

## WELCOME TO THE DON DUNSTAN FOUNDATION BULLETIN

Wow, the year has whizzed through the third quarter and there is still more to come as we complete 2005 and plan for 2006.

Political moves and international developments give us much substance from which to work - the reforms of the UN and debate on human development goals, the "dog whistle" politics of race in the recent New Zealand election and the run at flat tax reform, the inability of small and incompetent government to handle the crisis in New Orleans, the ubiquitous Mark Latham, and the radical industrial relations changes looming in Australia.

**Our challenge is to maintain our focus and bring ideas and seed projects, which advance the Foundation's values and make a difference in communities in which we can have an impact.**

## FUND RAISING AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Foundation is aiming at a target of **500 subscribers by 2007**, so if you know anyone, who would like to join please give them our contact details.

**A subscription would make an ideal Xmas present.**

3RD EDITION  
05

# DON DUNSTAN FOUNDATION BULLETIN

[www.dunstan.org.au](http://www.dunstan.org.au)

Dunstan cooking in his Clara Street home in 1976. Photo courtesy of The Advertiser.



South Australia and a continuation of our breakfast series.

Our major event will be the annual Don Dunstan Human Rights Orator and if you have any ideas on a suitable Orator of the quality of our 3 Orators to date- Julian Burnside QC, Professor Peter Singer and Professor Martha Nussbaum- please let us have them very soon.

## COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES

The Board recently reviewed the Foundation's communication strategies and will continue to build on its multi-pronged approach through the Bulletin and Dunstan Papers for subscribers, emails and websites, maximising publicity for key events and projects and locating commentary in the local newspapers. Rather than responding to the issues of the day, the Board will be commissioning writing on topics that advance the Foundation's values. If you wish to contribute up to 1500 words on a topic or issues that aligns with the Foundation's values please email us through the website.

## PLANNING FOR 2006

We are now full swing into planning for projects and events for 2006.

The projects outlined in this Bulletin and a jointly developed Public Advocacy Manual will be the core project activity.

Our events will be focusing tightly on advancing the Values of the Foundation, with a little room for our annual food event. This will likely be at Regency School of Food and Catering and combining food policy and sampling some of Don Dunstan's

recipes. Watch for the details in our 2006 Bulletins.

Given that the next State election is on the 18 March there is scope for a policy forum. We are also planning an extended seminar on the role of the United Nations in advancing human rights. This could well be complemented by the Australia-wide campaign on a human rights bill. There will also be presentations of at least two Adelaide Thinkers in Residence, opportunities to participate in public forums on our projects, a round up of the State of

## Don Dunstan Foundation

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George Lewkowicz

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



Roslyn Cox

## Annual report

The summary to our Annual Report picks up a number of the local issues highlighted by the important book, *State of South Australia* edited by John Spoehr. From this book and a scan of the big issues in Australia, the Foundation will be following through projects on Aboriginal employment in the SA public sector; Corporate social responsibility in practice; and Affordable Housing for South Australian Families as a complement to the Dunstan Fellows Project on Affordable Housing. Two of the projects have a strong connection with the South Australian Strategic Plan. If you have an interest in helping to fund or wish to become involved in any of these projects, please let us know. (The summary of the Annual Report 2004-2005 is inserted in this Bulletin).

## Visit by Professor Martha Nussbaum, Don Dunstan Human Rights Orator

South Australia was privileged to have hosted Professor Nussbaum, the highly influential University of Chicago-based social philosopher in August. Professor Nussbaum's Oration, *Global Justice and Human Development* was rich with analysis, ideas and proposals for implementation of her 10 Human Capabilities and warrants study by those interested in the advancement of Human Rights. (The on-line journal *New Matilda* will be coordinating an extensive campaign to enact a Human Rights Bill for Australia over the next year). The Foundation's website contains three chapters from Professor Nussbaum's books which elaborate her ideas on human capabilities. The website also contains chapters on women and development, religious intolerance and ethics and disability, areas on which Professor Nussbaum spoke while in Adelaide. The Foundation was also very pleased that

Joe Rafalowicz, an Adelaide year 12 student leader, spoke at the Oration on 23 August. An extract of Joe's speech is included.

