

Cat's Eye Weekly

No. 130

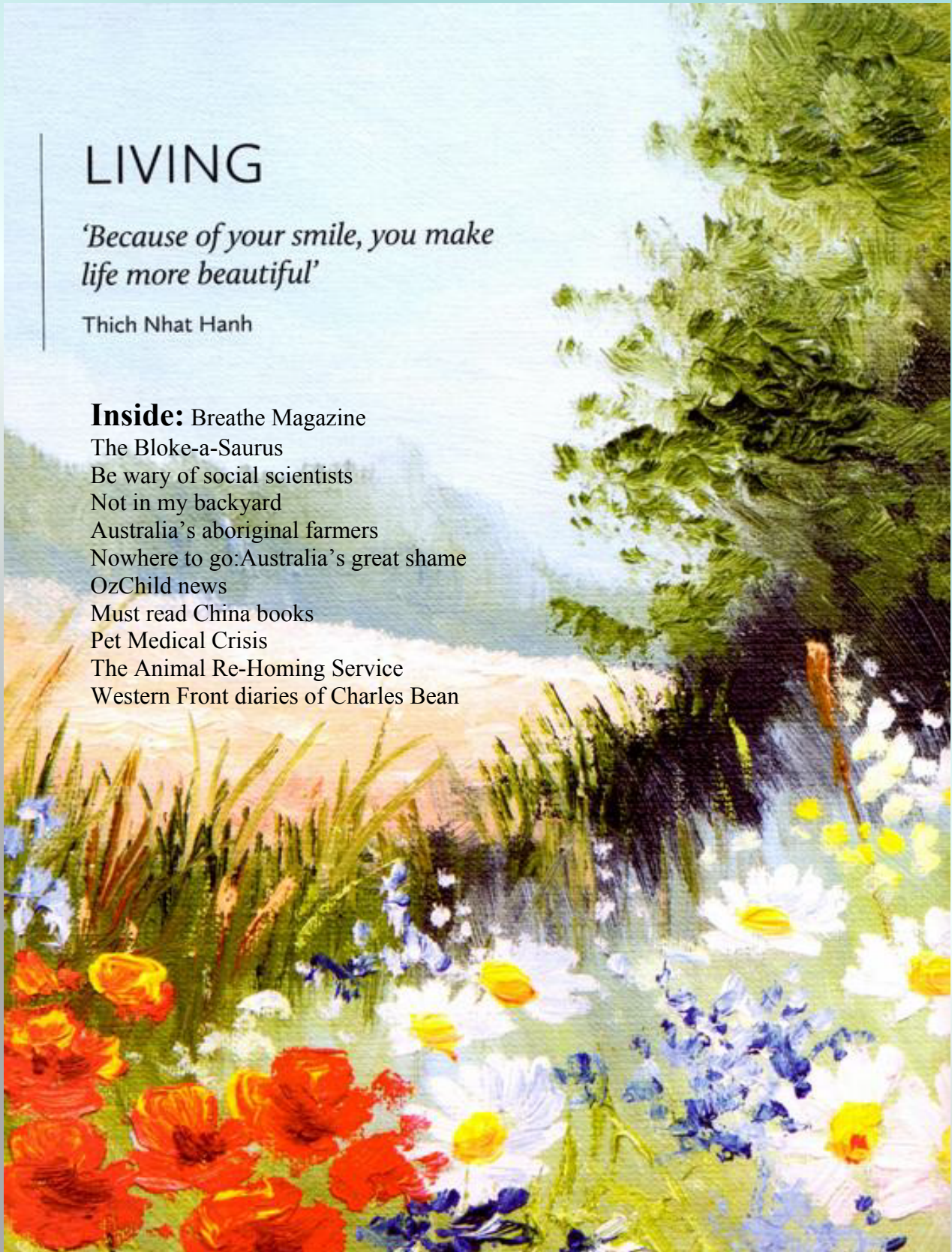
9 August 2019

LIVING

*'Because of your smile, you make
life more beautiful'*

Thich Nhat Hanh

Inside: Breathe Magazine
The Bloke-a-Saurus
Be wary of social scientists
Not in my backyard
Australia's aboriginal farmers
Nowhere to go: Australia's great shame
OzChild news
Must read China books
Pet Medical Crisis
The Animal Re-Homing Service
Western Front diaries 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's been an interesting few weeks. With the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre, initially over 180,000 Hong Kong workers, students and others came out in protest, and then against a proposed HK law allowing people (said to be criminals) to be deported to the China mainland without trial and therefore to face strict China imprisonment. The proposed law, since put on hold but in no way excused by the Hong Kong Chief Executive, Carrie Lam, who was picked for the job by mainland China. Shortly after, this brought out over one million protesters into the streets of Hong Kong, not once but numerous times. Sadly, there has been an element of violence associated with these protests, which is something mainland China is not going to forget in a hurry. *See page 15 re. China now.*

I'm not getting into the whys and wherefores of Israel Folau's suspension from Rugby Australia due to his strict religious views recently made public. His reaction to his sacking was to set up a GoFundMe page to take on Rugby Australia in court, which after approximately \$700,000 donations, was soon shut down by GFM on the grounds of discrimination. His reasons for setting up such a fund are another story. What I am concerned with is that GFM is one of many elite lefty liberal movements that is hypocritical to a great degree. GFM has the right to pick and choose who it funds, that is part of our democratic system. But when an organisation such as this shows plain and clear bias within its own operations, then it is not being democratic, and shows that it is completely hypocritical.

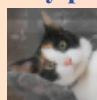
GFM is called out for its own bias. A doctor surmised that a 20-year-old Perth man should try to raise \$500,000 for a Ferrari to cure his anxiety. GoFundMe accepted this, even though in the end it all fell apart. There is more and it's not very pleasant. See what Consumer Affairs reviewers think of GoFundMe. Oh my! Eyes wide open! Go to:

<https://www.consumeraffairs.com/business/gofundme.html>

Now this may seem absurd, but perhaps the countries of the world may give it some thought. Voting age in most of the world is 18, but brain specialists all agree that the human brain does not come to full maturity until around the age of 26. The bull in the China shop, so to speak (if you're a young activist, perhaps you ought to tuck this into your memory for future reference) is that the last part of the brain to mature—the frontal lobes or frontal cortex, is still forming during the early 20s. The responsibility for this part of the brain is to control emotions and help to suppress impulsive actions that may not be desirable. This means we are not fully mature at the age of 18, even though we can be sent off to war to fight for a country, or vote this politician out and that politician in. No matter how smart we think we are at 18 (or 16 if we wish to leave home without parents consent), the fact is that our discerning frontal lobes are still forming, and until they do completely form, we will undoubtedly make decisions that may influence our future and the future of our country without full reasoning at our disposal. Change the voting age back to 21 or even 25? Some wish it were so, but no. Not a hope in Hades. • .

A situation never becomes
a problem until you make
it so.

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



Empathy without wisdom can
be dangerous.



Breathe Magazine: Helping to re-programme your brain

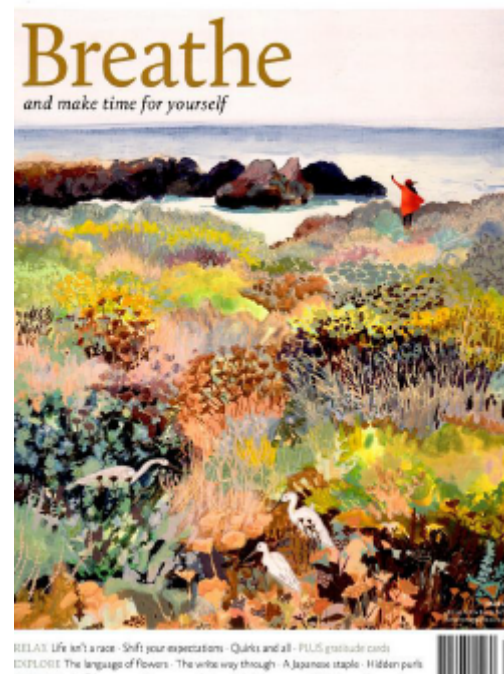
***Breathe Magazine* is all about well-being. The editors and contributors set out long ago to fill a gap in the magazine market.** Articles in the current edition centre upon relaxation and advice that life isn't a race. Everywhere we look these days, people seem to ignore that advice and some years later experience burn-out. Oh, it's only a temporary thing, many will say to themselves. I'll chuck a holiday and come back feeling more energetic. The trouble with that kind of thinking is that nothing will have changed. The person will still be caught up in a speedy wheel of keeping up.

Life is not a matter of keeping up. Life is meant to be a focus on finding oneself — your own special niche in the world, be it considerably different from those sitting around you in the train, tram or bus. As *Breathe* advises, it might be time to step off the treadmill, find your own pace and embrace it. It's not how fast you can get there — be that a degree or so at the local university or scaling the ladder at a corporation — it's about the journey along the way and how you manage it. Peer pressure, unfortunately, is a considerable force in one's life and needs to be taken with a good dose of skepticism.

