

Cat's Eye Weekly

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THE LOST DIGGERS

FULLY REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION OF THE BESTSELLER

Ross Coulthart

Award-winning author of Charles Bean



Any excuse for stirring up the universe

Edited by
Graham Price

Once was weekly now highly irregular in more ways than one

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The editor's desk

It is a book that every human being should read at least once in a lifetime, and then perhaps more so. *Man's Search For Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl is the story of one who survived among the many millions who died in the Nazi concentration camps. It brings up images of recent times — the Russian death camps in the Gulag Archipelago; the re-education and murderous camps of China's Mao Tse Sung [Mao Zedong]; the genocide of Cambodian people during 1975-1979 with approximately 24% of the population murdered, and the Bosnian war crimes of 1992-1995 when up to 30,000 civilians were torn from their land with the ethnic cleansing of Muslims and Croats forced upon them by rape, torture, and murder.

What Frankl's long experience in the holocaust camps of Europe reveals about human nature is that there are certain people who are compassionate and certain others who are entirely evil. And there are many of them in today's society.

Mans Search for Meaning pp 69-70: "It must be stated that even among the guards there were some who took pity on us. . . This man [a camp commander] had paid no small sum of money from his own pocket in order to purchase medicines for his prisoners from the nearest market town." But then "The senior camp warden, a prisoner himself, was harder than any of the SS guards. He beat the other prisoners at every slightest opportunity." Two men almost diabolically opposed in nature. "A foreman secretly gave me a piece of bread which I knew he must have saved from his breakfast ration. . . Life in a concentration camp tore open the human soul and exposed its depths."

"From all of this we may learn that there are two races of men in this world, but only these two — the 'race' of a decent man and the 'race' of the indecent man. Both are found everywhere they penetrate into all groups of society. No group consists entirely of decent or indecent people. In this sense, no group is of 'pure race' — and therefore one occasionally found a decent fellow among the camp guards."

And so you have the terror bomber, the wife beater and controller, the hater and rapist often leading on to murder. The psychology of a concentration camp, where humans are in close association, is easily expanded to a town or a city's social environment today — and all the nature of that concentration camp back in the 1940s in Europe is present world wide in 2019. •

Not to know what took place before you were born is
to remain forever a child.
Cicero 106 BC—43 BC

Feedback to Cat's Eye Weekly
is always welcome.
Click onto my purrfect nose!





Majority of happiness books don't work

This is probably the last piece of information that you wish to read, but here it is: Happiness cannot be pursued. It is impossible to find happiness by looking for it, or in seeking the 'cherished' rainbow of your dreams. Don't go searching for happiness, because you won't find it — deliberately looking for happiness with other people is not the answer, neither is seeking it with inanimate objects such as houses, cars, jewellery etc. You will receive a certain rush for a short time by having these objects, but soon that rush will deflate like a punctured balloon.

There is a disease centred upon humankind's search for happiness which has become almost pathological, and it is caused mainly by people thinking about themselves most of the time. If asked what they want out of life, the majority of people would state that they wished to be happy, which means that the majority of people are unhappy most of the time.

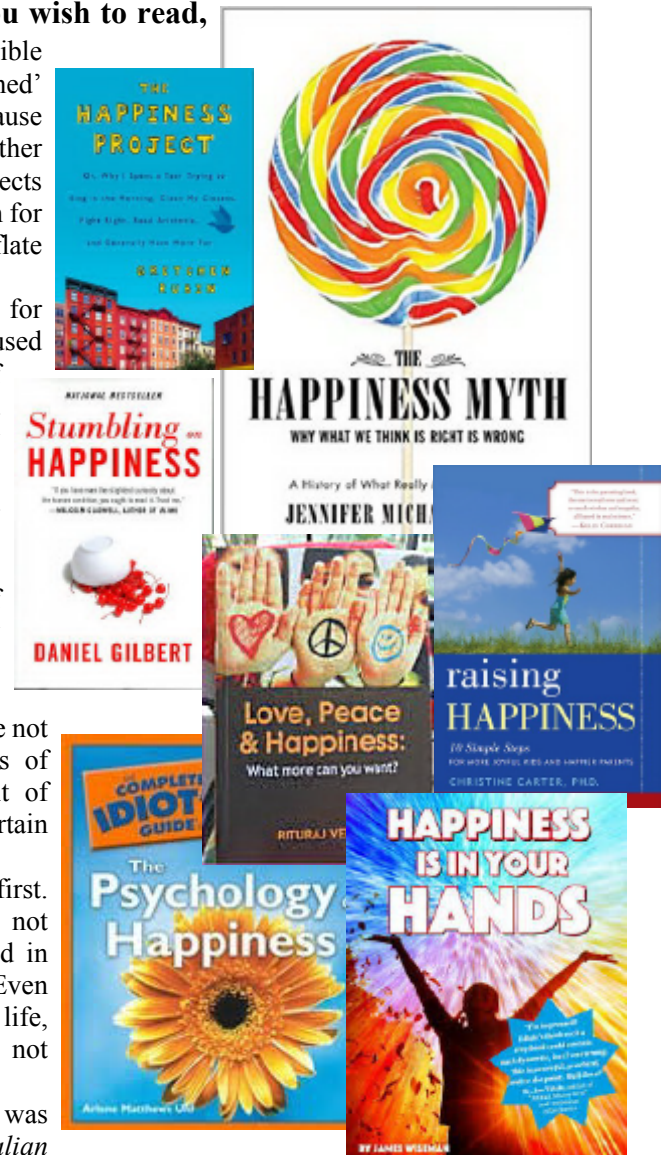
Life brings up problems, which if mishandled often lead to anxiety and depression. Matthew Jones, a contributor to Inc.com concludes that unhappy people make the self-help publishing industry a lot of money. It is in the interest of publishers that you remain unhappy, time and again, as you buy and consume their products. Many people are unhappy because they won't accept themselves as they are. Accepting your looks, your height, your skin colour or anything about your body you are not content with, will go a long way into removing these bouts of unhappiness that assail you. Happiness is a secondary result of acceptance, it is not a primary source. It is an after-effect of certain deliberations or actions that take place in your life.

Get yourself out of the way. Think of other people first. Contribute to a social need — join a movement (preferably not political) that will enable you to mix with others of like mind in helping the disabled, the lonely, the poor and the disadvantaged. Even helping out with animal shelters will bring to you a meaning in life, which will result in "happiness". This is achievement. It is not happiness-seeking.

The Canadian psychologist Jordan Peterson, who was recently in Australia on a lecture tour, wrote in *The Australian* February 25th: **"There is no discussion of happiness as the goal of life. Happiness, welcome as it is, is a side-effect, an unexpected benefit, a bit of the grace of God. If it comes your way, open your arms to it, embrace it and enjoy it. But it won't last. What we all need instead of happiness is meaning — the kind of meaning that will sustain each of us through the suffering that life entails, so that we can endure the self-betrayal and the dissolution of our intimate relationships through death and distance and the illness and ageing and disappointment and death that await all of just, and unjust alike."**

Accept that life is sometimes pain, and life is also at times suffering. Sometimes heavy burdens seem impossible to bear, but that is life and no one is exempt from it. If burdens were light there would be no growth in character. And while admitting that he is as ignorant, biased, malevolent in potential and spirit as any of us may be, Peterson further affirms that: **"The sustaining meaning in life is to be found in the responsibility of life, the load we voluntarily decide to bear. . . We must take care of ourselves, as individuals, in a manner that makes us better for our families and sets the community right, such that the ship of state does not list too far right or left."** •

"To the European, it is a characteristic of the American culture that, again and again, one is commanded and ordered to 'be happy'. But happiness cannot be pursued; it must ensue. One must have a reason to 'be happy'. Once the reason is found, however, one becomes happy automatically. As we see a human being is not one in pursuit of happiness but rather in search of a reason to become happy." Dr. Viktor Frankl 1983 •





