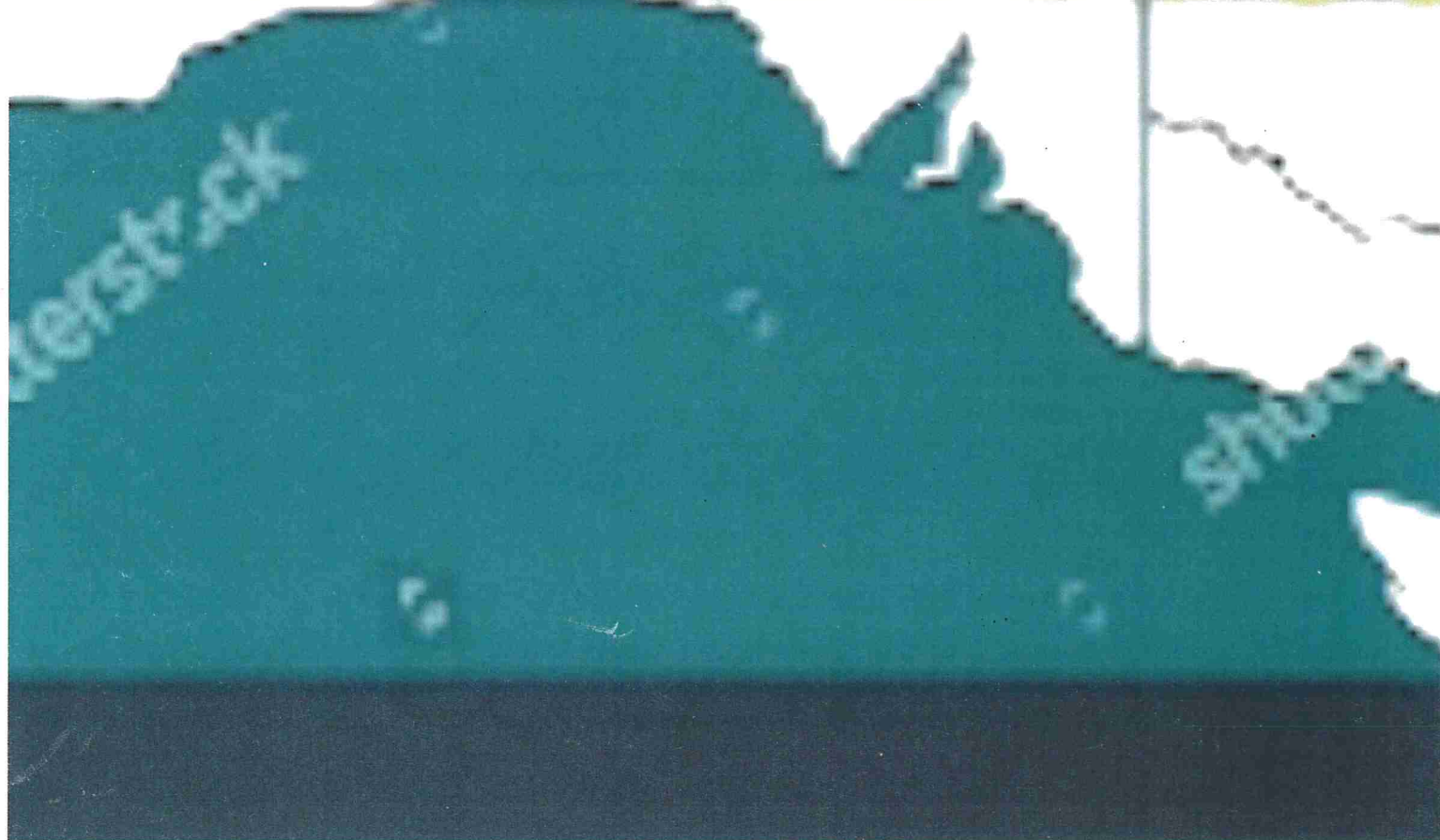


My life in lockdown

My experience through the COVID-19 pandemic.



