NSW Dickens Society.
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Household Words

Issue 70 (June, 2018)
PO Box 3024, West Lindfield NSW 2070, Australia
Patron: Miriam Margolyes OBE
President: Louise Owens

NSW Dickens Society 2018 Book of the Year; *The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit* (1842 – 1844)

Letter from the President

Thank you to Isabel Deeble for her excellent talk about *A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens and Public Readings* at our April meeting. Isabel's talk, Geoffrey Usher and Vasudha Chandra's readings and Kim Hapgood's discussion of her Dickens memorabilia were all very much appreciated and combined to create a fascinating meeting.

A very warm welcome to our newest members **Lynn Bartlett**, **Mercia Chapman**, **Veronica Delafosse, Helen Holmes, Tony Holmes, Roma Hussey, Christine Jennett, Brian Jessop, Fay Jones, Deborah Linton-Ffrost, Julia McCall, Penny Nash, Lynne Parrott, Robert Pryke** and **Jane Webber.** We look forward to enjoying all the wonderful talks, events and publications of the NSW Dickens Society with you.

It is with great excitement that I let you know that ticket sales for the 112th International Dickens Fellowship Conference have exceeded all expectations. To date we have received over 100 bookings from England, New Zealand, USA, Germany, Japan, Scotland, Sweden and Australia (NSW, Victoria, South Australia, ACT and Tasmania).

Extra bonuses in the conference programme will be Dr. Paul Schlicke who will be travelling from Scotland to talk about *Sketches by Boz* and Dame Marie Bashir AD, CVO will join prolific authors Kate Forsyth, David Dyer and David Hunt on the panel discussion about their love of Dickens and why his writing remains both relevant and enjoyable in the 21st century.

We have two new sponsors for the conference who have both donated wonderful prizes for the raffles; Audible www.audible.com.au and Harper Collins Publishers www.harpercollins.com.au What fun we shall have! There is so much excitement about the conference and a limited number of tickets are still available at; www.bozinoz.com

Our June 2nd meeting promises to be another excellent event. Mark Burns will be showing us a piece of his Dickens Memorabilia and Geoffrey Usher will read from our book of the year, *The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit*. Then we are in for another treat with a talk by our very own Walter Mason on *Martin Chuzzlewit and the Lure of America.* Walter is the Vice-President of the NSW Dickens

Society, a professional speaker, author and tour guide. Dickens' final exploration of the picaresque form, *The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit*, has always been one of his least-discussed books, but in this talk, Walter Mason makes the case for it being one of his best. Dickens made a decision to switch the scene to America partway through the novel, and Walter also looks at Dickens' relationship to America and the ways in which it was portrayed by his peers in English literature. It promises to be another wonderful talk!

By Louise Owens

Isabel Deeble talk – 7th of April 2018

Once again, the NSW Dickens Society had the good fortune of being able to call upon the talents of our own membership in providing a thoroughly fascinating and illuminating talk. This time it was Isabel Deeble, who took us to the world of Dickens' public readings and performances. These performances were huge events and provided a great deal of money to both Dickens and the promoters who toured him around the United Kingdom and the world. They also took their toll on Dickens' health, and he found them increasingly taxing as the years progressed. Indeed, his family blamed them for his eventual early death.

Isabel explained how his first public reading wasn't till 1858, when he was already one of the most famous men in the world and considered by many to be the greatest living author in the English language. These talks were to go on for the last 12 years of his life, helping to build the legend of Dickens and also to surprise his readers by his unexpected talent at oratory and performance. These readings gave Dickens a chance to indulge in his performative side, a part of him that he had supressed after wanting to be an actor in his youth.

His readings in America, particularly, took on all the elements of spectacle. People queued for days in New York to get tickets, and they were rewarded by seeing Dickens perform what was really a new artform: the staged reading. Lying somewhere between speechification and performance, Dickens and his promoters thought it a sufficiently elegant way for the great man to promote his books and make a bit of money as well as entertain his huge and eager audiences.

After Isabel's fascinating talk we had a double pleasure when another of our members, Geoffrey Usher, regaled us with excerpts from the version of *A Christmas Carol* which had been edited for these very staged readings. We got a little taste of what it must have been like to sit in those nineteenth century audiences hearing those wonderful tales read by the author himself.

By Walter Mason

Limerick for Isabel Deeble

We've enjoyed a first-class explanation
Of Dickens' theatrical sensations.
To Isabel Deeble
There's nothing feeble
In our thanks for today's presentation.

By Geoffrey R Usher

Member Interview with Dr. Mark Burns

1. Which is the first Dickens' novel you read?

The first Dickens' book that I read was a graphic novel of *A Christmas Carol*. I would have been about 8 years old at the time and was drawn in by the pictures of the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future.

2. Which is one of your favourite Dickens' novels?
The first novel that I read was *The Pickwick Papers* and this has remained one of my favourites. In many ways it is different from Dickens' other novels due to the humour it contains. The depiction of Mr Pickwick as an elderly, fat, balding, generous and benevolent gentleman, who is very naïve in many ways, is one that always makes me smile.

