

International House magazine



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

International
House

Celebrating 50 years of international
understanding and friendship

The Hon. Michael Kirby
AC CMG on leadership
and gay rights

Davis Project for Peace:
Flows of Change in Zambia

Alumni Profile:
David Shannon

Humans of
International House



Creating global friendships since 1967

Join us to celebrate 50 years of International House



Celebration Concert **Saturday 8 April 2017** **Sydney Conservatorium of Music**

Featuring the world-premiere of a new work by celebrated Australian composer Chris Bowen, specially commissioned for the International House anniversary year.



Public Roundtable **Monday 3 July 2017** **Venue TBA**

'Is the World Coming Together or Falling Apart?' A panel of high profile thinkers will examine questions such as, what have been the major drivers of change in the past 50 years, and what is the best role for International House over the next 50 years?



Art and History Exhibition **7 - 21 July 2017** **The Wool Room** **International House**

The Art and History Exhibition will feature the public unveiling of a specially commissioned work by Australian Aboriginal artist Bronwyn Bancroft, and will celebrate the artistic talents of notable artists from our alumni community.



Gala Luncheon **Saturday 2 December 2017** **Strangers' Function Room** **NSW Parliament House**

Australia's oldest house of parliament provides an auspicious setting for this culmination of the golden jubilee celebrations.

Bookings and further information:
sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse

From the Editor

As we enter our 50th year, International House celebrates being home to almost 6,000 students from Australia and around the world. Our residents have gone on to pursue many different paths, passing the light of international understanding wherever they go. The heart-warming message underpinning the results of our 2015 Alumni Impact Survey reveals an overwhelming emphasis on enduring friendships formed at International House; as one former resident eloquently puts it: "Living at International House reinforced for me that personal connections and friendship between people of different cultural backgrounds are of primary importance in making the world a more peaceful place."

It has not been since 2013 that a substantial newsletter, the likes of which you are currently holding in your hands (or reading on your screens), was published for the wider International House community. Since then, formal opportunities for alumni to share significant news with one another, and keep updated about major activities at the House, have been limited to brief, yet informative, email updates. The vision of this International House magazine is, however, more ambitious: we hope it will be a treasured forum for the sharing of stories between IH alumni, the current residential cohort, the University community, and our partners through International Houses Worldwide.

I hope you enjoy the stories of our extraordinary residents and alumni that are told through these pages, and that you find it a useful way of re-engaging with the House and its global community of friends.

Written by Dr Bradley Kunda

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Above: The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG.
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Sharon Hickey.

Front cover: Residents on "Team India"
at the 2016 International House Food Fair.
Left to right: Mimi Yaluma (Zambia),
Sakthi Ramesh (USA/Singapore), Jubilee
Mayanja (Uganda).
Photo: © The University of Sydney,
by Sharon Hickey.

From the Chair of Council

At a time of increasing numbers of overseas students at all major Australian universities, coupled with a major drive to increase the stock of student housing, the question may arise, “What is so special about International House? Has it outlived its utility?”



Steve Mark AM.
Photo: © 2015 The University of Sydney,
by Amy Fraser

From the perspective of the Council, the staff and most emphatically from the residents the answer is a resounding “No”. 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of International House at the University of Sydney. We are a vibrant member of the global community of 17 International Houses worldwide. The concept of International House arose in the United States in the early 20th century and was initially supported financially by the Rockefeller Foundation. The purpose of International Houses is eloquently stated in a letter of 29 September 1930 from John D. Rockefeller Jr to President Robert G. Sproul of the University of California, Berkeley, on the establishment of an International House at that university:

“By bringing together in unfettered cooperation the educated young people of all lands, many of whom will in years to come be leaders in their several countries, and by giving them full opportunity for frank discussion on terms of equality, there is being performed, I believe, a service for the wellbeing of the World, the importance of which it is difficult to overvalue. International House is a laboratory for a new kind of experiment – the day-to-day practice of international fellowship between men and women. Such a community of university students, representing all nations, living together beneath one roof, will further the cause for peace throughout the world; for peace is the product of knowledge and understanding.”

The role played by International House at the University of Sydney today is totally consistent with that vision.

International House is unique in that it creates an environment where international and Australian students live, eat, work, study and share experiences. While other student residences within and around the University provide accommodation, including for overseas students, none create the atmosphere and opportunity for friendship and learning that International House provides.

As Chair of the Council I am very proud of what International House stands for and delivers. The extremely dedicated and competent staff and student officers are to be congratulated for the fantastic job they have done this year.

Written by Steve Mark AM

From the Director

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the International House magazine. This welcome is of course extended to all alumni and friends of International House, and to those who are keen to know more about us. I am delighted to update readers on recent developments and our strategic vision as we move closer to our 50th anniversary in 2017.

The House has, since its inception, always been a place where international understanding and friendship have been fostered and supported. This mission is as necessary today as it was in 1967. International House has always been committed to developing our residents as future global leaders. We achieve this through our educational program and our cultural and social events. In 2015 we expanded our intellectual offerings with the addition of the Global Leadership Program. Our aim is to continue strengthening our unique, engaged and diverse international community.