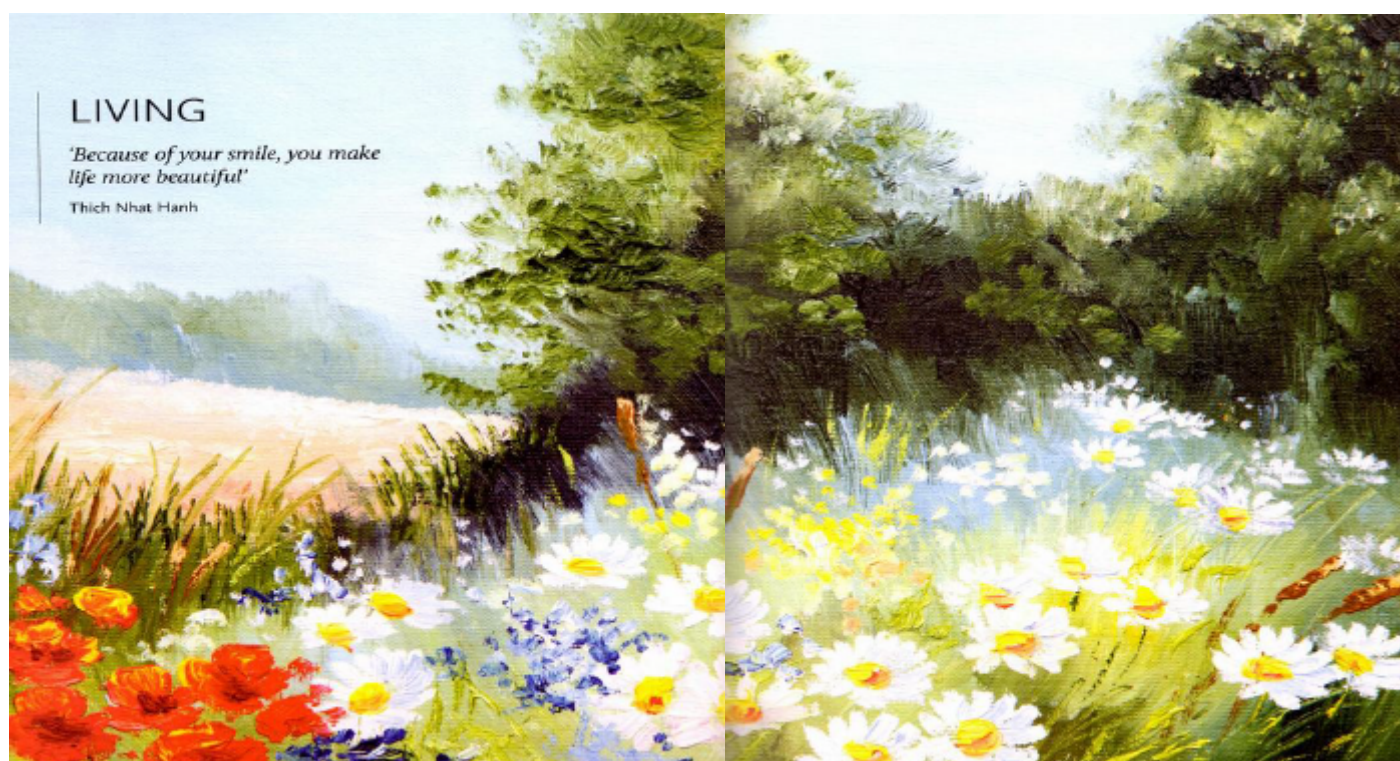
Carol Anne Strange, writing on pages six and seven in *Breathe*, states: "Ultimately, winning in life isn't about doing things first, it's about being true to yourself. It's time to step off the racetrack. Stop comparing your life with your peers. Focus on doing what you really want to do. Don't feel like you've failed if you do things unconventionally or later than some of those around you. Follow your heart first and do what lights you up."

Breathe's articles are much needed in this post-modern world which sometimes seems it is on its way to hell. Kate Orson's message on pages 10-12 is that playing the victim when you are going through troubled times — complaining, being moody — doesn't help you or those around you. But that can change, even if it means talking to a counselor. •

WELLBEING • MINDFULNESS • CREATIVITY • ESCAPING



The *Breathe* cover artist, Michelle, is a graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art. More at [Instagram@michelle_morin](https://www.instagram.com/michelle_morin)





Integrity. It's a powerful word, borrowed upon these shores from the Latin word *integritas*, meaning wholeness. It's a word that's often used to describe a person's character, but it's also a word that's often used to describe a person's actions. Integrity is a word that's often used to describe a person's character, but it's also a word that's often used to describe a person's actions.

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Playing the victim...

Do you always feel hard done by, that nothing goes your way and you never get what you want or deserve? There's a chance you've amazingly set up a self-fulfilling prophecy. The good news is change is possible – and by letting go of old beliefs you can rewrite the ending...

Does it seem like bad things are always happening to you? To life an upward struggle, a nd you feel like you're fighting to walk up a down escalator, going nowhere fast? Everyone goes through difficult times and experiences bad luck and setbacks now and again. But when this regularly occurs and you feel as though you're not in control of your life or destiny, is something else happening? Are you playing the victim?

Helga Huwe, a psychotherapist, life coach and therapist, considers one dictionary definition of the word victim: 'A person who has come to feel helpless or passive in the face of misfortune or ill-treatment.' She says that playing the victim becomes a problem if you constantly feel helpless or if you've come to think of yourself as the kind of person who always has bad luck – both of which can have a negative impact on your life. It might mean that you give up on your dreams in your work or personal life because you can't believe anything good will happen to you.

One way to recognise if you're playing the victim is to notice if you're forever complaining or just thinking about things you feel you have no control over. Try to be mindful of your conversations and inner thoughts and notice to what extent you might be stuck in hard-core by mode.

It doesn't serve anyone well to give up on trying to attain goals, if you don't put yourself forward for a promotion because you assume you stand no chance, or you don't strike up a conversation with someone you're attracted to because you don't think they'll ever be interested in you, you trigger a self-fulfilling prophecy. It's hard for life to go well if you don't believe change is possible.

How can you get out of victim mode? One way is to think of it as a sign that your emotions have become stuck. The word emotion comes from the Latin emotion, which means energy in motion. If you find yourself constantly preoccupied with things that people have done to you, or ways you've been wronged, then perhaps you need to give your wounds attention before moving on.

Talking to a counsellor, writing your thoughts in a journal or meditating can all provide space to listen and notice emotions. Acknowledge them, and then let go and move on. It might be that reflecting on early childhood can help. Helga claims the habit of playing the victim can develop in childhood. If children get attention when things go badly, it may become a default mechanism to focus on difficulties, believing it's the only way to be noticed. Similarly, if parents or guardians don't explain the reasons for ill-fortune or chase advice about how to prevent it in the future, it can foster the subconscious belief that bad things just happen and nothing can be done about them. But it can.



It's all too easy to look back in anguish, in anger – and regret the past, but it could stop you living life to the fullest now



Life isn't a race

If you're feeling under pressure to achieve life's goals, it might be time to step off the treadmill and enjoy a more fulfilling journey at your own pace

Do you feel like you're always rushing to complete tasks with a ticking clock, or are you always feeling like you're always rushing to complete tasks with a ticking clock? Do you feel like you're always rushing to complete tasks with a ticking clock, or are you always feeling like you're always rushing to complete tasks with a ticking clock?

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CREATIVITY

Negative thoughts can easily take hold when life presents tough challenges - change the message by turning it to positive affirmations



Breathe Magazine

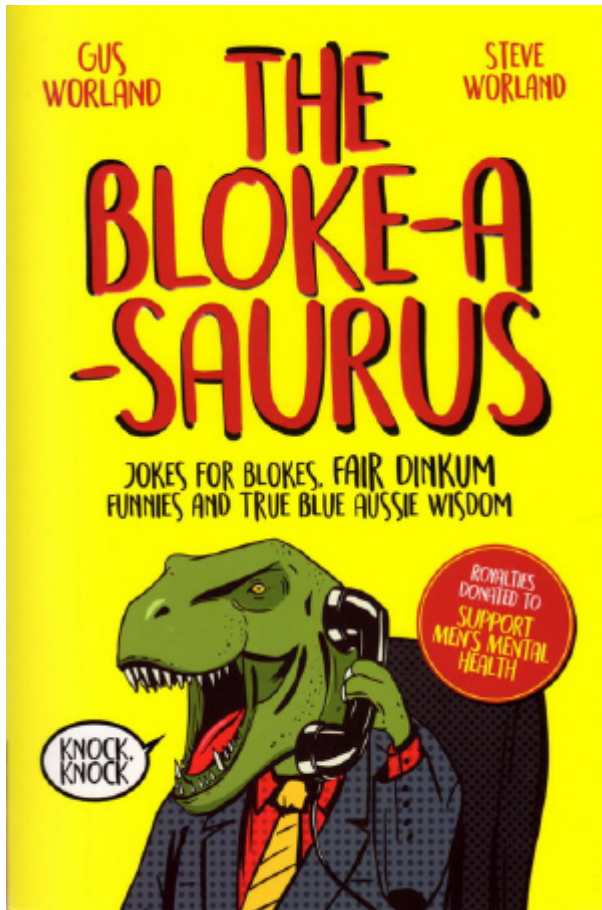
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breathemagazine.com.au/subscribe



A birthday present for the bloke in your house



BOOK REVIEW: This is for the man in the man's cave and his mates. It is full of blokey jokes which are clean and 'above board'. The authors Gus & Steve Worland also donate the royalties from the book to support men's mental health foundation *Gotcha 4 Life* impacting on the training of male crisis counselors. Fair dinkum Aussie funny jokes and sayings, from early days to modern, crowd these pages.

Excerpts (edited) from *The Longest Joke in the World*: "A man decides to rest out his new four-wheel-drive with a cross-country trip. He has great fun thundering over the sand hills until he becomes lost, hits a large rock and can't get the 4x4 to start again. . . He rubs on some sunblock. . . gets an umbrella . . . pours the windshield wiper fluid into his water bottle . . . finds a knife. . . he walks for the entire day. By sunset he's extremely thirsty. He's been sweating constantly and his lips are starting to crack. He's re-applied the sunblock twice and tried to stay under the umbrella but he still feels sunburned. The windshield wiper fluid sloshing in the bottle in his pocket is now really tempting. He knows that it's mainly water with some ethanol and colouring but he also believes that they add some kind of poison to it to keep people from drinking it. He wonders what the poison is and whether it will be worse than dying of thirst.

"He crossed a dry creek bed a kilometre back and he doesn't remember coming through it in the 4x4. . . He tells himself that he's close and that after dark he'll see the town's lights from the top of one of the sand dunes. . . He knows the rule of Threes—three minutes

without air, three days without water, three weeks without food — then you die. . . He rinses his mouth out with a little of the windshield wiper fluid. He waits a while to see if his mouth goes numb or if he feels dizzy or sick. Has his mouth gone numb? Or is it just in his mind? He's not sure. He'll go a little farther and if he still doesn't find water he'll try drinking some more of the fluid." Well, you'll have to read the book to find out if this very naive person makes it or not. The rest of his journey is certainly adventurous and hilarious. And yes, it does become the longest joke in the world. •



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 Dymocks \$AUD32.99. CD \$AUD29.95 eBook \$AUD14.99
 Booktopia \$AUD25.90 plus postage eBook \$AUD14.99



Be wary of social scientists

They flood the internet with theories, they write books — often minus a mass of important references at the rear. Instead they may include meagre data from other sympathetic social scientists. They sometimes dominate talk shows, speak at universities and other venues. These are the up and coming social scientists which many universities and other halls of learning love so much.