3. Who is one of your favourite Dickens' characters?
This is a difficult question as Dickens has created so many memorable characters. One of the most conflicted and thus interesting characters was Nancy in *Oliver Twist*. Her attachment to Bill Sikes (is it love?) is in direct conflict with her underlying feelings of what is morally right. This eventually leads to her murder by Bill Sikes, which is to my mind the most shocking scene in a Dickens' novel.

4. Which Dickens' novel would you most like to live in?
Whilst I find immense interest in each of his novels, I can truthfully say that I would not like to live in any of them. Considering the poverty, social justice issues, homelessness and odious characters, each would provide a very difficult environment to live in.

5. If Dickens could visit today's world, what do you think he would be most surprised by?
Dickens was a crusader for social change and I believe he would be disappointed by the levels of poverty and homelessness in our society. The gap between the rich and poor is not dissimilar to Victorian times and unemployment still a major problem. He would probably see our modern society as giving him many themes for further books.

6. What would you most like to ask Dickens?
Having read his unfinished novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and viewed the recent film (whose ending I disagreed with!), I would really like to know how Dickens intended the novel to end. There is nothing quite like the annoyance of an unfinished novel by a favourite author.

7. What do you enjoy most about the NSW Dickens Society?
I enjoy the regular meetings which challenge and expand the way I view my reading of Dickens' novels. Whether it is expanding on social issues of the day such as poverty, workhouses or the drinking of gin (to name a few) or learning about Dickens' England, the breadth of knowledge in the society never ceases to amaze me.

8. What are you reading at the moment?
I have just finished *Murder in Malmö* by Torquil MacLeod. It was recommended by Susannah Fullerton prior to a literary tour of Scandinavia in July. The tour will go through Malmö, which is in southern Sweden. It is the second book featuring Inspector Anita Sundström and looks at murder with a Swedish twist. A good page turner.

9. Do you collect anything?
I collect Royal Doulton Dickens ware (pottery) which was produced from 1908 until the 1950's. Each piece is hand painted with one of Dickens characters. Due to a lack of space I now only collect selected pieces which are either unusual shapes or rare characters. With the pieces I have also obtained a copy of a Royal Doulton publication from 1911, *A Tribute in Pottery to the genius of Charles Dickens* with a forward by his son Alfred Tennyson Dickens dated May 23rd 1911.

10. What is something that people might be surprised to know about you?
Whilst it is fairly common knowledge that I collect Dickens ware, I also collect Folio Society publications. My collecting is slightly eccentric as I also have almost 1,000 Phantom comics which I only stopped collecting last year. I read the comics as a child but only began collecting in earnest in 1988. I have read every one of them and only stopped collecting when the publisher changed and they started using overseas stories in multiple parts. I like to think that Lee Falk, the original creator of the Phantom (and Mandrake) would not have approved of the recent changes.

Coordinated by Louise Owens

Letter from The Charles Dickens Museum, London

The Charles Dickens Museum ushered in the springtime this year with a special exhibition, *Expectations of the Past*, featuring new work by artist Louise Weir. A vivid visual and poetic response to *Great Expectations*, Louise was inspired by a combination of the locations, characters and themes of novel and how these resonated with her personal story. Louise began at St James's Church at Cooling, Dickens' inspiration for Pip's first terrifying graveyard encounter with the escaped convict, Magwitch, at the start of the book. From there she explored the salt marshes and the Kent countryside, retracing Pip's steps. The artworks she produced were fresh and immediate, absolutely contemporary and yet completely capturing the atmosphere of the novel.

Our main special exhibition for 2018 is, rather provocatively, called *Charles Dickens: Man of Science* and opens on 24th May (through 11th November 2018).

In 1839, the writer and physiologist George Henry Lewes (philosopher, literary critic and scientist amongst other things) visited Charles Dickens at 48 Doughty Street and examined his bookshelves. He left accusing Dickens of being 'completely outside philosophy, science, and the higher literature'. Dickens might have been a great writer, but Lewes believed he was not an intellectual and that he did not care about science. For 150 years, the story stuck. But Dickens did care about science – it mattered deeply when it cured diseases, cleaned streets, or inspired the imagination.

London crackled with the excitement of scientific discovery during Dickens' lifetime. Audiences flocked to demonstrations of electromagnetic induction and chemical transformation, geologists unveiled prehistoric creatures and an earth that was millions of years old, while evolutionists dared to suggest that human beings were descended from the apes. Dickens' writing crackled with that excitement, too. It is sprinkled generously throughout his novels, and his campaigns often touched on scientific issues, from sanitation to child health, and led to friendships and collaborations with scientific pioneers like Charles Babbage (mathematician, philosopher, inventor and mechanical engineer, considered by some to be a "father of the computer"), Michael Faraday (chemist and physicist who contributed significantly to the study of electromagnetism and electrochemistry), and Richard Owen (biologist, paleontologist and founder of the Natural History Museum).