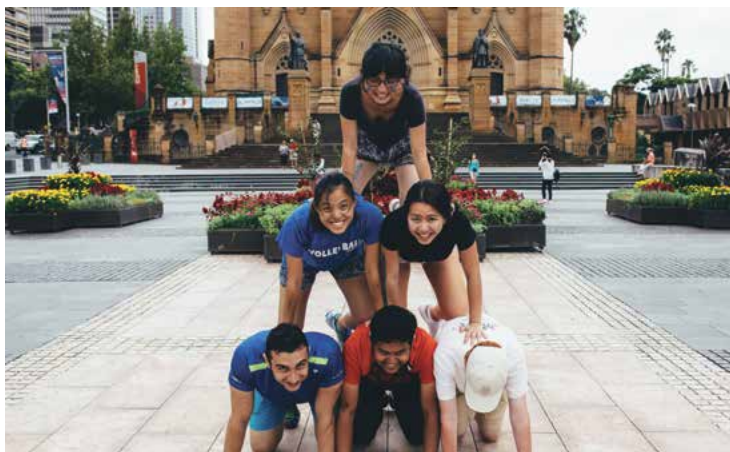
Our strategic focus has, for a number of years now, been to provide expanded and improved facilities. These will enable the House to welcome more students from a larger variety of cultures, therefore enhancing our capacity to build a richer, more diverse community. A new purpose built facility will include aspects that are central to our mission, such as an enhanced community dining area, small group study areas, music practice rooms, and a wider range of recreational and practical outdoor areas. These spaces will facilitate face-to-face interaction and the building of friendships. We have pursued the University to make a decision for a new building for some time now, and will continue to do so. I hope that, with the support of the University and our alumni globally, International House will continue its mission long into the future.

Written by Jessica Carroll



Jessica Carroll with daughter Hannah.
Photo: © 2015 The University of Sydney,
by Amy Fraser.

From the Chairperson of the International House Members' Association (IHMA)



1/ Residents compete in the IHMA Amazing Race.
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Nicholas Shackleton.



2/ IHMA celebrates Earth Hour on the rooftop.
L-R Andrew Collins (IHMA Chairperson), Jade
Lisbin, Simon Coleman (2015 IHMA Chairperson),
Florence Fermanis (IHMA Secretary)
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Nicholas Shackleton.



3/ IHMA Intro and Games Night
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Nicholas Shackleton.

The International House Members' Association (IHMA) is the gooey centre of the House. We comprise the vibrant international community of residents. Our focus has always been to foster a welcoming and creative community culture. We strive to provide real opportunities for residents to directly impact the House and promote its mission of international understanding and fellowship. This is reflected in our calendar of major events. We share our diverse culinary backgrounds at the International Food Fair, showcase our artistic talents at iNight, and discuss stories and topical issues in our Roundtable series. Outside of the House, we proudly promote our colourful and creative identity in the Intercollege Palladian Cup.

As we enter the 50th year of International House, IHMA has been working towards expanding its program of events. This year has seen the inauguration of the Intramural Sports Cup, an annual tournament where we compete against residents of Urbanest, the Queen Mary Building, Sancta Sophia College, and other similar student residences. Looking towards 2017, we are excited about a massive upgrade planned for our Food Fair event. I look forward to sharing further details about this in the next edition of the International House magazine.

Written by Andrew Collins

Suspicious of leadership

The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG speaks on leadership and gay rights as part of the International House Global Leadership Program.

I've always been a bit suspicious about the notion of leadership, because it all depends on where you're being led. Leadership itself is not necessarily a good thing. Adolf Hitler was undoubtedly a most charismatic and able leader, but where was he leading Germany? To destruction, suffering and to gross crimes against humanity and other horrible aspects of Nazi rule. So be a bit skeptical about leadership. It all depends upon where you're being led. And therefore the ideals and values of the leader are really important.

You've also got to try to be ahead of the game. You've got to be able to see the future and lead, guide and encourage people to move in the right direction. When I was in student politics, there was a guy who was much more gifted than I was and had a really

good perception of the issues of the future. For example, he was a very strong supporter of women's rights, and that was not really the theme back in the 1960s. Peter Wilenski was his name. He had been a president of the SRC. He was a very, very bright man. The one thing I can tell you is that in all those years, of all those committees, and all the bodies I was involved in, nobody – repeat, nobody – ever talked about sexuality. Nobody talked about LGBT rights. Nobody. This was the great forbidden territory. And that really teaches us – and this is the other big lesson for leadership – to see things that no one else sees. Nowadays, people are entitled to say it to people of my generation: why were you silent about that topic for so long? Why did nobody talk about that issue? Why was it something that was swept under the carpet and substituted with anti-poofter



1/ The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG.
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Sharon Hickey.



2/ The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG with residents Zixiao Chen (China) and Sayan Mitra (India).
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Sharon Hickey.

jokes, which you had to laugh at? And therefore the real question for you is: what are the things that you don't see that, in fifty years people will say 'how could you have been so stupid?' 'How could you have been so ignorant?' I'd rather suggest that animal liberation – animal welfare – is going to be something which, in the future, we are much more attentive to. But there will be other issues. Real leadership is not just pushing people in directions which are well established. It is sometimes taking them in different directions so that they see the different direction and the irrationality of the past direction.