Do we need them? Some perhaps, but not all. A selection of them is merely leading the masses astray with false reasoning and false data. Seth Davidowitz, in his recent book *Everybody Lies*, mentions the skepticism of Karl Popper, the Austrian philosopher 1902-1994. “Popper considered that some of Sigmund Freud’s theories were quite wacky and that most social scientist’s work was not particularly scientific. Contrast this with physicists and there is considerable difference: When the physicists talked, Popper believed in what they were doing. Sure, they made mistakes. Sure, they sometimes were fooled by their subconscious biases. But physicists were engaged in a process that was clearly finding deep truths about the world, culminating in Einstein’s Theory of Relativity. When the world’s most famous social scientists talked, in contrast, Popper thought he was listening to a bunch of gobbledegook.

“Popper is hardly the only person to have made this distinction. Just about everybody agrees that physicists, biologists, and chemists are real scientists. They utilise rigorous experiments to find how the physical world works. In contrast, many think that economists, sociologists, and [certain] psychologists are soft scientists who throw around meaningless jargon so they can get tenure.” Strong words, but not without a certain truth.

Evidence based. But is it? Many social scientists do small surveys and then come to the conclusion that the results are overwhelmingly in favour of their ‘research’. John Ioannidis, professor of medicine at Stanford University, who specializes in research of scientific studies, has become the enemy of rotten research. “The majority of papers that get published, even in serious journals, are pretty sloppy,” Of course, the media takes these results up and plasters them across the tabloids and the internet and then a vast majority of the public believe, when what they believe is based on shonky grounds. Findings can be easily manipulated according to the social scientist’s views, political or otherwise. Ioannidis is aware that numerous scientists do not get trained sufficiently on statistics and on methodology, and that many studies are based upon a low number of people, so that the findings then become non-representative of the wider society. Much as in social cultural groups, the minority is often displayed (usually media and art personalities) as being the majority, which it is not, and never will be, but their nefarious minority influence takes on a life of its own.

Even diet research comes in for attack. There are so many social scientists measuring diet that it has become almost out of control — and diet measurement usually takes on only a small group of persons at a time. It does not embrace the whole community, which some would say is impossible to manage. Even so, a wider plan of research needs to be adopted. Even the 2013 study of the Mediterranean Diet had to be revised because there was little recruiting of random participants. Ioannidis considers that the following questions require an answer: is this something that has been seen just once, or in multiple studies? Is it a small or a large study? Is this a randomised experiment? Who funded it? Are the researchers transparent?

And transparency is a major problem. As mentioned above, many ‘social scientists’ write books with little or no proper references at the rear of the book and in numerous cases give talks where no feedback is possible at that time. Much of the problem then is exacerbated by the media, which pounces upon a highlight of speech or a paragraph of the written word by certain social scientists, and then presents the ‘finding’ to readers as truth.

Within each generation the urge to be a social scientist comes to numerous young people — people who have been influenced either by their parents, their circle of social friends, their university, or their specific viewpoint of the earth and the universe and where it may or may not be heading.

Christopher J. Ferguson writing in Quillette 23 Feb 2019 states: “On February 15, the American Psychological Association (APA) Council of Representatives voted for a resolution opposing parental spanking (full disclosure: I serve on the APA Council of Representatives but speak only for myself). The resolution statement presented spanking research as if data conclusively links spanking to negative outcomes in children such as aggression or reduced intellectual development. I happen to do some research on spanking’s effects on children. Although I am by no means a spanking advocate, I was alarmed by the way an inconsistent, correlational, and methodologically weak research field that routinely produces weak effect sizes was mischaracterized as consistent and strong. Unfortunately, this resolution is part of a larger bias among professional guilds such as the APA, wherein messy science is laundered for public consumption, presenting it as more impressive than it actually is. Farah Naz Kharn, writing in the *Scientific American* 6th Feb 2017, finds issue with celebrity doctors. “With the release of his first baby-care book in the 1940s, Benjamin Spock became a household name by helping mothers across America feel



more confident in their child-rearing skills, long before the age of social media and daytime television. Now, decades later, some of the most prominent players in the game of celebrity-doctoring are integrative medicine expert Andrew Weil, cardiothoracic surgeon turned daytime television health guru Mehmet Oz, and television's go-to-psychologist, Phil McGraw.

"All of these men have come under fire in the past, usually due to questions regarding the medical safety and efficacy of their recommendations. But the controversies surrounding them have hardly made a dent in the profitability of their longstanding empires or in the dedication of their fans. Doctors and researchers have been so riled up by the lack of medical evidence for the recommendations handed down by medical television shows that a 2014 [study](#) looked specifically at this issue. Not too surprisingly, only 54 percent of the recommendations studied had even one piece of medical evidence to back them up. And less than one percent were accompanied by disclosures of potential conflicts of interest.

"But now, in the era of social media influencers, celebrity doctoring is no longer exclusively available through the handful of physicians writing books or starring in television shows; it can be found across just about every social media platform. Medical bloggers, doctor instagrammers, and physician twitterati are all reaching out to the American public, and this is a slippery slope to disaster."

And not only in America, but in Australia, Canada, the UK, and many other Western and Eastern nations. The proliferation of social scientific jargon by many rises with simply minimum degrees from a university. Kharn advises: "It's wise to remember that not everything 'natural' is safe, and not all 'expert' advice is sound". •

Not in our backyard

Really, you wouldn't want one of these in your backyard or near your farm. They are monstrous giants, almost the same height as Melbourne's Eureka Tower. Pop them out in the wilderness where their humming noise is no threat to ear and mind, and that would seem to be the answer. But it is not.

Greens Party original leader, Dr. Bob Brown, is right in calling for a halt to the giant Tasmanian wind farm project at Robbins Island. Graham Lloyd, environment editor for *The Australian* writes, July 20, "What limited research there is, including by AGL in Australia, shows that 30 per cent of wind-farm bird deaths involve raptors that breed slowly and are meant to live a long time. This is at the heart of concerns by Bob Brown over the Robbins Island wind farm proposal in Tasmania. . . . An autopsy [of a wedge-tailed eagle struck by a wind farm blade at Waterloo wind farm] showed a punctured skull and major fractures of the right wing."

While Dr. Brown has in the past — as part of the Greens policy — been in favour of wind farms for renewable energy, this current project leaves him angry. He has even stated that the current Greens leaders and their supporters are silent about the project [including *The Age* newspaper at the time] which will be one of the world's largest renewable developments — with up to 200 towers reaching upward to 270m from the ground. Brown now considers that this project is merely a money-making effort by the Hong Kong based company UPC Renewables. Sailors will see this conglomeration of towers 50km out to sea.

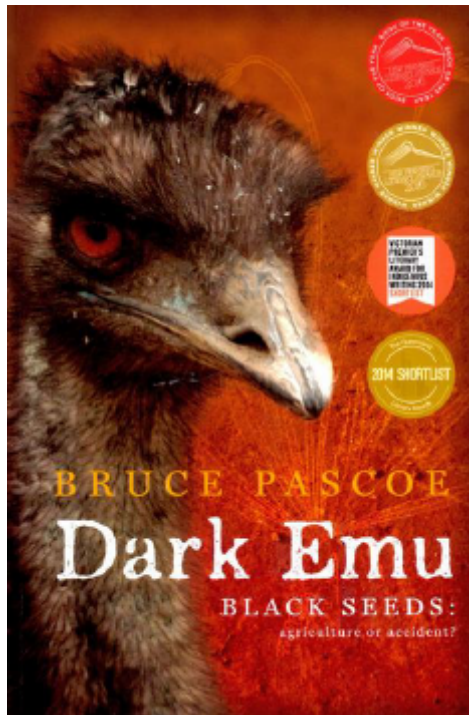
Projects such as this are an offence to the landscape and to nature. Brown has identified 25 species of endangered birds on Robbins Island, including migrating international birds, but the most at risk will be the Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle and other raptors. Wipe them out and the ecology of the island will change dramatically. Surprisingly, the ABC has come out in favour of Brown's comments, but the majority of left of centre publications such as *The Age* have been practically silent, including today's Greens leaders.

The president of the think tank Copenhagen Consensus Centre, Bjorn Lomborg, considers that — although climate change is real — wind farms and other renewables will cost trillions without having a significant impact upon temperatures by the end of the century. He states that one of the biggest challenges we face is to keep India and China as active participants, so that these two large polluters may manage their country's climate more efficiently, with lifelong effects upon populations. Other problems that require addressing is to reduce population: currently, 215 million women have no access to contraception, so that fewer children will have a better future; more investing in agricultural research so that crops become more resilient to climate shocks; work needs to be done on eliminating tuberculosis and malaria; lift restrictions on free trade so that poorer countries may be involved. By all means, hold on to and develop certain renewables, but don't make them out to be a magic wand, for the cost of wind farms is excessively high — they require considerable mining to be carried out for their parts, and certain aspects of them are not compatible with natural landscapes. •



**Book review:**

Australia's Aboriginal farmers



Numerous historians have got it wrong. Australian indigenous persons knew much about agriculture. So states Bruce Pascoe with his recent book *Dark Emu* — which illustrates that early indigenous folk were not simply hunter-gatherers, but did sow on plots of land, built dams, irrigated, and tilled.

Early explorers' notes and certain historians' collections have revealed that not only did indigenous persons farm, but they also used special nets for fishing, together with fish traps. Australians are not familiar with the word agriculture combined with indigenous, but there is proof of exactly that, given by some of the early explorers. The surveyor, Major Thomas Mitchell (1792-1855), stated that he found grass or hay pulled and piled into hayricks and that "we found the ricks or hay-cocks extending for miles". He also wrote "the seed is made by the natives into a kind of paste or bread . . . I counted nine miles along the river [of this grass].

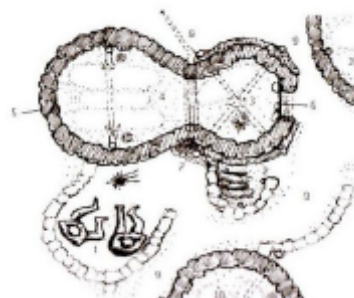
Another explorer, George Grey, said he was surprised to find a village on the Gascoyne River where the houses were built of large-sized logs, much higher and very superior to those made by the natives of the south-western coast, while John Batman left one of his men, Andrew Todd, near Indented Head with the local Wathaurong people, talking to them and sketching. One sketch shows women digging up a small sweet potato or yam, which apparently was part

of their staple diet Mitchell, in 1836, saw a vast extent of open downs at the Victorian Grampians where the natives were digging for roots, while Captain John Hunter reported in 1788 that the people around Sydney were dependent on their yam gardens. In 1974 William Tindale researched an indigenous grain belt that covered West and north-West of Victoria, much of New South Wales and Queensland, a large centre portion of the Northern Territory, and much the same for Western Australia, culminating north of Perth.

