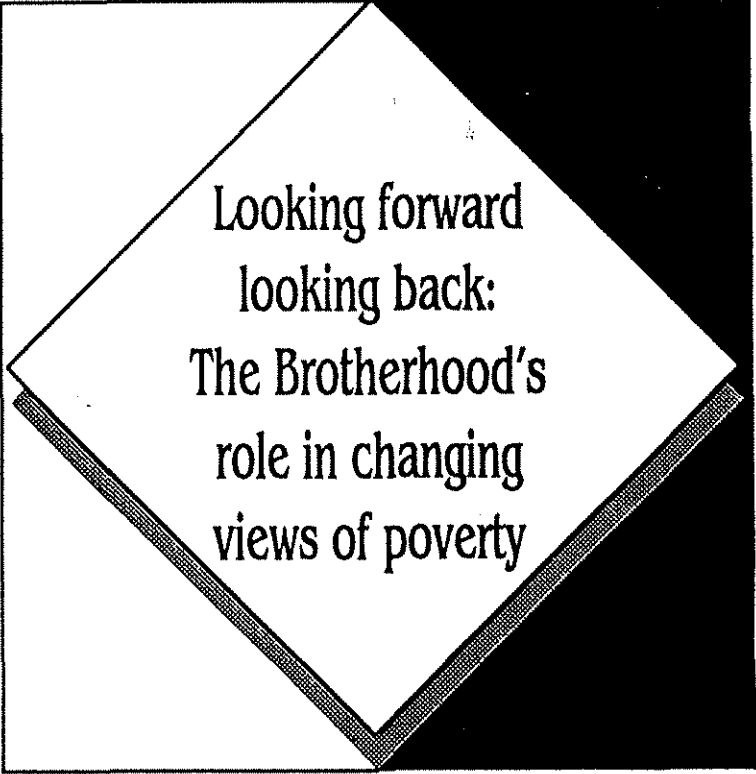


The Brotherhood of St Laurence
Social Policy and Research unit presents



Looking forward
looking back:
The Brotherhood's
role in changing
views of poverty

This seminar was developed by the Library and
Information Service of the Brotherhood of St Laurence.
Any further information can be directed to
Catherine Magree on (03) 483 1384

BROTHERHOOD
BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE

Saturday, June 5th 1993
Millott Hall, Brotherhood of St Laurence
67 Brunswick St, Fitzroy

Welcome to the
Brotherhood of St
Laurence History

Seminar. The aim of today is to allow us to look critically at the past social policy, research and advocacy work of the Brotherhood. In doing so we will discover what lessons we can learn from the past and how these lessons can usefully inform our present and future practice. We hope you have an inspiring and enjoyable day.

Alison McClelland
Director
Social Policy and Research

History Seminar Program

This year the
Brotherhood
celebrates
sixty years of
service in
Victoria.

11 - 11.30am
Registration and refreshments

11.30 - 11.40am
Opening: Bishop Michael Challen,
Executive Director, Brotherhood
of St Laurence

Introduction: Alison McClelland,
Director, Social Policy and Re-
search, Brotherhood of St Laurence

FIRST SESSION

The 1940s, 50s and 60s
Chair: Alison McClelland

11.40 - 12pm

Guest speaker: Janet Paterson
Topic: 'The Brotherhood's views of
poverty and its initiatives in research
and social action during this period'.

12 - 1.15pm

Guest panellists: Michael Challen,
Elaine Martin, David Scott

& General discussion

1.15 - 2.15pm

Lunch

SECOND SESSION

The 1970s and 80s

Chair: Jenny Trethewey

2.15 - 3.15pm

Guest speakers

First guest speaker: Connie Benn
Topic: 'How the Family Centre Project
changed the image of poverty, and
its contribution to research and social
action'.

Second guest speaker: Peter Allen
Topic: 'The BSL's shift of focus to
issues such as unemployment and
taxation during this period'.

3.15 - 3.25 pm

Short break

3.25 - 4.20pm

Guest panellists: Hayden Raysmith,
Tricia Harper, Ian Manning

& General discussion

4.20 - 4.30

Closing remarks: Alison McClelland

4.30pm

Afternoon tea

Biographies

Peter Allen was director of Social Policy and Research at the Brotherhood between 1982 and 1985.

PETER ALLEN oversaw the Brotherhood's first ventures into analysis of broader economic issues affecting people on low income, such as taxation and employment policy. He joined Community Services Victoria in 1985 and has held policy development and planning roles there in a number of areas, including Disability Services and Child Protection Policy Development. He has worked as a consultant in the areas of research, policy, job creation program development and community information systems development. He is currently Deputy Secretary for the Department of Health and Community Services.

