunteered in an animal sanctuary (native and exotic). It was there she met Darryl. After three months in South America together they moved to Sydney for about half a year before moving to Wellington, NZ.

Darryl was born in Winnipeg and graduated from Transcona Collegiate. He attended University of Manitoba for three years, then started working in the family business, Valour Tri West Insurance Brokers. He remains in this job today, having worked there for approximately 17 years.



After getting a taste of travel when he went to Europe before university, he decided to do some more travelling in 2004. He took a six-month leave of absence from work and went to South America – Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia where he met Wendy. After traveling around for a further three months, he returned to Winnipeg briefly before meeting up with Wendy in Sydney then moving on to Wellington together.

A talented musician, Darryl plays guitar, drums and sings and is currently in a band with a group of friends he's been in various bands with off and on for the last 20 years. A good Canadian, he likes hockey!

The Shaves have three children now – Stella, 4, and 2 year old twins with the delightful names of Poppy and Zoe, who were born in New Zealand just before they moved to Canada two years ago. With three kids under the age of five, Wendy has her hands full and doesn't have much time for extra-curricula activities. When she does get out, she loves walking, dancing, going out with friends and baking.

They have been DUCW members for about a year, hearing about the Club through Lynley Davidson.

Maybe we'll have a chance to meet all five at our kids' Christmas Party in December.

Gordon Keatch

100yearsago

history from downunder

Sydney in the early 1900s

DURING THE EARLY TWENTIETH century, Sydney was humming with promise. Home to more than a million people, its streets were abuzz with commuters, horse-drawn wagons and trams.

The inner-city was a bustling trade hub that spilled into an expanding network of suburbs linked by a series of tramways, railways and ferry routes.

It was a time of rapid growth; the nation was transitioning from the days of steam power into the electric era and Sydney – Aus-

tralia's oldest city – was moving in step.

For the first time, Australian filmmakers were able to document city life as it evolved before their eyes.

Filmmaking was a new and exciting craft and Australian cinematographers were at its forefront – in 1906, the world's first feature film, *The Story of the Kelly Gang*, was produced on Australian soil.

Armed with rolls of nitrate film, cameramen captured silent, moving images through their lenses. Often, these were cut together and presented as short documentaries – Australia's oldest surviving footage features a six-minute clip of the 1896 Melbourne Cup.

Newsreels that showed street-scenes, cityscapes and national events were regularly put on dis-



play for public viewing. The clip featured above is one of these newsreels. It was shot circa 1906 and is now part of a collection held at the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra.

This footage documents the heart of Sydney's inner city: the

length of pavement that stretches from Circular Quay to Town Hall. From atop one of Sydney's electric trams, the cameraman captures the movement of busy George Street. Suited men and women in long skirts and broad-brimmed hats

continued on page 6



Oz - Papua forge deal on asylum seekers

Australia is hardening its line for handling refugees seeking illegal immigration by boat from East Indian and Asian ports.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd warned that all refugees who arrive in the country by boat will be resettled on the island nation of Papua New Guinea, which has agreed to accept a certain number.

This Canberra policy shift stirred the enmity of rights groups, which immediately condemned the measure as cruel and heartless.

The move is to deter, and thereby reduce, an escalating number of asylum seekers who try to access Australia illegally in rickety fishing boats from poor, war-torn homelands through other countries such as Indonesia and Malaysia.

With an election just months away, and with Government very much the underdog, the issue is a crisis for Rudd's Labor Party.

Maori immigrants find life is sweeter in Australia

More and more Maori are finding the "good life" in Australia suits them nicely. They especially like the better pay and a better chance of being highly educated.

To them Oz is the lucky country and the lure of higher wages has sped the growth of the Maori community there.

Australians, never slow to create their brand of labels for everything and every one, call them "Mozzies." And a University of Waikato study says practice and popularity of migrating is likely to continue.

The estimate is there are about 128,430 Maoris on the west side of the ditch (The Tasman Sea), according to Australia's 2011 census. And a Stats NZ estimate puts Maori numbers in New Zealand at 682,200 in 2012.

Not only was migration a driver of the growing Maori population in Australia, but so were births – an indication that conditions were good enough to stay and raise families there, researcher Shefali Pawar said.

One in three Maori in Australia was born there, and the Australian-born contingent has grown at a faster rate than the population of New Zealand-born Maori living there – more than doubling in number between 2001 and 2011, according to a Fairfax News report.

Data from the 2011 Oz census found that a strong Maori migration motivator was the higher pay in Australia.

For NZ-born Maori men in Australia, median income was NZ\$54,964 – just shy of the median for the total Australia male population of NZ\$57,301. However, it was still below the median income for Kiwi-born non-Maori in Australia, which was NZ\$63,148, the census study found.

In June 2012 the median annual salary for Maori men in New Zealand was NZ\$44,876 compared with NZ\$52,000 for European men, according to NZ statistics.

Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu, with eyes on EU, link in trade initiative

Three Pacific Commonwealth countries have signed a pact to rationalize assets and improve aid to their island nations and a relationship with the European Union.

The trio, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu put their signatures to a memorandum of understanding last month to expand a Pacific region body.

The three nations follow Kiribati and Vanuatu, also Commonwealth members, which signed the MOU in May and June, according to the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat.

The development initiative is to rationalize an aid-for-trade agreement between Pacific island nations and the EU, and boost the islands' economies, Tonga's Minister for Commerce Tourism and Labour, Dr Vilami Uasike Latu, said.

