

National Seniors Australia ~ Centenary Branch

JUNE 2019- Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good morning members. It has come to my attention that some of us sometimes need a little help, for example, you've had a mishap but would really like to go to one of our functions. **CALL US.** We are a club and at one time or another most of us will need a helping hand. As they say "what does around, comes around". If it's in our power it shall be done.

As you are aware we are having difficulty filling the bus for our day trips. After the first month of the trip being listed, please feel free to invite a non-club person. Better to have the seats occupied, and it may lead to a new member.

Ponderings: True happiness is not found in our possessions – it is found in the love and happiness from each other.

JUNE GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. James Lergessner (Author/Editor) speaking on aging.
JULY ENTERTAINER - Terry Scott.

Best wishes are extended to all our valued members celebrating birthdays during June. We hope you have a wonderful day.



MANY HAPPY RETURNS

RECENT EVENTS:

DINNER at Roadside Grill at Jindalee Hotel was very well attended.

LUNCH at Monier on 21st April was enjoyed by 26 members.

COACH TRIP 21/5 to GATTON UQ was enjoyed by 34 members.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

WED. 12/6 – Oxley CWA at their Hall, 76 Lincoln St. Oxley 10.30am. 2 course lunch \$15.
RSVP by 7/6 to 0409 268 646.

JUNE EXPLORER TRIP: 18/6 8.15AM. Bus and Citycat to Northpoint at Hamilton for lunch. 457 bus leaves Mt.Ommaney Bus Stop 8.39am. Check your GoCard is current at newsagent.

AUGUST WED. 21st – Senior Expo at Riverlife 17 Mile Rocks.

SEPTEMBER – Jindalee Bowls Club Annual Portofino Fashion Parade.

COACH TRIP – 16th July 2019 – XMAS IN JULY AT RIVERDECK TEWANTIN - \$55.

Names and money to Ann today.

Please note FULL PAYMENT FOR BUS TRIPS IS TO BE MADE AT THE MONTHLY MEETING BEFORE TRIP. NAME BADGES ARE COMPULSORY FOR ALL BUS TRIPS. BRANCH REFUND POLICY FOR BUS TRIPS.

- Notify Ann 48 hours beforehand.
- In case of sudden medical emergency on the day, which can not be prevented, the Committee will consider the matter with respect to a refund.
- When we book seats on a bus or give numbers for a booked luncheon (and are still required to pay even in the case of a cancellation) a refund will not be given.
- In the event of a trip being cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control and cannot be rescheduled, then members will receive a full refund.

Why did the cows return to the marijuana field?



It was the pot calling the cattle back.

CONTACTS

PRESIDENT:	BEV	0424525230
EXPLORER TRIPS	HELEN	3818 5049
COACH TRIPS	ANN	3376 3760
DINNERS, FUNCTIONS	JENNY	3376 3616
MUSIC AT THE HUB	MARJORIE	3376 2030
CHANGES TO ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS	HUGH	3376 1371
NEWSLETTER (INCLUDES MEMBERS WISHING TO HAVE THEIR NEWSLETTER EMAILED, OR PUT IN AN APOLOGY FOR GENERAL MEETING)	CHERYL	3376 1146
CENTENARY NATIONAL SENIORS WEBPAGE – https://nationalseniors.com.au/about/branches/centenary.		

Do you know of any Centenary Seniors members who are unwell? Often we do not know of anyone who has been unwell or in hospital. If you know of any members please call Carol Uren on 3818 5047.

Meetings are first Tuesday each month, February to October, except November (second Tuesday) at the Jindalee Bowls Club at 9.30am. Secretary: Cheryl Williams. P.O. Box 470 Mt Ommaney

Our thanks to Matthew Bourke, Councillor for Jamboree Ward, for provision of photocopying facilities.

