



Text of the speech of the ABC Guest of Honour, David P. Armstrong, General Manager, The Australian Bicentennial Authority.

The 26th January 1788 is, of course, a significant date in Australia's history. On that day, as every school-child knows, or should know, eleven English sailing ships dropped anchor in Port Jackson after a voyage of eight months that had taken them half-way around the world.

The 200th anniversary of the arrival of that fleet is now less than eight years away. The Bicentenary of that event offers us an opportunity not only to celebrate our achievements as a people but also to engage in a process of national stocktaking: What have we achieved? And, more important, what remains to be done?

The Bicentenary presents a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for us to celebrate Australia. I mean celebration in the theological sense - that is, remembering things past, re-affirming the best values in our society, and re-dedicating ourselves to the immense task of solving the problems that still confront us as a people - racism, philistinism, materialism, lack of national pride, widespread inequalities of opportunity, desecrated historic sites, polluted streams, ignorance of our collective past ... The agenda is a long one. But if we have the imagination and determination, we will be able to see and utilize the Bicentenary not only as a birthday party, a chance for fun and games, but this and more: the focus for nothing less than a massive national programme of social and community development, a chance to complete unfinished business, to improve the quality of life for all Australians. And, if we accept this challenge, one of the spin-offs will be a new pride in Australia and in being Australians.

The Australian Bicentennial Authority was established as an independent company earlier this year for the purpose of co-ordinating the nation-wide, year-long programme of celebrations in 1988. The Board of Directors, under the Chairmanship of Mr. John Reid, has been appointed by the Commonwealth Government, the State Governments and the Northern Territory Government. The Board has the support of all political parties and is accountable through the various governments to the

BICENTENNIAL GROUP SEEKS WIDE GUIDELINES

Australian people as a whole. While plans for the celebrations are by no means yet finalised, principles are beginning clearly to emerge from discussions we are having with representative individuals and groups right across the country.

There is, for example, a widespread view in the community, with which we concur, that ideas for the celebrations should be generated at local community

The Australian Bicentennial Authority is seeking as much advice and collaboration as possible with Australian universities in particular as well as with the community at large, in organising the 1988 celebrations. Reproduced here is the text of a speech by A.B.C. General Manager David P. Armstrong to give an idea of the kind of celebrations the Authority has in mind. The Authority hopes interested staff and students will establish contact in the near future to assist in preparations in some appropriate way.

level, rather than handed down from on high. In order to ensure that this occurs, the Authority is proceeding, as quickly as prudence permits, to establish a vast network of advisory groups and citizen committees at the state, regional and local levels to plan the programme for 1988. The role of the Authority itself will be confined largely to proposing themes for the celebrations, exercising overall financial control and acting as a catalyst, a community resource and an information clearing-house.

brations is one that is exercising our minds at the moment, and one on which we would appreciate your advice. The theme must be large enough to define and embrace the immense range of activity that will occur in 1988 and to capture the "Spirit of 88". One suggestion being entertained at the moment arises from a feeling that fundamentally the "Spirit of 88" has to do with relationships - between Black Australians and White Australians, between one ethnic group and another, between city and country, between one State and another, between Australians and the environment (including the National Estate) and between Australia and other countries, particularly neighbouring ASEAN countries and those on the Pacific Rim. If the "Spirit of 88" has to do with relationships, then the theme might be simply "Living Together". This is, as I have said, a matter on which we would welcome comment and advice.

Second, there is a feeling that the programme of celebrations should be comprehensive - it must contain something for everyone, and especially for young people. Some Australians will want to see the Bicentenary largely in terms of fun and games, family reunions and fireworks displays, rather than as an opportunity for community development. And that's O.K. Nevertheless, there is a widespread view that the underlying purpose of the Bicentenary should be serious and broadly educational and cultural in nature, for the Bicentenary offers us a unique opportunity to learn more about ourselves as a people - about our roots, our heritage; about Australia today, particularly about the many ethnic communities that now constitute our national community; about our objectives and aspirations as a people - the legacy we wish to leave our children.

The question of a theme for the cele-

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A 'warts and all' approach

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Those with whom we have talked have expressed a hope that a "warts and all" approach be adopted towards that significant element of the Bicentennial programme dealing with our history; efforts to white-wash or romanticise our past should be positively discouraged. It is not suggested here that in 1988 we should engage in a national exercise in self-flagellation. We have much of which to be proud as a people - six Nobel Laureates; internationally-recognised achievements in sport, in the arts, in science and technology; vast projects of national development; much innovative social legislation subsequently copied by many other countries; legions of sons and daughters who have died in defence of our freedoms. We should take pride in these and such matters. But a mature people must also be capable of confronting shortcomings and failures in an effort to understand them and then correct or overcome them. It is widely hoped that Bicentennial history projects - books, films, TV programmes, historic re-enactments - by telling it like it really was, will facilitate such a confrontation with our shortcomings and failures and that, as a result, appropriate corrective or remedial action will occur at all levels.