My life in lockdown

By Lillian Filz

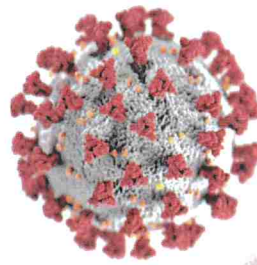
LOCKDOWN COVID-19 LOCKDOWN COVID-19

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Have you ever looked forward to something so much then it has been cancelled just like that? Maybe you were finally old enough to ride your favorite ride at the country fair and then the fair closes down, or perhaps you have an excursion coming up at school but then you get sick and can't go. The disappointment is horrible, but you eventually get over it, I mean there'll be more fairs and excursions, right? Well I don't know if I can ever get over the disappointment of all things I missed out on because of coronavirus.

Classification of COVID-19



COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

What is coronavirus?

The only interesting thing about this sickness is its name. COVID-19 stands for coronavirus disease 2019. CO for corona VI for virus and D for disease and 19 for 2019.

COVID-19 is an illness caused by a virus. Symptoms can include: a fever, dry cough, tiredness and headaches. These are some of the more mild and common symptoms but some more serious symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain and loss of speech or movement which can lead to serious illnesses. Coronavirus affects different people in different ways. Most infected people will develop mild to moderate illness and recover without hospitalization while a few will develop more serious symptoms and need hospitalization and often end in death.

Where did coronavirus come from?

The big question though is where on earth did coronavirus come from? This has to be the biggest mystery in the world right now. A lot of people believe that it came from bats. Scientists say it's quite likely that it came from some kind of animal before passed on to humans. Some believe the story that in late 2019 someone in the now world-famous Huanan seafood market in Wuhan ate some sort of animal and was infected with COVID-19. Some rumors also suggest that this virus came from a lab and was human made. It may have leaked from a Chinese lab. There is no evidence that either of these theories are true. Only China really knows.

How do we stop it?

There is not yet a cure to coronavirus but we can prevent the spread and slow it down by: good hygiene including washing hands, covering your cough,

cleaning all surfaces, social distancing, stopping large public gatherings and self-isolation.

How are we doing?

At the moment Australia is not largely infected by COVID-19 compared to the rest of the world. we have 7,203 confirmed cases, 6,614 recoveries and 103 deaths so far. In the world there is 7,323,803 cases 413,733 deaths and 3,603,990 recoveries so far. The United States has the most COVID cases followed by Brazil and Russia.

Warning: this virus moves quickly and in order to stop a second wave we must continue to be sanitary.



Schooling at home

If you've ever experienced home schooling (I have) you would know that it's very boring and real school is so much better. During this coronavirus season schools were shut down for a period of time. At first schooling at home was optional, then school was only for kids whose parents were essential workers, which meant I had to go to school. Back when school was optional most people chose to stay home to the point where there were only 7 out of 24 people in our class. And even worse I was the only girl! (I know poor me) we often mixed classes with grade 4 who also had a small class. At lunch and recess, I hung out with some grade 4 girls instead of playing chasey because there was no one to really play chasey with. And class was just weird. When Ms. Sharpe asked a question literally no one would answer. It was such an odd experience sitting in a classroom with like 5 people, but it had its advantages. Such as more attention from Ms. Sharpe, more room in our classroom and less work (a lot of interesting topics came up when there was only 7 of you like, Ms. Sharpe's sink.) but I would much rather have all my friends at school.

