

# LEGACY TIMES



**CELEBRATING THE  
WOMEN  
OF LEGACY**



# What's Inside



14



40



48



56



20



18

- 04 Celebrating International Women's Day
- 06 President's Address – Matt Granger
- 08 CEO's Address – Vivian Blycha
- 10 Premier's Address
- 12 Introducing our new Board Members
- 14 What's been happening at Legacy House?  
Meet our new Community Services Manager –Audrey Bell  
Meet our new Camp Caretaker – Nathan  
Christmas celebrations
- 18 First Nations Respect Policy Announcement
- 20 Remembrance Day sundowner
- 22 Celebrating the women of Legacy WA  
Legatee Marlene Robins  
Legatee De'Arne Prosser  
Legatee Kim Farmer  
Hazel Donald  
Cath McMahon  
Georgina Hall  
Vivian Blycha
- 40 2021 Busselton Children's Camp
- 44 Adventure World



22

- 46 Theatre 180
- 48 Storytelling Picnic
- 50 Christmas Jingle
- 52 Melbourne Cup Lunch
- 54 Militaria Auction
- 56 Community Fundraising
- 68 Events Calendar
- 69 Widows Camp Booking Form
- 71 Recap on Christmas Hampers
- 71 100 birthdays
- 72 Laurel Club updates  
Daisies  
Lillies  
Perth  
Floreath  
Menora  
Midland and Districts  
Kalamunda and Districts  
Fremantle  
Geraldton  
Bunbury  
Mandurah
- 79 Changes to the South West Picnic and Jingles 2021



# Celebrating



# International Women's Day



International Women's Day is celebrated annually on the 8th of March and with so many incredible women here at Legacy WA, we are

dedicating this issue of the Legacy Times to the women who support the work of Legacy and of course its Beneficiaries.

The theme of International Women's Day 2021 is **#ChooseToChallenge**

At Legacy we choose to embrace this philosophy and do everything we can to enable equal opportunities for both men and women.

On International Women's Day it is important to celebrate

women's achievements, raise awareness about women's equality, and lobby for accelerated gender parity. Some may ask, is International Women's Day still relevant? The answer is yes!

[internationalwomensday.com/about](https://internationalwomensday.com/about)

*"According to the World Economic Forum, sadly none of us will see gender parity in our lifetimes, and nor likely will many of our children. Gender parity will not be attained for almost a century. There's urgent work to do - and we can all play a part."*

*"International Women's Day is not country, group, nor organization specific. No one government, NGO, charity, corporation, academic institution, women's network, or media hub is solely responsible for International Women's Day. The day belongs to all groups collectively everywhere. Gloria Steinem, world-renowned feminist, journalist and activist once explained "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist, nor to any one organization, but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights." So make International Women's Day your day and do what you can to truly make a positive difference for women."*

In this edition of the Times, we have interviewed our CEO Vivian Blycha, board member Cath McMahon and Georgina Hall, Legatees Kim Farmer, Marlene Robbins and De'Arne Prosser as well as Hazel Donald, a Legacy Beneficiary. Each of these women have contributed to Legacy in a

special and unique way and together with many more men and women - make up the heart of Legacy WA. We are very excited to share the stories of these inspiring women and hope you enjoy this special edition of the Legacy Times!



# President's Address



**Matt Granger**

## Fellow Beneficiaries, Legatees and Supporters,

Welcome to this edition of The Legacy Times. As we are coming out of lockdown and seeing the end of mask wearing, I hope the restrictions in place have affected you all as little as possible.

In January we completed another successful Legacy Children's Camp, attended by 60 children, including 10 from Police Legacy. This was my first time attending the camp and, although I could only be there for the arrival day and last two nights, I saw a vibrant and engaged group of young people enjoying themselves.

The Staff and Legatees responsible for facilitating this year's camp did

a fantastic job to deliver a program that allows the children in attendance to build new skills, form friendships and boost their confidence. As the organisation looks to State funding to improve the camp facilities, I look forward to seeing how the Children's Camp grows and provides tangible outcomes to those who attend.

COVID-19 has continued to provide challenges for the West Australian

community, however the resilience of all Legacy representatives to adapt and continue to support Beneficiaries is a testament to the mission we work to uphold. While programs like the first Widow's Camp of 2021 has been postponed, the team is working diligently to ensure that the camp moves forward as soon as restrictions are again lifted.

On the 25th of January, with thanks to the Australia Day Council COVID Grant, we were able to announce a First Nations Respect Policy. This policy is the first step in a long journey to ensure the support we provide to the community is inclusive and pays the respect our First Nations families deserve.

We were fortunate to have, the Hon Minister Peter Tinley – Minister for Veterans Issues, Asian Engagement, Housing & Fisheries – Mr Tjorn Sibma – Shadow Minister for Veterans Issues – offering words of respect and acknowledgement, echoing the value of creating an inclusive community. Reconciliation WA Co-Chairs, Ms Carrol Innes & Mr Greg Smith also offered their sentiment, announcing their intention to support Legacy

WA as we embark on the journey of reconciliation. Most importantly, Elder Mort Hanson performed the first Smoking Ceremony at Legacy House West Perth, a cultural ceremony welcoming Legacy to the land and connecting the organisation with the spirits and land on which the building stands.

As this is our special International Women's Day edition of the Legacy Times, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the contributions our female Legatees and Staff have made to the organisation. Most importantly, I would like to acknowledge and celebrate the women we serve. As an organisation, the overwhelming majority of our Beneficiaries are Women. The strength, resilience, and

fortitude these women possess is inspiring. These women have often lived through the most trying of times, supporting Veterans through conflict while raising families and then experiencing the loss of their partners. Their resolve to continue living productive and fulfilled lives is admirable.

These women are the heart of Legacy and why we as an organisation exist. More so, they are the reason we remain determined and steadfast in our commitment to serve and support the families of Veterans across the state.

*Yours in Legacy,*

**Matt**





# CEO's Address

It is with great pleasure that we bring this edition of the Legacy Times to you as **International Women's Day** rounds the corner. Legacy WA is full to the brim of examples of extraordinary women. The majority of our beneficiaries are women who have endured a great deal of loss and sacrificed so much in their lives. Daily, they provide a fine example to us all of strength and resilience.



**Vivian Blycha**

In November 2020, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to speak to the students at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls. In preparing for my address, I was able to reflect on the 'plight' of the WWI Widows who were left to face their lives without a breadwinner and often without a home of their own. The war widows' pension was below the basic wage and many women and children faced living in poverty.



In my reflection, I found stories of loss, but also enterprise. Some raised children alone, some started businesses to supplement their pensions. Many began to advocate and fight for public recognition and validation for their loss. They campaigned for subsidised aged nursing care and built affordable housing. They showed resilience, determination and provided a fine example for generations of women and men to come.

Their push for parity in the lives of Veterans families lives on in the work of Legacy. Providing families with a lifetime of support as we walk beside them in their journey. Where necessary, Legacy WA provides a 'hand up not a hand out', working toward independence at every stage.

As we move further away from the landscape in which the Great Wars took place, the environment in the Australia Defence Force now operates in is changing. So is the composition of a Veteran and their families. While the size of the ADF has remained similar in recent decades, an increase in the tempo of military operations, and changes to the nature of warfare and deployments (both peacetime and active conflict), have resulted in a new cohort of contemporary veteran.

Compared with their predecessors, this cohort shares common military experiences but also has different needs to maintain their physical, mental and social health.

Like the beneficiaries of Legacy who have gone before, our organisation

is ready to support the 'fourth generation' of veterans and families into the future.

Legacy WA's strategic plan demands better quality support for all beneficiaries. This means we will vigorously adopt professional standards in all aspects of our operations, continue to upskill volunteers and employees to ensure the best quality of support and build stability in all aspects of our long term sustainability.

**I look forward to 2021 and continuing great progress toward better outcomes for all veterans families.**





**Mark McGowan**

# Premier's Address

Throughout my life, I have always been awed by the service of Australians, not only to their nation, but to each other. I remember well in my Navy days farewelling ships that would sail on six month deployments. It is a testament to the quality of so many Australian veterans, that their service to their comrades does not end when their tours do.

For a century, countless Legatees have lived out The Promise. That they will “look after the missus and the kids” for those who can not. To provide the stability and support that a partner lost to war would have ordinarily provided if not for the devastation of conflict and war.

Nearly one hundred years of selfless assistance to the partners and children of those who served our nation. A promise first given in the trenches of the First World War has persisted and evolved. The military is very different and the modern warfare barely resembles the muddy trenches of the Great War. It is worth noting that since the first Gulf War in 1991, over 70,000 Australians have served overseas.

Military families needing support are not a thing of the past. It is fitting then that Legacy WA itself has grown and modernised to better assist them. Over the past century Legacy has grown from the idea of looking after only the families of those lost in service, to any and all defence families who are in need of help - an incredibly worthy cause. As we all know, death is not the only cause of hardship in families of

serving Australians. Likewise Legacy WA's new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Respect policy is a commendable step forward.

While Veterans Affairs is a Commonwealth responsibility, I have always strived to lead a Government that is compassionate, and leaves no one in society behind. Increasingly, my Government is stepping up to support our veterans and their families. Last year, Minister Tinley and I were proud to announce WA's first ever Veterans and Families strategy - to ensure that veterans and their families are not locked out of economic opportunities in our state.

Whether as Premier, Member for

Rockingham, or during my time as a Naval Officer, I have always been humbled by the generosity and sense of duty and community in our military families. One of my senior Ministers, Bill Johnston has referenced many times the support he received as a child after losing his father at a young age and how this support has greatly influenced his life.

For anyone reading this who is able to contribute in some way to Legacy and its ongoing mission but has not yet done so, I would urge you to get in touch with Legacy and ask how you can help. I am proud to lead a Government that supports Legacy WA through Lotterywest and Defence West.

Australians are a generous and selfless people - nowhere is that better shown than through the dedication of the Legatees, continuing their duty to their comrades long after their commission has ended.

**Please consider donating - [legacy.com.au/donate](https://legacy.com.au/donate)**





# Introducing our new Board Members

At the AGM in October 2020, two new members were welcomed to the Board of Legacy WA. It is our pleasure to introduce you to:



## Mr Sven Ross

Sven has been a Legatee for the past 2 years and in that time has grown to have a deep understanding of the organisation and is committed to the Values & Mission Legacy works to uphold. Sven is the current Executive Officer of CyberCX, and has had a 13 year career in ICT with the Australian Army, finishing as the Chief Technology Officer.



## Mr Ben Oakes

Ben is a current serving military officer, having completed 26 years of Army service leading and managing people through significant reform. His career to date has centred around service both to the Defence Force and Australian Public and has current experience working in the Public Sector, recently coordinating all WA hotels and related inputs and support for the COVID 19 response.

We believe Ben has the knowledge and experience to contribute to the success of Legacy WA as an organisation and will focus his time to ensure Legacy remains relevant and postured for continued success in the future.