Audience question: It sounded like you were very active on behalf of other people. Why did you not act on behalf of people like yourself?

That's a fair question. I grew up in an age where, first of all, there were criminal laws against gay people. Those laws were enforced. I remember reading newspapers, about once a week, of some leading figure who had been arrested for a gay offence. That was just how it was. And if I'm truthful, I'd probably

have to say that a lot of this energy and endeavour to wear my prefect's blazer, to get elected to the presidency of the students' society and to become President twice of the SRC, a lot of this endeavour of so-called leadership, or pushing [myself] forward, was an attempt to tell myself 'okay, you're being told that you are really weird, and that you are really filthy and dirty and disgusting, and an abomination, and that you should be locked up and the key thrown away.' But I was trying to tell myself 'you're not all that bad.' I didn't really feel particularly bad. I was always loved and I always felt comfortable in myself. But they were the rules. Don't ask, don't tell! And so I played by these rules.

Lots of gay people in those days got married. This was a horrible thing to do to their partners. But they then had 'working' marriages, and children whom they loved deeply, and their wives whom they loved deeply too. But it just wasn't a sexual love. So that was something I couldn't do. I never did the hypocrisy thing. But I just didn't shove it down people's throats. Well now, I'm in the mood to make

“Be a bit skeptical about leadership; it all depends upon where you’re being led, and therefore the ideals and values of the leader are really important.”

The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG



3/ The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG.
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Sharon Hickey.

people face up to it. Because isn't it a peculiar thing that, this week, yet another country embraced marriage equality? Colombia! A country which has been riven with the most terrible social problems. Yet even they have embraced the principle of equality. And that principle has been embraced by so many other countries. What are we doing in Australia? We are not permitting the Federal Parliament to have a conscience vote on this issue, which is what we've normally done on issues of this kind. Instead we are submitting the issue of human rights of gay citizens to the vote of everybody, including non-gay citizens. The majority of them, non-gay, are going to decide whether gay people can get married.

The only times we've ever had a plebiscite in Australia before legislation of the Federal Parliament have been in war times for compulsory military service. We've never submitted the rights of women, or of people of different races or other minorities, to a plebiscite of all the people. This is a very wrong step: submitting the rights of some of our citizens to

the opinion of the majority. The Federal Parliament should make its own mind up on it, in a country which is governed by a constitution, which is a representative, elected democracy. So that is really a sign, don't you think? It's a sign that, even though I was a Justice of the High Court, even though I am chairing international commissions of inquiry, and that I'm on the UN Secretary General's High Level panel on health care – a problem that faces the whole world, I am a second class citizen in Australia. My rights have to go through a plebiscite of other citizens to decide whether or not I should have the right to be married. It's truly a shocking thing. I hope that people here will express their views about this. It's a very wrong thing. And it's a departure from the principle of the separation of religion from the rights of ordinary citizens.

Speech delivered on 1 May at International House by The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG.

International House's inquiry into global leadership continues with human rights campaigner Ms Samah Hadid, who will reflect on making great mistakes and 'keeping it real' in the December issue of International House magazine.

Humans of International House

#HumansofIH

In a community of 200 residents representing over 40 nations, International House is a melting pot of stories from around the world. Deputy Director Katy Cuthbert reveals the incredible success of our Humans of IH campaign, and why the sharing of personal stories is the key to breaking down barriers of prejudice.



1

“Always keep a positive attitude in life; for example only 2% of the world has red hair, even less with blue eyes - so I’m basically a magical unicorn.”

Pippa Herden, Australia
#HumansofIH

‘Humans of International House’ is inspired by the photo blog sensation ‘Humans of New York’ (HONY). Brandon Stanton started HONY on Facebook in November 2010. With over 17 million followers it is now one of the most influential and enjoyed formats on social media. The format involves a small quote from a subject accompanied by a photo. The photo and quote document a moment, a thought, an issue or a humorous remark, giving the reader an insight into

someone else’s life. Stanton has taken his format out of New York and has used his great following to highlight the lives and values of people from around the globe. His most recent trip documents the stories of refugees at the borders of Europe.

“To be great is to be misunderstood” - Ralph Emerson

“I don’t see this quote as a proclamation of greatness, it more represents the struggle that I’ve felt my whole life, feeling like a square peg fitting into a circular hole. ‘Different’ often comes with a negative connotation. It wasn’t until I embraced thinking differently that the world and everything it has to offer truly opened up to me. It’s quite liberating to see that you really don’t want to fit into the box at all.”

Logan Ralser, USA
#ihusyd #HumansofIH



2



3

International House started its own ‘Humans of’ in March 2015. It has been an incredible success. Australia’s Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Tim Soutphommasane, has celebrated it as a place to ‘read stories of cultural encounters and experiences’. Each week a member of the IH community (resident, staff, alum) is documented and each week we learn a little more about each other.

Genuine insight into others’ lives is essential in addressing prejudice. Real understanding of each other’s values, experiences and priorities is an essential component of a socially just community. We think that Humans of IH is achieving this and spreading much joy along the way. As someone said on our most recent post: “that quote really made my day.”

Written by Katy Cuthbert

- 1/ Pippa Herden (Australia). Photo © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.
- 2/ Logan Ralser (USA). Photo © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.
- 3/ Australia’s Race Discrimination Commissioner shares Humans of International House on Facebook.

