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KEMH Alumni Inc Newsletter

Issue No. 4

April 2019

Living Child Exhibition "Through her eyes"

Kate McGurk



B&W photo taken by a Yamen woman for the photographic exhibition

President's Message

We have moved social events to WEDNESDAY EVENINGS.

Your committee needed to consider moving the venue for Alumni social evenings as Thursdays in Agnes Walsh Lounge became unavailable. We researched other options on and off the KEMH site however all had logistical issues. We have therefore booked Agnes Walsh Lounge for Wednesday evenings throughout 2019 and are likely to continue this into 2020.

Another change is the North Metropolitan Health Service ban on consuming alcohol on site, a policy in line with all WA Health services and sites. While we know you will continue to enjoy the friendship, food and great guest speakers with a glass of juice it is likely that we will apply for an exemption to this policy.

Anne Rae

Many Alumni members may remember the amazing midwife Sara David who spoke to us on her project Living Child Inc, which supports women in Papua New Guinea as they work to secure health care in many forms. One initiative is creating clean birthing kits for the villages in areas where no health services are operating. These kits keep the site of birth clean preventing infections of mothers and newborns. As a result of Sara's talk, the KEMH Alumni made the decision to donate \$1000 to this project.

One of Sara's team, Deborah Badger, has put together a magnificent collection of photographs for a major fund raising exhibition this May. Deborah joined the outreach team and ran a photographic project with the local

women from Yamen village. Women were given a digital camera for a day and asked to capture scenes of their daily lives. The result has been staggering. Fifteen of the photos were selected for a small black and white exhibition 'Through her eyes' at the Harry Cohen Gallery at KEMH. The exhibition ran from November to March and was enjoyed by patients and staff.

In December 2018 the District Member for Angoram, the Honorary Salio Waipo, and his District Administrator Mr Raymond Wungen were brought to Australia and while here visited KEMH to see the exhibition. Both men were moved to tears and expressed their gratitude to all who have supported projects to improve health outcomes for their people.

March Social Event

Living Child will be holding a larger exhibition of these amazing photographs at Kidogo Art Gallery in Fremantle. The opening night will be Thursday May 9th. Living Child look forward to your support.

Tickets for opening night are \$40, available online at trybooking.com/BAMUX. Opening night tickets include welcome drinks as well as a spectacular grazing table and entry to the Silent Auction where there will be original paintings, flights, holidays, PNG handmade baskets and bags, wooden carvings, stunning professional photographs, studio portrait sittings etc on auction. 100% of proceeds from the Auction will go to Living Child Inc. Daytime viewing of the exhibition has free entry.

Editor's Note: Knowing Yamen village was isolated, I brought up a google map of the location. The 'map' version shows no roads and the satellite version shows deep forest.

Angoram is a town and seat of Angoram District in East Sepik Province in north-western Papua New Guinea. The area is noted for its rubber and cocoa plantations and the town is situated on the

Shannon Lovelady, Archivist, Curator & Historian presented "*The Western Front Dead from Western Australia*".

Shannon pursued her passion for historical research into an unknown area. There was no accurate record of the number and names of men from WA who had died from service in western front sites in World War 1. Shannon's team of seventy volunteers have succeeded in recognising each soldier with a record of his story. Shannon revealed the "typical WA soldier" that died as a result of service on the Western Front.

- His name is William Smith.
- He was born in Perth, Western Australia.
- He is Anglican, single, and works as a labourer.
- He has a fair complexion, blue eyes and brown hair.
- He is 5'7" (171.25cm) tall and weighs 143 pounds (64.8kg).
- He enlists in Perth on 19 July 1915 aged 26 years 9 months, giving his father, who also lives in WA, as next of kin.
- He is a private in the 28th Battalion.
- He is killed in action (at Passchendaele, part of the Third Battle of Ypres) on 12 October 1917.
- He has no known grave and his name is on the memorial at Villers Bretonneux.



Graeme Boardley and Shannon Lovelady

The WA Medical Museum needs volunteers. Contact Normak229@gmail.com if you are interested.

Apology to Brigitte Glockner whose name was mistakenly and carelessly left off the committee membership in the last newsletter.



January Social Event

"Connecting the Nation – Memories of the Trans Australian Railway" was presented to the Alumni by Philippa Rogers on 17th January. Historian, Author and Museum Specialist Philippa has been fascinated by Western Australia's railway history for over 30 years. Philippa recounted the story of 'the Trans' through the eyes of those involved in the complex task of railway construction and operation. This evoked many memories from Alumni present: Harry Cohen travelled to and from his home in Perth to medical studies in Adelaide on the Trans; Kate McGurk recalled the McGurk brothers providing vittles to the construction workers.

Supporting KEMH Staff

Our liason with the Staff Recognition and Wellness Committee [SRWC] will give us opportunities to use some of your funds to support KEMH staff. Your committee has suggested we assist with some of the women's health events held at KEMH, for example Ovarian Cancer Awareness for which ward 6 and Gynaecology Outpatients hold a TEAL fundraising morning tea. This suggestion will be discussed at the next SRWC meeting.

Editorial Team:

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Fundraising

We will be holding a stall in the foyer of KEMH from Monday 6th to Friday 10th May. There will be another bountiful raffle basket for Mothers' Day as well as small gifts to buy, such as flower raising kits. If you would like to help with this stall, we are looking for volunteers for 10 to 2 pm each day. Please contact Jen Kennedy jjken4@bigpond.com