Other local events included an EDS sponsored breakfast with Ministers Lea Stevens and Carmel Zollo on Mental Health and the South Australian Community, a public forum by the Director General, International Baccalaureate, Professor George Walker on *The IB: Pragmatism, and Vision* and the third Making Future Tracts Workshop on, *The Case for Corporate Social Responsibility*. Our thanks to Max Dumais for his dedicated organisation of these workshops.

The Foundation is also very pleased with its continued partnership with the Adelaide Thinkers in Residence, whereby we will co-host community forums introducing the new Thinkers.

## Interstate Activities

The very active Queensland Chapter held a public forum, *Women: the Next 100 years* in October and the Centre for Public Policy, University of Melbourne, co-hosted with the Foundation, the Dunstan Lecture for 2005, with Professor Stewart Firth, *Toward Justice and Human Development in the South Pacific: How Australia can do better*.

The Foundation's other Melbourne partner, the Australian Fabian Society, is hosting a national conference, *A Fool's Paradise: Economics, Equity and Trust in the 21st Century*, 11 and 12 November in Melbourne. See [www.fabian.org.au](http://www.fabian.org.au).

**GEORGE LEWKOWICZ**  
Executive Director

**ROSSLYN COX**  
Business and Development Manager

## PROJECT UPDATE

### Dunstan Fellow Programs, Affordable Housing for Australian Families

The Dunstan Fellows, Julian Disney, Brian Howe, Barbara Pocock and Mike Berry have been very active and are preparing a policy position paper on Affordable Housing as a precursor to Ministerial discussion on a National Affordable Housing Agreement. The Fellows are building on the work of the National Housing Summit. Action is being called for at all levels of government to address the huge increases in housing costs and their impact, particularly on at least 1.5 million lower income people incurring accommodation costs above 30% of household income. Proposals are directed at attracting more private investment in affordable housing, expanding non-profit provision and management of affordable housing, and improving the sustainability and effectiveness of public housing. Major issues highlighted so far include, planning systems, infrastructure provision, housing finance and government assistance and housing management. More details will be supplied through the website as they come to hand.

### Dunstan Fellow Programs, The Neighbours Program

The program of annual visits and discussions with Indonesian, Malaysian and Australian community leaders is continuing. The program has been mentioned favourably on several occasions in Malaysia's *New Straits Times*. Details can be accessed through website [www.neighboursprogram.org.au](http://www.neighboursprogram.org.au)

### **Don Dunstan history project**

The project team for the project researching the extraordinary reforms of the Dunstan decade is regrouping for another bid for Australian Research Council funding. The result of the bid will not be known until late May 2006, however we will be forging ahead in the meantime. So far we have transcripts of 4 lengthy interviews with Clyde Cameron, Len King, Elliot Johnston and Bob Bakewell and these will be held in the State Library of SA and the special collection at Flinders University. Project team members will be interviewing more key people involved in reform achievements and gauging their assessment of Don Dunstan's leadership.

This action is especially important as people's recollections fade. At the same time, we will be commissioning research and gathering information so we can make assessments of achievements in key areas such as culture and arts, social reform, urban development, land rights for Indigenous people and economic development.

The team is very pleased that the Board of Management recently approved an allocation of \$10,000 so we can keep up the momentum.

**Your donations - small and large - and involvement would also greatly assist us in progressing this important project. Please let us have any information or records or recollections you might have on Don Dunstan. Please send donations to the Foundation using the address details on the front cover of this Bulletin. These donations are tax deductible.**

### **Aboriginal employment in the public sector: achieving government targets**

The Foundation will be commissioning independent research to identify and promote successful practice in the employment and management of Aboriginal staff in the SA Public Sector. The SA Government's South Australian Strategic Plan has a target under "Aboriginal Wellbeing" to increase the percentage of the Aboriginal population employed from 1.2% to 2% within five years. Strategies, some "outside the square," will be based on known pockets of successful practice such as in the Sheriff's Office. The emphasis will be on learning from such practices and applying them widely in all agencies. If you have ideas for improving general and human resources management practices, which will benefit Aboriginal employees, please let us know.

