

The Memorial Plaque

“...The blossoms are blossoming without you...”
(Jennifer Meyers, “Joshua knew only the winter”)

TO ALL WHO LOSE THEIR LIFE FROM OUR
EFFORTS TO SAVE THEM FROM DRUGS

“You have gone from earth,
Gone even from the meaning of a name;
Yet something’s there, yet something forms its lips
And hits and cries against the ports of space,
Beating their sides to make its fury heard.

“But I was bound, and could not go that way,
But I was blind, and could not feel your hand.
If I could find an answer, could only find
Your meaning, or could say why you were here
Who now are gone, what purpose gave you breath
Or seized it back, might I not hear your voice?”
(Kenneth Slessor, “Five Bells”)

16 December 1996
Erected by Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform

Permission by the publishers, HarperCollins, to print part of Kenneth Slessor’s poem is gratefully acknowledged.

We acknowledge that the ceremony today
takes place on Ngunnawal/Ngambri land.

Further information concerning Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform (ACT) Inc. can be obtained by writing to
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website www.ffdlr.org.au

27th Annual Remembrance

Ceremony

for those who lose their life
to illicit drugs

Weston Park Yarralumla ACT
Monday, 24th October, 2022
12:30 - 1:30 pm

And streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/fairtreatmentau>

Supported by Uniting & ATODA

Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform (ACT) Inc.
committed to preventing the tragedy that arises from illicit drug policy

Program

Welcome and Introduction: Bill Bush, President, Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform

Reflection: Marion McConnell, founding member of FFDLR

Musical Item: *Outside World* Song by Midnight Oil.

Reflection: Mackenzie Leecroft

Musical Item: *Memories* Song by Maroon 5

Address: Michael Pettersson MLA, Labor member for Yerrabi

Remembrance of those who have lost their life to illicit drugs

Reading of names: Rev Dr Sarah Bachelard, Benedictus Contemplative Church

Placing of flowers at foot of memorial

Address: Rev Dr Sarah Bachelard

Musical Item: *Tuggeranong Parkway* Song by The Cashews



A special thank you to
Uniting and ATODA, for huge tech help and organisation.

Similar ceremonies are held across Australia and in some European Cities.

Why Remember?

This year the soft new growth of the tree is at one with the sprouting of hope engendered by the passage of the decriminalisation legislation last week. The ACT has committed itself to a drug policy that connects and supports rather than punishes and divides. It holds out the promise that additions to the list of those we gather to remember today will slacken to nothing.

The locust tree (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) under which we are gathered was chosen because of its particular associations for the family of one of our members whose brother died in 1996. The tree then was bare. Its thorns stood out against the winter sky. Let its beauty and the confidence in its renewal inspire us.

Outside World Song by Midnight Oil

Songwriter: Moginie
© Native Tongue Music Publishing

There's a wind on the eastern side.
Ghost gums dance in the moonlit night.
Mopoke mourns the racketeer.
The bosses, they can sense your move.
All in place to unhand the groove.
They all wanna deal you out.
I can see the outside world.
Everything's inviting in the outside world.
Leaving all my problems in the outside world.
Nothing's gonna touch me in the outside world.
It's a summer of another year.
A new world weary, a little more to fear.
Hold those cards tight to your chest.
Maybe someday you could be a man
Living quietly in a caravan.
Not the Lismore road tonight.
I can see the outside world.
Everything's inviting in the outside world.
Leaving all my problems in the outside world.
Nothing's gonna touch me in the outside world.

Memories Song by Maroon 5

Songwriters: Adam Levine / Jacob Hindlin / Jonathan Bellion / Jordan Johnson / Michael Pollack / Stefan Johnson / Vincent Ford

Here's to the ones that we got
Cheers to the wish you were here, but you're not
'Cause the drinks bring back all the memories
Of everything we've been through
Toast to the ones here today
Toast to the ones that we lost on the way
'Cause the drinks bring back all the memories
And the memories bring back, memories bring back you
There's a time that I remember, when I did not know no pain
When I believed in forever, and everything would stay the same
Now my heart feel like December when somebody say your name
'Cause I can't reach out to call you, but I know I will one day, yeah
Everybody hurts sometimes
Everybody hurts someday, ayy ayy
But everything gon' be alright
Go and raise a glass and say, ayy
Here's to the ones that we got
Cheers to the wish you were here, but you're not
'Cause the drinks bring back all the memories
Of everything we've been through
Toast to the ones here today
Toast to the ones that we lost on the way
'Cause the drinks bring back all the memories
And the memories bring back, memories bring back you
Doo doo, doo doo doo doo
Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo
Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo
Memories bring back, memories bring back you

There's a time that I remember when I never felt so lost
When I felt all of the hatred was too powerful to stop (ooh, yeah)
Now my heart feel like an ember and it's lighting up the dark
I'll carry these torches for ya that you know I'll never drop, yeah
Everybody hurts sometimes
Everybody hurts someday, ayy ayy
But everything gon' be alright
Go and raise a glass and say, ayy
Here's to the ones that we got (oh)
Cheers to the wish you were here, but you're not
'Cause the drinks bring back all the memories
Of everything we've been through (no, no)
Toast to the ones here today (ayy)
Toast to the ones that we lost on the way
'Cause the drinks bring back all the memories (ayy)
And the memories bring back, memories bring back you
Doo doo, doo doo doo doo
Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo
Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo
Memories bring back, memories bring back you
Doo doo, doo doo doo doo
Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo
Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo (ooh, yeah)
Memories bring back, memories bring back you
Yeah, yeah, yeah
Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, doh, doh
Memories bring back, memories bring back you

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