

July 2007

Information Update

John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library
Public Lecture by Dr Michael Fullilove
Thursday 9 August 2007



Dr Michael Fullilove is the director of the global issues program at the Lowy Institute for International Policy in Sydney.

A lawyer and historian by training, he was an adviser to Prime Minister Paul Keating and wrote his doctorate at Oxford on US President Franklin D. Roosevelt's foreign policy.

Dr Fullilove writes widely on international politics for publications such as *The International Herald Tribune*, *Slate*, *The Financial Times*, *The National Interest* and *Foreign Affairs*, as well as the Australian broadsheets.

He is a regular commentator for the ABC, and Vintage recently published his first book, *'Men and Women of Australia!' Our Greatest Modern Speeches*.

Still looking to America: Labor and the US alliance

Many on the left in Australia seem to agree with a maxim ascribed to the Duke of Marlborough: that in every alliance one party wears the boots and the spurs while the other wears the saddle.

2007 JCPML Visiting Scholar, Dr Michael Fullilove, will dispute this assessment, at least in relation to the alliance between Australia and the United States.

Dr Fullilove will argue both that the alliance is in Australia's national interest and that it deserves more support from progressives, and he will suggest ways that the alliance may develop under a future Labor Government.

See enclosed invitation for RSVP details for this not-to-be missed event.

Anniversary Lecture

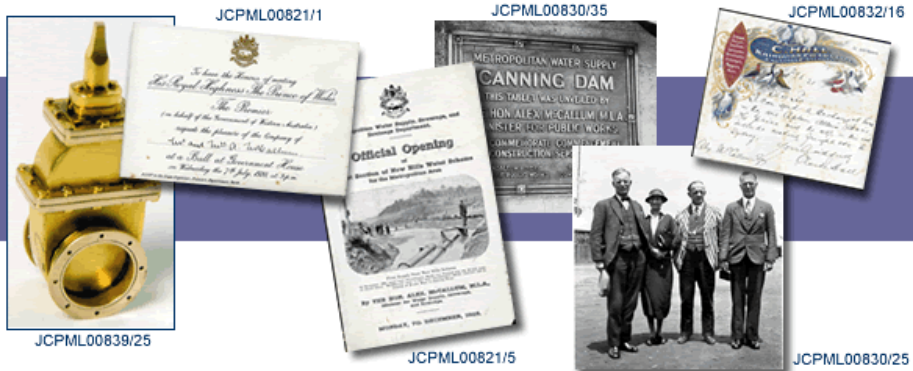
Shaping a nation: Visionary leadership in a time of fear and uncertainty

On July 5 Professor Larissa Behrendt delivered the 2007 JCPML Anniversary Lecture, to a capacity audience of over 200 people.

If you missed the lecture or would like to revisit Professor Behrendt's stimulating address, go to the JCPML website at john.curtin.edu.au/events/speeches/behrendt.html where video, audio and text versions of the lecture are now available.

News from the JCPML collection with David Wylie

One of the more puzzling items to find its way into the JCPML collection is a small precision made valve that was donated as part of the Alex McCallum papers. There was nothing accompanying the valve to say what it was or how and why it was in McCallum's possession. (JCPML00839/25)



The valve was sent to a conservator who confirmed that it was made of gold and brass. A visitor to the conservator's workshop recognised it as a scale model of one of the valves used on the Goldfields, New Hills Water Scheme and the Canning Dam pipelines.

Who was Alex McCallum and why did he have this valuable item?

Born in 1877, Alex McCallum had a long and illustrious career as a unionist, a director of the *Westralian Worker* newspaper, Member of Parliament for South Fremantle and as Minister for Public Works, Labour, Water Supply and State Trading Concerns. In these public roles he was an official guest at many gala occasions such as the ball held to honour the Prince of Wales in 1920. (JCPML00821/1)

As Minister for Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage McCallum officially turned on the water for the Hills Water Scheme at Valve House at Kelmscott on 7 December 1925. A program for the occasion is in the collection. (JCPML00821/5)

Later, as Minister for Public Works, he was responsible for the building

of the Canning Dam and associated pipelines. A commemorative tablet at the dam bears his name and records the start of construction in September 1933. (JCPML00830/35)

It is likely that the model valve was presented to him as a memento of one of these grand occasions.

And what is the connection between Alex McCallum and John Curtin?

Hearing Curtin speak on the Yarra Bank in Melbourne in the early 1900s, McCallum recognised his qualities and correctly predicted that Curtin would one day become Prime Minister. In 1917 he recruited Curtin to relocate to WA to become the editor of the *Westralian Worker*. McCallum became a mentor, lifetime friend and confidant to the younger man. It was this friendship with John Curtin that led the family to donate the collection to the JCPML.

When Alex McCallum died in 1937 he was afforded the first State Funeral in Western Australia in forty years in recognition of his dedication and contribution to public affairs.

McCallum's achievements in public service are well documented in the collection, and the papers, photographs and mementos give a fascinating insight into his family life and private interests. (JCPML00830/35 and JCPML00832/16)

David Wylie is the JCPML Archives Technician

Curtin University Library News

Have you ever listened to a podcast? Curtin University Library now has a range of MP3 sound files on a variety of topics that you can download and listen to on your computer or MP3 player.



These include guides to help students become more efficient researchers, book reviews to promote new material in the collection, and a popular series of podcasts **Opinion@Curtin University Library** in which Curtin academics give their thoughts on current topics and invite comments from the public via the Library Blog.

It's easy to subscribe so that you are alerted to new podcasts - you can even have them automatically downloaded onto your computer at home.

Look for the **Podcasts@your library** logo on the University Library home page at library.curtin.edu.au



Library staff recording a podcast.

A podcast on the JCPML web pages provides a short and easy introduction to John Curtin.

Look for the **Podcasts@your library** logo on the John Curtin biography page at: john.curtin.edu.au/resources/biography/details.html.

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