Hope rises in spite of the evil that humankind chooses

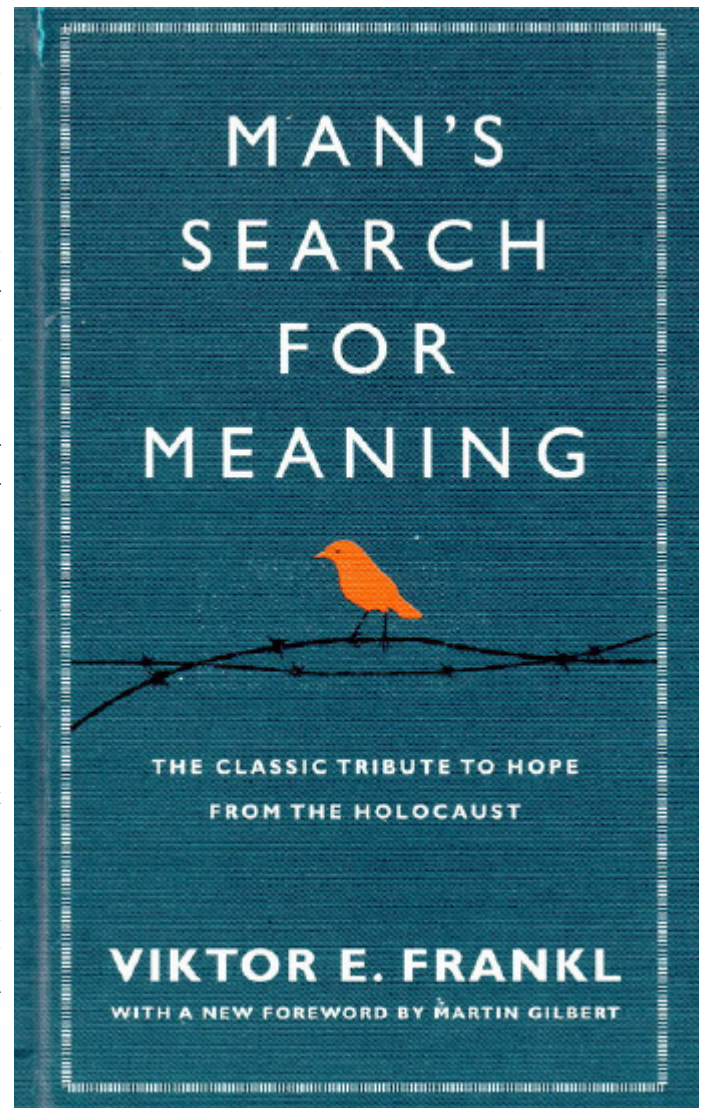
It is the most read of all books about the Holocaust during World War II. It is not written by an investigative journalist or historian — it is written by a hands-on psychiatrist who became an inmate of the horrendous extermination camp at Auschwitz and others, simply because he was of Jewish faith.

Viktor Frankl was thirty-seven years old when they came for him at his home in Vienna on the 24th of September 1942. With him was his wife Tilly. They had only been married in 1941 so there was no child yet born, which is probably a blessing, as a child so young would not have survived in the Nazi concentration camps. Lack of food for the mother would have resulted in lack of nutritious milk for the baby in conditions that were deliberately meant to be starvation diets. If you died of starvation that was one less person for the SS troops to consider. One simply became a number on a piece of paper and the body was burned in the hastily built crematorium with others who were gassed.

As well, the round-up of Jewish persons in Austria claimed Viktor's parents Elsa and Gabriel. All four were initially transported to the concentration camp at Theresienstadt, where his father would die of starvation. The family had been split up and in 1944 Viktor was sent to Auschwitz — his wife Tilly had died in the Belsen concentration camp and his mother in Auschwitz. The only person of his close family to survive — apart from himself — was his sister who had emigrated to Australia before the war. Many Jewish people had this option, but at the time it was considered that the Nazi party had neither the power or the

opportunity to seize and jail almost every Jew in Europe. But that is what happened to almost every man, women and child of Jewish faith. The rush with which the Nazi party came into power in Germany was as unstoppable as the earlier horde of Huns who had overpowered the citizens of Rome. And the joy and encouragement of Germans not of Jewish faith for that new ruling party was immense. At long last the man named Adolf Hitler was their saviour — their saviour of administration because the trains ran on time, their saviour of new building projects, their saviour of rebuilding armament works — new battleships, new panzer tank divisions and restoring the Luftwaffe. They built passenger aircraft that could be turned into bombers at short notice — yes indeed, he was their saviour for making Germany great again after the humiliation of capitulation during November 1918.

Viktor Frankl had put into practice his psychological skills whilst in the concentration camps — at first in Theresienstadt where he set up a programme to help prevent depression and suicides. From there he was moved to Auschwitz for three years, then to Kaufering in Bavaria suffering cruel labouring hardship for five months prior to be sent to Turkheim (Dachau). Soon it would seem like a miracle had occurred — after four years of living hell in concentration camps, on the 27th of April 1945 American soldiers liberated the Turkheim concentration camp at Dachau. But wherever he had been sent, Viktor used his therapeutic skills to help prevent depression among the inmates.





Man's Search for Meaning p71: "With tired steps we prisoners dragged ourselves to the camp gates. Timidly we looked around and glanced at each other questioningly. Then we ventured a few steps out of camp. This time no orders were shouted at us, nor was there any need to duck quickly to avoid a blow or kick. Oh no. This time the guards offered us cigarettes! We hardly recognized them at first; they had hurriedly changed into civilian clothes. . . 'Freedom' we repeated to ourselves, and yet we could not grasp it. We had said this word so often during all the years we dreamed about it, that it had lost its meaning. Its reality did not penetrate into our consciousness; we could not grasp the fact that freedom was ours.

"We came to meadows full of flowers. We saw and realised that they were there, but we had no feelings about them. The first spark of joy came when we saw a rooster with a tail of multicoloured feathers. But it remained only a spark; we did not yet belong to this world. In the evening when we all met again in our hut, one said secretly to the other, 'Tell me, were you pleased today?' And the other replied, feeling ashamed as he did not know that we all felt similarly, 'Truthfully, no!' We had literally lost the ability to feel pleased and had to relearn it slowly."

They were like scarecrows that had been frozen in time and locked into a prison from which there would never be any escape. Their minds had been re-programmed to expect the worst, even though the worst in the form of beatings had already been inflicted upon them as well as starvation diets, and the next step as they knew very well, was one of extermination. Body and mind would no longer exist, even though perhaps the soul might. That was the only hope they frantically clung to.

Man's Search for Meaning pp70-71: "Psychologically, what was happening to the liberated prisoners could be called 'depersonalization'. Everything appeared unreal, unlikely, as in a dream. We could not believe it was true. How often in the past years had we been deceived by dreams! We dreamt that the day of liberation had come, that we had been set free, had returned home, greeted our friends, embraced our wives, sat down at the table and started to tell of all the things we had gone through — even of how we had often seen the day of liberation in our dreams. And then — a whistle shrilled in our ears, the signal to get up, and our dreams of freedom came to an end. And now the dream had come true. But could we truly believe in it?"

A disillusioned people slowly emerged and made their way back into society. Their fate so far had been cruel — they had watched helpless as their friends and relatives were put to the gas chambers and cremated. In spite of all this horror and humiliation many of them looked towards the future with hope. They had retained their faith, and Viktor Frankl was one who had spread this hope among numerous prisoners. That he survived himself, is a miracle. That he picked himself up after numerous attempts to discredit him, abuse him, and almost work him to death in various concentration camps, is perhaps more than a miracle. He further writes: *Man's Search for Meaning* p29: "In spite of all the enforced physical and mental primitiveness of the life in a concentration camp, it was possible for spiritual life to deepen. Sensitive people who were used to a rich intellectual life may have suffered much pain (they were often of a delicate constitution) but the damage to their inner selves was less. They were able to retreat from their terrible surroundings to a life of inner riches and

One of the outstanding classics to emerge from the Holocaust, *Man's Search for Meaning* is Viktor Frankl's story of his struggle for survival in Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration camps. Today, this remarkable tribute to hope offers us an avenue to finding greater meaning and purpose in our lives.



Viktor Frankl with Pope Paul VI in Rome 1970. During the war 1939-1945. Pope Paul's predecessor, Pope Pius II, was exceedingly slow to condemn the Nazi's for their treatment and extermination of the Jews throughout Europe.



spiritual freedom. Only in this way can one explain the apparent paradox that some prisoners of less hardy make-up often seemed to survive camp life better than did those of a robust nature.”

