

ALLIANCE FOR THE FORGOTTEN AUSTRALIANS

VOICE *Newsletter*

Communicating with AFA's supporters, members and allies is critical. The VOICE Newsletter provides news and updates about our work with and on behalf of Forgotten Australians across the country.

Future newsletters will be online only at forgottenauslians.org.au

The story of one remarkable Forgotten Australian



This is the account of just one person – Coral Suzanne Mace Dickerson Armstrong Burke Trad – taken from her family aged 7. It's about kindness and cruelty, trauma and survival.

Initially raised by her mother, Margaret, and the man she called dad – Fred Dickerson – Suzanne's family moved from a cottage in Perth to a tin shack in an area known as "The Snake Pit" on the fringes of Geraldton. Fred's mother was Indigenous, his father English, and the Snake Pit was where many Indigenous families eked out an existence.

Fred was in and out of work, occasionally in jail, and Suzanne's childhood was impoverished. But she was adored by her mum and when the family unit was broken up by the Western Australian authorities in 1959, mother, daughter and siblings were devastated.

For the next eleven years Suzanne was placed in state care, ferried between institutions and the cold, unrelenting environment of foster homes. She suffered physical, emotional and sexual abuse, often at the hands of so-called religious types.

Engaged at 17 and married at 18, Suzanne was required to obtain her birth certificate. Upon discovering Fred was not her natural father, it triggered a search that lasted for more than half a century. Often worn down by the fruitless pursuit of her family's truth, it was only in 2018, after her son Seth bought her a DNA kit, that she learnt of her half-European and half Syrian-Lebanese ancestry. With Seth's determination DNA matches were made in Lebanon and Australia. Finally, in 2020, the search was narrowed to one man who had a family in Sydney – Stanley Eric (Anastasios) Trad.

When much younger, touring with a circus, Stan had fallen in love with Suzanne's mother. They were together for two years before Stan returned to Sydney for a funeral.

Back in Perth, he couldn't find Margaret – she had been kicked out of home for being pregnant and ended up in Geraldton with Fred.

By the time Suzanne pieced the story together Stan had died, but his adult children said that he had searched for Margaret for many years. Now, in addition to the brothers and sisters she knew of, Suzanne has a new family of five more siblings.

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AFA's top advocacy priorities for Forgotten Australians

The strength and impact of AFA's advocacy since its inception in 2006 is acknowledged at a local, state and national level. But all too often, as one breakthrough is achieved another hurdle is placed in the way of Forgotten Australians. Plain and simple, there remains much to be done.

We remain heartened that the authentic, no-nonsense voices of Forgotten Australians have shaped and driven certain aspects of social policy.


But there remains a cogent need to educate and remind the Australian community of our existence; far too many Forgotten Australians still feel that they are forgotten and invisible.

So, as of mid-2025, what are AFA's most pressing advocacy priorities?

- Forgotten Australians need to have access to priority social housing, better dental care and other health professionals
- Access to sensitive and tailored aged care services
- Health professionals must know who we are; our place in the tertiary curriculum is one way of achieving this
- A national remembrance week would complement our memorials
- A redress scheme for New South Wales
- Funding for AFA needs to continue beyond June 2026
- It is vital that Find and Connect Support Services are continued beyond June 2026
- Increased awareness of the needs of Forgotten Australians with community and residential aged care providers
- Support the development of a specialised residential setting for disadvantaged ageing Forgotten Australians



How will these priorities get the attention they deserve? Through the concerted, ongoing efforts of AFA directors and affiliate members, pressure must be brought to bear – as it so often has – on the ministers and officials who need to walk alongside us to see and hear our concerns.

 **You, too, can contribute to AFA's advocacy efforts. See forgottenaustralians.org.au for further information.**



Pressing issues raised at AFA Forum in Hobart

A productive and constructive AFA Forum was held in March 2025 in Hobart.

It brought together board members, affiliate members (managers of the Find & Connect Services across the country), associate members and a number of important guests.

"The forum is a great opportunity to discuss and understand the issues affecting Forgotten Australians and how to shape the response," said Cathy Humphrey, AFA's executive officer. "We spent much of 2024 determining the top ten issues AFA wanted to focus on, we got our strategy clear, and so this was about unpacking each of those areas."