Drawing on the evidence of his novels, journalism, letters and exchanges with friends, and journeying through Dickens' eclectic scientific interests, we reveal that what made him a great writer was precisely what made him a man of science. As an imaginative and yet clinically-precise observer, Dickens enraptured a vast reading public to become one of the most powerful scientific communicators of his age. From dinosaurs to volcanos, scientific instruments to magic lanterns, the exhibition promises to be one of the most illuminating in the Museum's history.

For more information:
https://dickensmuseum.com/blogs/exhibitions/expectations-of-the-past
https://dickensmuseum.com/blogs/exhibitions/charles-dickens-man-of-science

By Cindy Sughrue, Director of the Charles Dickens Museum, London

***Martin Chuzzlewit* Quiz B – Volume I, Chapters XII-XXV**

1. Where was Tom Pinch always quite satisfied to be set down in the band of any social orchestra?
2. Knowing it was something connected with a point of the compass and a door, what name did Martin mistakenly give John Westlock?
3. What was the cost, exclusive of wines, of the dinner which Tom Pinch and Martin Chuzzlewit enjoyed with John Westlock when they had walked to Salisbury?
4. When pressed by Martin for his opinion, John Westlock declared that he would say that Mr Pecksniff was "……"?
5. When Mr Pecksniff and his daughters were met by Tom Pinch and Martin Chuzzlewit on their return home by the night coach, who constituted a "fellowship of dripping wretchedness"?
6. When Martin had renounced Pecksniff and left the house, and declared to Tom Pinch that he would go to America, what did Tom press upon him in great agitation?
7. What was Tom's gift called?
8. What was in it where a leaf had been turned down?
9. What words had Tom scrawled in pencil on a piece of paper?
10. Where did Martin resolve to get to as a rally-point?
11. What was the name of the red-faced burly young wagon driver who gave Martin a lift to Hounslow?
12. What did Martin give him as payment for the ride?
13. Whom did Martin meet when he went to the pawnbroker to pawn his watch?
14. What did the person claim as his new address?
15. And what did that person describe as "engine-turned, capped and jewelled in four holes, escape movement, horizontal lever, and warranted to perform correctly"?
16. How much did the pawnbroker lend Martin for his watch?
17. And what did Martin toss towards the man he had met at the pawnbroker's, as "commission upon the pecuniary advance"?
18. What was in the letter which Martin was given by his landlord five weeks after his arrival in London?
19. Who called on Martin when he was treating himself to a comfortable but frugal meal in his own chamber?
20. What did Mark Tapley's knowledge of the coldness of comfort in Good-bye instinctively suggest to him as the wisest course of proceeding to adopt when Martin and Mary were saying goodbye?
21. What was the name of the "noble and fast-sailing line-of-packet ship" on which Mark Tapley and Martin made the voyage to America?
22. Of which newspaper was Colonel Diver the Editor?
23. What did he claim was the necessary consequence of the aristocracy of intelligence and virtue?
24. What was the name of Colonel Diver's War Correspondent?
25. In reference to all public obligations involving the good faith and integrity of his country, what was the one article of the creed of Major Pawkins?
26. What was the name of the gray-haired black man whom Mark Tapley engaged for a very reasonable charge to sit along with him and make him jolly while waiting to take the luggage off upon a truck?
27. What was the surname of the family to whom Mr Bevan was a near relation and who, having been in England, knew all the aristocrats quite affectionately?

28. In the bravura concert sustained by this family's two daughters, to what language would they have come if they had not been interrupted by the arrival of General Fladdock?
29. What was the embarrassing connection between General Fladdock and Martin that caused Martin to leave the family's house?
30. What "wonderful invention" of drink did Mark Tapley produce, in a very large tumbler, for Martin when they were preparing to go to bed at Major Pawkins' establishment?
31. Where was Sarah Gamp's residence?
32. Her lodging at a bird-fancier's was next door but one to the celebrated ……. and directly opposite to the original ……
33. What was the name of the undertaker who recommended Mrs Gamp to Mr Pecksniff?
34. On what ground had Mr and Mrs Gamp long been separated before his death?
35. Who was an "example to bereaved sons and pattern to the eyes of all performers of funerals"?
36. What did Mr Chuffey remember that he and Anthony Chuzzlewit learnt together, at school?
37. What was the "celebrated staggering ale" which Sarah Gamp required at supper during the week of preparation for Anthony Chuzzlewit's funeral?
38. What was the name of Mr Mould's chief mourner – "an obese person … with a face covered all over with pimples"?
39. What did Mr Pecksniff tell Jonas that he would endow his daughter with in the event of such a man as Jonas proposing for his daughter's hand?
40. What did Mark Tapley comment were "a sort of militia themselves, being entirely coat and wescoat, with a stick inside"?
41. On the train from New York to the Valley of Eden, what did Martin give General Choke?
42. At the end of Martin and Mark's train journey in the evening, what was the name of the "immense white edifice, like an ugly hospital", close to the railway?
43. What was the name of the land agent for the Valley of Eden – a "gaunt man in a huge straw hat, and a coat of green stuff"?
44. Who wrote to Martin asking him "to favour me with any critical observations … on 'Cain; A Mystery,' by the Right Honourable Lord Byron"?
45. Who had a muniment put up in the bar, giving notice that "Mr Chuzzlewit would receive the Watertoasters that day, at and after two o'clock"?
46. Whom did Mark Tapley describe as a "woman … as would be discovered with her eyes wide open, and her mind a-working for her country's good, at any hour of the day or night"?
47. Why did old Martin Chuzzlewit tell Mary Graham that flattery from Mr Pecksniff was worth the having?
48. What did Mr Pecksniff do, in proof of the character he gave himself to Mr Chuzzlewit?
49. In Tom Pinch's guilty agitation, what became nothing but English Froth?
50. What peculiar fragrance was borne upon the breeze when Mrs Gamp came to Mr Mould's establishment?

