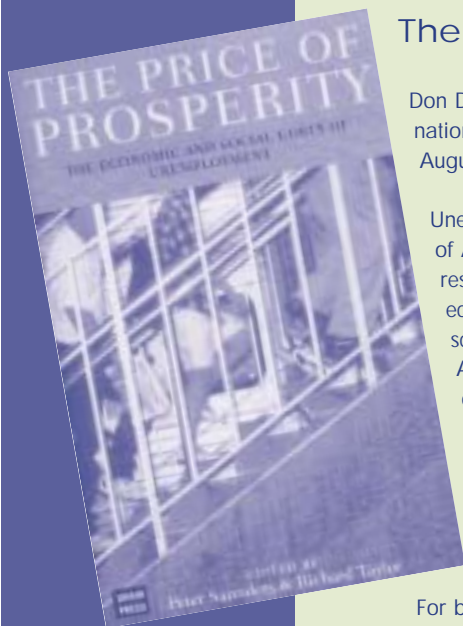




2ND EDITION 2002

DONDUNSTANFOUNDATION BULLETIN

www.adelaide.edu.au/dunstan_foundation



The price of Prosperity Seminars

Don Dunstan Foundation and the Academy of Social Sciences is running a series of national seminars to encourage debate on the 'forgotten' issue of unemployment during August-September.

Unemployment, particularly long-term unemployment, has become a permanent feature of Australia's economic landscape. Its unacceptably high level has proved remarkably resistant in the face of sustained economic growth and increased prosperity. The adverse economic and social consequences of high unemployment are likely to leave long-term scars on those affected, as well as on local communities and the entire fabric of Australian society. Yet these effects rarely feature on the policy agenda, and the costs of unemployment remain largely invisible.

Speakers are prominent researchers in the field who have contributed to a major new study, *The Price of Prosperity: The Economic and Social Costs of Unemployment*, edited by Peter Saunders and Richard Taylor, to be published in July by University of NSW Press.

For bookings and enquiries regarding the following seminars call (08) 8303 3364 or email dunstan.foundation@adelaide.edu.au or visit our website at www.adelaide.edu.au/dunstan_foundation for the latest updates

VALUES

respect for fundamental human rights

celebration of cultural and ethnic diversity

freedom of individuals to control their lives

just distribution of global wealth

respect for indigenous people and protection of their rights

democratic and inclusive forms of governance

Melbourne Wednesday 7 August, 6.30-8.30 pm

New International Bookshop, Trades Hall, Carlton

Speakers: Professor Peter Saunders, Overview
 Professor Lois Bryson, Unemployment, social policy and community life 60s to 90s
 Professor Bruce Headey, Psychological impact

Adelaide Tuesday 13 August, 6-8pm

Upstairs at The Stag Hotel, Rundle St, City

Speakers: Professor Sue Richardson, Overview
 Professor Lois Bryson, Unemployment, social policy and community life 60s to 90s
 Professor Michael Webber, Effect of retrenchment from old declining industries

Sydney Tuesday 3 September, 5.30-7.30pm

Parliament House Theaterette, Macquarie St, Sydney

Speakers: Professor Peter Saunders, Overview
 Dr Don Weatherburn, Impact on crime
 Professor Bruce Chapman, Youth unemployment

Brisbane, Tuesday 8 October, 5.30-7.30pm

Presented by the Brisbane Institute at Customs House, Brisbane

Speakers: Peter Saunders, Overview
 Stephen Bell, Contours and dynamics of unemployment
 Boyd Hunter, Costs of indigenous unemployment

DIARY DATES

18 August
Premier Mike Rann



13 October
 Refugee Forum

BOOK NOW
 see enclosed flyer for details



A Film Corporation is born



Sunday too far away South Australian Film Corporation

I got a call from Dunstan's office in 1972—when I was working with Whitlam to revive the Australian film industry. Could I come to Adelaide immediately? Dunstan's somewhat mysterious amanuensis Peter Ward picked me up at the airport and took me to the Premier's office where, lo and behold, Australia's answer to Pierre Trudeau awaited me.

I'll never forget the first moments of that encounter. The office was enormous and Don was cinematically backlit by the Adelaide sun pouring through the panoramic window. As he walked towards me, Don extended his hand and, on it, I saw the most enormous turquoise ring. Was I meant to kiss it? Or simply to shake the hand. I opted for the latter.

