

Newsletter #41 9 July 2016

New Editor required

Hello all,

The catalyst for this well-overdue newsletter was a recent phone call from Susanna Price. Susanna and Jack in Exeter had a visit from Dana Breese who has been staying in Wollongong. Between them they came up with the idea of setting a time and a place for a lunch before Dana returned home to Denver, Colorado. For more info about Dana read her contribution below. The date is Sunday 10 July (yes, tomorrow), the time is from noon onwards and the venue is the Surveyor General Inn in the main street of Berrima - think cosy fireplaces and Southern Highlands hospitality. Jenny and I will be driving from Canberra with Muriel as a passenger. Would anyone else like a lift? Who, in Sydney or in Canberra or in nearby NSW would like to join us? Email me or ring me on 6281 7684 or ring Susanna on 4883 6015 if you can make it despite the extremely short notice.

I have only now realised that the last newsletter was dated 17 December. To avoid such a long break I thought I would set a date for Newsletter #42 - let's make it Sunday 4 December - and invite contributions from any and all of you. There's a challenge, send me something to make it a special newsletter to end the year. As brief or as long as you like, about yourself or not, to do with Telopea or not. And I know there are people out there whose working life revolved around publications and editing, some even who have written books - who would like to volunteer to edit it? You don't have to send in applications, no CVs required. I should warn you that the salary is not a large one though.

On a serious note, I have to share the news that three more students from our year have passed away since December.

EDWARD "Ted" COYLE, R103995 R.A.N. of Hervey Bay, Qld. passed away on 24 December 2015 aged 64.

KEITH MUNDY, also 64, was buried at Hall Cemetery on 31 March.

CHRIS HUNTER died on 16 June, aged 67. Chris was one of those Telopeans who left before I arrived, one I never found. After reading a message from Les Binkhorst, a Telopean in the year behind us, in the Canberra Times Guest Book I contacted him. Les told me that Chris was a terrific bloke with a dry sense of humour. [Here](#) is a tribute from Chris' son Kit.

My condolences to you who remember them and miss them, and to their families.

BILL WILLIAMS.

This is an appropriate place and time to pass on this delightful email I received on Thursday night from Bill. A good cause, worth supporting.

To those of you who know me and those who don't... There is a charity fundraising effort called Dry July which asks drunks like me to do something worthwhile for once.

I'm doing this Dry July thing because I can and I need to detox for a while, or forever, but really I'm doing it because I know people who now have or have had cancer. I feel so useless when I hear about their rotten sickness. I'm doing this for them. Will you help me do it as well? All you have to do is hit the link below and slip

a few bob into the box.

Who knows if or when our turn will come?

"Human goodness is a flame that can be hidden but never extinguished." (Nelson Mandela) The smallest donation will keep that flame alight and hopefully many people alive.

Thanks. Bill.

<http://www.dryjuly.com/users/patrick-williams>

CANBERRA SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB COMMUNITY REWARDS.

I've mentioned [this fundraising opportunity](#) before. I have set up [this account](#) for our reunion group. You can either complete the form online or let me know your name and your membership number and I can do it. Then, each time you purchase food or beverages AND you swipe your card 10% will automatically be rebated quarterly. Where we spend it is to be decided later - possibly to activities like Bill's Dry July, possibly the wonderful projects that Bill Andrews is supporting through Rotary. When we have a significant amount I will call for suggestions. I have also set up accounts for the Canberra Bridge Club, the ANU Film Group and Spiral. All are earning between \$1500 - \$2500 per annum.

What is SPIRAL you ask?

Spiral is a group that meets in Curtin for morning tea every Thursday. [This photo album](#) will give you a feel for who we are and what we do. Usually we have a guest speaker, sometimes a musical performance. Recently we had the Canberra Mandolin Orchestra, and before that the Ukulele Republic of Canberra (two of their members are Mr McNab's son-in-law and Ros Woodyer's husband). Sara Brown has been a regular part of Spiral for a while now and a big help, especially when I'm away. John Walsh has helped for many years. There is room for more and I would love to see more Telopeans along. Please pass on news of us to anyone who you think might be interested. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

[ANU Film Group?](#)

Still the best-kept secret film society in the land. As a committee member I know the 85 films which have been selected for semester 2 which runs from July 18 until November 19. You will have to wait a little bit longer while we confirm dates with distributors. You can see [here](#) the 87 films we offered in semester 1. Anyone can join. \$40 will give you access to as many of these films as you wish plus three free guest passes plus free parking nearby plus no adverts plus you can bring grandchildren for free to an unlimited number of kids/ family films. Try before you buy by contacting me.

PAM BURTON + KEN MACKAY

Do you like an old-fashioned love story? Read [here](#) about how these two people reconnected at the 50th reunion of their final year at Telopea. Their last year (1963) was the first year for most of the people in our group. They subsequently married and Ken moved to Canberra after many, many years in the US. I have bumped into them both - most recently at a preview screening of [Secret City](#), a wonderful political thriller set and filmed in Canberra. For those of you like me without Foxtel maybe you would like to see it at the ANUFG where we are screening episodes 1 - 3 on 9 September and episodes 4 - 6 on September 16. It will look amazing on our new digital projector and our huge 8.5 metre screen.

IAN BARNES, CHRISTINE HARRIS AND JANUARY.

It is a long time since we had a lovely get together in Yarralumla with these people. The

following day/ night Jenny and I were lucky to spend with them at Peter Thompson's sheep farm near Boorowa. Some photos [here](#). After Christine arrived home in Verona she found [this article](#) about Canberra in the Guardian.

RICHARD SWAN

Jenny and I are flying to San Francisco on August 8 before driving up the west coast to Seattle then to visit our son who now lives in Toronto. We will be spending a night with Richard and his wife Claudia, another bonus arising out of all this reunion activity. I may catch up with Steve Bisset, and Fred Schodt and his wife Fia although this is the first they will have heard of it (boys, a separate email will follow).

BARRY BALLARD

Barry and his wife Gwen will arrive in Canberra on August 8. They are heading north to avoid some the colder winter weather. If anyone wants to catch up with Barry you will find him via barry@ballard.id.au or on 0411 267 013

STAN BAKKER, ARCHIE VANDERGLAS AND GUENTHER PLOY

John Walsh and I recently caught up with these boys at the [Harmonie German Club](#) here in Canberra where they meet every Friday at 5 pm. Why don't you drop in one of these days?

DANA BREESE

Many of you will not know Dana as she was here for only a short while. Here is something that Dana has contributed which will fill in a gap or two. Meet her tomorrow if you can.

My Telopea High School days were my first Australian experiences. When ANU invited my father to teach for a semester, our family left the 'States and lived in Uni housing in Hughes.

There's a magical moment at dawn when flying into Australia where the haze suddenly shifts to reveal a continent with definition. Deep olive greens meet the tawny cliffs. The surf connects turquoise shallows with the indigo depths of the sea. Australia: a land of unlimited definitions.

In this, my tenth visit here, I am even more aware of the unlimited possibilities and of the adage "the more you know the less you know". Australians share innumerable songlines, each respected for meanings describable, personal and secret. My sojourns here have always renewed my wonderment at the variety of Australians I encounter and the many opportunities for sharing cultural understandings.

My personal songlines involve times spent with family here, in 1966 and the enduring friendships I have with Telopea girlfriends Susanna Price and Bev (Carron) Payne and their families. I also have special friends in the Illawarra where I was a High School exchange teacher, in 1993.

Unlike my early days at Telopea when I was lost in conversations because of diction issues, now I'm often confused and amused by new phrases in your ever evolving language. The more I visit, the more I am aware of subtleties and bits of speech that leave me wondering.

Vast expanses of sky, beautiful land formations and rolling oceans are uniquely Australian.

So is the delicious food... although I think chefs here invent terms especially for their menus(!)

A piece of my heart is always here in Australia.

I will end on a joke that I found particularly relevant and amusing, especially as my two granddaughters drove out of our car park this morning to return to Melbourne:

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor.

She told him she was writing a story.

"What's it about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

I hope this email finds you all happy and healthy and as always I look forward to some news from you. Do try and contribute something for the 4 December newsletter I promised at the start of this one.

Brett

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