



AUSTRALIAN NURSES MEMORIAL CENTRE

Autumn NEWSLETTER

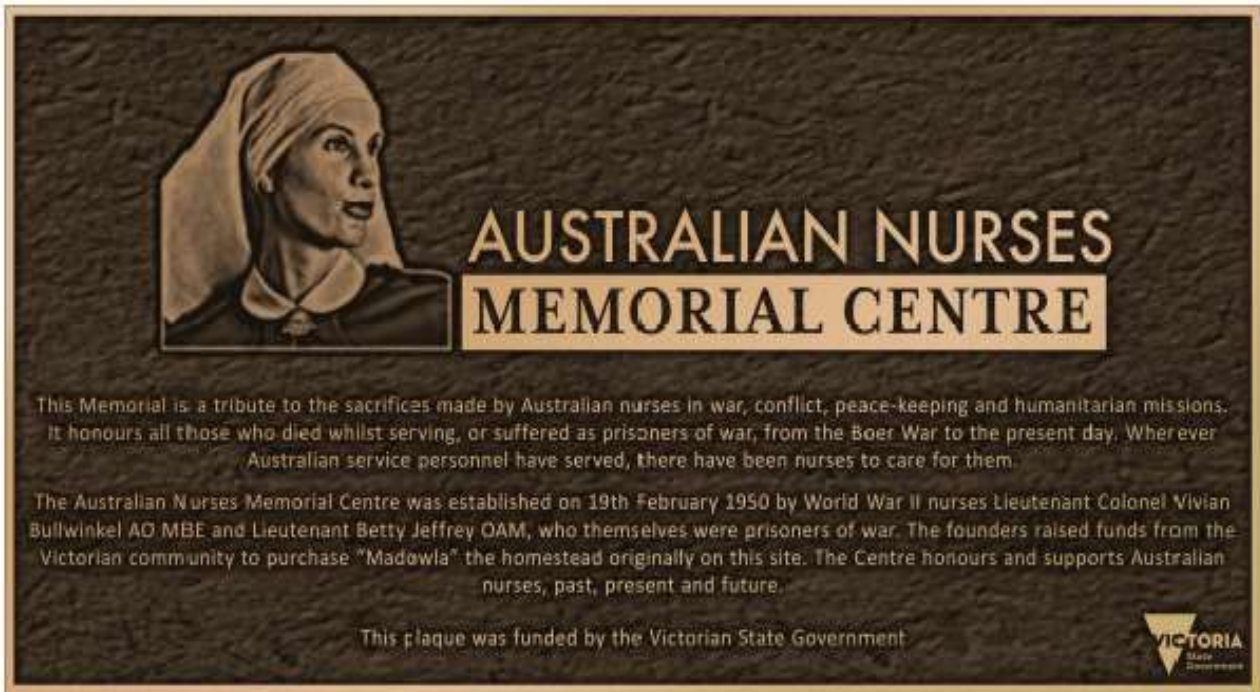
Welcome to 2021. The year has begun with some hesitation but we are hoping for the best. As more people are vaccinated, we will feel a little safer resuming life as we knew it before Covid-19. At present we are following the rules of the DHHS so we are a little limited by that although we have adapted to Zoom. We even had the scholarship awards ceremony on the Zoom platform on Friday 12th of March.

We are planning for events to occur but we are mindful that arrangements may need to change. I ask that you be patient and check our website for updates for events. It will be so good to see our friends again after such a long separation.

UNVEILING OF OUR NEW PLAQUE

A Victorian Government grant was sought 'Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour' which we were thrilled to be successful in obtaining a grant for a new plaque to adorn rear of the plinth. The Members of the Board gave a great deal of thought to the wording of the plaque, as we felt that most people didn't understand why there is a monument to World War II on St Kilda Road. Very few people would remember the grand old house," Madowla' being on this site. The addition of this plaque would be a way of telling the story so that future generations would know. The unveiling of the plaque was to take place on the 19th of February but due to the snap lockdown, the installation of the plaque was delayed, we had to push the date back. On a blustery Thursday evening, the 25th of February a small gathering of family of Betty Jeffrey, family of Gwendoline Elmes, Board members, Members, and the Minister for Veterans, and MLC Mr Lee Talarmis, Mr Roger Clifton Chair of Victorian Veterans Council. The Honorable Shaun Leane MP Minister for Veterans officially unveiled the plaque, "I am proud to continue the Victorian Government's support for communities honouring and commemorating our proud war heritage." Minister Leane.





SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS NIGHT 2021

Our Scholarship Awards Evening was held virtually this year on Friday 12th March. Due to the pandemic and recent snap Victorian lock down, it was a difficult decision to make, but due to social distancing restrictions, we would have had to limit the number of people attending in at our venue to 30, so virtual event it was!

The Awards Ceremony was Chaired by Dr Beverley Wood. Chair of the Scholarship Committee. Arlene Bennett welcomed all of the guests and introduced our Guest Speaker, Mr Lee Talamis MLC South Eastern.

Epworth Centenary Scholarship

Ms Sheila Daly, The Acting Chief Nursing Officer from Epworth presented the Epworth Centenary awards to three recipients. The awards were given in honour of Matron Ethel



Gray who had served during WWI. On returning home, she took up the position of Matron of Epworth Hospital. She was a much-loved Matron and a true nursing leader.

The **Epworth Centenary Open Scholarship** was awarded to **Glenys Frank** for her PhD studies into the maternity experiences of women seeking asylum.