Finally, those with whom we have talked have asked us to try to ensure that the Bicentennial programme does not disappear into thin air at the end of 1988; that residuals remain to serve as enduring reminders of the Bicentenary. These could be physical reminders, such as clear streams, restored historic sites, re-developed slums, or new public facilities such as parks, libraries and swimming pools. Or less-tangible reminders - a new sense of national identity and purpose, a new national will, a new national pride; a new understanding of the vastness of the land and the diversity of its people derived from a process of national discovery. How many white Australians have ever talked with a full-blooded Aboriginal? How many of us are really aware of the vast national development projects that are occurring in North-western Australia. How many young Australians living in remote areas have never spent a holiday in a city? How many city children in turn believe that milk comes from cartons, not cows? Wouldn't it be worthwhile if an existing national organisation or one created especially for the purpose resolved that its Bicentennial Project would be to create a nation-wide network enabling thousands of city children to spend a holiday on a farm in 1988, and thousands of country children to be billeted with a city family, each group discovering how the other half lives? The costs would be minimal; the pay-off, in terms of increased knowledge and understanding between city and country, between one State and another, could be enormous.

There is fresh evidence in our mailbox every morning that many Australians are already beginning to think about and plan for the Bicentenary. While it is not yet possible precisely to define the programme, it is obvious that each activity will slot into one or other of three boxes - those relating to our past; those to Australia today; and those to future possibilities.

In each of those boxes there might be five layers of activity:

The first will relate to existing annual events - conferences, festivals, sporting events. It is reasonable to anticipate that special efforts will be made to ensure the success of the Bicentennial Melbourne Cup, the Bicentennial Jacaranda Festival in Grafton, the Bicentennial ANZAAS Congress and thousands of other such annual events at all levels. Many national bodies - learned societies, sporting organisations, special-interest groups - are already planning to host international meetings in Australia in 1988. Such activities will generate significant international interest and participation in our Bicentennial Programme. And the spin-off for our Tourist industry will be significant, to say the least.

The second layer of activity will relate to bricks and mortar. We shall be encouraging every community in Australia, however small, to plan some worthwhile project related to its perceived needs that will serve as an enduring reminder of the Bicentenary for us and for future generations. Already some communities are well advanced in their planning for projects that will endure long beyond the Bicentenary - animal sanctuaries, sporting complexes, extensions to local museums and wilderness parks are some of the projects that have been suggested already.

The third will relate to fun and games, beer and skittles - street parties, "Homecoming" weeks, historic re-enactments, beard-growing contests - activities that will give spice and zest to the Bicentenary. It is important that we do not take ourselves too seriously!

The fourth will be a limited number of spectacular national events that will provide themes and focuses for the celebrations. For example, it is planned to open the new Parliament House in Canberra in 1988. And we hope to bring a fleet of square-riggers from all points of the globe to sail into many Australian ports and to provide sail-training opportunities for our young people. The purpose of these spectacular national events will be to generate and maintain national and international interest in the celebrations throughout the year.

The fifth and undoubtedly the most important level of activity will be a broad educational and cultural programme designed to help us better to understand our origins, who we are now, and where we wish to go as a people.

The model I have in mind here is the 1967 Canadian Centennial Celebrations. It is not an exaggeration to say that Canada came of age in that year. Before then, Canada lacked a national identity, self-confidence, self-respect. But what happened in 1967 was that Canada discovered itself; not at the marvellous World Exposition in Montreal which provided a necessary focus for the celebrations, nor at the beauty contests and fireworks displays that are inevitably and appropriately a part of such celebrations, but in living-rooms, in the streets, on trains and planes and in church halls, where thousands, millions of Canadians stimulated by the Expo and by the celebrations, congregated and began asking themselves: What is Canada? What does it mean to be a Canadian? In working towards answers to those questions, Canadians discovered a national identity, a national purpose, and a new pride. That, simply put, is our objective for the Australian Bicentenary in 1988.

University publications need ISBN numbers

Members of staff are reminded that each University publication consisting of five or more pages should be assigned an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) before it goes to the Printer.

The National Library of Australia has provided the University with a series of numbers allocated to an ISBN prefix. Staff members who are preparing publications should contact Kati Doolan, Student Placement and Public Relations (ext. 962) and supply, in writing, the details of each publication so that an ISBN may be allocated.