On his last day in the concentration camp, Viktor Frankl writes of the prisoners being transferred to other Nazi controlled camps. Orders had been given to set the camp on fire, thus removing all indications of terror and abuse. The end was near. He, with one other man, had been given an order to bury three men outside the barbed wire fence. They were the only two who remained strong enough to carry out this order and they began to imagine how they might escape after carrying out the burials. It turned out that escape was not necessary because after the burials an aluminium-coloured car, upon which were painted very large red crosses, rolled through the gates and onto the parade ground. The *International Red Cross* had arrived and now the camp was under its protection. There was some return of the camp guards and the SS with trucks, but several hours later the camp was totally liberated by allied forces.



Viktor Frankl in 1994

***Mans Search for Meaning* pp 62-63: “These tasks, and therefore the meaning of life, differ from man to man, and from moment to moment. Thus it is impossible to define the meaning of life in a general way. Questions about the meaning of life can never be answered by sweeping statements. ‘Life’ does not mean something vague, but something very real and concrete, just as life’s tasks are also very real and concrete. They form man’s* destiny, which is different and unique for each individual. No man and no destiny can be compared with any other man or any other destiny. No situation repeats itself, and each situation calls for a different response. . . When a man finds that it is his destiny to suffer, he will have to accept his suffering as his task; his single and unique task. He will have to acknowledge the fact that even in suffering he is unique and alone in the universe. No one can relieve him of his suffering or suffer in his place. His unique opportunity lies in the way in which he bears his burden. . . . There was plenty of suffering for us to get through. Therefore, it was necessary to face up to the full amount of suffering, trying to keep moments of weakness and furtive tears to a minimum. But there was no need to be ashamed of tears, for tears bore witness that a man had the greatest of courage, the courage to suffer. Only very few realized that. Shamefacedly some confessed occasionally that they had wept, like the comrade who answered my question of how he had gotten over his oedema [fluid collecting in cavities of the body] by confessing, ‘I have wept it out of my system.’ ”**

There is always hope — there is always a way through the myriad of tunnels and masks that humankind persists in employing for excitement, for control, for power, and for greed, which often ends in a euphoric mind-set of an ideology sprung out of blind hate.

At the rear of this later edition of *Man’s Search for Meaning*, there are letters and speeches by Viktor Frankl. There is one speech he made in 1988 which calls on people not to indulge in collective guilt, which sadly enough, is occurring throughout the world at this time.

“I hope for your understanding when I ask you in this hour of remembrance to join me in thinking of my father — he perished in the Theresienstadt camp; my brother — he died in Auschwitz, and my first wife — she lost her life in Bergen-Belsen. And yet I must ask you to expect no words of hatred for me. . . I refuse to call people collectively guilty. There is no collective guilt, it does not exist, and I say this not only today, but I’ve said so from day one when I was liberated from my last concentration camp — and at that time it was definitely not a way to make oneself popular to dare publicly to oppose the idea of collective guilt.

“Guilt can in any case only be personal guilt — the guilt for something I myself have done — or failed to do! But I cannot be guilty of something that other people have done, even if it is my parents or grandparents.”

This statement from Viktor Frankl finds an association with Dr. Paul Tournier’s research in *Guilt and Grace: A psychological study*. Tournier points out that there is a false collective guilt resulting from the suggestions of educators and society. Today, we may recognise this as resulting in numerous activist groups which play on the guilt feelings of the individual. This then is false guilt. It is dangerous simply because it steers an individual’s mind away from analysing what he or she really is, and what feelings and emotions are exposed to this so-called collective society.



Guilt and Grace p78: “See how the philosophy and literature of our day are burdened with bad conscience. Novels, essays, plays, films all deal with the problem of guilt—formal guilt and the impossibility of determining who is really guilty, and the deep-seated guilt, diffused and poignant, the guilt of being alive and the revolt which it induces.”

Viktor Frankl has the last word: “In reality there are only two races, namely the ‘race’ of decent people and the ‘race’ of people who are not decent.” •

*Wherever the world man or man’s appears in the text, today it is totally recognized as being “humankind”.

Man’s Search for Meaning Random House hardback re-printed 2011 \$AUD24.99 at Dymocks, paperback reprinted 2008, 160 pages at Dymocks \$AUD16.99. Booktopia paperback \$AUD14.50—\$AUD15.90, plus postage.

Selections from: An afterword to *Man’s Search for Meaning* By William J Winslade Ph.D., J.D.

(James Wade Rockwell Professor of Medicine at the Institute for Medical Humanities, University of Texas)

“In Frankl’s first counseling job, he worked with troubled youths. From 1930 to 1938 he worked as a psychiatrist at the University Clinic in Vienna, caring for suicidal and dying patients. He sought to help his patients find a way to make their lives meaningful even in the face of impending death. By 1937 he was head of the department of neurology at Rothschild Hospital, the only Jewish hospital in Vienna, and had begun a private practice in psychiatry. . .

“It is important to note that Frankl’s imprisonment was not the only impetus for *Man’s Search for Meaning*. Before his deportation, he had already begun to formulate an argument that the quest for meaning is the key to mental health and human flourishing. As a prisoner, he was suddenly forced to assess whether his own life still had any meaning. . . Frankl drew constantly upon uniquely human capacities such as inborn optimism, humour, psychological detachment, brief moments of solitude, inner freedom, and a steely resolve not to give up or commit suicide. He realized that he must try to live for the future, and he drew strength from loving thoughts of his wife and his deep desire to finish his book on logotherapy. He also found meaning in glimpses of beauty in nature and art. Most important, he realized that, no matter what happened, he retained the freedom to choose how to respond to his suffering. . .

“Even when confronted by loss and sadness, Frankl’s optimism, his constant affirmation of an exuberance about life, led him to insist that hope and positive energy can turn challenges into triumphs. In *Man’s Search for Meaning*, he hastens to add that suffering is not *necessary* to find meaning, only that ‘meaning is possible in spite of suffering.’ . .

“Frankl is credited with establishing logotherapy as a psychiatric technique that uses existential analysis to help patients resolve their emotional conflicts. He stimulated many therapists to look beyond patients’ past or present problems to help them choose productive futures by making personal choices and taking responsibility for them. . . His goal was to provoke people into realizing that they could and should exercise their capacity for choice to achieve their own goals. . . Frankl was once asked to express in one sentence the meaning of his own life. He wrote the response on paper and asked his students to guess what he had written. After some moments of quiet reflection, a student surprised Frankl by saying, ‘The meaning of your life is to help others find the meaning of theirs.’

“‘That was it, exactly,’ Frankl said. ‘Those are the very words I had written.’ •

Books by Winslade:

- *Insanity Plea* by William J. Winslade, Judith W. Ross
- *Confronting Traumatic Brain Injury: Devastation, Hope and Healing* by William J. Winslade, James S. Brady (Foreword by)
- *Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine* by Albert R. Jonsen, William J. Winslade, Mark Siegler
- *Choosing Life or Death: A Guide for Patients, Families, and Professionals* by William J. Winslade, Judith W. Ross
- *Clinical Ethics* by Albert R. Jonsen, William J. Winslade, Mark Siegler

Articles:

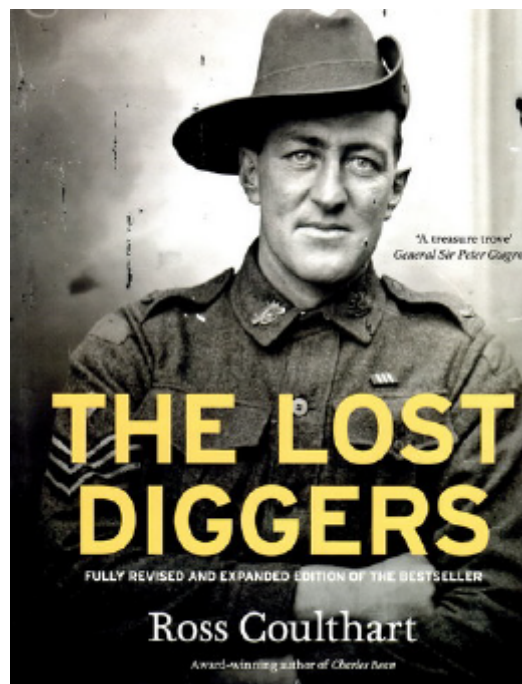
- "Confidentiality" in *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*, Stephen G. Post (ed.).



