

Ponderings in Isolation

Well, here I am again, at the end of another week in isolation and having survived the peculiarity of Easter with no real celebration. I delivered eggs and a card to my Dad's facility but could not see him. It is so difficult for you all with families during this time. I really understand how many of you are missing your children and grandchildren. All I can say is that I feel for you and that this miserable time will pass. We will all be the stronger for it

Our governments have been magnificent through this and I have enormous admiration for all the health officials and workers who are guiding us, supporting us and nursing us through this peculiar environment. I also empathise with those parents who are home schooling their children! I suspect that patience will be at a premium over the next few weeks.

As for your U3A. Well, your committee is keeping in touch with as many of you as possible. We are all using Zoom, Facebook or email and I have recently sent letters to those members who are either not on email or have not notified us of their online address. We are all working to keep the U3A Frankston family together. We are keen to train as many tutors as possible on Zoom – let us know if you are interested. And we need a Zoom coordinator – any volunteers out there?

I get a great deal of pleasure from reading and am thriving on peace and quiet to catch up on some great books. Some of my recommendations were in our most recent newsletter – since then, I am reading the latest in the Rowland Sinclair mystery series by Sulari Gentil. Great fun! My pile of books next to the bed never seems to go down but I like that – gives me lots to look forward to. I give a free plug to Booktopia.com as an Australian company that needs our support.

I have also taken up knitting ready for winter and have ordered a couple of tapestry kits to keep me going. Jigsaws are driving me mad – but good therapy!

Whereas many of us believe that our house confinement is a sacrifice, it is appropriate that this month we recognise the far greater sacrifice made by many of our predecessors during the wars that have scarred our nations and our history. We must spare a thought away from our own difficulties for those who fought for us to be the great nation we are today. We are truly lucky here and we should never forget it. Lest we Forget. Anzac Day is still a very important day in our calendar – please still recognise it – fly a flag on your house, bake some biscuits and pause to remember the fallen.

On a positive note – the Australians are flattening the curve. The most recent news is positive and we must hold onto that. Well done to us all. We will get through this and we will be return to U3A Frankston, changed but better than ever.

Thought for the Day – Friends are cheaper than therapy.

My best wishes to all of you.

Stay Well, Stay Home, Stay Connected and Stay Informed

Andrea McCall

President

18th April 2020