# Steve & Angie

At the end of 2020, Legacy WA said farewell to Legatee's Steve and Angie Stoll who have been the caretakers at the Busselton Legacy camp for 5 years now. On behalf of everyone at Legacy WA, thank you for all of your hard work over the years and we wish you all the best for your upcoming travels around Australia!







# What's been happening at Legacy House?



## Meet our new Community Services Manager – Audrey Bell



### 1. What is your job title and role as a staff member at Legacy WA?

*I commenced work with Legacy in early November 2020 as the Community Services Manager.*

*I have many years of experience of working within Community Services and Development (here in WA – Metro and Country, Melbourne and Overseas), as well as working alongside many wonderful Volunteers who assist those who require that extra bit of care in our community.*

### 2. Why did you choose to work at Legacy and what part of the job are you most looking forward to?

*In seeing the recruitment call out for the role, having family and friends who have served for their Country, as well as their family members who remained behind in our wonderful country, I had a wish to share my skills with Legacy.*

*With a personal connection to those who served - my dear Father in Law who served for Australia in WWII in Borneo, in our own family legacy way, both my husband and I are Amateur Radio Operators and enjoy making contact around the world.*

### 3. What do you like to do on the weekends/in your spare time?

*I enjoy our weekly Family Nights with kids and grandkids and the special occasions that the year brings – although these times do stress out our cat. My hobbies are bush walking, reading, trying hard to improve my sketching skills, undertaking Chocolatier Studies (not good for the waistline!), and organic gardening.*

## Meet our new Camp Caretaker – Nathan Buckland

### 1. What is your job title and role as a staff member at Legacy WA?

*My role at Legacy is Legacy Camp Caretaker. My role will be to keep the Camp maintained to a high standard for all guests to enjoy. I will be maintaining the lawns, gardens, buildings, recreation equipment, keeping the facility neat and tidy.*

### 2. Why did you choose to work at Legacy and what part of the job are you most looking forward to?

*My family and I decided to make the sea change from Perth to Busselton last year. I am good friends with a Legatee and learned a lot about Legacy and the wonderful work they did, so when I saw the job advertised I was very keen to join the organisation. I also love working outdoors maintaining properties and meeting new people, so I knew this job was for me.*

### 3. What do you like to do on the weekends/in your spare time?

*I have a wife (Nadia) and two Daughters (Ella & Zoe) and I love spending time with them on the weekends. We love the outdoors and like going for bushwalks, visiting the beach and having picnics. My hobbies are Golf, Fishing, motorsport and I am a mad one eye Eagles Fan.*





**Christmas celebrations**

After a busy year, the team at Legacy WA were excited to enjoy some downtime and celebrate the achievements of the year gone. The day commenced with a morning tea giving Legacy staff, board members, Legatees and volunteers an opportunity to reflect on the year.



Following the morning tea, Legacy staff enjoyed lunch and an afternoon of games and activities. The games included a scavenger hunt, a quiz and a very entertaining donut eating competition. A shout-out goes to Tyler, Graham and Ivy who were brave enough to compete in the donut competition!

**A big thank you to Vivian for organising all the games and Kelly for preparing the food.**





# First Nations Respect Policy Announcement

Legacy stands at the ready for every Australian Defence Family, helping them rebuild their lives, as it has done since 1923 when a small group of World War I veterans first accepted a legacy of responsibility for the widows and children of their fallen mates.



## Legacy WA recognises the challenges facing Defence Families (and as a matter of importance) our Indigenous Veterans and their families.

It is our firm belief, that as an organisation, (while we have never been exclusionary in our eligibility), we acknowledge that we can and need to do more to be inclusive to all beneficiaries, especially in the case of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans and families, given a history of neglect.

Generations of Indigenous Australian Service Personnel have long been left from the conversation surrounding Veteran Support, and their stories are never forgotten because they were never told.

On the 25th of January, Legacy WA vowed to Keep the Promise to better support Indigenous Veterans and their families and will strive to meet their needs now and into the future. As the next generation of Veterans navigates transition from Service, Legacy will continue to provide support to the family unit.

*“Legacy WA has undergone a cultural shift over the last few years, bringing the organisation into alignment with current best-practices, as well as setting its strategy and vision for the future.*

*A significant part of this vision is to ensure that we are providing culturally appropriate services and support to all relevant beneficiaries, wherever possible.*

*Today’s announcement of the implementation of our Indigenous Policy—based around that of the national Legacy Australia Incorporated policy—is a significant step in the right direction that acknowledges the service and commitment of our indigenous ADF personnel, and our commitment to the welfare of their families and dependents in time of need.”* Said Legacy WA spokesperson President Matt Granger.

*“The launch of the Legacy WA policy, acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is reinforcement of the journey Legacy WA has embarked on to ensure that the needs of our beneficiaries are considered and met holistically. The work we do is tailored to the individual’s circumstances which must be treated with consideration to their cultural background and environment”* Legacy WA CEO Vivian Blycha



*“One of the things that’s important we need to acknowledge, is that organisations like Legacy WA... stands ready to support not just the Veteran but the families of Veterans”* Minister Peter Tinley said of Legacy. *“If Veterans and their families are doing it tough, Indigenous Veterans and their families are doing it tougher”.*

*“It’s not to say Legacy WA haven’t done things before for Indigenous Peoples, but this does feel a firm commitment and beginning”* said Reconciliation WA Co-Chair Gary Smith *“It’s clear to us that the journey is fresh and new... it’s an announcement of a great opportunity for this organisation to embrace an authentic focus on the families of Service People as they continue their lives.. and particularly the focus on Indigenous Families”*

In its torch, the Legacy badge symbolises the undying flame of service and sacrifice passed on by comrades in war who have died. In its wreath of laurel, with its points inverted in remembrance, the Legacy badge recognises the honour and reward of those who gave their lives for our country.

The full press conference, Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony performed by Elder Mort Hanson is available to watch on our Facebook and Instagram. The announcement event was also attended by; Co-Chair Ms Carol Innes Reconciliation WA, HON Mr Tjorn Sibma MLC, HON Mr JOHN Carey MLA, CR Dan Loden, City of Vincent.





# Remembrance Day sundowner

In commemoration of Remembrance Day, Legacy WA hosted a Sundowner at the Swanbourne Associates Rugby Union Club on Thursday 12th November.

Supporters of Legacy were invited to attend and reflect on the work the organisation has done throughout 2020. The 'Portrait of a Veteran' series was generously loaned to Legacy by Claire Hunt of Comet Bay College. This exhibition was put together in 2017, led by Claire and produced by West Australian artists with the intent

to challenge the image of Veterans. As Legacy moves into the future, we continue to challenge the perceived image of our Beneficiaries, and this existing series has paved the way. Throughout 2020, Legacy has been working closely with local theatre group, Theatre 180, to create a production 'Looking Back' based on

the stories of Legacy Beneficiaries. Theatre 180 showcased a scene from this production on the night, as well as a scene from another performance, 'Dear Heart'. 'Dear Heart' is based on letters a wife sent her husband throughout WW2, that were ultimately never answered.

**We would like to say a big thank you to Precision Technic Defence for sponsoring the evening. Another big thank you to Alkoomi Wines, Good Drinks, Two Little Birds Catering, Associates Rugby Union Club, Core Security and Theatre 180 for their generous support ensuring an exceptional evening.**







# CELEBRATING THE WOMEN OF LEGACY WA

The following are the stories of a number of **women who have played an integral role in shaping Legacy** towards the organisation it is today. Thank you to these women for everything you do to support Legacy WA and for sharing your stories!



# Legatee Marlene Robins



Marlene became part of the Legacy family at the age of 10, in 1954. Her father had passed away after serving in WW2 leaving Marlene with her mum and two younger sisters. As a Legacy child, Marlene attended the Albany Legacy camp and was amongst the first group of children

who visited the Busselton camp. Reflecting on her experiences at the kid's camp as a child and now as an adult, Marlene spoke about the feeling of *"not being alone"* when surrounded by the other children and how important that is after losing a parent.

Marlene was a highly gifted student and in 1956, received a scholarship to Perth Modern School where she excelled in her studies of English and the Social Sciences. She also spent her free time at her local Surf Life Saving Club and playing the piano and netball for the Legacy team.

After school, Marlene studied a commercial course at Perth Tech and then worked as a private secretary for the same firm for 9 years. In 1965, Marlene married and later had four children – Scott, Kim and twins Brett and Dean. As a single mum, she worked hard to support her

four children who at the time were all under the age of five. Tragically, in 2015, Marlene's son Brett passed away, leaving behind a wife and three young children. Losing her son was extremely difficult; however Marlene's perseverance is a testament to her strong-willed nature.

Marlene has always been passionate about music and one evening she went to see a friend's band perform. Despite not having any experience in band management, within a fortnight, she was managing the band. From there, she learned about promoting, management and event planning which led her on a new career path.

Between 1994 and 2018, she organised the Scarborough Christmas Carols and with Legacy as the chosen charity, Marlene developed the carols into having a strong military theme. She was able to recruit the

Army Band, who then performed at the carols every year. With the introduction of fireworks and other exciting activities, Marlene turned the

Scarborough Carols into a major event on the Perth calendar.

Throughout her career, Marlene has worked at every theatre in Perth. She organised Harmony Week for the State Government every year for 12 years as well as countless other events.

From a young age, Marlene always knew she wanted to do something to give back to Legacy. She was involved with the Torchbearers for a number of years, even chairing the committee for two years. However, as women were not permitted to become Legatees



Marlene's children: Brett, Scott, Kim and Dean

during this time, there was nothing more she could do. In the late 1990's Marlene pushed for the right for women to become Legatees, and she became the first female Legatee in the Perth region. During her time as Chairwoman of the Torchbearers, she even had the chance to attend the Queen's Garden Party at Government House.

Marlene and I also spoke about gender inequality and the instances of inequality she has witnessed over the years. One example Marlene talked about was during her surf lifesaving years when women were not permitted to perform rescues, in case they had their period. As well as this, she spoke about being disturbed when she discovered that the side-door entry at the old Legacy House in South Perth, was designed for women to enter (separately from the men), to make lunch for the Legatees and then leave.

Marlene now holds the position of Laurel Club Convener and organises the Christmas Jingles for the Legacy Widows every year. She is passionate about supporting Legacy's Widows and ensuring that every Beneficiary receives adequate support. With Marlene's outgoing nature and dedication to the Legacy Widows' there is no wonder she is so well loved and respected by those she supports. Marlene is a Buddhist and is inspired



Marlene's grandchildren: Sam, Aiden and Ava

by the teachings of the Dalai Lama. She has visited Dharamsala, where the Dalai Lama lives and attended a number of his teachings and is drawn to the "kindness and compassion" of the religion and the lessons it teaches. She strives to live her life following the messages of the Buddhist way of life.

