



THE INDEPENDENT ARTS
IAF
FOUNDATION (S.A.) INC.
Supporting emerging South Australian artists since 1991

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

Patron: Jessica Dames AM



Dr John Holmes, outgoing Chair, accepting the UNESCO award given to the Independent Arts Foundation for 'nurturing and supporting South Australian talent and promoting artistic excellence over three decades'.

The award was presented by Her Excellency The Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and Mr Rod Bunten, joint patrons of UNESCO Clubs – Adelaide Chapter.

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Board Matters

Board Report

The IAF AGM was held on November 15th November 2022, with the Chair, Dr John Holmes, advising that it was the 30th AGM and the 31st since establishment of the Foundation.

At the AGM, it was reported that 2021-22 had been a year of great celebration for the IAF. Along with the customary club activities and special events, the IAF board had been committed to celebrating its 30th Anniversary. Special events were held at Government House and the Adelaide Town Hall, with the IAF Board keen to ensure that the celebrations were a triumph of pride and enjoyment. Much organisation by Mary Odlum, Jen Dunstan and John went into ensuring every member was invited to attend either Government House or the Town Hall Celebrations.

At the reception at Government House, John talked with the Governor, Her Excellency Frances Adamson AC about the IAF past and future, comments which she said resonated with what she was hearing across the volunteer fund-raising sectors in SA.

On Monday 21 November 2022, the IAF received an award by the Adelaide Chapter of the UNESCO clubs, presented by the Governor.

Around these events, Jen Dunstan organised monthly Film Night screenings, we had a Burt Surmon Literary Lunch in March, and Cheryl Appelkamp de Valenzuela opened the Literary Dinner in May.

Chloe Dunstan spear-headed the “Investing in Artists’ Futures” fund-raising letter to members and the Board is very grateful to all who supported this campaign, which raised \$11,000.

The IAF Small Grants Committee made a thorough assessment and reporting of applications for grant rounds. This is our mission, to raise funds for emerging artists. In the financial year 2021-2022, the IAF gave \$29,920 in small grants, sponsorships and awards.

Good governance is our legal obligation. The Board prepared a new Constitution in line with Federal Government expectations. This is a sleek and eminently readable document. We have ticked that box after much work by our team. Thank you to Margaret Lynch, Helen Onopko and Mary Odlum with very generous pro bono support from Nick Linke of Dentons law firm.

Membership numbers are now around 175 and there has been no increase to membership fees.

At the time of finalising the Newsletter (we are later than planned), we can now report that we are delighted to have the leadership of Interim Chair Dr Moira Simpson who is ably steering us through strategic planning to a new Board. Moira will remain as Interim Chair until our AGM later in the year.

Moira has wide contacts within the Arts industry and has put in wonderful effort to secure interest from many high profile persons in contributing to the Board in various areas – Chair, marketing and public relations. The Board is energised by Moira’s efforts and is proceeding with fund-raising activities and strategic planning.

We look forward to 2023 and many more years of events to support South Australian emerging artists.

Farewell to Dr John Holmes as Chair of IAF



Sadly, in November 2022, our IAF Chair, Dr John Holmes announced that he would retire from the Board to allow him to spend more time at his new home on Kangaroo Island with his partner Kym.

John joined the Board in August 2015 and took over as Chair from Frank Ford in 2016 after serving as Deputy Chair.

John was a very generous, active, and involved Chair, often hosting Board meetings in his home with enjoyable refreshments afterwards around his kitchen bench organised by Kym. The Board would like to thank John and Kym for their wonderful hospitality over the years.

Many of John's friends became members and attended events. He organised many special literary events through his network of local authors to help raise funds for the IAF.

John was instrumental in the setting up of a Small Grants Subcommittee and a formal assessment process was introduced by Moira Simpson as inaugural Chair, followed by David McClay.

John also worked with Carclew and the Helpmann Academy on the selection process for external grant awards funded by the IAF. With John's encouragement, some of the Board visited the Blyth Film Club for the first time when it was still a part of the IAF and such a great time was had by all that we did it a couple more times!

