

## Kangaroo Tales

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE Kangaroo Flat Y Service Club (Women) Inc.  
PO Box 1018, Kangaroo Flat 3555  
Monthly meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of every month.

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MAY 2020

### A PRAYER FOR OUR UNCERTAIN TIMES

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those who are most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours.

AMEN

I was debating about what I could put on the front page of the bulletin when Jude Rodda sent through this lovely prayer. *Thank you very much Jude.*

Yes - our lives are inconvenienced but how bad is that really. We all have homes to live in and we can all keep in touch with friends and family.

If we compare this war, we are fighting against coronavirus to the wars our soldiers and other military personnel have fought in the name of peace I feel we are getting off lightly. An extra prayer goes to all our medical staff though as they are in the forefront of this war. A huge thankyou to all essential workers.

**The rest of us are only being asked to stay at home to stay safe!**





## *Happy Birthday to our May birthday girl!*

20<sup>th</sup> – Anje Turner

May you be happy and safe and may your heart be filled with joy.  
Enjoy your special day.

### **Sister Club News**

*Pauline Verdon wrote to Anne at Pictou Y's Menettes voicing her sympathy for the awful shootings that had happened in her area. This is Anne's reply.....*

Nice to hear from you and the self-isolation is certainly a struggle.

Times here are terrible--everyone is just heartsick. It is the worst number of people murdered in all of Canada's history. It started with the report of police searching for a gunman and warning people to lock their doors and hide. Then after he travelled over 90 km and after almost 12 hours, they finally located him, and he was killed in a gun battle.

The first death reported was a policewoman who was killed, and her partner was shot and in the hospital. Then the press conference with the news that there were at least 10 killed and three houses set on fire. Then it went up to 12, 14, 18, 19 people murdered, and five houses burnt. They think there are more people in the burnt houses and possibly more in murder scenes not found yet. One man can't find his parents and their house was burnt to the ground so the number of dead will probably be over 20. There are 16 separate crime scenes.

One policeman said the person was pure evil. He set one house on fire and then shot the people when they tried to escape from the fire. He shot a firefighter who was on his way to help his neighbour whose house was on fire. He shot a woman who was out for a Sunday walk. He shot a couple and their 17-year-old daughter. One couple who died had two little boys who are alive. There were two nurses killed. One of the nurses was newly married with a small baby--she was really scared she would bring COVID 19 home to her family and now she is shot dead. For most of the victims it was being at the wrong place at the wrong time.

The worst part is no one knows why he did it.

Because of the social distancing there is no contact with other people. No funerals. People are frustrated they cannot do anything for the families. Ordinarily there would have been a ceremonial funeral for the police officer. People have been leaving flowers and notes at different sites. Lots of Facebook messages.

Things are never going to be the same. Where the gunman was killed is where my cousin and I have lunch when we go to Halifax.

Didn't mean to write so much. Guess it is just so unreal and unbelievable. Especially hard when we are all struggling to get through being isolated and all the uncertainty for the future. I live alone and, except for going for groceries twice, I have not seen anyone in the past four weeks. I talk to the cat and I think I am doing ok--if she starts talking to me, I will know that I have gone nuts.

Stay well,  
Anne.

**Our deepest sympathy to all those who have been impacted by this horrid event.**

*Thank you for sharing your Sister Club News Pauline.*

## Club News

**Jude Rodda says** – The highlights of my month have been getting dressed up in nice clothes and putting some makeup on to attend the doctor for my flu vacs, the Easter Bunny calling and leaving some chocolates on the kitchen bench, and surviving the month with my sanity intact. Have caught up on a lot of cupboard and drawer cleaning and have just started the annual heavy pruning of the garden so that I don't have to do it again. Really missing my social life with my friends but we have a twice a week video chat with a glass of wine in hand, and we do the same with family - how great is all the modern communication. Hope all our Y Ladies are coping and are safe and well and a special thanks to our member Anne Andrews who is working on the front line to keep us all safe. We thank you Anne and all your colleagues.

