



# ISAA

## National Newsletter

Independent Scholars Association of Australia Inc

*The Boab tree is self-sustaining; it draws on its own resources.*

*Upside down it flourishes against the grain.*

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

\$100—Full members  
\$65—Concessional  
\$120—Household  
\$80—Concessional Household

## **President's Report**

Christine Jennett and the Conference Committee are continuing to work on the program, finalising the speakers and sessions. Emeritus Professor Trevor Parmenter AM (world expert in disability studies) has agreed to give the Annual Lecture on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. There is a separate report on the conference planning in the Newsletter.

Work is continuing on preparing the 2016 and 2017 Conference Proceedings for publication.

I am delighted to report that thanks largely to the efforts of Peter Nixon, the ISAA group in South Australia is planning a renewal in its membership and activities. Meetings are planned for the rest of 2018 on the fourth Thursday of each month. The program includes some short presentations on members' projects, followed by a general discussion. Beginning writers, whether writing from life experience or research, and lapsed students and academics are welcome. We look forward to hearing more from this group over the coming months about its activities.

Members are encouraged to use the "Members' Books" section of the ISAA website to promote their latest published works. Abstracts of around 120 words together with an image can be forwarded to Dr Sue Steggall for uploading on to the site. .

*Christine Yeats President ISAA National Council*

## NSW Chapter Report September 2018

The Public Affairs Reading Group discussed Richard English's book *Does Terrorism Work?* at its meeting on 7 June. The four main groups – al-Qaida, the Provisional IRA, Hamas and the Basque separatist group ETA – were discussed. There will be a full report in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

The NSW Chapter's Annual Seminar was held on 21 July in the Metcalfe Auditorium at the State Library of NSW. The theme was 'In the Aftermath of the First World War – Women's Legal Status Act 1918'. Ably organised by Dr Wendy Michaels and the Seminar Committee, the keynote address was presented by Professor Anne Twomey. There were papers by Jenny Aitchison MP, Kate Eastman SC, Carolyn Corrigan (Mayor of Mosman) and Jilly Gibson (Mayor of North Sydney). The papers from the 2017 and 2018 seminars have been compiled and edited and suitable introductions drafted by Dr Michaels subject to approval by the ISAA Publications Editor. The

publication will then be forwarded to the copy editor prior to layout and printing.

Dr Sue Steggall presented her work-in-progress on 7 August. Her topic was 'A Sculpture Trail - with a difference – exploring the theory underpinning site specific sculpture as well as issues surrounding the placement of sculpture in public spaces. 'The NSW Chapter is grateful to Elizabeth Fletcher for opening her home for the ISAA WIP events.

On 25 September the Open Forum will be a joint event with the Royal Australian Historical Society. ISAA member Isabel Deeble will be speaking about Charles Dickens and his performed readings: a new art form. Former teacher and professional actor Geoffrey Usher will also present two excerpts from A Christmas Carol.

*Christine Yeats*  
Chair SAA NSW Chapter

## ACT Chapter Report

Since my last report, we have had the following talks:

13 June, Dr Campbell Macknight on the Australian prehistorian Fred McCarthy and his work in Malaya in 1937-38

21 June, Dr Justin Garrick on the challenges and opportunities in contemporary education from the perspective of Canberra Grammar School (of which he is Principal)

11 July, Dr Anthea Roberts on whether International Law is really international

19 July, Dr Knox Peden on Ramsay Centre sponsorship of courses on Western Civilisation

8 August, Darren Le Roux on urban parks and how

they might be more attractive to wildlife

16 August, Dr John Moses on Germany's role causing the Great War

12 September, Richard Reid on writing the history of the Irish National Association, Sydney's 20th century Irish Republicans, 1915-2015

20 September, Dr Keith Powell AM on an overland trip with his wife by car from India to England in 1959.

Alan Roberts

## ISAA Research Grants

Two research grants at \$500 each are available for current members of ISAA and those taking up membership by 14 September 2018. Applicants must not be in full-time employment.

Applicants are invited to submit an application (1) outlining the research they intend to do; (2) how the grant will assist them in their research, providing a timeline and indication of expenditure; and (3) confirming that this research is not otherwise funded.

Successful applicants must commit to writing a short piece for a future Newsletter (ca 350 words) explaining how the grant has assisted them in their research. It will be expected that the grant funds will be expended

within twelve months of their receipt.