State and territory updates raised issues from a service delivery perspective and included:

- Increase in age related needs
- Cost of living pressures
- Redacting of records
- Redress and navigating the burden of proof principle
- Significant waitlist at Open Place in Melbourne
- Need to lobby the Tasmanian Premier to contribute state funding to a memorial for Forgotten Australians
- Recent changes to WA Forgotten Australians' management structure poorly received
- Lack of home care services to refer Forgotten Australian to for in-home supports

At the conclusion of business on the first day, four board members toured Wintringham's aged care facility. Wintringham works mostly with a disadvantaged, ageing community and Forgotten Australians are significantly represented in that community.

Day two was about detailing and discussing AFA policies on social housing, aged care, dental care and a national remembrance week and – notably – how the AFA can influence state and federal governments to prioritise Forgotten Australians.

"We've done a lot of work around the aged care policy statement, for example, getting clarity and a clear implementation plan," said Cathy.

"We want to support the education of staff working in aged care facilities around Forgotten Australians, influence the government about better residential settings and provide education material to Forgotten Australians."

Day three of the forum concentrated more on operations, such as the new website, *Life Stories* library collection and the communications plan, as well as governance matters.



AFA Board visits Forgotten Australians in Hobart

There was a great opportunity for Forgotten Australians to meet with AFA board members in Hobart.

The event was scheduled on the second day of the AFA Forum, which was held between 5–7 March, 2025. Around 15 Forgotten Australians were present at Relationships Australia's offices, including a small group who had driven down from Launceston, demonstrating their commitment to the visit.

Visits such as these are valuable. They provide board members with an opportunity to connect with Forgotten Australians around the country to not only share the advocacy work AFA is doing on their behalf, but also as a way for the board to hear about priorities in different states.

"It ensures the board's priorities reflect input from Forgotten Australians nationwide," said Amelia.

"The board was welcomed to the New Town site by Tasmanian board member, Dave Henderson," said Amelia Hastings, director of Early Intervention Services, Relationships Australia (TAS). "The board took the opportunity to have an informal conversation about its work and the Forgotten Australians present asked questions and made suggestions about things they saw as a priority."

The Forgotten Australians also took pride in sharing artwork created during art therapy programs, highlighting some of the activities done through peer support groups.

Some even made small gifts for board members, such as bracelets and beautifully hand drawn "hug" cards that can be given as a sign of love and support to people who do not like to be hugged or touched.

"The board then shared information about the work they are doing with Wintringham as an affordable option for Forgotten Australians for housing and as an option to consider as they age," said Amelia.

"Discussions were held about the needs for Forgotten Australians who are now ageing and the concerns they have about going into aged care – another institution."



Critical gaps remain as 15th Anniversary of the National Apology statement released

On 16 November 2024, the AFA released a telling and important statement.

It was in the form of a brochure, produced to mark the 15th anniversary of the National Apology, when then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd delivered an unqualified apology to Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants who suffered abuse or neglect in institutional or out-of-home care.

While AFA acknowledges the good work in the intervening years, we say:

"...so much has changed since that day in November 2009, but this chapter on righting the wrongs of the past is not yet finished."



While much has been achieved, there are still critical issues that remain outstanding. Too many Forgotten Australians continue to struggle with ill health, mental health, addictions, early ageing and homelessness.

Notably, the 15th anniversary document details AFA's assessment of the progress against the 39 Recommendations of the 2004 Senate Report, and what remains unfinished business.

In order of recommendations, we assess the response to:

- Apology
- Redress
- Handling abuse allegations
- Royal Commission
- Access to records
- Advocacy and support groups
- Protecting children
- Recognition
- Research and data

Unfortunately, measured against each recommendation, critical gaps remain.

To name but a few, some religious bodies have resisted proper acknowledgment of the extent of abuse and neglect in their institutions. The National Redress Scheme failed to provide redress for the emotional and physical assault of children and young persons.

There is a lack of consistency nationally in relation to records access guidelines, while redacting of records has become increasingly problematic. Funding of the Find & Connect Services is inadequate to meet costs of service delivery.

This is a serious and significant statement and it can be shared be read and shared widely. Access to the full brochure can be found here forgottenaustralians.org.au



Momentous AGM as Caroline Carroll farewelled as chair and history report launched

AFA's most recent annual general meeting was an auspicious occasion.

Held in Melbourne on 29 November 2024, it was the last to be chaired by Caroline Carroll, one of the AFA's staunchest advocates. The AGM also saw the launch of the AFA's history report.

To the business first. Board members and affiliate members convened to present the annual report, review and accept the financial statements and confirm directors who were re-nominating, namely Jan Schaffarz (SA) and Daryl Higgins (NSW).