200 residents representing over 40 nations

#HumansofIH

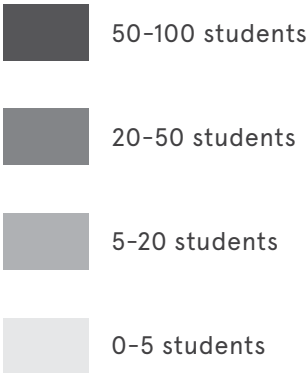
International House is a diverse home to students from Australia and around the world. The incredible mix of cultures in the House is always changing as we welcome new residents each semester.

Country profile: Semester 1 2016

Number of residents per country

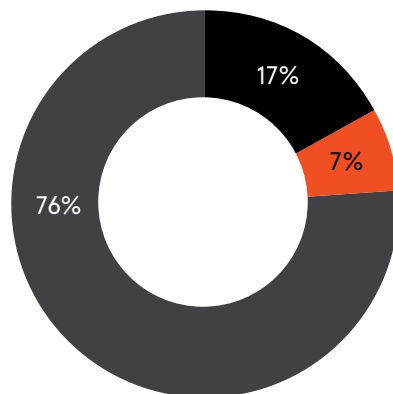
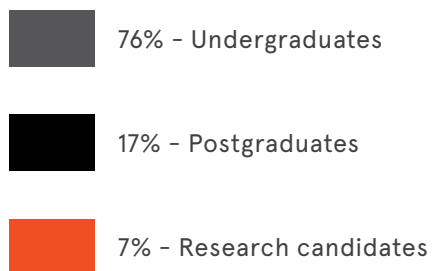
Australia	58
Austria	1
Bangladesh	4
Canada	8
Chile	2
China	23
Fiji	1
Germany	4
Hong Kong	3
India	8
Indonesia	3
Iran (Islamic Republic Of)	3
Israel	1
Italy	1
Japan	7
Kazakhstan	1
Korea, Republic of	3
Laos	1
Malaysia	6
Maldives	1
Mauritius	1
Mongolia	1
Netherlands	2
New Zealand	6
Nigeria	1
Oman	1
Pakistan	4
Philippines	4
Samoa	2
Singapore	6
South Africa	1
Spain	2
Sri Lanka	4
Switzerland	1
Thailand	3
Trinidad & Tobago	1
Uganda	1
United Kingdom	6
United States of America	8
Vietnam	4
Zambia	1

Distribution density:





Resident academic profile:



Ukuchinja kwa menshi (Flows of change)

International House resident Mimi Yaluma (Zambia) won the Davis Project for Peace in 2015. She used the US\$10,000 grant to build boreholes for two village school communities in her home country. Mimi talks to us about realising her project.

How do you define peace?

I define peace as freedom from disturbance and a state of tranquillity. Peace is the state of being free from any bondage, stress or captivity. My project will contribute to peace in the long run by providing to a large group of people what should have been given to them many years ago. It will give them more rest at night as they will not need to worry about themselves or those around them falling ill due to consuming contaminated water. Boreholes have the capacity to last hundreds of years, so these villagers will be assured of clean drinking water for many lifetimes to come.

What did you aim to achieve in your project?

The project goal was to promote peace in selected Zambian village school communities by providing vital access to clean drinking water through the building of two boreholes. The boreholes have the ability to supply water for years, improving the overall health and wellbeing of village residents, and reducing the damaging impacts of spurious health practitioners and a general lack of medical resources.

Tell us about the schools you visited.

Sikweya Basic School has a total of 674 learners. The school includes grades 1-9 and pre-school. It is located 56km away from the nearest town and the closest clinic is situated 9km away. Mukosa Basic School has a total of 800 learners and is 25km away from the closest town. The villagers have neither cars nor alternative means of transportation except for three communal motorbikes. Ailing villagers would usually consult traditional healers and witch doctors before seeking medical advice from nurses, who themselves usually lack medical resources. The contaminated water is suspected to have caused many illnesses in these communities.



1

- 1/ Villagers look on as the new borehole is drilled.
Photo: © 2015 The University of Sydney,
by Mimi Yaluma.
- 2/ Mimi Yaluma (centre) unveils the new borehole
at Sikweya Basic School.
Photo: © 2015 The University of Sydney,
by Mimi Yaluma.
- 3/ Mimi Yaluma (Zambia).
Photo: © 2015 The University of Sydney,
by Amy Fraser.
- 4/ 2016 Davis Project for Peace recipients Sayan
Mitra (India) and Al Siam Siddique (Bangladesh).
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney,
by Sharon Hickey.



2

What difficulties did you encounter?

The difficulties I encountered whilst implementing my project included borehole companies invoicing ridiculous amounts when they realised they were not dealing with a local! Local family members known by the community had to engage in all the price negotiations and transactions in order to get fair rates. Other difficulties included a borehole drilling company downing their tools halfway through the job at Mukosa Basic School and unnecessarily demanding more money. After three hours of convincing, they eventually carried on drilling and completed the job.

