NSA Brighton Newsletter

National Seniors AUSTRALIA

November 2026 Next Meeting – Tuesday 17 November 2026

Meeting Details:


Lighthouse Community Church - our venue for Branch Meetings

- Branch Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from **February** to **November** at the Lighthouse Community Church, cnr Jetty Road and The Crescent, Brighton, on the beach side of the railway line. Meetings are from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. Members should start to arrive from 9.30 am. Morning tea is between 10.30 am and 11.00 am. Guest speaker or entertainment from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon.
- In December there will be a **Christmas lunch** instead of a meeting. This year it will be on **Wednesday, 2 December 2026 at the Seacliff Beach Hotel, 221 Esplanade, Seacliff.**
- Before the Branch Meetings begin, helpers are needed to put up trestle tables in the Church Hall and on the stage. This needs to be done soon after 9.15 am. Helpers are also needed to put the trestle tables back in the storeroom at the end of the meeting.
- It would be nice if you bring your own cup or mug for morning tea because it reduces the need for the use of throw away cups.
- Door entry fee is $5.00 which includes morning tea and a chance to win a door prize.
- Name Badges - which have your emergency details on the back - should be worn at all Branch Meetings and all activities.
- Minutes of the previous meeting and the finance report are circulated with the current month's Newsletter. Members can therefore read the minutes before members are asked to vote to approve them. It also means that members who are unable to attend the meeting are informed of the proceedings.

Lunches after the Meetings:

- There is a lunch after every meeting. All lunches, including the Christmas lunch are at own expense. Lunch venues vary. The venue after today's meeting is as follows:
  17 November – Charlies Diner, Brighton Metro Hotel, 466 Brighton Road, Brighton.
- If you wish to attend, **please put your name on the sheet at the back table** at today's meeting before 11.00 am. The lunch venue needs to be advised beforehand of the number attending the lunch.

Important:

No Branch meeting in January 2027. But there **will be a lunch** at the **Warradale Hotel**, 234 Diagonal Road, Warradale on Tuesday, 19 January 2027 at 12 noon.

The next Branch meeting will on Tuesday, 16 February 2027 at 10.00 am.

Christmas Raffle:

- In accordance with previous years there will be a raffle at the Christmas lunch on Wednesday 2 December 2026. Tickets – 3 for $5.00. **Cash** will only be accepted.
- The Committee would be grateful to receive **donated items from members for the raffle**. Please bring them to the meeting this coming Tuesday.
- But **PLEASE DO NOT EMPTY YOUR CUPBOARDS** of items you no longer want. Others are also unlikely to want them.

Entertainment for 17 November 2026 Meeting – Singer Marianne Riccio:



Marianne was born in 1948 in the seaside village of Wallasey, UK.
In 1963, at the age of 15, she and her family landed in Melbourne and then moved to Adelaide and initially lived in one of the Nissan Huts at the Smithfield Hostel.
At the age of 16, Marianne found 10 days' work at the Royal Adelaide Exhibition where she met her now husband of 60 years. He takes the equipment to her performances and then operates it.

It was a chance meeting when picking up a music CD that brought her into contact with a young woman, Juliarna Cleal, who would change Marianne's life. Juliarna was working in the shop, singing like an angel so Marianne said to her 'I'd like to sing like that' and, as it turned out, Juliarna was a singing teacher.

After being taught by Juliana, Marianne studied Certificate 3 in Music at the University of Adelaide where she trained professionally and now sings a wide genre of music including Jazz, Pop, Broadway and Opera. She makes most of her costumes and is literally a whirl of colour and bling as she travels across Adelaide to perform. Marianne has performed in community clubs and residential care homes as she knows the power the music has for the residents particularly in reminiscing. Marianne has great joy every time she performs and thinks how beautiful it is to share music with other people. Brighton Seniors members who have seen and heard Marianne's performances praise her beautiful voice.

