



**CHURCHILL
FELLOWS'
ASSOCIATION**

Enrichingsociety

www.churchillfellowswa.org.au

Churchill Fellows Annual Dinner

Date: Thursday 16 November

**Venue: Mercure Hotel
Irwin Street, Perth**



The Churchill Fellows WA gala dinner is always an enjoyable celebration of welcoming the new Fellows, hearing a summary of their project aims, and socialising with good food and wine.

It follows the Presentation of the 2017 Fellows to Her Excellency Mrs Kerry Sanderson, Governor of Western Australia, at Government House, so it is a very exciting evening.

Tickets for the 3-course menu and drinks are \$90 per person and guests are welcome. Drinks will be served from 6.45pm.

Book with Trybookings online on the CFAWA website link. If you have any queries, please contact Treasurer Anne McCrudden on 0408 903 631 or email treasurer@churchillfellowswa.org.au

For those who would like to stay overnight, Mercure Hotel is offering a Special of a Superior Room Upgrade with full Buffet Breakfast at the Standard Room rate. Contact Rachel Manfre in Reservations on rachel.manfre@accor.com

'Lucky 13' WA Churchill Fellows

**REWARDING AUSTRALIANS STRIVING
FOR EXCELLENCE**



Thirteen West Australians are amongst 109 national Churchill Fellows just announced by The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for 2017. They were selected from 1140 applicants nationally with Fellowships worth over \$2.8 million in total being awarded.

"Their projects challenge the status quo addressing issues of national significance and local benefit," said Churchill Trust Australia CEO Adam Davey.

"Some of the successful applications share similar topic areas, but no project is the same. For example, a number will explore interventions related to 'children in care' yet they address different aspects of the varied circumstances children are in," said Mr Davey.

For the full list of New Fellows and their projects turn to the back page.

2017 National Convention Canberra 27th – 29th October

Connect with your Fellow peers and find new ways to collaborate by sharing 'What Happened Next...?'

The ACT Churchill Fellows' Association is hosting the National Convention, which connects Fellows from around Australia.

We all recall how excited and motivated we were when we returned from our Fellowship journey, full of information and ideas to share about new ways of doing things and new pathways to explore.

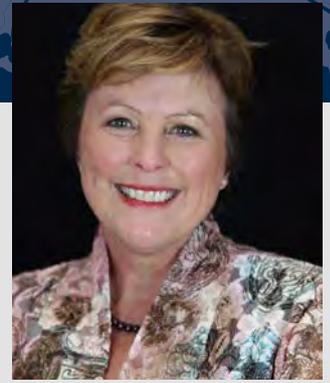
Join the conversation on 'What Happened Next?' through short presentations (TedX style), facilitated conversations, Q&A sessions and focus groups to uncover new ways to collaborate in the future.

For a unique and enlightening perspective of Canberra through the work of local Fellows you can join walking, cycling and bus tours.

Register at www.churchilltrust.com.au/events/



President's Annual Report



Your Committee was busy behind the scenes this year. The change in timing of the selection and awarding of new Fellows resulted in holding two rounds of Fellowships, with two Welcome dinners.

We jointly hosted Information Sessions with the Trust's CEO Adam Davey and Julia Quantrill with over 100 applicants in Perth, then Broome and Albany, where Rejane LeGrange and Fellow Jacqui Hamblin presented a session.

CFAWA is represented on the selection panel and contributed a half-fellowship.

The Committee is largely focused on supporting new Fellows by arranging mentors, an induction morning, their presentation to the Governor, and the Awards Dinner to meet other Fellows, as well as recognising Medallionists following Fellows travel and Report.

In 2018, based on the feedback from our Survey, we are looking to hold a themed topic event eg health, young people, environment.

A big thank you to the current Committee - Rebecca Prince-Ruiz, Troy Kirkham, Sue Benson, Keren McCullagh (Secretary), Anne McCrudden (Treasurer), Mike Coe, Mike Bell, Floeur Alder, and Rejane LeGrange (Vice President).

I would like to acknowledge the many contributions of mentors and the broader community.

Dr Shelda Debowski
President

New Committee Members



Left to right: Fiona Donaldson, Rob Donaldson and Rikki Smith.

Some recent returnees **Fiona Donaldson (2016)** and **Rikki Smith (2016)** were still glowing from their Fellowship experience at the AGM, and offered practical advice to new comers.

Wanting to give back, they have joined the Committee along with Fiona's husband Rob, an IT guru who set up a template to make daily reporting easier.

Some of the 'newly-minted' WA Fellows attended the 2017 AGM where they were welcomed and reassured of support.

"You will find your professional standing will elevate quite quickly on your return and take you to places that you haven't imagined at this stage," advised the President.