By Geoffrey R Usher

Answers to the *Martin Chuzzlewit* Quiz A – Volume I, Chapters I-XI

Questions were published in *Household Words* Issue 69 (April, 2018)

1. 1842
2. January 1843
3. Chapman and Hall
4. Miss Angela Burdett Coutts
5. Adam and Eve
6. Seth
7. Charity (Cherry) and Mercy (Merry)
8. Charity
9. Mrs Lupin

10. Gooseberry
11. Grocer and general dealer
12. Montague Tigg
13. The cover of an old letter
14. Chevy Slyme, Esquire
15. He was perpetually round the corner
16. The sneaking quarter of the moral compass
17. First cousin
18. "The lodestar of her existence"
19. In his moral character, he was full of promise but of no performance
20. Mark Tapley
21. A well-cooked steak and smoking hot potatoes
22. Her nose
23. John Westlock
24. A grammar school
25. Envy and Pride
26. Montague Tigg
27. To get money from Tom Pinch, for Chevy Slyme's bill at the Blue Dragon
28. "Gentlemen out-at-elbows who flourished on false pretences"
29. A half-sovereign
30. Anthony Chuzzlewit and his son Jonas
31. The main chance
32. A slack-baked crummy quartern
33. The gravy
34. Governess
35. Come off the grass
36. Bailey
37. Fish-salesman's book-keeper
38. An excellent theological work
39. Eighteen shillings
40. The Frog's Hornpipe

By Geoffrey R Usher

Slightly Foxed

"We never tire of the friendships we form with books" – A Charles Dickens Birthday Book

Open up a whole world of good reading with *Slightly Foxed: The Real Reader's Quarterly* – the handsome, intelligent and slightly eccentric literary review magazine for addicted readers.

Companionable and unstuffy, *Slightly Foxed* is more like a well-read friend than a literary magazine. Each quarter it offers 96 pages of lively personal recommendations for books of lasting interest – books, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry that have stood the test of time and have left their mark on the people who write about them. It's an eclectic mix, and its contributors are an eclectic bunch too. Coming up in future issues:

Anthony Wells goes in search of Proust • **Margaret Drabble** sees Ireland through Trollope's eyes • **Maggie Fergusson** meets Colin Thubron • **Michael Holroyd** enjoys the biography of an extraordinary biographer • **Ann Kennedy Smith** meets E. M. Forster's great-aunt • **Sue Gee** is drawn by E. H. Shepard • **Adam Foulds** discovers England with Geoffrey Hill • **Laura Freeman** discovers the tragedy behind the work of A. A. Milne • **Peter Parker** enjoys a taste of life in Victorian Shoreditch • **Brandon Robshaw**

introduces the real George Orwell • **Ariane Bankes** explores Trieste with Jan Morris, and much, much more …

More than *just* a magazine, Slightly Foxed is a small press too, with its acclaimed Foxed Editions list of classic memoirs and biographies and its Cubs imprint dedicated to reviving classic children's books. Subscribers all around the world receive four beautifully produced 96-page printed issues of the quarterly per year, access to the full digital archive of 57 issues, reduced rates on books and goods, and much more besides.

So why not form a friendship with *Slightly Foxed* this season? We're certain you'll not tire of it any time soon.

Special offer for subscribers to the NSW Dickens Society newsletter. **Receive £5 off your first order** on the Slightly Foxed website. Use code **BOZINOZ** when you reach the payment page of the checkout.

www.foxedquarterly.com

Contributions to NSW DS Publications

We welcome submissions for consideration for our publications: *Household Words* (published six times per year) and *Boz in Oz* (published once per year).

For *Household Words,* please email articles maximum of one typed page to louiseo@bigpond.net.au Deadline for submissions for 2018 are: 20/7/18; 21/9/18; 23/11/18.

