



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

Postal Address: PO Box 2068, Subiaco, WA 6904

2018/2019 Officers

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FROM THE EDITOR'S TURRET

A total of 80 members and guests were in attendance at the Branch Meeting on May 9th to hear guest speaker Wayne Bradshaw presenting on The Fathering Project, which had much relevance to us grandparents as well. Please see June Steen-Olsen's article below.



Morning tea on the green, May 9th

June also did a great job in organising and leading a party of 33 of us on a trip to New Norcia on May 16th and a drizzly day did not detract from a tour and history lesson of the Abbey by the enthusiastic Brother Chris, one of only 10 remaining monks. We can vouch for the quality of the old onsite bakery products and I look forward to sampling one of their old vine grown shiraz wines.

Eight members partook of the quality fare at a UWA University Club dinner on May 26th, hosted by Helena Coleman.

Our Branch Meeting on June 13th will be a double-barrelled affair, commencing with a Special General Meeting at which the new Constitution will be voted

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday June 13th Special General Meeting 10.00-10.10am, (see section below – note that only members can vote in the SGM) to vote on the new Constitution for our branch. This will be followed immediately by the Monthly Branch Meeting at which the main theme will be Plastics in the Indian Ocean, presented by Professor Anas Ghadouani of UWA and a team from Tangaroa Blue. But wait, there's more – a team of volunteers from Repair Lab will be present in the Hakea Room from 9.00am and will repair or help you fix toys, bikes, electronics, clothing, jewellery and general household items. All this and splendid morning tea for \$5 (\$7 non-members).

Sunday June 16th 9.00am Swanbourne Beach Coastal Clean-up. Those of you inspired by Tangaroa Blue can help them with the clean-up to prevent more plastics entering the Indian Ocean.

Wednesday June 26th 9.30-12.00 noon Special Health Check Meeting with health check-ups (20min) conducted by nursing students of REACH, supervised by a registered nurse. Also present will be stalls manned by experts from Arthritis & Osteoporosis WA, Cancer Council, Stroke foundation, Diabetes and also presentations by our regular presenters – David Beard, fitness Guru and Dr David Thorne on Palliative care. There will be morning tea served through the morning and all for \$10. Please ring Marion on 9387 8383 to register or at social desk at June 13th monthly meeting.

Tuesday July 2nd 6.00pm Indian Dine-out - bring a good appetite to The Indian Café 'n Cuisine at Shop 5 Ocean Village Shopping Centre, Kilpa Court off Drabble Rd near Hale Rd. Greatly enjoyed last year and still only \$25 for the set menu. BYO with no corkage. Book at June 13th meeting or phone John on 6389 0465 so that we can confirm seating.

Continued over

on by card carrying members (see item by President Geoff Jones below), so a big roll-up is requested. After that will be an important program devoted to the environment, organised by President Geoff, with several presenters, headed by Professor Ghadouni of UWA, on the dangers of discarded plastics affecting the ecosystems in the Indian Ocean. Hopefully, many of our civic-minded members can follow-up by assisting Tangaroa Blue in cleaning up Swanbourne Beach at 9.00 am on June 16th. Concurrently running on June 13th, will be a Repair Lab clinic (see below for details) so bring out your dead electrical gear (small) etc, etc and see if they can be repaired rather than chucking them out on the verge.

There is a “bigger than Ben Hur” Special Health Check Meeting organised by our Immediate Past President, John Dingle, on the morning of Wednesday June 26th, so please come along and bring your friends, it will be well worth the \$10 which includes John’s “Splendid Morning Tea”.

Dear Members please be advised that when you are renewing your membership at the branch meeting please bring the renewal notice received from NSA Head Office. If, however you wish to pay directly to Head Office, please bring your new membership card to be recorded by Marion Laws.

UWA UNIVERSITY CLUB DINE-OUT 26/05/2019

It was a delightful evening with most enjoyable company of a small but happy group in a quiet environment. The meal, with open selection, was beautiful, served with complementary salad, the loveliest garlic bread I have ever had, and a glass of either red or white wine. Coffee with a chocolate was served at conclusion. There was no encouragement to leave, so the chat continued. Sincere thanks to Helena Coleman & Graeme Roy. May there be another.

John Yeatman

LOOKING AHEAD from front page

Thursday July 11th 10.00am Monthly Branch Meeting, which will be devoted to our world-famous performing arts icon WAAPA, with a presentation by Professor David Shirley and featuring several student musicians.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – CONSTITUTION VOTE

As you will be aware our branch is holding a Special General Meeting (SGM) at 10am on Thursday 13th June immediately before our ‘Plastics in the Indian Ocean’ Branch meeting. The SGM has been called to alter the Rules (Constitution) of our Branch.