Clearly, Tonga supports the initiative and looks forward to its operation, she added. Expectations are that other Pacific island states will also sign on, recognizing the importance of trade enhancement in the region's economy.

US and NZ press for Antarctic zones where fishing is banned

The governments of New Zealand and the United States are joining forces to shelter Antarctica and its waters from the ravages of damaging commercialization.

The region shelters the planet's only continent that is wholly protected from mining and other economic activity, save tourism. Currently it's a place where nature, not commerce, rules. But protection ends at the water's edge.

According to a NYT review, while the land mass itself is pretty much a biological desert, Antarctic waters are full of life. Krill especially, is sustenance for a whole range of ocean harvesting. This, in turn, attracts international fishing fleets. Over the past decade international fishing fleets have ravaged the seas, selectively and thus wastefully in many cases.

The fact that the Antarctic Ocean is one of the most intact marine ecosystems on the

planet, and one of the most fragile, demands the world considers its protection. Now is the time to start.

As result, the US and NZ are proposing creative ways of establishing two major marine reserves. These are being assayed at a meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (the international body that governs Antarctic waters). It meets in Bremerhaven, Germany.

The proposals would protect some 600,000 square miles of ocean in the Ross Sea and an additional 733,000 square miles off the East Antarctic coast. The area of the proposed marine reserves, where fishing would be prohibited, are about the size of all the marine reserves created so far around the world.

Opponents include Russia, Ukraine, China, Japan and South Korea. They favor a managed fishing policy in the area the way it is done elsewhere, but perhaps with limits.

The global realities of fisheries where regulations are too often flouted makes it clear that the most effective antidote to declining fish populations is the creation of totally protected marine reserves.

Heavy rains wrinkle Quake City's much-touted cardboard cathedral

Remember that cardboard cathedral that they built in Christchurch to replace the one crumpled by the mammoth September 2010 earthquake?

Well, last month it went wrinkly in the rain. But hold your scoffing, you doubters of the promise there was 20-years of longevity in that project.

Sure, a number of cardboard columns that give the transitional cathedral its name, have wrinkled and discoloured after June-July downpours. And workers on site had to change gears, from building to cutting out the warped sections of cardboard.

But listen, the bosses said the rain damage has no bearing on the structural integrity of the \$5.3 million transitional cathedral on Latimer Square. The oft delayed opening – February, then Easter; and then July – is now set for August.

Reporter Charlie Gates of Fairfax News said Naylor Love Construction director Scott Watson has allowed that such weather damage to the cardboard tubes was always expected....The cardboard was cosmetic only, with the building load carried by timber beams concealed inside the tubes.

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



The Ashes

The Ashes is a Test cricket series played between England and Australia since 1882. It is one of the most celebrated rivalries in international sport and is played biennially, alternately in England and Australia. Cricket being a summer sport, and the venues being in opposite hemispheres, the break between series alternates between 18 and 30 months. An Ashes series comprises five Test matches, two innings per match, under the regular rules for Test match cricket. If a series is drawn then the country already holding the Ashes retains them.

The series is named after a satirical obituary published in a British newspaper, *The Sporting Times*, in 1882 after a match at the Oval in which Australia beat England on an English ground for the first time. The obituary stated that English cricket had died, and the body will be cremated and the ashes taken to Australia. The English media dubbed the next English tour to Australia (1882–83) as the quest to regain the Ashes.

During that tour a small terracotta urn was presented to England captain Ivo Bligh by a group of Melbourne women. The contents of the urn are reputed to be the ashes of an item of cricket equipment, a bail.

The urn is not, and has never been, the official trophy of the Ashes series, having

been a personal gift to Bligh. However, replicas of the urn are often held aloft by victorious teams as a symbol of their victory in an Ashes series. Whichever side holds the Ashes, the urn remains in the Marylebone Cricket Club Museum at Lord's since being presented to the MCC by Bligh's widow upon his death. In 2006–07 the urn was taken to Australia and exhibited at each of the Test match grounds in connection with that year's England tour.

Since the 1998–99 Ashes series, a Waterford Crystal representation of the Ashes urn has been presented to the winners of an Ashes series as the official trophy of that series. England are currently the holders, having defeated Australia in both the 2009 and 2010/11 series in England and Australia respectively. [WebLink]

(There is also a Women's Ashes series)

Countries: Australia, England

Administrator: International Cricket Council

Format: Test cricket

First tournament: 1882/83

Next tournament: 2013

Tournament format: 5-match series

Number of teams: 2

Current trophy holder: England

Most successful: Australia (31 titles)

Most runs: Donald Bradman (5,028)

Most wickets: Shane Warne (195)

History, continued from page 4

dart across the tram tracks while bicycle riders roll through town alongside horse-drawn wagons that carry goods and people from one side of the city to the other.

The silent footage shows the tram roll its way down George Street, past shopfronts and sandstone

buildings that still exist today, such as the General Post Office in Martin Place and the Queen Victoria Building.

"The clarity of the image is exceptional considering the footage was captured in the first real decade of moving image cinematography," says Gayle Lake, curator at the National Film and Sound Archive

"Seeing George Street alive with people, vehicles and the slow pass of trams highlights why film archives are so important," she says. "Memories would be long forgotten and impossible to recreate without the collection, preservation and sharing of our history."

Text by Joanna Egan. Read more: [WebLink].



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