For *Boz in Oz*, please email articles maximum of three typed pages (including photos) to; louiseo@bigpond.net.au Deadline for submissions for *Boz in Oz* is: 3/12/18.

Don't forget to follow NSW DS on our Social Media

Website:	https://dickenssydney.com/
Facebook page:	https://www.facebook.com/NSW.Dickens.Society/
Twitter:	https://twitter.com/NSWDS @NSWDS

Calendar of Dickens-Related Events

The NSW Dickens Society has some wonderful events celebrating the works, life and times of Charles Dickens. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Saturday 2nd June: A talk by Walter Mason; *Martin Chuzzlewit and the Lure of America*

Walter is the Vice-President of the NSW Dickens Society, a professional speaker, author and tour guide. Dickens' final exploration of the picaresque form in *The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit*, has always been one of his least-discussed books, but in this talk, Walter Mason makes the case for it being one of his best. Dickens made a decision to switch the scene to America partway through the novel, and Walter also looks at Dickens' relationship to America and the ways in which it was portrayed by his peers in English literature. 10.30am – 12noon in the Sydney Room, 2nd Floor, City Tattersalls Club, 194 – 204 Pitt Street (near the Market Street end), Sydney. No bookings required. $5 entry fee for NSW Dickens Society members. $10 for non-members.

Saturday 4th August: A talk by Matthew Gain and Ilse Scheepers; *Audible Dickens*

Matthew and Ilse are from Audible Australia (who offer the world's largest selection of audio books). They will talk about Dickens' works being read as talking books, what makes them popular for today's audience, what and who makes a successful reading of Dickens' works, as well as the general growth and interest in listening to books read aloud. 10.30am – 12noon in the Sydney Room, 2nd Floor, City

Tattersalls Club, 194 – 204 Pitt Street (near the Market Street end), Sydney. No bookings required. $5 entry fee for NSW Dickens Society members. $10 for non-members.

Saturday 6th October: A talk by Jennifer Ide; *Charles Dickens at his 'Little Kentish Freehold'*
Jennifer is the Senior Tour Guide at Gad's Hill Place (Charles Dickens' home between 1856 – 1870 in Kent, England). She will be travelling from the UK to give us this talk. 'Divers birds sing here all day, and the nightingales all night. The place is lovely and in perfect order ...' Charles Dickens' last and favourite home was Gad's Hill Place, at Higham in Kent. The years he spent there were the most difficult and turbulent of his life, nonetheless they were full and productive, and he still had energy enough to enjoy a full and active social life with his family and friends and his neighbours of the village of Higham. Jennifer will also talk about the 'Charles Dickens' rose. 10.30am – 12noon in the Sydney Room, 2nd Floor, City Tattersalls Club, 194 – 204 Pitt Street (near the Market Street end), Sydney. No bookings required. $5 entry fee for NSW Dickens Society members. $10 for non-members.

International Dickens Fellowship 112th Conference; 'Boz in Oz; Charles Dickens' Colonial Connections'.
25 – 30th October, 2018 Sydney, NSW, Australia.
Book here: www.bozinoz.com
For all enquiries please email: conference@bozinoz.com
The Pullman, Hyde Park:
Conveniently located in the city of Sydney and overlooking Hyde Park, The Pullman Hyde Park is a three minute walk from the train station, which is linked to both domestic and international airports. Most talks will be in the Ibis Room, which offers free Wi-Fi. Lunches and optional dinners will be held at the Pullman and accommodation is available at the hotel for those who require it, at a special conference price. The Pullman Hyde Park is within walking distance to other hotels at a range of prices, bus and train transport, and our coaches for our visits can pull up at the front door. We will have our own floor with areas for pop-up stores and merchandise to enhance the conference.

Speakers and topics:
1. Charles Dickens' sons in Australia
Tom Keneally
Two of the sons of Catherine and Charles Dickens migrated to Australia. Alfred D'Orsay Tennyson Dickens arrived here in 1856, followed by his brother Edward Bulwer Lytton Dickens three years later. Why did they decide to come so far from home or was the decision made by Dickens? How did their make their way in Australia? Booker Prize winner and prolific writer Tom Keneally is a Dickens lover and will explore the fate of Alfred and Edward in Australia.

2. *Dickens in the colonies: Australian responses to the world's favourite writer*
Dr. Kylie Mirmohamadi and Professor Susan Martin
How was Dickens received in Australia? Did Australians queue on the docks to hear the fate of his characters, as they did in America? How did they interpret Dickens' stories in the context of Australian life? Which of Dickens' characters spoke to Australians most and why? Dr. Kylie Mirmohamadi and Professor Susan Martin are the authors of *Colonial Dickens; What Australians Made of the World's Favourite Writer*. From the streets of nineteenth-century Melbourne to crowded colonial theatres, they will trace the ways in which Dickens and his works were read, re-read and reinterpreted in distinctly Australian ways.