Dark Emu is divided into eight chapters: Agriculture, Aquaculture, Population and Housing, Storage and Preservation, Fire, The Heavens: Language and the Law, Australian Agricultural Revolution, and Accepting History and Creating the Future. An eye-opener for unbelievers with tons of references and notations. NSW Premier's Literary Awards, Book of the Year 2016. Victoria Premier's Literary Awards, Book of the Year 2016.

Dark Emu, by Bruce Pascoe

Magabala Books, paperback at Dymocks \$AUD 19.99. Booktopia \$AUD 14.99 plus postage



Indigenous housing in villages, far superior to what is generally known as lean to's or Mia Mia's



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837 567)



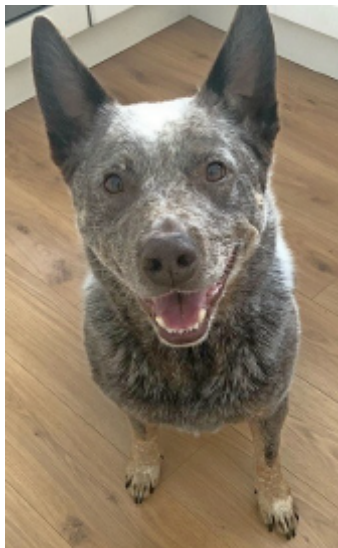
Dusty is a 10 year old, 11kg desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped female Miniature Poodle, who's looking for a loving home.

She's a loving and sweet natured girl who loves spending time with her favourite people. A relaxed all-adult home or one with gentle, older children would suit.

Dusty hasn't been around cats but is great with other dogs. In fact she would suit a home with another gentle dog for company. Otherwise a home with people who work from home or are retired, may also suit.

She enjoys an indoor/outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Regular grooming would also be required. Dusty's adoption fee is \$600. If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Port Melbourne based, but we go to you).

Ed's note, *You need to be quick because Dusty has a ton of admirers.*



Bundy is an 8 year old, 20kg desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped male Blue Heeler x, who's looking for a loving home.

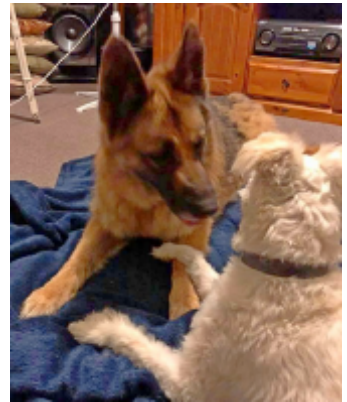
He's a very affectionate, loyal and playful boy (he enjoys playing fetch) who's looking for a home where he'll be a cherished member of the family. He loves to please, knows basic commands and is even known to 'speak'••

Bundy would suit a relaxed all adult home or one with dog savvy, older children and ideally another dog for company (a desexed female dog would suit). He's had some anxiety in the past but should be fine in the right home. He enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Bundy's adoption fee is \$350 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Carrum Downs based, but we go to you).

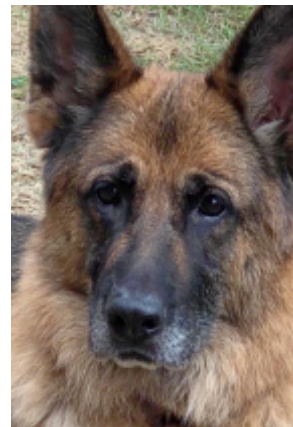
Happy Adoption Tale (follow up No: 2)

From 'Jenna' the German Shepherd, via mum Joanne and family.

'Hi Aunty Michaela and TARS, Just a little message to again say thanks for my beautiful mum, dad and family. I've settled in very well and I've put on a few kgs also — now 34.4 up from 29kg. I love going for walks with my mum and dad. I'm more me now and have let my colours shine through lol. Mum says I'm a big bugger every time she sits down at the lounge after tea with her coffee because Albert (Jenna's Whippet x Maltese 'brother') and myself remind her it's biscuit time and she always forgets to get one for us before sitting down. I also love my puddy cat Mimi but boy he runs fast up the hall through that baby gate but I just don't fit, and he thinks it's



funny laying there knowing I can't lick him and make him all slobbering wet.

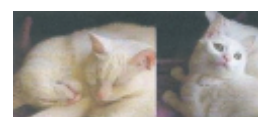


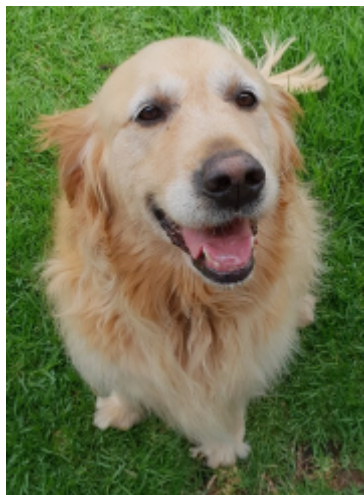
I had my 10th birthday on March 6th, but I'm healthy and mum's helping me with my incontinence. I take my tablets twice a week with a tidbit of yummy cheese. Mum rubs my head and says I'm a good old girl.

Ok I have to go but remember I'm forever grateful to you for finding my family. I'm happy and looking forward to many more years with them and my brother Albert and Mimi the cat. Woof Woof! Jenna xx' *** Thanks again Joanne and Mark for taking on lovely senior girl Jenna. Seeing her blossom is just beautiful.



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





Duke is an 8 year old, 36kg Golden Retriever and Bear is a 5 year old, 5kg Maltese x Shih Tzu. Both boys are desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped and are looking for a loving home, ideally together but can be separated if going to a home with another compatible dog.

Duke and Bear are very happy, affectionate and loyal boys who love human company and would suit

being an integral part of family life.

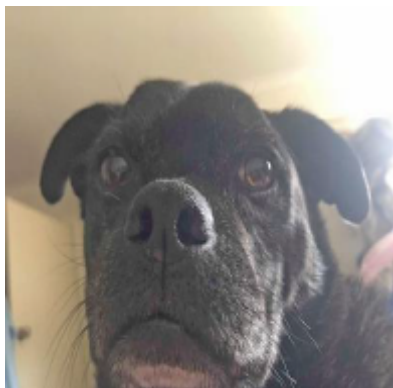
They're great with other dogs and are also fine with older, dog friendly children. They're yet to spend any time with cats. Duke and Bear enjoy an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Regular grooming would also be required. Duke and Bear's combined adoption fee is \$900.

If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Williams Landing based, but we go to you).



Readvertised: I'm still looking for a loving home!

Frankie is a 9 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped 15kg male Pug x Staffordshire Terrier, who's looking for a loving home. He's a relaxed, happy and well behaved boy who's also very affectionate.

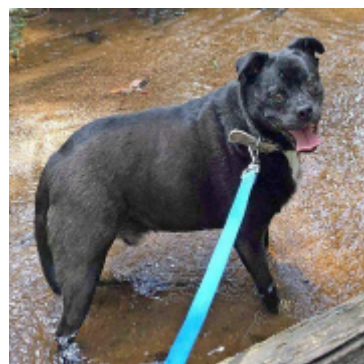


Frankie would suit a child-free, older home where he can enjoy lots of attention, daily walks and playing fetch.

He's great with other dogs and would either suit a home with another dog for company or on his own with someone who's around during the day. **He's also lived with a cat.**

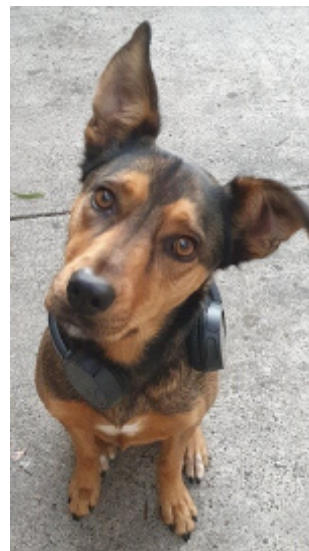
Frankie enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Frankie's adoption

fee is \$300 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Hallam based, but we go to you).



Sophie is a 2 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and micro-chipped 20kg female German Shepherd X Kelpie who's looking for a loving home.

She's an active girl, who would suit an active family, happy to exercise her daily. Sophie's also an affectionate and loyal girl who's lived with a cat and is great with older, dog savvy children. A home with another dog for company may suit (ideally a desexed male dog), otherwise a home on her own with a retired but active family or someone who works from home, would be great. She enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Sophie's adoption fee is \$400 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Viewbank based, but we go to you).



Artoo is a 1 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped male Red Burmese cat, who's looking for a loving, indoor home.

He's both an active and playful boy, as well as a super cuddly and smoochie one.

Artoo loves human company and starts to purr if you so much as look at him (once he knows and trusts you). He needs to be the sole cat in a child-free home, though gentle, older cat-savvy children might suit. He's had minimal contact with dogs.

Artoo's adoption fee is \$250 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409 21 31 31 (Bentleigh East based, but we go to you).





Happy Adoption Tale! From Emy and David.

“My daughter-in-law sent me Lenny the Russian Blue x’s ad, so we contacted Michaela who organised a meeting with Lennon and his lovely owner Natalie. After a long chat and home

inspection, Natalie decided we were suitable and left Lennon behind for a trial period. We promised her and Michaela we would give Lennon plenty of time to settle in. Surprisingly less than 12 hours later, Lenny came out of his basket and came to us! He started eating, drinking and using his potty. Less than 24 hours later, Lenny started exploring the house!

He’s like a baby who loves attention and is also very dog-like, all excited and running and jumping while he waits for his food. He looks like a Meerkat, because he stretches his neck to see what’s going on (he’s so nosey.. lol). He’s a real character and makes us laugh. It’s just amazing how he settled in so quickly. Thank you so much to Natalie for trusting us with her adorable Lenny.

Nowadays, he sleeps on our bed during the day and in his ‘cat house’ at night. Yes he’s happy, relaxed and purring away!

