

## PORT MACQUARIE/HASTINGS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

Website: <https://nationalseniors.com.au/about/branches/port-macquarie-hastings>

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## NEW LOOK NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

Welcome to the **New Look Newsletter** which will be about keeping us all InTouch with each other during this difficult time.

Your NSA Committee has decided to endeavor to produce a fortnightly Newsletter, which will be more about people and their interesting news, which will help us all stay in touch.

To be able to do this we shall need input from you the “Members.”

If you have any interesting short stories of holidays, a funny event in your life could you please share this with us?

Do you have any special events like birthdays or anniversaries?

What are you doing to fill your time at home, any amusing photos?

Any Jokes you would like to share. “Clean ones please.”

Any information or photos can be forwarded to Sandra via

Email; [sandybanks@bigpond.com](mailto:sandybanks@bigpond.com)



## A word from our President

What extraordinary times we find ourselves in. Our age and, for some of us, health issues have put us in a vulnerable position but we are a resilient generation and better equipped in many ways than any other age group to get through this.

Most of us grew up with very little but through hard work we raised our families, bought our homes and at times did a lot with very little. This gave us the strength and skills to work through any challenges that were thrown at us and coronavirus crisis is no exception.

My committee have contacted you all and overwhelmingly you had a positive attitude to the situation in which we find ourselves. Most of you have family and friends you are connecting with and for those who haven't we will be keeping in contact with you. The biggest challenge is for members who live alone, so please know that we are just a phone call away if you need someone to talk to.

We are putting out a fortnightly newsletter to keep in contact with everyone. Stories to make you laugh, ideas on how to communicate with friends and much more.

So be strong, take lots of care and please do not feel alone - we are here for you.

Joan Lundstrom  
President.

### COMMITTEE MEETING ON ZOOM April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020



## **WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING**



You may have heard our member, Brian Eldridge, gracing us with his, Wonderful piano playing on the ABC radio (James Valentine segment) about 2.30pm on a weekday.

His songs have been exceptionally well received and many listeners rang and emailed in, requesting him to play the songs we can all relate to.

Such as “You are my Sunshine, Tip Toe through the Tulips, The Road to Gundagai and Grandfather’s Clock “.

I am one who has thoroughly enjoyed his selection and have danced and tried to sing along. Brian is a very accomplished piano, pipe organ and Piano Accordion player and is very sought after by Churches, Social Groups and Nursing Homes in the Hastings area. You may remember he was our solo musical entertainment in our Christmas Party modern-day version of the facetious “The Story of Jesus”. We are so proud of our celebrity entertainer, Brian Eldridge and enjoy listening to him on a weekday afternoon.

Contributed by Erica.

## **JOKE**

Do not call the police if suspicious people are sighted in your neighbourhood.

They are your neighbours without Botox, makeup and hair extensions

The blondes are now brunettes and some of the ladies even have moustaches.

## SPECIAL EVENT



John and Sandra Banks will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of April. Usually this would mean a big party or a celebratory dinner. This year celebrations will be confined to a Glass of champagne or two.

We were married in Eastbourne Sussex England on an Easter Monday with the reception in a large hotel called “The Sussex,” where we had a sumptuous sit down luncheon.

It was a small affair with about 30 people and we remember it was a bright sunny Spring day.

Our first night together was in a hotel in Brighton Sussex, followed by a two week honeymoon tour of Somerset UK.

We have had a long and happy life and our family now consists of a Son and Daughter, 5 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

From Sandra Banks

## CELEBRITY SOLSTICE CRUISE AROUND NEW ZEALAND MARCH 2020



Who would have thought that being a Brown's Cow would be so much fun? (This is the collective name that we gave ourselves - followers of the great Lee Brown.) It was obvious from the outset that our Celebrity Solstice cruise was going to be great fun and it lived up to all expectations. Just where does one start? The food, from the buffet to the Epernay Restaurant, and each of the specialty restaurants, was fabulous and varied. The wines were great and the company even better! The tours and entertainment (a lot of which was self-initiated) were excellent and we met up at mealtimes and in the evenings for cocktails (most cocktails were sampled at one time or another)! We are thoroughly looking forward to our next adventure -? Norfolk Island? Anyone?

It was lovely to have a surprise catchup with Flora at a restaurant in Auckland and have her join the cruise.



Contributed by Judith Clegg.

## **SOME USEFUL LINKS**

For those of us with internet, being stuck inside fortunately doesn't mean that we have to miss out on some of the activities that we might normally do; see a movie, watch a musical, have a party (albeit virtual), get some exercise.

In this section of the Newsletter, we will point you towards some useful links to the outside world so that you can bring it into your living room.

To begin with, here are some that you might like to try:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdmPjhKMaXNNeCr1FjuMvag>

There's a new YouTube channel called "The Show Must Go On." At the moment, it is screening Lloyd Webber musical shows every week for free. It has already shown two of his classics: "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat" and "Jesus Christ Superstar". They are available for 48 hours on Fridays at 7 p.m. GMT or 5 a.m. Saturday for us here on the other side of the world.

If you have problems with the link, type in YouTube "The Show Must Go On," into your browser and the link should appear.

<https://www.youtube.com>

For those who prefer plays, the National Theatre in the UK is screening on YouTube for free as well, every Thursday at 7 p.m. GMT. Each play will be available for one week. This week's play is "Twelfth Night".

type in YouTube National Theatre at Home into your browser and follow the link.

If going round museum and galleries is more your thing, there are hundreds to choose from. Here are just a few.

<https://www.travelandleisure.com>

Art Museum Links – Incredible Art Department

<https://www.incredibleart.org>

Sydney Opera House Virtual performances

<https://apartmenttherapy.com>

From Lynda Walters and Erica de Carlo.

## **TRIVIA QUESTIONS TO KEEP YOUR MIND ACTIVE.**

### Trivia No 1

1. Who was Australia's Prime Minister when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon?
2. With which foot did Armstrong step onto the moon?
3. Farfelle pasta is in the shape of which clothing item?
4. In which Australian state or territory is the Isis Highway?
5. Which song begins 'I will come to you at night-time?'
6. By what name is the most popular form of the mineral 'green beryl' known?
7. If you were a phillumenist, what would you collect?
8. The flag of which south-eastern African country features an AK-47 assault rifle with bayonet attached?
9. Who was the only Australian Prime Minister to have spent time in jail?
10. Is the Murray River border between NSW and Victoria on the northern or southern bank or in the middle?

**Answers in next newsletter.**

***HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR MEMBERS.***