



Meets at 9.30am for 10.00am on the second Thursday of each month Mt Claremont Community Centre, 109 Montgomery Avenue, Mt Claremont

Postal Address: PO Box 2068, Subiaco, WA 6904

FROM THE EDITOR'S TURRET

November was a busy month for your Committee – planning for and presenting the Armistice Centenary Special Branch meeting, the excursion to Toodyay and the John Dingle special interest meeting on the Enduring Power of Guardianship. It all helps to fill in the time between our day jobs!



The Armistice Centenary meeting on November 8, organised by Vice President David Thomas, went off with military precision and was aided by the splendid morning tea feast prepared by

2018/2019 Officers

President	Geoffrey Jones	0400 214 458
Vice Pres.	David Thomas	0418 448 933
Treasurer	Terry Middleton	0417 171 844
Secretary	Colette Nathan	0427 084 847
Membership	Marion Laws	9387 8383
Editor	Terry Middleton	
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LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday December 13 Christmas Lunch at Mt Claremont Community Centre. A special this year, catered for by our Sandra's daughter Nicole's business - Hot Shots To Go. A must and satisfaction guaranteed. Cost \$40 for members and guests. BYO alcoholic beverages, bottled water and some soft drinks provided, 12 for 12.30. Still time to book with Terry – 0417 171 844 or email mylemms@bigpond.com but before 09/12/2018

Thursday February 14, 2019 First Branch Meeting of the year. The guest speaker will be Dr Bryan Boruff, Senior Lecturer in the School of Agriculture and Environment at UWA who will talk about the greening of the western suburbs and related topics.

Wednesday February 20, 2019 First John Dingle Special Meeting – topic Mens Health. Details to be advised in the February newsletter.

Christmas Trivia

1. Traditions of Christmas around the world will tell you that Santa Claus is known by many names. What is the French name for Santa Claus?
2. Two of the reindeers are named after weather phenomenon. Name the reindeers.
3. One of the most famous companies in the world used to have advertisements featuring a happy, smiling Santa Claus. Name the company.
4. Which country gifts the Christmas tree that is placed at the Trafalgar Square in London, according to Christmas tradition?
5. Who was the star of the movie titled *White Christmas*?

Answers on back page.

Sandra and daughter Nicole, serving fare that the WWI Diggers could only have dreamt about. The grant by the Dept of Veterans Affairs covered the costs and a wonderful swag of raffle prizes was provided by the RSL Ladies, Legacy and the Army Museum, courtesy of Capt Wayne Gardiner. Terry and Marion plus several other members enjoyed the concert "For the Fallen" at the Basilica of St Patrick, Fremantle, courtesy of Legacy', on Remembrance Day. It included heart-felt recitations, singing and organ + trumpet music including the best rendition of The Last Post, ever heard by your editor, by Brent Grapes playing a silver bugle.



CUNDERDIN EXCURSION October 25

On Thursday 25 October 2018 at 9:30am, 21 enthusiastic members of the Floreat National Seniors departed on a bus trip to the Cunderdin Agricultural College. Our bus, ably driven by Jason, took 2.5 hours to reach Cunderdin. We passed through dense bush and lush farmland along the way. We were welcomed by Darryl McCart, the Residential Manager, who gave us an interesting overview about the development and working details of the college. We were delighted to hear that the team from Cunderdin had just won the Farm Skills Competition at the September 2018 Royal Agricultural Show in Perth. They competed against other state-wide teams in areas such as farm management, shearing, grain, pork etc and a range of technical skills.



We were treated to a bountiful lunch planned and prepared by the students using home grown and/or local ingredients. The students (years 11 and 12) joined us and conversed over lunch about their activities at the school and their plans for the future.

After lunch, two of the teachers from the school joined us for a detailed tour of the farm areas. Topics such as crop rotation, cattle/sheep management and irrigation were explained as well as the college's close neighbourly relationship with the Department of Civil Aviation whose runway is next door.