**Sue Robinson says** – Not much happening here still sorting old photos and cleaning out cupboards. I didn't think we had a lot of useless things, but I was wrong. We had street drinks over Easter, we all sat in our driveways and talked about what we were doing to fill in the days. I think it was really good to have that contact even if it was from a distance. One neighbour has set up a book exchange on their letterbox and with all the people out walking it has been a real success. The other thing I have decided is that I will not complain about child minding ever again. I miss the mess, the noise and the fun they bring. Bring on the end to the lock down.

**Anje Turner says** – Well here we are mid-April, Andy and I are going fine, finding lots to do in the garden, thankfully the weather has been lovely. My cupboards have never been so tidy. Like everyone we are missing family and friends but so far, our numbers in Australia says it is the thing to do. All the best to everyone.

**Anne Andrews says** – Well life is certainly different with many adaptations made in a relatively short time. Work is very unusual; we were having less patients for a while but getting gradually more. The virus and the resultant extra anxiety and uncertainty adding to peoples already compromised mental states. A lot of services not so available for them or available in a different way such as emergency accommodation. It is very difficult to maintain social distancing when caring for our patients, but all possible precautions are in place. It is hard for them not having visitors or leave. Otherwise we are just mainly at home like everyone else and did go visit my mother from a distance last week and threw the ball around for her little dog. Neil still working on the new house, setting up for the slab. I feel thankful that I still am able to work, have a nice house to be in, that all my family and friends are well and that most people I see when out are doing the right thing for everyone's benefit. Stay strong everyone and won't we enjoy our next meeting whenever that may be?



**Marjie Patton says** – I hope you all have cleaned your homes. I have finished a borderless jigsaw. It was very hard, 750 pieces plus 5 extra bits. My sons have been taking me shopping. I said it is like getting out of jail. I am not allowed to drive yet, I had to cancel my New Zealand trip to family after my fall where I dislocated my right shoulder. It is still very sore. My sister in law Jan in Deniliquin passed away recently from a heart attack. Stay safe everyone.

*Our deepest sympathy on your loss Marjie*

Left – Marjie's jigsaw.

**Bev Buchan says** – Apart from enjoying going for walks and gardening in this beautiful weather I seem to find plenty to keep me occupied. The only problem is that the green bin gets full the same day that it gets emptied. It is nice catching up with family and friends via phone etc. We are enjoying the Andrew Lloyd Webber productions on YouTube. Keep well everyone. I am actually enjoying slowing down. Ha ha.



**Val O'Brien says** – Have had an interesting time with isolation. My 80th birthday was a very interesting one with my friends doing social distancing and my daughter Michelle who cooked Garlic Prawns for lunch. I received some beautiful flower arrangements too. I also did a bin outing during our isolation ha ha!  
Left – Val and her daughter Michelle.

**Marg Millar says** – Life is very different at the moment. I'm doing okay. Days go quickly when doing craft, gardening, tidying cupboards and walking. The iPad is good for doing jigsaws. Tony our son took all our old bricks for his shed, so this had us cleaning up and getting rid of rubbish that had accumulated behind the shed. I help my parents with their shopping and make sure they are okay. It is hard on them.

**Glenda Anset says** – Keeping busy with lots of gardening and a few painting jobs. Just painted a 4-piece garden setting orange. It looks good. Extra cleaning and decluttering some cupboards. Barry and I have been playing card Phase 10 which is fun. Missing our morning coffee catchups on Thursdays. Stay safe and enjoy whatever comes your way in isolation.