There were few language and cultural barriers, as I spend at least two months in Zambia every year and am highly familiar with the cultures. The communities I spent time with are patriarchal villages, so it was a nice surprise to encounter some of the village elders and headmen humbling themselves and bowing down to thank me after the boreholes were drilled. Considering I am young and female, this is not customary but it was their way of showing their gratitude and I was deeply touched by it.



3

Has this project changed your world outlook?

This project has definitely changed the way I view things in life. Spending the amount of time that I did in rural villages, and being outside my comfort zone for long periods, truly humbled me. Being surrounded by people who really do not have much at all, including basic necessities such as clean water and electricity, but who never complain and are always filled with joy, made me realise how much I am blessed. It also made me realise that happiness isn't determined by how much you possess in materialistic things, but rather the interactions you have with your loved ones and the experiences that you share. This project has made me want to continue helping people, especially females, in these rural communities. I feel that they aren't encouraged and given opportunities to excel in life. I want to give back to similar communities in Zambia and provide encouragement to their younger generations.

The most important thing I learnt from this project is that we are all placed in a position to be a blessing to someone else. Time spent in these communities taught me that my ideas of happiness were misconceived. It showed me the things in life that I tend to overlook daily.

About the Davis Project for Peace

Inspired by the late philanthropist and internationalist, Kathryn W. Davis, the Davis Projects for Peace grant provides US\$1 million each year to colleges and universities in the Davis United World College Scholars Program, to design and implement grassroots projects that promote peace. International House, the University of Sydney, as part of the International Houses Worldwide community, participates each year in this initiative. Visit www.davisprojectsforpeace.org to learn more.

2016 Recipients

The 2016 recipients of the Davis Project for Peace are Sayan Mitra (India) and Al Siam Siddique (Bangladesh). This June/July, they will help combat a current dearth of teachers in Madagascar by building two classrooms, and funding the training of tutors, to support the educational program at the Merimandroso Ivato Village School in Tsarasaotra. Read about their experience in the December issue of International House magazine.



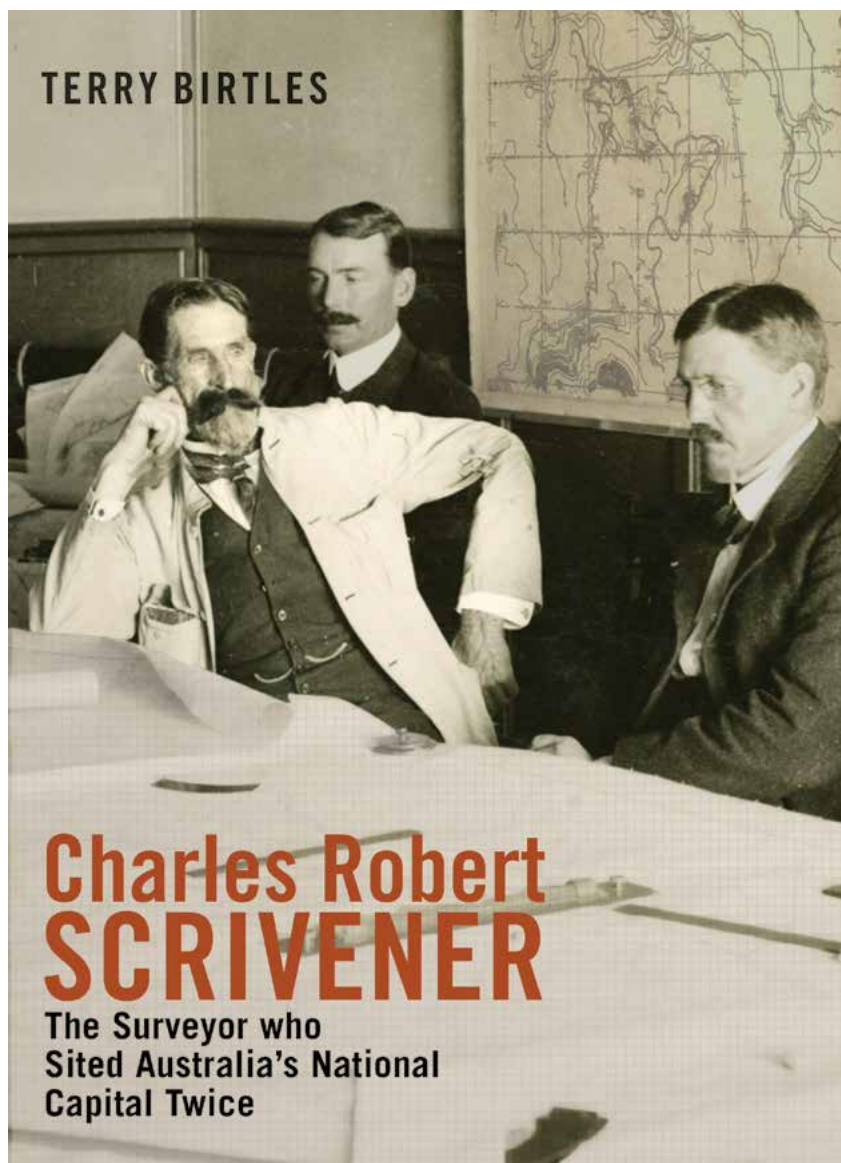
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An historical surveyance

Terry Birtles, *Charles Robert Scrivener: The Surveyor who Sited Australia's National Capital Twice* (Melbourne, Arcadia, 2013)*.