3. Was Fagin modeled on my great-great-great uncle, Ikey Solomon?
Scott Whitmont
Fagin is one of the most vivid characters in *Oliver Twist*, one of Dickens' most popular books. He is widely believed to be based on Ikey Solomon, a receiver and fencer of stolen goods, who was

transported to Tasmania in 1831 and died in Hobart in 1850. Sydney bookseller and book collector Scott Whitmont is directly related to Solomon. He will talk about what made Ikey so fascinating to Dickens, drawing on the book, *The First Fagin: The True Story of Ikey Solomon* by Judith Sackville-O'Donnell.

4. *What shall we have for dinner*? *Advice from Mrs Charles Dickens*.
Jacqui Newling
In 1851, Catherine Dickens published a diminutive book of menus or 'Bills of Fare' under the pseudonym Lady Maria Clutterbuck. Several more editions followed, with recipes included. This kind of work fulfilled a need for a burgeoning middle class in the UK, but even more so in the Australian colonies, with readers hungry to learn how to dine and entertain in a manner expected of their newly acquired (or aspired) status. Sarah Wentworth, a 'currency lass', and wife of William Charles Wentworth of Vaucluse, is typical of many aspirational Australians who may have looked to Lady Clutterbuck for advice to impress highly judgmental colonial society.

5. Dickens in Australia through the Eyes of Trollope
Susannah Fullerton
Sadly, Charles Dickens never made a trip to Australia, although two of his sons lived here. However, in 1871 and in 1875 his contemporary Anthony Trollope visited Australia. What did he see and do here? How did he come to meet one of Charles Dickens' sons? Would Dickens have agreed with Trollope's conclusions about this country, and how might he have responded to the Australian landscape and people? Susannah Fullerton, author of *Brief Encounters: Literary Travellers in Australia* discusses Trollope's antipodean journey through the eyes of Charles Dickens.

6. *The Gad's Hill Gazette*: an experiment in print culture by Dickens' sons.
Professor Christine Alexander.
Despite Dickens' imaginative involvement with children in his novels, there are few instances of bonding with his own children. However, father and sons were united in a creative enterprise in *The Gad's Hill Gazette* (c.1861–1866), a weekly family newspaper named after Dickens' family home in Kent. Professor Christine Alexander has traced down twenty-one of the few surviving issues of the *Gazette* in libraries in the United States and the UK. This illustrated talk will suggest that not only is the *Gazette* a valuable source of biographical material on Dickens himself, but that this family 'journal' was both a theatrical gesture and a determined effort by Dickens' sons to imitate the print culture of their father's publishing world.

7. The Charles Dickens Museum: literary shrine or cabinet of curiosities?
Dr Cindy Sughrue
The family home where Charles Dickens began married life, became established as a writer and rose rapidly to international fame, is now the Charles Dickens Museum, for the study, appreciation and enjoyment of the life and work of Dickens. A Grade I listed building, the Museum holds the world's most comprehensive collection of material relating to Charles Dickens – over 100,000 items including furniture, personal effects, paintings, prints, photographs, letters, manuscripts, and rare editions. Director Cindy Sughrue will talk about the Museum and its collection, including Dickens' links with Australia.

8. The Mesmerising Dickens: Madame de la Rue, animal magnetism and the 19th century colonisation of the mind
Walter Mason
Dickens was introduced to mesmerism by his friend, surgeon John Elliotson in the 1830s and rapidly became fascinated by it, to the extent that he learned mesmerism himself and practised it on friends and family. The English-Swiss actress Madame de la Rue, who suffered from anxiety-based ailments,

was one of Dickens' most successful 'patients'. In this fascinating talk, Walter Mason will introduce us to an aspect of Dickens' activities which will be new to many Dickens readers, in the context of the 19th century interest in the workings of the mind.

9. Collecting Dickens Downunder
Professor Chris Browne
This talk from a book collector who acquired his first Charles Dickens first edition in 1973 will suggest different approaches to constructing a Dickens collection. It will be based on examples from his own Dickens collection of more than 200 volumes.
Professor Browne will show how to identify and evaluate a range of different editions of the works of Dickens, particularly first editions, illustrated editions and editions with an Australian connection. He will also discuss collecting bibliographies, commentaries, biographies, imitations and sequels to the works of Charles Dickens. He will focus on collecting Edwin Drood as an example of one particularly fertile direction.

10. Fallen Women
Dr. Olivia Murphy.
The fate of the 'fallen' woman is a preoccupation of eighteenth and nineteenth century literature. From Oliver's mother and Nancy in *Oliver Twist*, to Little Emily and Martha in *David Copperfield*, there are many 'fallen' women in the works of Dickens, and Dickens himself worked to rehabilitate real-life fallen women with the aim of preparing them for life in the British colonies, including Australia, South Africa and Canada. This talk looks at how such women are represented in literature in order to explore the ideas Dickens inherited and those that he helped propagate.

11. Australian writers talk about reading Dickens today
David Hunt and others to be confirmed
Why read Dickens today? A panel including Dame Marie Bashir AD, CVO and prolific authors Kate Forsyth, David Hunt and David Dyer talk about their love of Dickens and why his writing remains both relevant and enjoyable in the 21st century.

