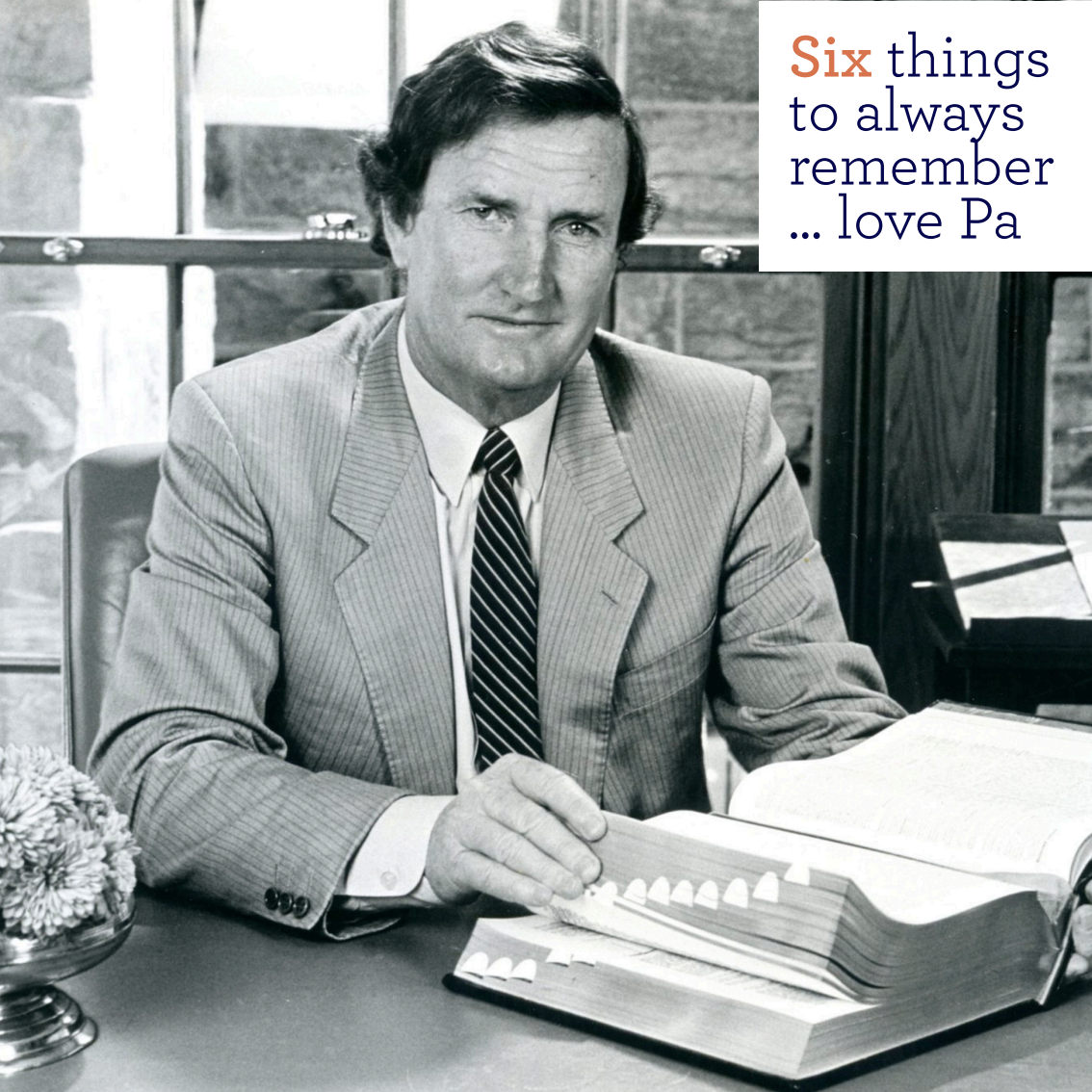


Six things
to always
remember
... love Pa



1

Do the Right Thing

As you move through life you will soon discover the importance of having a foundation of belief to guide you, a basis for *what right* and *what is wrong*.

When you're young you learn about doing the right thing at day care or kindergarten. You learn you shouldn't push the other person or take the other spades in the sandpit ... you learn to share things with people outside of your immediate family unit, you learn that everyone is equal.

Later in life you may find that uncovering *what the right thing is to do* requires some exploration, it may not be clear cut, it may require you to stop and reflect before you act: to search deep inside yourself ... what is the right thing to do or the right course of action in this situation - this may involve "consequential thinking" where you consider the impact of a decision or choices further out in time, not just in that moment - sometimes it's as simple as checking in on what "feels" right in your gut.

To some people an action might seem "OK", you might even be able to "fully justify" it to yourself and it might supported by the crowd - but researching further you might find that it is actually illegal, it might be hurting or bullying somebody or gaining an

unfair advantage over someone So just don't do it ... Just do the right thing - it's about doing what's right in your heart.

The ability to reflect and check-in on your values is such an important skill in life. It's important too, as parents that you begin embedding this idea of right and wrong into your children's character, from the start.