The trip to Toodyay, organised by June Steen-Olsen, was taken by 28 souls who generally appeared to have had a good time and spent up bigtime in the Christmas store in Toodyay. The morning tea was at a gem of a find at Noble's Falls while the old Newcastle Gaol at Toodyay was full of well presented information, much of which was hitherto unknown to many of us. See the report in the February 2019

You cannot keep a good man down, and our immediate Past President – John Dingle, turned up trumps again with the redoubtable Shirley Tascone's reprise presentation on November 30 on Enduring Power of Guardianship. This attracted an attendance of 61 which resulted in a healthy profit for our branch. Lookout for John's next special on Men's Health on Wednesday February 20 next year. He earnestly states that it is for men only.

Now we can take some time off from our duties, after Christmas lunch that is, and wish one and all a happy festive season and hope for peace on Earth in 2019.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Why was Santa's little helper depressed?
Because he had very low elf esteem.



MEDIA RELEASE FROM NSA NOVEMBER 7 2018

Labor must drop franking credit policy, urges National Seniors

Ordinary older Australians fear Labor's scrapping of franking credit refunds will force them onto the Age Pension and penalise them for saving for retirement, according to leading independent advocacy group National Seniors Australia. National Seniors is urging the federal Opposition to scrap the policy, which its members have said betray retirees' core values of self-reliance and self-sufficiency. In its submission to the federal Parliamentary Inquiry into the Implications of Removing Refundable Franking Credits released today, National Seniors says the Labor policy was viewed by its members as a means of 'milking' self-funded retirees as a revenue source.

Chief Advocate Ian Henschke said the submission expressed the views of National Seniors members who responded to a call out on the franking credit refund issue. "Because the majority of self-funded retirees own shares, hundreds of thousands of people will be affected by this proposed policy," Mr Henschke said. "The policy will hurt ordinary Australians, and not just the wealthiest as Labor claims. "Members told us the proposal would financially hit those who had worked and saved hard under the existing tax rules, which have been in place since 2000, to self-fund their retirement. "Unlike Labor's negative gearing policy, there are no plans to grandfather this change. This means seniors who, in good faith, planned for their retirement under existing rules will not be spared. It also discriminates against self-funded retirees and in favour of those in industry superannuation funds."

Mr Henschke said input received from National Seniors members showed older Australians were sick of constant changes to retirement and superannuation policy. One member wrote: "In light of your policy on imputation credits, what do you suggest I should do? Should I sell my share portfolio, draw down my SMSF and spend up big on a more expensive home, a luxury car and expensive holidays? In the process there is every likelihood I would become eligible for an age pension and the benefits that come with it. "I ... have voted Labor for most of my life. If you proceed with this draconian policy you can be assured I shan't be voting Labor at the next election and shall preference Labor candidates behind all others."

We returned to Mt Claremont with a positive and informed understanding of this essential sector of our economy and an appreciation of this college's role in the development of fine young students.

Colette Nathan

SITUATION VACANT

Applications are called for the position of Social Secretary to arrange trips and outings for the branch members. Should have computer skills and internet. Salary \$0.00, membership of the branch committee with some perks and status. Apply to Geoff or Terry.

Mr Henschke said National Seniors was not opposed to fair and considered reform to the retirement income system. "However, the proposed Labor changes will severely impact lower income self-funded retirees who have worked hard and planned their retirement within the prevailing rules," he said. "This proposal will damage the retirement funding and hopes of ordinary older people. Australians don't support policies that rob seniors of their economic independence or that unfairly discriminate. It destroys faith, National Seniors' franking credit submission can be found at www.nationalseniors.com.au/franking-credits .



*Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year*



THIS MONTH 75YEARS AGO

December 1943 the big three Allied leaders Prime Minister Churchill, President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin meet in Tehran.

December 16 In the Pacific, the Allies invade the island of New Britain.

December 24 General Dwight D Eisenhower is appointed Supreme Commander of the Allies in the European theatre.

THIS MONTH 50 YEARS AGO

December 2 President Nixon appoints Henry Kissinger as National Security Advisor..

December 21 Apollo 8 is launched from Cape Kennedy.

December 30 Bill Lawry scores 205 in Australia's 2nd test win over the West Indies.

Trivia Answers

1. Pere Noel
2. Donner, which means thunder in German, and Blitzen, which means lightning
3. Coca Cola
4. Norway
5. Bing Crosby

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