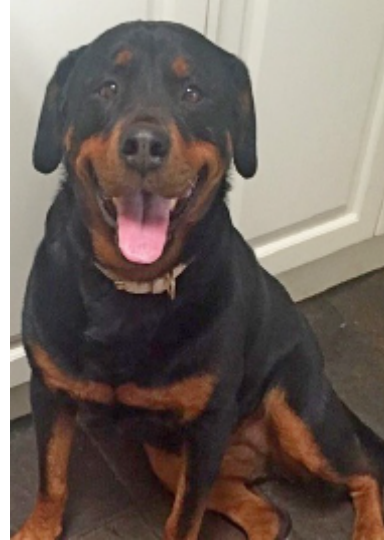
To Michaela, thank you for assisting us in adopting Lennon. Compared to other organisations we found you the easiest person to deal with and the friendliest! No hassles with you. You care about the animals and you support people like us who are genuinely offering a safe, secure and loving home.

Good luck and we hope you find good homes for all the animals in your care.”



Willow is a 6 year old, 45kg desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped female Rottweiler who’s

looking for a loving home.

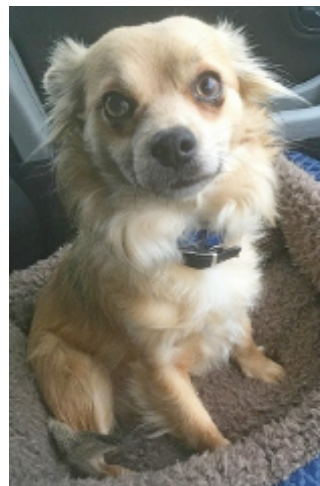


She’s a loyal, affectionate and cuddly girl who loves human company and would suit a calm, relaxed all-adult home or one with older, dog savvy children. Willow plays a bit too roughly with smaller dogs (she likes to play roly poly with them and occasionally has a nip of their ankles, which is obviously not a great idea) but is fine with bigger dogs. A home with a large, desexed male dog would be great.

She enjoys an indoor/outdoor lifestyle. Willow’s adoption fee is \$400 If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Red Hill based, but we go to you).

Tully is a 7 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped 6kg female Long Haired Chihuahua x Pomeranian, who’s looking for a loving home.

She’s a typically affectionate and loyal lapdog who adores people and loves a cuddle (she would sleep under the doona covers if she was allowed to!) She’s also a relaxed, calm and sweet natured



little girl. An all adult home or one with gentle, dog savvy, older children would suit.

When at the park she can be a bit uppity with other dogs, chasing after them or having a bark at the bigger ones especially when on lead, but with regular exposure to them on her daily walks and an experienced, cool, calm and confident owner at the helm, this behaviour should cease.

She’s lived with cats, but would also enjoy a home with another sweet natured dog for

company, ideally a desexed male. She enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors. Regular brushing and occasional grooming would be required.

Tully’s adoption fee is \$500

If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Albert Park based, but we go to you).

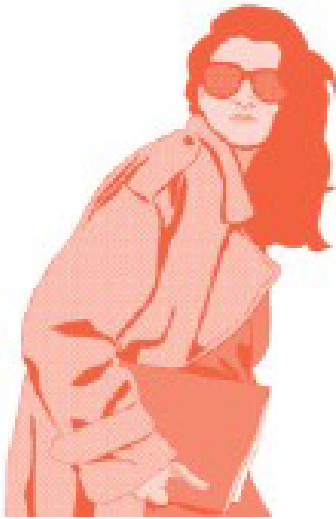
MS Australia

Multiple Sclerosis

needs your help

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



Mercury O'Proud Political journalist

Bill Shorten: Another Bob Hawke or Paul Keating he was not. Far from it. Labor, under his leadership, stated during the election campaign that they had learnt their lessons from the past and listened to voters. Clearly they did not. What they listened to were the inner city so-called elite progressive environmentalists [add the Vegan activists to that] who knew nothing about farming, mining, or running a business — all of which is the real backbone of the country and takes a lot of guts to implement. And what they were not protecting was jobs, jobs, and more jobs. Under the thumb of the CFMEU and the Trades Hall Council they certainly remained, but their main supporters these days, unfortunately, are the inner city university graduates of quasi-environmental persuasion. In other words semi-educated of paper and book learning which

means absolutely nothing in the industrial/farming progression of the country. Know all, know nothing.

The policies that ruined Labor's chances for leadership of the nation were exceedingly harmful to much of the population: **Franking credits**, where shares would be taxed (they'd already been taxed as original income) were to be introduced to help pay for Labor's environmental excess proposals, quite unnecessary with Australia's small population of 25 million. Labor considered that they were targeting the rich, but numerous middle-income folk and retirees look to shares to help them manage their living. **Abolishment of negative gearing:** Again it is not only the rich who seek to make a better life for themselves and their children by being careful with finance, it is often the middle income earner. By all means hit the rich heavily with taxes they can afford, but penalising the middle-income and lower income earners is a sure right-off of votes. In addition the removal of negative gearing would have caused numerous investors to totally cease building apartments and flats for rent, thus adding to the increase of rents and the reduction of rental properties for an ever growing population. Where then, are they supposed to live? Why Labor was so blind in not being able to visualise the results from these two hits is baffling. And so it was that the quiet middle-income earner, and the lower income earner, together with retirees looked with horror at Labor's policies, which were without a doubt taking from the average earner to give money to projects that still remain questionable, together with the refusal of costing their projects.

Climate change? Of course there is climate change — it's been going on for millions of years up and down and round about, but it never had humans interfering with it until recent times. Something needs to be done. China, along with other Asian countries, Arabian, African and South American, are the biggest polluters of the earth in current days. Goods which Australians buy are mainly cost achieved by buying from China, but China's factories are polluting the earth's atmosphere at an incredible rate, together with Indonesia's burning and destruction of rain forests. Buy cheap Chinese-manufactured goods from Australian department stores, pay later and pay dearly with environmental problems. Much the same with buying goods from India and Bangladesh. Catch 22 situation! These countries rely upon their factories to decrease the level of poverty — accepting the angel of economic mercy but paying to the devil with pollution they cannot handle. Labor's climate change proposals were excessive for the small population of Australia. Good intentions, same as The Greens, but over-hyped to blazes and not costed properly, which the electoral voters immediately saw through.

There have been a considerable amount of naughty young women in the past — and probably so even in the present. Sarah Knapton, writing from London, reveals that genetic testing for hereditary illnesses has revealed certain ethical problems. How do you tell one in ten persons that their father is not their father? In more licentious countries — Australia and New Zealand, Canada perhaps, (tongue in cheek!) the figure might rise to two in ten, or three in ten!!! Ian Cumming, the head of Health Education England —the National Health Service training body — stated that genetic testing had resulted in hospitals being left in a quandary because they were uncovering some awkward family secrets. It reminds one of the old religious saying "Beware, your sin will find you out." Shame that it didn't happen sooner with the paedophile priests in almost all countries in the world!

Knapton writes: "As early as 2005, Liverpool University and health experts warned that genetic testing could throw up such issues . . . Cumming said that while genetics offered new hope for preventing disease, there were difficult ethical challenges that needed addressing." The problem is that there has been little or no research done on paternal discrepancy and how to deal with it still remains unsolved. What is concerning is that it would affect many of today's Baby Boomers, whose mother's legal partner was overseas during World War II. •



Nowhere to go

Australia's great shame

Census night 2011. You were in your cosy home watching a wide-screen TV, with a heater controlling the inner temperature, or perhaps on a holiday somewhere else in Australia, or because you could afford it, a cruise or an overseas tour to escape the bitter winter. The overnight temperature the following day was down to 4 degrees C. For the homeless, attempting to keep out the cold in a park or under a bridge, the temperature effect would feel well below zero. The 2011 census took in 98.3% of Australia's people, and out of that percentage it was found that there were 105,237 homeless, which is an absolute disgrace and shame upon this country.



Summer, with all of her possessions, knows what it is not to be loved, but pours out her affection on Narla, her cat, which she found as a stray kitten in a Melbourne alley.

Homeless — a word that describes those in general who have no roof over their head. If they are lucky they might find an abandoned rundown home, shed, or factory ear-marked for future demolition. They may have moved numerous times from place to place, never finding a safe and secure environment in which to live and an easy target for disease and attack. Often, their only comfort is drugs, which they can only procure through stealing. Among these folk there are some who had been in rental accommodation, but due to considerable increases in rent and the cost of living while out of work, they soon had no place to go to and joined the crowd of the homeless.

Homeless — a word that the current population is not too familiar with, or if they are, it describes dirty, lazy, long-haired, long-bearded, tattooed individuals — individuals who have the same need as the rest of us: a safe place during freezing winters and blazing hot summers. Some of these homeless have a dog or even a cat for company — a warm beating heart ticking alongside them that they love more than themselves during the long and lonely nights, and when money is short they would rather go without than to see their pet go hungry.

Homeless — a term which the authorities — particularly the police and the courts, describe as “of no fixed address.” Strange that the wandering retired, or Grey Nomads in their caravans, sometimes have that title even though they are not homeless.

Homeless. The word means less, lesser than the average. Far less than the average. It becomes an inescapable place in one's mind; in one's dreams or nightmares: Homeless, homeless . . . always homeless . . . a bottomless labyrinth from which there is no escape—no progress, in which day after day and night after night grinds one down, further and further, taking one's personality and re-shaping it into an unchangeable dark mould like some subterranean being. Hope is for other people, not for the homeless. For the homeless there is only the world of no future, because tomorrow will be the same as today is and the same as yesterday was. It is like walking inside a glass enclosure — you can see what is around you, but you cannot escape through the impenetrable glass. Time and the date of each day means nothing to the homeless, for time is an unchangeable and fixed shadow that follows one through the streets — streets that once held the promise of a different life. Where did it all go wrong? What was the first misstep that heralded the path that would lead to homelessness? The homeless person does not know. The homeless person could think up a dozen different incidents, none of which would be the true trigger because the memory, once clear and sharp, is now a foggy substance similar to looking through a mass of cobwebs. If the homeless person keeps a diary, it would soon become monotonous with entries that varied little from day to day, for the homeless person's world — although it may still be one of a certain creativeness — is limited by circumstances beyond one's control.

next page>>>



Young females are a large proportion of the homeless. Some version of safety may well be found in a pet dog. Mobile veterinary services are provided free of charge.