I asked Marlene what Legacy means to her and she replied; *"I didn't have a dad and I didn't have a brother, so the Second World War Veterans are like my*

*dad and the Vietnam boys are like my brothers."*

As well as her ongoing work for Legacy, Marlene also dedicates one day a week to working as a librarian at the Umbrella Community Centre where she enjoys assisting the people who visit. She also treasures her close relationship with her grandchildren, who regularly come to visit her. For Marlene, the 'secret to life' is *"getting out of bed every day and living!"*



# Legatee De'Arne Prosser



Since becoming a Legatee, De'Arne has devoted much of her time to supporting Legacy's Beneficiaries. She is deeply passionate about the work that Legacy does and is able to utilise her personal experiences to provide care for people who have lost a partner.

As a child, De'Arne excelled in sport. She played for the state netball team and won the Victorian Junior Championship in Irish dancing. This love for dancing followed De'Arne into her adult life and despite a recent knee reconstruction, she still enjoys going to the gym and keeping physically fit.

After completing high school, De'Arne

worked for the Australian National Airways and enjoyed operating the machines and computers. She later became a civilian working for the Army and was trained at the Central Army Records Office. During the early 1960's she became the first female to work in Army Pays. Throughout her career, De'Arne worked in a variety of different jobs and enjoyed change and trying different things.

She described *"challenge and variety"* as the most important factors in determining her job satisfaction. For this reason she often changed jobs so that she could experience different roles. The longest De'Arne stayed in one position was when she held the role of secretary for a college principal where she worked for six years.

After she met her husband – Tom, the couple had four children, three boys and one girl. During this time, women were not allowed to work in the Army after they married, so De'Arne spent much of her time caring for the children. When her children were older and De'Arne returned back to work, she found a job as a legal secretary and enjoyed the work she did in this role, particularly when it involved interesting cases.

10 years ago when her husband Tom passed away suddenly, De'Arne was lost. After being married for 44 years, she described how the passing of her husband was extremely difficult, and how the first year after his death was like a *"haze."* The following year, De'Arne knew she wanted to do more for people in her situation. This is when she discovered Legacy and

Pay inequality and the disproportionate representation of women in senior positions is one issue that she considers to be the most pressing in 2021. Whilst talking to De'Arne about these issues, it is clear that she is passionate about women having equal opportunities in all realms of life. She is inspired by individuals such as Julie Bishop who have shown courage and resilience when working in male dominated workplaces and have persevered despite facing discrimination.

From her own experiences, De'Arne talked about how the best way to handle individuals who discriminate against women in the workplace is to *"show them what you can do and what you are capable of doing and work around that."*

became involved in the Legacy WA Family Services Committee. De'Arne is now a Legatee and is incredibly passionate about supporting Legacy's Beneficiaries and assisting them through traumatic circumstances. She understands that there is *"no book on healing and the healing process is different for every individual."* De'Arne's own experiences as a Widow, allows her to relate to the people she supports which she describes as *"greatly rewarding."*

After many years working in Family

Services, De'Arne has now been the Chair of the Community Services Advisory Committee for 12 months. As well as this, she is also a member of the Membership Committee and holds the position of Social Coordinator for the Lillies Laurel Club. One of De'Arne's favourite memories from all the work she has done for Legacy is visiting Widows on their 100th birthdays to deliver flowers and talk about their lives. She described the stories the ladies share as *"deeply inspiring."*



De'Arne's son, Mark, lives with an intellectual disability and for this reason; she is able to see the negative implications of the post COVID-19 world on People With Disabilities. It is undeniable that individuals with disabilities were left behind amongst the panic and substantial change that the world saw following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Further to this, individuals with disabilities whether physical, mental or intellectual, face different types of challenges. For individuals with intellectual disabilities specifically,

the emerging 'cashless society' unwittingly excludes this minority group. Equal rights and freedoms for those living with a disability is a cause De'Arne is passionate about achieving, knowing first hand the implications an exclusive society can create.

De'Arne is hard working, determined and not afraid to speak her mind. She encourages people to stay true to their values and her passion for supporting Legacy's beneficiaries is undeniable.





# Legatee Kim Farmer

I had the pleasure of meeting with Kim over coffee to chat about her connection to Legacy, her role as a Legatee and her commitment to serving the community.

Whilst chatting with Kim, her warm energy and her devotion to helping the community is irrefutable. Since becoming a Legatee, Kim has been a fierce advocate for the work Legacy does and her passion for supporting Widows and Families makes her an invaluable member of the Legacy WA family.

Growing up with her father in the Navy, Kim always knew she wanted to be in the armed forces. Although her father tried to convince her to join the Navy, Kim had her heart set on the Army and at the age of 24

she enrolled in the Australian Army as a Transport Supervisor. Through her role in the Army, Kim met her husband Andrew, and had two children – Jared and Kirsty.

Tragically, in 2000, Kim received the dreaded knock on the door. Andrew had passed away in a rock climbing accident whilst on deployment in the United States. Only a few months earlier, Kim's younger brother died at the age of 21. With two young children to care for, this was a very distressing time in Kim's life.

When I asked Kim about the Legacy

camp and how it helped Jared and Kirsty, I could see her face light up. She described the camp as "life-changing" for her children and other children in similar situations. She also portrayed how the supervisor had "a big impact in the children's lives." Although Jared and Kirstie are now adults, they still keep in regular contact with the friends they made at camp. Kim's legatee, Ric Tonkin also helped Kim and her children through this time. He would bring presents for Jared and Kirsty at Christmas and they would always look forward to his visits.

Kim spoke about the many highlights she has had since becoming a part of the Legacy community. In particular, she spoke about the 2019 children's camp; Jared and Kirsty's Kokoda walk and Legacy fun runs for ANZAC day. Kim also spoke about the trip to France in 2016 for the 100th anniversary of the battle of Pozières which was an incredible reward for the children who fundraised to attend the event.

In 2004, Kim met her current husband Len and discharged from the Army in 2006. Since then, the couple have had two children, Jacinta and Kiera. The family live on a property in Baldivis where they care for a number of

different animals. They even breed emus!

Kim and Len are also foster parents and over the last three years the couple have cared for 16 foster children. Kim talked about the rewarding aspects of being a foster parent but also the systemic issues within the foster system. On one occasion, Kim and Len were caring for one child, only to find out whilst dropping the child at daycare that he had been separated from his sibling. The next day Kim and Len came home with both of the children.

Kim now keeps very busy raising her children and doing everything she can to serve her community.

She is a member of the Junior Legacy Committee. She is an inspiration to the people she meets and her work for Legacy has greatly benefitted Legacy Families throughout the community.



Kim with children Jacinta, Kiera, Kirstie and Jared



# Hazel Donald



Hazel is a Legacy Beneficiary who became part of the Legacy Family after her husband passed away. She grew up in Perth and was a primary school student during the Second World War. Hazel spoke about the different precautions the school took during this time such as practice air raids where the students would

run into a large field adjacent to the school, climb into a trench and hide. Students would also carry around a bag on their shoulders which contained a packet of arrowroot biscuits, a bottle of solyptol antiseptic and some bandages in case they were caught outside during an air raid.

Growing up, Hazel was close with her mum as her father and brothers were in the Army and often away, leaving only Hazel and her mum at home. The week Hazel turned 14, she left school to help support her family. She worked at Woolworths for four years before joining the Army herself, where she started out working as an instructor for the Citizen Military Forces and later as a Pay Administrator. Throughout her 24 years in the Army, she was promoted to Warrant Officer and Lieutenant Colonel and worked in a variety of

different positions across many different places in Australia.

During her 24 years in the Army, Hazel and other women in Defence were subject to gender discrimination on a regular basis. Whilst men had someone who organised their laundry and uniforms for them, the women were expected to do this without any assistance. There were few opportunities for women to earn promotions in the Army, and she was one of the few women who held a high ranking position at this time. Whilst she was in the

Army, women were paid 50c to the dollar men earned and women who became pregnant were discharged as 'medically unfit.'

Hazel was one of the pioneers who fought to allow women and men to march together and due to the efforts of these women, this was changed whilst she was still serving in the Army. She spoke about how pleased she is with the advancements Defence have made in recent years to fight discrimination and create equal opportunities for women.

At the age of 42 and whilst posted to Victoria, Hazel met her husband, Bill and a few years later she made the decision to leave the Army. Bill had worked as a Doctor in the Army but had left to open his own practice in Melbourne. After the couple married, she worked at the front desk in the practice while assisting with the operations of the business. The couple bought a house in the city and Bill's sons also came to live with them.

After 20 years of marriage, Bill passed away and Hazel became a War Widow. She joined Legacy Melbourne and after a few years, became the Vice President of the club. Hazel was also the President of the War Widows Guild in Victoria for three years. Only a year after Bill passed away, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. After months of chemotherapy and radiotherapy she was put into

remission and had survived the disease.

After a trip to Perth to visit her family, she decided to move back to Western Australia. Hazel had met the President of the WA War Widows Guild at a conference in Canberra and coincidentally, at the time she was moving back to Perth, the President had decided to step down from the role and asked Hazel if she would take over. Within a week of returning to Perth, she became the President of the WA War Widows Guild. Hazel then helped establish the Menora Laurel Club and is still the Treasurer of the club today.

Hazel's sister has 6 children, who she remains close with, particularly her two eldest nieces who live nearby. She enjoys travelling with

her nieces and they have been on multiple cruises together. She also remains close with her step-sons who she keeps in regular contact with. During the Covid-19 lockdown, Hazel told me about how the ladies in her village would each bring a chair out to the front of their driveways, have a drink and listen to music from one of the ladies record players. The ladies have continued this tradition and meet up every Friday evening for happy hour.

**Her advice to today's youth is to "think for yourself, stand up for what you believe in and try not to get caught up with the crowd."**



# Cath McMahon



Cath grew up in Perth and was the youngest of 4 children. As we spoke about growing up, Cath talked about having a happy and easy childhood. During her time at school, she found a passion for science and went on to study microbiology at the University of Western Australia. She later decided on a career change and obtained her Graduate Diploma in Business Management from Edith Cowan University.

Cath commenced her career at the Industrial Relations Commission, later working in public policy and research and later the Federal Health Department at the Centre for Disease Control.

In the years that followed, Cath met her husband, James McMahon. James served in the Australian Army for 24 years, the majority of which was served in the SASR where he rose through the ranks to the position of Commanding Officer. Cath and James spent two years living in London during one of James's deployments and Cath spoke about the great memories the couple have from this time. In particular, one of her career highlights was the work she did for an advertising agency whilst in London. During this time, Cath also obtained her Master of Science in Business Management from Boston University.

The couple married in 1997 and returned to Perth in the late 1990's. They have two children, Lucia and Isabelle aged 19 and 21. As James was often away on deployment, Cath chose to leave full time work and prioritise caring for their children.