Three new directors previously approved by the AFA Board – Maree Holt (VIC), Heather May (NT) and Dianne Carpenter (QLD) – were formally announced.



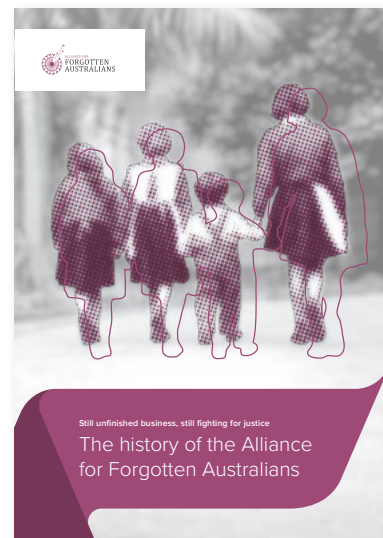
Part of the agenda was acknowledging the outgoing director, Caroline Carroll. This was a significant moment in the organisation's history; Caroline was chair of the AFA since its inception in 2006 and her efforts of the journey were notable in terms of courageous advocacy and never failing to stick to her guns.

Testament to her legacy was demonstrated by a farewell video made by the Minister for Social Services, Amanda Rishworth.

It was an emotional day for Caroline and members were unequivocal in their gratitude and appreciation. She is succeeded by Suzanne Burke, who has been involved with the AFA for five years.

Suzanne is a Forgotten Australian with a remarkable background – see elsewhere in this newsletter – who is determined to follow Caroline's advocacy, especially regarding aged care, access to records and dental care.

The AFA history report was then launched by Jennifer Coate AO.



"AFA has a significant role to play in ensuring the voices of Forgotten Australians are not diminished or forgotten now that the enquiries and commissions have finished their work," said Ms Coate.

"I invite you to read the report and celebrate the significant contribution AFA has made to lives of Forgotten Australians."

Written by Netty Horton and edited by Boris Kaspiev, the report encapsulates the Alliance's achievements, challenges and future. Divided into 16 sections or themes, *Still unfinished business, still fighting for justice* will serve as a purposeful and long-lasting legacy document.

AFA's launches new look website



With a flurry of activity across the early part of 2025, the team at creative agency 'Something Great' has worked alongside the AFA to redesign and refresh our website.

It has at times seemed like we were learning a new language, with terms like 'wireframes' and 'prototype' and 'sitemap' bandied around, but with the Board's input and approval, the project took shape.

Not only did the redesign encourage discussion about how the website should look, but it also brought about welcome conversations regarding what new content should be included, what was essential to be preserved and how AFA's advocacy and storytelling could be better presented.

We hope all Forgotten Australians find the new site appealing and easy to navigate.

Pleasingly, we have been able to reconfirm and, in places, update critical details about how and where Forgotten Australians can find help.

Elsewhere, the impact of the AFA's work is covered with considerably more depth, likewise national and state apologies and redress schemes. How to get involved is also featured.

Further, access to each published newsletter will be available via the new site.



Wattle Place hosts forum on aged care service provision for Forgotten Australians

In partnership with the National Aged and Community Care Roundtable for Forgotten Australians, in April 2025 Wattle Place hosted a forum in Parramatta, New South Wales, that focused on ageing and Forgotten Australians / Care Leavers.

A critical barrier to the safe and satisfactory provision of aged care services is a lack of awareness and understanding of who Forgotten Australians/Care Leavers are.



“People ending their days the same way they started them, being vulnerable in an institution is a terrifying prospect for Forgotten Australians,” said Darcy Orr of Lotus Place (Micah Projects) in Brisbane. “It’s compounded dramatically based on their experiences.”

Forums accelerate awareness about challenges faced by Forgotten Australians to access and use aged care services, take steps to advocate for improvements to the aged care system, and provide a meeting place to discuss and advance solutions.

“Fundamentally, there’s not a broad understanding of the experiences of Forgotten Australians,” said Darcy. “Care providers don’t understand that history and so they don’t have practices in place to make sure they’re supporting Forgotten Australians in a way they’ll feel safe.”

The event in Parramatta brought together advocates with lived experience, researchers, service providers and policy makers to explore such solutions and advocate for reforms to improve care quality and access.