### **Corporate social responsibility in practice**

The Foundation will be seeking to be recognised as an honest broker in facilitating and assessing practice in genuine corporate social responsibility. Two options are being looked at:

- A more theoretical approach based on how the generally understood principles of CSR translate into practice, or
- Action research with a small number of organisations (initially without solely profit motives)

The Foundation will identify and work with experts who can research/advise on successful and genuine practice. In addition, the research/advisory group may engage with a limited number of organisations in assisting implementation and reporting on successful practice. There is growing interest in and a

body of practice of various interpretations of CSR in Australia. Much of this practice is based on the local application of overseas examples as multinational companies, the United Nations, the European community and the British government draw on various guidelines for implementation. A Joint Committee of the Australian Parliament is conducting an inquiry into CSR and triple bottom line reporting.

Forms of CSR include ratings of triple bottom line practice (financial, social and environmental), reputation indices, ethical investment listings, use of Australian Standards on fraud and governance, business sustainability, a CSR component in annual reports, sponsoring of community projects and philanthropy. While organisations practising CSR appear relatively confident about addressing financial and environmental issues they are less certain about the "social". The Foundation will be following through developments.

Motivations for adopting CSR include, ethical business practice, good corporate citizenship, compliance with existing legislation such as occupational health and safety, business sustainability and triple bottom line awareness and reporting. The primary motivation is that of maximisation of shareholder/owner returns but there is a growing awareness of the importance of addressing other stakeholder interests.

**If you are interested in being involved in the project or have ideas on suitable organisations for action research, please let us know.**

**Action is being called for at all levels of government to address the huge increases in housing costs and their impact, particularly on at least 1.5 million lower income people incurring accommodation costs above 30% of household income.**



Enjoying an al fresco meal at The Barn restaurant in 1989. Photo courtesy of The Advertiser.



Dunstan researcher Peter Strawhan at his graduation ceremony, earlier this year. Photo by Lisa Reid.

## FOREVER PASSIONATE: DON DUNSTAN AND FOOD

There can be no gainsaying that Don Dunstan was a passionate man. He had a lifetime passion for social justice and ensured that his ideals would be passed on by the creation, shortly before his death on 6 February 1999, of the Dunstan Foundation. He was also a complex man of many passions. Jarvis Marketing commissioned a survey of 400 people in Adelaide last year and a remarkable percentage not only knew of Dunstan and his reign as premier, but were even aware of the Foundation. Apart from associating him with social justice issues, numbers of those surveyed connected Dunstan with encouraging the arts, dressing flamboyantly - the dreaded pink shorts in particular, social change, social reform, the Festival Theatre complex and homosexual, law reform.

None of those surveyed mentioned what I argue was his overall and abiding passion. Stemming from his early childhood experiences in Fiji, Don developed an extraordinary interest in food that became a lifelong love affair. Nearing the end of his life he wrote an essay on the subject entitled, 'My One True Love.' In it he provided a resume of why food meant so much to him.<sup>1</sup>

*For my love is constant, unailing, rewarding, providing ongoing sensual and intellectual satisfaction interest and delight, a vehicle for demonstrating affection, a means of communication and closeness, a haven for rest from the stresses of life. How often can that be said of other loves?*<sup>2</sup>

A truly formidable range of attractions for a person who was both an intellectual and a sensualist, one who loved the person regardless of their sex. The exotic mix of Asian, Indian and Fijian food that stimulated the Dunstan palate of his earliest years was soon replaced by the mundane 1930s fare served up by his aunts at Murray Bridge, although compensated in part by an abundance of fresh fruit. Later, as a day-boy at St Peter's College during World War II, Don bought the first of many cookbooks and tried his rudimentary cooking skills on fellow members of the boy-scouts' troop. At the University of Adelaide he qualified in law, but his study of history lead Dunstan to research the origins and distribution of foodstuffs and recipes throughout his life. Don began cooking breakfast for his young family in the years before he became premier and became increasingly adventurous in the kitchen. As attorney general he banished six O' clock closing of hotel bars and introduced us to European style wining and dining. Against the advice of Labor Party apparatchiks, Don published his own cookbook in 1976. This was the flamboyant Dunstan at his best and demonstrated how importantly he regarded the subject. Premier Dunstan set out to transform tourism into a food and wine related industry and left another great legacy with the world-renowned Regency Hotel School.