Thank you, John, for your proactive dedication and commitment to the IAF over the past several years. Your kindness, humour, warmth, and statesmanship has served us well.

Thank you to David McClay, Board Member & Chair, IAF Small Grants Subcommittee

David joined the IAF Board in 2019 after being a member for many years. Initially David helped with the Film Club and as a member of the Small Grants Subcommittee, taking over as Chair when Dr Moira Simpson stepped down.

David was an extremely organised and thoughtful member of the IAF Board and his work as Chair of the Small Grants Subcommittee was exceptional. David stepped down in November 2022.

Thank you, David.



Introducing Interim Chair, Dr Moira Simpson



Moira trained as an artist, teacher and curator, completing a BA in Arts, a Post-graduate Certificate of Education, and a Masters degree in Museum Studies. In 2010 she completed her doctoral thesis on the development of culturally appropriate ethnomuseology. She has since completed a Certificate 4 in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management.

Moira has been a member of the Independent Arts Foundation and the IAF Small Grants Subcommittee since 2016.

She now runs her own business, Evocative Arts, marketing her artwork, teaching visual arts classes to adults, and organising workshops taught by guest tutors from Australia and overseas (see www.evocativearts.com.au).

She is also a freelance writer and the editor of Textile Fibre Forum magazine, a specialist fibre arts magazine published in Australia and distributed internationally.

In early 2023, she took on the role of Interim Chair of the Board and looks forward to contributing to strategic planning of future IAF fundraising events that will raise the profile of the IAF, attract new audiences, and provide engaging arts experiences that showcase the talents of South Australian artists and provide further support for emerging artists.

Introducing Board Members Margaret Lynch and Carol Maelzer



Margaret has been a member of the IAF since 2020 and later that year she was invited to participate in the Small Grants Subcommittee. She was pleased to join the Board in November 2021.

Margaret has broad experience in education, strategy, policy and administration. She has worked with both state and national government and non-government executive personnel on a range of projects and initiatives. Her expertise is in governance, people and culture, risk management, and political acumen.

Margaret has established her own policy and education consultancy which enables her to create space in her life to pursue her interest in the arts.

She has a long-standing interest in the arts and enjoys going to a diversity of arts genres such as performances, exhibitions and talks. Margaret is committed to equity and inclusion, good governance and collaborative working relationships.



Carol has been a member of IAF for over fifteen years and joined the Board in November 2022.

She has very much enjoyed the events organised by the IAF and has actively attended many functions over the years. She enjoys the arts as an audience member and believes that society is so much richer for these artists. She believes that the success of the IAF resides not only with members actively participating but also to the dedication and resilience of the Board members that organise events for members to enjoy.

Carol has a broad range of managerial skills, from education, HR, public governance, events management, communication, and administration.

Rather than being a passive supporter, Carol is keen to work with other board members to contribute to the longevity of the IAF and to create opportunities for the many emerging artists that make our society so much more enjoyable and richer.

New IAF Constitution

By Margaret Lynch

In September 2021, the Federal Government passed a law that requires not-for-profit fund-raising organisations like the IAF to register as a charity. We had to do this so that we could continue to provide tax-deductible receipts for donations.

As part of the registration process, we had to provide the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) with a copy of our governing document which is the Constitution.

The Board reviewed the Constitution prior to undertaking the process and noted that the document was 30 years old. It was decided that it was timely to revise the Constitution which then occurred in consultation with a pro-bono lawyer.

A draft of the new Constitution was circulated to members for feedback in June 2022. After the required consultation period feedback was incorporated as appropriate into a final draft Constitution.

A Special General Meeting of members was held on 21 June 2022 and members present at this meeting, and those who provided a proxy vote, unanimously passed the new Constitution.

The process of registering as a charity then occurred and on 26 July 2022 the ACNC approved our registration effective from 14 December 2022.

You can read the new Constitution on our website under the Publications tab.

There are several important obligations that the IAF must meet to stay registered, and the Board will ensure that we do this.

UNESCO

Award

On Monday 21 November 2022, the IAF was presented with a UNESCO Achievement Award at a reception at Northgate house, beautiful home of Mrs Rosemary Milisits OAM, DCHSJ, DSJ, Vice Patron and Benefactor of UNESCO Adelaide.