This is why there are organisations such as *The Council for Homeless Persons*, *The Salvation Army*, *Inner City Mission*, that reach out with a helping hand, but which is only the tip of the iceberg. Each state government and the federal government need to pour more resources into shifting the homeless out of the streets and parks and supplying adequate mental and other health services for them, otherwise it will be too late for many of the homeless.

Refugees, even economic immigrants, are given a home for themselves and their families, together with free welfare, free medical and dental and other prospects which are overseen by numerous refugee organisations. There is not the same empathy and services for the homeless. •

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



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)

Cooper is a 6 year old, 16kg desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped male Beagle, who's looking for a loving home.

He's a very happy and loving boy (he loves cuddles). He's also quite active and especially loves playing fetch. He would suit a home

where he'll be a loved member of the family in an all-adult home or one with older, dog loving children.

Cooper is a very sociable boy who's great with other dogs especially when he's off lead at the park. He would suit a home with another dog for company, ideally a desexed female. He's yet to spend any time with cats.

He's been a mainly outdoor dog, but we'd love him to have a home with indoor/ outdoor access, where he can also sleep indoors.

Cooper's adoption fee is \$450

If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Berwick based, but we go to you).



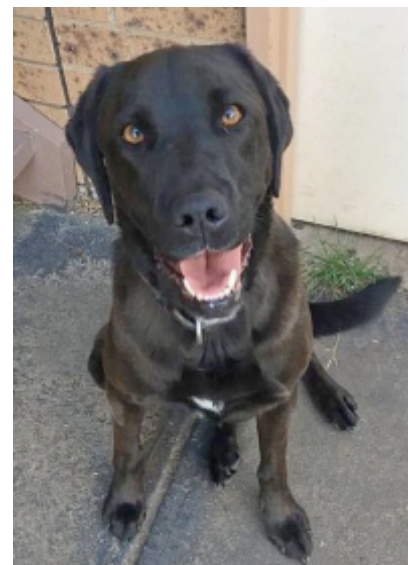
Zoe is a 4 year old desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped 25kg female Labrador who's looking for a loving home.

She's a very affectionate and loyal girl who would love to be a cherished member of the family. She loves her daily walks and time at the park, so would suit an active family.

Zoe would also suit an all-adult home or one with older, dog-friendly children. A home with another dog for company would also be ideal. (She's not good with cats). She enjoys an indoor/ outdoor lifestyle, sleeping indoors.

Zoe's adoption fee is \$600

If interested, please call Michaela on 0409213131 (Mill Park based, but we go to you).



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/>



What next for China?



George Orwell's book *1984* has surely bloomed into reality with China's surrogate Hong Kong government crackdown in Hong Kong of recent days, which naturally enough has been the case within mainland China for decades. Hong Kong's youthful activists may have considered they were

out of their depth, but they reacted against the heavy hand of the China backed government without hesitation. Totalitarian government seeking to implode upon a semi-democracy such as Hong Kong, Taiwan, etc. And anyone who gets in the way of the Communist machine is simply delegated to jail or prison farms for re-education.

China's leaders boast how they have taken the country from poverty into a new age of prosperity for all. Not so fast! Dr. Michael Clarke*, writing in *The Age* 21 February 2019 states that China's re-education camps show parallels with the Soviet Gulag camps and Nazi concentration camps. Clarke writes: "Beijing has embarked on a three-phase propaganda strategy. . . secrecy and outright denial, justificatory counter-narratives and 'tours' of alleged camps for foreign observers that mirror strategies used by both Stalin and Hitler to deflect criticism of their regimes."

While the leaders of China still hark back to the "bad old days" when the Kuomintang (Nationalist Party) ruled with fear, evidence from numerous sources reveals that China's Communist Party (CCP) maintains re-education farms and prisons that would have made the Nationalists cringe in horror. Just as China dismisses the Tiananmen Square massacre — virtually wiping it from history — so today massive censorship is in place, especially to curb any journalist or writer's enthusiasm for portraying the truth. Wang Dan, now of the United States and aged 50, was arrested as a student dissident in 1989 after the Tiananmen Square massacre and only released in 1993, but soon arrested again and given an 11-year sentence, though for medical reasons was released in 1998.

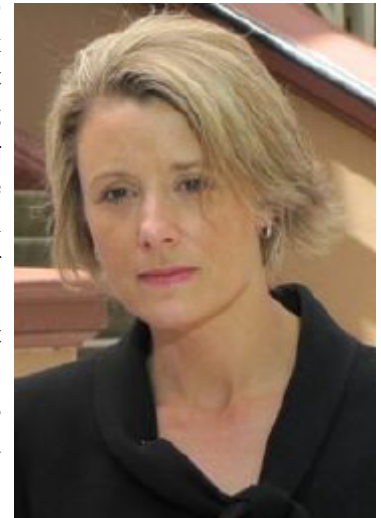
On the 30th anniversary of Tiananmen, three Chinese warships docked in Sydney harbour to the shock of much of the Australian public. It was a clear message from Beijing that they will dictate their coming rule of the seas in the South Pacific. On that same day the Chinese Defence Minister, Wei Fenghe, stated that the Tiananmen crackdown was "the best policy" and because of this "China has enjoyed stability". China's so-called stability comes with a price — a crackdown on free speech and demonstrations. He also sent a clear message with his recent speech in Singapore regarding Taiwan and Beijing's authority within the South China Sea. Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, former Australia minister for international development, writing in *The Australian* of 7 June 2019 stated that Wei Fenghe's tone was arrogant and uncompromising. She also wrote "Beijing's leaders simply ignore the fact that, following the unanimous ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in 2016, they have no right under international law to claim areas falling within the 'nine-dash line' of demarcation in the South China Sea." That China is building military and air-force facilities —including room for large bombers — on disputed islands in the South China Sea is well recognised, as is their infiltration as "the good guys" in offering loans and facilities for many of our South Pacific neighbours, including Papua New Guinea and East Timor.

Step in Allan Gyngell, recent Director-General of the Australian National Office of Assessments — which is the Australian government's national security assessment agency. His recent 420-page book *Fear of Abandonment: Australia in the World since 1942*, points very clearly to the current problem Australia faces now that it's traditional military companions — Britain and America — are not as dynamic in this region nowadays (although with America, who can tell?). Australia learnt some lessons (or should have) during WWI and WWII when Britain left it's colonial South East Asia and Pacific defences with virtually a skeleton force. Prior to WWI, Britain considered that Australia should look after itself regarding local defence in the region. It was well known that after war was declared in 1914, German nationals living in the Malayan Straits region, easily slipped out to the Dutch ruled colony of Batavia — the Dutch colonists accepting them freely. Having previously left India, Burma and Ceylon (now Myanmar and Sri Lanka) and then giving independence to Malaya in 1957, Britain's empire was fading fast from the East. This would have certain implications for Australia, which was already superceding the Royal Air Force and other British establishments in Malaya. In a ceremony at RAF Butterworth in May 1958, the Royal Air Force ensign came down to be replaced by the Royal Australian Air Force, to which the editor of the RAF Butterworth magazine *Scramble*, politely referred to as being "Kicked by a Kangaroo."



Think again Albo

Labor Party shenanigans. Was it entirely Anthony Albanese's decision to appoint Kristina Keneally to the shadow Home Affairs portfolio? We think you've made a grave error, Albo, that is if it was your single-minded choice and not interfered with by Caucus or by certain influential party members. We have long considered that Keneally reached certain political highlights simply because of her stunning good looks and a certain charisma. Was she part of a deal that was made while Bill Shorten was still campaigning, when the deal then was that if he won the election Keneally would become an important part of the cabinet? As one party member commented recently, "People want to talk to her, she is at ease with people." Ed Husic, talented Labor male, had to step aside to make way for Keneally. It's quite legal, but winning something in your own right would seem to be a more honourable approach. However, Keneally was handed on a plate the senate seat vacated by Sam Dastyari over his shady connections with Chinese backers, and this new appointment should alert rank and file Labor members to something going on behind the scenes that requires investigating.



Kristina Keneally. Photo credit Michael Smith news

Maybe so, and while we won't go into details of why she, as Premier, lost an almost unlosable NSW election, nor her strange connections with corrupt power-broker Eddie Obied, nor her recently losing the Bennelong by-election all by herself. Quite a losing streak! She certainly didn't make anyone feel at ease when interviewed by 3AW's Neil Mitchell on Monday June 3 2019. Let us enlighten you, Albo, for reasons not to have Keneally in your shadow cabinet: In her answers to Neil she was making it very **clear** to him and his listeners how fundamentally **clear** she was about her idea of politics.

3AW has tabled these answers for listeners/readers to acknowledge just how **clear** Keneally was during that important interview. She knew who was interviewing her, having been sat for a certain time within Neil Mitchell's studio prior to being on air. She was sitting next to him, not even opposite so no reason to be nervous. Her first reply is somewhat stunning:-

NEIL MITCHELL What do you consider the most important national security issue for the country?

KRISTINA KENEALLY Well Mark, let me just say...

NEIL MITCHELL Neil.

KRISTINA KENEALLY That um, sorry I apologise Neil. Let me just say Neil um this ah, this is an important part of the portfolio, ah, and when it comes to our national security there are a number of, of threats that we face of course like every country in the world, but you know I do think we need to be incredibly mindful in this next term of parliament how we deal with issues around cyber security, how we deal with ah issues around terrorism of course, these do remain, ah, pressing concerns for our country.

The seven times Kristina Keneally said "**clear**" to Neil Mitchell:

- On her changing views on turning back boats – "I'm being quite **clear** about that".
- On offshore processing: "Let me be **clear** Neil, let me be absolutely **clear**. As I said in 2015, and I have continue to hold since, offshore processing, turn backs where it's safe to do so, and regional resettlement are fundamental and absolutely necessary".
- On resettlement of asylum seekers in a third country – "People should be resettled in third countries. Let's be **clear** about this".
- On resettlement of asylum seekers in a third country – "Neil, let's be **clear**. The government could have taken up an offer from New Zealand to resettle 150 refugees, they refused to do that".
- On taking responsibility for the children of Australian terrorists – "Let's make it **clear**. Since the election occurred, since that legislation was first tabled, we have had people like Mike Pompeo and others saying that countries need to consider their responsibility to these foreign fighters".
- On US leadership – "Let me be **clear** that I respect the office of the president of the United States."

Clear thinking, this is not. Pre-primary school children may well think "Mummy, she's a bit of a dill!"

