

Sunday 14 July

Dear Lois & Peter

Today. Here we are almost half way through winter and still in Melbourne! It doesn't often happen. So far it has been wet but quite mild. A lot of the spring flowers have started already, lots of Camellias, and blossoms on the prunus (Opposite the window of your suite) and the red flowering cherry at the front gate. We have been taking out some of the large Azaleas, and planted a couple more roses yesterday.

Yesterday after both of us got stuck into the oils - Mum with a landscape - one with a tin of caustic, getting rid of the accumulation in the car-port and front path. Mum sold a painting last week. The next show is in the RACV in Queen Street, on the ground floor (also known as the 1st floor in U.S.) Opposite where we have had a cup of coffee together. It will be set up next Saturday and remain (unless sold out) until 3rd August - the day we leave for the Hindles Ranges.

We are in the midst of one of the few lots of holidays school children (and teachers)



—over

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now get. Jenny's family are at San Remo (Grieg Phillips
& family are at the baby house.) Mum gets to mind Sips &
Rachel tomorrow. She will pick them up in the morning and
bring them back here. Jenny's family (having returned from S.R.)
are also going to be here. Lorie is working today and tomorrow
so the family will not be here today. Graeme & Bronnie did
have other plans. Ian's family incidentally have a new
family member called Harley (as in Davidson). He is 7 weeks old
and a mixture of cocker spaniel and cattle dog.

We went on a 'Probus' walk on Wednesday last in
Bellibrand Hill Park - north of Tullamarine, and near Oaklands
Hunt Club. It is a very large wooded area left in its natural
state, with ~~not~~ native flora and fauna (bandicoots, Wombats, kangaroos
etc.). We drove out and back in the there. We took a short-
cut on the way there and found ourselves in the Greenvale
Geriatric Centre. We got out again as far as we could.
We walked from 10am until about 1pm, stopping ~~to~~ briefly on
top of a hill overlooking Tullamarine, where we could see the planes
landing and taking off, then had lunch in a picnic area, and
had a look over the historic 'Woodland' homestead nearby.

This dates from the 1840's (old for Australia). ~~It is~~ It is a rambling weather
board place which was sent out in pieces from England and
re-assembled. It is not finished and only partly restored.
The sun has come out again, and I'm about to join it outside.
Great to hear from you Peter. Love Gene and Sayer xx