In April 2019, Cath joined the board of Legacy WA. As a military wife herself, she is passionate about the work that Legacy does and her experience has given essential insight to shape the direction and support Legacy provides.

As well as sitting on the board of Legacy WA, Cath is also a Non-Executive-Director at the Sheila Foundation. Sheila is a foundation for women in visual art which aims to **"overturn decades of gender bias by writing Australian women artists back into our art history and ensuring equality for today's women artists."** Through this work, Sheila aims to improve parity for women in the arts sector. One particular project that Cath has been working on involves recovering art from the 1860's-1900 to create a more accurate picture of Australian art history and recognise the women who created the artworks.

When I asked Cath about her proudest achievement from her career, she spoke about how she recently completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors – Company Directors Course. Cath's

completion of this course in 2017 led her to become a Non-Executive-Director at Legacy WA.

We also discussed International Women's Day and the challenges women face in the 21st century. For Cath, one of the greatest challenges is the 'juggling act' between work and life that many women endeavour to balance. She expressed how the idea of 'having it all' is not always feasible and can be harmful as it sets unrealistic expectations for women.

Cath had an amazing role model in her mum who she described as strong, resilient and fun. She taught her many important life lessons; most memorably, that happiness is a choice. Cath has taught her daughters the same lessons as well as the importance of putting your best effort into everything you do and not taking yourself too seriously. She is also inspired by many of her friends who hold Board positions at major Australian and international companies, who Cath describes as "exceptionally bright and competent."





# Georgina Hall

Georgina grew up in Albany with her mother, father and five siblings. At the age of 17, she left the small town of Albany to join the Army. She described how leaving, particularly at this young age, was momentous during this time as people rarely travelled, let alone left their hometown. In the Army, Georgina was trained in administration work and was later transferred to the School of Signals.



During her time in the military, Georgina met her husband, Len and she remained in Signals as a Pay Administrator. Her husband spent 12 months in Vietnam and over this period, she was transferred to Perth. There was no established accommodation for the women at this time so Georgina and her female colleagues were housed with the SASR in the nurse's quarters until the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (WRACC) quarters were completed.

When Georgina and Len had their first baby, she was forced to leave the Army, as women were not permitted to retain their employment once they had a child. For this reason, she embarked on a new career in teaching, specialising in home economics and social sciences.

Georgina and Len travelled extensively with their careers, spending time in north-west Australia in Carnarvon, Geraldton and Karratha. The couple also spent a year in Huntsville, Ontario Canada, which she described as being an incredible experience. However, Len had become unwell during this time

and was eventually diagnosed with Leukaemia. Tragically, in 2003, six years after his diagnosis, Len passed away.

Prior to his passing, Len had become involved with Legacy WA. He volunteered his time for many years and became the President of Legacy between 2001 and 2002.

After Len passed away, Georgina originally distanced herself from Legacy as she dealt with her husband's passing, however, in 2014 she attended a meeting for Widows at Legacy House. Legacy had announced that they were introducing a new Laurel Club for

younger ladies called the 'Lillies' and Georgina put up her hand to run it. She then became a Legatee and was a member of the Family Services Committee. Georgina continued in her role as Coordinator of the Lillies until she was elected to the Board of Legacy.

She believes strongly in the positive impact of the Laurel Clubs as they renew female friendships, and she also described how it is comforting to be around women who are "in the same boat." Georgina spoke about how she is inspired by the ladies she meets through Legacy, as they give her courage, strength and purpose.

One of Georgina's highlights from her time at Legacy was when a Widow said to her "do you know, looking at you, I know that I will get there." She shared with me how this was not only heart-warming but motivating.

Georgina has been a Deputy Principal for 25 years and loves her job. She enjoys the leadership aspect of the role, the different challenges she faces each day and the ability to not only support the children in the classrooms but their families and the wider community.

I asked Georgina about her thoughts on International Women's Day and it

is clear that she is passionate about female empowerment. She strongly believes that women should not be disadvantaged due to their gender and has never allowed gender discrimination to interfere with her career ambitions. She expressed how she was fortunate that Len was always supportive of her working aspirations, even though this belief was controversial within society at the

time. She talked about the frustration she felt when she was forced to leave the Army after falling pregnant, whilst her husband was allowed to stay. This attitude extended beyond the military and on one occasion, Georgina visited a shop after she had her first child and the shop assistant conveyed her disapproval that she was working whilst raising a child.

**Georgina is pleased with how today's society is more inclusive and accepting of women and for her, the most important message that she wishes to pass on to young women is to "be empowered to take all opportunities offered, value yourself and your strengths and don't measure yourself against men."**





# Vivian Blycha

Vivian Blycha has held the position of CEO of Legacy WA for the last two years and has become the driving force behind the Legacy team.

In 1993, as a young woman, Vivian joined the Army Reserves and two years later travelled to ADFA to complete her Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English and History. She worked in the Army as a 'Military Mover' and later went on to serve Australia in East Timor in 1999 and the Middle East in 2001-2002. Through her position, she was responsible for facilitating the movement of people and equipment internationally and domestically in the support of operations. Despite leaving the full time Army, Vivian is still an active Army Reserves member. In 2005, Vivian married her partner Greg and gave birth to their first daughter, Jess. Since then, Viv and Greg have had 3 more daughters, Olivia, Lauren, Alex. In 2012, with four

children to care for, she decided it was time to leave the Army so she could spend more time with her young family. Shortly after settling in Perth, Vivian commenced work at Legacy.

When asked about highlights from her time at Legacy and her favourite parts about the position, Vivian relayed her passion for the cause and the people within the Legacy community. She describes Legacy as a 'human organisation' and is inspired



Viv's Daughters

by the dedicated individuals who give their time to support Legacy's beneficiaries.

She also discussed how Legacy holds many of the same values as the Military and encompasses the best aspects of Defence.

Working full time in a position as demanding as Vivian's and having a young family is no easy feat. When I asked her about how she finds 'balance,' she explained how this is very difficult to achieve. More importantly, it's about "doing your best whilst not being too hard on yourself."

As a woman who has worked in a number of male dominated fields, Vivian has never felt gender discrimination to be a barrier in achieving her career goals. Instead, she has shown resilience and reiterates the importance of challenging negative attitudes through respectful conversation and leading by example.

The origin behind many of Vivian's personality traits and qualities become clear when learning about her childhood and parents. Her father was always entertaining the people around him with his humour and tricks and many of her favourite childhood memories are from time spent with her dad. To this day, Vivian's mother continues to be her number one role model and inspiration. She describes her as compassionate, philosophical and trusted. No challenge is too great for her mum and it is clear that she has taken on this same mentality.

Vivian's other role model is none other than Dolly Parton. The admiration stems from her acceptance of all people, projection



of emotional intelligence and philanthropic nature. She is also not afraid to be who she is, regardless of what others may think.

For Vivian, the biggest issue for women in 2021 is parity of pay and representation of numbers in business and politics. Although many workplaces have become more accommodating and accepting of women, most workplaces still operate within a male dominated framework. For people to be truly equal, workplaces need to be inclusive of

not only different genders but people from all backgrounds and identities. The most important message she believes needs to be sent out to young women, is to be genuine and do the right thing for the right reasons.

Amongst Legacy's office staff and Legatees, is known for her calming, down to earth and optimistic demeanour and she is an inspiration to all who meet her.





# Legatee Wendy Ezzy

### 1. What work do you do for Legacy WA and why is it important for you to be involved with Legacy?

*I have been a Legatee for some time now and have worked in a lot of different roles. I have visited new widows to assist them with paperwork and also acquaint them with the range of different activities they can get involved in; I have also worked in the*

*office doing anything that I can to help out as well as assisting on Badge Day and other collections. I like to put my hand up to offer help whenever it is required.*

*I have found doing the tasks that I do are just a fraction in repaying the help and support Legacy gave to my family after the sudden passing of my father in November 1961.*

### 2. Do you have any special memories from your time at Legacy?

*I have numerous special memories from my time at Legacy. As a Ward of Legacy, I had many fun times on country holidays and the outing we were taken on. The ballet, the circus, the flying yacht squadron in Sydney, taking us on boats up the river and having lunch and games on the islands all stick in my mind as some of the best times.*

### 3. What do you do or did you do for work? Would you consider yourself career orientated?

*Before I retired I was employed in the payroll field. My last position was with Consolidated Foods who have the franchise for Australia for Hungry Jacks. I processed the payroll for WA for 5 years then SA and NT for 5 years before the HQ was transferred to Sydney.*

### 4. What does International Women's Day mean to you?

*International Women's Day is important to show that women can perform any range of positions to the same ability as well and a lot of the time, far above the capability of many a man.*

### 5. What do you think is the most pressing issue for women in 2021?

*Male members of the workforce should move over and give the female population equal pay for equal work.*

### 6. On International Women's Day, what do you think is the most important message to send to young women?

*To all the young females who have entered or are about to enter the workforces, the only advice I can give is "get out there and prove you're the best for the job at hand."*





# 2021 Busselton Children's Camp

As with all years, the Annual Busselton Camp is a highlight of every summer. While camp looked a little different due to COVID-19, the team putting together the festivities this year did an incredible job of making everything just like it always is. Unfortunately, due to border measures, the children from Interstate and NZ were unable to attend, though they were absolutely there in spirit. We hope to have all Legacy Children in attendance in 2022.



**We would like to especially thank Telethon & The Belfer Trust for their financial contribution to the camp.**



It is through these grant opportunities and donations that we are able to ensure the kids have the best experience possible at the camp. We would also like to acknowledge Mineral Resources for their generous donation, which allowed a Carer to be onsite throughout the Camp, to support a young Camper living with severe Autism. Thanks to this donation, the camper had an incredible experience and was able to stay for the entire camp.

To all our Legatees and Supervisors, a massive thank you for your time and dedication to the children who attend Camp, making each year a lasting impactful memory for them all. We couldn't do it without you.

The Legacy Children's camp takes place over 10 days at the Legacy Holiday Camp, Busselton in the first week of January. The week is jam packed with activities for the kids to bond, learn new skills and boost confidence!

## Here's what this years camp looked like:

**Day 1:** Arrival Day! Everyone arrived at the camp just after lunch and began to get settled. Supervisors are introduced to the campers, tents assigned, and most importantly all electronics are collected up. That's right! Camp is a No Phone Zone for campers. 10 days of connecting with the outdoors and fellow campers. That afternoon it was off to the Geographe Leisure Centre for some time at the pool before dinner.



**Day 2:** Day 2 started with a bang! Literally! The Dunsborough Volunteer Fire Brigade came to talk to the campers about BushFire Safety and as an added treat, cut an old car in half as a demonstration. After lunch it was free time at the beach for the Juniors while the Seniors learned Adaptive Coping Strategies with the Critical Components team. This session was about the benefits of Box Breathing. The day ended with Quiz Night with the Female Supervisors beating the Male Supervisors, an added treat for the team.