Labor choosing front benchers on merit? — NOT. Let's be very **clear about that.**

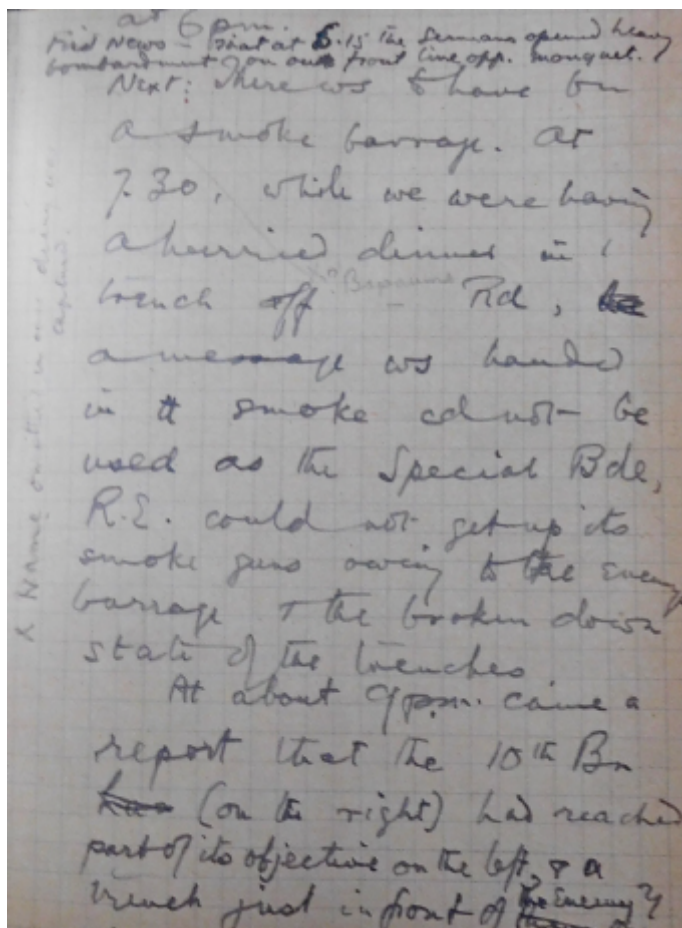
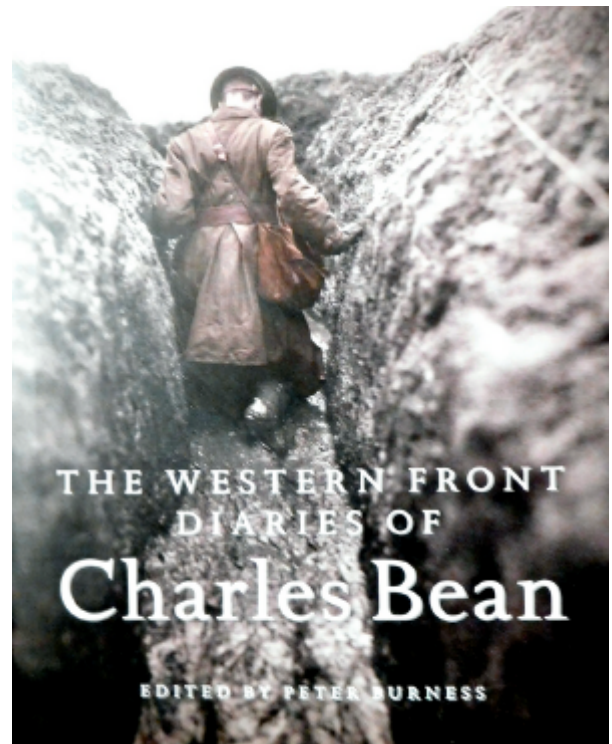


The Western Front diaries of Charles Bean

It's heavier than the standard coffee table book, and generally thicker, so it is not a book that can be read in bed. But oh, what a classic! It may well be published later as a paperback, but its 640 pages will not be easy to condense. The editor, Peter Burness, has carried out a remarkable piece of work. It's not a book for the average reader, but for those who have an interest in wartime history this compendium is a must.

As explained in a preface: "This is not a biography of Charles Bean. It is an exploration of a climatic three-year slice of his life as revealed through his wartime diaries and notebooks. The period covered, 1916-1918, was one of intense drama, suffering and sacrifice. These years left deep impressions on the nation, and upon Bean himself".

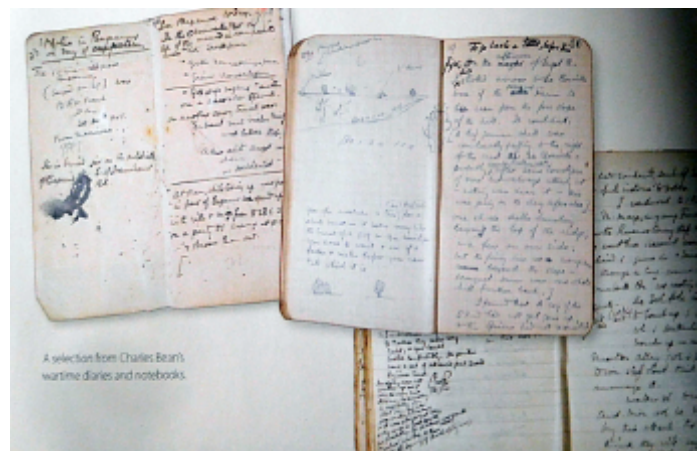
An editorial note by Peter Burness reads: "Charles Bean's Western Front diaries contain the words of a close and active observer of the Australian experience of the war between 1916 and 1918. Throughout these years, Bean moved among ordinary soldiers, the military leaders and senior politicians. The diaries he kept reflect the feelings and views of an individual who witnessed an array of events, ranging from intense and bloody battles to planning and discussions in headquarters, and even to men at rest and in training. . In some parts, the diaries are a complicated mix of details, opinions and notes. Entries were often made late at night or in the early morning, when Bean was tired or even distressed and emotional". •



A page from Bean's diaries



The typewriter Bean used as a war correspondent



Bean's diaries



A German photograph of a British Mark II tank that accompanied Australian troops on an unsuccessful attack 11 April 1917. AWMG01534.



Despite the danger Bean managed to get photographs around Poziers. A mobile cooker stands by the road with food for the troops. AWMEZ113.



Charles Bean was with Ernest Brooks on a wet day 28 August 1916 to photograph all that remained of the village Church at Poziers. AWMEZ0096.



Australian artillery being hauled through the mud for the build-up attack on Passchendaele 2 Oct 1917.



The ruins of Basilique de Notre-Dame of de Brebieres at Albert — a familiar sight to all British troops serving on the Somme. The statue of the Virgin Mary and Child hung precariously over the town until it was destroyed in 1918. AWM E00168.

**The Western Front Diaries of Charles Bean — Australian War Memorial & New South publishing
RRP \$AUD79.99, but some reduction may be had by shopping around online.**

A personal journey from the editor Sons and daughters shouldn't have to die so young

Apparently, there was a certain amount of jealousy from others, but F and I were oblivious to it at the time as we danced with what was then, a certain perfection. She was so light and graceful and we made an instant hit.

I was three years older, but what is three years when one is nineteen? So, she was as the old song goes, *Sweet Sixteen*, and as she bloomed into full womanhood within the next couple of years, she could have taken to ballet but never did. The grace with which she lightly touched the ballroom floor was a delight which I never experienced with anyone else over the years. I was enthralled with the scent of her and the inner peace she seemed to bear, together with her sparkle and radiant chuckle.

A young man merely a year older than me, whom I had met through the local Geelong CMF army barracks while on National Service, said to me one Saturday night “That’s my sister you are dancing with.” Indeed, it was so.

There were some opportunities when perhaps I should have popped the question to F, but I was by 1955 a serving member of the Royal Australian Air Force and by 1956-57, far away in East Sale, followed by Queensland and then Malaya for almost three years. The tryst was broken — words left unspoken. But the heart kept its beat with an ingrained memory so dear and precious.

Naturally enough, it was no surprise when returning to Australia in December 1960 to find that she had married, curiously to a young man with the same initials as mine. They had worked for the same corporation, so undoubtedly had formed a close relationship. In time they had several children and like all of us born prior to World War II they were beginning to move up the scale in age as the decades passed by.

It came as a shock in recent times to find that F had died at the age of 65 years. A further shock was to find that her brother had passed on at 47 years, and his wife three years later at the same age. F’s father had also passed away at the age of 52. The only solace was that F’s mother M had lived to the age of 90, but M had managed through all those years to bear the pain of losing her son J, her daughter-in-law, together with her husband. F’s husband is still alive. I have never met him, but perhaps there is still time for that? •



Must read China books

The first is a factual account of Adeline Yen Mah's trials and tribulations in China as the country undergoes initial revolution, followed by further upheaval in more purges. The second is fiction by Ma Jian concerning China as it is today with similar approaches towards lack of freedom of speech and much imprisonment.

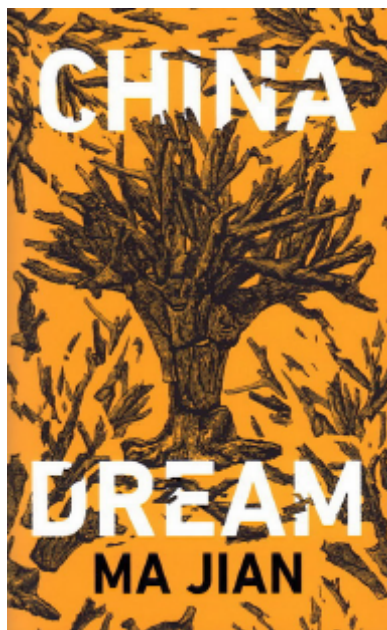
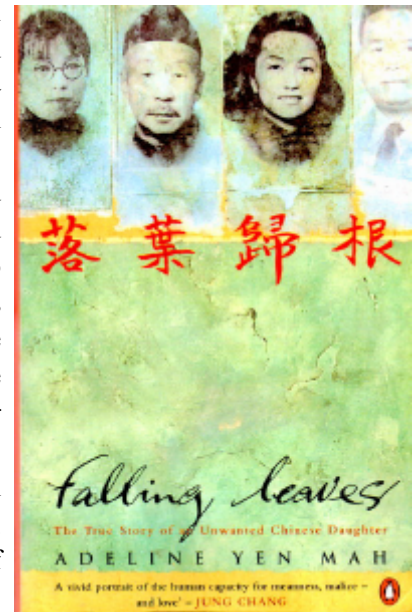
Falling Leaves is the factual story of an unwanted girl-child, whose mother died after her birth at the age of 30 with five doctors in attendance. Her father quickly married again to a woman who was to become a step-mother of cruel intent, especially to Adeline Yen Mah. The portrait of China in the throes of revolution and change covers from the 1930s to the 1990s. It is presented from a family view-point against the backdrop of immense national upheaval and brutality. Adeline pulls no punches as the family is targeted by revolutionists and eventually moves to Hong Kong and she, later to America.