The keynote speaker was Robert Fitzgerald AM, the Age Discrimination Commissioner. Mr Fitzgerald was also a Commissioner for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

There were other key speakers, in addition to two panel presentations: ‘Forgotten Australians’ perspectives on aged care; and ‘Intersectionality and the need for wide adoption of trauma-appropriate aged care.’

“The forum was part of a process,” said Darcy. “It brought together stakeholders to hear first-hand from people with lived experience about how the system isn’t working and what needs to be done.

“That’s how you can influence the sector, by bringing some exposure. People with lived experience can control the narrative around their experience.

“It’s also an opportunity for services represented by people like me to talk about what they think is good practice, but then have that critiqued by Forgotten Australians as well – it’s a collaborative process. We’ve all got a role to play.”

The event was sponsored by the Department of Health & Aged Care, Micah Projects, Governance by Design and Uniting AgeWell.



Memorial under negotiation with Tasmanian Government



The Rose Walk at the Botanical Gardens with a small plaque to acknowledge Forgotten Australian and Care Leavers.

The RA Tasmania Find & Connect reference group is actively following up connections made at the National Apology for Forgotten Australians and Care Leavers event held in November 2024.

Two members of the reference group met recently with Vica Bayley, deputy leader of the Tasmanian Greens, and Sue Hickey, current mayor of Glenorchy. Both Vica and Sue attended the National Apology event and made a commitment to meet with Forgotten Australians to hear more about their concerns.

A key issue is the memorial at the Botanical Gardens in Hobart. It is not a meaningful place of remembrance and does not create a lasting and respectful tribute to the experiences of Forgotten Australians. Liaising with and advocating to the government on this issue from reference group members has been ongoing for a number of years.

As such, the reference group, with the support of Relationships Australia Tasmania, is working towards a new memorial that better reflects the experiences and stories of Forgotten Australians in Tasmania.

We have secured a commitment from Vica to support our advocacy across the state and from Sue to explore having a dedicated memorial in the redevelopment of Tolosa Park in Glenorchy.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

To make sure we canvas opinion from the broader community, we invite Tasmanian Forgotten Australians, their families, carers, and allies to share their thoughts and ideas to help guide our advocacy. Your insights will help us to advocate for a place of remembrance, recognition and healing.

We would love to hear from you via our online survey!



Your feedback will help ensure that our advocacy for a memorial is guided by Forgotten Australians to create a site that is a meaningful, respectful and lasting tribute to the experiences of Forgotten Australians in Tasmania.

Who is on the AFA Board?

Forgotten Australians now hold the majority of positions on the Board, with capacity for two skilled appointments of non-Forgotten Australians.

This change strengthens the voices of Forgotten Australians in our work, advocacy and communication. All AFA Board members are volunteers and dedicate their time and energy.

The Find & Connect Services across Australia are affiliate members of the Board.

AFA BOARD 2025



Suzanne Burke
Chair



Daryl Higgins
Deputy chair



David Henderson



Maree Holt



Heather May



Jan Schaffarz



Diane Carpenter



Karyn Walsh



Reg Casley

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Yvonne Porter

Manager, Wattle Place and Forced Adoption Support Service
NSW Relationships Australia

Darcy Orr

Cluster Lead - Lotus Services
Micha Projects, QLD

Taylah Peters

Manager, Children's Therapeutic/ Specialist Support Services
NT Relationships Australia

Luci Lovelock

Manager, Trauma Services, Elm Place
SA Relationships Australia

Amelia Hastings

Director, Early Intervention Services
TAS Relationships Australia

Michelle McDonald

Senior Manager, Open Place
VIC Relationships Australia

Vacancy

WA Relationships Australia



How to get involved with AFA's advocacy efforts

Join us in supporting Forgotten Australians in their journey towards justice, dignity and healing.

The Alliance for Forgotten Australians encourages active engagement in its advocacy efforts via the following activities:

- Engagement with local Find & Connect Services
- Attending events and forums
- Participating in advocacy campaigns

Find & Connect Services are located in each state and territory. Contact details are found on AFA's website. Events and forums are publicised ahead of schedule, likewise upcoming advocacy campaigns. Again, please refer to AFA's website for up-to-date information.

Then there is the National Aged and Community Care Roundtable for Forgotten Australians.

This is a group that brings together Forgotten Australians and other Care Leavers, as well as a diverse range of individuals and organisations throughout Australia, all focused to help increase the availability, appropriateness and quality of aged and community care services for Forgotten Australians.

If you would like to be involved, please submit an expression of interest via the website.