**Jenny Cameron says** – Life in isolation can be very interesting. With nowhere to go and nothing on the social calendar it doesn't matter if I curl up in the sun and read a book!  
I plan to tackle a small project each day, so have crossed a lot of things off the 'to do list'. Last week I went to the Doctor's for a flu injection. The Carpark was closed off and instead it was set up as a waiting room with chairs dotted about, a social distance apart. Just as well it was a sunny day. The doctor came to the door and called each patient in one at a time. While I was there a lady was dropping off some gowns from the 'Gowns for Doctors' project and arranging what size gowns they still needed. I wonder if they were some that some of the Eaglehawk ladies have sewn?  
On Anzac Day we are having a short 10-minute street service in our neighbourhood. A man a few doors up the street usually takes Anzac Day services at Nursing homes so has offered to do a neighbourhood one instead. He will take it from his driveway complete with microphone and we will go out the front of our homes to take part.

**Raelene Schmidt says** – We are trying to keep busy - walking every day, reading, jigsaws, words with friends online, telephone calls with friends, face time with family, and of course the tidying of cupboards, drawers and the pantry!!! I have also been making some cards and trying out some new designs which is fun. Two friends and I have set ourselves a card challenge for the coming week with a theme and a design. The results will be interesting.  
We have also introduced Zoom into our lives for Bill's tai chi classes, my book group, a Zonta get together with a drink and nibbles this evening and a committee meeting tomorrow. I must say it has worked well for all of those things. At least you can see others and it is a bit more sociable.  
Best wishes to everyone.

**Joyce Lowe says** – Graeme and I are enjoying the relaxed environment in isolation. Beautiful Autumn weather has encouraged us to renovate some garden beds, clean out and mouse proof the garden shed and take some long daily walks. Still a lot of other projects and books to complete so I'm not complaining about another few weeks in lockdown.

**Pauline Verdon says** – We lower the sound on the TV when the latest stats are given as I am getting a little depressed about it all. Thankfully, I have Patrick to talk to. We go for a walk every day, catch up with our kids on the phone, ring my nieces in Canada but you can only do so much! My friend lent me the whole set of Downton Abbey, The Vicar of Dibley, and lots of other DVDs. Dawn Baxter is lending me a few books that I collect from her front door when we need to go for our groceries, complete with mask and latex gloves!!

**Glenys Buchanan says** – I have been busy making burp cloths and bibs as my daughter's friend had a baby girl this week. I have also been knitting covers for coat hangers. I have been going for a walk most days, grocery shopping weekly and have been to the hairdressers which was nice. I have been watching more TV than usual and can recommend the following programs we have watched on Netflix. The Stranger, Safe and Unorthodox. My thoughts are with the police community and the families and friends of the Police Members killed so tragically. So sad 😞.

**Wendy Earle says** – I have been weeding in the garden and cleaning out cupboards. I am trying not to get bored and am missing my catch ups over coffee.

**Dawn Baxter says** – Well another month has gone by and we are still in “iso” and I am starting to feel that is the norm. I have kept busy cleaning cupboards the windows are all cleaned carpet shampooed. I have spent a lot of time in the garden planting bulbs so I should have lovely spring display. I am still picking tomatoes so have not pulled them out yet but have started planting seeds for winter crop. My oven decided to go to the scrap heap so I have been giving my Weber a bit of use making hot x buns and bread etc practising for when we can go north again. We had our Anzac Day service in our driveway it was very moving. We had the radio on listening to the dawn service and somewhere in the background we could hear the Last Post. A couple of our neighbours had candles in their driveways. I also decorated a window for the ‘Going on a bear hunt’ Facebook site. Have spent far too much time socialising on social media and still can't get ‘copy and paste’. I hope everyone is coping okay it will end one day .

\*\*\*\*I think when we are through this pandemic and able to enjoy our meetings again, we need to make a booking with our clever Dawn for a lesson on how to cook in our weber BBQ's. I have been watching the delights Dawn is producing with envy.