He returned to domesticity at his beloved Clara Street hideaway late in 1986 with a new partner, Steven Cheng, and concentrated on resurrecting his herb and vegetable garden. His many and varied friends

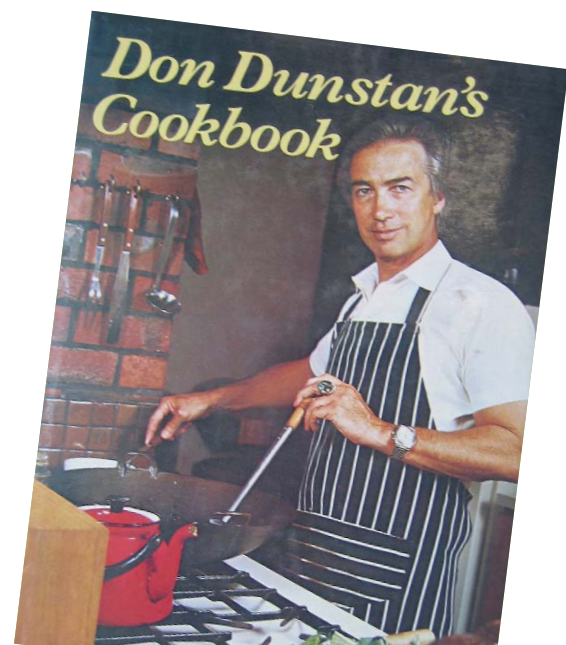
were once more treated to the delights of the Dunstan table and his unbounded hospitality. I have argued elsewhere that Don only became a whole person when he and Cheng opened the first Don's Table restaurant on The Parade, Norwood, on 8 July 1994. Don was sixty-seven years of age and all those who loved him were horrified at what they thought was absolute madness on his part. I believe that for Don it was the logical culmination of his long love affair with food, the missing piece in the jigsaw of his life.

### Dr Peter Strawhan 22 September 2005

*Peter was recently awarded his PhD from the University of Adelaide, on the subject of Don Dunstan's passion for food.*

<sup>1</sup> 'Advertiser, 27 April 2004.  
<sup>2</sup> Flinders University of South Australia. Dunstan Collection, Food and Wine Articles, 'My one True Love,' n d, c 1998, P 1.

The cover of Don Dunstan's Cookbook, released in 1976. "Special thanks for Dr Gillian Dooley and staff at the Dunstan Collection housed in the Flinders University Library"



- 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

Mr Phillip Adams AO  
Mr David Combe  
Mr Mark Cully  
Mr Andrew Dunstan  
Hon. Barry Jones AO  
Hon. Jane Lomax-Smith  
Ms Carmel O'Loughlin



**FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

One of the challenges in writing a column for the Don Dunstan Foundation Newsletter is that it hits the streets about six weeks after the writing is done. This only adds to the task of ensuring that the material is still relevant long after fingertips are put to the keyboard.

At the time of writing, the two lead stories in the daily news services give food for thought about the value of public sector institutions. The first story relates to the full privatisation of Telstra which has been approved by the Federal Parliament.

If Don Dunstan was with us today, I am sure that he would be reminding us of the risks of privatisation. He would be alerting us to the dangers of services - which in a commercial world are considered uneconomic - being discontinued or downgraded no matter how important they may be as a community service. Alternatively, such services might become the target of large price increases regardless of the socio-economic circumstances of the people who rely on them.

Time will tell if such predictions in relation to Telstra prove correct but history with other similar exercises suggests a high probability that Don's warnings are well founded.

The second news item of the day concerns the failure of an adequate response to the plight of the citizens of New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Understandably, the spotlight fell on the United States' government and the government of the State of Louisiana. The expectations were clear. In this crisis - just as in the crisis that followed the terrorist bombings in London a few weeks earlier - the community turned to the public sector institutions to respond.

