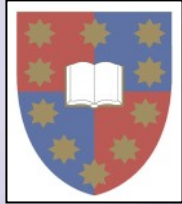




IN·SIGU·POSUIT

The monthly
• newsletter •
of the Public
Schools' Club



July • 2017

Concern for the Middle East

At a recent dinner at the Public Schools' Club, Vicki Salkin of Middle East Concern described some of the challenges facing North Africa and the Middle East. Based in the UK, her work helps to coordinate international efforts to assist persecuted people in several nations that are hotbeds of difficulty.

Vicki noted that converts from one faith to another may face great pressure from family, governments and society.

"Extremists tend to grab the headlines," Vicki said. "However, a lot of pressure comes from other sources."

She gave credit to action in the Australian Parliament as it was very helpful to the release of Meriam Ibrahim who had been sentenced to death in Sudan in 2014.

"We are blessed in Australia to have politicians who are interested and involved - and they are effective," she said.

The action put pressure on the Sudanese government, she explained. The organisation provides advice, assistance and advocacy, including political advocacy.



"We challenge unjust laws, policies and attitudes, and seek to empower local communities," Vicki told the meeting.

- Unfortunately the security situation is so serious, and her work so sensitive, that we may not publish Vicki's photo.



Enriching the nation of Uganda

Honorary Club member Richard Lutwama from Kampala in Uganda spoke to a dinner held at the Club on Friday 9th June and described Australian efforts to assist his African nation.

Richard spoke of recently receiving extensive donations of equipment from the Princess Margaret Hospital in Perth.

In Adelaide, he raised funds to transport the equipment to the Ugandan city of Jinja at Lake Victoria. Since returning to Africa, Richard reports that the first container of medical equipment has arrived and is being installed at the facility.

"The long journey from Perth Australia to Jinja was a great success. Nothing was lost along the way and everything arrived intact and ready to go. Now the journey begins."



Richard Lutwama with Australian partners

In Situ Posuit

Members of the Public Schools' Club might be wondering about the name of the monthly newsletter *In Situ Posuit*. The phrase translates as "Set in Position" and comes from the foundation stone located near the Members' Entrance.

Colonial administrator Sir Charles Todd laid the stone in 1899 during the building of the house - which was commissioned by his son-in-law Professor William Henry Bragg.

Sir Charles Todd was one of the finest officials to have served our great Australian continent. Born in London in 1826, he became a meteorologist, astronomer, electrical engineer and one of the pioneers of underwater cable communications.

As South Australia's Superintendent of Telegraphs, and the General Post Master, he worked to link Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney with India and ultimately to Great Britain.

David Speirs MP - at the Club

State Shadow Minister for the Environment, David Speirs MP, gave keynote addresses to a worldview conference at the Public Schools' Club on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th June.

Members, guests and conference delegates appreciated the theme of stewardship, which David Speirs described as basic to his strong environmentalist views and activities.

Raised on a dairy farm in South West Scotland, he attended a tiny primary school with three others in his year. It had forty students - all taught by Mrs McNeil and Mr McCracken!

"Primary school was a phenomenal experience. We spent more time down the beach, in the woods, or in the paddocks than in the classroom," David explained.

"We were taught about the land and stewardship," he said.

Followed by Federal MP Nicolle Flint

The Member for Boothby, Nicolle Flint MP addressed a Salvation Army dinner at the Club on Thursday 29th June.



Nicolle firstly spoke on some of the attacks she received when writing for newspapers, including such gems as the following:

Who is she writing for? 'The Advertiser' or 'Dolly' magazine?

Your column lacks balance, credibility and, dare I say it, art. It did, however, make me glad in one respect: glad I'm not like you.

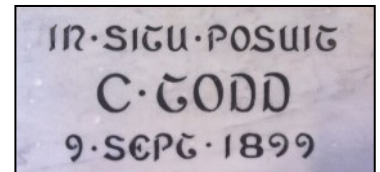


His dream came true in 1872 as Adelaide became the first Australian colonial capital to have a cable link to London. This required vast resolution and firm determination.

But it was not without a fine sense of humour: As a great lover of tea, Todd often said: "I'd be odd without my T".

And when the Mid-North town of Orreroo sought a post office, Todd remarked:

"Dear me! There are only two letters in Orreroo. What do you want a post office for?"



"Now in my role in political life I see stewardship of the planet as incredibly important."

David explained that his father was something of a pioneer of farming with "a stewardship model wrapped around it - where we looked after the environment as well as trying to get economic gain," he said.

"That sense of environmental stewardship and a love of nature and a love of creation heavily shaped who I was."

David also spoke of learning a love for society: "Growing up in a rural community taught the importance of relationships and the value of people coming together with a common cause to build a strong, healthy, vibrant community."

Undaunted, Nicolle shared her optimism about the State, by highlighting manufacturing innovation at Flinders University's Tonsley Campus, along with ship-building.

She echoed the sentiments of Donald Horne in his 1964 well-known book *The Lucky Country*:

Brisbane falls backwards, Sydney falls apart, Melbourne moves forward to stay where it is, Adelaide moves ahead.

"I really want to see South Australia back at the level it should be. When Donald Horne was writing his book, we were considered to be the third top city in the nation. And I would also like to see us re-introduce education as to why we are a great nation," Nicolle concluded.