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Karen Bleakley, welcome to the new life in Australia podcast hosted by me. Karen Bleakley, founder of smartstepstoaustralia.com moving to Australia with my family was a life changing experience, but it wasn't without its challenges. That's why I'm passionate about making the relocation and resettlement process easier for you so you can enjoy this exciting adventure. Join me and my special guests as we share professional secrets and tips, learn from people who've made the move and discover businesses that can help you realize your dreams. Now is the best time to create the life you've always wanted. This podcast is here to show you what's possible and to inspire you every step of the way. Let's go. Let's take a moment to acknowledge the Gubby Gubby people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which I live, work and play. I thank them for the privilege of being able to live in such an incredible part of the world, and I pay my respects to their elders, past, present and emerging. Hey there. Welcome to this week's episode of the new life in Australia podcast today, we're going to be talking about why move to Australia. What are your reasons? What are your intentions? Do you have a really good motivation fueling your move? Why is it that you want to move to Australia? Because when you can connect with your why it really does help you overcome any challenges and any obstacles that are in your way when you have a really strong why it gives you a reason to keep going, even when things get difficult, even when things are challenging. So as part of the process of setting your goals and setting your intentions for your move to Australia, figuring out why it is that you really do want to move, what is your clear why? Really does help you stay connected during times of difficulties later on down the line, and it really just keeps you motivated. Have you spent any time sitting down and thinking, why are you doing this? Why is it that you really want to make a new life in Australia? It's worth just spending some time getting quiet, sitting still, and just going through the ideas with a notebook and just writing it all down, you're going to have so many different ideas. But just to give you a bit of inspiration to get started, I'll share some of the reasons why I wanted to move to Australia. It's an obvious one, but the weather was a really big driver in us wanting to make the move. We really wanted to lead an outdoor lifestyle with our family. We got sick to death of being cold all the time, and we just wanted sunshine and blue skies. So that was a really big why being able to wear shorts all year round, seeing our kids growing up with bare feet kind of running around, it was really important to us. So we really wanted to be able to cook barbecues all year round as well. In the UK, I think we maybe had a couple a year, if we were lucky, it was just so rare that we would get around to getting the barbecue out. It was such a rare occasion, whereas now we have barbecues whenever we feel like it, so that the weather really does play into that, because you don't want to be outside barbecuing when it's raining or freezing cold, and here, most of the time it is sunny. Another of our Whys was the beaches. We just love the beach anyway. We love the beach in the UK, but we really love the beaches in Australia. We just love that the beaches here are so unspoiled. There's so much room on them. They're not crowded. There's so many beaches to explore. You can usually get parked at the beach, even on a really hot, sunny day where we live, it's free to park at the beach as well, so you don't even have to pay to go to the beach for the day. Just to be able to just hop out for an afternoon or an evening or a full day, to go to a local beach is such a novelty, and that was one of our big whys. Another of our Whys came from our travel experiences before we made the move. We loved all of the wildlife in Australia. We loved seeing things like koalas in the trees or kangaroos in the fields. We loved going on wildlife cruises and seeing dolphins and turtles and whales and dugongs. And it was all just so exciting because it was all such different wildlife to what we'd grown up with. So it was really exciting for us to be able to live in a country where there is still so much open space and there is still so much wildlife around us. The size of our home was another thing that inspired us to want to make the move in the UK, we lived in a really small, cramped three bedroom house. We were really lucky to have a three bedroom house,