**Day 3:** Survival Time. The Senior campers began preparing for Survival Day. First a quick trip to Simmos for ice cream, then onto Primal Archery for Archery Tag! After that it was time to set up sleeping arrangements, a lesson on making jerky and then it was time to relax from a jam packed day. The Juniors were taken on a bush walk from Castle Rock Beach to Dunsborough Jetty where it was time for lunch and an afternoon in the sand and sea. Back at camp that night, it was Movie Night with The Croods 1 (remember this for later)

**Day 4:** After a night in the wilderness, it was time for the Seniors to pack up camp and head on out. The Juniors took first go at Horse Riding at Jesters Flat with the Seniors getting their turn after lunch. Seniors went on for a 10km Bush Hike from Gas Bay to Boranup Campsite, where they set up for another night under the stars. Junior campers were taken for a tour of Mammoth Cave, with an afternoon of beach activities and Crab Fishing.





**Day 5:** As if they hadn't crammed in enough fun already, it's only half way through the camp. Junior campers had a morning of games while the Seniors made their way back to camp after a morning of abseiling. After lunch it was time to get on the boats! While the Senior campers settled in for a quiet movie night at camp, it was time for the Juniors to head to the big screen to watch none other than.. The Croods 2!



**Day 6:** It's all a bunch of Monkey Business! All the campers headed out for a morning in the treetops. The Campers climbed and jumped and, well, got down to monkey business. After lunch, it was time for the ultimate activity, Laser Tag! By far one of the favourite events of the week, campers unleashed inner warriors on the laser tag battlefield.

Afterwards, it was time for a change of pace and a cool down with some arts & crafts with the Military Arts Program (MAPA). The campers made some clay art and learned how to tie dye their very own shirts. Then, it was the Seniors turn to hit the town and see Wonder Woman 1984 on the big screen.

**Day 7:** Day 7 started out nice and easy with the campers having some free time on the beach and finishing off their crafts from the day before. However, the afternoon looked a lot different! It was time for a round-robin challenge! Six stands of different activities were set up with a goal to be completed as a team within 30 minutes. From changing tyres, building sandcastles, memory games, obstacle courses and more, the campers worked together to get through all the challenges before them.



After a gruelling afternoon, it was time to set up for the iconic Theme Night! This year's theme, none other than Australia. We saw costumes from the classic Bogan all the way to Vegemite!

**Day 8:** With the end of camp looming, the activities didn't slow down. Day 8 was time to sail off an adventure on the STS Leeuwin. The campers learned about sailing, tying knots and everything they needed to know to start their Pirate life anew. After lunch it was back to camp and onto a new life in comedy! The campers had

a lesson in Improv with Libby Klysz and to say they were all in stitches by the end, well that would be an understatement. As if that wasn't enough entertainment for one day, the night finished off with a Dance Party. Campers and Supervisors busting their best moves right up until lights out.

**Day 9:** The Burrige Cup, named for the renowned Legatees John & Margaret Burrige. The game of all games, the big leagues. This year's tournament, Socc Ball! What is Socc Ball you ask? It's basically T-Ball with a Soccer Ball! After a nail-biting tournament, the Supervisors took home the Cup much to the campers dismay (although this is the first year

in some time the campers have been beaten). After a trip into town for some healthy snacks - lollies - it was back to camp to put their new improv skills to the test on Skit Night! No supervisor was safe from a skit that's for sure. The campers also got to showcase their best dance moves or a song for a night of incredible talent.



**Day 10:** The last day of camp. First things first, clean up after Skit Night and some relax time on the grass and the beach, but not for long! After morning tea it was time for more Laser Tag! Then time for lunch and the start of pack up. While this was happening, the 2 campers graduating this year, Maddison Sanders and Zane Livingston, were hard at work setting up Formal Dinner. Throughout

camp, our leavers design the whole evening, from theme to menu. This year's theme was Fire & Ice. The dinner also serves as the time for our Best Boy & Best Girl Camper awards, this year going to Clayton Jackson and Alyssa Cahill. After an amazing evening of toasts, speeches and well wishes it was time for lights out and Camp to officially come to an end.



**Day 11:** Home time. After an emu parade around camp and a final pack up of belongings it was time to finish one of the most loved traditions of camp. Painting their names on the water tank. A reminder of camp 2021 to live on.. at least until next year.



# Adventure World



A total of 72 people attended. The kids (and some adults) were missing in action most of the day, only to be found enjoying all the rides and attractions Adventure World has to offer. We did manage to herd everyone back for a scrumptious lunch and even Santa managed to get away from the North Pole to help distribute some wonderful presents and lollies. This year's presents were brand new Surf-Rashies, courtesy of the elves and RPS Group.



Fun was had by all and it was amazing to see some of our committee members really connecting with the families.

**Amy Giddings,**  
*Junior Legacy Committee*

On December 6th, the Junior Legacy Committee hosted the annual Kids Christmas Party. This year we had a fun filled day at Adventure World in Bibra Lake.







# Looking Back with Theatre 180

Throughout 2020, Legacy WA had the pleasure to work alongside local WA theatre company, Theatre 180. Theatre 180 specialises in telling the stories of Australian Military and notable Aussies, such as the infamous A.B Facey through their production; A Fortunate Life.

Theatre 180 is also owned and operated by Mother-Daughter Duo Jenny & Rebecca Davis. These incredible women have been creating marvellous productions in Western Australia for 27 years. We also had the pleasure of working with Helena Cohen-Robertson of Know Your Nation.



*"A 180 degree perspective takes us through all ages of life - from youth to seniors and everything in between. THEATRE 180 recognises the value that the arts play in our society in nurturing, inspiring and challenging its citizens across all stages of their lives."*

Legacy and Theatre 180 held three workshops across the metro area with our Laurel Groups in Menora, Fremantle and Rockingham to begin the storytelling process. Throughout these sessions, members of T180 and Legacy WA sat with beneficiaries to hear stories of their childhood, early career and life as military spouses.

These stories were then expertly transcribed into a 45-minute-long production called 'Looking Back', retelling our beneficiaries' experiences in a way they had never been heard before.

Those who attended the sessions were invited back to watch the production in full. The emotion shown by our beneficiaries as they realised it was their story being told, was overwhelmingly beautiful.

**We are lucky enough to now have the production as a podcast for all to hear. If you would like a copy to listen to, please contact Legacy House.**







The group enjoyed morning tea from Culley's Bakery in Fremantle, iced tea freshly made by Roogenics team member Alex and ice blocks from local artisanal creator Delish Ice. We were blessed with perfect weather for a morning tea picnic.

Most importantly, we told stories. Through our project with Theatre 180, Know Your Nation, developed storytelling packs to help us start to tell our own stories. Complete with question prompts, tips and tricks, the group started to reminisce on our own lives telling stories from childhood, throughout school and career and beyond. For newer members of staff and attending Legatees, this was a great way for them to learn more about the Beneficiaries in attendance and form tighter bonds with those we support.



# Storytelling Picnic

The 26th of January is a contentious day for Australians, so this year, thanks to a grant from the Australia Day Council, Legacy WA was able to host a small picnic for Legatees and Beneficiaries at Monument Hill in Fremantle.



The theme for the Australia Day Council was; Respect. Reflect, Celebrate. For Legacy, that meant taking time to respect the lands on which we can live freely, reflecting on the untold stories of the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wadjuk Noongar People and celebrating our own unique stories. For Legacy, taking the time to reflect on our stories and preserve them for future generations is not only a point of importance, but one of pride.







# Christmas Jingle

Five successful jingles were held in the metropolitan & regional areas as due to COVID restrictions we moved away from the usual 300 attendance to 5 separate events.

65 attended Bellevue RSL with ladies from Kalamunda, Gosnells and Midland, 76 attended Port Kennedy RSL with ladies from Rockingham, Mandurah and Fremantle and 87 attended North Beach Bowling Club with ladies from Northern Districts, Perth, Menora and Floreat.

Hon Paul Papalia attended Port Kennedy, Hon Liza Harvey, Tony Kristicivic MLA, Tjorn Sibma MLC and Mayor of Stirling Mark Irwin attended North Beach. We had wonderful entertainment from Amber Reid.

The overall outcome of the smaller gatherings was a huge success and we will be doing this again in 2021. The ladies thoroughly enjoyed the smaller numbers as this enabled them to mingle more with others from the different clubs.

**One comment I heard often "it was great to be sharing tables with ladies from other clubs and catching up with them"**

I would personally like to say a huge thank you to President Matt Granger for attending all events and with the CEO Vivian and myself went to Busselton to join the Bunbury and Busselton ladies for their luncheon. Thank you to Legatees Rankin, Rees, Farmer, Fittock, Heeney, Prosser, Ruffin, Ward, Jones and Edwick for their serving of meals and generally looking after the ladies and without who the clubs would not be able to function as well as they do.

On behalf of Legacy and myself many thanks to Kerry Cousins and the team of 6 submariners from Garden Island who ably assisted us serve meals etc., at Port Kennedy.

Thank you Kelly and Emily from Legacy for their untiring assistance given to me

**Marlene Robins**  
Laurel Club Convener





# Melbourne Cup Lunch



Melbourne Cup celebrations went off in full bloom for the Fremantle & Perth Laurel Clubs. Hosted at the Bicton-Palmyra RSL Club, the ladies donned spring dresses and fascinators to enjoy lunch, champagne and the races.



Patricia Blunt

Members of the Bicton-Palmyra RSL and Country Women's Association were also in attendance. The CWA ladies pulled out all the stops by creating their own hats for the event with one of the prizes for best hat going to Kay Cunnold for her Springtime Bees creation.

Patricia Blunt of the Fremantle Laurels also took home a prize for her festive jester hat!

An enormous thank you to Legatees Rob Fittock, Marlene Robbins, Peter Henney and Alma Riley for their efforts in putting together a fantastic luncheon for the ladies. We look forward to next year.



Maria Brown and Margaret Carbon





# Militaria Auction

On 24th October 2020, Legacy held its 50th Militaria Auction. The Militaria Auctions have become a highlight on the Legacy calendar and it is always fascinating to see the selection of items that are auctioned off.



With 15% of the auction price donated to Legacy WA, the Militaria Auctions raise vital funds for Legacy programs to ensure our Beneficiaries receive the support they deserve.. Thanks to the incredible hard work and dedication from the team, **the October 2020 Militaria Auction raised an unbelievable \$31,500.**

Thank you to John & Margaret Burridge and Volunteers for all of their hard work in ensuring that every auction is a success. These auctions require a massive undertaking to manage, and we could not be more thankful and grateful for their enormous efforts.



**Legacy's next Militaria Auction will be held on Sunday 14th March 2021 at the Centenary Pavilion, Claremont Showgrounds.**



# Community Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has fundraised for Legacy WA over the last six months!

## Lincoln Gill

Over the last three years, Lincoln and his big brother Connor have raised \$1816.30 for Legacy WA and sent 94 gift boxes to the brave men & women serving in the ADF across the world, just in time for Christmas.