**Me** – The weather has been fairly kind, so I have spent a lot of time in the garden. I am still having a battle with the native violets I planted years ago. They were a lovely ground cover in parts until they decided they would grow over everything. Lynden is busy redoing the back fence and painting. We both still have a list of jobs to do so are filling in our days easily, but we did miss having the grandchildren for a week of the school holidays. Tonya's youngest little girl Mietta wants to know when she can visit Uncle Justin, Pop and Nan. It is hard for her to understand why she can't. Thank goodness for FaceTime.

### **Saturday Night Casserole**

This is a favourite recipe of Marjie Patton. Marjie made it very often on a Saturday night after the family had been at the football for most of the day.

Cook 1 cup noodles or rice and place in a casserole.  
Fry 1 onion in oil, then add 1lb fine mince steak and cook until brown.  
Mix together 1 ¼ teaspoons each of mustard and curry powder, 1 tablespoon each of tomato sauce and Worcester sauce, 1 teaspoon sugar, ½ tin tomato soup, 1 cup water and 1 tablespoon cornflour.  
Add this to the meat and simmer gently for 20 minutes.  
Place this mixture on noodles or rice in casserole and layer with sliced tomato, diced bacon, and grated cheese.  
Brown in oven. Enjoy!



*Thank you Marjie.*

**Don't forget to have your flu shot if you haven't had it already!**

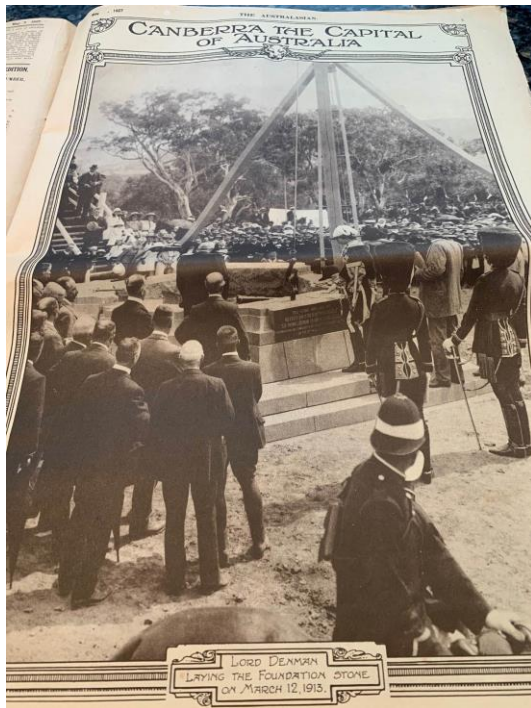
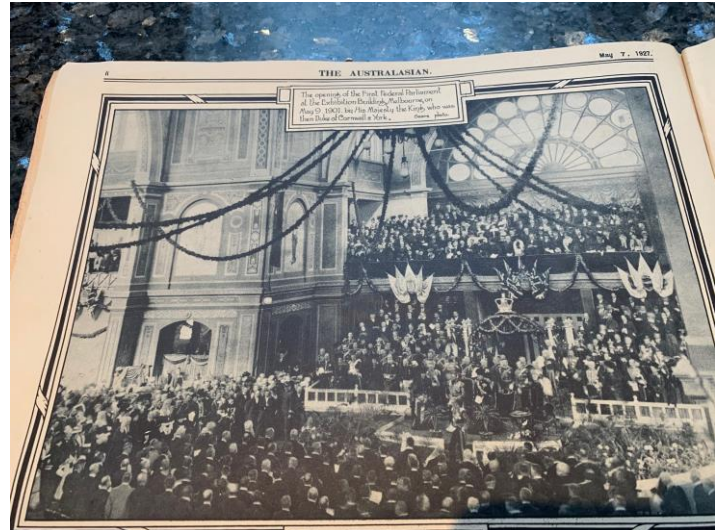
Friendship is the source of the greatest pleasure,  
And without friends even the most agreeable pursuits become tedious.

