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INFORMATION UPDATE

OCTOBER 2014

2014 Visiting Scholar Lecture

The 2014 JCPML Visiting Scholar is Dr Deborah Gare. Deborah is an Associate Professor in the School of Arts and Sciences, and leads the History program at the University of Notre Dame. Deborah is the author or editor of several leading works, including *Making Australian History: The politics of the past since 1788* (Cengage, 2008).

Her research interests are, broadly, Australian, Western Australian and Empire history. In particular, Deborah is currently writing a history of women in Fremantle and a



Dr Deborah Gare

biography of Mary Ann Friend (1800-39). She was previously a Research Associate at Curtin University, a Visiting Fellow of the University of British Columbia and a Visiting Scholar at the University of Manchester. Deborah has a strong interest in teaching and learning within the Humanities and represented the Deans Council (DASSH) in the ALTC project

Riley and ephemera collection. State Library of Victoria. *Australian Labor Party Anti-Conscription Campaign Committee*. 1916(?). Melbourne: Fraser & Jenkinson

which developed graduate standards for the discipline of History.

Dr Gare's research topic is Curtin and the First World War and she has been conducting her research using the JCPML Archival Collection during September and October. Deborah's research topic is very timely and relevant as many events are being planned to commemorate the centenary of the First World War. In November she will present her research findings in a public lecture with the title "Curtin's First War".

Event details:

Date Monday 24th November 2014

Time 4.45pm for a 5pm start

Venue Council Chamber Level 3 Building 100
Curtin University, Kent Street, Bentley

The lecture will be followed by light refreshments at 6pm.

RSVP by 10th November 2014

Telephone +618 9266 4912 or

Email library-events@curtin.edu.au

Free parking (excluding disabled or reserved bays) is available in Car Park D3 from 4.30pm. Enter via the main entrance on Kent Street and follow the signs.

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MACARTHUR MEMORIAL WEEK - JUNE 2014

By Emeritus Professor David Black

The Second MacArthur Memorial Week was held in Milwaukee in the US State of Wisconsin on the 3rd to the 7th June 2014, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the death of General Douglas MacArthur on the 5th April 1964. It was also the fifteenth anniversary of the first MacArthur Memorial Week held in June 1979, when a statue of MacArthur was unveiled in Milwaukee's town square. The majority of the funding for the statue came from the widow of one of MacArthur's close military contacts, whom he had first met in Manchuria during the Russo-Japanese War.

In 2014, the second MacArthur Memorial Week commenced with the relocation of the statue to a waterfront location in Veterans Park, next to the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center. The 2014 MacArthur Memorial Week schedule also included five days of programs highlighting the General's military career. It was in this context, as Historical Consultant to the John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library, that Emeritus Professor David Black was invited to speak about the close relationship which developed between General MacArthur and Australian war time prime minister John Curtin from 1942 to 1944. On the final evening of the celebrations the guest speaker was the Hon Kim Beazley, Australian Ambassador in Washington. The Hon Kim Beazley was once a Defence Minister and Opposition Leader in the Australian

Parliament, and his father Kim Edward Beazley, had succeeded Curtin as federal member for Fremantle after Curtin's death in July 1945.

MacArthur, who served in the military forces from when he entered West Point in 1899 until 1951, always considered Milwaukee his ancestral home. His grandfather was prominent in Milwaukee as an attorney and circuit and federal court judge. His father was recruited from Milwaukee and became a decorated hero of the American Civil War. MacArthur himself was born in Little Rock, Arkansas on 26 January 1880. He lived with his family in San Antonio, Texas from 1893 but studied in Milwaukee for West Point entrance examinations. He was admitted in 1899 and graduated in 1903.

During World War One he was initially assigned to intelligence and administrative units, but after the US declared war on Germany, he commanded the 42nd Division of the National Guard and participated successfully in a number of military offensives. He was superintendent of West Point for three years during the 1920s. After a promotion to General in 1930 and serving as the Army Chief of Staff, he went to the Philippines as a military adviser in 1935.

