

126 Butte Street

Dubbo

28 30

Dear Phyll & Ross,

I'm sorry I wasn't 4.2.96.

in when you rang. Thank you for your call.

Yes, the dust storm - mini tornado
 whenever was very very frightening.
 It was very hot all day and then late
 in the afternoon the sky started to
 change. I'm a great old eye for spotting
 up & I went out several times to watch
 the changing patterns. I actually saw
 it coming in from the west - a
 wall of brown dust then it hit
 okay! the winds, dust, leaves and
 boughs of trees flying around,
 - a screen flew off my high
 summer window & landed on the
 side of the road. Across the road
 in Eskon Park people ran for
 shelter and I saw a tree fall.
 Actually several fell in the park
 & around town I only had the
 screen - plus several big boughs
 off the rocky oak, one of the gums
 and Chinese tallow. I managed to
 cut small branches off the big
 boughs & drag the whole lot around
 to the front where the council
 collected them. The wind raked
 up leaves & the place looks
 normal again. There's been a
 lot of damage in the city however
 damage to cars, trees, buildings.
 We have magnificent river
 gums along the Macquarie
 & I felt like crying when I saw
 them the other day bereft of
 leaves & big boughs. Comforting
 to know they will soon be
 growing more leaves & boughs.

We are all going to Albany
 on election day for Margie's

G R E E N P E A C E

40th birthday. We are having the birthday
 party at her home (we are all staying at a
 motel just near the weir) & next day



✓ all going in for breakfast - lunch or brunch
as it is called now. Margie & Leon have two lovely
kids, Rebecca & Alexander. Rebecca is 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ & Alex 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
they are bright lovely kids.

Jenny has been having some time off from
work due to knee problems. Last week she
had a cortisone injection in Sydney by a
^{rheumatologist} ~~orthopedic~~. They aren't very keen to operate
at all & even though four years ago she
had a knee replacement on the other knee,
I had three days with her at Becker Bay when
we came to Sydney & met Libby at the State Library
during workers week for the Festival of Sydney.
Heard Whitney Otto speak she wrote the best
seller "How to make an American Quilt"
Sat in on a great session "Let's be Frank"
those out front were Leonie Kramer, Jill
Kardon, Frank Moorehouse & Jill Rowe.
Jill & Jill Kitzler with their backs to the wall
regarding the Mills Franklin award. The
people in the audience gave them a hard time.
Libby interviewed the author, Army Witting
over lunch at the Duke's comment d.

- it was very moving to hear the interview
as Army Witting was our friend Joan Fraser
on the staff with Bill at Young in 1945-48.
The previous day Libby had been made
Citizen of the year at Massachusetts. - a thrill
for her & her family & the rest of the family too.
Libby's house is being altered so on
the one hand I had these lovely literary
sessions each day - & back in the afternoon
early morning the banging was on at
"Oxford at Peterhouse" was hard on the
ears - however the alterations will be
beautiful when complete.

Muirall has just hung up. He's just
back from Iowa - Sophie left soon after he
returned. She's been doing free lance & has
gone to Puerto Rico to do some work with
the German equiv of ABC TV. When he gets
back he's off to New Hampshire. Fortunately.

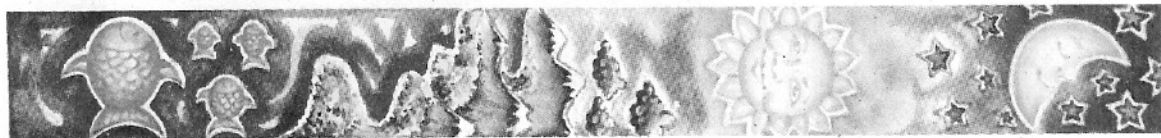
They have a good nanny.
I guess Beth has had Gullons has

not been very well. I went & visited her
at her private hosp while it was at hosp.



1 She knew me immediately but started
 2 to cry if felt her problem was because
 3 she delayed grieving. As the bible says
 4 "there's a time to sow, & a time to reap"
 5 & there's a time to weep but she
 6 was being so supportive to her family.
 7 She just kept putting it off & now she's
 8 lost some confidence and feels she
 9 can't live on her own any more
 10 (Benye says everyone works in the
 11 block of flats where Dennis has
 12 her unit) so it is lonely now that
 13 Quas has gone. Her son Dennis & his wife
 14 & her daughter Cherie & her husband
 15 work - like all young couples -
 16 so I don't know what will be
 17 worked out for her. I think first
 18 up she needed a grieving councillor

screen - taken out, one of the



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Raber.

Phyll - Libby, Jenny & I presented our
Christmas letters to Paul Bampton
manuscripts dept - Wake Library
when I was down. 31 years was
the longest family Xmas letter.
However we told him about the
Kohnens letters so if you want
yours preserved sent your
copies to him.

John has joined his sisters
in writing Xmas letters. No
doubt Michael & Sophie will
be next. You certainly started
something. E.