This year, despite additional challenges with COVID-19, Lincoln has raised an incredible \$1300 for Legacy WA through his Go-Fund Me page,

and was still able to send packages to Australian Troops deployed overseas during Christmas.

It is with the support of people like Lincoln and his family that Legacy WA is able to continue our work across Western Australia. Lincoln, you are an inspiration to many.



## Rockingham Bowls Club and Frank and Sue Weber

We were fortunate to attend the Rockingham Bowls club fundraiser for Remembrance Day 2020. Kelly, Emily & Jerry from Legacy WA had a fantastic time getting to know the members of the bowling club. President Matt Granger was also able to attend the occasion, helping to draw raffles and announce the winner of the tournament.

Thank you to everyone who raised funds for Legacy and participated in the raffle. An even bigger thank you to Frank and Sue Webber, without whom the event would not be possible. We're looking forward to next years game already.



## Yokine Bowls Club and Phil and Olwyn Griffiths

Thank you to the RSLWA Bowls club for raising \$2511.68 for Legacy this Remembrance Day. It was lovely to see the members having a great time playing bowls whilst raising funds for Legacy WA. Special mention to Phil and Olwyn Griffith and the Yokine Bowls Club for all their hard work to make the event possible. Fundraising Coordinator, Kelly Horner, was able to attend the event, and Phil made a special trip to Legacy House to present the donation to CEO Vivian Blycha.





## Mineral Resources

Mineral Resources donated \$7000 to Legacy for Christmas 2020. The team decided to forgo their usual Christmas Party, instead choosing to donate their pastry funds to Legacy WA.

Thanks to this donation, we were able to fund a Carer for a Camper on this years Children's Camp. This Camper lives with a severe form of autism, and having a Carer by his side

throughout the camp meant that he could have the best possible time. Not only could the Camper attend, he was able to enjoy the full 10 days. Thanks to this donation, the Camper now has new friends and lasting memories, and we could not be more thankful for the generosity of the Mineral Resources team for enabling a life changing experience for a Legacy Beneficiary.

## Mount Claremont Primary School

Campbell and Sienna who are the Community Committee representatives from Mount Claremont Primary School did an incredible job of raising \$700 for Legacy WA! Campbell & Sienna, along with the rest of the Community Committee led the school selling ice-block and other treats on a Friday to raise funds for Legacy Programs. These young leaders showed a level of maturity and sense of community spirit that fills us as an organisation with pride to see.

thereafter. We're deeply saddened by their closure and are committed to carrying on their Legacy supporting the community.

## Australian Ex-Services Atomic Survivors Association

Australian Ex-Services Atomic Survivors Association also had to close their doors in December 2020 and opted to donate \$5000 to Legacy as part of their distribution of assets. An organisation formed by Veterans

of the Australian Armed Forces in 1985 who have been recognised by the Government as participants in the British Nuclear Test Programme carried out in or on Australian Territory during the 1940s and



## Offshore Angling Club

Offshore Angling Club of WA sadly closed their doors in October 2020 however, the club in rolling up their assets graciously donated \$5,000 to Legacy WA. Members (Martin Humbert, Mike Harold and Laurie Burchill) visited Legacy House to

present CEO Vivian Blycha with the cheque. It is also important to acknowledge the Australian Ex-Services Atomic Survivors Association, as they were originally offered the donation by the Anglar Club, however opted to pass on to Legacy.

We're disappointed to see the closure of the club, as we know they have brought so much joy to generations of members and we will continue to carry their spirit with us as we continue the work of Legacy.

## Mandurah Mayday Club

The Mandurah Mayday Club donated \$5000 to Legacy WA as part of their annual donation drive. The Mayday Club operate an Op Shop in Mandurah supporting their local community and donating proceeds to charities chosen by the volunteers who operate the shop. The ladies do an incredible job and we are extremely grateful for their generosity.



Jill, Carolyn and Gayle



## The Pigeon Racing Club

The time honoured tradition of pigeon racing continues in WA, with proceeds from the event being generously donated to Legacy WA. \$3800 was raised at the last event. Pigeon racing has a rich history within WA dating back to 1932.

We are honoured that not only is the club continuing to leave the legacy of such a time honoured tradition, but that they choose to donate proceeds to Legacy WA. We look forward to another season of Pigeon racing in 2021.



## John Wakefield and the South Side Scooterists

For Remembrance Day the South Side Scooterists, organised by John Wakefield, hosted their annual scooter run which raised \$3050 for Legacy WA. After the ride, the participants and members of the general public enjoyed a meal at Clancy's Fish Pub in Fremantle.



## Another big thank you to:

- Army Golf who - raised \$176.40
- Safety Bay RSL - raised \$355
- Narrogin Torchbearers - raised \$4200

## In-kind support

Along with donations, Legacy WA relies heavily on the donation of goods & services, known as In Kind support. Here are just a few of our special mentions for this edition:



Coles DC & Rapid Relief Team for donating goods for the Christmas hampers for beneficiaries. These hampers were delivered to beneficiaries in need of some extra support this past Christmas.



RPS Group for sponsoring the Surf Rashies for our Legacy Kids. At the rate these kids grow we hope they will at least last the summer.



CameraPro for their donation of a Fujifilm X-A7 camera for our team to capture all the programs as best we can.

## Would you like to host a fundraiser for Legacy WA?

It is thanks to our incredible community that we have been able to continue Keeping the Promise to our Beneficiaries for nearly 100 years, but we still need your help more than ever.

Don't have any ideas? Leave that to us! We can provide you with everything you need to get the ball rolling so you can focus on the fun parts. We look forward to seeing your events in the Legacy Times!



**LEGACY**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

If you are interested in hosting your own fundraiser for Legacy programs, register with us via [events@legacywa.com.au](mailto:events@legacywa.com.au) or call **08 9486 4900** and speak to the Fundraising Team.



# Community Service Update

## Strength for Life

### What is Strength for Life?

Strength for Life is an individualised strength and balance exercise program designed to help people over 50 get fit, stay strong and improve their balance. The program is delivered by specially trained exercise physiologists, physiotherapists and fitness professionals in a range of locations and settings. There are no membership or subscription fees and your accredited instructor will develop a tailored exercise plan, just for you. You can

then work towards your goals with like-minded people in a fun and friendly group setting, with support and encouragement to become stronger and fitter. Staying fit and active will improve your balance, cardiovascular fitness, leg muscle strength and wellbeing. Tailored exercise plans will help manage chronic conditions.

### How does Strength for Life work?

The Strength for Life program is delivered across two tiers, designed to accommodate participants



with a range of needs. Tier 1 is delivered by qualified and accredited exercise physiologists and physiotherapists and is designed for people who are managing complex health conditions. Tier 2 is delivered by qualified

and accredited fitness professionals and suitable for people of all fitness levels and abilities who have few medical risks and may be managing chronic conditions. You can enrol for Strength for Life or you can be referred by your GP.



For more information please ring 08 9472 0104 or visit: [cotawa.org.au/sfl-landing/participants](http://cotawa.org.au/sfl-landing/participants)



## Open Arms

Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling is Australia's leading provider of high quality mental health assessment, clinical counselling and support services for Australian veterans and their families. If you or someone you know needs support call

Open Arms on **1800 011 046 - 24 hours a day, seven days a week or visit [openarms.gov.au](http://openarms.gov.au)** to learn more about our full range of services including group programs, self-help resources and more.

Open Arms also hosts an anonymous 24/7 support

line – Safe Zone Support – Safe Zone Support's specialist counsellors understand the military and can offer help to veterans and their families without needing to know who you are. Calls to **1800 142 072** are answered 24/7, and are not recorded.



For more Information visit: [openarms.gov.au/safe-zone-support](http://openarms.gov.au/safe-zone-support)



## 'POOPS' Pets of Older People

Ann, a Busselton resident has been living with macular degeneration for the past 20 years. Having this condition which is the leading cause of blindness in Australia, as well as suffering heart failure last year changed how she lives day to day. Ann lives alone and was particularly concerned about her little dog Sophie as she could no longer take her for her walks.

Luckily for Ann she discovered the WA based not-for-profit Pets of Older Persons or POOPS as it is affectionately known as, that is helping to alleviate some of the worry felt by pet owners like Ann who are over the age of 65, palliative care patients of any age and people with disabilities. With a helping hand from volunteers at POOPS, Sophie is now getting out and about on a number of walks every week.

But it's not only Sophie who feels the benefits of these regular walks. Ann enjoys her visits from her volunteers who she says love to chat as much as she does and has said of her experience with POOPS:

*"I think it's the best thing that's ever happened to me since I've been here, because before I was getting really down, not down in the dumps but you're just on your own a lot and now I've got people coming nearly every day... Sophie and I have a very busy life meeting people and I love meeting people I really do."*

POOPS is run entirely by volunteers who assist with looking after all kind of pets including cats, rabbits and even once were delighted to assist with the care of a horse! They assist



by walking dogs as well as providing transport (to vets, boarding facilities or groomers), helping to administer medication or whatever is agreed by the volunteer and pet owner.

POOPS have been carrying out its mission of 'Keeping People and Pets together' in Perth for over a decade now. It provides no-fee services in areas from Yanchep to Mandurah, the central suburbs, the Hills, Armadale to Serpentine and a new region Busselton opened in April last year.

POOPS also works with organisations, companies, councils and other not-for-profits to provide benefits to pets owners such as discounted grooming, boarding facility and vet costs.



**If you'd like to find out more about POOPS, become a client or volunteer or make a donation please visit [pooptwa.org.au](http://pooptwa.org.au) or call 1300 1100 92 and leave a message.**





# Volunteer Call Out

Legacy WA is always on the lookout for dedicated individuals who are passionate about Legacy's cause and are willing to give their time to support Legacy's families.

## Community Services

Our Community Services Team works directly with our beneficiaries who require specialized support and programs. These Volunteers are dedicated to engaging with beneficiaries on a long term basis and are available to commit a few hours every week.



**To make sure they receive the best quality care, our Community Services Volunteers are able to support in the following ways:**

- Home & Hospital Visits
- Assessments for Special Financial Aid
- Provide Companionship

Community Services Volunteers are provided with extensive training and support through Legacy and are able to be sponsored for ADTP Training, Working With Children Checks, and mental health training such as ASIST.



## Fundraising & Events

As a Not-For-Profit, Legacy relies on our community to host Fundraising Events and Volunteers to assist in our annual Anzac Day and Legacy Week Street Appeals.



**Fundraising & Events Volunteers are able to assist in the following ways:**

- Attend Street Appeals and assist with donation collections in Malls, Shopping Centres and Train Stations
- Staff Events & Fundraising activations such as Bunnings Sausage Sizzles, Christmas Parties and other Functions & Dinners

Fundraising & Events Volunteers are able to register in advance how often you would like to participate.