MacArthur returned to active service in July 1941, when he became commander of the US forces in the Far East. After being ordered to leave

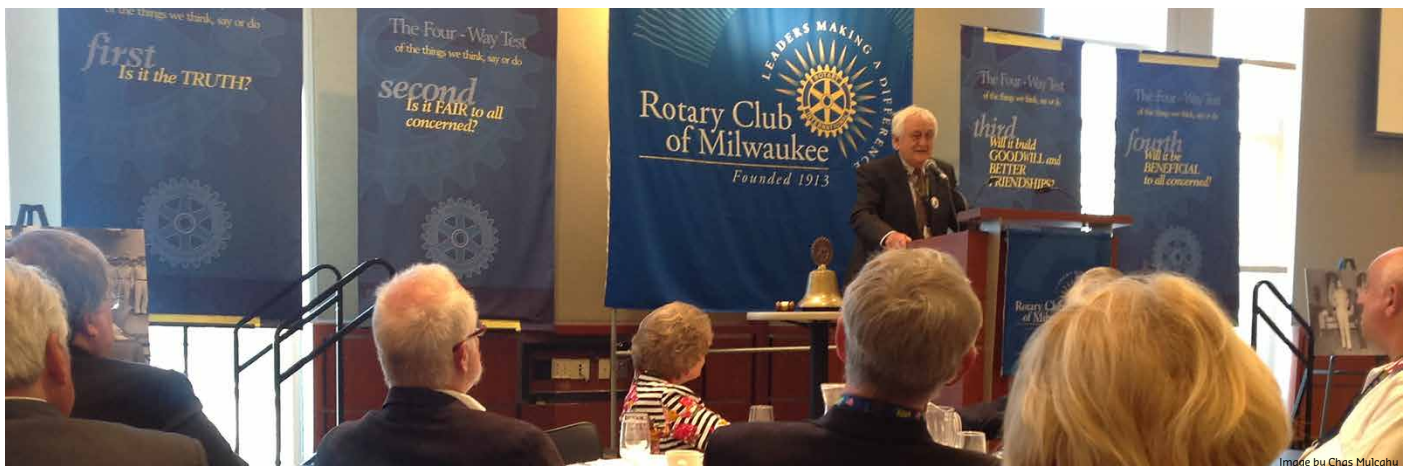


Mr Chas Mulcahy and Emeritus Professor David Black

the Philippines in 1942, he became Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in the South West Pacific. Between March 1942 and September 1944 he was based in Australia. In the words of historian David Horner 'Few figures who have spent less than three years in this country have had such an impact on Australian life'. The relationship MacArthur developed with Australian prime minister John Curtin was central to many of the presentations and seminars held during the 2014 MacArthur Memorial Week.

After accepting the Japanese surrender in September 1945, MacArthur served in command of the occupation forces in Japan before returning to active service in the

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Right: Emeritus Professor David Black, JCPML Historical Consultant presenting papers at the 2014 MacArthur Memorial Week.

MACARTHUR MEMORIAL WEEK CONTINUED

Korean War. This was a period of controversy which led to his recall to the United States in 1951. MacArthur died in Washington DC in April 1964, and was buried in Norfolk Virginia.

At the first MacArthur Memorial Week in 1979 his second wife, Jean Faircloth MacArthur, participated in the activities, including unveiling the MacArthur statue at its original site. Jean Faircloth MacArthur died in 2000, at the age of 101.

During the second MacArthur Memorial Week in June 2014, the sessions devoted to the Curtin-MacArthur relationship included addresses by Professor Black on 'The Unique Wartime Alliance of Australian prime minister, John J Curtin and General Douglas MacArthur'; 'Prime Minister Curtin and the Australian Labor Movement'; 'The MacArthur-Curtin Military and Diplomatic Alliance in Australia—1941-45—How the War Was Won'; and 'The Curtin-MacArthur Legacy'.

The latter address was followed by a presentation from the Honourable Kim Beazley, Australian Ambassador to the US, on 'The US and Australia: Impact of MacArthur Today on Defence and Trade'. Among other sessions were several connected with events in the Philippines in 1940, the Korean War, MacArthur's relationship with Presidents Eisenhower to Johnson; MacArthur's Japanese Constitution; 'Challenges of externally imposed Constitutions in the Aftermath of Civil or External War'; and MacArthur's lasting impact in Australia, the Philippines, Japan and South Korea today. The Australian speaker in this session was Roger Price, Australian Consul-General in Chicago.