Before we began our conversation, the Premier turned on a very large Grundig radio, very loudly. 'Why have you turned on the wireless?' I shouted over the outpouring of sound. 'Because the permanent head is in the next office with a glass to the wall, trying to listen,' said the Premier. Scout's honour, a Thomas Playford leftover was eavesdropping.

Now, we got down to business. Don was interested in the new Federal initiatives and wanted to 'plug in' South Australia to what might, just might be a revival of our long dead industry. He wanted to establish a film laboratory—in collaboration with Fuji, the Japanese company—so it could provide 'dailies' and 'rushes' for the films we hoped would be shot in Sydney and Melbourne.

I pointed out that Adelaide was far too far away for that—that the rushes wouldn't be sufficiently rushed. Instead I suggested a South Australian Film Corporation, which would lure some of the best and brightest filmmakers from the Eastern States to Adelaide. After all, why not? The US film industry

began in New York but it finished up in far-flung California.

Worried about the cost and the politics of the venture, Don decided that we should proceed stealthily, camouflaging our intentions. We would begin by assessing all the film activities in various government departments to see if they could be grouped together. A survey showed that any number of departments had small film units, often quite well equipped, that were doing documentaries on road safety, agriculture or whatever. So these would be put together into a 'front organisation'. But the real purpose was to get feature films made in South Australia.

To cut a long story short, the SAFC opened for business soon thereafter and it never really bothered with in-house documentaries, preferring to focus on films like *Sunday Too Far Away* and *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. The concept of attracting the best filmmakers worked well and Premiers across our wide brown land immediately copied the SAFC format. Almost overnight there were FCs in Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland—none of which would prove half as successful as the South Australian original.

Another bold initiative by one of Australia's most fascinating and creative politicians.

Phillip Adams AO
Don Dunstan Foundation trustee

Publications

The Price of Prosperity: The Economic and Social Costs of Unemployment

ISBN 0868405418, 235 x 153 mm, 288 pp, PB, \$39.95.

The book results from a wide-ranging Academy of Social Sciences study involving longitudinal research from 1960s to the 1990s. This study examines for the first time the nature and impact of these costs at three distinct levels: those imposed directly on unemployed people and their families; those that affect the nature of community life; and those that give rise to economy-wide effects on Australian society.

Peter Saunders (editor) is the Director of the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. He has advised a range of national and international bodies, including the Economic Planning Advisory Commission, the New Zealand Royal Commission on Social Policy, the OECD, the International Social Security Association and the Asian Development Bank. He is a member of the Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences Expert Advisory Committee of the Australian Research Council and of the Executive Committee of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

Richard Taylor (editor) is Associate Professor in Public Health at the University of Sydney. He is a medical graduate with twenty years experience in public health research, teaching and consultancy.

Orders from UNSW Press (see enclosed flyer)



Student Scholarship



Christine Muller (centre) receives her scholarship from Norman Ashton, The Smith Family and Jane Russell, Don Dunstan Foundation

This will be an exciting and challenging year for Christine as she adjusts to some major life changes. Christine has, until recently, lived in rural SA with her family but on receiving a place at university has moved to Adelaide. She is part of a close knit and very supportive family who are all excited about her University career. Christine is the first in her family to attend University and her mother is justifiably proud.

Christine is a highly motivated and enthusiastic young person who is dedicated to her studies but also passionate about pursuing her extra-curricular interests such as bush-walking, camping, swimming, and listening to music. There is no doubt that Christine will achieve her goals.

On 15 March Christine Muller was presented with her scholarship to study a BA at the University of Adelaide. She is hoping to major in psychology and has aspirations to become a social worker or counsellor in the future. Christine is very interested in social policy and enjoys debating about contemporary issues. Christine describes herself as having a strong social conscience, which is what attracts her to working in the community services field.

Jadynne Harvey Scholarship Report

Within Australia at present there are nearly twenty thousand young people who live under the guardianship of the state. These young people enter state care in most cases as a result of abuse and neglect in their home environment, or from other difficulties on the part of the biological parent. During their time in care many of these young people are continually relocated and subject to severe social and environmental dislocation on a regular basis, with few ongoing familial or systems supports. As adults, once these same young people leave the care system they are considerably more likely than their peers or almost any other group within society to be unemployed, have little or no education, have had involvement with the legal system, have attempted suicide or contemplated suicide, or be homeless or without stable shelter.

