

Having waved goodbye to 2020, we are all hoping that 2021 will be a happier, healthier, New Year for us all.



For the last year life has stood still, we have all stayed at home forsaking meetings with family and friends for the sake of our health and that of everyone around us.

There is now light at the end of the tunnel and hopefully this Spring we will all regain some freedom to see people again.

Last year Arts Melbourne, the organisers of Melbourne Festival, led a series of projects listening to everyone's thoughts about Melbourne. We are still here and we are still listening. We can't meet up, but we can still keep in touch through letters, we would love to hear from you and we will reply in writing or with a phone call, whichever you prefer. We will listen!

To encourage everybody to think about good times this Spring we would like to invite you to write to us, to share memories of the great events and celebrations Melbourne has had in the past. There are annual events – Melbourne Carnival, Melbourne Festival, Melbourne Wakes and the turning on of our Christmas lights which we have all missed this year and are great opportunities to bring us all together and meet old friends.

Melbourne also pulls out all the stops for national celebrations - Military Anniversaries – e.g. the Centenary of the end of WW1 in 2018, our annual Remembrance Sunday Parade always bring the community together and the sun always

shines! Royal Jubilees – we had street parties for the Queens Diamond Jubilee, how will we celebrate the Platinum Jubilee next Summer?

Instead of living in the present let's look back to past celebrations and imagine what we would include in a big celebration when we can all meet up again.

Send a letter telling us about your favourite experiences of Melbourne celebrations in the past, and what your dream celebration would look like in the future.

Send your letters to Arts Melbourne - Drop them in the 'special box' in Melbourne Post Office, or deliver to the Festival Office, 49 Church Street, Melbourne DE73 8EJ email to info@melbournefestival.co.uk or call 07765 819428.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Sharon Brown
and the Melbourne Festival Team