The Luck of the Game
CONCETTA BENN was Director of Social Policy and Research at the Brotherhood from 1977 to 1982, where she was instrumental in establishing the Family Centre Project. She has 33 years of experience as a caseworker, researcher, policy development worker, teacher and administrator. Her past roles include head of the School of Social Work at the Phillip Institute of Technology, Deputy-Director General of Community Services Victoria and Professor of Social Work at Melbourne University.

She is currently Chairperson of the Adult Community and Further Education Board and Vice-President of the North West Hospital of Management.

Bishop Michael Challen was appointed Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence in 1991.

Born and ordained in Melbourne, MICHAEL CHALLEN moved to the Diocese of Perth in 1971. While there he chaired the Commonwealth Government's Social Security Advisory Council and the Advisory Board for the West Australian Welfare and Community Services Review. He was consecrated Bishop in 1978 and was Assistant Bishop of Perth from 1978 to 1990. Bishop Challen is president of the Victorian Council of Social Service and a member of the General Synod Social Responsibilities Commission. He is a long-standing advocate of Aboriginal justice issues and believes it is vital that the Church continues to make links between theology and social justice.

TRICIA HARPER is currently Deputy Director of the Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS). She was instrumental in establishing the National Council for the Single Mother and her Child and in the mid-late 1980s was director of Long Term Policy Development at the Victorian Department of Community Services. In this position she had responsibility for the development and passage of major new legislation and the development by the Commonwealth Government of the Child Support Scheme. In 1989-90 Tricia was responsible for establishing the Victorian Community Services Industry Study, a major survey of 2000 non-government organisations. In 1991-92 she was Director of Law and Justice in the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Ian Manning
is Deputy
Executive
Director of
the Social
Policy Unit of
the National
Institute of
Economic
and Industry
Research.

IAN MANNING worked as Senior Project Officer for the Commonwealth Commission of Inquiry Into Poverty and has since carried out research across the whole range of economic analysis, including a major report on housing futures for the Australian population. Between 1986 and 1992 he was a member of the Social Responsibilities Commission of the General Synod of the Anglican Church in Australia. In 1989 he was a Consultant on the Catholic Bishops' Committee for Justice, Development and Peace project on wealth. His particular interests include household economics and the effects of social security and taxation on low-income households.

ELAINE MARTIN joined the Brotherhood in 1963 as the first social worker appointed in a research capacity. In that year she produced 'High rents and low incomes', a study of the housing problems suffered by low-income families. In 1964 she produced 'High living', a study of family life in high rise flats. In 1973 she moved to Adelaide, where she continued to work with community agencies. She joined Flinders University in 1974 where she is a past dean of the School of Social Sciences and currently Senior Lecturer in Social Administration. Since joining the university she has continued to maintain her involvement with agency-based social research.

JANET PATERSON became the Brotherhood's first Director of Research and Social Action in 1965, and was instrumental in the establishment of the first family planning clinic in Melbourne to offer a high quality comprehensive service to the public. Between 1970 and 1974, she worked for the National Health Service in London developing voluntary services. In 1975 she was appointed to establish

the Department of Welfare at the Canberra College of Technical and Further Education. She has worked as policy advisor to Senator Don Grimes, and as a freelance consultant, and in 1985 she joined the Department of Premier and Cabinet as a policy advisor. She is currently involved in work with housing for elderly people, as President of Wintringham hostels and Vice-President of the Richmond Abbeyfield Society.

Hayden
Raysmith is
one of the
pioneers of
community
development
in Australia
and was
Australia's
first social
planner.

HAYDEN RAYSMITH developed the pilot which led to Australia's first community development project, the Australian Assistance Plan. He joined the Brotherhood as co-ordinator of the Action and Resource Centre (formerly the Family Centre) between 1974 and 1978. His former roles included Executive Director of VCOSS, Director of Youth Affairs for the State Government and Director of Statewide Operations in the Department of Health. He currently undertakes consultancy work in the areas of public health and organisational change.

DAVID SCOTT joined the Brotherhood in 1953 to assist his uncle, Father Gerard Tucker. During the 1960s he spent much of his time developing Community Aid Abroad as its first Director. In 1969 he became the first lay Director of the Brotherhood and remained in that role until 1981. During his time as Director he was responsible for the development of a number of innovative services and the expansion of the Brotherhood's work in social policy and research. In 1981 he founded the magazine 'Australian Society'. He was Commissioner for the Environment between 1985 and 1992 and is currently chairman of the Land Conservation Council, a position he has held since 1984.