Applications should be sent to ISAA's Administrative Officer Meredith Hinchcliffe at [info@isaa.org.au](mailto:info@isaa.org.au)

Or Meredith Hinchcliffe  
Administrative Officer

Independent Scholars Association of Australia Inc  
GPO Box 268  
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Applications close 20 September. The ISAA Council will select successful applicants at its meeting on 27 September and the funds are available from 1 October 2018.

## ISAA National Conference 11th-12th October

The 2018 ISAA Conference is only four weeks away and you should already have your program. Make sure you register as soon as possible. The theme this year centres around the fact that it is 70 since years since the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and there is an exciting line up of speakers. As usual there will be a

wide variety of approaches, looking at how human rights have been expressed in different times and in different places.

Emeritus Professor Trevor Parmenter is giving the Annual Lecture (see below)

### ISAA 2018 ANNUAL LECTURE

#### *Human Rights and Disability: The Promise and the Reality*

**Trevor R Parmenter AM**

*Professor Emeritus, Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney*

*Thursday 11 October 5:30pm National Library*

How well Australia has met its obligations to respect the essential humanity of people living with a disability and to enable them to flourish will be discussed in the context of an overview of Australia's obligations under various human rights instruments: from the Declaration of Human Rights (1948) to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (2006).

Trevor Parmenter will examine the intersection of the rights approach to disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Central to the analysis will be an examination of the apparent paradox between the philosophies of self-determination, empowerment and citizenship espoused by disability advocates and the essential focus of the NDIS on consumer choice and market-driven consumer systems. The conclusion is that despite there being some valuable aspects of the NDIS, under its present policies and structures, the basic human rights of people with disabilities in Australia will not be adequately achieved. A rights approach to disability is a necessary but not a sufficient mechanism for people with disabilities to achieve a good life.

*Trevor R Parmenter, AM BA PhD FACE FAAIDD FFIASSID FASSID is Professor Emeritus, Sydney Medical School, Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Sydney. From 1997 until his retirement on 4 December 2009, Professor Emeritus Parmenter held the Foundation Chair of Developmental Disability in the Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. He is Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney; and Adjunct*



*Professor in the School of Rural Medicine, University of New England. Former positions include: Director of the Centre for Disability Studies (CDDS) at the Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney; Professorial Fellow and Director of the Unit for Community Integration Studies at Macquarie University; he held teaching and administrative positions in the New South Wales Department of Education and Training.*

*He has been active in international associations for intellectual and developmental disabilities and worked with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). In 2005 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for his contributions to research, teaching and services to people with developmental disabilities. He has led prestigious research and evaluation studies related to the health of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities and has published widely on disability issues including employment, supported living, classification of support needs, behaviour support, mental and physical health, quality of life, autism, family studies, ageing, policy development and program evaluation.*

## Members' Publications and Presentations

### Patricia Clarke

'Australia's first female war correspondent: Edith Dickenson at the Boer War'. Chapter 3 in *Reporting from the Wars 1850-2015: The origins and evolution of the war correspondent*, eds Barry Tuner, Daniel Barredo Ibanez, Steven James Grattan, Vernon Press, Wilmington, De., USA, Malaga, Spain, 2018.

'With love and fury. Judith', chapter on Judith Wright as a letter writer in *A Fiercer Light: A new understanding of the work of Judith Wright*, edited by Peter Skrzynecki. Seven Hills, NSW: Boraga Academic, 2017, pp. 25-54.

'Jennie Scott Griffiths: How a conservative Texan became a radical socialist and feminist in World War I Australia' *ISAA Review* vol. 15, no. 2, 2016, pp. 31-52.

'Florence Baverstock 1861-1937, journalist, editor', *Media The Australian Media Hall of Fame*, pp. 42-44.

'Connie Robertson 1894-1964, NSW, war correspondent and editor'.

<http://halloffame.melbournepressclub.com/article/constance-robertson>.

'The "Prince of the Press Gallery": the extraordinary life of journalist Joe Alexander, CDHS's greatest benefactor', *Canberra Historical Journal* September 2017, pp. 1-10.

'Graeme Barrow OAM (1936-2017), journalist, editor' (obituary), *Canberra Historical Journal*, September 2017, pp. 37-40.

