

*AN OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER
OF
THE MARGARET CAIN MEMORIAL FUND*

Vol 1, No 1.

From the Committee: Jo Armour, Rosanne DeBat, Sue Gebhardt, Elaine Lee and Fiona Ryan.

Margaret, Three Years On

"The winter sun streams through my window - and as it shines onto the words I'm reading, Marg seems to be part of that light"

The words I'm referring to were written by Elizabeth Cain and Jo Armour at the time of the death of Margaret, beloved sister and friend.

My attention is drawn to Elizabeth's account of a dream Marg related. It told of the two sisters walking along together, and then described their paths diverging: Mara climbed the mountain that loomed ahead of them as Elizabeth "*continued to walk around its base.*"

I trust Elizabeth won't mind if I extend that image, to allow us to walk with her, whilst glancing upwards to Marg on the heights.

Mountain peaks are inspirational - and although the comment would bring forth peals of laughter from Marg - so was ... so is ... she!

In the three years since Margaret's death, on August 7th 2004, many of us have experienced changes in our lives. Our dreams, relationships, friendships, roles and careers may have altered. Often this has brought disruption and sadness; at other times we may have experienced relief at the chance to contemplate new vistas and extend our horizons.

What an example Marg has given us in her ability to accept change! She even allowed her illness to open up fresh perspectives, at the same time loyally focusing appreciation on her faith and her friends. In her eulogy Jo said, "*As I look at the story of Margaret's life, it is punctuated by creative ideas and new projects.*" From conversations I've had with many of you, I know that Marg's words of encouragement ring in our ears. She is with us as we are challenged to use our own gifts and risk moving from the comfort of safe conventions.

I can't resist using Jo's story of Marg at a weekend retreat at St. Martin's, Port Noarlunga.

".....she was asked if she would like a little wine with her evening meal. She replied, '*Just the merest suggestion*' and after a pause pointed to her glass and added, '*And by that I mean totally full*'. Margaret hasn't remained on the mountain top, she is with us '*in the midst of it all*' She cheers us on in celebrating diversity, working for peace and justice - and living life to the full. *Elaine Lee*

The Margaret Cain Memorial Fund was established in 2005 to honour the memory of our friend, Margaret Cain and to provide funds for the Indigenous peoples of northern South Australia, a people who Margaret held in high esteem.

In 1979, Margaret went to Ernabella as a State Education Department teacher. Here Margaret experienced a different world, learning so much from the people of the Pitjantjatjara Lands and making important friendships. It was Margaret's vision during her time in Ernabella that led to the establishment of the Wiltja Project in 1980. Through this programme indigenous students came to Adelaide to Ingle Farm High School to complete their secondary schooling. A number of these students went on to undertake teaching qualifications at the University of SA. This was a source of great joy to Margaret. The Wiltja Programme, has since grown significantly.

The Margaret Cain Memorial Fund in collaboration with the Pitjantjatjara Council will direct funds to indigenous people for special projects.

You are invited to contribute to the Fund in honour of Margaret and to support a cause that was dear to her heart. **Please make cheques or money orders payable to "*The Margaret Cain Memorial Fund*"** and a tax deductible receipt will be issued.

TO DATE

The MCMF has received a total of approx \$6,800 in donations In addition it raised almost \$900 at the 2006 fundraising dinner. Many of you were at this occasion.

The capital amount of the fund is currently about \$8,100. Interest earned has been approximately \$400. It is planned to maintain the capital amount as much as possible, and the use the interest to support selected projects.

OUR FIRST GRANT

The Committee of the Margaret Cain Memorial Fund is anticipating making its first grant this year. It will go to the Year 12 students of the Wiltja Program to support them in their visit to New Zealand later this year. We plan to tell you more of this at our next Fund raising dinner.

The 2007 Margaret Cain Memorial Dinner will be celebrated at the Italian Restaurant

La Tombola

61 Unley Road, Parkside

On Friday, 24th August at 7PM

Cost: \$35/head

*garlic bread,
a choice of a vegetarian, chicken or fish main course,
a choice of 2 desserts
Drinks not included*

Please note that this price is the cost of the meal.

*As this will be our major fund raising drive for 2007,
we are asking if waged people could respond by making an additional donation.*

Last year we added on \$10 to the cost of the meal.

However, we ask that you give what you are able and would like to give.

*Our funds continue to support the education of young indigenous people
from Northern South Australia.*

*This year our first grant is being made and information about this will be made at the **dinner**.*

**Bookings and enquiries to: Jo Armour (Phone 8340 3212 or 0416 256 957)
12 Porter Avenue, RENOWN PARK SA 5008**

NAME.....

Request for tickets for the Memorial Dinner @ \$35 per head Amount \$.....

Additional Donation \$.....

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$.....

Please make cheques payable to The Margaret Cain Memorial Fund

Please post my tickets to _____