Guest Speaker for 16 February 2027 - Barbara Jansen

Topic: "From Shorthand to Spreadsheets and from Aviation to Adelaide"
Barbara joined NSA in her early 50's when living in Canberra as she considered it was an organisation worth supporting because it advocated for those in their senior years which she felt she was all-too-rapidly approaching! After moving to Adelaide, Barbara discovered that Brighton Branch was really active, so she came along to our meetings (originally in the Masonic hall over the road) and found the outings and speakers offered by our Branch helped her learn more about her new State of residence.

Forthcoming Meetings, Activities and Events:

- **Bus Trips** – Bus trips have become quite expensive and will not be undertaken in 2026.
- **Friday 20 Novembers - Mercury Cinema**, 13 Morphett Street, Adelaide. Morning tea at 10.00 am. Movie at 10.30 am – **Pressure:** Days before D-Day General Eisenhower and meteorologist James Stagg argue whether the weather is too dangerous for the invasion.
- **Wednesday 2 December – Seacliff Beach Hotel – Christmas lunch at 12.00 noon**. Cost $45.00 for members and $50.00 for visitors (same as last year). Choose from two main courses turkey or barramundi, roast vegetables, two desserts plum pudding or fruit salad and ice cream. Please advise your choices of main and dessert when booking. Table prize on each table. There will be a raffle – 3 tickets for $5. Payment by cash only.
- **Friday 4 December –** Band of the SA Police perform "A Swingin' Christmas" concert and there will be morning tea after the concert at the Hopgood Theatre, Ramsay Place, Noarlunga Centre. Cost $22.00. Morning tea from 10.00 am and concert from 11.00 am. 70 minutes – no interval. Please advise if you need transport.

Payments for Membership Fees, Outings and Other Activities:

Payments for membership fees, outings and other activities can be made by the following:

- **Cash** or **Debit Card** at branch meetings.
- **Credit Card** payments – available at branch meetings.
  If you use your card, Brighton Branch does not pass the merchant fee on to you.
- **Electronic Funds Transfer** (EFT) direct to the branch account at BankSA. Details are:
  BSB: 105-042; **Account no.** 0579 62340; **Account name:** National Seniors Brighton.
  Please include your name and reason for payments in the description/reference field.
  Send an email to Marilyn Smith at marcoladelaide@gmail.com once the transfer has been completed.

Note - If you require reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of the Branch it can only be made by EFT. Supporting invoices and documents are required.

Meet and Greet Volunteers:

We need some extra help from the Members with regards to assisting with the welcoming of Members and greeting new potential members to the Branch Meetings, in the foyer. This would involve arriving at the Meeting about 20 – 30 minutes before the meeting is due to start. Two people are needed at the door. One of the greeters then needs to take that new person into the meeting room, introduce them to the Check In Desk, and then find a member to "Buddie" them with so they are not just left to sit by themselves and feel very unwelcome.

Carol Holt and **Rose Cearns** are the two Committee Members who will usually man the Meet and Greet. However, if they are not able to attend a meeting it would be much appreciated if we could have some extra volunteers to assist the Committee Members to do some of the tasks at the beginning and end of meetings. Committee members already have various designated jobs or positions to fill and on the days of the meetings a little extra assistance from Members would be wonderful. Please talk to either **Carol** or **Rose** and let them know when you would be able to offer assistance.

New Members/Visitors:

If you are bringing a visitor to the meeting, would you please let Brenton Coad – 0402 414 211 - know in advance so he can print up a Visitors Name Badge for them.

Transport to Meetings, Lunches, Outings:

As members get older some of them may no longer be able to drive, if you are able to offer a Member transport to/from a meeting or perhaps to lunch or an outing, please let a Committee Member know of you are willingness to help out.

Please make sure you can offer transport in both directions, i.e. pick them up and take them home. Or if they have caught public transport to the Meeting and they would like to go to lunch, deliver them back to an area where they can connect with public transport again if you are unable to take them home. Please advise the Secretary or the President if you are willing to provide these services so we know who we can contact if someone requests transport.