## Office Support

Legacy WA has a small team of staff who work hard to provide the services and support our beneficiaries need to live their most successful lives. However, to make sure we can get everything done, we need Volunteers to assist with Administrative tasks in our office.



**Office Support volunteers will be able to assist in the following ways:**

- Database Management
- Merchandise and Inventory Management & Dispense



We are always in need of Skilled Volunteers as well. Those who are experienced in a particular field and would like to donate your time and services are strongly encouraged to register as a Volunteer.

**Some of the fields we need assistance with are:**

- Graphic Design
- IT Support
- Legal & Governance



**Are you interested in volunteering for Legacy WA?**

Please contact our Fundraising and Volunteer Coordinator, Kelly at [events@legacywa.com.au](mailto:events@legacywa.com.au)



# Events Calendar

## Fundraising

### 8 March

International Women's Day breakfast at the Cottesloe Beach Hotel

### 12 March

Trivia Night at the Scarborough Sportsman Club

### 13 March

Rock for Legacy at the Grand Central Hotel Midland

### 14 March

Militaria Auction at the Claremont Showgrounds

### 17 April

Rare Birdies ANZAC fundraiser

### 17 April

Bunnings O'Connor **Sausage Sizzle**

### 22-24 April

Westfield ANZAC Appeal **Collections**

### 23 April

CBD street collection

### 23 April

Western Force Legacy game

### 26 April

Albany races

### 2 May

Gallipoli Run

### 14 May

Trivia Night 2.0 at Claremont Football Club

## Beneficiary

### 4 March

Laurel Group Presidents Luncheon at Centenary Room Parliament House

### 16-25 March

Widows Camp

### 20 March

Family Focus Group (Topic, Child Safeguarding)

### 26-30 March

Camp for People living with Disability

### 30 April-11 May

Widows Camp

### 8 June

Denmark Widows Luncheon

### 5-10 July

SASR kids and parents camp

### 11-13 July

Parent & Child camp

**\*check [www.legacywa.com/wa](http://www.legacywa.com/wa) for updates on all our events\***



## Legacy Widows Camp



Legacy WA is seeking your expression of interest to attend the annual Widows Camps in 2021. Please cut out this form and send back to Legacy House completed in the return envelope provided.

**Please note that all camp dates are subject to COVID-19 restrictions and Legacy WA will work to any and all guidelines set out by the Western Australian Government.**

I would like to attend:  Widows Camp 2  
16 - 25 March  Widows Camp 3  
30 April - 11 May  Widows Camp 4  
8 - 18 November

### Your Details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Next of kin

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Family Doctor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Requirements

Do you require the use of a  No  Yes, a commode  Yes, a walker  Yes, a gopher commode, walker or gopher?

\*Please note there are limited supplies of these items at Legacy Holiday Camp and any aids **must** be requested at the time of registration to ensure your needs can be met.

### Transportation

Will be making your own way to the Widows camp  No  Yes

If YES please provide your vehicle registration number: \_\_\_\_\_



## Bus information

If you wish to travel with TransWA please provide either your Gold Card, Seniors Card or Pension Card number so arrangements can be made by Legacy WA on your behalf.

For those wishing to use their free TransWA pass which is included with your Pension Card, please book directly with TransWA as Legacy WA is unable to make this booking on your behalf.

**Please note these dates and times are managed by TransWA & South West Coach Lines and may change.**

Gold Card no.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Seniors Card no.: \_\_\_\_\_ Pension Card no.: \_\_\_\_\_

| Departures                 |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Departure Points           | Sun                              | Mon + Wed                        | Tue + Thu                        | Fri                             |
| East Perth                 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00am |
|                            | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:15pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:15pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:15pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:00pm |
| Cockburn Central (Stand 7) | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30am |
|                            | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:40pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:40pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:45pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:45pm |

  

| Return Journey             |                                 |                                                                  |                                                                 |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Departure Points           | Sun                             | Mon - Fri                                                        | Sat                                                             |                                 |
| Busselton                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:12pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:05am <input type="checkbox"/> 4:25pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:05am                                |                                 |
| Arrival Points             |                                 |                                                                  |                                                                 |                                 |
|                            | East Perth                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:30pm                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:00pm <input type="checkbox"/> 8:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:00pm |
| Cockburn Central (Stand 7) | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:02pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:22pm <input type="checkbox"/> 8:02pm  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:22pm                                 |                                 |

| South West Coach Lines - Daily                 |                                  |                                 |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Departure Points                               | Morning Route                    | Afternoon Route                 |
| Perth Elizabeth Quay Busport                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:20pm |
| Perth Airport - Domestic Terminal (T3/T4)      | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:50pm |
| Perth Airport - International Terminal (T1/T2) | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:10am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:05pm |
| Cockburn Central Station                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:40am  | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:35pm |
| Cockburn Central Station                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:30am | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:25pm |
| Cockburn Central Station                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 11:15am | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:20pm |

  

| Return Journey   |                                 |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Departure Points | Morning Route                   | Afternoon Route                 |
| Busselton        | <input type="checkbox"/> 7:40am | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:00pm |

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



# Recap on Christmas Hampers

Every year at Christmas time, Legacy WA organises hampers for a group of our Beneficiaries. The Christmas period can be difficult financially and emotionally for people in need and these hampers are designed to provide relief for Legacy Families who are struggling. A big thank you to the Companions who donated their time to put the hampers together and the Legatees who delivered the hampers. Another thank you to Coles DC and RPS who donated the food for the hampers.



## 100 birthdays

Legacy WA would like to wish a very special Happy Birthday & Congratulations to these ladies who celebrated their 100th birthday in January 2021.

**Mrs Marjorie Williams** - January 3rd  
**Mrs Margaret Rosman** - January 10th  
**Mrs Phyllis Smythe** - January 23rd





# Laurel Club updates

## Daisies

A Big hello and Happy New Year to all in the Legacy family.

At the start of last year our social calendar got off to a great start, welcoming some new members for the first time, at the lovely Point Walter Café in Bicton for Brunch. Little did we all know what was just around the corner, and that the world about to change due to Coronavirus. The Daisies did not catch up again until August, when a few of the ladies

and their children met at the Chase Bar & Grill in Baldivis, enjoying a long overdue catch up over Lunch and a few glasses of wine. At the end of November, the Daisies joined the Lillie's for a Christmas Party Lunch at the Pagoda. These occasions are always special, as it is an opportunity for all to come together, sharing lots of hugs, laughs and making lasting

## Lillies

The Lillies and the Daisies assembled at the Pagoda at the end of November for a Christmas function. As well as the appetizing three course meal and a few wines we had a Secret Santa. The creativity and ingenuity shown when purchasing a gift for a set amount always amazes me.

In early December the Lollies and Daisies met once again. As a replacement for the jingle we had

memories. It was unfortunate that due to Coronavirus, all the Laurel groups could not come together for the annual Legacy WA, Christmas Jingle. On behalf of the Daisies, we would like to say Thank You to Marlene and all involved, who put together the various Christmas Jingle's.

The Daisies and Lillie's Christmas Jingle was a cocktail party, at the Quest Sky Lounge, in East Perth, overlooking our lovely Swan River. It was held on a perfect summers evening and we enjoyed drinking different cocktails that is for sure. In fact, I think a few of the Daisies drank the SkyLounge bar a little dry.

**Kelly Beake,**  
*Daisies President*



drinks and nibbled at the rooftop bar at the Quest Hotel. The view certainly gives a different perspective to our lovely city. The entrance to the hotel is through an old church with the modern building at the rear. It is pleasing to see are architectural heritage being conserved.

**Looking forward to an improved 2021.**



## Perth

### New Year Greetings to everyone from Friday Laurel Club!

The Jingle turned out to be a rather long journey for us but we were delighted to catch up with previous members who had moved to other clubs when Anzac House was demolished.

It was wonderful to finally be back at Anzac House for a few meetings before the start of the Festive Season. All were impressed by the new building. The restaurant is on the 1st floor with windows looking over the Government House Gardens. We were very pleased to welcome Gayle back as the South Perth club slowly dwindled to 2 members.

In early December the RSL ladies invited our club to enjoy a celebratory lunch with them as they did the year before. We were delighted to accept and enjoyed a delicious meal in the

new Anzac rooms. Thank you ladies. They have made so many poppies that we now call them The Poppy Ladies

I expect most people had smaller and more family-centric gatherings over the Xmas period. One of our ladies had the family gathering at the Crown...no preparations. No washing up afterwards...what a good idea. Others had a good variety of traditional roasts, buffet, BBQ. One of our group was invited to an engagement party which turned into a marriage ceremony when the guests arrived! Surprise all round. In my family a tree on the back lawn with packets large or small to be distributed by ELF, the youngest person present. This year that was my 19 month-old great-granddaughter who did a wonderful job once her



mother read the names for her. She loved helping to rip the paper too.

We are looking forward to our first meeting of the year on February 5th when we will hear more of our member's family's awards and achievements. We meet each Friday on 1st. floor of Anzac House around 9 a.m. and would welcome any new members.

**All the best for 2021.**

**Audrey R.**

## Midland and Districts

### Happy New Year, Hope all our Legacy Family had a safe and pleasant Xmas and New Year!

We are so lucky that here in the West we enjoyed the festive season with few restrictions.

Our meeting on 7th Oct included our Annual General Meeting which was attended by Marlene and our two Legatees. A motion was passed to simplify our banking transactions to change from cheques to card and have a small cash float.

Marlene spoke about items of interest

including diminishing member numbers which has forced the closure of a couple of small clubs.

The meeting closed with afternoon tea at 7th Ave Restaurant which was enjoyed by all.

Our last meeting for 2020 was on 4th Nov, attended by 17 members, 2 Legatees and 1 guest.

The Jingle took place at the Bellevue RSL club where we enjoyed the company of Kalamunda and Gosnells Clubs.

The meal was great! A traditional Turkey and Ham followed by yummy sweets served by Legacy Staff and volunteer RSL members. On behalf of our club I wish to thank all who made

it possible for us to have our Jingle in what has been for many a trying year.

Our club Xmas get together was at the Swan View Tavern on the 15th Dec. It was nice to be waited on and have a lovely meal to enjoy without having to prepare or clean up afterwards. We all brought a gift to exchange and enjoyed our last get together for 2020.

Our 1st meeting for 2021 was at 1pm on Wed 3rd Feb (where did last year go). Best Wishes from us as we look forward to a safe and carefree year.

**Lilian Cottingham,**  
*Midland and Districts Laurel Club Member*

## Floreat

Our Christmas lunch was held at the Herdsman Hotel in Wembley. Unfortunately due to illness our President could not attend.

Twelve members thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas Jingle and we liked the new idea of smaller groups as we had more space to mingle with others.

Ladies be careful of high steps. On

leaving the Jingle and boarding the Legacy bus one of our ladies shin made contact with the middle step. Blood everywhere. The bus driver and our Legatee came to her aid.