The Lost Diggers

It's turned out to be a best seller. *The Lost Diggers* by Ross Coulthart is the story of a magnificent horde of glass photographic plates that were taken during World War One and then lost. Who knew that this vast collection of photographic marvels was residing in a French farm building for almost 100 years? No one, it seems. That is, until some nosey journalists went looking. It seems the several thousand plates had been rescued from a tip bin and placed in the attic of a farmhouse where they were forgotten.

The glass plate photographs were initiated by a couple — Louis and Antoinette Thuillier, in Vignacourt, France. Ross Coulthart writes in his prologue to the book: "I am stumbling up an ancient spiral wooden staircase on the last leg of what has been an intriguing historical detective story. Each step takes my Australian colleagues and me further back in history, through the detritus of a family home reaching back across generations. The wobbly and uneven steps are layered with dust, and I have to steady myself against the crumbling plaster and brick walls. . . The attic is a long, dusty oak-floored room. Although I am wrapped against the bitter cold of a French winter, the biting chill still penetrates in the eaves and walls. We move aside old leather suitcases, saw blades and bottles, a stack of empty salvaged World War II American jerry cans; in on corner is a perfectly preserved, elegant, nineteenth-century baby's carriage with painted cast-iron wheels. Above our heads, the knots of an old tree limbs can be seen in the hand-chiselled oak beams holding up the heavy tiled roof. . . We are all mute with anticipation. It scarcely seems possible that this run-down attic could be — after months of searching — the place where a treasure trove of extraordinary World War I photographs has lain hidden for nearly a century. Then, under the light of an attic window, we see three old chests."



*Hardened infantrymen, but who they are is still a mystery.
Plate 228 page 251.*



Driver George Gibson Grose's grave — hand-carved by his brother. The soldier standing is wearing the badge of the British Labour Corps.



Dubbed "The sad young digger," he appears three times in the collection, and after much detective work by Coulthart, he was identified as signaller Private Horace Arnold Parton, a 23-year-old accountant from Melbourne.



A British soldier of the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons.



The battered chests in which the glass plates were stored. (Photo courtesy Brendan Harvey)

***The Lost Diggers* by Ross Coulthart. Harper-Collins large paperback 400 pages. RRP \$AUD30.99 Dymocks, shipping 3 days \$AUD6.99. Booktopia \$AUD30.95 plus postage.**

"These stunning black and white photographs stand a mute, yet eloquent, witness to the courage of soldiers and the horror of war. . . Remarkably informative, beautifully illustrated and thoroughly researched" *Ross Fitzgerald, Sydney Morning Herald.*

Credit to my friend Isaac for allowing CEW to borrow *The Lost Soldiers* for review purposes.

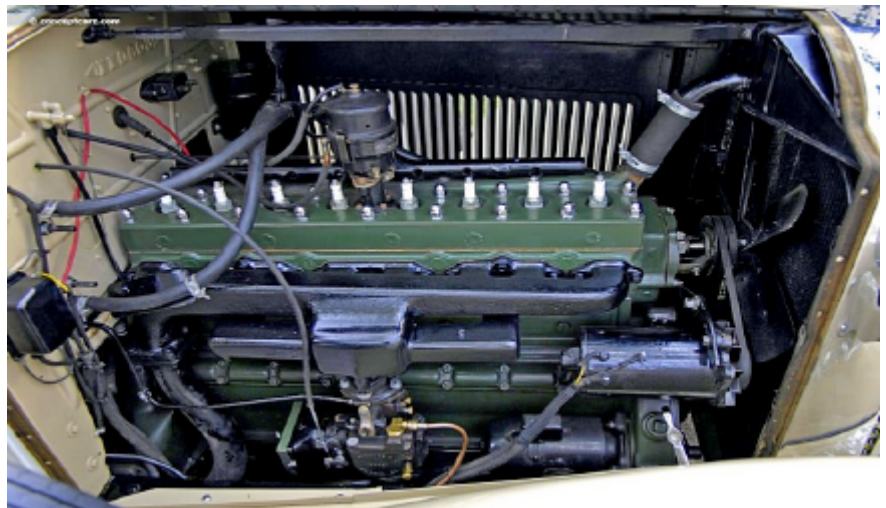


Motoring Memoirs

1933 Packard 733 Straight Eight Convertible



The catch phrase was always “Ask the man who owns one.” Packard during the 1920s and 1930s was the car for celebrities, industrial CEO’s and those who cared for a quality engineered vehicle. The 733 was available as a Roadster, Phaeton, Sport Phaeton, 7-passenger sedan, sedan Limousine, 4 and 5 passenger coupe, club sedan, and a 7-passenger touring car. They were normally fitted with four wheel drum brakes, a Bijur central lubrication system, white wall tyres and cowl mounted spotlights. This vehicle was fully restored in 2009 and is valued at near \$130,000.



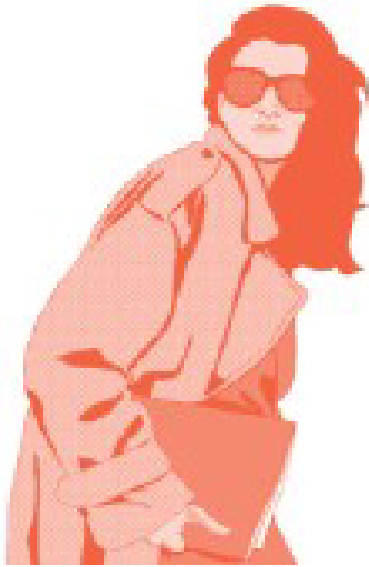
The Council to Homeless Persons

Established in 1972, the Council to Homeless Persons is the peak Victorian body representing individuals and organisations with a stake or interest in homelessness. Our mission is to work towards ending homelessness through leadership in policy, advocacy and sector development.

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

See our Consumer Participation Resource Kit at:

http://www.chp.org.au/public_library/cpkit/index.shtml



Mercury O'Proud Political journalist

The ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) admits that Jordan Peterson destroyed their favourite Monday night programme Q&A on February 25. This is a giant step for the Australian broadcaster, considering that the Q&A organisers had set up Peterson for a fall by adding guest panelists diametrically opposed in thought. The directors and organisers of Q&A must have been laughing in their jaundiced cheeks when they initially designed the invitation for Peterson to appear on the panel. But Peterson did not fall for their tricks, even when they used a video of the far right activist Milo Yiannopoulos, whose allegations toward Peterson fell as flat as a damp piece of cardboard on a footpath during

a rainy night.

The adjudicator, Tony Jones, had given each panel member just one minute to reply, but who on earth can give a decent foray within that limited time? Jones, as he sometimes does, gave much more than a minute to the socialist members of the panel. Sigh! But the ABC was right to label their star-studded Monday night act a failure. Well, not so much as a failure, but a destruction of opposing viewpoints — particularly those that came from *The Guardian's* rude commentator Van Badham, who considers herself a trio of a Feminist, a Marxist and a Christian and who is not backward in using derogative swear-words towards people she disagrees with. Also knocked for a loop was Labor party front-bencher, Terri Butler, shadow minister for employment Services, waving her arms around like duck trying to take off from a pond, who appeared confused about the meanings of masculinity and femininity. The pleasant surprise was Catherine McGregor, a gender change person, who agreed with Peterson on many points and unlike Badham and Butler, remained as cool as a cucumber and joked that she was probably the oldest person on the panel. That can be taken as meaning *much experience of life*.