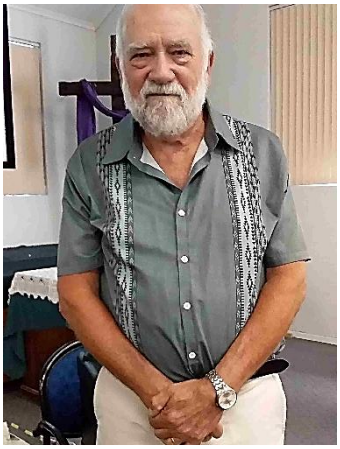
Walking Group:

There is an active Walking Group. It meets every Tuesday at 9.30 am except when there is a Branch Meeting on that Tuesday. The walks are then on the following day which is Wednesday. All walks include refreshments and return. The next walks will be as follows:

- **Wednesday 18 November** – meet at **Whyte Street**, Somerton Park at the Esplanade end. Walk to Mamma Carmela Café, next to the Grand Hotel, Glenelg.
- **Tuesday 24 November** – meet at **Oaklands Reserve** near the toilet block. Walk to Café Finniss on Finnis Street.
- **Tuesday, 1 December** – meet at **Adelaide Sailing Club**, Baron Road – off Military Road, West Beach.
- **Tuesday, 8 December** – meet near the end of **Adelphi Terrace**, Glenelg North, opposite Brooklyn Avenue. Walk around the Patawalonga to Veloce Marina Pier, Glenelg.

If you would like to join in any of the weekly walks, contact either:
Barbara Hansen on 0448 223 075 or **Rose Cearns on 0405 537 910**.

Guest Speaker Presentation at the Branch Meeting on 20 October 2026
Open Gardens SA Inc by John Zwar OAM



Australia's Open Garden Scheme was a non-profit organisation that began in Victoria, Australia in 1987 but closed its doors in June 2015 due to financial issues. Its aim was to promote the knowledge and pleasure of gardens and gardening across Australia. Under the scheme, private gardens opened for public viewing for one or two weekends a year. About 650 gardens were opened annually across Australia but declining numbers and competition from groups promoting their own events outside of their booklet meant that it was not viable.

South Australia then started Open Gardens SA Inc. It is overseen by a dedicated committee of garden lovers, designers and owners who enjoy sharing the treasures of SA's varied private gardens and bringing garden lovers together. From Spring to Autumn each year, the team assists each owner with planning and promoting their opening. It provides the insurance, banking, and marketing needed to ensure every garden opens safely and successfully.

Some of the proceeds from garden openings are donated to charities of the garden owners' choice. Thanks to the generosity of garden owners, volunteers and visitors, Open Gardens has donated more than $1.6 million to charities since 2015. In February, Open Gardens has a Harvest Festival. Of the funds raised last February $40,000 was donated to *Food on the Table* which is a 100% not-for-profit community organisation dedicated to providing free, nutritious meals to South Australians. It supports individuals and families experiencing homelessness, escaping family and domestic violence and living in temporary accommodation.

Each year over 275,000 adults visited open gardens, together with accompanying children. A schedule for openings across Australia is published annually.
For more information, see the web site for Open Gardens: https://opengardensa.org.au/

Know Your Members – Ed Staunton



I was born in Port Lincoln, the second of nine children. I was educated by Sisters of St. Joseph from Lower 1 to 1st year High then the Christian Brothers at Rostrevor College with a boarding scholarship for 2nd year High and Intermediate.

I undertook Matriculation and Accountancy followed by Company Director and Company Secretary and Graduate Diploma in Management by correspondence over the next many years.

I commenced work at S.A. Harbors Board in Port Lincoln for 5 years, then 3 months in Wallaroo before moving to Adelaide. After a further several years I moved to the Highways Department after undertaking computer studies.

I married during my Highways Department employment. I have 6 children and 16 grandchildren. I was divorced after 22 years.

Moved to a Mining Company in Tasmania for 6 years as Accountant and Chief Accountant then transferred to Melbourne as Project Accountant for a new mine at Cobar, fly in fly out.

I resigned and had various positions in Melbourne for the next few years before joining Australian National Line (Australia's shipping line) in various roles.

