

HISTORY & HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

December 2022

YOUR HISTORY, OUR RESPONSIBILITY

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

How quickly the last 12 months has flown. It seems like just yesterday that we sent out the first newsletter of 2022.

We have been incredibly busy across all areas of Cafs this year including through our History & Heritage Service. In 2022 we responded to a record number of individual requests from Care Leavers and their families and we have made significant progress on our Exhibition Space project to shift the historical focus of our current space to one that will allow Care Leavers to better connect with their history and to tell their own stories.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for the festive season and send our best wishes to our former residents currently living in flood affected communities around Australia. Please know that you are, and will continue to be, in our thoughts.

Take care everyone,
Wendy Sturgess

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ANNUAL REUNION DATES

We are excited to announce that the 2023 Former Residents Reunion events will be held across two days on 23rd & 24th February 2023.

Day 1: On Thursday 23 February we will be launching the re-developed Exhibition in the basement of Ludbrook House at Cafs. Please join us for this exciting occasion.

Day 2: On Friday 24 February we will get together at the Russell Square clubrooms for the reunion event.

Please see the enclosed invitation for details.

We look forward to seeing you at these special events.

EXHIBITION DEVELOPMENT

Thanks to those who came along to this session to provide feedback on the development of the exhibition at Ludbrook House. We look forward to revealing the finished product, and its new name as voted by YOU, at the opening. Below is some fabulous artwork donated by Deb Findlay for the exhibition. Thanks Deb! If you would like to contribute some art, please get in touch.



Kerri Wilson McConchie, a visual artist and graphic designer currently involved in the redesign of the Cafs exhibition space. Her passion and expertise lie in book design, having worked extensively with various publishers, and in the past in areas that include exhibition design. Kerrie is also a design educator at Swinburne University and is particularly interested in areas of design that promote community and learning.

As a former resident of the Ballarat Children's Home, Kerrie values the opportunity to be involved in exhibition project, in collaboration with Ash Tree Projects, the former resident community and the Cafs team.

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FROM PAST TO PRESENT TO FUTURE

Kat recently commenced a second part-time role with Cafs as the 'Community Connections Practitioner' as part of the Better Futures Program. Better Futures supports young people aged 16-21 yrs who are transitioning from out-of-home Care to independent living. The Community Connections component aims to build supportive networks, pathways and connections for these young people.

Kat takes pride in the fact that she can draw from the knowledge and experience gained from Former Residents to inform her work with young people who are currently living in out-of-home Care settings.

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF ARCHIVISTS CONFERENCE - OCTOBER



Christmas teatime year unknown

Rhiannon Williams (Executive Manager, Client Outcomes) and Kat from Cafs joined David McGinniss and Frank Golding in attending the Australian Society of Archivists 'Here We Are' conference to discuss 'The Charter of Lifelong Rights in Childhood Recordkeeping in Contemporary Social Work Practice'. The panel addressed the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the histories of institutional care, and how the Charter can be implemented into contemporary practices.

CAFS WELCOMES NEW BOARD CHAIR

Cafs is fortunate to have a high calibre Board of Directors as we implement the 2022 - 2025 Strategic Plan. After 9 years we say goodbye to Gail Boschert as Chair and welcome Tammy Fitzgerald.

Appointments are as follows:

Chair: Tammy Fitzgerald; Deputy Chair and Treasurer: John White; Secretary: Gary Hevey

Directors: Jayne Ferguson; Karen Heap; Gabby Howlett; Sharelle Knight; Ross Waddington; Michelle Wilson



Cafs Board Chair - Tammy Fitzgerald

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KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH CAFS

If you wish to access your records, please send an email with information such as the years that you were in Care, date of birth, names parents and any siblings. Please also include photo ID such as an image of your license.

Calling for contributions

Have you got a story or memory you'd like to share in the next newsletter? You may like to share a poem that you've written, some artwork you've created, share a photo you're your experiences about accessing your records from your time in Care. It's really up to you! If you'd like to contribute, please get in touch.

Future newsletters

A friendly reminder that we have now moved to a preferred method of email communications, and future newsletters will be sent by this method. If you have not already provided us with an email address and wish to continue receiving newsletters, please drop us a line so that we can update our mailing list accordingly.

If you no longer wish to receive History & Heritage newsletters please unsubscribe by sending an email to records@cafs.org.au



Christmas 1966

Cafs Heritage and History Records Service

Ph: 03 5337 3333

Email: records@cafs.org.au

Hours of operation:

Monday 9am - 5pm

Tuesday 9am - 5pm

Wednesday 9am - 5pm



Invitation

Former Residents Annual Reunion

Events to be held over 2 days

Thursday 23 February, 3pm - 4pm

Re-opening of the Exhibition Space
Basement, 115 Lydiard Street South, Ballarat
Afternoon tea provided

Friday 24 February, 11am - 3pm

Annual reunion
Russell Square Clubrooms
Humffray Street North, Ballarat East
(enter via Stawell Street)
Lunch, nibblies and refreshments provided

RSVP: Tuesday 31 January 2023

Email: records@cafs.org.au or phone 53 37 3333

and advise the following:

The event/s you will be attending

Attendee names

Any special dietary requirements

