

# High Street Happenings

May & June 2022  
Issue 21



Tuart Place

**T** Together...we build  
**U** Understanding  
**A** Acceptance  
**R** Respect ...and  
**T** Trust



A Lotterywest grant has provided new furniture and IT equipment for the busy lounge area, counselling and group rooms.

## ‘Thank you Lotterywest’ by Michael Dodds

When I was quite new at Tuart Place, Dickon gathered a forum of participants to develop a consensus of what we felt was needed when replacing the old furniture with the grant from Lotterywest. I was new, so I didn't say anything, but I am very pleased with the result.

The old furniture had a lot of years of wear and tear and was very hard to get in and out of. It was also difficult to get around it, and to move it when rearranging the room for special occasions. It really didn't support the older people who had to use it.

The new furniture is easy to get in and out of, with arm rests at just the right height to support me when I'm getting up. I feel supported from the front, back and sides, and the height is good. Overall, it's easier to use and very comfortable. The colours are very nice, a harmonious blend with no glare, just easy on the eyes. The lounges are easier to move around the room, and also to move between them.

Lastly, and very importantly, I think it's a great mix of old and new - I like that we still have the large table in the centre of the couches.

"They're trendy, comfortable and serviceable"

"I like the arm rests - easy to get out of."

"I'm in a wheelchair now. My carer can bring me in and out easily or move a coffee table if we need room to get past. There wasn't much space for me before!"

"I like the nice high backs"

"You know what I like? We can get in and out of these new chairs!"

"Love the colours"





On a flight, off on holiday. The cabin crew member asked what I wanted to drink.  
“Water”.  
“Still?”  
“Well, I haven’t changed my mind...”

What happens when you  
get water on a table?



It becomes a pool table.



A friend dug a  
hole in the  
garden and  
filled it with water.  
I think he meant well.

What do you get  
when you throw  
a billion books  
into the ocean?

A title wave!



What kind of rocks are  
never under water?  
Dry ones!



Why do scuba divers fall  
backwards into the water?

Because if they fell forwards,  
they would still be in the boat.

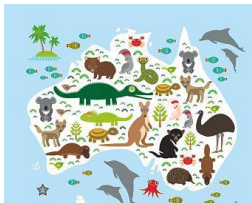


What keeps a dock  
floating above water?

Pier pressure.

Where can you  
find an ocean  
with no water?

On a map!



## Life After Covid

by Rosie K



Covid entered my  
life Friday 25<sup>th</sup>  
February. I was  
feeling ill a couple  
of days before I  
took the test  
which turned out  
positive.

Don't be afraid of  
Covid. Yes, you  
can get very sick,  
it is like having a  
real bad flu. But

at no time did I feel I needed to go to hospital.  
I was staying at my partner's house when this  
happened, so he and his son were also  
positive, so it was great to have company  
even when the three of us were quite ill.

We were all vaxed twice and also had our  
Booster shot. We had to report it to WA health  
so they checked up on us every day. They  
phoned and let us know when our isolation  
time was up. It takes time to get to 100%  
better as we were still coughing and didn't mix  
in big crowds of people for quite a while.

Thank you to my sister who shopped for us  
and did chemist runs, and also two great  
friends who rang every day to check on us. I  
really enjoyed their calls as it lifted my spirit.

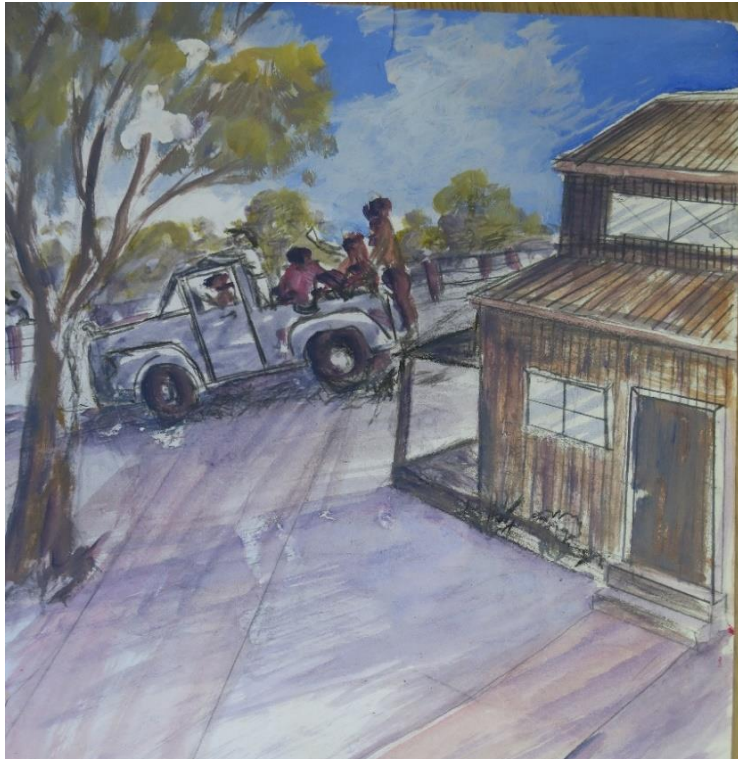
I have been told you can get Covid again so  
here's hoping it passes us by. Stay safe and  
well everyone and I wish you all good health.