You may be aware there are three reasons to amend the Constitution:

1. A new Constitution for National Seniors Australia Ltd (the national organisation based in Brisbane) was accepted in September 2018. Branch constitutions require updating to reflect changes in the national organisation.
2. The deadline to change and submit our Constitution to conform to changes included in the West Australian Associations Incorporation Act 2015 is 1 July 2019. All associations like ours in WA are obliged to do this.
3. The Floreat Branch management committee passed a resolution in March 2019 to change the name of the Branch to ‘National Seniors Australia, Perth Western Suburbs Branch Inc.’

Many WA branches have already accepted the new Rules and submitted them. We will be the last to hold our SGM, given the cycle of our monthly meetings.

Changing the name to ‘National Seniors Australia, Perth Western Suburbs Branch’ will be the most noticeable outcome for members from adopting the new Rules. You can be part of the history of our Branch by voting for this change.

I am hoping we can efficiently establish the quorum of 29 and vote on the Resolution to accept the amended Rules, as distributed, in ten minutes. There is no opportunity to change the amendments or accept different amendments. Members intending to vote should have decided whether they wish to accept the new Rules or not, as there will be no opportunity for discussion. The amended constitution will be accepted if 75% of the current membership present who vote support the resolution.

Remember to bring your current NSA membership card with you to show that you are a current member and eligible to vote on this history-making occasion!

Geoff Jones

VISIT TO NEW NORCIA 16/05/2019



Brother Chris in the original Abbey Chapel

In about 1840, Spain decided to abolish all community religious orders and in doing so the creation of New Norcia Abbey was made possible. Two Benedictine monks, Rosendo Salvado and Joseph Serra decided to travel halfway round the world, to Western Australia, to carry on their religious work helping the needy who had arrived in Fremantle in the 1840's. They walked the ~ 150km to an area 8km north of the present site in 1846 and determined to establish a mission to convert local Aboriginal people, and in 1847 set about initiating the complex that we see today.

A party of 33 of our members visited the complex on 16/05/2019 and all enjoyed and admired the monks' efforts and skills in producing the buildings and services that they created in a land so different and so far away from the land of their birth.

Although it was not possible to tour the Monastery there was plenty to see and our humorous monk guide, Brother Chris, introduced us to the Abbey and a beautiful chapel in one of the schools, as well as the Original Abbey Church with many lovely frescos, and lots of interesting information relating to New Norcia's history. After lunch at the New

Norcia Hotel, a part of the complex, we had some time to visit the museum and art gallery which have many items you will not see anywhere else but are part of our history. The cardinal's cape alone is an extraordinary piece of craftsmanship. I did manage to buy a New Norcia 7 grain loaf of bread and found it to be the nicest bread I have ever tasted.

June Steen-Olsen



Brother Chris lecturing in the school chapel

THE FATHERING PROJECT

I must confess that I did not think our April guest speaker's subject would interest me, but I was so wrong. I recognise the importance of a father-son relationship but Wayne Bradshaw gave me lots



Wayne Bradshaw of
The Fathering Project

more to think about. I grew up at a time when children were seen and not heard and affection was almost regarded as a weakness. Fathers were accepted as the provider of our living conditions and as the breadwinner of the family, while mother made sure we ate properly, were polite, taught us respect for our elders and good manners. Much has changed during the last few decades with both parents sharing the responsibilities associated with bring up children, but there are young parents today who never experienced what we may consider a well- balanced childhood - the head of the family may be unemployed or working away from home and unable to bond with his children. There also may be two generations of children growing up in families who have been without the security of employed parents and the dignity associated with being able to meet family's daily needs.

The booklet prepared by the Fathering Project has so many sensible suggestions. It goes a long way to advise parents, not only of their children's needs, but their own actions needed to bind the bond between them. Maybe a booklet for mothers would also be useful. I thank Wayne for making me aware of this problem and action being taken to help those in need of help and the joy those fathers will enjoy by taking note of the suggestions in the booklet.

June Steen-Olsen

50 YEARS AGO

- Bushfires across Victoria claim the lives of 23 people including 17 who died when a grass fire overran a group of cars on the Princes Highway at Lara, near Geelong in Victoria.
- Sir Paul Hasluck becomes Governor-General of Australia after the retirement of Lord Casey.
- The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission rules that equal pay for women doing the same work as men must be phased in by 1972.
- Rain Lover wins the Melbourne Cup.
- George Johnston's novel *Clean Straw for Nothing* wins the Miles Franklin Award
- The rebuilding of the Indian Pacific rail line between Sydney and Perth to standard gauge is completed.

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