The Sound of Silence: When Simon and Garfunkel released *The Sound of Silence* way back in 1966 (UK 1968) it was a recognition that the times were changing in an unacceptable manner. It was a time of enormous technology, but in many ways a technology that was used for armaments and military purposes and (which would expand as time moved on) a technology that controlled people. It was a time when many were questioning the input of American military and other countries into Vietnam and a pointer that many who should have spoken out against it were silent. Hence the words '*Silence like a cancer grows*'. It was about the empty lives many people lived and the lack of communication between people. '*And in the naked light I saw, ten thousand people, maybe more. People talking without speaking. People hearing without listening. People writing songs that voices never share, And no one dared Disturb the sound of Silence.*'

The relevance of the song for those times was staggering. The world was in turbulence with the Cuban missile crisis fomented by Soviet Russia — the closest the world had come to nuclear disaster; then the assassinations of President J.F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King jnr and closely followed with Senator Robert Kennedy. It was a time when the old bulldog warrior, Winston Churchill, was laid to rest. An era had past with many of his generation who held certain values to their heart gradually became a minority in the world — people who had stood up to fascism and soviet socialism and who knew what it was to live under the shadow of the swastika and then the hammer & sickle, and the massive suffering both had caused the world.. '*And the people bowed and prayed to the neon God they made*'.

Dictators cannot rise without a crowd — without a multitude of people to put them on their iron thrones. Democracy is never a perfect system, nothing is. But it's the best we've got in this day and age. Paul Simon's *Sound of Silence* of the 1960s shouted out a warning that in general the world was going the wrong way, and strangely enough, that lyrical warning fits squarely into 2019. The neon gods that are worshipped are what technology has produced and are, in many ways, a distraction from the true values of life. When children are more content to play with iPhones, tablets, notebooks, rather than being outside playing physical games or learning from books, then something has failed. (Some schools have now gone back to 100% book learning and banned digital appliances from the classroom). And when politicians attempt to dampen down the economic and educational woes of a country, or elites and progressives attempt to change history — and refuse democratic discussion through universities — to suit themselves, then where are those who should speak out? From the peripherals of

>>>>> next page:



society they may yet come, even as Paul Simon writes lyrics: *‘The words of the prophets are written on the subway walls, And tenement halls. And whispered in the sounds of silence’*. It may take certain brave students and/or professors to understand and utilise those words that are written on the subways.

But there is another kind of silence that needs mentioning — the silence of the mind during times of upheaval. Human beings were not designed to work like machines with chattering going on almost without ceasing. Exhausting oneself in an active foment on behalf of any ideology is not what the body or mind needs full time, and stages of rest for those so engaged is necessary. Silence is a necessary adjunct to the work-a-day world. Humanity cannot live at the speed of lightning. Humanity needs time to replenish body, mind and soul. The old religions managed to do that for the majority — the new religions of pleasure, work, society, don’t seem to be able to manage it. More families are breaking up than is normal. More divorces are on record. More drugs are taken to still the unquiet mind. City infrastructure is at a bursting levels with people jam-packed into train carriages, trams and buses — an infrastructure that often breaks down leaving passengers stranded and angry for hours on end. Too many people, too few trains, trams and buses when needed. Shifting people fast would seem to be a country’s priority, but governments appear not to care all that much.

So many words online and reams of newspaper print have been added recently in reference to the Christchurch mosque massacre, that it may seem superfluous for CEW to add anything further. But we do. Far right activists and associations are under watch by Australian security agencies, just as the far left and the jihadi’s of ISIS or Daesh are. Inevitably, there will be some who slip through the net and go on to carry out atrocities that are almost unbelievable. The grieving for the 50 souls in New Zealand will go on for some time and in most cases will never be assuaged. Rightly so. There will be many agreements and disagreements as to where the nations of New Zealand and Australia venture next with gun control. The prime minister of New Zealand has stated that she will never mention the assassin’s name — to do that would give him more notoriety than he already has, but care needs to be taken not to undermine the freedom of speech to which our nations adhere. Jacinda Adern has every right to feel that way and even the right to encourage others to follow that path. One of her reasons is that she wishes not to give encouragement to copycats, but copycats are out there regardless of whether one of their like-minded is named or not.

Terrorists need to be named, not for notoriety’s sake, but to firmly establish who they are, where they came from, what are their reasons, and whether any of their associates are involved.

Saudi Arabian officials need to know, shame, and arrest the persons who have knowingly tortured and sexually assaulted eleven women now undergoing trial before Riyadh’s criminal court simply for the “crime” of being activists for women’s rights. These women have been in jail for over a year and they allege that their prison authorities have subjected them to electric shocks, floggings and sexual assaults. It is said that the top advisor of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman — Saud al-Qahtani — threatened to rape, murder, and to cut into pieces Walid-al-Hathloul’s sister, one of the women on trial for being an activist for women’s driving rights. If convicted, these women will face up to five years in Riyadh’s jails where one of the women has already attempted suicide.

The sympathy for New Zealand Muslims who died or were wounded must be utterly profound, but it must not lead to a viewpoint that all of Islam is as ‘unblemished’ as those who attended that country’s mosques. In CEW 128 27 Jan 2019, under the heading *The Terror that Waits*, we find “Islamic State is alive and well, especially within the minds of those susceptible immigrant converts and second generations born here in Melbourne and Sydney, and indeed the world over, who are determined to bring about a world-wide caliphate of Islam to culminate in Sharia law over all citizens.”

And it is not only Islamic State that wishes this. It is many who worship under the banner of the more extreme and widespread Sunni branch of Islam. On Wednesday 3rd of April 2019 it was enshrined into the country of Brunei’s law (Sharia law) the allowance for stoning and amputation as punishments — including children: stoning for gay sex and adultery, with hand and foot amputations for theft. For women and girls venturing out in public, an existing law of fines and jail time (which has not been enforced in the past) will now be severely acted upon. Which makes one wonder when will beheadings be established under Sharia law in Brunei? Indonesia has already gone part of the way with Sharia law operating in the province of Aceh, where floggings now take place for people cuddling in public, for homosexuality, liquor consumption, gaming and adultery. Many Indonesians are calling for this version of Sharia law — which is supported by many in the military — to be overwhelmingly made law throughout the land. Some states of Malaysia already have stoning and amputations on their law books, but due to the extensive multicultural society within that land, have not been acted upon in recent years.

The conflicts that exist within Islam are real and dangerous. In our midst of this day three Sunni Muslim men, who are accused of burning down a Shia Muslim mosque in the suburb of Fawkner, Melbourne, in what has been described as a terrorist act, have faced court. The court was told that they were very proud of their work and laughed about it to police. Their act was to destroy the Shia mosque, which they regarded as not Muslim. Their first attempt to burn down the mosque failed, so they returned to the scene of their crime and tried again. This time they were successful in their terrorist act. Police prosecutors have brought before the court Ahmed Mohamed and Abdulah Chaarani, with another—Hatim Moukhaiber also

>>>>> *next page:*



being charged. Moukhaiber told the court “Shi’ites are against everything we believe in. . . Shi’ites are some cuckoo shit.” All three men hold the same belief. The trial continues and there is little doubt that these men will spend a considerable time in jail. But will it be enough for them to repent?

Belief is the prime factor here — whether it is extreme right wing or extreme left wing or something in between. Belief in a righteous cause to save humankind from what is perceived to be evil is the problem, and certain religions should take the blame for that. Johnathan Haidt in *The Righteous Mind*, Penguin Books 2013, uses a metaphor under the heading of *Morality Binds and Blinds*, which goes: “We are 90 percent Chimp and 10 percent Bee.” And wow, that sticks to one’s brain cells as nothing else does. In the terrible days after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, he felt an urge — which he describes as so primitive — to put an American [flag] decal on my car. But he was a professor, and professors don’t do that kind of thing. He says the urge came from out of nowhere, as if there was an ancient alarm box in the back of his brain pushing a button.