One thing is certain. There will be high level inquiries into the response to Hurricane Katrina. I will be interested in any findings that relate to the capacity of the various institutions to respond. Devaluing the role of the public sector has become so commonplace that I will not be even slightly surprised if it is found that the various agencies had such limited capacity as to be ineffective in a crisis.

Again, I can hear a Don Dunstan message. Public institutions have crucial roles to play in a civil society but they must be both efficient and have the capacity to do what is expected of them.

So far, little has been reported about the private sector's role in the New Orleans relief effort. No doubt there will have been large scale private sector involvement which leads me to alert our supporters to the likelihood that the Foundation will, in the next few months, be exploring the practical ways in which companies might give effect to the concept of corporate social responsibility.

I look forward to reporting on the results of our work in this important area.

BILL COSSEY, AM  
Chair, Board of Management

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## TESTIMONIALS

We believe that one of the most valuable assets we have, is the goodwill of long time supporters of the Foundation. We believe that by promoting this goodwill, we can inspire others to do likewise. We are in the process of compiling a library of testimonials to be used for various purposes including on the Foundation's website and in our promotional brochures. Below is one of the most recent testimonials we have received. If you have a story to tell, please contact Rosslyn Cox on [rosslyn.cox@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:rosslyn.cox@adelaide.edu.au). We'd be delighted to hear from you.

"In an age of increasing fundamentalisms, whether they be economic or religious, and when executive transparency is under threat, the work you are doing to create the marketplace for meaningful discussion is becoming more and more crucial."

### GEOFF BOYCE

#### Chaplain at Flinders University

"My life would be poorer if not for Don Dunstan's vision – no kerb-side coffee at Chianti, no pleasure from art in outdoor places and no hope of raising our many children and grandchildren to appreciate the importance of balancing their own futures with the need of others to survive and flourish in the community of South Australia."

### JIM JARVIS AM

#### Director, Jarvis Marketing and Don Dunstan Foundation Board Member



### INAUGURAL YOUTH ORATOR, MR JOE RAFALOWICZ

*Extract from his speech delivered on Tuesday 23 August 2005 as part of the Don Dunstan Human Rights Oration.*

"There is a mantra that I'm unable to escape. I hear it everywhere, from other students, to teachers to articles in the newspaper. 'That democracy is expanding, it is escapable and unquestionably successful' – I agree with this, it seems that never before have we had so many countries that call themselves democracies. But the essence of democracy, 'rule by the people' as the Greeks understood it, is, I think, more elusive. For example if the people really did control decisions, would they have voted for a war on Iraq? Would 'the people' have voted for the intellectual patenting of potentially life-saving drugs? Or for that matter, the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction at all?

When the self-pronounced zenith of democracy holds more weapons of mass destruction than the rest of the world put together, I begin to question how much control the people of the world really have over events.

Participation in Civil society is one of the most powerful tools by which we can influence our government, and governments around the world. It was through civil society that slavery was outlawed in the British Empire and slaves were emancipated in 1834, and it was civil society that continued this process that resulted in the Slavery Convention of 1926. It was through civil society that women gained the right to vote, with South Australia one

of the first places around the world to allow women this right in 1895. It was civil society that led to the end of segregation in the United States in the 1960s, and it was civil society that brought about civil union for gay couples in Spain, Canada and the Netherlands. The right to not work in a mine for 12 hour shifts being paid a pittance is not the result of the invisible hand of the market exerting its magical influence, but the consequence of active citizens getting together and creating change. And it is collective actions which brings pressure to bear on Governments to release prisoners of conscience through organisations like Amnesty International. So to defer responsibility to the abstract beast known as 'democracy' is a bit of a cop out – just like blaming the institutions of democracy is a cop out – what is required is your participation and involvement as a citizen, to put aside complacency and act with courage and compassion to change these situations, and to quote Ghandi, "be the change you wish to see in the world".

Moving from one great man to another, Nelson Mandela said "Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life", the ending of global injustice will not be easy, nor comfortable but it will be an act that requires tremendous courage, commitment and compassion, and one that I hope is eventually realised."

For a full copy of Joe's inspiring speech, please visit <http://www.dunstan.org.au/events/humanrights.html>

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you wish to see  
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Ghandi