The escape from China is not permanent and return journeys are frequent, with some family members choosing to stay permanently during certain cultural revolutions, much to their sorrow. Falling leaves must return to their beginnings and the cycle of birth, death, and re-birth continues.

Falling Leaves p46: "No one dared say a word. All conversation ceased as we watched Susan kick and struggle in Niang's arms [step-mother]. Finally, to my horror, Niang forced her child down on the couch beside her and gave a stinging slap across the face. Susan cried louder. Exasperated and by now no longer in control Niang began a vicious beating of her daughter, her slaps landing on Susan's little cheeks, ears and head. Everyone in the room cowered. I was totally bewildered. I could not understand why Father, Ye Ye [grandfather] or Aunt Baba did not intervene to stop this torture. I wanted to leave, but my feet seemed rooted to the floor. I knew I should keep silent, but words choked me and I felt compelled to spit them out. Finally, forgetting who I was or where I was, I blurted out in a trembling voice, 'Don't beat her any more. She's only a baby . . . In those few moments, we children saw and understood everything: not only about her [Niang] but also about Father and Ye Ye and Aunt Baba . . . With grandmother gone, she alone [Niang] was totally in control.' "

Falling Leaves, by Adeline Yen Mah

Dymocks paperback \$AUD29.99, Booktopia \$AUD21.25 plus postage



The second book, *China Dream* by Ma Jian, is set in modern day China — a satire of the totalitarianism and dictatorship that still exists; the thought police; the disappearances and imprisonment without warning. The Red Guards, albeit with another name, are still in existence. Whereas past revolutions were designed to cure corruption, it still manifests itself enormously in modern-day China.

The book centres around a Chinese provincial leader, or director, who is haunted by his past and whose present is governed by violence and blinded by materialism. "Remember, our goal is to evacuate the village without bloodshed," shouts the head of the urban-management team. "We must move fast this time, and not repeat the mistakes we made in Xiaozhai Village last week." His team have donned yellow safety helmets and their black Alsatis are barking at the village dogs. Although the battle has not yet started, Director Ma sees broken chair legs caught in branches and the streets of Ziyang strewn with bricks and dead bodies after another attack on the Million Bold Warriors."

"On the television, a lawyer tells a local news reporter: 'The government must put an end to the violent land grabs. It has no right to sell the peasants' land to greedy developers . . . 'Well, if the government doesn't sell the land, how will it pay the salaries of all the officials and bureaucrats?' Grumbles Ma Daode, turning the volume down. 'You've amassed three properties and are always chasing after women — you deserve to get sent to South Lake,' his wife says."

China Dream by Ma Jian

Translated from the Chinese by Flora Drew, Chatto & Windus, London

Dymocks \$AUD32.99 Hardback, \$AUD19.99 Penguin paperback.

Booktopia \$AUD25.50 hardback plus postage



Pet Medical Crisis

from Jennifer Hunt

Robert hasn't had an easy life — unstable housing or homelessness for many years until he was fortunate enough to get into a department of housing property in Malvern 19 years ago. He suffers from diabetes, heart disease and insomnia and survives on 11 tablets a day.

Robert's cat Jack was given to him as a 6 week old kitten 11 years ago and since Robert's last friend died 6 years ago, Jack has been his sole companion. On occasion Robert would venture into a pet shop to buy Jack a special treat and he was noticed by Jacqui Smith who works there. Gradually Jacqui learnt that Jack had not been well and that Robert could not afford his much needed veterinary care.

Jacqui approached Pet Medical Crisis who she had heard about as helping pensioners. We embraced the case as ticking all our requirements — a pensioner who cannot afford the cost of veterinary care to help their loved companion. Pet Medical Crisis liaised with our preferred and very supportive vet, Dr Marcus Hayes at Southern Animal Health in Cheltenham an overactive thyroid was diagnosed. Dr Marcus greatly discounted his quote to around \$885 to enable thyroidectomy and dental surgery. Jack is in surgery this morning thanks to the good works of a caring community, a compassionate vet and Pet Medical Crisis www.petmedicalcrisis.com.au

We have our collective fingers and toes crossed for you Jack. Love from all your friends at Pet Medical Crisis xxxxxxxxxx



When 54yo single Mother Carol from Kerang contacted Pet Medical Crisis we could barely hear her for the distress in her voice. Carol's 10yo daughter was distraught and having recently lost their adored terrier, Carol having her purse stolen 2 weeks ago, being unable to pay the rent and now the thought of losing Puss-Puss, well it was all sickeningly unbearable.



Carol told us: 'I'm really really stressed. Our 12mo cat Puss-Puss got so unwell so quickly - he couldn't breathe from an infection which collapsed his lung. He got bitten under the arm and just got sick. It's not an option to put him down - this cat is my world. I was suicidal 8 months ago and he saved my life. It's not an option to put a cat down who saved my life. He's so bonded to me. He sits and talks to me. He's my best mate — we go everywhere together - even in the car. People say 'put him down' — they just don't understand. I'm so grateful to have found your charity.'

Puss-Puss was in dire need when he arrived at Kerang Vet - unable to breathe and an X-ray revealed prothorax (pus surrounding the lung). Pet Medical Crisis have been pleased to donate our maximum of \$1,000 to help Puss-Puss and Kerang Vet tell us that a huge total of 350 mls of pus had been drawn off via chest drains. With Puss-Puss improving rapidly there was a need to keep him in hospital but another \$1,000. A donor who knew her donation made for another pet was not required, rededicated her donation to Puss-Puss.

Mum Carol cannot say 'Thank you' enough. 'I'm so grateful'. So pleased we can bring some caring into your worlds through keeping Puss-Puss well. Rest and heal sweetheart. Love from all your friends at PMC xxxxxxxxxx

To date we have assisted 505 family's to save them for having to euthanise due to financial constraints.



Pet Medical Crisis

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

www.petmedicalcrisis.com.au

Email: petmedicalcrisis@gmail.com

PMC is now on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PetMedicalCrisis/>

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.



Motoring Memoirs

1934 Indian Scout Model 234 (M1-02)



Military versions of the Scout were produced by the Indian Motorcycle Company from 1942 and served throughout World War II. They were originally built from 1919 with a 606 cc V-twin engine with its transmission bolted to the engine casing. In 1927 the engine size was upgraded to 745 cc and by 1929 a front brake had been fitted to all models. In 1932 a Standard Scout model was introduced with unpopular appraisal, which then led to the creation of the Sport Scout in 1934, featuring a lighter frame, girder forks with improved carburation and alloy cylinder heads. The Sport Scout won the first Daytona 200 cup in 1937.

This model was sold brand new in Melbourne through Rhodes Motors — one of only 600 Scouts made during 1934. The clutch is operated by the left foot, the 750 cc 42 degree V-twin engine has a three-speed transmission with left-hand throttle and right hand advance and retard. *Details: Peter Arundel, Victoria.* •





We are a leading child welfare organisation committed to improving the lives of at-risk children, young people and families in our community for nearly 170 years. OzChild works hard every day to provide a better future for those in our care with the belief that every child and young person deserves the chance to shine.



Like many fathers are to their sons, Liam's dad was his hero. He looked up to him, he loved him, he could never have imagined a time when he wouldn't be around. Four years ago, mum Sharon had to tell Liam, his dad wasn't coming home. Sadly, he had passed away unexpectedly. "Liam was devastated, as were all my kids, but he took it particularly hard. He is very emotional, he really understands things, and very deeply," Sharon told us. "Liam found it hard to manage his emotions, he was angry and sad and would often just 'blow up'," remembers Sharon.



That's when Max stepped in, an OzChild volunteer mentor from our Positive Horizons mentoring program who was able to give Liam emotional support, provide him with a one-on-one outlet and help him manage his emotions.

Keeping kids safe, out of harm's way and nurtured to reach their full potential underpins the support programs we offer to vulnerable children, young people and their families.

By making a tax-deductible donation, you can help us deliver programs and services to families in desperate need of additional support.

Please consider making a donation and you can make a real difference in the life of a child like Liam*.

No matter how big or small, your donation does make a difference in the lives of many.

*Picture for display purposes.

DONATE TODAY: PO Box 1312, South Melbourne 3205. hello@ozchild.org.au (o3) 96952200

What next for China, from page 15:

In 1997 the British left Hong Kong with a hand-over ceremony which the Australian Foreign Minister of the time, Alexander Downer, attended. The Americans boycotted the hand-over. With China resuming control of Hong Kong and the Portuguese colony of Macau in 1999, it is now looking with eager eyes upon Taiwan, which American foreign policy considers can never be handed to China. Apart from trade wars, this is the largest stumbling block to China/America relations. University students from mainland China, studying in Australia, recently protested against an Australian professor referring to the territory as Taiwan and caused a back-down by the lecturer. It is part of a growing number of Chinese university students from mainland China who are dedicated to Beijing's policies. Many Australians in high places suspect that a large number of these students are messengers and couriers for the Chinese government. Spies if you like — a small but active section of the 150,000 Chinese students in Australia. A recent report in the Sydney Morning Herald reveals about 95 per cent of the Chinese-language newspapers in Australia are controlled by the People's Republic of China (PRC) state-owned media companies. Mainland China's influence is wide reaching and controlling.

Australia is in a unique position to act as peace maker between China and America, notwithstanding being cautious as to China's military advances in the South China Sea and now in the southern Pacific region. Australia has a large body of Chinese immigrants from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, and Malaysia who do not agree with China's expansionist policies. It is these folk that the Australian government should be nurturing to put pressure on the PRC to relax its opposition toward democracy and freedom of speech. We need China, but we don't need its severe civilian laws or its hard military progress on islands or atolls which are considered to be under the jurisdiction of either Vietnam, the Philippines, or Malaysia. •

*Associate professor at the National Security College,
Australian National University.

To be continued.