

Good News ??? Law aims to rein in grocery costs.....(Brett Debritz)

The 2 big supermarket chains now face huge fines if they charge “excessive” prices. You may start to see welcome changes in your grocery bills this week, as laws aimed at stopping “excessive” pricing by the country biggest supermarket chains come into effect. The reforms, effective from 1 July, are designed to ease cost-of-living pressures and improve fairness for shoppers, including seniors living on fixed incomes. Under the new rules it is now illegal for large supermarkets such as Coles or Woolworth to charge prices that are considered “excessive” compared with the cost of supplying a product plus a reasonable profit margin. The law targets retailers with annual revenues above \$30 Bill. Meaning smaller supermarkets and independent grocers are not affected.

Assistant Minister for Competition, Andrew Leigh, said the charges are intended to protect Australians from artificially inflated grocery prices and ensure a fairer market place. The Australian Competition and Consumers Commission (ACCC) will oversee the regime and investigate potential breaches. Penalties for doing the wrong thing are significant. Supermarkets found to be overcharging face fines up to \$10mill., three times the benefit gained, or 10% of their annual turnover, whichever is higher. However, the legislation does not determine what constitutes “excessive” prices. Nevertheless, the Federal Government says the measures are designed to discourage unfair pricing and ensure companies properly justify their costs. Previously, Australians businesses were largely free to set their own prices. The ACCC notes that high prices alone are not illegal if they reflect genuine costs such as wages, transport, or supply shortages. As well as overseeing the new law, the ACCC will continue to enforce existing rules that require businesses to be truthful about pricing and not mislead the customer about discounts or the reason for price increases. The reform follows ongoing concern about grocery prices and the dominance of the 2 major supermarket chains, which together account for most food sales in Australia. Limited competition has been cited as one of the reason food prices can remain high, particularly during periods of economic pressure. For older Australians, even modest increases in grocery costs can quickly add up. The Government says those changes are intended to provide greater confidence that the prices being charged are fair and based on genuine costs rather than excessive profit-taking. While the new laws are not guaranteed to bring immediate price drops, they are expected to improve transparency and accountability across the sector. Over time, this could lead to a more balanced grocery market where shoppers feel more informed and better protected when paying for everyday essentials.



National Seniors

AUSTRALIA

Modbury Branch News Letter

July 2026

Issue241

Branch Diary Guest Speakers 2026

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20 th July	Radio Players	(performance group)
17 th Aug.	Travel Talk with Heather	(AGM)
21 st Sept.	Talk By “My Local Physio	
19 th Oct.	Bob and the Boomers,	Musical afternoon

Modbury NSA is sponsored by the Modbury Plaza Hotel
Thanks to the Office of Federal Member for Makin, Tony Zappia, in the printing of this Newsletter

<u>Committee for 2026</u>	
President	Susan Boyle
Vice President	Piero Fioretti

Secretary	Bruce Anderson
Treasurer	Bruce Dommenz
Assist. Treasurer	Alastair Boyle
Activities Officer	
Guest Speakers	Rosalie Zurek
Welfare	Ashley Todd
Extra Member (1) (Outings)	Mary Fioretti
Extra Member (2)	
Ex Officio. Public Officer	Ray Zurek
Door	Dianne & David Broadbent
Greeter	Beverley Anderson
Newsletter	Ray Zurek

Modbury National Seniors meet every third Monday of the month (4th if Public Holiday) at 1.30pm at the Lutheran Homes, 1217 Grand junction Rd. Hope Valley, except November and December. Entrance fee \$ 5.00
Postal address: NSA Modbury, PO Box 499 St Agnes 5097

We always welcome visitors and potential new members. If after 3 or 4 visits you find that you enjoy coming to our meetings and being part of our group why not become a financial member of National Seniors Australia? Members are able to get involved in discussing and taking part in community issues pertaining to Senior Australians. You can also take part in social events, hear interesting guestspeakers and meet like-minded members at other branches. Most importantly members can ensure that their voice is heard on issues affecting the over 6 mill. Australians over 50.
Only financial members are covered by NSA Insurance on Outings! Financial members will also Be given preference when there is a limit on numbers eg.Christmas Lunch, Bustrips etc .

Membership fees

1year membership	\$49.50	\$80
2 year “	\$88	\$143
3 year “	\$120	\$180
5 year “	\$220	\$325

Enrolment forms can be found on Activities table or from Treasurer. M/F can also be paid at the Post Office or by phone. No Credit card surcharge applies!
Riddle: Odd one out: Emu, Galah, Kookaburra, Kiwi?
Grandma’s Wit and Wisdom: Be there for others, but never leave yourself behind
Interesting facts: Chickens can see daylight 45 minutes before humans can.

Forthcoming events for 2026-----
Thursday 23rd July, NSA is holding a General Information Forum at the Marryatville Hotel, Marryatville, starting 9am to 12noon, Lunch available at own cost. Guest Speaker either Mark Butler, Minister for Health or Sam Rae, Minister for Ageing and Seniors. Good time to meet some of our Politicians.
Monday 17th Aug. Modbury Branch AGM. This AGM is very important if we want to continue as a group at a different venue or disband. To be able to continue we’ll need to elect a new committee to lead us into the future!!
Thurs. 10th Sept. Coopers Brewery Tour, 11am, 1hr Tour with tastings \$35.
Lunch at Reephram hotel. 273 Churchill Rd. Prospect
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July Birthdays : Keith Fitzgerald(6), Beverly Anderson(7), Christine Stewart(10), Neil Kirk(12), Erma Hill(28), David Broadbent(29),Judy Fairhead(30),
Weddings:Nil

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL

PERKS OF REACHING 70 OR BEING OVER 80 AND HEADING TOWARDS 90

- 1. Kidnappers Are Not Very Interested In You.**
- 2. In A Hostage Situation You Are Likely To Be Released First.**
- 3. No One Expects You To Run-Anywhere.**
- 4. People Call At 8 Pm And Ask: "Did I Wake You?"**
- 5. People No Longer View You As A Hypochondriac.**
- 6. There Is Nothing Left To Learn The Hard Way.**
- 7. Things You Buy Now Won'T Wear Out.**
- 8. You Can Eat Supper At 5 Pm**
- 9. You Can Live Without S*X But Not Your Glasses.**
- 10. Your Supply Of Brain Cells Is Finally Down To Manageable Size.**
- 11. You Can'T Remember Who Sent You This List.**
- 12. And You Notice These Are All In Big Print For Your Convenience.**

Forward This To Everyone You Can Remember Right Now! And Remember, Never, Under Any Circumstances Take A Sleeping Pill And A Laxative On The Same Night!