*284p. AUD\$39.95.

Terry Birtles was a resident of International House from 1967 to 1968. This review was first published in the *Canberra Historical Journal*, No. 72, Mar 2014: 37-38.



While this book has a very clever title, it delivers so much more than the title may suggest. The surveying work undertaken by Charles Scrivener following Australia's Federation is the dominant theme of the text. However it is Scrivener's earlier work, much of it spent throughout the Riverina, which adds great depth to the story. It is during this part of his working life that Scrivener gains not only his skills as a surveyor, but also as a manager responsible for staffing his survey teams and responding to the requirements of officials in Sydney. From an early stage in the book, it is clear to see how easily a surveyor can become embroiled in the political aspects of the surveyor's work.

It was the Riverina where much of the movement for Federation developed, with competition escalating between the Colonial capital cities for dominance over the navigable rivers and railways for trade. When Charles Scrivener was working and living in towns such as Hay on the Murrumbidgee, and then Deniliquin, he became

well versed in the political aspects of the Federation movement and the role that an accurate portrayal of the land could play in the process of deciding between the many proposed capital sites. Elements beyond strict surveying also occupied him while working in the Riverina, such as identifying a reliable water supply and the influence of prevailing winds, all of which added to his analytical skills in appraising an area.

Competing interests is a theme that comes up throughout the book, with Scrivener at the centre of their resolution. Whether it was during the period where he was employed from Sydney but received his instructions from Melbourne, or when pitted against other professionals such as architects and engineers, Scrivener was becoming more adept at his role as a conciliator.

There have been many books written about the site selection and design of Canberra leading up to its 2016 centenary. This book is different from most, however, as it follows the story

of one central character as both witness and participant. Birtles is enthusiastically supportive of the pivotal role played by Scrivener, about whom other players are seen to encircle in whatever work he undertook.

Throughout the book we see many instances where Scrivener comes into conflict with others, and when his views and surveying conclusions are not always appreciated. However, the extensive experience gained throughout his varied career leads readers to acknowledge that the highly competent Scrivener had a solid foundation for coming to his conclusions, especially where those with whom he may have been in conflict were not as well qualified.

The arrival of new characters such as O'Malley and Griffin add great tension to the work that had to be carried out as Scrivener saw it, and tested his skills both as a surveyor and administrator. While Scrivener still harboured a great love for the Dalgety federal capital site, a superior option as he saw

it, he nevertheless undertook his Canberra responsibilities with great diligence and was obviously frustrated by the lack of appreciation of what needed to be done by those in "Collins Street".

So much of the joy of this book comes from the way in which the stories, as recorded in official records, are fleshed out by those of a personal nature from the extensive family records that have survived. They are blended together by the author to provide a touching perspective of the central character of the book. One series of records without the other would have left the book a much poorer reflection on the life of the man.

Written by David Wardle



6



1/ Residents compete in the IHMA Amazing Race during Orientation Week. L-R: Stephen Sanders (Australia), Keerthana Cheersagar (India), Kasumi Higewake (Japan), Thameesha Eliyapura (Sri Lanka), Pippa Herden (Australia), Shu Chun Philip Tai (Hong Kong). Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.



5/ Residents Charley Carriero (Canada), Jeremy Kumar (Australia) and Ellie Warder (UK) at the IHMA Harbour Cruise. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.



2



4



3

- 2/ Flag Ceremony and Dinner - the first formal dinner of the International House academic year. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Jennifer Soo.
- 3/ Placing the flags at the 2016 Flag Ceremony. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Jennifer Soo.
- 4/ Resident Guoxin (Cindy) Yan (China) preparing Austrian cuisine for International Food Fair. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Sharon Hickey.
- 6/ Resident Maddi Dyall (Australia) plays futsal in the inaugural Intramural Sports Competition. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Angus McCrabb.



7



9

8



10



11

7/ The International House men's and women's futsal teams: Intramural Sports Competition.
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Angus McCrabb.

8/ Jianzhang (James) Wang (China) performs in IH Idol. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.

9/ "Team India", 2016 Food Fair. L-R: Mimi Yaluma (Zambia), Sakthi Ramesh (USA/Singapore), Jubilee Mayanja (Uganda), Navami Sunil (India) and IH alumna Yen (Jenny) Tran (IH 2014-15).
Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Sharon Hickey.

10/ International Food Fair night market. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Sharon Hickey.

11/ Semester 1 IHMA party. Photo: © 2016 The University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.

News from Sydney University International House Alumni Association (SUIHAA)

SUIHAA Committee: Something Old, Something New

Allow me to introduce the 'new' SUIHAA Committee for 2016: a great group combining 'old' and 'new' elements. I am the new President, but I go back a long way – to 1968-70. Josh Lee and Dominick Ng are energetic, young alumni, but also 'old' in that they are (thankfully) staying on SUIHAA to provide continuity from the great work that they, and previous committees, have done in recent years.

2016 SUIHAA Committee (including years at IH):

- President: Ros Madden AM (1968-70)
- Secretary: Dr Dominick Ng (2007-09)
- Treasurer: Josh Lee (2007-11)
- Lisa Deng (2010-12)
- Tessa Gastrell (2012-15)
- Julia Krattli (1999-2001)
- Gwen Ng (née Burrows) (1969-70)
- Renee Noble (2010-12)
- Paul Reisner (1983-86)
- Evan Voroney (2011-14)
- Dr Bradley Kunda (Ex officio member, resident as Assistant Director since 2013).