12. Dickens, crime and the rise of police detective: Changes in policing in England and Australia
Dr Rachel Franks
Dickens greatly admired the men of the emerging detective force, as seen in several pieces in *Household Words* strongly supporting those who were making London's streets safer. What were the major changes in English policing in Dickens' time and why did he offer such open support when so many were resisting innovation? What was going on in policing in Australia at the time? In a question and answer session, Rachel Franks will discuss Dickens and the detective.

13. Dickens' Early Sketches
Dr Paul Schlicke
Dickens' early imaginative work, the sketches of 1833 – 1840 attracted much attention and launched his career. In this talk, Paul Schlicke will look at these early works as the single most important evidence available of Dickens' development as a writer, documented in exhaustive, meticulous detail in his revisions.

<u>Events include</u>
1. Lord Mayor's reception:
The Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney will host a reception at the Sydney Town Hall for the delegates of the International Dickens Fellowship Conference with canapés and drinks. Opened ten years after Dickens' death, the Town Hall is an impressive example of High Victorian architecture.

2. Annual General Meeting of the Dickens Fellowship.

3. State Library of New South Wales Opening of the Conference Charles Dickens display
The Librarians of the State Library of NSW have searched their collections and created a display of Dickens-related items for the Conference. These include the original manuscript of Dickens' *Emigration* (c. 1852) sent by Dickens to Miss Coutts, a letter (1865) from Dickens to Archibald Michie written from Gad's Hill Place, thanking him for his interest in his son Alfred and also for his invitation to visit Australia, a complete set of the pirated Launceston editions of *The Pickwick Papers* (August – December, 1838) and a copy of the dramatization of *Barnaby Rudge* by Charles Selby notated by the prompter of the production. An archivist will talk about these items after an address by Dr. John Vallance, NSW State Librarian.

4. Banquet evening:
Vaucluse House is a beautiful example of colonial gothic architecture, built in Charles Dickens' era. The estate is unusual in that it retains over ten hectares (29 acres) of its original land, extending right down to the harbour foreshore. Home to influential William Charles Wentworth and his family, colonials with an intriguing convict past, the house retains many original features, including bathrooms and 1830s kitchen, and furnishings owned by the Wentworth family.
The Conference has been granted special access to Vaucluse House. At twilight our guests will wander through the Vaucluse House pleasure garden and enjoy canapés and drinks on the verandah followed by a unique private viewing of the house, which will be lit by candlelight. An original copy of *Household Words* will be displayed in situ.
After viewing the house, guests will walk a few metres to the Vaucluse House Tearooms located on the estate, where Jacqui Newling, resident gastronomer at Sydney Living Museums (and speaker at another session at the conference), will discuss the relevance of the menu she has created, a modern twist on dishes taken from 'Bills of Fare' in Catherine Dickens' book *What Shall We Have for Dinner?* including roast saddle of lamb and Cabinet pudding. (There will be options for vegetarians.)
A souvenir menu annotated with tasting notes will be available for each guest.

Visits include:
1. The story of Sydney's statue of Charles Dickens: Sandra Faulkner
During the Conference's excursion to Centennial Parklands Sandra Faulkner will tell the story of Sydney's statue of Dickens. She will relate the statue's history, its disappearance and her subsequent discovery of its whereabouts. She will talk about the restoration work carried out on the statue prior to returning to its original home on Dickens Drive in the Parklands on 7th February 2011. One of only three known statues of Dickens in the world, the statue in Sydney is not only of great significance to Dickensians, but can also be enjoyed by all who visit the Parklands.

2. Eliza Donnithorne and her Dickens connection: Professor Margaret Harris
Miss Havisham in *Great Expectations* is one of Dickens' most memorable characters. The question of the extent to which she was a product of his imagination has been debated by literary critics, Dickens enthusiasts and local historians for a century and a half. This talk will examine the substance of the claims that Eliza Emily Donnithorne (1826-86), buried in St Stephen's Anglican churchyard, Newtown (an inner suburb of Sydney) was a model for Miss Havisham.

3. Writers' Walk: Circular Quay: A guided tour by Susannah Fullerton (two tours of one hour each)
By glorious Sydney harbour there is a Writers' Walk, with brass plaques set into the pavement commemorating writers' visits to the shores of Sydney harbour. Some came from other parts of Australia, but other writers made the arduous voyage from Britain, Europe or the United States in order to see Australia for themselves. Plaques include Trollope, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Joseph Conrad, Kipling, R.L. Stevenson, Mark Twain, D.H. Lawrence, and Umberto Eco, but also local authors Patrick White, May Gibbs, Banjo Patterson and Henry Lawson. Susannah Fullerton will lead a guided walk along the Writers' Walk. Learn about the many fascinating writers who came to Sydney, discover

which of their comments about this city were immortalised in quotes, and enjoy the stunning scenery near Sydney's Circular Quay.