The IAF received this for “nurturing and supporting South Australian talent and promoting artistic excellence over three decades”.

Dr John Holmes, IAF Chair, received the award on behalf of the Independent Arts Foundation from the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC.



IAF Board members: Jen Dunstan, Mary Odlum, John Holmes, Margaret Lynch and Cheryl Appelkamp de Valenzuela pictured with Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Frances Adamson AC and Mr Rod Buntun, joint patrons of UNESCO Clubs – Adelaide Chapter, along with Mrs Rosemary Milisits OAM, DCHSJ, DSJ, Vice Patron and Benefactor of UNESCO Clubs – Adelaide Chapter.

Citation



Below is the Citation given by Mrs Helen M Rice, Chairperson, UNESCO Clubs – Adelaide Chapter

“Your Excellency and Mr Bunten, I commend to you, the Independent Arts Foundation, a non-profit organisation, supporting the Arts in all its forms.

South Australia’s reputation for artistic excellence is strong, and crucial to maintaining and growing this reputation, is how we nurture up-coming generations of South Australian artists.

For three decades, the Independent Arts Foundation has played an important role in achieving this by providing much-needed funds to emerging practitioners through awards, scholarships and grants. In the past decade, \$250,000 have been awarded.

The dynamic nature of the Foundation and its members is evident from its earliest days, with people such as Jessica Dames, Di Laidlaw, and the late Frank Ford, instrumental in its early success.

The Independent Arts Foundation encourages young South Australian artists to develop their talent in South Australia, Australia and overseas. Be it in the field of literature, film, all the performing arts e.g., opera, ballet and theatre, music and the visual arts, scholarships and grants are awarded. During the pandemic this funding has been crucial for artists, given the limitations around live events and overseas travel.

Special events which were both enjoyable celebrations and fundraisers, have always been well attended and supported. For example, Writers’ Week Garden Party, in the form of brunch on the lawns of Government House, with entertaining talks by the stars and authors, was a fun way for Writers’ Week to begin.

The Independent Arts Foundation also seeks corporate sponsors, for the grant to be in the corporate sponsor’s name and administered by the Foundation.

For the past six years, Dr John Holmes has been Chairperson of the Independent Arts Foundation and has just stepped down at the AGM. The Foundation thought it fitting to ask Dr. Holmes to accept the Award on its behalf as a way of acknowledging his outstanding contribution to the Foundation, and of showing its gratitude.

Your Excellency and Mr Bunten, I commend to you, The Independent Arts Foundation.”

30th Anniversary celebrations

“30th Anniversary celebrations will be extensive and encompassing of as many members and grant recipients as possible - and it all starts next week! It will be a time to reflect and congratulate, a time to acknowledge our past, and to plan for the future.

“However, we have a declining membership, and we have ongoing venue issues which don’t always suit our fund-raising needs. At the start of 2021 your Board determined to forge ahead with gusto to our 30th, and two months ago we made major plans for a huge fundraising effort. Quite frankly, it was either that or a slow demise – and in that we are not alone in the fundraising Arts world.” (John Holmes, Chair IAF, quote from 2021 IAF AGM Chair’s report)



John Holmes, Chair IAF

Special events. Government House and the Adelaide Town Hall.



Chloe Dunstan and Kym Smith (venue: Town Hall)

In celebration of our 30th Anniversary a special event was held at Government House on the 15 November 2021.

On the 17th of November 2021, once more many members gathered for more wonderful celebrations at the Town Hall.

Irene Kalibatas, Jessica Dames AM,
Helen Onopko and Marg Jude (venue Town Hall)



The reception at the Town Hall was hosted by the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Sandy Verschoor.

With the IAF Board. Jen Dunstan, Chloe Dunstan, David McClay, Margaret Lynch, John Holmes, Mary Odlum, Cheryl Appelkamp de Valenzuela and Helen Onopko.

Treasurer's Report

By Mary Odlum

The IAF became registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) effective from 14 December 2021. This allows us to continue to receive tax deductible donations.