AFA Board takes the opportunity to visit Open Place in Melbourne

The AFA held its annual general meeting and forum in Melbourne last November. During this time board members, affiliates and Find & Connect managers joined Open Place staff and Forgotten Australians for lunch (pictured below). It was a successful visit, with two main purposes in mind.

First, the board is committed to visiting all of the Find & Connect Services in the states and territories to introduce themselves to Forgotten Australians and each of the service providers. Secondly, the board wants to strengthen relationships and information sharing, as well as provide pathways for advocacy.

The format of the visit was welcomes and greetings all round, a brief overview of the AFA, discussions with the Forgotten Australians present and then break for a delicious lunch. There was also the opportunity to share literature and resources.

It worked well from all perspectives.

For the board, there are distinct benefits in seeing how each service operates. In Victoria, Open Place offers a drop in, activities, social support groups, counselling, health support, national redress support, record searches, Victorian redress support and co-ordinated support.

For the Forgotten Australians present, it was a valuable reminder to connect with an advocacy service and be reassured that there is ongoing advocacy to educate the community about the ongoing needs of an ageing population.

We thank Cathy Humphrey, AFA executive support, and Michelle McDonald, AFA member and senior manager at Open Place, for making the arrangements for the event.



What lies beyond June 2026 when AFA's funding is due to end?



The answer is yet to be confirmed.

First, the backstory. As many readers will know, the origin of our funding agreement stemmed from the National Apology to Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants in November 2009. At that time, the Australian Government announced funding of \$26.5 million for various initiatives, which included seven Find & Connect Support services and modest funding for AFA of \$150,000 per annum.

The money allocated to AFA was designed to enable the organisation to meet and provide national advice, most particularly with reference to the recommendations of the Forgotten Australians Senate Inquiry report. While it has increased with CPI, the agreement is due to expire in June 2026.

Suffice to say, with such tight budgets consigning AFA to relatively limited activities, it makes the contributions to the policy environment, inquiries and advocacy efforts all the more remarkable. AFA has remained highly dependent upon the commitment and goodwill of key individuals and activists.

That said, in the face of the impending cessation of funding, our advocacy will remain unwavering to achieve a better outcome, which now includes:

- The Australian Government continues our funding beyond June 2026
- Funding for Find & Connect Support Services is continued beyond June 2026

About the AFA

The Alliance for Forgotten Australians (AFA) was formed in 2006.

We advocate for Forgotten Australians, individuals who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children in Australia during the 20th century. The AFA champions their rights by campaigning for impactful policies, educating the community and promoting recognition of their lived experiences.

Vision

The AFA is committed to recognition and healing for Forgotten Australians and encourages their active engagement in the development of policy and services which are person centred and strengths-based and which create opportunities and pathways that improve their lives.

Mission

AFA's mission is to support Forgotten Australians to amplify their collective voice and ensure active participation nationally, drawing on lived experience by:

- **Advocating** for appropriate past, present and future policies, programs and services that impact the lives of Forgotten Australians and children in the system since 1989.
- **Educating** elected representatives, policy makers, professionals, academics and the general community on the lived experience, past and present, of Forgotten Australians.
- **Promoting** recognition and inclusion of the past experiences, injustices and impact of the legislation, policies and practices on the lives of Forgotten Australians as children and adults.



The story of one remarkable Forgotten Australian – interview with Suzanne Burke

I've been broken a few times, but I get up again. And it's not really about me; it's one person's life out of 500,000 people. You know, 500,000 Forgotten Australians, probably as tragic as me. I've had health issues. I've gone blind in one eye because they didn't look after me. I've been destitute. I fought for 10 or 12 years because they damaged me in hospital.



Suzanne's mother, Margaret Dickerson, pictured in the 1950s

CAN YOU EXPLAIN ABOUT THE ISSUES WITH YOUR REDACTED RECORDS?

When you get your records, a lot is blacked out. One day I want to tell my own story and I'm going to call it 'Redacted' because I feel Forgotten Australians are still redacted. Hardly anyone knows about Forgotten Australians and this day and age they should know about it.

I fight also for dentistry, because so many forgotten Australians have got rotten teeth, and they can't live with that. There's all these things that go on with Forgotten Australians, but I started out because I knew nothing – I've had to discover everything about my life.

It shouldn't be so hard, but we were taken away as children and it split our family. People who have normal families find out things in a normal way. We don't find out those things. Everything's secret, hidden and redacted and it shouldn't be like that.