4. Church service at St James' Church
A traditional service in Victorian style with music of the era and social gospels to mark the conference and celebrate the life and work of Dickens. St James' Church, with its Georgian town church exterior, was constructed between 1819 and 1824 and is the oldest church building in the City of Sydney. The church was an important element of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's town planning and was completely designed by Francis Greenaway and built by convict labour. Greenway was an English born architect who was transported to Australia as a convict for forgery. After arriving in Australia, he was responsible for design and construction of the Macquarie Lighthouse after which he was emancipated and made Acting Civil Architect for Governor Lachlan Macquarie.
Readings by NSW Dickens Society members, Reverend Robert Emery and Reverend Geoffrey R. Usher.

5. Hyde Park Barracks
A tour of the UNESCO Word Heritage Listed, Hyde Park Barracks. The Barracks are recognized for their global importance, along with 10 other convict sites around Australia, designed by the convict architect, Francis Greenway and hand-built by convicts between 1817-1819 for convicts to live in, the Hyde Park Barracks is unique. Between 1788 and 1868, approximately 166,000 people were forcibly migrated across the globe to the then Australian colonies. Operating as convict barracks for men between 1819 and 1848, the Hyde Park Barracks saw pick-pockets and pirates, confidence tricksters and conspirators, rebels and rascals within its walls. Our tour will focus on the convict era and take place in small groups of 20 – 25 people.

6. Tour of the Sydney Opera House followed by a harbour cruise with lunch
The Sydney Opera House is one of the world's most recognisable landmarks and this is your chance to truly get up close. You can run your hands over the world-famous shell tiles and marvel at the vaulted ceilings. The tour will cover the stories behind architect Jørn Utzon's revolutionary designs for this masterpiece and how he solved the engineering challenges. We will visit off-limit areas to the public and we will be able to capture photographs from rare vantage points. Explore theatres and foyers where more than 1600 concerts, operas, dramas and ballets take place each year, then look at the Opera House from the water and explore Sydney harbour over lunch.

7. Dickens Trivia Night
Do you know your Pumblechook from your Pecksniff? The State Library of NSW has created a light-hearted Dickens Trivia night to test our knowledge of Dickens, his life and times, at the State Library. We will be joined by other Dickens lovers from Sydney. Teams can be a maximum of eight members so start revising your Dickens trivia now.

8. Art Gallery of NSW
Steven Miller will show us one of the earliest gifts to the gallery, a portrait of Dickens by J. S. Bowman, as part of a talk on the Dickens-related material in their collection. He will also discuss the work of other Victorian painters in the collection like William Powell Frith, Frank Holl, Hubert von Herkomer and Luke Fildes, who were inspired by the social issues of their day, just as Dickens was. The talk will also highlight Australian artists inspired by Dickens, including Christopher Coveny, whose book 'Twenty scenes from the works of Dickens', was published in 1883.

Extra Bonuses include:
1. Film screening of *The First Fagin*
The First Fagin recreates the life of Ikey Solomon, the possible inspiration for Fagin in *Oliver Twist*.

The film which is part narrative and part historical documentary is narrated by Miriam Margolyes OBE, our patron. This is an optional event at no charge.

2. The Old Curiosity Shop
The renowned NSW Dickens Society shop 'The Old Curiosity Shop', will have a range of Dickens and literary items for sale in the foyer outside the Ibis Room at The Pullman Hyde Park during the conference.

3. *Boz in Oz* miscellany
A small newsletter will be produced for each of the four days of the conference by members of the NSW Dickens Society Kim Hapgood and Dianne Christie. The broadsheet newspaper will highlight news items and advertisements from old colonial newspapers during Charles Dickens' lifetime relating to him and his works. Stories from *Household Words* about Australia – especially those written by Charles Dickens; newspaper articles and ads for colonial book stores, book sales and early libraries, promoting, selling, stocking Dickens books; stories about quirky colonial connections to Dickens and his writings.

4. Dickens Timeline
A computer display of Charles Dickens' life and works in relation to world events at the time, created by Dr. Chris Browne and his colleagues will be on view to Conference guests.

5. Raffle
With prizes donated by our donors Audible, Bloomsbury Publishing, Harper Collins Publishing, Hay House, NewSouth Books, Pan Macmillan, Scribe Publishing and The Crow Emporium.

6. Regency Fair
The Jane Austen Society of Australia (JASA) will have a stall in the foyer of The Pullman Hyde Park for delegates to buy a range of Austen and Regency related books and items.

7. Juvenilia Press Stall
The Juvenilia Press will have a stall in the foyer of The Pullman Hyde Park for delegates to buy a range of books and items.

8. Delegates' Bags
Sponsors and donors are filling up our goodies bags with wonderful treats for all delegates to enjoy!

Christmas Lunch: date and location to be confirmed.
Please check our website closer to the date: https://dickenssydney.com/
Separate cost.

Please note that these details were correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change without notification.