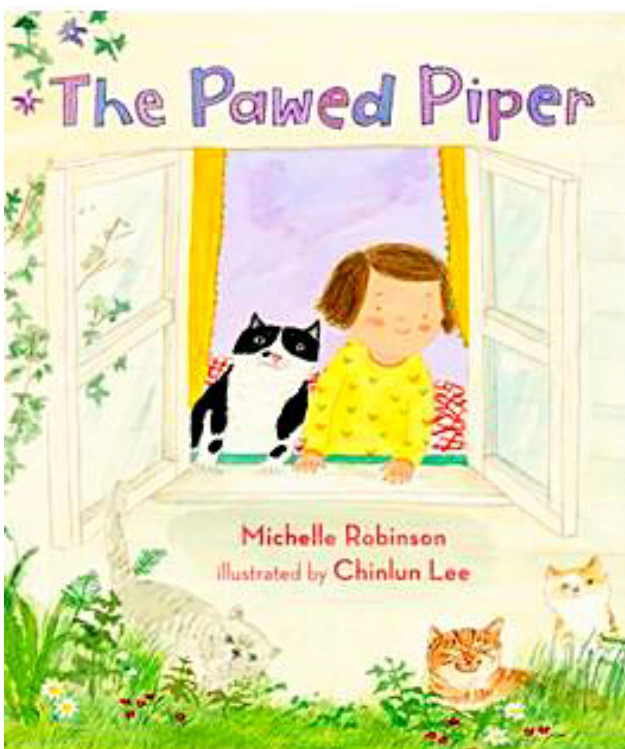
Well, he had hit upon the 90 percent of him that was Chimp. Immediate reaction! The 10 percent that was the harmless Bee fossicking in nature’s delightful garden was rendered inactive, smothered by the primeval Chimp within his brain. We are all swamped at times by this Chimp within our brains — the ancient and often archaic cells of ancestral lagoons and primeval forests. If righteousness was a saleable item then half the humans on planet earth would be buying it, however unsure they might be as to its effectiveness and its often negative expression. Human nature, by its very formation, is fundamentally selfish and groupish at the same time. Individuals join religions and other social groups to help themselves. They feel at home in these groups if the group-thought coincides with their own interests. If the group is fundamentally peaceful and outward looking, no harm is done and much benefit to humanity may be accomplished. But if the group has a righteous group-mentality, whether religious/political or otherwise, then watch out. •

Wire

Women’s Information Referral Exchange

One in three calls WIRE receives from women are related to family violence. Wire: 372 Spencer Street, West Melbourne 3003. Telephone Support Service Line 1300 134 130 Mon-Fri 9.00-5.00. <http://www.wire.org.au/>

Children’s Books



A small girl wants a cat of her own, much like the one in her book or her grandmother’s cat, Hector. Being of a creative mind she lays out a trail of objects that she knows cats love — small cardboard boxes, saucers of milk, balls of wool and plenty of catnip.

The next morning dozens of cats appear, led by Hector. Oh, my goodness, whatever has she done? Her plan has worked far too well. Will she have to return them all? And will she end up with only one lovely fluff-ball to call her own?

Michelle Robinson weaves a wonderful story, which was mainly written for the illustrator, Chinlun Lee. Chinlun lives in Taipei, Taiwan, where there are cats aplenty.

RRP Dymocks \$AUD24.95. \$NZ27.95.

Walker Boos — hardcover 32 pages .



Pet medical crisis

from Jennifer Hunt



An update on 4yo Eddy from Torquay who jumped his fence 11 days ago, was hit by a car and fractured his spine. Pet Medical Crisis donated \$1,000 to enable Eddy to have surgery at Pet Emergency Specialist Centre Malvern.

PMC then negotiated a 50% discount on postoperative care (thanks to Dr Chris Preston) and urgently worked to set up a fundraising page to save Eddy from having to be discharged the day after surgery. We were very pleased to have a wonderful following who stepped up to assist this family who were devastated at nearly losing their loved boy.

Thanks to PMC's appeal we received over \$7,000 in donations and as with all your donations 100% goes directly to pay for veterinary care. We never take a dollar out for any admin or other costs.

We asked Dr Chris to even further reduce his costs after a week in hospital, to make your donations go further, and he very kindly did even more to assist. [#Dr Chris Rocks](#).

So great news — the Pretlove family will have had Eddy's specialist surgery fully paid for! They are enormously grateful to everyone who has helped them and their boy when they most needed it.

Wonderful news today - Eddy has wagged his tail for the first time! A great sign of recovery and with a couple more days in hospital he'll be ready to go home and continue his recovery with his family's support.

Great news sweetheart. So pleased PMC's community was there for you.

Rest and heal sweetheart. Love from all your friends at PMC xxxxxxxxxx

[#savingpetstochangetheworld](#)



Pet Medical Crisis

A not for profit fund to save pets whose owners cannot afford their emergency care.

<http://www.petmedicalcrisisfund.com.au/>

Email: info@petmedicalcrisisfund.com.au

PMCF is now on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PetMedicalCrisisFund>

Also, a walking harness — 'Dog-A-Long' — is available to assist your dog to become more mobile — supports dogs with hind leg problems associated with ageing, arthritis, hip & spinal problems. For suitability check with your Vet.



For further information, please log onto <http://www.tars.org.au/>
The Animal Rehoming Service Inc. is a registered charity.
Donations over \$2 are tax deductible. (ABN: 51 275 837 567)



Frank is a 4 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and micro-chipped 37kg male Yellow Labrador, who's looking for a loving home.

He's an affectionate and lovable boy who enjoys human company and would suit being an integral part of family life. He'd also suit an all-adult family or one with

older, dog-friendly children. Frank's a big, playful pup who loves his daily walks as well as time at the off leash park. He's great with other dogs and would suit a home with another dog for company. He's yet to spend much time with cats.

He enjoys an indoor/outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Frank's adoption fee is \$450 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Greensborough based, but we go to you).

Nelson is a 3 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped 20kg male Beagle x Fox-hound, who's looking for a loving home.

He's a loving, friendly, playful and well socialised boy who would suit an all-adult home or one with older, dog friendly children.

Nelson's fine with cats and is great with other dogs. He would suit a home with another dog for company. He loves playing with other dogs as well as going on his daily walks.

He enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. A home with a doggy door would be ideal. Nelson's adoption fee is \$500. If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Malvern and St. Kilda East based, but we go to



**We are now much loved in our new home and very grateful to TARS Inc.
Such a new lease of life!**

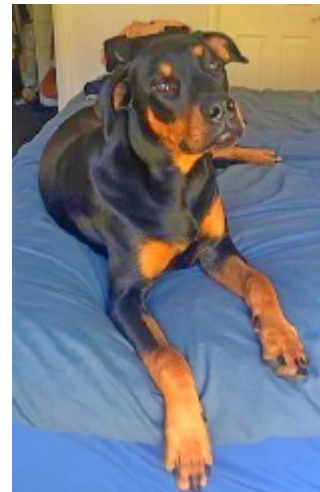
Re-advertised: I'm still looking for a loving home!

Pippa is a 1 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and micro-chipped 35kg female Rottweiler x Doberman, who's looking for a loving home. She's a very affectionate, relaxed and friendly girl who loves human company and is great with both adults and older, dog-savvy children alike.

Pippa's an active girl who loves her daily walks and time at the off-leash park. She loves to chase birds and would spend hours doing so if she could.

She's also great with the other dogs and would suit a home with another dog for company, ideally a placid desexed male dog as she likes to be the top dog within the home (she's never aggressive, just occasionally a little bit 'pushy').

She enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Pippa's adoption fee is \$450 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Beaumaris based, but we go to you).

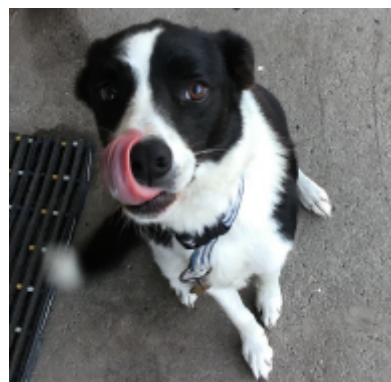


Happy is a 6 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and micro-chipped 24kg male Border Collie x, who's looking for a loving home. (Sadly he doesn't like his photo being taken, so isn't doing himself justice..)

He's an affectionate boy with a big personality. He loves human company and would suit an all-adult home or one with older, dog-savvy children. An active family, happy to exercise him daily would also suit. He particularly loves playing fetch.

Happy is fine with other dogs and cats, though he occasionally gets a bit excited when he first meets them, barking effusively. He just needs an experienced owner happy to provide him with a bit more socialisation. He's lived with another dog in the past and would enjoy having another dog for company.

He enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Happy's adoption fee is \$350 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (St. Albans based, but we go to you).



MS Australia

Multiple Sclerosis

needs your help

Log in for the latest news at:

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



Noah. Happy (and Sad) Adoption Tale.