Rosie



# EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY by Ricky Michael

I can't remember when I started painting but I was doing it by the time I was in Primary School. Most of my drawings and paintings are memories of my life as a child especially when I was sent to Wandering.



Before I went to Wandering I lived in Narrogin with my family. I have a crayon drawing somewhere of a swing. It was one of those old-fashioned things: a tyre hanging from a rope on a tree. One day I fell off the swing and badly cut my head. We lived on a farm and my father ran all the way to Narrogin (about 10miles) to get help. He saved my life I reckon.

As an adult I enrolled in an Art Course here in Freo at Fremantle beach (next to Ciccerellos). I was there about 10 years ago and it was there that I learned more about drawing and painting.

I sometimes don't feel like painting at all but there are some days when I want to do it every day.

## Old Collie House (Wandering)

We used to drive around this place all the time but never went in. We were "skittish" about it because of the story of a family tragedy there years ago. The drawing shows

me and my Wandering mates in the back of a ute going passed it. But like I said we never went in.

## "Shrine" (Wandering)

This is showing a nun kneeling down at a statue of the Virgin (it was a Catholic place). As a kid this made a big impression on me. I didn't know exactly what the nun was doing but somehow I knew it was something special. I now know they used to pray there.

As a kid I thought the Mission was "normal" - to us it was the only thing we knew. We didn't realise what it was all about. Only later as an adult did I see it wasn't "normal" and it affected me in a bad way.



## Kangaroos Boxing

I did this because of the "roos" fighting. It thought it was a "beautiful moment". It made me want to paint it. They (the roos) are there in the background

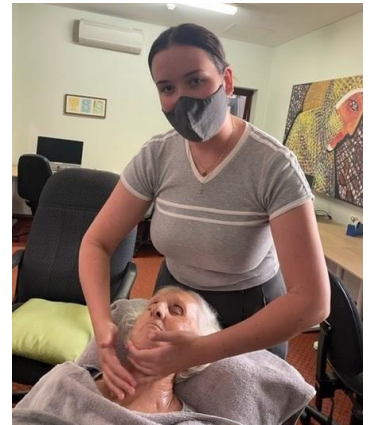


# 'Thank you Ella', Volunteer Beautician

By Maria Decourcy

I was the first 'cab off the rank' in March when Ella came to give some manicures, pedicures, and facials to us here at Tuart Place. Ella said she had finished her beauty training and that she wanted to volunteer her time here and give us some pampering. She said, "sometimes you have to give", She was a lovely person.

She was very professional and easy to talk to. I told her my story, about my childhood and about some of the things that happened to me as an adult. She congratulated me on surviving and said, "Wow - look at you now!" I told her I was 73 and she was really surprised and said that I'd looked after my skin well. It glowed and looked even softer when she'd finished though!



## *Jenn in Action!*

*Jennifer Aldrick, former Chairperson of the Forgotten Australians Coming Together (FACT INC) Board which governs Tuart Place.*



*Jennifer a talented soft ball player, recently competed in the Australian Masters Games held in Perth. Her team were successful in winning the bronze medal. Congratulations, Jenn!*



Save the date!  
Monday 18 July  
Winter Warmer



Ian Donaldson presented one of his handcrafted windmills to Senator Dean Smith at his inauguration as Patron of Tuart Place

High Street Happenings is produced by participants of Tuart Place