In the financial year 2021-2022, the IAF gave \$29,920 in small grants, sponsorships and awards. Of this:

- \$24,920 was awarded in IAF Small Grants awards, five to individual artists and five to groups.
- \$2,000 sponsorship was provided to the Holden Street Theatre Fringe Artists' Program.
- \$500 as continued support to the Young Film Maker Award at the Fleurieu Film Festival
- \$1,000 for the Adelaide Critics' Circle Innovation Award.
- \$1,500 as a first-time donation of to the Adelaide Youth Orchestra to fund two student scholarships.

Membership numbers are now around 175 and there has been no increase to membership fees.

A full financial report was presented at the AGM on 15 November 2022.

Our film nights were held regularly at Wallis Cinemas, Mitcham. Our literary dinners were held from August to November 2021, starting up again on a monthly basis from May 2022 at The Maid, Stepney.

A very successful special literary lunch was held at the Havelock in March 2022.

The IAF income comes from members and friends attending these events, supporting the raffles, paying membership fees and making donations. All funds raised go towards supporting emerging artists. We thank all of you that support us.

We had a great initial response (\$11,000) to our fund-raising campaign 'Investing in Artists' Futures' and we thank all who donated so generously. These funds were used in 2022 Round 2 of IAF Small Grants which were awarded in November 2022.

Please see our separate report on our 2022 grant and award recipients.

Donations

We would like to acknowledge the donations received from July 2021 to November 2022 from members and non-members who donated either to our fund-raising campaign, direct to the special fund-raising account, or added a donation when renewing membership or booking an event, or who gifted their ticket payment in lieu of attendance when they found they couldn't attend.

Jill Argent OAM	Pat Katnich
Ian Banks	Anne Kelly
Patsy Bennett	Diana Laidlaw AM
Madeleine Blackwell	Eric Llewelyn
Gavin & Joanna Blake	Don Loffler
Wendy Braund	Fred Mann (Equilink)
Vincent & Josephine Burke	Jean Matthews
Gabriela Callaghan	Silvana Mazarro
Judy Connor	David McClay
Sonia Coorey	Merilyn McPhee
Jessica Dames AM	Ines Medianik
Christopher & Linda Dibden	Mill Textile Arts Group
Kathryn Dickenson	Felicity Morgan
Beverley Dilena	Lyn Muller
Robert Doddridge	Philip Nicholas
Jen Dunstan	Mary Odlum
Diana M Evans	Heather Parkes
Elaine Fardell	Diana Phillips
Lucy Flintoff	Sherry Proferes
Linda Gelati	Stephanie Ratnaike
Peter Gill	Helen Robinson
Micheleine Hannaford	Petra Starke
Samela Harris	Miranda Starke
Elizabeth Hutchins	Jeni & Burt Surmon
Sam Harvey	Wendy Wauchope
Garry Hiskey	Robina & Glen Weir
John Holmes	Liz Wilson
Anne Jensen	Mary Wilson
Glenys Jones OAM	Sue & David Wiseman

Donations can be made at any time! Simply add one when you book for an event or renew your membership via Trybooking! To donate to our ongoing fund-raising campaign, please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/investinginartists> or contact the Treasurer on 0457 857 385. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

IAF Grant and Award Recipients

The IAF provides funding to support South Australian arts and artists through its small grants and several other awards in the donor's name. Successful recipients are required to submit a small report describing how the grant was used and the benefits that have been gained from the financial support. These reports are posted on the IAF webpage at www.iafoundation.org.au

