



April, 2011
318 The Boulevard
Ivanhoe East, 3079

Dear President/Speaker Convenor

As author of *A Woman's War*, I have had the great pleasure of speaking to many groups – mainly, Legacy, War Widows, Probus, View, Rotary and Lions. At these events, I have met some wonderful people who have generously shared some amazing and insightful stories about their family members during WW1. On the faces of others I have seen that there is a heart rendering tale perhaps to be told in a less public forum.

Many women have also commented that I should next write a story about women during WW2, so I feel that it is now that I should capture the essence of these tales.

I would very much like to write about women during WW2 this, but of course I would require inspiration from the experiences and family tales my audiences have alluded to. If some of your members would be courageous and generous enough to share their stories with me, I would be most appreciative. Please feel confident that personal details would be kept private and the stories given utmost respect.

I have compiled a double-sided page of questions to be distributed to any of your members who are interested. I have also enclosed a stamped and self-addressed envelope for the return of the questionnaires all together when complete. Please ensure that your members understand that there is no obligation to participate. If more questionnaires are required, please call me on 9499 5169 or email me on eventive@bigpond.net.au and I will distribute more.

With warm regards

Jacqueline Dinan

Women during WW2 – *Your Story*

Questionnaire from

318 The Boulevard, Ivanhoe East, 3079

Jacqueline Dinan, Author of *A Woman's War*

03 9499 5169 or eventive@bigpond.net.au

Please give me your details

Name: _____

Address: _____ Contact ph: _____ Club: _____

(so that I can let you know when the book is published!)

I give my permission for this material to be used as inspiration for a story about women during WW2.

X _____

Date: _____

Please give me the details of the woman whose story this is (your grandmother, mother, aunt or yourself)

Her name: _____

Where did she live? _____ How old was she in 1939? _____

Describe what she did during the war that was related to war effort? (please circle)

Employment (eg factory production, transport)

Women's Land Army (WLA) or Farming

Enlisted in Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air force)

Care - Nursing, Red cross, Voluntary Aid Detachments (VADs)

Raised Children, Ran Family Business

Community Service – Country Women's Association (CWA), Red Cross etc

Tell a tale about it too!

Any anecdotes about women on the home front?

What was significant or pivotal for her during the War? What was her key memory?

How was life different for her after the war? (i.e. impact on relationships with men)

A unique or enlightening story that a man told her or wrote to her about?

Describe the contents of letters or any keepsakes that she received from the men?

Anything Else? Photos? (Rather than post photos, would someone be able to scan & email them?)

Thanks for sharing your personal story with me. I look forward to calling you for a chat after I have read it.

Warm Regards, Jacqueline Dinan