HUGH PECHEY – A LIFE PROFILE

~~ I was born 1/5/1925 just outside of Sydney, but moved almost immediately, with my father Ernest, a dental mechanic, and my mother Jean, to a house Mum had had built at Brisbane's seaside Manly – the house that was to be my home, or home base, for 44 years. My early childhood was happy, running around the streets barefoot and learning to swim (when the tide was in) at the nearby beach, Mum and Dad separated in 1933, but from then on I would still regularly see and stay with Dad, until his death in 1952.

~~ In 1930, at four and a half, too young for state school, Mum sent me to "Miss Greenes", a private girls school (that took little boys), for a year. From 1931 to 1935 I went to Wynnum Central State School. By then, with Dad gone, and I (with alpha male delusions ?) was becoming obstreperous and argumentative at home, so I was packed off to boarding school – two years at "Toowoomba Prep", and four years at "Churchie", both run by the Church of England.

~~ In 1942 I started at the University of Queensland. Too young to join up, I had intended to study Law, but under War Emergency Regulations law was cancelled as a course. I had won a University Scholarship, financially essential if I was to go there, had to take it up or lose it – so I chose Engineering. Those same Regulations then prevented me from leaving at 18 to join up, and by the time I finished the course in 1947, the war was over, so I never did get to serve.

~~ By that time, I had already started, end of 1946, on my first (and as it turned out only) full-time job, as a civil engineer with the Commonwealth Public Service, in a department known colloquially as "Comworks". I spent nearly 43 years with Comworks, mostly on design and construction of road and airfield pavements, with some geophysical investigation work near the end of my career. In the first 20 years I worked at or inspected every government aerodrome in Queensland, plus some in Papua New Guinea and Alice Springs, was posted away to many of them, some for long periods, and actually only spent an aggregate of seven years at home. Still, it didn't stop me, both in Brisbane and on many of these postings, from becoming a keen bushwalker, camper, and serious rockclimber,

~~. In 1967, with 20 years up, I took long service leave – twelve months at half-pay. My Mum and I, with an open-top LandRover and fibreglass caravan, took seven months to do what is now on every grey nomad's bucket list – go right around Australia, plus Alice Springs – including, on foot, literally touching Cape York, Steep Point, Wilson's Promontory and Cape Byron. And after that, with five months left, we went on what was called "The 1968 Women's Weekly World Tour" – a voyage by one ocean liner (the "Orcades"), for some 1200 participants, from Australia to London via Japan and both sides of the USA, a voyage by another liner (the "Canberra"), back to Australia via South Africa, and, in between, coach tours of the London area, of England and Scotland, and of Europe, with a few weeks of "free" time. And ... so it was that, in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, in the "Orcades" swimming pool, I met the lady who a few months later was to become my wife and loving companion for the next fifty-odd years.

~~ Enid came from Wollongong, where she had been a much loved high school teacher for over twenty years, and happily married. Sadly, her husband Rob had been killed in a traffic accident, after they had booked to go on this same tour, and she had decided to still go on it, with her teenage son Stephen taking his father's ticket. I had got to know Stephen, and it was actually he who introduced to his Mum. For the rest of the tour we got to know each other, and in Enid's cabin in the "Canberra, in Capetown Harbour, we agreed that "this was it" and that we would marry soon after our return to Australia. (Much rejoicing from my Mum – I'm getting rid of him at last !)

~~ We married in July 1968, and Enid and Stephen came to Brisbane, where for a year we lived with my Mum. I kept my job, and Enid had no difficulty in getting employment, first at Wynnum North High School, and later at Oxley High. By that time we had scouted land and built the house at Jindalee that was to be home for the next fifty years. My work still took me away from home occasionally, but not for the long postings of the past.

~~ End of 1973 Enid left Oxley High, after difficulties with a weak principal and some parents, and secured a position at Mount St Michael's College, a Catholic girls high school at Ashgrove. And then, January 1974 came the flood. We were lucky to only get about a foot of water downstairs, easily cleaned up, but one sequel was the partial closure of Centenary Bridge for a year, making Enid's drives to and from Ashgrove a bit of a nightmare. She still reckoned it was worth it, and came to love her time at MSM – nuns, staff, other teachers and (most of) the girls – and retired in 1988.