Doing the right thing is a fundamental part of what holds us together as a society, as a community. When everyone is *doing the right thing* then we are caring for each other and ourselves - and that's wonderful, so ... *do the right thing*

2

Give it a Go.

I never wanted to be someone who always just talked about ideas - I wanted to be someone who acted on them - a "doer" and I was always keen to give a new idea a try. When I did, it opened up amazing opportunities in ways that I never could have imagined.

I think back on a conversation I had with my mentor, Paul Hamlyn, back in the early years of my career, he said "When you come up with an idea that is new or innovative there will always be people who will say, *"No, that's a stupid idea"*, they'll put you down, they'll say *"It won't work"*, but just *"Give it a go"* anyway. Don't let them

crush your spirit”. This conversation really resonated with me because I realised how this little saying, the idea of *Giving it a go*, had already transformed my life and contuned to do so at many key points along the road.

When I think back to specific examples, my thoughts go straight back to the early surf club days when I had the idea of showing films on the beach and I thought “I’ll give it a try”. It was a big success and we raised so much money to build the new surf club. It gave me a real understanding of the power of entertainment to bring people together in a fresh way. Later on those film-nights-on-the-beach grew to become big concerts and dances.

From then on that experience had a real impact on all parts of my life and from then on the thread of entertainment was always there in my comittment to create amazing events and experiences that entertained and inspired people: from book launches and community gatherings through to hosting amazing black tie events at Gwinganna or Luskintyre Airfield. These experiences touched people and they still talk about them today. So big things can happen, when you say to yourself *Let’s Give it a Go*.

Some ideas start out just a hunch - like a little acorn that keeps surfacing as the years pass. Over time it will become clear how you will be able to bring this to life and then you’ll say “*Wow, all those steps I’ve taken - it all make sense now*”.

Sometimes your idea might take the form of a really big vision, a “dream of dreams” which is very clear and developed. This will require you to make a clear commitment to chip away at it one step at a time, until it can come together properly. It might take many years to come to fruition.

“Why don’t we give it a go?” is also a good phrase to use in business when you are very clear about a course of action but the decision-makers are uncertain and may nervous about committing to change. *Giving it a go* will feel like a less risky step for them to take as its more like testing an idea. This will give them a chance to see your idea in action - once they do, more often than not, they’re hooked.

3

Connection to Country

Always make time to be in nature in a deeper way. Feeling a part of Country nourishes your soul, goes right into your memory and stays with you through your whole life. It means that you can always connect back into to those places, to identify with them, and allow them to speak to you at different times of your life.

When I was little I had a small tin canoe lined with bitumen and I’d paddle down to the sandy water hole and just be amongst the bush and the water. I’m not talking about just splashing in

a waterhole but a deeper experience of being a part of what was going on around me - the noise of the native animals, the bird song, the smell of the flora, the sound of the twigs under your feet - it's just magic, and I could feel it even at a young age.

Sometimes life can get so serious and you can feel weighed down by it all - be spontaneous and do something in the bush, the sea or the sky that excites you. Take time to appreciate nature, from the minute you wake up each day. Never lose your spirit of adventure.

4 Everyone is Welcome

Build a family, business, community, and country where everyone is welcome at the dinner table, no matter religion, political persuasion or wealth. We are all precious, we are all different, we are all a multiplicity of personalities, but we are the one family, from one planet, from one world.

Be genuinely interested in people. Make the time to listen to people's stories, be curious about what drives them, what touches them - don't make superficial judgments about how similar or different they are to you - this will prevent you from making the most amazing and surprising connections.

For instance, if you walk into a room of people and say to yourself

“These are not my people” then you won’t even know what was there for you. Leave your judgments aside and step inside wholeheartedly - seek out the people that are the *“Salt of the earth”* and when you find them, listen to them, learn from them, you will be moved by their humanity and be amazed at what experiences they have had. This is where you will find the extraordinary

5

Ask Good Questions

From time to time in life you will feel like you are at a crossroads, and there may be more than one pathway for you to consider.

At this time you may seek the help of a professional to support your decision-making process - it may be a lawyer, financial consultant, health professional or a mentor. Ask them three key questions: In regards to this decision or situation:

- *What is the optimistic outcome?*
- *What is the pessimistic outcome?*
- *What is the realistic outcome?*

The answers to these questions will give you a well-rounded idea of the problem and the solutions with which to make your decisions – then you’ll be ready for anything.

6

What do we stand for?

Maybe we could all think about what we want to stand for, what are the qualities that we can be proud of. When I reflect on us all, as an extended family, these are the qualities that come to mind.

- Creative thinkers that uncover an opportunity or realise one
- Tenacious for success when the chips are down
- The courage to commit and see it through to the end
- The ability to bounce back after a set back - to show resilience
- The promise to be a kind and supportive friend, co-worker, or boss and a real help to the community where we live
- The willingness to stand tall, to be accountable, to step up and take responsibility if needed.
- The maturity to admit when you have done the wrong thing, to accept the consequences, learn from your mistake and move on with your life.
- The conviction to bring purpose and profit together - either with a impact-led business or by a profit-led business that shares profits with its' employees.