



Tuart Place

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



Paddy Cannon and Tuart Place participants calling Patricia Keleher 22-2-21

‘Phone a Friend’ by Paddy Cannon

“I was delighted to call my friend Patricia Keleher in Queensland whilst at Tuart Place. It was great as we put her on loud speaker so all the participants said “hello” and had a quick chat! I have known Patricia since we were young children and we connected again in Canberra for the National Apology at Parliament House on the 22nd October 2018”. It was great speaking with you Patricia!

Cicerello’s lunch 18-1-21 by Barbara and Barry Howard



“Barry and I travelled from Jane Brook for the lunch today and it’s great to see everyone together. We have both had a busy year as we recently downsized from Gidgegannup and we have just sold our caravan. I enjoy keeping busy with my spinning, cake making and I also do my lead lighting. We are looking forward to celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary on the 18th March this year.”

In a more recent conversation, Barbara said, “It’s almost 11 months to the day we downsized from Gidgegannup and we have had news that 5 houses in the street have been lost to the recent fires, including both the homes either side of our house”.

Brief Notes on the History of Penguin Island 1953-1958 by Matt Gill and Mike Carroll

In the early 1950's Laurence George Gill a prominent Fremantle Businessman sought to add to his expanding diversified business companies by entering into the Holiday Resort business.

With this objective in mind he registered the business name "WA Holiday Resorts Pty Ltd" and set about developing resorts in Hamlin Bay and **Penguin Island**.

The larger capital investment of \$50,000 was on Penguin Island off Safety Bay where Gill was able to secure a 50 year Government leasehold of the island for recreational purposes.

Once all the infrastructure was in place to provide accommodation for 100 guests, including an ablution block, a public dining room, shop and kitchen; there was the immediate incentive to entice visitors to the island over summer.

So Laurence Gill purchased three ex WW2 wartime amphibious Army Ducks (ducks) from the Government surplus disposal sales. They were operated by Laurence Gill, William Hayes and **Matt Gill**. Later the army ducks, because of their high operating costs in maintenance and repairs, were replaced by two boats, 'My Connie' and later 'The Gothic' to ferry day trippers and short stay holiday makers across the channel.

Consequently a growing number of the general public were attracted to the island to see the **Fairy Penguins**. However penguins are nocturnal and whilst plentiful, were noisy and mostly active at night, so they could be difficult for visitors to see on their visits during the day.

This presented no problem to **Violet Gill** who was able to show tourists a number of befriended penguins at any time tucked away in their natural environment.

Violet was the charismatic wife of **Laurence Gill** and together with children **Matt, Coralie and Larry Gill**

junior and fostered son **Michael Carroll** spent much time living on the island working hard to make this a successful venture. Violet worked tirelessly either in the kitchen, feeding workers and the public, or attending to a host of other duties, including administration and cleaning.



There was always a mountain of work to be done and much help was also provided by other visiting members of the **Gill family**, friends and employees.

Unfortunately the ongoing viability of the holiday resort on Penguin Island became ultimately unsustainable as it was a seasonal business that peaked in summer and during the school holidays but completely dropped off during the winter months.

This annual pattern resulted, eventually, in the need to mothball the resort and place it, into a care and maintenance program, in the winter of 1958.

Tuart Place participants like going to Penguin Island where they enjoy the penguin and sea lion cruise, penguin feeding and lunch.



Ian Donaldson has made a new windmill painted in the colours of the Aboriginal flag for the next raffle. Thank you Ian!



Monday lunches are back!



Irish Stew



“During the five day lockdown I had no trouble filling in my days.

When I was last at Tuart Place I borrowed from our excellent library a 2,000 piece jigsaw. It definitely took many hours and it was haaaard! I loved the period clothing and the setting of a classic scene.

Thank you Tuart Place for the library’s books and jigsaws which any participant is able to borrow.”
By Cevrina Reed



Theresa P, Kevin P, Ann M, Ginny W, Margaret M, Maria D

“It’s nice to be back singing again, we missed it when the COVID-19 shut-down was on last year.”

“I find the singing relaxing. It’s a nice way to unwind and meet new people.”



“You don’t have to sing. You can just sit and listen if you like. It’s a nice atmosphere and we have fun with Ginny”



“Songs like ‘The Rose’, ‘Leaving of Liverpool’, ‘We are Australian’, and we always sing at least one Elvis Presley one as he’s Ricky’s favourite!”

Why don’t mummies go on summer vacation? They’re afraid to relax and unwind.

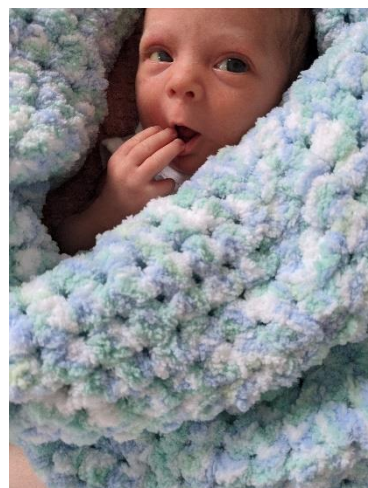
How does a penguin build its house? Igloos it together

Why can't a nose be 12 inches long? Because then it would be a foot.

Sam, did you get a haircut? No, I got them all cut

CONGRATULATIONS PIP ON THE BIRTH OF YOUR GORGEOUS GRANDSON ON 28-1-21

WELCOME HARVEY!



Thank you Vera for the lovely blanket and thank you Rose for the beautiful knitted layette



Online Social Chats during the Covid restrictions by Jan & Terry Byrnes

Jan & Terry Byrnes from Geraldton at the Xmas party



"Talking on Zoom was a little daunting, not knowing or having met anyone from Tuart place. One of the best aspects of this meeting is that I have done it on a similar media. When you first meet people face to face you get an immediate feeling if you are going to have a good rapport with them or not. When talking to people via a video media it is very hard to get the same feeling straight away.

I will admit that all the people I have spoken to on Tuart place Zoom have given me a good feeling of welcome. I have got some idea of where they come from and their background. Also how they have coped after arriving in Australia. As a one month old child I was placed into a Catholic Orphanage in Nazareth house in England. I recall a few events prior to arriving in Western Australia. One of the recollections was occasionally we would go to someone's place for a weekend visit. I had a good friend called Brian, and we were all assembled in the hall and asked who would like to go to Australia, thinking it was another weekend away we both put our hands up to go. I was adopted and the people who adopted me were the best I could ask for. "I have met some very nice people on Zoom and in person and Jan and I hope we will be able to keep the contacts going. This is just a small insight to my past.



CPR training -21-1-21

Kevin Collins Board member and participant, said he was pleased to see volunteers and staff getting trained in CPR when he dropped in one Thursday in January. He even joined in and had a go himself!



Staff meeting - Covid related restrictions 8-2-21

Staff were glad they only had to wear masks for a week or two. Some restrictions remain so remember to sign in using the SafeWA app or the contact register form at reception. KEEP SAFE!

BIRTHDAYS



Viv D



Mary-Ann O



Jo H



Gordon P



Dave M