### Bob Davidson

Davidson, Bob (2018), 'The Marketisation of Aged Care in Australia,' in *Wrong Way: How Privatisation and Economic Reform has Backfired*, in (eds) Damien Cahill and Phil Toner, Latrobe University Press, Black Inc Books, Melbourne, Chapter 5, August.

Spies-Butcher, Ben, & Davidson, Bob (2018), *Keep NSW a Healthy State: Investing for a Healthy Future*, Report prepared for The McKell Institute, Sydney, May.

Fine, Michael, & Davidson, Bob (2018), 'The marketization of care: Globalization challenges and national responses in Australia,' *Current Sociology*, Vol 66(4), pp.503-516.

### Ian Keese

'Religion and spirituality in the curriculum' *Professional Educator* vol.18 no. 1 2018, pp 40-43

### Ian Low

Contribution to the Great Transition Initiative's Round Table on Nuclear Abolition is available at [www.greattransition.org/roundtable/nuclear-abolition-ian-low](http://www.greattransition.org/roundtable/nuclear-abolition-ian-low).

An interview about population on Radio National's PM is available at <http://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/pm/how-does-population-growth-impact-the-environment/10084852>

Discussion of the problem communicating the science of climate change in *Focus, Journal of the Academy of Technology and Engineering*, no. 207, September 2018

The slides of presentation on Citizen Science to the THECA forum are available on the Royal Society of Queensland's web site, [www.royalsociety.qld.org](http://www.royalsociety.qld.org).

'Climate Change: where to from here?' *Social Alternatives*, vol. 37 number 2, pp 31-34.

### Ann Moyall

'The Origin of Species Comes to Australia', Lead story in *Unbound: the National Library of Australia magazine*, September, 2018

### Shirley Randell

#### Publications

'Celebrating Leadership Learnings in Education across Continents: Experiences of Women Leading in Rwanda', *International Women Leading Education: Harnessing the Joy in Leadership*, Rachel McNae and Elizabeth Reilly (eds) Rowman & Littlefield, Maryland, USA, 2018, pp.149-155

'Invisible Women', *Cosmopolitan Civil Societies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, Vol. 9, No.2, 2017, pp 79-81

#### Presentations

'Why Gender Equality Matters to Achieving all 17 Sustainable Development Goals', United Nations Association of Australia Annual General Meeting, Sydney, NSW, 11 August 2018

'Could Kenyan Public Servants Learn from Rwandan Women's Activism in Rwanda?' Master of Public Administration graduates, Kenya School of Government, Nairobi, Kenya, 13 June 2018

'Could Kenyan Men and Women Learn from Rwandan Women's Activism in Rwanda?' Public Lecture for staff and students, Laikipia University, Laikipia, Kenya, 12 June 2018

*Members works continued*

'Learning from Inspirational Girl Role Models', Akilah Institute for Women, Kigali, Rwanda, 5 June 2018

'Inspirational Girls', Club Rafiki, Kigali, Rwanda, 3 June 2018

Participant, 'Round Table on Gender Equality', FairBreak Global Day of Gender Equality and International Women's Cricket Match, Wormsley, UK, 30 May 2018

'Revolution, Activism and Social Change in Rwanda: Impact of women leaders', Independent Scholars

Association of Australia, New South Wales Open Forum, History House, Royal Australian Historical Society, Sydney, NSW, 5 April 2018

***Alan Roberts***

"Canberra was the Great Joy in the 1940s": Douglas Dundas, Artist', *Canberra Historical Journal*, p 81, September 2018, p 8.

**Member Activities**

Supporting *Ann Moyal's* public writings on the topic, the distinguished MP for INDI and ISAA member, Cathy McGowan, will move a Private Members Motion to establish a 'Chief Social Scientist' during the Commonwealth Parliament's Second sitting week in September 2018.

ISAA Member *Catherine Rogers* has an exhibition at Barometer Gallery :

**IN REVERSE**

**Catherine Rogers & Barbara Rogers**

**18 AUGUST - 22 SEPTEMBER 2018**

All fabric works are unique patterns crafted by Barbara Rogers  
Photographic images are in editions of 5 printed by Catherine Rogers

**opening hours Wednesday - Saturday 12 - 5pm**

**Barometer Gallery 13 Gurner Street, Paddington. NSW**