Recipients of IAF Small Grants, July 2021 to December 2022

Grant Recipients	Event / Venue	Date Awarded
SAYarts To support approximately thirty artists with the production of two Fringe shows (<i>Story Monsters</i> and <i>Girl World</i>)	Adelaide Fringe 2022	August 2021
Lewis Constantine - Tutti Arts – <i>Truly Scrumptious</i> First Solo Art Exhibition	Adelaide Fringe 2022	October 2021
Lina Limosani Projekt Moxie - four emerging dancers to perform <i>Declivity</i>	Adelaide Fringe 2022	November 2021
Kira Yang for "o!ky productions": <i>Not Your Average Asian Girl</i>	Adelaide Fringe 2022	November 2021
Caitlin Bowe Scottish Sculpture Workshop for the Bronze Age Casting Course and Open Access in July/Aug	Workshop, International (Scotland)	2019, funds given in April 2022
Caitlin Moyr and Miles Dunne <i>Viewpoint</i> , an immersive multimedia exhibition at The Lab	SALA Festival August 2022	June 2022
Fern Milnes <i>Biophilia</i> , a photographic series and short dance films in collaboration with emerging photographer, Ahlia Sanders.	Photographic series and short dance films	June 2022
Samantha Garton Tutti Arts - <i>Pieces of Happiness</i> , First Solo Art Exhibition	Emerging Artists Gallery, RAH Oct 2022 to Feb 2023	June 2022
Madeline Grammatopoulos Directors course at National Film & Television School, UK in July 2022	Course, International (UK)	June 2022
CRAM Collection (a new independent South Australian arts company) <i>Something Big</i> , Theatre production	Theatre production, June 2022	June 2022
Matthew and Lucas Bugeja Bugeja Studio towards the production of the short film <i>Thereafter</i> (working title)	Production of short film	November 2022
Samuel Hall Production of <i>Womb</i> - rehearsal and performance season	Production at The Lab	November 2022
Jessica Murtagh Support for first solo exhibition at Grainger Gallery	Exhibition at Grainger Gallery	December 2022

Sponsorships / Other Awards: July 2021 to December 2022

Young Filmmakers Award (under 24 years of age), Fleurieu Film Festival

- Awarded February 2022
- Grant recipient: Ryan Farr for *Flugelbound*
- Purpose: Short Film

Critics Circle Award – Award for Innovation

- Awarded December 2021
- Grant recipients: Joanne Hartstone & Tom Kitney (Hartstone/Kitney Productions)
- Purpose: Vimeo subscription

Critics Circle Award – Award for Innovation

- Awarded December 2022
- Grant recipients: The Bowerbird Collective
- Purpose: for *Life on Land's Edge*.

Holden Street Theatres

- Awarded February 2022
- Purpose: HST Fringe Program, includes IAF promoted on the back cover

Adelaide Youth Orchestra

- Awarded May 2022
- Grant recipients: Adelaide Youth Orchestra
- Purpose: Two scholarships for Adelaide Youth Orchestra

Russell Starke Small Grant

- Awarded November 2022
- Grant recipient: Clementine Benson
- Purpose: To participate in a one-month professional development program with two internationally recognised choreographers.

Russell Starke Small Grant 2022: Broadening access to the arts in country SA

Sadly, Russell Starke passed away earlier in 2022.

Russell was an IAF member and a regular attendee at IAF functions. Russell's daughters, Miranda and Petra generously donated a one-off individual IAF Small Grant in Russell's memory. To reflect on Russell's background in regional and rural South Australia the small grant was targeted at "*an emerging artist who comes from, or who intends to present their work in, country South Australia*".

The successful recipient was Clementine Benson. Clementine is a regional dancer, who will undertake a structured program of overseas professional development, mentoring, secondment and shadowing to increase her capacity and understanding of cutting-edge contemporary dance practice.

Literary Club Report

By Cheryl Appelkamp de Valenzuela



The Literary Club finished its 2021 season with a pre-Christmas celebration on 23 November. We commenced our 2022 season with the ongoing, generous support of Wakefield Press as sponsor and The Maid Hotel as venue.

Wakefield Press has continued to publish a wide variety of books on varying topics, which has provided the Literary Club with a great selection of authors as guest speaker.

Since reporting on the Literary Club in July 2021, we have had the following as guest speakers:

- Stephen Orr talking about his book, *Sincerely, Ethel Malley*.
- Philip Payton talking about *Vice-Regal*.
- Annette Marner on the subject of *A New Name for the Colour Blue*.
- Penelope Curtin, accompanied by her daughter Tansy, to talk about their publication, *Blooms and Brushstrokes*
- Andrew Roff talking about his futuristic novel, *The Teeth of a Slow Machine*.
- Don Loffler, an old friend of the Literary Club, talking about his latest book, *Cars We Used to Drive*.
- John West-Sooby taking us on a voyage of discovery through *Roaming Freely Throughout the Universe*.
- Valerie Volk about *Passion Play*.
- Gillian Dooley on the subject of *Matthew Flinders: The Man behind the Map*.