The failure in the past to allocate ISBN's for some publications has caused the National Library some concern. Staff co-operation in this matter would, therefore, be greatly appreciated.

Rob Castle and Jim Hagan (Department of History) recently gave papers at the first Commonwealth Conference of Labour Historians at Warwick University.

They took the Bank Holiday Weekend off to visit Bill Peascod, who now lives in the Lakes District.

Bill Peascod is the former Head Teacher of Mining in the Department of Technical and Further Education. He was also a part-time lecturer in General Studies in the University of Wollongong. After retiring in 1980, he donated several of his paintings to the University, and many of them are at present on display.

Bill has retired to Melbeck Farm, which is tucked into the side of a mountain about two miles from the north-eastern corner of Lake Bassenthwaite, in his native Cumbria. The earliest parts of the farmhouse date

from the eighteenth century, and the flag stones of the kitchen floor, the stairway, and the fire places are built of reddish, massive local stone. Huge oak beams support the upper storey, which seems to have been added in Georgian times.

Anyone who studied the greys of the paintings Bill Peascod did in Wollongong will recognise their components in the colours around the farmhouse: the green of the field, the blue of the lake, the pink of the heather on the mountainside, and the mist on the mountain top. Skiddaw rises over 3,000 feet within a few miles of Melbeck; besides painting, Bill has gone back to scaling the fells and crags he first tackled as a pioneering mountaineer in the late thirties.

With his wife Etsu, Bill offers accommodation at Melbeck to walkers, climbers, fishermen, loafers and academics. He would particularly like to see old friends. The address: Melbeck Farm, Bassenthwaite, near Keswick, Cumbria, England.

A warm welcome found at Melbeck

READER TAKES CHAIR IN GREECE

Reader with the Department of Electrical Engineering, Dr. John Kontoleon, leaves the University of Wollongong this month to take up the Chair of Electronics at the University of Thessaloniki in Greece.

He will take up his appointment at the University, which has 30,000 students, on October 1.

A graduate of the University of Athens (in Physics) and with a Ph.D. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the University of Liverpool (U.K.), Dr. Kontoleon

has been with the University of Wollongong since 1974.

His interests extended from Physics to Electronics after he had left the University of Athens, early 1967, and began three years national service with the Greek Navy. Part of his time was spent at the Nuclear Research Centre (Electronics Department) and he dates his change in direction from there. Early in 1972 he became head of the Reliability Group at the Research Department of the Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation.

Dr. Kontoleon is also a Research Fellow of the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority, was elected a member of the Council of the

International Technical Co-operation Centre (Israel) in 1979 for three years and has been a former reviewer for an international research journal since 1975.

His present research interests include computer aided analysis and design of electronic systems, reliability and safety analysis of nuclear systems and optimal design of communications networks.

Dr. Kontoleon said he was looking forward to the challenge of his new appointment and to the opportunity to contribute to knowledge in Greece through his involvement with a number of international activities.

It will be useful for academic staff to note that from 1 January 1981 there have been changes in the Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme which now operates on a permanent basis.

This Scheme is directed towards helping development of Australia's cultural and historical collections and will be of interest to those who wish to donate items which are suitable for collections of museums, libraries or art galleries. Details from the Department of Home Affairs are as follows:

A SCHEME TO HELP DEVELOP AUSTRALIA'S CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.

- Do you own items which could be suitable for the collections of a museum, library or art gallery?
- Would you like to donate items to one of these public institutions and at the same time reduce your taxable income?

TAX PLAN AIDS ARTS DONORS

This pamphlet sets out the simple steps if you want to benefit from the scheme.

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION

- Approach the public museum, library or art gallery of your choice and check with the Director whether the Taxation Office has confirmed that his institution is eligible to participate in the scheme.
- Discuss your proposed donation with the Director or a responsible member of the staff and establish that the institution is prepared to accept it for its collections.
- Ask the Director for a copy of the list of approved valuers and select any two who are registered to value the class of property

you wish to donate.

- Arrange for the valuations to be carried out by the two valuers. Each will give you a valuation certificate. Valuers may charge a fee and the payment of this is a responsibility of the donor. Some institutions may meet all or part of such fees. Discuss this with the members of the institution's staff.
- Hand over your donation together with copies of the valuation certificates.
- Attach the original of the valuation certificates to your income tax return and claim, as a tax deduction, the average of

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SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, GRANTS.