WHAT'S THEIR REASONING FOR THESE REDACTIONS?

It's so people don't know what went on in our lives, so it's not going to implicate anyone.

IN YOUR CASE WHAT DETAILS WERE MISSING?

Everything was missing. I didn't know why I was taken away. I've only discovered in the last 20 years that I was taken away as an Aboriginal child. I wasn't an Aboriginal. Now, I would have found that out as I was growing up in my family, wouldn't I? It's taken me 70 years to find out who I am. I found out in 2017 and I have been looking for 50 years.

I FOUND THE STORIES OF YOUR MUM MARGARET AND FRED DICKERSON SO DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE – WHAT THEY WENT THROUGH – BUT OBVIOUSLY ALCOHOL WAS A FACTOR WITH FRED.

But why? Because he was taken away. As you know, it's generational. All this trauma is generational. In where we've come from, and if I hadn't written all the things that actually happened, to that one little family, the world wouldn't believe it. You cannot write it. There was so much going on in our lives. There were police and he was always getting done for drinking.

YOU WERE SHUNTED FROM SCHOOL TO SCHOOL AND FROM FOSTER HOME TO FOSTER HOME AND YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO BREAK THAT GENERATIONAL CYCLE.

I was the only one in my family that ever did it. Out of nine brothers or sisters and then I've got five brothers and sisters on the other side now, because I only found them in 2020, and their family's broken as well.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS?

They're drug addicts, they're alcoholics, because of what's happened to them all. My little brother's dead already. He died in a car accident. And the other sister died of throat cancer. They've smoked, they've drunk. They've done everything like that.

I never wanted to disappoint my mother, because my mother, you see the photo of my mother and father, the ones that are my true mother and father, I never even had a photograph of that. I tracked down two men for 50 years and they weren't my father.



Margaret and Stan pictured in 1950

DO YOU REFER TO FRED AS FRED, OR AS DAD? AND WHAT ABOUT STAN, WHO YOU ULTIMATELY DISCOVERED IS YOUR REAL FATHER?

I used to call Fred my father, because I never knew Stan. Stan died before I could meet him. But to find out that nearly when you're 70, that you're 50 percent Lebanese is quite a turnaround, to find out that I wasn't Aboriginal. It's like I've had three incarnations.

ONE OF YOUR FIRST MEMORIES WAS THE HOUSE IN LORD STREET, PERTH AND THEN YOU ENDED UP BEING EVICTED AND GOING BACK TO GERALDTON INTO THAT SNAKE PIT AREA, INTO A TIN SHACK.

Yeah, we did.

THE FAMOUS NENE GARE BOOK 'THE FRINGE DWELLERS' DESCRIBES THAT AREA

There's nothing there and I hate Geraldton. As soon as I go through there and smell the saltbush, I remember my mother and I have never been through there without crying. I can hardly talk about my mother without crying. She was in the wrong place at the wrong time. And, sadly, the boy who came back to her and looked for nine years, it was not to be. The Snake Pit, where we lived, was on the fringe of town and had no running water.

IT BOGGLES THE MIND – HOW YOU COULD POSSIBLY CONCENTRATE AT SCHOOL?

I never could. I've still got my report card from grade one. I have never thrown away anything. I've got a photo of my mother and myself, which I got from the new family. I got a little tin box that my father [Stan] had wrapped up because he believed he had a child and he'd wrapped all these things up for me. My father's ring, my mother's ring, and the things that he bought her.

You know, it's like a story you don't believe, but it's completely true. But I've been lucky in life, too. I've got lovely friends and I've travelled the world. I can laugh about life now because I know who I am. You know, I never knew who I was – always insecure, I mean.

WELL, IF YOU HAD A CRYSTAL BALL ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, SUZANNE, AND YOU COULD HAVE SHOWED THAT LITTLE GIRL WHERE YOU'VE ENDED UP NOW, SHE'D HAVE A SMILE.

Sadly, I wish my brothers and sisters had ended up there as well. But they haven't, so I'll probably lose three of my siblings this year. It's gonna be hard. I just know that I'm a Forgotten Australian and I know what a lot of people have gone through. It's quite upsetting, because not many people get through it.



"This home was made of corrugated sheets of metal and hessian with dirt floors," says Suzanne.



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Issue 01, July 2025

Alliance for Forgotten Australians
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Still unfinished business, still fighting for justice.



Australian Government
Department of Social Services