

Visit Program

Sydney, New South Wales

Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission

Meeting with Mr Graham West, Chief Executive Officer, St Vincent de Paul Society (USA 2004). Also in attendance Ms Beverly Kerr, Chairperson and Provisional Board Member; Ms Helen Stirling, Executive Officer of the Mr Matthew Talbot, Homelessness Services; Dr Andy Marks, Research Officer; and Mr Brett Macklin, Operations Manager, Matthew Talbot Homelessness Services

Participate in Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb

Dinner with former delegates Ms Tegan Alchin (USA 2009), Mr Craig Chung (USA 1994), Mr Jason Falinski (USA 1998), Ms Suzanne Fosberry (Vietnam 2009), Mr Scott Hickie (New Zealand 2009), Mr Andrew Humpherson (USA 1997), Ms Kaila Murnain (Vietnam 2009), Mr Antony Sachs (New Zealand 2003), Ms Susan Tracey (Canada 1990), Mr Adam Wallace (New Zealand 2007) and Mr Trent Zimmerman (Germany 2002 and India 2010)

Guided tour of Sydney Opera House

Luncheon hosted by the Hon Kaye Griffin MLC, Deputy President of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of New South Wales. Guests included the Hon Marie Ficarra MLC (Japan 1997), the Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC (USA 1984), the Hon Graham West MP (USA 2004), Mr Russell Grove PSM, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and Ms Julie Langworth, Deputy-Clerk of the Legislative Council

Meeting with Mr Aden Ridgeway, Former Senator for New South Wales, Founding Member of Indigenous Affairs Consultancy - Cox, Inall, Ridgeway - and Executive Chairman of Indigenous Tourism Australia (UK 1999)

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

Meeting with the Hon Richard Marles MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs

Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Ms Tracey Robinson, International Project Officer

Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)

Observation of two-minute silence in remembrance of the victims of the Christchurch earthquake

Briefing on the Australian Greens by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Senator for South Australia and Council Member

Council luncheon hosted by the Hon Robert Ray, Chairman of Council and joined by Senator Michael Forshaw, Council Member; the Hon Kevin Andrews MP, Council Member (UK 2001); Mr Paul Neville MP, Council Member; Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Council Member; the Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Integrity (UK 1989); Senator David Bushby (New Zealand 2001), Mr Steve Ciobo MP (Japan 2005), the Hon Catherine King (Japan 2002 and New Zealand 2005), Ms Michelle Rowland MP (Germany 1995), Mr David Williams (Japan 2000) and Ms Tracey Robinson

Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives

Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)

Courtesy call on Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Patron of the Council

Meeting with the Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Integrity, Minister with portfolio responsibility for the political exchange program and former Council Member (USA 1989)

Dinner with former delegates Mr Marty Aldridge (India 2010), Ms Josephine Barfield (Zealand 2005), Ms Emma Bull (India 2010), Mr Alistair Coe MLA (USA 2010), Mr Nick Demiris (Vietnam 2010), Mr Josh Fear (UK 2010), Mr Kristian Galanti (USA 2008), Mr Mark Nelson (USA 2008), and Mr Nick Westenberg (New Zealand 2009)

Meeting with the Hon Teresa Gambaro MP, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance and Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Citizenship and Settlement (Vietnam 2002), representing the Hon Tony Abbott MP, Leader of the Opposition

Meeting with Senator the Hon David Feeney, Parliamentary Secretary for Defence and Senator for Victoria (USA 1998)

Meeting with Mr Mark Coulton MP, The Nationals' Chief Whip and Federal Member for Parkes

Luncheon hosted by the Acting High Commissioner of New Zealand, Mr Vangelis Vitalis. Guests included Ms Liana Dobson, Foreign Policy Analyst, New Zealand High Commission, Mr Simeon Duncan (USA 2006), Mr Bruce Edwards (Japan 1992) and Mr Brad Henderson (USA 2007)

Attend Question Time in the Senate

Dubbo, New South Wales

Meeting and luncheon with Dubbo City Council. Guests included Councillor Lyn Griffiths; Mr Mark Riley, General Manager; Mr David Dwyer, Director Community Services and Mr Murray Wood, Director of Parks and Landcare

Tour of the Western Plains Cultural Centre by Mr Andrew Glassop, Manager

Meeting with Mr Roger Fletcher and Mr Farron Fletcher, Fletcher International Exports

Coonabarabran, New South Wales

Dinner hosted by Councillor Peter Shinton, Mayor of Warrumbungle Shire Council. Guests included Mr Kevin Tighe, Acting General Manager and Ms Aileen Bell, Team Leader, Economic Development

Visit to Siding Spring Observatory

Guided tour of 'Tangaloo' and luncheon with Ms Ruth Strang and Mr John Strang

Briefing by Mr Tim Muldoon, Community Liaison Officer, Whitehaven Coal Operations. Guests included Mr Mark Dawson, Geologist and Mr Danny Young, Group Environmental Manager

Meeting with Cr Adam Marshall, Mayor of Gunnedah Shire Council

Tamworth, New South Wales

Dinner with Councillor Russell Webb, Deputy Mayor of Tamworth Regional Council. Guests included Mrs Gail Webb and Mr Peter Draper MP, Independent Member for Tamworth

Guided tour of Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC) by Mr Gerard Olde-Olthof, General Manager. Guests include Cr Col Murray, Mayor of Tamworth Regional Council and Mr Robert Gregory, Chairman of the AELEC Board

Visit to the Golden Guitar and Country Music Hall of Fame