Copies of the four papers written by Professor Black have been lodged with Marquette University in Milwaukee and are available from the JCPML website: <http://john.curtin.edu.au/macarthur/MacArthur-Memorial-Week.html>



Roundtable Meeting

Members of the Network of Prime Ministerial Research and Collecting Agencies Roundtable travelled to Perth in September for the annual meeting hosted by the JCPML and the National Trust (WA).

The meeting was held Thursday 11th September at the JCPML and discussions covered the following topics:

the year in review, our collections, our collaboration projects and a feature presentation on "Parliamentarians and poetry".

Sally Laming provided a tour of the JCPML Archives and in the afternoon all visited the Curtin Family Home where Anne Brake and her team provided a presentation and tour of the



Director Update

Director
John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library
Catherine Clark
BA, GradCertPubHealth, MInfoMgt, AALIA

In August 2014, Catherine Clark commenced as the University Librarian and JCPML Director at Curtin University.

Catherine is responsible for the leadership, management and direction of the University Library which includes the T.L. Robertson Library, the Kalgoorlie Campus Library, the Graduate School of Business Library and the John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library.

Catherine is particularly interested in the role of libraries in supporting students, teachers and researchers in navigating the evolving scholarly information landscape, including the impact of open access to research outputs and issues regarding data management.

Catherine has held various positions with the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), including Convener of the Western Australian Group. She is an Executive Committee Member of the Australian Open Access Support Group and a Faculty Member of the Australian Evidence Based Practice for Librarians' Institute.

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Curtin Family Home.

The event was a success for the network, JCPML and the National Trust (WA). Most of the group's members were able to attend the meeting in Perth and everyone commented on how good the program was, and that they enjoyed visiting the JCPML and the Curtin Family Home.



Professor Geoff Gallop with Vice Chancellor Professor Deborah Terry

JCPML ANNIVERSARY LECTURE

Professor Geoff Gallop August 2014

By Emeritus Professor David Black

When presenting the 15th Annual John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library Anniversary Lecture on 26 August, former Western Australian Premier, Professor Geoff Gallop expressed his appreciation for the opportunity 'to reflect on our nation and its future'. The Anniversary Lectures began in 1998 and commemorate wartime prime minister John Curtin, who died in office in July 1945. The first lecture was delivered by former prime minister Gough Whitlam, and since then seven lecturers were former federal politicians (including Paul Keating, who presented both the fifth and eleventh lectures). The speaker on this occasion was Western Australia's Premier from 2001 to early 2006, when he resigned due to ill health. Curtin himself represented Western Australia in the national Parliament.

Prof Gallop described himself as 'a recovering—but certainly not fully recovered—political addict'. During the eight years since he left Western Australia he has maintained an active interest and involvement in political studies, for the most part in his capacity as Professor and Director of the Graduate School of Government at the University of Sydney. On the immediate political front he played an active role in the abortive 1999 republican referendum campaign, favouring direct election of the President of the Republic. He was

elected as Chairman of the Australian Republican movement in November 2012.

From the outset, Prof Gallop admitted his lecture topic was 'not of the top of—or indeed in—the list of issues our nation's leaders have before them today'. Central to his topic was the question 'is it enough to be legally free, that the Constitution is ours and ours to change, or does freedom carry a deeper meaning that requires us to do more?' In this regard he identified three issues—firstly the issue of constitutional recognition of the nation's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (an issue, which in his view is on the agenda today and 'hopefully' heading towards legislation and a referendum); secondly 'whether the Constitution drafted in the 1890s adequately describes our system and how we expect it to work', about which no reforms have been attempted since the failure of four referendum questions in 1988; and thirdly 'our ongoing links to the British Crown and whether or not they should be cut and a new republican institution created'. In his words, 'does true freedom require a republic as the next step in the journey, political and cultural, that has seen Australia move from six colonies to a self-governed and sovereign nation?' His hope and intention for the lecture was to attempt to 'distil the essence of the debate by looking into what divides

the true believers on both sides of the fence' and to emphasise that 'without some form of democratic deliberation...the realization of the republic may prove to be a bridge too far'.

In arguing his case, Prof Gallop was able to very convincingly bring out the substantial steps Australia has already taken towards true nationhood in the search for 'a post-colonial philosophy and language for what was becoming a post-colonial world'. This was developing while Curtin was prime minister (even though he was certainly not a republican). Above all, it was brought on by the growing belief that

Britain couldn't be trusted when our national interests were at stake. Britain was Britain and Australia was Australia with its own boundaries to protect, geographical, social and economic.