Remembering Past President Carole King

We recently lost **Carole King (1997)**, who served as CFAWA President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Dinner Organiser in 2005 and beyond.

Famous for her passion, smile and exceptional communication skills, Carole (73) latterly lived with Parkinson's Disease, which limited her activities. However, she still loved to assist at and attend Fellowship functions.

Originally from Coventry in England, Carole proved to be a fighter with a remarkable range of talents and ability to rise to a challenge.

In 1983 she found herself a single mum with two young boys Stewart and Andrew. Not wanting to line up for social benefits, she ventured out and volunteered for the America's Cup Defence. It led to her marketing the Kondinin Group.

This was highly successful and nearly took out the National Enterprise Workshop for creative and entrepreneurial new business idea.

She followed her agricultural dream to connect real agriculture with the real world, and successfully applied for a Churchill Fellowship to investigate the dissemination of agricultural information to the wider community.

Her family said being a Fellow was a real highlight of her life.





Champion of children's wellbeing

Prof Donna Cross (2016) was another Churchill Fellow finalist in this year's WA Scientist of the Year for dedicating her career to improving the social, mental and emotional wellbeing of children and adolescents.

Donna is a Professor with the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at UWA, and the Telethon Kids Institute. She has an international reputation for developing community-based interventions to reduce bullying and aggression among young people.

She is currently Head of Health Promotion and Education Research and the Director, Early Childhood Development and Learning Collaboration (CoLab).

Some of her projects are:

Belong: Reducing the negative, social-emotional wellbeing and mental health of students who are deaf or hard of hearing in Years 4-6.

Cola: Enhancing service delivery and capacity of communities to improve child development and learning.

Cyber Leader Project: Co-designing a website to develop leadership skills and knowledge about cyber safe practices.

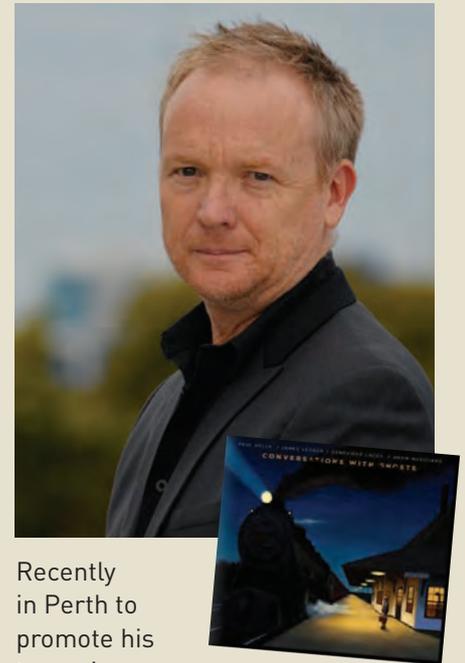
Children's Diabetes Research Centre: Understanding how changes in blood glucose levels affect anxiety and mental wellbeing for students with Type 1 Diabetes, and possible interventions.

Energy Drink Project: Investigating energy drink consumption in young people (12-17 years) - why they drink them, what they think of them and any negative health effects.

"The influence of technology on children's and adolescents' development and learning is dynamic, given technology and cyber contexts are constantly changing. Having to wait for research to be published means it is often out-of-date."

My Fellowship enabled me to immediately share my team's research and deeply understand the current cyber research of my colleagues. It allowed me to build a stronger collaborative network of researchers who can collectively respond more dynamically than was previously possible in Australia."

Two major talents in harmony



Recently in Perth to promote his tour, singer songwriter Paul Kelly paid tribute on the ABC to Churchill Fellow and composer, **James Ledger (2008)** with whom he co-composed the ARIA award-winning song-cycle *Conversations with Ghosts* in 2011.

The pieces were based on poems by Les Murray, W B Yeats, Judith Wright, Lord Alfred Tennyson and others, as well as some new lyrics from Paul.

James was the composer-in-residence at the Australian National Academy of Music at the time. Today, he is a composer of contemporary classical music, and lecturer in composition at the School of Music at UWA.

He was awarded his Churchill Fellowship to research contemporary compositional practice with a focus on new music in Estonia.

2015 saw the premiere of a new large-scale work for West Australian Symphony Orchestra and for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra to mark the ANZAC centenary commemorations.

Pipe Organ lifts the roof

Dominic Perissinotto (1991) unleashed the grand organ at The Basilica of St Patrick in Fremantle recently, using the organ's four keyboards and pedals, and 6,000 pipes spread over 87 stops.

He played some of the finest French organ works ever written in a spectacular solo concert called *Creator*.

"It was a concert full of French flavour and colour" said Dominic.

