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WINGED WORDS

BENDIGO Y SERVICE CLUB - WOMEN INC.

President:
Eva Chalmer
106 MacKenzie Street West
Golden Square, 3555

Secretary:
Jan Fuller
7 McConnachie Court
Ascot, 3551

Meetings:
2nd Wednesday
of each month
at the Strathdale
Hall.

ABN 90 745 442 533

OCTOBER 2019

Belonging

Having been away for 3 months (combination of a broken foot and then 8 weeks travel), it was wonderful to be back with the Y's women again – a sense of belonging which holidays, as wonderful as they are, don't give you.

Our friends seemed pleased to have us back, our family all managed quick trips up to see us, and my workplace put on a morning tea to welcome me back. How blessed we are to belong – to be part of something, many things, small things and big things,

As we arrived home the time of participation for the Winter Night Shelter project was closing and an attempt was being made to establish another area where people could go on a regular basis. This extra activity is to allow people to touch base, have a connection, to give them a sense of belonging. Of all the people that need a sense of belonging homeless people surely would.

As part of our travels we visited with our daughter in Kununarra. She is a lawyer and is in charge of the Aboriginal Legal Service there. She has some interesting stories to tell, some heartbreaking, some encouraging, some frustrating re the inability to change a system that everyone knows isn't bad but that no one can work out how to change it. The one theme though that keeps coming through clear is that indigenous people have such a need for their "belonging". To be part of their country, to be in their culture – all the white sheets and pristine environments in the world doesn't make up for them for not being amongst their own, for not being with their mob.

The story of the death of the brilliant musician, Geoffery "Gurrumul" Yunupingu, an icon of the Australian music world, who eventually chose to forsake renal dialysis in a Darwin hospital, to return home to country, knowing that his demise would be inevitable. There could be no greater sense of belonging than to forsake life for the need to be back amongst your home and family.

Not as tragically though are the stories of the indigenous footballers who forsake the opportunity to play at the elite level within their chosen sport, to go home, to be back where they belong.

The need for belonging is universal – and when we have it provides us with such joy and comfort.

VB

October Meeting - Wednesday 9th October

Meeting @ 6pm. Reflections – Marg Coad.

Bring your “share dinner” plate.

Car pool to Henkel Street Theatre for film commencing @ 7.30pm. Cost \$5.

‘The Merger’ - A story of “community and belonging”

Can't remember what you offered to bring – contact Vi



Diary dates

Sat 5th & Sun 6th Oct – Regional Convention at Kangaroo Flat.

Thursday 17th Oct – Invitation from Y's Men to hear Cathie Steele from Foodshare. Meal at 6.30pm – fellowship from 5.45pm. Numbers needed at our meeting

Tuesday 22nd Oct – Bendigo Neighbourhood Hub AGM @ 10am

Thursday 21st Nov – Y's Men invitation to hear guest speaker from Royal Flying Doctor Service. Meal at 6.30pm – fellowship from 5.45pm. Numbers needed at our meeting

Dates for
the Diary:

Calling Officer

Marg Coad was laid up with a leg injury – found it a bit hard getting around to visit herself. All good now after some well earned rest

Wishing **Jill** all the best with her Carpel Tunnel Surgery – an opportunity to do nothing for a while - we are hoping!!

Marg Birrell unwell following her work at the Book Fair – hope you have some good books to read whilst you are recuperating Marg. Get well soon!!

Next Meetings

Exec Monday 4th Nov @ Crook Street

General Meeting Wed 13th Nov – Games night

Hostesses – Jan Lebek and Sue Ludeman

Reflections – Val Brennan



Spring Book Fair Report

On Friday 27th & Saturday 28th October, the Spring Book Fair was held. The line-up at the door was long with eager readers ready to grab their bargains. With many hands on deck, the event ran very smoothly with a few trials this year – opening until 8pm on Friday and closing at 3pm on the Saturday (to allow for the Grand Final schedule). Thankfully the crazy winds on Friday didn't keep anyone away!!