Still unable to return to our usual meeting place due to the virus restrictions we are having our first meeting for 2021 at the Herdsman Hotel on the 5th of February.

On a sad note one of our members Julie Wilson past away. Vale Julie.

Best wishes to all for 2021. May this year be better than the last one.

**Ruth Spilsbury**  
*Floreat Coastal Laurel Club member*

## Menora

Hello everyone,

Menora laurel club will be having their first meeting for the year on the first Wednesday in February 2021, it will be lovely to see everyone again.

I hope all our members and friends had a happy Christmas and that 2021 is a lot happier for us all despite the gathering years.

How wonderful were our Jingles this year, from all the people that I managed to talk to I think the smaller amount of people in attendance worked really well and not having reserved tables and being able to talk to other ladies from other Laurel Clubs was very nice for a change. Our thanks to Marlene and all the helpers for such a great day and the lovely lunch.

Since legacy provides support and welfare for widows and families of veterans it is important for us all to pull together to keep this wonderful institution going in whatever small way we can.

Best wishes to everyone and Happy New Year.

**Jan McLeod**  
*President Menora Laurel Club*



## Kalamunda and Districts

A "warm" welcome to you all in 2021.

Firstly, we share with you a very special time spent on the 26th November 2020. We celebrated at the Parkerville Tavern with a very surprised & delighted member-her Birthday- with song & cake.

Secondly, Legacy and Stamp Collectors. This combined interest and time has contributed financially to Legacy over many years.

Angela Waters is a Kalamunda Laurel Club member who reminds and encourages us to save any of our stamps and forward them to our Branch address.

Angela will then pass them to Legacy.

Best wishes from all of us to the wonderful Laurel Club Ladies.

**Annette Twist**



## Fremantle

Fremantle is happy to report that despite a few ailments, the resilience and patience of our ladies has never been stronger. The ladies are very eager to meet for their socials at the Bicton Palmyra RSL who have again rolled out the red carpet and the welcome mat for 2021.

Like many we were hoping to have met on Tuesday 5 February but the 5 day lockdown put that on pause.

However we are looking on the positive side to meet in a fortnight's time.

To that end a draft social calendar has been completed and the ladies will have a chance to look at what has been suggested for the rest of the year to make comments and amendments with a trip down to Mandurah for lunch and a boat cruise to watch the magnificent dolphins.

We are all hoping and praying that the lockdown will end soon but we remain very aware that this may also change at the drop of a hat.

Stay safe and well.

**Rob Fittock**  
*Legatee, Legacy WA*

## Geraldton

A very warm hello to all our dear readers and we trust you all survived the madness of the silly season.

Christmas has since gone and the New Year welcomed in...let's hope it will be a little smoother than 2020... enough said about 2020 ....forget it and move on!!

*"Life has one chance...does not give change or refunds...be careful what you deposit"*

Laurels in Geraldton had a very successful Christmas lunch....a great attendance with 18 Laurels, guest legatees and their respective goddess...made for a total of 32 enjoying a most favourable feast. We were kept sufficiently hydrated with the help of Gillian and Paul's bar skills. Our caterer, given the budget she had to work to, did an excellent job in providing a beautiful lunch.

The Santa Train delivered a special Christmas gift to each Laurel and Legatee in appreciation of effort and loyalty. We cannot thank our Legatees enough for the time and support they have delivered over the years and especially for each Goddess in her understanding of sharing her dearest one's skills.

Special thanks must be made to Brenda for her efforts in getting Wynn to the luncheon, as thanks must also be made to Gillian for her efforts in getting Liz to the event and to Legatee Jai-wen for transporting Shirley, Pearl and Esmae. We were all very grateful for your efforts. A very heart-warming and generous gesture.

*"There are hundreds of languages around the world...but a smile speaks them all."*

Prior to Christmas a couple of our Ladies had cataract surgery....they deemed this to be "life saving" and are now rejoicing by humming the tune "I can see clearly now".....over and over. As Pat Clews said...even the dust has a new look.

The results of "time marching on" and health issues giving out to independent living has seen Betty Mitchell, Liz Mcquillan and Wynn Barwick move to care facilities. These ladies have been regular and loyal supporters of our Geraldton Laurels and we will be endeavouring to transport them to our meetings during 2021.

*"Helping one person might not change the whole world, but it could change the*

*world for one person"*

Our warmest and best wishes go to all our Laurels ...local and from afar....who have experienced or are experiencing health issues. May the rosy side of life greet you again.

*"Someday, everything will make perfect sense. So for now, laugh at the confusion, smile through the tears and keep reminding yourself that everything happens for a reason."*

We will be resuming our regular meetings on the 1st February and our AGM will be conducted on the 1st March 2021. We usually have a fellowship lunch at the conclusion of our AGM which rounds out the event.

Dear readers, continue to stay safe and well...carry on and continue to reap all the enjoyment from your efforts.

*"A person's most useful asset is not a head full of knowledge, but a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen and a hand willing to help others."*

**Until we read again... warmest and best wishes from Geraldton Laurels.**

## Bunbury

With the restrictions of Covid this past year, the number of meetings and social gatherings have been limited. So it was a happy occasion when with the help of family members, the Bunbury Laurel Club ladies recently gathered at the Rose Hotel in Bunbury for their Club Christmas get together.

Our 2020 Jingles Christmas function

was held in Busselton at the Esplanade Hotel and it was a welcome opportunity for the Bunbury and Busselton ladies to mingle and get to know each other. It was especially appreciated that Vivian Blycha (the CEO, Legacy WA), Matt Granger (the President) and Marlene Robins made the journey from Perth to join us for the luncheon.

Our next meeting for 2021 is on the first Thursday of February - 4th February at the RSL in Bunbury. Meetings are held every second month thereafter at the RSL on the first Thursday of the month.

**Rosemary Ricetti**, *President of the Bunbury Laurel club* and **Maria Denton**, *member of the Bunbury Laurel club.*



## Mandurah

Hello to all widows and Legacy members,

The Mandurah/Murray meetings resumed in July and we were able to have a few lunches and bus trips. 12 ladies also had an interesting trip up the Swan River in the little ferry and lunched at Avocado's.

Sadly we lost members Mollie Turrell, Lyn McLeod, Beryl Baird and Dora Taylor during 2020.

This is first time in 23yrs I had no camp in November and a big hello to my ladies. I missed you all.

Luckily I attended Yvonne's camp in February and also took a group

of my tennis players down just before lockdown, who all enjoyed themselves very much.

Four of us went down to camp in November along with my two sisters and despite the cold and rain managed to enjoy ourselves.

On the 7th December, 16 of us attended the Xmas jingle at Pt Kennedy with Rockingham and Fremantle members. A great lunch, well looked after by the Sub Mariners, staff and Legacy.

Many thanks to Marlene and Legacy

Best wishes to Marjorie Tills on her 90th birthday in February.

Many thanks to Jeanette and staff at Mandurah RSL for our club luncheon in November. Appreciation also to Yvonne, Lyn and Edith for their input

Looking forward to a more normal 2021. Hope to see you all at some stage. Keep safe and well.

**Secretary Barbara Keillor**  
Mandurah/Murray Legacy Laurel Club  
Meeting 15th Feb 2021  
Mandurah Sub branch RSL

## Mt Barker

Legacy Christmas Luncheon - Mount Barker

On Thursday, 26th November, I once again had the privilege of hosting 7 Legacy Widows, along with two carers, at the Mt Barker Community College. The ladies, in the order they appear in the accompanying photo, were

Gloria Checkley, Joan dean, Gwen Hook, Nora Wynne-Houchin, Elsie Skinner, Roze Holland and Ronnie Ryan. Gloria was accompanied by her twin sister Judy and Gwen by her son Steve.

The Hospitality Course students at the High School, under the guidance

and instruction of Kath (pictured) and Linda, prepared, cooked and served an absolutely delicious two course meal fitting to the occasion.

**Wayne Hood**  
Legatee, Mount Barker

## Changes to the South West Picnic and Jingles 2021

Due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID restrictions and a declining attendance, we regret to inform you that the South West Picnic will not be held in 2021.

As you are aware, due to COVID restrictions, there were a number of changes to the way the Christmas Jingle was organised in 2020.

Based on overwhelming positive feedback, the same format will be used in 2021. Several jingles will be organised in geographically convenient locations and guests will be invited to the jingle closest to them.

Stay tuned for more details in the next Legacy Times.

## Not yet a member?

Laurel, Lilies & Daisies Clubs are open to all Legacy WA Beneficiaries to join. These clubs have a vibrant social calendar of events throughout the year and there is always room for more.

If you are interested in joining a club near you or would like to know more please contact our Community Services Team on:

**08 9486 4900** or [getsupport@legacywa.com.au](mailto:getsupport@legacywa.com.au)

We look forward to seeing you at a club meeting soon.

## Laurel Club Meeting Times and Locations

| Laurel Club           | Meeting Times                    | Location                                                                     |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bunbury               | 1st Thursday<br>9.30am           | RSL Hall<br>19 Spencer Street, Bunbury WA 6230                               |
| Fremantle             | Fortnightly Tuesdays<br>10.30am  | Bicton Palmyra RSL<br>30a Foss Street Bicton                                 |
| Geraldton             | 1st Monday<br>10.00am            | Birdwood House<br>46 Chapman Road Geraldton WA 6530                          |
| Gosnells & Districts  | 2nd & 4th Wednesday<br>11.00am   | Gosnells Football Club<br>Terrence Street Gosnells WA 6110                   |
| Kalamunda & Districts | 3rd Friday<br>1.00pm             | Jack Healey Centre<br>21 Mead Street Kalamunda WA 6076                       |
| Mandurah-Murray       | 3rd Monday<br>1.30pm             | Mandurah RSL<br>Unit 5/20-22 Rouse Rd, Greenfields WA 6210                   |
| Menora                | 1st Wednesday<br>10.00am         | War Widows Guild<br>15 Plantation Street Menora WA 6050                      |
| Midland & Districts   | 1st Wednesday<br>1.00pm          | Ascension Church Hall<br>17 Spring Park Road Midland WA 6056                 |
| Northern Districts    | 1st & 3rd Thursday<br>8.30am     | "Mildenhall" Duncraig Senior Citizens Club<br>49 Beddi Road Duncraig WA 6023 |
| Perth                 | Friday Fridays<br>9.00am         | ANZAC House<br>3/66 St Georges Terrace Perth WA 6000                         |
| Rockingham            | Fortnightly Thursdays<br>10.00am | Port Kennedy RSL Cnr<br>Paxton Way & Helmsshore Way Port Kennedy WA 6172     |
| Vasse                 | 2nd Wednesday<br>10.00am         | Busselton RSL Hall<br>10 Rosemary Drive Busselton WA 6280                    |



This issue is  
dedicated to the  
past, present,  
and future,  
women of Legacy