I eventually moved back to Adelaide and joined the Law Society. During this time, I also undertook Tutor work with Adelaide Academies and Adelaide TAFE with Legal Practitioner's and their staff. Still engaged in working with legal practices.

I joined National Seniors in 1990 in Adelaide and joined Brighton Branch at its inception.

I have held the positions of committee member, acting Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President, President, Public Officer, Non-voting Zone Delegate, Voting Zone Delegate and Newsletter Editor. Also, attendee from inception, Auditor, Committee Member, Vice-President and Public Officer of the Evening Branch and responsible to close the Branch.

I have until the recent Zone AGM been the Zone Chair. As Chair I have visited the other Branches twice per year.

Welfare Report Good News:

Please inform **Carol Holt** on **0438 177 050** or carolwinifredholt@gmail.com of any members with health problems. **We are only able to help our fellow NSA Members if we keep Carol informed if any of our members are unwell**. If you have good news to share with our members, please let Carol know the details.

Congratulations:



Julie and Kym Hockley will celebrate their **50th Wedding Anniversary** on 27 November 2027.

Other:

After the "Know Your Committee Members" comes to an end it will become "Know Your Members" so please start thinking about submitting your story.

NSA Brighton Newsletter

November 2026 ***Next Meeting – Tuesday 17 November 2026***

Zone 110 AGM Report – Presented by President Maureen Cook

The Zone 110 meeting was held on Thursday 29th October 2026 at the Torrens Parade Grounds, Adelaide. 24 NSA Members attended representing the 5 Branches here in South Australia. There were 7 Members who represented Brighton Branch NSA at this meeting, being, Shirley Golding, Janet Ingleton, Ann Chesson, Graham Gurry, Carol Holt (Vice President), Heather William and Maureen Cook (President). I sincerely wish to thank these Members for their attendance and their participation in the discussions which took place before the AGM was conducted.

There was considerable discussion about whether or not a Zone Committee was still a viable proposition for South Australia. South Australia is the only State in Australia that still has a Zone. The other States and Territories have ceased their Zones. After considerable deliberation it was finally agreed to continue with Zone 110 providing a Chairperson and Secretary could be elected when the AGM was held. The Zone does not receive any funding from their local Branches. However, any expenses incurred are covered by Brisbane Head Office.

The number of NSA Branches around Australia has dropped from about 160 to 56 active Branches with 5 Social Branches.

Here in South Australia our Modbury Branch has just closed its' doors too, leaving 4 active branches in South Australia. They're hoping to continue to meet socially bi-monthly. The facility they were using to hold their meetings is no longer available to them. In addition, at their AGM they were unsuccessful in being able to form a committee. Branches need to have an active committee consisting of at least a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, plus a few extra committee members to be able to function. If branch members do not put themselves forward to fill these positions, then unfortunately the Branch folds. This is very sad indeed as many friendships have been formed over the years and often these friendships then disappear too.

Two delegates are required to attend normal Zone Meetings, the President (voting rights) and one other member (non-voting rights).

It was finally decided that the Zone 110 AGM could be conducted and Kathy Hancock was elected Chairperson and Trevor Molde was elected as Secretary. They will continue in becoming more involved with policy and advocacy.

Scamwatch – Fake Purchase Callback Scams

For more information about this scam and other scams, click on:
https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/

Contacts for NSA Brighton Branch:

President: Maureen Cook 0414 454 970 or cookmaureen43@gmail.com; **Vice President:** Carol Holt 0438 177 050 or carolwinifredholt@gmail.com ; **Secretary:** Julie Hockley 0410 053 973 or brightonseniorsnsa@gmail.com; **Treasurer:** Marilyn Smith 0481 399 729 or marcoladelaide@gmail.com; **Newsletter:** Shirley Golding 0417 408 615 or freewill@bigpond.net.au; **Branch Activities:** Graham Gurry 8296 7646, **Welfare Officer:** Carol Holt; **Guest Speaker Coordinator:** vacant; **Committee Members:** Brenton Coad 0402 414 211, Rose Cearns, Brian Hockley, Sylvia Hunnisett and Heather Williams.