JAPANESE SCHOLARSHIPS to study at an Institute of Higher Learning in Japan for applicants with high level of competence in the Japanese language. For further details contact The Registrar, The Australian National University, P.O. Box 4, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2600.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY research grants for general research in collaboration with U.S.A., India and the Federal Republic of Germany. Priority given to fields of agricultural research, energy research, earth sciences. Funds available for seminar/workshops, and for co-operative research projects involving short term visits (up to six months) by scientists between Australia and the countries concerned. Closing dates for proposals are October 1, 1981 (for activities commencing July 1 to December 31, 1982) and April 1, 1982 (for activities commencing January 1 to June 30, 1983). Enquiries contact The Program Manager, Bilateral Science and Technology Agreements, Department of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 65, Belconnon, A.C.T. 2616.

NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS - Three scholarships being offered to Australian citizens wishing to undertake postgraduate studies in the Netherlands during the academic courses at universities or other tertiary institutions and must be under 36 years of age. No restrictions on fields of study. For further details contact The Secretary, Department of Education, Netherlands Government Scholarships, P.O. Box 826, Woden, A.C.T. 2600. Closing date for applications December 11, 1981.

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY DRIED FRUITS RESEARCH COMMITTEE invites applications from research bodies to undertake research into matters of concern to the Australian dried fruits industry. Grants available for scientific, technical or economic research. For further details contact The Secretary, Dried Fruits Research Committee, C/- Department of Primary Industry, Edmund Barton Building, Barton, A.C.T. 2600. Closing date November 9, 1981.

ITT INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM - open to all qualified students for graduate study in any field. 50 Fellowships available for 25 Americans to study abroad, 25 foreign students to study in the U.S. Enquiries to The Executive Officer, Australian-American Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 1559, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601. Closing date October 31, 1981.

Wollongong and Sydney newspapers and magazines are now available from the Union Shop.

Staff and students are also reminded of the Higher Education supplements in Wednesday's edition of The Australian and in The National Times.

1982 MOBIL FELLOWSHIPS IN ARTS ADMINISTRATORS - applications invited from people who have proven their skill in a specific area of arts management and who now wish to undertake broader training to equip themselves for senior responsibility for the arts in Australia. Closing date for applications, October 9, 1981. Enquiries should be addressed in confidence to Mr. Peter Star, C/- Arts, Research, Training and Support Ltd., 9 Rush St. Woollahra, N.S.W. 2025.

UNIVERSITY TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Division 1 Singles: N.Q. Thoi d Kel Murray 21-19, 21-13

(Note: This is Thoi's 7th win in the eleven years that this event has been held).

Division 2 Singles: John Solyom d Prof. John Ryan 21-14, 21-12

Division 3 Singles: Pat Gan d Julius Soseno 21-13, 21-19

Division 1 & 2 Doubles: N.Q. Thoi and John Solyom d John Korth and Dr. Martin Bunder 21-13, 21-13

Division 3 Doubles: Pat Gan and Dr. Weeking Soh d Dr. Barry Quinn and Doug Smith 21-10, 21-8

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the valuations given. The deduction may be claimed only in respect of the financial year in which the donation was made.

POINTS FOR DONORS TO NOTE

Am I entitled to the full market value for my gift in all cases?

You may claim the full market value as a tax deduction but the Commissioner of Taxation may vary or limit the deductible amount where -

(a) he does not consider the amount claimed fairly represents the market value of the gift at the time it was donated;

(b) conditions attached to the gift are such as to prevent the recipient institution from having full custody, control and clear title to the property;

(c) a person such as an artist or dealer makes a gift of property which if he had sold it the proceeds of the sale would have been assessable income. In such cases, the

deduction usually will be restricted to the cost of acquiring or producing the property. It is up to the donor to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Commission of Taxation that the property was not held for commercial gain; and

(d) the deduction claimed is greater than the amount needed to reduce to nil the assessable income of the donor for the financial year in which the gift is made.

When should I have the valuations carried out?

So that valuations reflect the true market value they must be made within a period of 30 days before or after the date on which the gift was made.

Am I required to use any particular valuers?

You are free to use any valuers you choose provided that they are registered under this scheme and are approved to value the class of property which covers your gift. We recognise that valuers for certain classes of property may not be

available in Australia and, where necessary, will help arrange valuations being made overseas. Where it appears that the original valuations do not reflect the true market value of your gift, a third valuation may be called for by the Committee set up to approve valuers.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEME

The Department of Home Affairs administers the scheme and its officers are available to discuss any problems. Correspondence should be addressed to:-

The Secretary,
Department of Home Affairs,
P.O. Box 1252,
Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601.
Telephone: (062) 467211

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