Sincere thanks to Michael Bollen, Publisher of Wakefield Press, for continuing to sponsor the Literary Club. Michael is MC most evenings as well as providing the monthly quiz and donating books as prizes to the winning table.

Thank you also to the Board members who assist by welcoming guests at the door and selling raffle tickets, as well as to all the members who donate raffle prizes.

I am also grateful to the lovely staff at The Maid for their cooperation in setting up the room as requested, sometimes having to make last-minute changes due to guests suddenly not being able to attend and for trying to serve the meals on time.

Finally, thank you to you our dear members and friends for supporting the Literary Club on an ongoing basis and for helping to make it such an enjoyable evening.



Film Report

By Jen Dunstan



(Photo: Mary Odlum, Margaret Kirkman, Jen Dunstan at the screening of Downton Abbey)

In 2022 we have seen an interesting collection of films from Australia and around the world.

Film Club supporters gather early at Wallis Cinemas, Mitcham, for a drink, chat and choc top before the film.

At the end of the movie, guests eagerly await the raffle draw, with the promise of more, generously donated prizes, to be won next month.

I love listening to the post film banter and critiques as we leave the cinema. Always a mixed review and always a pleasant evening.

Thank you to our regular Film Club fans, members, friends and family for your ongoing support and company. It is always a pleasure to welcome new guests and introduce new friends to the group each month.

Thank you to our generous raffle prize donors: Janet Bonner, Robert Carter, Jill Argent OAM, Christine McMahon, Helen Onopko, Sherry Proferes, David McClay, Heather Parkes, John Holmes, Wendy Braund, Ruth Banks, Cheryl Appelkamp, Clare Russ and the Dunstan Family.

I would also like to thank IAF volunteers who rally together each month to ensure a smooth-running event: Mary Odlum, Chloe Dunstan, Helen Onopko, Marg Jude, Jill Argent OAM and Margaret Lynch.

On 6th November 2022 we celebrated with a special Sunday afternoon tea in the Boulevard Lounge at Wallis, Mitcham, followed by the film, 'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris'.

Again, I thank you for your ongoing support.

It is good to gather together and at the same time help support emerging SA artists.

Bravo! See you at the cinema!

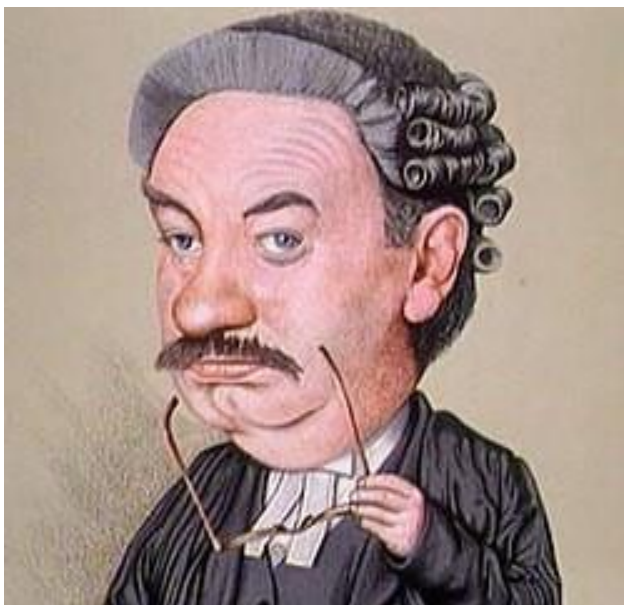
From the Archive

By Helen Onopko

During the 1980s and up to 1991, just before the Adelaide Committee of the Elizabethan Theatre Trust became the IAF, **Jessica Dames AM** (our current Patron) together with her extremely capable Literary Luncheons Committee, attracted internationally renowned actors, writers, adventurers and politicians from across the globe.

