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Dear Dandie Friends

This letter is full of extremes of news that in some way impact all of us with Dandies.

First of all, we do hope that 2017 is a kind year, to both you and your Dandies.

Sadly, two of our loving Dandie owners passed away since our Fun Day last year. Barbara, who many of you will remember as being full of life and joy in her Dandies, quietly passed away after a short stay in hospital. Our condolences are sent to Kathy and her family. We will miss Barbara at our functions. Most unexpectedly, Julian (owner of Marcelle) died peacefully in her sleep at home. Again, our thoughts are with Louise and her family.

Several dates for your diaries: **Geelong Highland Gathering** will be held on Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Goldsworthy Sport Ground in Corio. It starts about 11 but if you can get there earlier to help set up it would be much appreciated. The usual Scottish Breed Club Match will be held, with the Wee Beastie competition alive and well. So, bring yourself, a chair, some friends, your Dandie and a suitable doggy outfit for the competition. **Dandenong Heritage Day** will be held on Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> commencing at 11 am but again come early if you can. If you need further information about either of these events, please call Rhonda on the number at the top of this letter.

An exciting piece of news is that Dandies in Oz was able to make a contribution to the creation of an Australian War Animal Memorial at Pozieres, France. We donated \$50 to install a paver with Dandies in Oz written on it, to be included in the site. This enormous project is being officially opened on July 21 2017, 1000 hours, at the village of Pozieres. Dress is formal or ceremonial.

We have received an invitation for our families and friends to attend this momentous event. If you are able to attend, please let Rhonda know. Use the following links to learn more about this. [www.facebook.com/AustralianWarAnimalMemorialOrganisatiob](http://www.facebook.com/AustralianWarAnimalMemorialOrganisatiob); [www.purplepoppies.com.au](http://www.purplepoppies.com.au); <https://www.facebook.com/purplepoppies>.

Finally other changes include Jan and Karen moving permanently to Western Australia. Although they will no longer be nearby they will continue to support Dandies in Oz in every possible way. This is the reason the contacts on the top of this page are changed.

Enjoy your Dandie, your friendship with other Dandie owners and share this love with the world.

Rhonda, Heather and Jan