

Leo Schofield AM

Leo Schofield, the Editor at Large for ***Australian Gourmet Traveller***, is a well know figure in media and the arts in Australia.

Mr. Schofield spent twenty-five years in the advertising and communications industry, mostly in Australia but with stints in London and New York. He was Creative Director of several of the country's largest agencies before setting up his own communications consultancy.

During this time, Mr. Schofield developed a parallel career as journalist and broadcaster. For over a decade his weekly column in ***The Sydney Morning Herald*** was one of the most widely read in the country. This readership has expanded even further with his appointment as a columnist with ***The Sunday Telegraph***.

In 1975 he wrote the first guide to eating out in Sydney and produced editions for the following two years. When he assumed the role of senior restaurant critic for ***The Sydney Morning Herald*** he then inaugurated the ***Good Food Guide*** to Sydney and edited eight successive editions of this publication. Even though he no longer reviews restaurants on a regular basis, his residual reputation makes him one the country's most influential commentator on food.

For the past two year he has been Editor at large for ***Gourmet Traveller***, Australia's leading food and travel magazine, to which he contributes a regular column as well as travel pieces, often with an emphasis on food and trends in taste. He is also a contributor to several of Gourmet's sister publications including *House and Garden* and *Men's Style*.

Always a passionate advocate for the arts, Mr. Schofield was appointed Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts in 1993 and directed the 1994, '95 and '96 festivals. Returning to his home city, he directed the Sydney Festival from 1998 – 2001 and also directed the Sydney 2000 Olympic Arts Festival and the subsequent festival for the Paralympic Games.

In February 2005, Mr Schofield acquired Dysart House at Kempton in Tasmania. He is currently restoring this important 1840's building and plans to divide his time between Sydney and Tasmania. He is also working on a memoir and a book on Tasmania and contributes an weekly column on Tasmanian life to the Saturday edition of the ***The Meceruy***.