~~ I had to retire, at 65, in 1990 (compulsory in those days), and Enid and I entered a very happy period. going to the cinema and concerts, joining National Seniors, Open House over at the Uniting Church, Neighbourhood Watch, and, for me, a state group of heritage engineers. We visited friends and relatives locally, and, continuing what we had previously done on school holidays, did numerous car trips visiting Enid's relatives in Wollongong and Victoria, visited Alice Springs and the Flinders Ranges, and went on several more overseas trips.

~~ This changed when Enid was diagnosed with dementia (Alzheimer's ?) in 2009. She stayed with me at home for about five years, with increasing use of aids and of visiting care, but in 2014 she moved into residential care, and fortunately we got her into Sinnamon Village, six minutes away. She has since lost all mobility, and the ability to say understandable words, but we think that she understands what is going on around her and (sometimes) what is being said to her. I visit her afternoons, and help the staff with feeding her, and am very happy that she still recognises me.

I rattle around the house, read and watch TV (and, just recently, the internet), and so life goes on,

CALENDAR 2019

JUNE 2019

Monday 3rd	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 4th	General Meeting	9.30am	Jindalee Bowls Club	\$5
Thursday 6th	MahJong	9-12noon	Library Meeting Room	
Monday 10th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Wednesday 12 th	Evening Dinner	6pm	Café 63 Westlake	
Thursday 13th	MahJong	9-12noon	Library Meeting Room	
Saturday 15 th	The Hub - Music	6pm		\$10
Monday 17th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 18 th	Explorer Trip	8.15am	Bus/Citicat to Northpoint	
Thursday 20th	Book Club	10am – 12noon	The Hub	
Thursday 20th	Lunch	12noon	Monier Hotel Darra	
Monday 24 th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 25th	Coffee & Conversation	10am	Mt.Ommaney Food Court	
Tuesday 25th	Committee Meeting	1pm	Library Meeting Room	

JULY 2019

Monday 1 st	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 2 nd	General Meeting	9.30am	Jindalee Bowls Club	\$5
Thursday 4th	MahJong	9-12noon	Library Meeting Room	
Monday 8th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Wednesday 10 th	Evening Dinner	6PM	La Bonne Saigon J'lee	
Thursday 11th	MahJong	9-12noon	Library Meeting Room	
Monday 15th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 16 th	Bus Trip Xmas in July	8am	Riverdeck Tewanin	\$55
Thursday 18 th	Book Club	10am – 12noon	The Hub	
Thursday 18th	Lunch	12noon	Monier Hotel Darra	
Monday 22nd	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Monday 29th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 30th	Coffee & Conversation	10am	Mt.Ommaney Food Court	
Tuesday 30th	Committee Meeting	1pm	Library Meeting Room	

AUGUST 2019

Thursday 1 st	MahJong	9-12noon	Library Meeting Room	
Monday 5th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 6 th	General Meeting	9.30am	Jindalee Bowls Club	\$5
Thursday 8th	MahJong	9-12noon	Library Meeting Room	
Monday 12th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7

Wed. 14th	Evening Dinner	6PM	TBA	
Thursday 15th	Book Club	10am-12noon	The Hub	
Monday 19th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 20 th	Picnic in the Park		Rocks Riverside	
Wednesday 21 st	Seniors Expo		Riverlife 17 Mile Rocks	
Thursday 22 nd	Lunch	12noon	Monier Hotel Darra	
Monday 26th	Steady Steps	9am for 9.15am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 27th	Coffee & Conversation	10am	Mt.Ommaney Food Court	
Tuesday 27th	Committee Meeting	1pm	Library Meeting Room	