Thank you to our many members who volunteered their time to assist with the many jobs at the Book Fair. We have received reports that the weekend was again a VERY profitable one for the Y's Men. Congratulations!!

Y Service Club of Bendigo – 80th Anniversary Celebrations

On Sunday, 29 Sept 2019, the Y Service Club of Bendigo celebrated its 80th Anniversary, having Chartered on 29 Sept 1939.

Approximately 60 people joined for their celebrations at The National Hotel for a lovely lunch. RD Bill Schmidt shared a congratulatory letter from IP Jennifer Jones, in her absence, and Mayor of the City of Greater Bendigo, Cr Margaret O'Rourke spoke and congratulated the club on being a huge presence in Bendigo's vibrant volunteer network and what this means to the Bendigo Community.

Bill Schmidt also shared his congratulations to the club as RD for the Australian region and Shirley Unmack spoke about the special relationship between our two clubs and the ongoing support we have

and continue to share.

The birthday cake was cut by President Colin Lambie and the three longest serving members present – Peter Unmack, Ian Randall and Kevin Lockett.



Congratulations!!



Photos – the birthday cake; current members at the lunch; Pres Colin Lambie cutting cake with 3 longest serving members (Ian, Peter & Kevin - all 3 >50 years) & Mayor of City of Greater Bendigo, Cr Margaret O'Rourke joined with us to celebrate.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING –SEPTEMBER 11th 2019.

WELCOME: Eva welcomed 15 of us, including visitors Betty and Val (Shirley's sisters)

APOLOGIES: Phyl A, Marg C, Lyn C, Pam C, Sue L.

BIRTHDAYS: Good wishes were extended to Vi for her September birthday.

REFLECTION: Michelle shared the stories of 2 women in difficult circumstances. (Sourced from 'Share the Dignity' website) Both these women were in trouble, one due to poverty, having to use her car as her home, the other, due to psychological abuse and not having continuing work, therefore no superannuation, was without a way to support herself, once her husband died.

These stories are like the stories of many who sought refuge in the Bendigo Winter Night Shelter recently.

We affirmed our satisfaction at having been supporters of this initiative.

MINUTES: Minutes of last month's meeting, as in the bulletin, were accepted by consensus as a correct record.

BUSINESS ARISING:

- Eva attended the Winter Night Shelter Service of conclusion and celebration, on our behalf. She reported that at least one couple seeking help had now found accommodation for themselves.

CORRESPONDENCE

IN:

- Letter of resignation from Joyce Floyd
- Australian Region Y Service Club Convention Program – from our RD Michelle Janssen
- Letter from Consumer Affairs
- Invoice from BNHub admin. *Eva will query this account.*
- From Dennis Dole – an invite to the Y'sMen's 80th celebration on 29thSeptember.

OUT:

- **none**

REPORTS:

CALLING OFFICER: No particular issues to report.

TREASURER: **Moved:** Marg Birrell, **Seconded:** Jan Fuller

SISTER CLUB –no mail

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Thanks were extended to Michelle Janssen for an enjoyable Bulletin this month.
- The upcoming Y's Men's Book sale. Bryan Baker and Dennis Dole were in attendance and explained to us how the roster would work. They thanked us for our continuing support. ***We happily added our names to the rosters where possible.***
- The invite received from Wayne Cameron, to the Australian Regional Meeting of the Y Service Clubs. This came with a special letter about the proposal of a major project for this Australian Region, of A TRAINEESHIP WITH THE KIDNEY FOUNDATION, the target funds to be raised, being \$15,000.
- The rosters and contact list were circulated to members present.
- Food roster for next meeting was filled in by members

NEXT MEETINGS:

Exec: Monday September 30th at Crook St. 9.30am

Program & Meeting: Wednesday 9th Oct movie night. **Meet at 6pm at Crook St for shared tea.**