1



2

2016 Events

SUIHAA and IH Alumni have ensured continuity of tradition by contributing to a number of annual events. So far this year, we have had calendars and cupcakes to welcome new residents in February's Calendarfest, the beautiful music soiree in March, and the Foundation Day Address and Dinner in June. This year's Foundation Day Address was given by one of our distinguished alumni, ex-diplomat Dr Adrian Buzo, who reflected favourably on how his time as an IH resident in 1969-71 shaped his outlook on life.

It is always great to work with International House and its Members' Association (IHMA) on these events. Recordings of performances from the March Classical Music Soirée are available on Facebook at

– facebook.com/suihaa

The IH Logo

A troubling development has occurred as a consequence of the University's new branding policy, and all University entities are now required to comply with this new policy. Thus, International House is no longer permitted to use its long established and much loved logo. SUIHAA has written to the Vice-Chancellor about this, explaining the significance of the logo for IH Alumni around the world. If you would like a copy of the letter, please write to me at suihaa@sydney.edu.au. We will update you on any developments.



The former International House logo, designed by Trevor Allen and inspired by the Rotunda's iconic chandelier.



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50th Anniversary 2017: Alumni networking and International House Events

SUIHAA is working closely with International House and IHMA to plan a series of events celebrating the 50th anniversary of the House in 2017. We are delighted with the way these events are shaping-up.

Of particular interest to alumni beyond Sydney or outside Australia is the cluster of events in the middle of the year, which we hope will attract people to Sydney from around 1 to 7 July. These events will include an open day and reunions at the House, a Public Roundtable, and an Art and History Exhibition. The golden jubilee celebrations will culminate in December with a gala luncheon at NSW Parliament House.

For those unable to join the Sydney celebrations, we are encouraging alumni events and reunions around the world. SUIHAA will set aside a small budget to help support these events financially. Of course it would be very special if these

occurred in June and early July, around the dates of the House's official Foundation Day (16 June) and some of the clustered events in Sydney. We'd love to hear from you about your ideas. Julia, Evan, Gwen and Richard Ng, and Beth Rohrlach (IH 1980) will be involved in coordinating these events and encouraging the use of social media to link alumni networks in different parts of the world.

We would love to make 2017 a worldwide celebration of International House, its ideals and what it has meant to many of us through our lifetimes!

Visit the International House website to learn more about events planned for the 50th Anniversary in 2017.

– sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse/alumni/events/50th_anniversary.shtml

Written by Ros Madden AM

- 1/ SUIHAA President Ros Madden AM. Photo: © 2016 University of Sydney, by Nicholas Shackleton.
- 2/ SUIHAA Classical Music Soirée and Reunion, 19 March 2016. L-R: Dr Joan Rowlands AM, Dr Lauris Elms AM OBE, Ms Jessica Carroll. Photos: © 2016 Joshua Lee.
- 3/ SUIHAA Classical Music Soirée and Reunion, 19 March 2016. L-R: Karen Rowe-Nurse (IH 1980-81), Peter Don, Birute Don (née Leveris, IH 1971-73), Gwen Ng (née Burrows, IH 1969-70). Photos: © 2016 Joshua Lee.
- 4/ Immediate past SUIHAA President and current SUIHAA Treasurer Josh Lee with IHMA Chairperson Andrew Collins. Photo: © 2016 Joshua Lee.

Notices

Marriages

Charlene Shue Ting Sim (IH 2006) and Ruchir Punjabi (IH 2005-07) were married on 31 January 2016 in Pushkar, India (pictured).

Ada Alethea Alingog (IH 2004-06) and Rajitha Nanayakkara (IH 2004-07) were married on 24 May 2016 in Manila, Philippines.

Vale

Leigh Ann Ackland (IH 2011)

SUIHAA members heard with great sadness that Leigh Ann Ackland died very recently after losing her battle with brain cancer. Our very sincere sympathies to Neil, Yit Goh, Daniel and family.



Charlene Shue Ting Sim (IH 2006) and Ruchir Punjabi (IH 2005-07), Pushkar, India. Photo supplied by Ruchir Punjabi.

Do you have news to share? Please write to suihaa@sydney.edu.au.

We would love to include your notice in our next issue!