In Prof Gallop's view the recognition came that 'Britain was turning to Europe, if only hesitatingly at first' while 'our eyes were turning to north and south-east Asia' and being 'a white Anglo-Saxon enclave celebrating empire and its institutions...was increasingly seen as a liability'. For his generation the 1970s, when he was a university student, was an important and revolutionary time when existing assumptions regarding 'race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, economic growth and the environment, class and hierarchy, and national defence and security'

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were challenged. The expectation was that 'a truly liberal, egalitarian and democratic republic would be the result' and in this process there were two elements—on the one hand Australian patriotism, the desire to be free and independent from British power and influence, and on the other Australian radicalism with a 'commitment to a truly liberal and democratic constitution'.

Accordingly, one major focus of the lecture was on the theme of 'national freedom and independence' and how they had developed in Australia. Critical to Prof Gallop's view is the contrast and the consequences of the transition ('the long march') from the situation in 1901 when Australia became a self governing colony with the British Parliament 'retaining full legislative power over us' to the passage of the Australia Act(s) in 1986, with the preamble

An Act to bring constitutional arrangements affecting the Commonwealth and the States into conformity with the status of the Commonwealth of Australia as a sovereign, independent and federal nation.

Along the way had been such major steps as the appointment of Sir Isaac Isaacs as the first Australian-born Governor-General in 1931 and Australia's adoption of the Statute of Westminster in 1942. One might also mention the creation of a category of Australian citizen in the late 1940s and the acceptance of Australia's own national anthem in the 1970s after a national vote. After 1986 it was no longer possible for 'Britain to legislate with effect in Australia or for their governments to be involved in our government'. At the same time debates continued, and still continue concerning oaths of allegiance for our major office-holders; the use of the term SC (Senior Counsel) as opposed to QC (Queen's Counsel); and the acceptability of the recent revival of

some British honorifics.

Notwithstanding these significant developments, Prof Gallop stressed the fact that nonetheless the British Monarch is 'still at the peak of our system, for example by signing off on 'who are to be Governors and Governors-General, even if doing so on the advice of the Premiers and Prime Ministers'. For the monarchists the Queen is still 'an essential part of our political system in a variety of roles' being seen as a 'stabilising and balancing force in an otherwise unruly system'. By contrast, the core republican arguments relate to national self-respect, equal opportunity and democratic philosophy. In essence, monarchists say no good can come from the change and we have a system that should be celebrated rather than changed; while republicans argue that 'what we have inherited is less important than what we can 'create as a free people'. In the battle for popular support the monarchists have 'marketed and personalised the royal family in a very clever and contemporary way', highlighting 'the matriarch, the slightly wayward son and the dashing grandson', the latter with a very newsworthy wife.

In drawing his argument together, Prof Gallop argues that we have a war between true believers, a war which is a little easier for the monarchists as they have a clearly defined bottom line, whereas the republicans are united only by attitude and aspiration, not specifics over the means and ends to be chosen. Thus as in the 1990s, the republicans can win the culture war, but not the political battle needed if the change is to be legislated. From Prof Gallop's point of view, any belief that the republican cause is inevitable is illusory: in fact the path ahead will require great effort and commitment. In his view, republican means are needed to achieve a republican end



and this will only happen if 'the people are in charge every step of the way', possibly with significant use of deliberative assemblies. For the moment however, 'putting the republic on the agenda and initiating the [necessary] process 'is currently seen as a bridge too far'. Nevertheless, for Prof Gallop the day to look forward to is the 'day the nation exercises the freedom it possesses to create another freedom; the freedom to choose who amongst us shall be head-of-state and what powers and responsibilities they should have'. At this time we will surely ask—'why didn't we do it earlier?'

For more information visit
<http://john.curtin.edu.au/events/speeches/gallop.html>

Westralian Worker

Among the earliest acquisitions of the JCPML are bound volumes of the *Westralian Worker*, the newspaper edited by John Curtin prior to his election to parliament. The JCPML holds the printed volumes from 1914 to 1949, and the complete run from 1900 to 1951 on microfilm. Editorials and other articles authored by Curtin have been digitised and are available online through the JCPML website. Researchers will be pleased to know that the *Westralian Worker* has now been digitised by the National Library's Australian Newspaper Digitisation Program.

The paper may be searched on Trove at
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>

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