

1 February 2012 – newsletter #21

I will start today's newsletter with a report from Sara Brown, writing about Ann Parish's Remembrance Ceremony.

"I attended the Remembrance Ceremony for Ann Griffith (nee Parish) today. The ceremony was led by Michael Griffith, Ann's brother-in-law. He started by saying that Terry, Ann's husband, disliked the recent trend to hold a 'Celebrate the Life of ...' ceremony after the death of someone as he was in no mood to celebrate and felt mightily pissed-off that Ann was taken from him just at the point when a couple should be enjoying a retired life and the fruits of their past labours. That comment eased the atmosphere and got a laugh.

The next speaker was Phil Hayes, a family friend and workmate, from the Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics (now Australian Bureau of Statistics), back in the 1960's. He talked about how Ann and Terry had met at work and he outlined their life together.

Following Phil was a recording from David Griffith, Ann and Terry's only child. If this didn't open the tear ducts nothing would. A wonderful dialogue from a wonderful young man who thought the world of his mother, and vice versa.

The next speaker, according to the Order of Service, was to be Terry. What an incredibly hard role to play, so Terry's writings were read by Michael. By now tissues were necessary.

The next part of the service was a visual presentation of Ann's life - from small girl to the latest photos of her wearing a head-scarf as a result of hair loss during treatment. Included were photos from Telopea. The Telopea reunion was mentioned in what Terry wrote. The web-site was also mentioned as a way of connecting to that part of Ann's life and her contribution to the site.

The service ended with 'Forever Autumn' by The Moody Blues.

Phil McAppion and his wife were also there, as well as Chris and Jim Knox (Colin's brother) who had come from Narooma.

Sara York (nee Brown)"

2. Melbourne Chapter.

The second Melbourne lunch is commencing at 12.30 on Saturday 11 February at the RACV Club in Bourke Street in the city. At the moment we have 12 Telopeans and 5 partners but there is still time and room for you to join us. For more details you can contact me or Barry (0411 267 013) or Valda (0403 197 035).

Barry has asked for final numbers to be in by this Sunday (5 February).

Menu and wine list attached.

3. Sydney Chapter.

A successful launch in Chatswood attended by [13 Teloceans](#) on Saturday 14 January. The back row is Sara Brown, Deborah Macfarlane, Simon Downie and Ian Kerr. In the middle you see Elizabeth Martin, Christine Harris, Kate Cottingham, Dinah Clark and Susanna Price. At the front Brett Yeats, Terry Woollcott and Judy Smith. Roger Brown came but had to leave before the photo was taken. Also there were Simon and Susanna's spouses plus Elizabeth's sister. Thanks to Dinah for organising this one. Further get togethers are planned, I'll let you know when and where later.

4. Reunion debrief.

It is now over three months since we gathered in Canberra in October. Plenty of time to remember and reminisce, to think about what we will do in the future, when we will have our next reunion, and what we will keep and what we will change. Saturday at 10.00 am at 9/ 127 Hopetoun Circuit, Yarralumla is where and when this will happen.

All welcome, and ideas in writing invited if you have something to say and can't come. Please let me know if you're coming.

5. Book launch.

Moira Scollay has written a book *Lalor: The Peter Lalor Home Building Co-Operative*. It is being launched in South Morang, Melbourne at 3.00 pm on Thursday 16 February. Attached is a flyer with details about the book and an invitation to the launch. Please let me know if you are interested.

6. Ralph McTell at the Southern Cross Club, Woden on Thursday 26 April.

Last chance to join Jennifer and I, Ian and Monique Kerr and Moira Scollay for dinner and the show. Price \$82.

7. ANU Film Group.

www.anufg.org.au

The [Semester 1 program](#) is out now and what a terrific list it is. You don't need any connection with the ANU to join. Any questions, contact me.

8. Lastly, Jan is still keen to get a Facebook group going. We have tried a blog and a guest book on the website to facilitate messages from any of you to the group directly instead of via my newsletters but with little success. I'm not a Facebook person but many are. If you are, please visit [this page](#) and become a member. And write a post!

All for now, Brett