The IAF Archive is a wonderful landscape of these eminent people and their stories.

One such visit was from scriptwriter, novelist and playwright **John Mortimer**, creator of Rumpole of The Bailey fame.



In 1990, Mr Mortimer was invited to speak at a Literary Luncheon as part of the promotional tour for his new book *Titmus Regained*.

Members paid \$35 for the Adelaide Town Hall event, which included fine wines by Yalumba, and 5AN's Keith Conlon as Master of Ceremonies.

1500 people attended! – many from the theatrical and legal fraternities. John Bannon was Labour Premier of South Australia at the time.

The Advertiser, which sponsored the event, reported that “many normally clipped (Adelaide) accents took on even greater Anglo tones in homage to the man whose mannered comedies have made him a darling of English literary and pink political circles”.

But midway through telling his audience how his mother used to read spicy divorce court briefs to his father on the train to London, Mr Mortimer's voice gave way.

Keith Conlon stepped in to read the first chapter of the new novel followed by a story about wine from a Rumpole story. In the latter, the Advertiser reported, a passage dealing with Rumpole's fondness for claret was highly appropriate, as Mr Mortimer dealt with his laryngitis infection with champagne, brandy and South Australian wines!

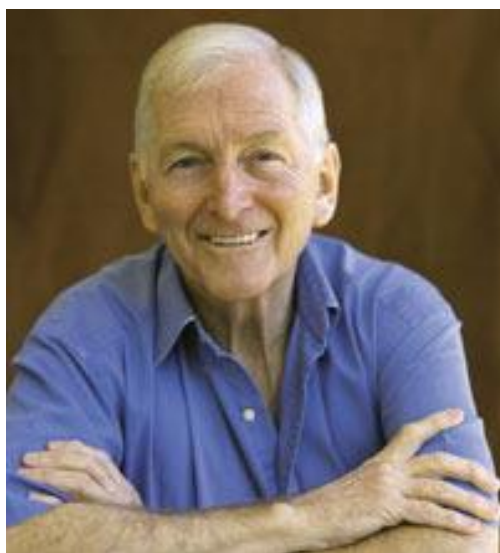
From the Archive

By Helen Onopko

Our Patron Jessica Dames AM has rubbed shoulders with many famous artists, writers, actors and celebrities as they attended Literary Luncheons with the IAF through the 1980s and 1990s. The Archive has a good collection of these attendances. One of these occasions is summarised below.

Celebrated author Bryce Courtenay has twice been lured by Jessica and her team to speak to the (former) Literary Club Luncheons then held at the Union Hotel in Waymouth Street.

In 1994, Bryce had just completed writing his first novel set in 1940s South Africa – “The Power of One” – a gripping and moving book which achieved a record sum for a debut novel in Australia. On March 15, 1994, 5AN’s Keith Conlon introduced Bryce at the Luncheon. Guests paid \$25 for a three-course lunch with fine wines!



Later, 8 December 1994, Bryce wrote to Jessica:

“...writers are supposed to be able to watch the grass grow and observe the clouds as they scud by. Instead, I have been on over 150 plane trips since January with half a dozen of these overseas. It’s been a hectic time as I am also writing a huge historical saga which will be out Christmas 1995. It’s a house brick of a book and you have a year to do a bit of weightlifting in preparation for its release.

This Christmas note is simply to thank you for your support and friendship over the past year; I am truly grateful for all you’ve done for me as a writer.

.... The world isn’t a lot prettier than it was twelve months ago and when I asked a famous psychiatrist friend of mine why he thought we keep killing each other, he replied, ‘Well, it’s only natural; man is a hunter’. ‘Yes’, I said, ‘but we are also gatherers. It seems as though the takers and not the gatherers are winning at the moment.’

And so, my wish for you is that for the next year you and your family become gatherers, harvesting the good things from the world we live in and gathering love and pride, honesty and compassion as your intellectual and emotional property.”

