

National Seniors Australia ~ Centenary Branch

JULY 2021 - Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good morning members –

Another month has sped by and I'm sure there will be a countdown to Christmas very soon. Sixteen of us enjoyed an explorer trip to Cleveland but I've got a feeling a higher power is telling me something. The night of our Pepper Lounge dinner it stormed, the night of our La Bonne dinner was freezing cold and the morning of the explorer trip was another unseasonal storm so to protect you all I dibbs not organizing anything else. By the time we got to Cleveland it was a beautiful sunny day and we dined overlooking the marina and toured a few blocks of the town on foot.

Our bus to Bundaberg & Surrounds is full, in order to get rooms booked full payment by the August meeting please: bank details BSB 084259, account 821660559 Centenary National Seniors.

The Nambour Flower Show is on from Friday 9th July to Sunday 11th July, please note that I can only do the Friday. There is a shuttle bus from the Nambour train station to the show roughly every 30 minutes or so, entry is \$20 per head (on line). It takes about 2 ½ hours from Darra and the last train back for us is 4.30pm. Which means we would only have a few hours at the show – any interest? Names to Jenny.

Icarus Restaurant, Goggs Road, opposite Home Base, will do us a "Taste of Greece" for \$30.00 per head on Wednesday 14th July. Names to Jenny today.

WORDS OF WISDOM:- Be sure to taste your words before you speak them out loud.

GUEST SPEAKER: Sarah Hutton

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

MANY HAPPY RETURNS



UPCOMING EVENTS:

COACH TRIP - TUESDAY – 20th July. Xmas in July at the Qld. National Hotel in Laidley.

Departure 9.00 am from JBC.

As indicated at the last meeting all coach trips will be \$70 pp.

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: The bus is booked the Thursday before we travel. For cancellations after this date, except for medical emergencies, money will not be refunded

NB: \$400 DEPOSIT PER PERSON REQUIRED THIS MEETING FOR BUNDABERG TRIP.

BANK DETAILS ARE:-

BSB 084259, ACCOUNT 821660559 Centenary National Seniors.

CONTACTS

PRESIDENT/EXPLORER TRIPS

BEV

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VICE-PRESIDENT

YVONNE

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SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER (INCLUDES MEMBERS WISHING TO HAVE THEIR NEWSLETTER EMAILED, OR PUT IN AN APOLOGY FOR GENERAL MEETING)	CHERYL	0407597812 cherubu@bigpond.com
TREASURER	GEOFF	3715 7874
COACH TRIPS	ANN	3376 3760/0432 630 721
DINNERS, FUNCTIONS	JENNY	3376 3616
MAHJONG	JUDY HUNOLD/JO MURRAY	3378 4935/ 0406413836
STEADY STEPS /CHANGES TO ADDRESS/PH NOS	GEOFF HARVEY	3715 7874
HEART FOUNDATION WALKING MT OMMANEY	SEE DOREEN FLYNN	
MUSIC AT THE HUB	MARJORIE	3376 2030

CENTENARY WEBPAGE: <https://nationalseniors.com.au/get-involved/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 0415 722 940.

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.

Date Slice: (courtesy Joyce Banks)

Ingredients:

1 cup of Self raising flour
1 cup of sugar
1 cup of coconut
1 cup of cut up dates
1 egg
125 gms melted butter

Method:

Mix all together
Press into tray
Cook 180 degrees C for 20-25 mins

PROFILE - JOHN SMEDLEY

My name is Leonard John Smedley, known as John to friends and family. I was born in Wilmington St Newmarket Brisbane but was transferred to the Mater Childrens Hospital on 20th May 1931 suffering from a twisted bowel and other complications. I spent the first 6 months in the Mater, not expected to live at times, even had a coffin made for me, but I beat the odds and celebrated my 90th birthday on 20th May this year. My father, Leonard Smedley, was born in Salford, Manchester, England, and my mother was born in Guyra, NSW, My younger years were spend at mainly Harrisville and Aratula where I believe my father was a share farmer, my mother worked as a housekeeper, and my sister Jean (2 years older than me) and I both went to school. It wasn't uncommon for my mother to take a horse and cart to the local pub with us both in tow to collect my father.

We left the area and came back to Brisbane, this was probably when Mum realized my father had a serious problem with alcoholism. Consequently they separated.

We went to stay with my grandmother who lived with her family on an acreage in Douglas St Salisbury. She had a lovely farm with fresh vegetables and strawberries etc. She did up a disused chook house for us – painted, white washed, floor coverings and new furniture. This was probably the only “home” we had that gave us privacy and togetherness. I loved my grand mother. She was also a music teacher and would often play the piano just for me as she knew how much I loved music. She later had the huge acreage that she owned subdivided and many family members built their houses there. My mother obtained a job in South Brisbane in a shop and we moved to South Brisbane. She shared a flat with another woman so Jean went to Sth. Brisbane School and I went to Marist Bros. in Indooroopilly but only had a short stay as war had started and the Americans took over this school for a military hospital and we were sent to St Bernards at Mt Tambourine.

