



The President's Column

It is only once every two years that the Australian Crime Prevention Council gets to stage its most public event, its National Conference. The last conference held in Adelaide in 1987 is a good indication that it is an event worth waiting for. The Adelaide conference, which focused on criminal justice directions toward the 21st century, attracted a range of notable overseas as well as local contributors and stimulated not only those in attendance but the interest of media across the country.

The Melbourne conference coming up on 3rd July through to the 6th July promises to be just as significant an event. Taking as its theme "Crime; Preventable or Inevitable?" it addresses theories on the causes of crime and the consequences for prevention strategies, the effectiveness of various prevention techniques, the appropriate roles of criminal justice agencies, together with the ideological underpinnings of

different crime prevention policies. Speakers will include Mr Brian Taugher, Special Assistant Attorney-General for the State of California and Mr Michael King, Senior Research Fellow, Brunel University, London. Amongst a large number of local contributors will be Mr Justice Nicholson, Chief Judge of the Family Court of Australia; Professor Max Charlesworth, Deakin University; Professor Duncan Chappell, Director, Australian Institute of Criminology; Senator Janine Haines, Leader of the Australian Democrats; Dr Ken O'Brien, Director, James Nash House, Adelaide; Ms Chris Lidgard, Social Research Officer for the Queensland Police and Mr Dennis Challinger, Assistant Director, Australian Institute of Criminology.

The conference is designed to pivot around plenary sessions conducted by key note speakers and will be supported by discussion and seminar sessions. The planned field visits and social events should also contribute to a very worthwhile conference.

I look forward to seeing you there.

**JOHN VAN GRONINGEN
FEDERAL PRESIDENT**