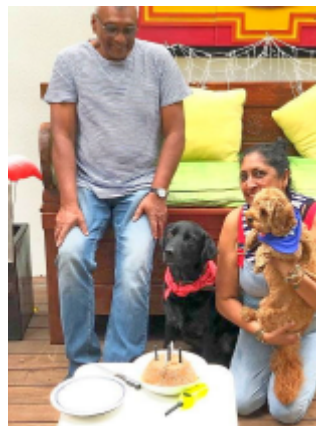
From Selvie, Noah the Labrador's new mum.



'The 7th January 2019 started joyously enough, with us taking Aarya our Cavoodle and Woody our 12 year old Labrador for a walk, but sadly and unexpectedly, within a few hours Woody had walked over the Rainbow Bridge and that unspeakable despair crept over us.

A month later our vet handed me the card of The Animal Rehoming Service. Within a week we were trialing Noah and now, not even a week after we decided to adopt lovely Noah, he, our Cavoodle and us are all embroiled in a relationship that can only be described as a 'gift!'

During his trial period, he turned 5, so we celebrated his special day with a special carrot and minced meat cake which I baked for him.



I feel Woody (our dearly departed Labrador) is smiling down on us. I almost feel like he's masterminded it all! Thanks too to Michaela!'

"Thanks Selvie. So sorry for the loss of your Woody. Thanks for giving Noah a great, loving home and a new best friend in Aarya."

Re-advertised: I'm still looking for a loving home!



Lennon (Lenny) is a 6 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped male Russian Blue x who's looking for a loving, predominantly indoor home. He's sadly being re-homed as his older brother is bullying him. He'd therefore enjoy being the sole pet, in an all-adult home or one with older, gentle, cat-savvy children.

Lenny is an otherwise affectionate, sweet-natured, happy and playful boy who loves to snuggle up to his favourite people and purrs away when getting his daily dose of pats.

He's always been a predominantly indoor cat, but he might also enjoy a home with a cat



enclosure or cat proof fencing, if you have it. Lenny's adoption fee is \$150. If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Rosebud based, but we go to you).

Re-advertised: I'm still looking for a loving home!



Pip is a 3 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped Bowie-esque odd-eyed, male Turkish Angora x cat who's looking for a loving home.

Pip is quite shy with strangers, but is an otherwise calm, gentle, loving, sweet natured and playful boy. He loves being close to his humans, sitting on their lap and snuggling up. An all-adult home or one with gentle, older children would suit.

He's yet to spend time with another cat or dog though he might be fine with a similarly calm pet. Otherwise a calm, single pet home would suit.

He's mainly indoors, due to his fair colouring. A home with cat proof fencing or a cat run would also be great, as he's happy to occasionally venture out, even on lead. (His new owner would have to be vigilant about sun exposure.) Pip's adoption fee is \$90. If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Williamstown based, but we go to you).

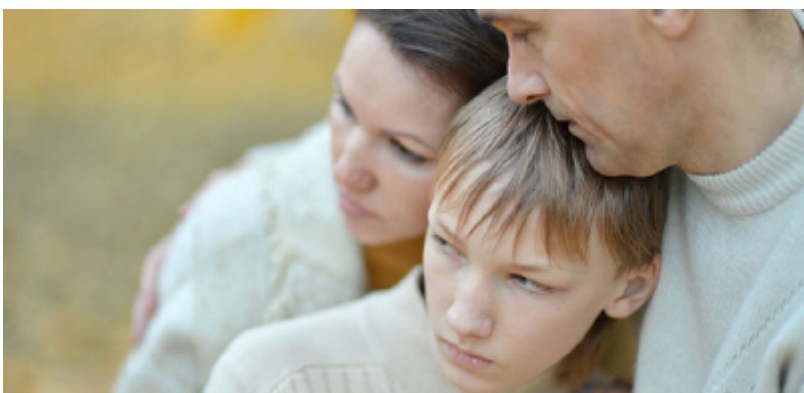


29 March at 08:40

It was a beautiful day in Mitcham for the official opening of our new office! Thanks to Uncle Shane for treating us to another moving smoking ceremony and to Keith Smith from the Victorian Department of Health & Community Services, Councillor Prue Cutts and all of our friends & supporters for coming along and making it a great afternoon.

SPECIALIST FOSTER CARERS GIVEN A BOOST WITH PAYMENTS INCREASED TO \$75,000 FOR CARING FOR SOME OF VICTORIA'S MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Leading child welfare agency, OzChild is celebrating the news of increased reimbursements for carers of children and young people in the Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO) program in Victoria. TFCO was launched in Victoria on 1 April 2017 by the Minister for Families and Children. OzChild has since been successfully delivering the program for children under 12.



“After 21 months of service delivery it is not surprising to see some really promising results emerging from this program given its strong evidence base. We are now seeing some very positive outcomes for the children completing the program, keeping children safely in family-based care and out of the residential care system. OzChild teams are showing increased proficiency in the delivery of this evidence-based model,” said OzChild Chief Executive Officer, Dr Lisa J. Griffiths. In Victoria more than 10,000 children and young people are currently placed in out-of-home care. The reasons are often complex and varied, but the challenge of recruiting foster carers remains.

“Sadly, for some children in out-of-home care the effects of childhood trauma, neglect or abuse make it difficult to manage their feelings, thoughts and behaviour. This can put those children at risk of being excluded from the benefits of a stable family environment, creating a cycle of worsening behaviour and negative outcomes,” says Dr Lisa J. Griffiths. In addition to a TFCO carer having to deal with complex behaviours, they must be available for daily clinical phone calls, weekly carer meetings, and regular other meetings/appointments. They are also expected to be responsible for all the child or young person’s transport needs and be available if the child or young person needs to be removed from school.



“The Treatment Foster Care Oregon program is crucial in providing the support so desperately needed by some of our most vulnerable children. We are however limited by the number of carers we can recruit restricting the number of children being able to enter treatment,” says Dr Griffiths.

Dr Griffiths adds, “an increase to the care giver reimbursements will not only provide some financial relief for those carers already engaged in the program but will hopefully assist in recruiting more of these specialised foster carers. We welcome this news and applaud the Government’s commitment.”

The increase will see TFCO carers receive a tax-free reimbursement of \$75,000 for a 12-month placement. Experience in delivering the program has shown that successful carers are often those who have experience and knowledge in dealing with complex behaviours. The program therefore wishes to attract related professionals to become carers. The average salary for teachers, social workers, police, nurses and psychologists is \$71,800 which is then taxed, unlike the tax-free reimbursement offered to TFCO carers.

Whilst this payment is not a replacement salary it should ensure carers are not financially disadvantaged by the cost of providing care to children and young people. •



Text and photos credit Ozchild.

The Big Issue



On sale now—an interview with Dolly Parton, which leaves no rhinestone unturned. The wise and witty superstar has recorded over 3000 songs. Get your copy now from a street vendor.

Also in this issue:

We have a Q&A session with Dave Hughes. Big Issue vendors grill the comedian about performance anxiety, parenthood and The Block.

Vendor Jeromy reveals his favourite places for a swim and a walk in Brisbane.

An interview with Alice Robinson and how her novels may help with climate Change.

Cat's Eye Weekly — *only produced as an E-magazine* — is a sometimes tongue-in-cheek look at the world around us from my point of view. Look about you, be aware of what is happening, and you too will find things opening up to you. Widen your eyes and let your imagination run loose. Go for it. Anyone with access to the State Library of Victoria, AIGS Library in Blackburn, Vic., or the A.G. Palmer Centre for Historical Studies in Wrexham, Wales, can access copies of my little mag *Genetree* from 1996 to 2017. **A more sober publication than this scurrilous little rag.**

Cheers, from Graham, at: genetree@tpg.com.au
Letters, crits and input welcome anytime.

** CEW takes no responsibility or liability for any damage or suffering which may be attributed to the reading of this communication. Regular medical check-ups are recommended to see if the laughter valve remains undamaged.*



What you probably did not know about the Holocaust concentration camp at Auschwitz

Originally, Auschwitz was built by the Germans to house Polish citizens of any faith when the German army occupied Poland in 1939. Among those targeted for imprisonment were people from the scientific and cultural communities, politicians, activists and anyone else who, according to Nazi philosophy, was an undesirable person. It became one of the desired prisons for Jewish persons in 1941 when Hitler initiated his Final Solution. But the prison camp could not contain the thousands of prisoners, so Auschwitz II was built on adjoining land, which could house up to 90,000 prisoners. Auschwitz I was limited to around 20,000. Auschwitz II (Auschwitz-Birkenau) had three gas chambers disguised as shower blocks.