Photo courtesy of Post Newspapers



Sharing the Experience

Better maps for re-introduction of species

2016 Fellow Kenny Travouillon's Report on 'the diversity of bandicoots and bilbies through time and space' is now up on the Churchill Trust website. You can view the report following this [link](#).

His Fellowship was an Australian Biological Resources Study Churchill Fellowship in which Kenny travelled to the UK, France, Germany, and USA.

It has resulted in brand new discoveries, and rediscoveries. Analysis of the results so far is confirming that the extinct Pig-footed Bandicoot was not one, but two species. The Western Barred-bandicoot is a complex on at least 5 species, 4 of which had been named in the past, and one unnamed species in the Nullarbor region.

"Organisations involved in conservation often use distribution maps to work out where they will reintroduce a species. Unfortunately, some are the result of lumping of multiple species together or incomplete work. There is a desperate need for some of the maps to be re-evaluated."

"I hope that my research will help in the decision making, especially for the Western Barred-bandicoot, which is getting introduced in areas it never had occurred in before. This has the potential of being a big issue if it is not able to adapt to the new habitat it is being introduced to."



Collaboration imperative to success

"Alcohol and other drug use (AOD) in pregnancy is a major public health concern that can lead to poorer maternal and infant health outcomes."

"Currently, there is no model in Australia that combines community health centre, day care centre, emergency shelter and long term housing for women and children with co-occurring AOD use, mental health issues and family domestic violence."

My Fellowship, sponsored by Churchill Fellows Association WA, unequivocally shows that:

- Collaborative, cross sector partnerships are the key to success for families with complex needs.
- Multidisciplinary health, housing and primary health, with a suite of services including child care, can be achieved.

- Relationship-building between staff and community partners is fundamental to achieving outcomes.
- All services provided in one centre rather than multiple appointments across town reduce stress on women.

Angela will be presenting her findings to Health Services, Women and Newborn Drug and Alcohol Study Days, and meet with shared partners such as Housing, Department of Child Protection and Family Support (now Department of Communities), and Health to see how we could achieve similar success as Canada and the US.

"I will also advocate through local, state based and national health and government networks at the Department of Health and Perinatal Mental Health Networks for improved services for women and children with AOD and complex mental health issues."

Angela's full report is on the Churchill Trust website. Just click on this [link](#).



Angela (second left) with the Management Team of the Maxine Wright Community Health Centre.

2017 Churchill Fellows

Name	Project
Louise Devenish	The Mr and Mrs Gerald Frank New Churchill Fellowship to study European percussion music creation/performance, research methodologies and pedagogy - Germany, France, Switzerland, UK
Michelle Dival	To study specialised building design of homes/work places for individuals on the autism spectrum - USA, France, Netherlands, Denmark, UK
Fiona Ewington	To develop military doctrine on Maritime Trade Operations employment to protect trade interests - UK, Greece, Germany, Portugal, USA
Jon Haines	To investigate global best practice character development strategies for adolescent males - Canada, USA, UK
Anna Hilyard	To develop an internet treatment program for children with persistent pain in regional Australia - Sweden, UK, Canada, USA
Gwendolyn Knox	The Gilbert Spottiswood Churchill Fellowship to research theatre in post conflict communities and how it can inform my work in Indigenous communities - UK, Ireland, Indonesia
Larissa Meysner	To investigate and learn how to best treat post-traumatic stress disorder in a residential setting - Netherlands, UK, USA
Robert Nairn	To examine the impact of principal preparation programs in preparing leaders for the role of principal - Singapore, UK, Denmark, Norway, USA
Brian Roche	To investigate if supported decision making will reduce elder financial abuse in Australia - UK, Canada
Olivia Samec	The Department for Child Protection and Family Support Churchill Fellowship to investigate innovative initiatives to improve literacy and well-being of children in state care - UK, Italy, Austria, USA
Paul Tunzi	To investigate advanced conservation techniques and the maintenance of historical keyboard instruments - UK, France, Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany
Deborah West	To explore aphasia therapies which optimise communication from hospital to home post stroke - USA, Finland, Denmark, Iceland
Felicity Zempilas	To achieve best practice in the Western Australian Mental Health Court - USA

Churchill Fellows Talent Bank



The Churchill Trust often receives requests for suggestions of Fellows who would be suitable speakers or experts on various topics.

In line with the Trust's aim of working on ways to further promote our Fellows' research, the Trust is creating a Churchill Fellows Talent Bank.

The Talent Bank will be a go-to source for media, conference organisers and other interested parties seeking expertise from Churchill Fellows.

It is an excellent way to share your experience and knowledge with other people in your field.

You can register your details online by clicking on the link below.

www.churchilltrust.com.au/resources/talent-bank-registration-form/

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