

January 2013 – newsletter no 28

2013 - Centenary of Canberra.

There's no better time to visit Canberra than in its Centenary year which celebrates 100 years since the foundation stones were laid for the nation's capital.

So much on.

<http://www.visitcanberra.com.au/c100/>

Come and see how Canberra has changed.

Not a lot to report this time. Some news and some updates on previous news.

1. Merrin Howe (Van Dartel).

Most important item first.

I've received this request from Merrin, asking if anyone can find some employment for her son, Tim.

"Hi Brett,

I was wanting to know if you could do us a huge favour? I know how many people you can reach through the Telopea Newsletter and was wondering if you could include the attached info in the next newsletter about our youngest son Tim Van Dartel needing a job? Tim is badly in need of a job. There is nothing up here so he thought he'd try Canberra or even somewhere else. We would be extremely grateful. Thanks so much if you can- Merrin Van Dartel (nee Howe)."

Please read the attachment to get a picture of who Tim is and what he has been through. He deserves some good luck.

If you can help, or if you would like to know more, please phone Merrin on 02 66589754 or 0439 802 3587 or e-mail her at vandartel@hotmail.net.au.

2. Stan Bakker/ Lynnne and Annie Trevillian.

Stan forwarded me [this news item](#) about the Trevillians. I'm sure many of you will remember them from Telopea, they were two years behind us.

Do click on the link for this fascinating story about Australia, about Lynnne's 39 years running the Pink Roadhouse in Oodnadatta and her sad reasons for selling. This story was front page news in the Canberra Times and the SMH. It also made the Age. There is an interesting video to watch as well.

[The Pink Roadhouse Facebook](#) page is also worth a visit. Lots of good images there.

Annie's story as a leading textile artist in Canberra is also worth looking at - here is [one link](#) from many available via Google.

3. Robert Somosi.

In the last newsletter I gave you the wrong information about Robert's December visit to the Old Bus Depot Markets at Kingston. Many of us know that the OBDM happens on a Sunday. At Christmas it happens on the Sunday and the Saturday. Robert was only there on the Saturday and I missed him (my fault not his). I hope nobody else was inconvenienced.

Robert tells me that he is there on the first Sunday of each month. So, we've missed February but the next trip is on Sunday 3 March. Call in and say hello.

4. Tibet/ Christine Harris.



We do have some interested parties out there but not enough commitment as yet to go ahead with the Tibet trip this year. Please let me know if you have any interest. Some have indicated that this year is difficult but perhaps 2014 might be different. Christine certainly impressed me with her knowledge and passion for Tibet and I'm sure it will be a memorable trip if we do manage to make it happen.

Christine met a number of people here in Canberra and saw how much it has changed since she was last here in 1970. She and I were treated to a private tour of the inner sanctums (does anyone want me to change that to sancta?) of Parliament House and its gardens by one of the most experienced gardeners up there. See the attached image. She also visited Peter Thompson and Morna (see the other image -

the picture in the background is a Peter Harris original). Christine walked around the lake (the two bridges) and cycled on the bike path. I think it is fair to say that she enjoyed her visit and was impressed at how the nation's capital has progressed since we were at school.

5. Peter Thompson.



I'm still talking to Peter Thompson about a working visit to his farm but other things are getting in the way. To whet your appetite here is a link to some photos I took when I was there last year:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/100602502712520380066/VisitToPeteSFarm>

Again, please let me know if you would like to help in the bird habitat project.

6. [The 2013 Australian Women's Open](#) is on at Royal Canberra Golf Club this week.

This is the biggest women's golf tournament in the southern hemisphere this year! Possibly the best field ever assembled in Australia.

Over 400 volunteers are involved in the tournament including Jenny and me. There is still room for you if you want to be a part - hole marshalls are urgently required for Thursday and Friday this week. If you would like to help please contact Nikki Brown on 0407 585 539 or nikki@royalcanberra.com.au . I was driving golfers from the airport to their hotels and to the course on Monday. I'm a walker/ scorer on

Thursday and Friday, then in the Media Centre on Saturday and the Scorer's Hut on Sunday.

If you would like to spectate, as a RCGC member I can buy tickets for friends at \$14 per day or \$40 for the full four days. Let me know if you want any.

7. ANUFG

I'm going to remind you again of the very special ANU Film Group which resumes this week.

Membership is \$70 for a full year (and you get six guest passes for friends) or \$40 for a semester (and three guest passes). No extra to pay per film.

Website:

www.anufg.org.au

Program for Semester 1:

Here: <http://www.anufg.org.au/programme#programme-now>

and here: http://www.anufg.org.au/docs/ANUFG_2013_Sem1_Programme.pdf

Contact me and you can be my guest for a free sample screening.

8. 2013 National Folk Festival.

I will again be one of the over 1100 volunteers at the NFF this Easter. I always see a number of Telopeans there and will look for you as usual. This looks like being one of the best ever.

Here is the website:

<http://www.folkfestival.org.au/>

And here is a list of the performers:

<http://www.folkfestival.org.au/2013-performers>

Some really special ones - Paul Brady, Chris Smither, London Klezmer Quartet, Finbar Furey, Frencham Smith, James Keelahan are people I've seen and have at home on CDs. I also have CDs of Seth Lakeman, Andy Irvine, and Michael Kennedy. I'll definitely be looking for SANS and if you click on the video on the home page you can hear Briege Murphy doing a wonderful song and sounding eerily like Loreena McKennitt.

And here is the program:

http://www.folkfestival.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/2013_Grid_FinalV3_web.doc.pdf

11 different venues, some starting at 8.30 am, some ending at 2.00 am.

Still volunteer positions available.

9. Me (and Jennifer).

In the last newsletter I told you that we were off to NZ for three weeks in January to visit our son who has moved to marry an Auckland girl. We had a terrific time there and luckily avoided that heatwave. We walked the beautiful Queen Charlotte Track and can thoroughly recommend it to those of you who like this sort of thing. 60 images, mostly captioned, are here for the curious:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/100602502712520380066/NZ2013#>

10. Paul Kelly.

Maybe I shouldn't do this but here we go anyway. On the plane to NZ I watched *Stories Of Me*, a filmed biography of Paul Kelly. And then I watched it again on the way back. Here is a [trailer for the film](#). Wonderful experience - you will/ might bounce along and laugh ... and cry. But I'm a huge fan, one of those tragics who went to all four consecutive nights for his A - Z tour last year. I was given [How To Make Gravy](#), his "Mongrel Memoir" for Christmas 2011 and loved that too.

That's enough for now.

It's been terrific hearing from you before/ at/ after Christmas. Thank you to those who sent Christmas cards. A confession - I didn't send any! Please stay in touch, I hope this reunion can continue to grow in 2013.

Best wishes,

Brett

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