International House Fellows

(Including year elected as Fellow)

Mrs Thelma Bate (1980)	Mr Ian G. Hudson AM (1985)	Mr Richard Wilson (2002)
Sir Herman David Black AC (1980)	Mrs Pauline Kennedy (1985)	Mr Bruce Downie (2002)
Sir Nathaniel Bernard Freeman (1980)	Mr Graeme de Graaff (1986)	Dr Ruth Shatford AM (2002)
Dr Geoffrey Langford Howe (1980)	Ms Mollie Burns (1987)	Dr Joan Rowlands AM (2004)
Mr Wilson Harold Maze MBE (1980)	Mr George Lean (1989)	Mr Roger Wescombe (2006)
Mrs Rosalie McCutcheon (1980)	The Hon. David Selby AM (1989)	Professor John Gascoigne (2007)
Mrs Kathleen O'Neil (1980)	Mrs Renata Messerle (1991)	Dr Keith Suter (2008)
Sir Harold Stanley Wyndham (1980)	Mrs Betty Boulton (1992)	Magistrate Daphne Kok (2009)
Dr Lauris Elms, AM OBE (1981)	Professor Hans Freeman (1993)	Professor Sid Gray (2010)
Mrs Doreen Langley (1981)	Dr Basil Voyagis (1997)	Ms Rosamond (Wood) Madden AM (2010)
Mr Alex Dix (1981)	Mr Tim Beckett (1997)	Associate Professor Emeritus
Mrs Rosemary Berrick (1984)	Mr Geoffrey C. S. Andrews (1999)	Robert Kuzelka (2011)
Mr Brian Farmer (1984)	Justice Dennis Cowdroy OAM (2000)	Mr Michael Hwang S.C. (2012)
Ms Una Henderson (1984)	Mrs Gwen Ng (2002)	Mr David Shannon (2013)
Mr Robert Bland (1985)	Dr Richard Ng (2002)	Mr Dennis Schatz (2015)

A Fellowship of International House recognises a person who has made an outstanding contribution to International House.

Fellowship nominations for 2016 are now open. Nominations should be made in confidence to the Director of International House using the nomination form available on the IH website sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse, or by contacting the office at ih.office@sydney.edu.au or calling +61 2 9950 9800. Nominations close 31 July 2016.

Please support our mission of international understanding and friendship



Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Please accept my gift of:

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ Other \$
(Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible)

I would like to allocate my donation to:

- ☐ International House Scholarship Fund
- ☐ Graeme de Graaff Scholarship
- ☐ Women's Committee Bursary
- ☐ Rosalie McCutcheon Bursary
- ☐ International House Events

Please accept my:

☐ Cheque ☐ Money order ☐ Credit card
(Please make payable to The University of Sydney)

Credit card details

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card No:

Cardholder's name:

Expiry: Signature:

☐ Please send me information about how I can remember the University of Sydney in my will.

- ☐ Ian Hudson Scholarship
- ☐ Michael Rathgeber Scholarship
- ☐ Mollie Burns Bursary
- ☐ Cormack-Rowlands Award
- ☐ Walter Westman Lecture Fund

Alumni profile

One of the International House ‘Pioneers’, Sydney-born lawyer David Shannon’s legal career has taken him all over the world. A former Chairman and member of the International House Council, David Shannon shares how his time as a resident of the House shaped the course of his life and work.



“When you get down to the very personal level of living with other people on a daily basis, sharing meals and talking about ordinary things, you get a deep sense of the underlying humanity that joins us all together.”

David Shannon

What attracted me to International House was, firstly, it was a house and I needed accommodation. It had girls, and that was pretty unusual for a university hall of residence in those days. And it was international, and the international part attracted me greatly.

I did an arts/law degree at Sydney University. I spent some 33 years as a professional lawyer before retiring from the law 15 years ago. I now have various business interests. I also help the Australian Museum raise funds for its Lizard Island Research Station on the Great Barrier Reef.

At International House I was actively involved in IHMA [the International House Members’ Association]. I organised a lot of events for residents. One was a ball in the Wool Room. I invited an Italian girl who I’d met at law school. She wouldn’t have come if it hadn’t been International House – and later she became my wife. So, very memorable!

For me, the community of International House was a wonderful thing and I formed many lifelong friendships from my years here. It gave me a broader perspective of other people, other countries, and a sense of being a citizen of the much larger world. The fact that I had chosen to live at IH helped me get my first job in a really good law firm. The firm was fascinated that I had chosen to be part of an international community rather than attend one of the

other colleges, which were not in any sense international in those days. It helped me again a couple of years later when I interviewed for a job with an international law firm based in the United States, because they too were interested in my international perspective. I joined that firm and spent a large part of my professional life based in Hong Kong, travelling all over the world doing very international legal work. My whole career felt like a champagne party, and I loved it. To me the mission of International House is every bit as relevant today as it was when I was a resident here, because the world needs international understanding. When you get down to the very personal level of living with other people on a daily basis, sharing meals and talking about ordinary things, you get a deep sense of the underlying humanity that joins us all together.

This interview was conducted as part of the International House Alumni Interview Project.

To see the video of David’s interview, as well as those of other alumni, go to youtube.com/user/IHouseSydneyUni. More videos will be added throughout the 50th anniversary year.



Support International House

International House brings together Australian and international students from all over the world, and provides a residential environment unique on the campus of the University of Sydney, where international understanding and friendship can thrive. The value of the immersive, multicultural International House experience has been acknowledged and celebrated by our community of alumni from all over the world. Your donation will provide a student, who may not otherwise have the means to afford residency, with a life-changing

opportunity to be part of the International House experience, allowing them to realise their personal, professional and leadership potential by participating in the House's enhanced program of events and learning opportunities.

To make a gift online please visit the University's **INSPIRED Giving website**, making sure to select 'I would like to give to another area of the University' and search for 'International House scholarships and bursaries.'

For more information

International House

+61 2 9950 9800

ih.reception@sydney.edu.au

sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse