

11 January 2012 – newsletter # 19

We'll start by wishing Colin (China) Curran happy birthday for next Thursday. Colin was born on 19 January 1950. I believe that he is the oldest of our group, the first to hit 62. Colin was one of the fantastic chefs at our Manuka Pool barbecue. He and Archie, Phil, Guenther and Bill did a wonderful job.

Kaye Hargreaves, born 29 October 1951, still holds the title of the youngest of our group.

Now I can wish you all happy new year, I hope that 2012 is all that you hope it might be.

News

Facebook

Jan Nelson (Skorich) left Australia in early November and returns on January 22. In that time she has done some work for the EC, her employer in Canberra, and travelled through Belgium, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Serbia, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Netherlands, UK and Ireland. This hasn't stopped her from updating our website - check out the latest story from [Valda](#), the miracle of the reunion.

Jan has also been updating our presence on Facebook. I'm not a Facebooker but some of you are. Here is a message re Facebook from Jan:

"Join our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/groups/206057272767189/> for regular updates on your classmates, and to stay in touch. Each day I will be highlighting a story so there will be something new regularly."

Lunch in Sydney on Saturday 14 January.

Organised by Dinah Clark (thank you Dinah).

This has been arranged to coincide with Christine Harris' visit from Verona in Italy where she teaches English to medical students. As well as Christine and Dinah, I will be there with Judy Smith and Terry Woollcott from Canberra. Deborah Macfarlane from Melbourne will also be there and others expected are Elizabeth Martin, Roger Brown, Ian Cook, Simon Downie, Ian Kerr, Kate Strachan, Susanna Price, Jane Rose plus some partners. There are a few more maybes. It is not too late for you to decide to come. You can just turn up but if you would like to let Dinah or me know that would be lovely.

Details from Dinah:

"Just a reminder about our lunch next Saturday from 12 noon at the Village Courtyard Cafe.

The cafe is in a courtyard bounded by Neridah St, Albert Ave and Oscar St where there are parking meters. Free 3 hour parking is a block away in Chatswood Chase shopping centre. If parking there, look for Neridah St which goes south and uphill from Victoria Ave. At the top of the block you will see a sandwich board with the sign, Village Courtyard Cafe. It is located up a flight of steps.

If coming by rail, exit the station on the eastern side (follow the crowds) Walk downhill through the plaza, down Victoria Ave until you come to Neridah St. Turn right, cross the road and walk uphill until you see the sandwich board.

If you have any difficulties please ring me on 0402 091 951.

Remember it is BYO wine and payment will be made when ordering.

Looking forward to seeing you all and whomever else you would like to bring.

Cheers, Dinah"

Lunch in Melbourne on Saturday 11 February.

Organised by Valda Krastins and Barry Ballard (thank you to you both).

Message from Valda:

"Thanks to Barry's active membership of the RACV Club, he has made a reservation in the Club's Bistro for our next Victorian chapter lunch on Saturday 11th February at 12.30 pm. The Club's food and drinks menus are attached.

The RACV Club is located at 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Following on from your positive feedback about the format of our November lunch, Barry has organised for us to be seated at tables of six.

And now, to our challenge

Given the collective brain power that will be assembled at the RACV Club on the 11th, it will be an easy challenge for our team to accommodate the Club's policy not to split bills and have one bill per table. Our first task on Saturday 11th will be for each table to elect a Telopea68 Table Captain to take responsibility for the table's bill at the end of the lunch. Forewarned is

forearmed, so please bring along enough cash to help facilitate payment. Your Table Captain will greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Barry will provide us with details of the Visitor sign in process closer to the date of our lunch.

Kindly let Barry and I know your acceptances by Wednesday 8th February together with any dietary requirements."

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Thirteen Telopeans plus some partners attended the last one. All are welcome but it would be handy to know who is coming. Please RSVP if you are a likely participant to me or Barry (barry@ballard.id.au or 0411 267 013) or Valda (vlavoipierre@optusnet.com.au or 0403 197 035).

Canberra news.

The [ANU film group](#) resumes on Monday 13 February. Check out the program, not yet finalised but lots of great films. If you are interested or want to know more, ring me. I have some guest passes - if you would like to try us out before you join contact me.

The [National Folk Festival](#) is on again at Easter, April 5 - 9. Possibly the strongest line up ever. See you there?

[Ralph McTell](#) is at the Southern Cross Club on 26 April. I first saw him in Cambridge in 1972. One of the best performers in the world. Anyone interested in joining me at a table there?

Debrief of the reunion/ planning for the future.

Still scheduled for my place at 10.00am on Saturday 4 February. All welcome.

Finally, something about our bush capital that may (or maybe not) surprise you non Canberrans. I read recently that there were 408 car accidents in the ACT involving kangaroos in 2010. I don't know why the figures were for 2010 and I haven't seen what it was like in 2011. A dangerous but lovely place to live (and visit).

Warm wishes,

Brett