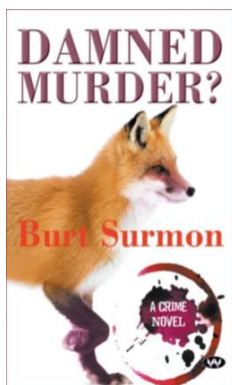
Postscript:

If you have photographs, news clippings, notes or recollections, we would love to include them in the IAF Archive, always with acknowledgment to the donor.

Contact Helen 0411 420 012 or any other Board member and one of us will collect them from you.

Literary Lunch with Burt Surmon

By Jen Dunstan



In March 2022, IAF members and friends were treated to a very special Literary Lunch with guest speaker, Burt Surmon. Burt talked about his latest crime novel, '*Damned Murder?*' set amongst the familiar vineyards and picturesque rolling hills of the Clare Valley.

Burt and his lovely wife Jeni have been IAF members for many years.



Having retired from their winemaking business in the Clare Valley, they now live in Adelaide and are always good company at our events.



It was a pleasure to hear Burt speak about his latest literary venture and to listen to him read a short chapter to an intrigued audience.

The lunch was made extra special, due to the generosity of Burt and Jeni, sharing the last bottles of their Mt Surmon, 2009 Nebbiolo with our guests. Each table enjoyed a bottle of this fine drop, a feature character of Burt's book, plus some lucky guests won more bottles in our raffle. How very fortunate and grateful we were to share this excellent wine with Burt and Jeni. Bravo!

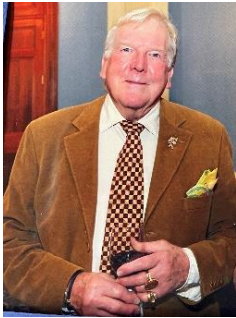
Trevor Klein, from Wakefield Press added to the frivolity of the day with a quiz, awarding a bounty of books to the winning table for their correct and clever answers. Thank you to Michael Bollen, Trevor Klein and the team at Wakefield Press for their ongoing and generous support.

Thank you also to our IAF board members Mary Odlum, Helen Onopko and John Holmes who helped to coordinate this event with extra help on the day from Marg Jude. Many thanks to raffle prize donors Burt and Jeni Surmon, Chris McMahon and Helen Onopko. Your support is always appreciated.

It was a most delicious day of good food, excellent wine and entertaining tall tales and shenanigans of the Clare Valley. A happy celebration indeed.

Poems

Last poem from Russell Starkey



*Small buds bloom beneath the Jacaranda
Drenched in purple drifts where
bees suck old nectar
Small seeds begin their shoots
Expecting praise and pleasure when mother Jacaranda casts her spell.*

Nov '21

Poem from literary dinner: 31 August 2021

By Jill Hughes-Jones

*There was a young man called Orr,
Who was thought to be very poor.
He wrote a new book
which we all like the look
Now our young man is poor no more!*

Poem from literary dinner: 21 September 2021

By Penny and Laurie McCann

One Off!

*'Twas the night before the announcement and all through the house,
not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
No outrage had burst, no trust had been breached,
no contract had been ripped, the submarines still beeped.
No incandescent flame of horror and shock.
appeared across the media our integrity to rock.
AUKUS we have chosen, and AUKUS we will be,
despite the anger seething even under the sea!
The losers indeed, make their feelings known
A Frenchman specifically left quickly for home.
But the embarrassed ambassador had company up high
As a free world leader faux parred our own guy!
It's a good thing the powers who came to this show
Performed in the way that we've all come to know
But the naming convention attracted no pucker.
Yes, with the stroke of a pen, we avoided USUKA!*



The Independent Arts Foundation (IAF) is a registered charity established in 1991 to raise funds to support emergency artists in all art forms, including dance, film, literature, music & visual arts.

Grants, scholarships and annual awards supported by the IAF provide financial assistance for individuals and groups seeking support for professional development or a project, such as an exhibition, performance or film.

Funds are raised through donations, membership fees and a program of events including literary dinners, film nights, and special events.

Non-members are welcome to join us at our fund-raising events.

The IAF welcome new members who are interested in meeting like-minded people, knowing that supporting the IAF also supports the arts in South Australia.

IAF Contact Details

Please visit our website at <https://iafoundation.org.au/>

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IAF phone: 0457 857 385

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