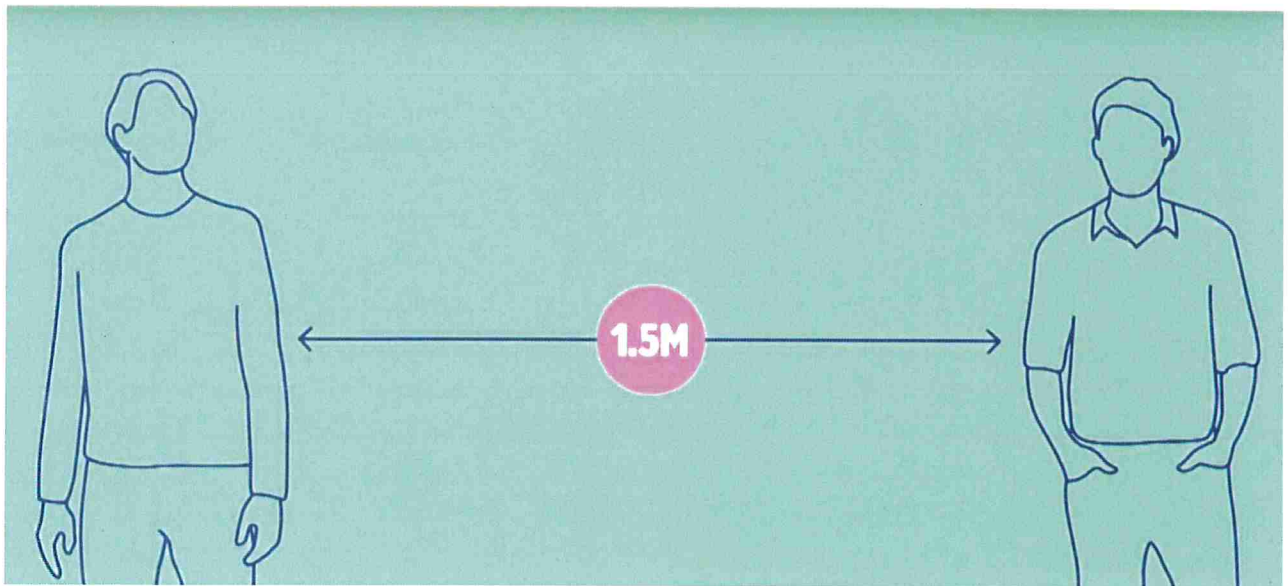


Social distancing

What is social distancing I'm glad you asked. Well social distancing basically means less contact between you and anyone you're not related to. At the moment this means keeping 1.5m away from people at school, work and just out and about. We need to be cautious of this very contagious disease and the new rules that apply to it. We still need to stick together as a country only 1.5m away from each other. In the meantime, try tapping feet, giving an air hug or elbow high five. You could try anything as long as you keep your distance.



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Shopping



You would never have considered yourself lucky to get a roll of toilet paper. But suddenly, it's like a giant cat fight for toilet paper. Everyone is panic buying because they are afraid that if we had to go into full lockdown, we wouldn't have access to essential items like toilet paper and pasta. I remember the first time I went to the shops with my mum. It was such a shock to find so many empty shelves and fridges. There was no pasta, no soap or hand sanitizer, no two-minute noodles or spaghetti the store was practically empty. (no joke) All that was left was a sign that read: Dear customers we are sorry to inform you that this product is currently out of stock due to covid-19 thanks for your co-operation. When we went to pay for the few things we could find there were plastic screens in front of the shop keepers. My mind was spinning, what was the world turning into? Then my Mum had to pack her own bags. What crazy world were we living in? a new virus, a new lifestyle, a new world. It's just coronavirus doing its job.



Staying at home

You wouldn't expect to wake up on a Sunday morning and sit and watch a live YouTube stream of random people singing and dancing in your pajamas. This is the new church, the new normal. This is how we live now, staying at home without being allowed to do everyday things like go to parks or churches or even go to sporting events. This is all how we are stopping the spread of covid-19. Do we have a cure? No. but can we stop the spread?



Yes. The government is stopping people from doing things we normally do. We are not allowed to go overseas or even over country borders. For Easter we were meant to go to Torquay for our cousin's 1st birthday. I clearly remember my Dad telling us we couldn't go. We ended up camping in our backyard for Easter and having a zoom birthday party for my cousin's 1st birthday. We also had some friends who had planned a holiday of a lifetime to America when COVID hit they still went. When they arrived, they were only put in lockdown for 4 weeks. Then when they came, they had to be in quarantine in Sydney for 2 weeks. Finally, when they got home, they had to quarantine for another 2 weeks. Their amazing trip of a lifetime turned out to be 2 months of lockdown. Staying at home is so boringly tedious and mundane it is an experience I never want to go through again.





My life in lockdown has

been a long and crazy experience that I will never forget. But if one thing good came out of coronavirus it's that I have learnt not to take things for granted. Like toilet paper, soap even pasta and 2-minute noodles. I also realized how lucky we are to have rooves over our heads and families to keep us company. So I encourage you no matter what happens be grateful for not just the big things in life but the little ones too, because someday if the world is faced with another crisis you might not have those every day essential items. Covid-19 had the world as you know it on its last breath, but we got through it together. COVID-19 a brand new threat that rose upon us when our backs were turned, a brand new crisis that came from goodness knows where, a brand new medical discovery that had the world on its knees.