Because of circumstances I ran away from the school and hid behind a waterfall. In the morning a policeman found me and took me back to the school where my mother was waiting to take me home. I went back with Mum to South Brisbane and went to school there but for some reason, we ended up at my Auntie Clorine’s house at West End. She was like a second mother to me and I went then to West End School. Dad in the meantime had joined the Army at the beginning of the war and served in Africa as an ambulance driver and later in New Guinea. He was not a violent man at any time and married again, but sadly died at 52 years. I worked after school selling newspapers and polishing shoes for the Yanks, made plenty of money which I always gave to mum to help her. Also had odd jobs minding places in the queue for the “San Toy Brothel”, a very well known brothel in West End. My cousin Lexie (Clorine’s son) and I made some good pocket money there. We sometimes would throw rotten fruit from the fruit shop outside the windows that were closed on the top floor and get abused “you bloody kids get lost – we have rung the Police”. We laughed all the way to the hole we dug in the ground with a homemade periscope. Fortunately we never had altercations with any members of the Police Force except when the war ended. I knew the layout of the Telegraph Building from obtaining newspapers to sell and I climbed out on the flag pole overlooking Queen Street and obtained the Australian Flag. Lexie and I wrapped ourselves in the flag and celebrated with everyone else in Queen Street and beyond until a policeman bailed us up and wanted to know where we got the flag. I can’t remember what answer we gave but he took us to Roma Street Police Station and made us stand there for a few hours as punishment.

After the war ended my mother remarried and my step-father had purchased a dairy farm at Kin Kin near Pomona. We moved there, but Alan didn’t know too much about dairy farming in general, but I loved the farm life. I learnt a lot about dairy, animals, bananas and general farming and was very happy with that lifestyle. Unfortunately we went through a serious drought and I had to find work elsewhere. I was told there were good cane cutting jobs up north in the Cairns area as my mate and I went looking. The money was good, the work was hard.

After the cane season finished I returned to Brisbane and bumped into an attractive girl I had know by sight beforehand. Her name was Olga and I asked her would she like to go to the pictures. She shyly said yes, we courted for nearly a year and married in 1949.

Although my life has been a little different to most, I consider myself very lucky.

(to be continued).

JOKE

Finland has just closed its borders – No one will be crossing the finish line.
The grocery stores in France look like tornadoes hit them – All that’s left is de brie.
I ran out of toilet paper and had to start using old newspapers – Times are tough.
I’ll tell you a coronavirus joke now, but you’ll have to wait two weeks to see if you got it.
Now is not the right time to surround yourself with positive people.

CALENDAR 2021**JULY 2021**

Monday 5th	Steady Steps 2 session	8.45am & 9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 6th	General Meeting	9.30am	Jindalee Bowls Club	\$5
Thursday 8th	MahJong	9-12noon	The Hub	
Monday 12 th	Steady Steps 2 session	8.45am & 9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Wednesday 14 th	Evening Dinner	6pm	Icarus Greek Rest. J'Lee	
Thursday 15 th	MahJong	9-12noon	Monier Hotel	
Thursday 15 th	Lunch	12noon	Monier Hotel Darra	
Monday 19 th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 20 th	Coach Trip Xmas in July	9am	JBC	\$70
Thursday 22 nd	MahJong	10am – 12noon	Monier Hotel	
Monday 26th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 27 th	Coffee & Conversation	10am	Mt Ommaney Food Court	
Tuesday 27 th	Committee Meeting	1pm	President's home	
Thursday 29 th	MahJong	10am – 12noon	Monier Hotel	

AUGUST 2021

Monday 2nd	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 3rd	General Meeting	9.30am	Jindalee Bowls Club	\$5
Thursday 5th	MahJong	9-12noon	Mt Ommaney Library	
Monday 9th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Wednesday 11 th	Evening Dinner	6pm	TBA	
Thursday 12th	MahJong	9-12noon	Mt Ommaney Library	
Monday 16th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 17 th	Explorer Triip - GOMA	8.30am	Mt .Ommaney Bus Stop	
Thursday 19th	Mahjong	10am-12noon	Monier Hotel	
Thursday 19th	Lunch	12noon	Monier Hotel Darra	
Monday 23rd	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Thursday 26 th	Mahjong	10am – 12noon	Monier Hotel	
Monday 30 th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 31st	Coffee & Conversation	10am	Mt Ommaney Food Court	
Tuesday 31st	Committee Meeting	1pm	President's home	

SEPTEMBER 2021

Thursday 2nd	MahJong	9-12noon	Mt Ommaney Library	
Sunday 5-11th	Coach Trip – B/Berg		JBC	
Monday 6 th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 7th	General Meeting	9.30am	Jindalee Bowls Club	\$5
Thursday 9 th	MahJong	9-12noon	Mt Ommaney Library	
Monday 13th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Thursday 16 th	MahJong	10am – 12noon	Monier Hotel	
Thursday 16 th	Lunch	12noon	Monier Hotel Darra	
Monday 20th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 21 st	Coach Trip	9.00am	Carnival of Flowers	\$70
Thursday 23rd	MahJong	10am – 12noon	Monier Hotel	
Monday 27th	Steady Steps	8.45am;9.45am	Cent.Uniting Church Hall	\$7
Tuesday 28 th	Coffee & Conversation	10am	Mt Ommaney Food Court	
Tuesday 28 th	Committee Meeting	1pm	President's home	