Such outcomes are not however the destination for all graduates of the care system, with many going on to lead lives subject to significantly less adversity. Why is it that some people manage to leave the care system considerably better off than their peers? Are there particular qualities or occurrences in the lives of successful care graduates, and are these occurrences or qualities replicable? And finally, what role should the state play in protecting and nurturing these young people they have been entrusted to protect and raise?



Jadynne Harvey, The Don
Dunstan Foundation
postgraduate scholarship
recipient 2001

In consideration of these questions, my research looks at the out of home care system within Australia, with a particular focus on the outcomes for young people after leaving care, including both foster care and residential care. Housed within the Department of Psychology I am examining the ways in which specific situations within a young person's time in care influence their later life and development. In particular, I am presently examining the concept of resiliency, a psychological phenomenon increasingly applied to social and health practices in other areas of public policy such as substance abuse prevention and mental health. Resilience theory suggests that particular life situations and experiences act to buffer the individual from subsequent life distresses and thereby ameliorate future problems in the person concerned. I am trying to identify whether those who exit the care system as adults who are not exposed to poverty, crime, homelessness and mental health issues can be considered resilient, and if so, whether their life experiences can be used to structure and model programs to intervene and improve the life trajectories of others in care who otherwise would be exposed to lives of risk and marginalisation. The overall aim is to produce findings that will aid the social development of some of the more marginalised young people within the care system.

Appeal success!

In March of this year the Foundation ran an appeal to help us raise a further \$10,000 to support the Dunstan Fellowship first workshop program. The target has been reached! The Trustees of the Foundation would like to thank all of our supporters who have contributed to the success of this appeal. Thank you!



Sunday Lunch with Donald Horne

On Sunday 02 June 2002, the South Australian Chapter of the Don Dunstan Foundation held its third Sunday lunch seminar for the year with a capacity crowd at the Governor Hindmarsh Hotel. This luncheon was not only well attended by our regular Sunday session patrons, but we also discovered many new friends — and what better introduction to a Chapter event than through the captivating oratory of Professor Donald Horne. The upbeat and positive mood of the event was set with a rousing introduction of songs from the Trade Union Choir, Adelaide's own spirited acapella group.

Professor Horne (left) with Professor Hugh Stretton, Foundation trustee

Professor Horne, whose credentials are really too numerous to comprehensively list here, have included editor of *Quadrant*, *The Observer*, twice editor of *The Bulletin*, and author of many books, including *The Lucky Country*, was indeed a humbling presence in our Chapter series of lunches.

Within the focus of leadership, Donald Horne firstly spoke of another 'Don' (Dunstan), and that 'great period of hope' that followed his leadership and for the ever-after quest for a 'liberal and more democratic society', and of the hope that Australia could have the chance to provide the world with its first truly multi-racial society, under more liberal and democratic leadership and vision. Instead, pre- and post- Dunstan, xenophobic elements have often featured or benignly threaded throughout politics where opportunity to spearhead and embrace a cultural diverse society has gone unused and by the wayside.

It was wonderful to also hear that Donald Horne's cultural diverse society included not only ethnic, but also racial, gender, and sexuality issues, among other factors and that the absence of these should not be directly or indirectly exploited in leadership. In his own words, 'Leadership in a democracy doesn't have to mean following the opinion polls to get votes. It can mean helping people create better than they know, by drawing on their potential for cooperation and goodness. One of these days – and one can say this in the name of Don Dunstan – we may again be granted a leader with the gift of showing us the possibility of a new national togetherness – a leader who can move the word diversity beyond ethnicities to a whole variety of ways of life, to a plurality of values and ways of being human. That would be a truly inclusive multicultural Australia'.

The future looks brighter when we get together to listen to someone with insight and vision like Donald Horne and it's up to all of us to maintain this vision by letting our voices be heard and not to remain silent, and in her words of thanks to Professor Horne before the applause had even died down, the Hon Dr. Jane Lomax-Smith assured him that there was indeed no-one in this room who would employ such silence.

Kerryn Croft
SA Chapter Committee