When (mostly Jewish) forced labourers at a camp in Monowitz near Auschwitz became too frail to work, due to the starvation diet they were fed by the Nazi overseers, they were transported to Auschwitz for extermination. Henry Mandelbaum remembers (pp324-325 *The Holocaust* by Laurence Rees, Viking Press 2017) “When it (the gas chamber) was full they would lock the door — the doors were hermetic like in refrigerators. . . The gassing lasted about twenty minutes to half an hour. After the gassing. . . we opened the doors. You could see how these people died — standing. Their heads were to the left or to the right, to the front, or to the back. Some vomited or had haemorrhaged. . . Before the burning we had to cut their hair and pull out the gold teeth. And also look whether people kept anything in their nostrils, or valuables in the mouth — the women in their vaginas.” Henry was a Jewish member of the Sonderkommandos — a group formed by the Nazis to oversee the crematoria/gas chambers. The Sonderkommandos eventually revolted and attacked their SS keepers with home made explosives, knives and other weapons. Only a few Sonderkommandos survived as the Nazis soon put down the revolt.

The Hippocratic Oath was never practiced in Auschwitz. Doctors supervised the gas killings in Auschwitz and carried out experiments on living bodies — including children. Dr. Ella Lingens-Reiner while pointing to the chimneys in the distance, asked the Nazi doctor, Fritz Klein. “How can you reconcile that with your [Hippocratic] oath as a doctor?” The answer came back: “Of course I am a doctor and I want to preserve life. And out of respect for human life, I would remove a gangrenous appendix from a diseased body. The Jew is a gangrenous appendix in the body of mankind.” Many of these doctors were never brought to trial. One such, Dr. Kurt Heissmeyer, had conducted experiments on twenty Jewish children, injecting them with tuberculosis and then, so they could not be witnesses, had them exterminated. After the war he lived in Madeburg, where astoundingly he was very highly regarded by local people as a lung and tuberculosis specialist.

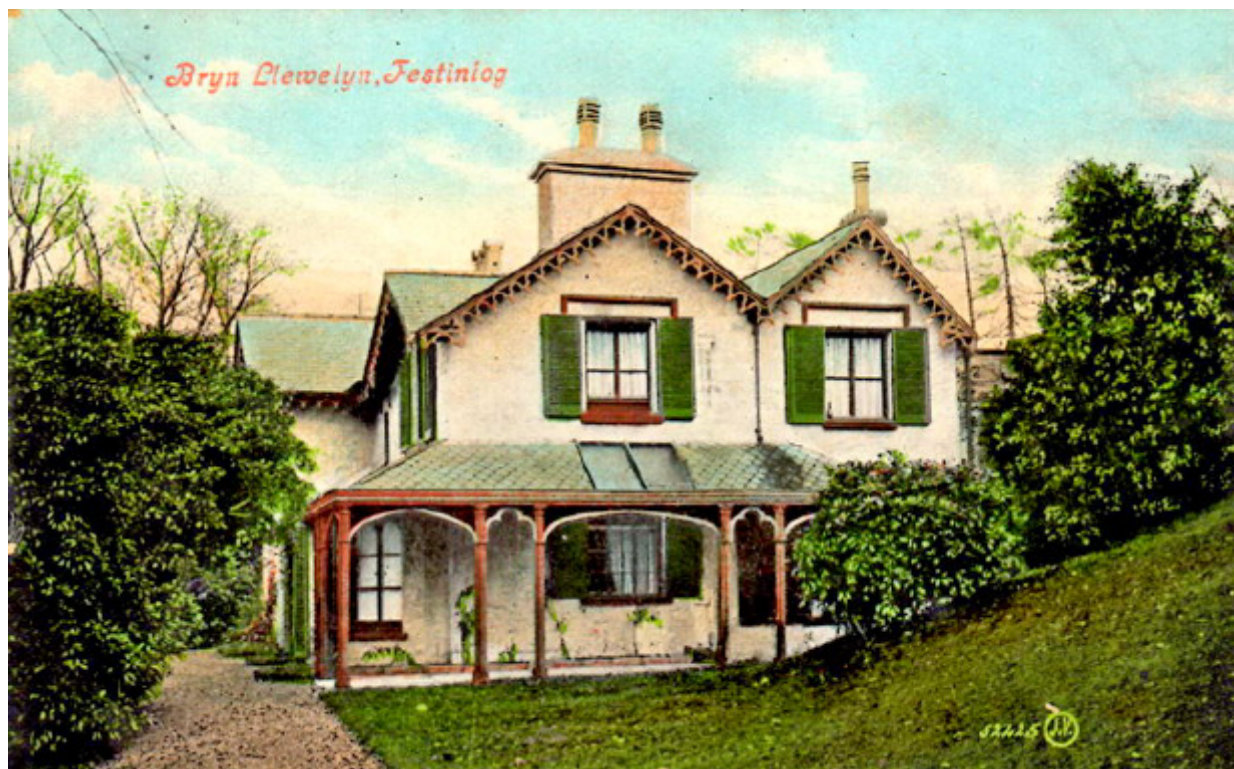
Auschwitz contained within its perimeter a so-called Gypsy prison camp, where thousands of children — making up almost half of the children at Auschwitz — were held. While the Gypsy folk’s fate was still undecided by Hitler’s henchmen in 1943, the camp became overcrowded to the extent that disease spread rapidly. By autumn of that year an outbreak of Noma began to infest many of the children. Noma was caused by overcrowding and lack of diet. The water in the camp was also contaminated and among the prisoners approximately thirty were dying every day. One of the symptoms of Noma was widespread holes in the cheeks of the diseased. Elizabeth Guttenberger, a prisoner, stated (*A History of the Nazi Concentration Camps*, Nikolaus Wachsmann, Abacus 2015) “The children were the first to die. . . day and night they cried for bread; soon they had all starved.” On August 2, 1944, under the cover of darkness, all the remaining 2,897 Gypsies were driven by truck to crematoria II and V. Their screams could be heard throughout the camp. •



Some children in prison clothes awaiting liberation from Auschwitz by Allied soldiers.



A long time genealogy research friend has recently sent CEW over 100 postcards, which will add to CEW's vast collection. There are numerous cards of the town of Festiniog in Wales and Shirley is not sure what the family connection was there. CEW cheekily mentioned that perhaps that's where a certain family romance began. The beauty of Festiniog would be enough to start anyone's heart racing.



Bryn Llewelyn, Festiniog, Valentine Series — printed in Great Britain circa 1900



Photographer: D.M. Roberts, Holborn House, Festiniog, V & S Ltd.

In May it will be the 11th year since CEW began publication in 2008. We are not arranging anything special for that month, but here is an excerpt from CEW 15, August 2008.

In regard to superstitions, it is not only in the East that you will have found them in past times. The cholera epidemic in London, particularly in Soho of Westminster in the summer of 1854, was blurred by the medical profession of that time insisting that cholera was caused by a *miasma* —or the breathing in of poisoned air — a theory put forward by the city's sanitation commissioner Edwin Chadwick and the main demographer, William Farr.

An interesting fact observed by the eldest son of a Yorkshire labourer, was that the men in the local brewery seemed to be immune from the cholera. Sherlock Holmes could not have had a better apprentice because at the age of 42 years, surgeon John Snow deduced that the cause of cholera was because of what people drank and that as the men in the brewery who were immune only drank beer, the problem had to be the local water supply. And it was. One local water pump in Soho was isolated and the cholera epidemic settled down in that district.

Even the prestigious journal "The Lancet" was against Snow's ideas, scolding "Mr. Snow might better employ himself in producing something, than in criticizing the production of others." Well, they had to eat their words because he did produce and he went on to more victories in the years to come. Sons of Yorkshire labourers, unite!

Source: Steven Johnson: "The Ghost Map," Riverhead Books 2006. Member of Penguin Books.