*by St Thomas Aquinas*

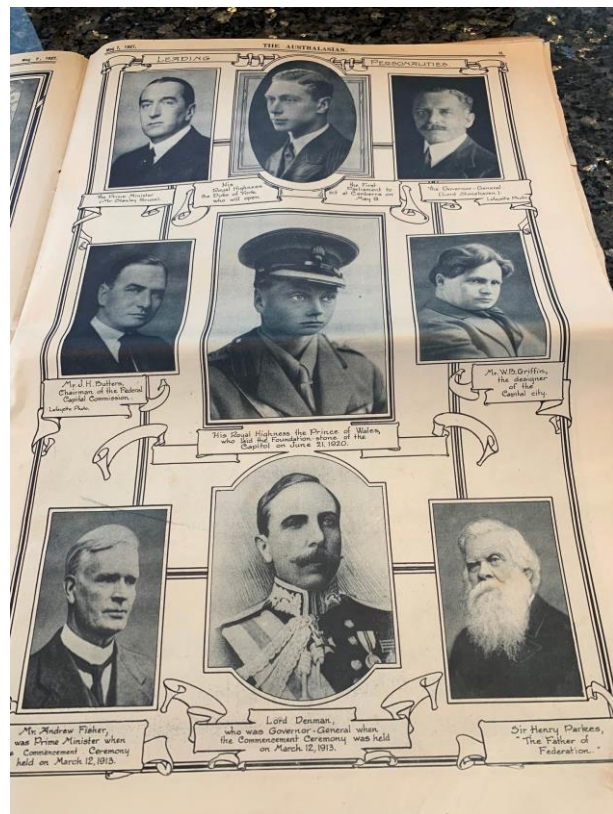
While going through boxes of things given to me by my Aunty many years ago, I found a copy of this newspaper – **The Australasian** dated **May 7, 1927**. It cost 6 pence and is a Canberra Special. In the centre of the paper are some interesting photos.



The photo below is taken at the opening of the First Federal Parliament at the Exhibition Building Melbourne on May 9 1901 by His Majesty the King who was then Duke of Cornwall and York



Laying the foundation stone at Canberra on March 12, 1913.



Leading Personalities.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York opened the First Parliament to sit at Canberra on **May 9 1927**.

### Diary Dates

**Saturday 13th June 2020 – Bunnings BBQ – To be advised!**

A kind word is like a Spring day.

*Russian Proverb*

### **Sister Club News from Amherst, Canada.**

Oena sent Easter wishes to us all. She said Covid 19 has certainly turned their world upside down. They have stricter conditions than we do. The only places open are banks part time, grocery stores and drug stores. She does all she needs to do in one outing a week. They still have cold weather, but their snow has gone. Oena says she has been keeping in touch with people by phone. They are staying healthy, eating too much, and keeping out of mischief.

Glenys said - there has been a terrible mass shooting in Nova Scotia, but she hasn't been in contact with Oena since it happened and she is hopeful it wasn't too close to them.

*Thank you, Glenys Buchanan, for sharing your Sister Club news.*

### **Anzac Day**

This years Anzac Day has been very different to any others we have known. We have all commemorated the bravery and sacrifices made by others for us in our own way. There were dawn services broadcast on the media and thousands of people stood at their homes with candles and torches to show their appreciation.

Jenny, Wayne Cameron and their neighbours attended a street service which Jenny has shared with us.

*Thanks Jenny.*



Anzac Day this year was very different from other years, but in our neighbourhood, it will be one to remember.

A neighbour a few doors away usually takes Anzac Day services at Nursing homes so offered to host an Anzac Day service for the neighbourhood instead.

About 30 people stood outside their homes and joined together for a short service. We were each given a red poppy and a piece of rosemary to lay at our feet instead of a wreath. After the Ode and the Last Post, we had a minutes silence followed by the Reville. To complete the service, we had the New Zealand national anthem and then the Australian National Anthem.

Thanks, Jim, for a service to remember!

Jenny proudly wearing her Dad's medals

*Stay safe, bye for now,*

*Joy*