The **Epworth Centenary Regional Scholarship** was awarded to **Emily Rankin** who is undertaking her Masters in Child and family Community Nursing.

The **Epworth Centenary Indigenous** was awarded to **Barbara Allen** who is undertaking the Master of Nursing Practice –Minor Thesis: use of aromatherapy as an adjunct therapy for post-operative gynaecology laparoscopy patients.

Pictured above: Ms Sheila Daly, Glenys Frank, Emily Rankin, Barbara Allen

Australian Legion of Ex- Servicemen and Women Scholarship

Mr Roger Clifton, Chair of the Victorian Veteran's Council presented the ALS Scholarship Awards.

Tanya Frost received a scholarship for her Masters of Advanced Nursing Stroke Nurse Specialist.

Elizabeth Bell received a scholarship for her Masters Advanced Nursing Practice Nurse Practitioner – Palliative Care.

Annette Robinson received a scholarship to study for her Graduate Certificate Emergency and Disaster Management (Regional).

Kylie Alger received the award to study for her Urology Continence Nursing: Prostate Nursing care: Advanced Health Assessment (Regional).



Pictured above: Mr Roger Clifton, Tanya Frost, Elizabeth Bell, Annette Robinson, Kylie Alger

Australian Nurses Memorial Centre Scholarship

Presented by Arlene Bennett to **Temika Mu** who received the award to study for the Master of Advanced Nursing- Harm reduction AOD's (alcohol and other drug users).



Pictured above: Arlene Bennett & Temika Mu

The Betty Jeffrey Award

The Betty Jeffrey Award was presented by **Emily Malone**, Betty's great niece. Miss Malone had a photograph of Betty in the background. Emily remarked that Betty would have enjoyed the Zoom meeting.



Pictured above: Emily Malone & Alice Walthall

Alice Walthall was awarded the Betty Jeffrey Award which will enable her to study a Master of Nursing Practice; Paediatric Emergency. Alice is in the Army Reserve and recently gave a talk to 50 of her fellow Army nurses. She spoke about the nurses who were killed on Banka Island in 1942 and concluded her speech with the following, "*In the face of the greatest adversity, these women thought and planned about how they would contribute to the advancement of nursing. Their story of courage, fierce determination and strength should be heard.*

We should remember their selflessness, their dedication; not only to each other, but to their patients, and the nursing profession.

We should strive to honour them.

We should reflect, and ponder what our legacy will be,

And we should be proud to be an Australian Army Nurse"

I am honoured to share the stories of these incredible women – Alice Walthall

Vivian Bullwinkel Award

We were very pleased to have John Bullwinkel nephew of Vivian Bullwinkel to present the Award. This year's recipient was **Stephanie Sprogis** who is undertaking a PhD Exploring the Pre-Medical Emergency Team Tier of Rapid Response Systems.



Pictured above: John Bullwinkel & Stephanie Sprogis

The evening concluded with the incoming Chair of the Scholarship Committee, Dr Elizabeth Lavender thanking everyone for attending and for making the evening so special. She wished all the recipients well with their studies and the formally thanked Dr Beverley Wood for Chairing the Scholarship committee for the past three years.

Pictured above: Dr Beverley Wood



ANMC Alumni

As part of the five-year Strategic Plan, one of our goals is to establish an Alumni. During the Scholarship presentation, Arlene Bennett encouraged recipients to become involved in establishing the ANMC's Alumni program. *"I take this opportunity to ask our scholarship recipients, past and present, to consider assisting with the development of the ANMC Alumni program, to help shape the future of the ANMC. We are here for you, and you are our future."* We will be holding a planning meeting on Thursday 29th April via zoom at 6.00pm. Should you be interested to contribute to the establishment of the ANMC Alumni, we welcome your input. Please register your interest via the link below;

[ANMC Alumni Steering Committee meeting #1](#)

ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

Our Commemorative Service for 2021 will be conducted on **Sunday 18th April at 2pm** at the Memorial to Nurses on St Kilda Road. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we have decided to keep it to an outdoor event only. Let's pray for good weather on the day.

This year we thought we would trial the option of a Collaborative Wreath. Instead of purchasing a wreath as an individual, you might like to make a donation to our Scholarship Fund. All contributors' names will be read out at the service at the laying of the Collaborative Wreath. You can contribute via our website [Donate here](#)

or by phoning our Centre Manager to process your donation via credit card. All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

Please register your attendance via the link below.

[ANMC Commemorative Service RSVP](#)



Friends of Banka Island

The relatives and friends of the nurses who were massacred on Banka Island recently began meeting via Zoom to discuss and plan what is likely to happen next year for the 80th anniversary of the massacre. This year, on the 16th February, we had a virtual zoom service which included people from Indonesia, Singapore, England, Wales, United States, New Zealand, and Australia. It was great to meet everyone and especially Isidore Warman who was the little boy in the POW camps who had lost both his parents. He is mentioned in Betty Jeffrey's 'White Coolies'.

Vivian Bullwinkel Statue

The Australian College of Nursing has launched an appeal for the development of a statue of Vivian Bullwinkel to be erected at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. It is hoped that the statue will be commissioned and any excess funds will be made available to nurses in the form of scholarships to be named in honour of the 21 Australian Nurses who were massacred on Banka Island.

Vivian was the sole survivor of the massacre. She could see the advantage of educating nurses and would become President of the (Australian) College of Nursing in the early years. Donations can be made by contacting:

[The Vivian Bullwinkel Project - Australian College of Nursing Foundation](#)

Enjoy your Easter weekend!