but it was very small, and there were five of us living in it, with me working from home. It was cramped, and I couldn't really envisage a time when we'd be able to move to a bigger home. It didn't really feel like it was something that would be on our horizon in the UK, whereas here, we were able to move here to a much bigger home with much more open space, open plan living, and it really makes a difference to our family life, our quality of life, just to have so much more room around us, for me, to have an office space, rather than to be crammed into the corner of a dining room. So having a bigger family home was another important thing, and we were really lucky that when we were traveling around Australia. We did spend some time exploring homes. We looked around some of the new build, sort of estates where you can go and imagine what homes you might want to build in the future. And we'd spent time with family in Australia too. So we got to see what it was like to live in a family home in Australia. And it was something that we really wanted. Work opportunities are another good why? When you move to a new country, it really does expand your comfort zone, and you get to have different experiences in a completely different work environment. My husband is doing a job that's very different now to what he used to do in the UK, and he really loves it, and he would have just probably stayed in his job in the UK long term, or doing that kind of role long term without having these experiences, but he's really appreciated the opportunity to challenge himself and to learn some new skills and to work in a different side to his industry too. Just for context, he worked in avionics on military helicopters in the UK and now here in Australia, he works on commercial planes as an aircraft maintenance engineer. So now he's doing kind of lots of different maintenance on commercial planes, and he really loves it. So expanding his career was certainly one of our whys. When we looked at moving to Australia, another of the things that we were looking for was the opportunity to take more holidays to places we'd never been to before. We'd done some traveling in Australia, and we knew that we loved it, and we knew that we wanted to see more of it. So moving to Australia gives us a great opportunity to do more trips, whether they're short day trips, weekend breaks or longer road trips, or even holidays, where we fly to different parts of the country to explore. There's so many opportunities, and at some stage, Matt and I will hopefully do the big lap of Australia. That's something that's definitely on our radar for when the kids have left school and we're really excited about it. So going on holidays really was part of our why, and it really does help me stay connected with the reason for moving to Australia,

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another of our Whys was the lifestyle opportunities here. We wanted our kids to grow up with a more laid back lifestyle. We wanted them to spend time in the water and in the ocean and on the beach. We wanted them to kind of just be able to have an outdoor life where they went to playgrounds and parks and walked around barefoot. It was just simple experiences like going to the zoo and going to the park and things that it's just such a great experience to do those things in Australia, and I feel like we've been able to create some amazing memories with our family as part of the lifestyle that we've been leading here. And I don't think our lifestyle would have been anything like this if we'd stayed in our home in the UK. It's not say we wouldn't have still have had a great lifestyle, but it would have just been a different kind of lifestyle to the one that we were really dreaming of. And another reason for us was the opportunities we felt like Australia gave our kids opportunities for the future. I know that at the school that we've chosen for them, they have all kinds of amazing opportunities that they wouldn't have had if they'd gone to the local school in the UK, the school that they go to offers so many unique and exciting subject opportunities that just weren't available in the UK schools around where we lived. But equally, I think the universities here offer great opportunities, and I think there's some really great career opportunities for their future

here, and also by moving to Australia and getting citizenship, they've now got two passports. They could live in the UK or they could live in Australia. It opens up the world to them a bit more. So they have opportunities if they decide they want to leave and go back to the UK, which I suspect they might do when they're a bit older. They might want to go and do a year or two back in the UK. They may even decide to settle down there and stay over there. Who knows what the future holds. But this has given them the opportunity to have those choices. They've now got two countries they could choose to live in. So when you sit down and you write down what your why is, it really does become your guiding light. It's something that can carry you through the difficult times, through the long waits, which I know are really painful, it can just keep you going and keep you really focused and keep you positive, because you know why, why you're doing all of this. So I would really recommend, if you haven't sat down and thought about what your reasons are for moving to Australia, that you go and sit somewhere quiet, ideally outside in nature, somewhere with a notebook and just write down what your list of whys are. Get Connected really with your reason for why you want to make the move to Australia, and it will make the whole move so much more fun and so much easier for you. It also connects really nicely with gratitude and feeling grateful for these opportunities, because when you start achieving the things that were your Big Whys, so when you get to explore the amazing beaches or see the wildlife or buy your new home or whatever it is that you put down as your why, when you get to achieve those things, you're going to feel so grateful for that experience, because you're going to really stop and take a moment and recognize. Realize that this was something that you set out as an intention. This was your why, and now you've achieved it, which is a really rewarding thing to feel, and it's great to feel gratitude for those experiences and opportunities. So the goal isn't about experiencing the most perfect life. It's not about your why being moving here to earn a million dollars or anything like that. It's getting really down to the root of what makes you happy and what is going to make you happy about your move to Australia, and it's really about growing into that new life. So I hope you found this episode inspiring. If you did, I would love it. If you would please leave a review for the podcast. It really does help more people discover it, and I will catch you next week. In the meantime, let's get building your new life in Australia one

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episode at a time you.

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