

NEWSLETTER #202

Mostly about us with a sprinkling of NSA news when space permits

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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Chris Milne: Secretary 9293 2001	Maureen Moffett: Guest Speaker Coordinator 9293 0575
Patricia Skinner: Treasurer 9293 1113	Anne Elsner: Minute Secretary 9291 8221

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 17 September at Kalamunda CoC Centre, 22 Mileti Road Lesmurdie

GUEST SPEAKER – Dr Hamish McGlashan; *“Early Kimberley explorers and the consequences.”*

You will all, no doubt, be pleased to know that the AGM didn't throw up any untoward last minute traumas and that the Branch is in good hands with an unchanged Management Committee for the next twelve months. You would also have to agree that we have been truly blessed by having the same people in the same role for the past seven years; all focused on providing members the best possible meeting environment and social outlet. That's why our membership register currently lists 204 names and the reason we have averaged four new potential members for each of our 2019 monthly meetings. Word of mouth is our best recruitment tool and it's your confidence and enthusiasm that provides the catalyst which attracts others to come and experience what we offer. Well done, well done.

I must hasten to say that there are many others who work hard on meeting days to ensure the smooth running of the event. These are roles that we tend to take for granted but without them we would surely be in trouble. I like to think that we have members who come for the pleasure of experiencing what we offer on the day and we have members who come for that reason, as well as wanting to assist in managing the event. It's a total team effort which requires new players from time to time and I encourage you to be proactive in seeking ways in which you can participate. We shouldn't be reliant on the same people doing the same thing; we need people to say *“I can do that”* and be prepared to jump in or wait for a vacancy to occur.

Congratulations – Patricia Skinner has been keeping our financial affairs in the black for the past ten years. You will have undoubtedly noticed that this diminutive lady is a comparative giant in the affairs of finance and we rightly acknowledged her commitment at the August meeting by presenting her with a certificate or thanks for her role over that time. Well done Patricia; thoroughly deserved and we fully appreciate all that you do for the Branch.

You never appreciate what you have till it's gone. Toilet paper is a good example.

New kids on the block – Sally Darling, Peter Falconer, Gail Hearn, Joyce Lawton and Angela Stanley came to see what we all enjoy on the second Tuesday of the month and I don't believe they would have been disappointed. It's so good to see new faces in the audience and if I haven't had the pleasure of meeting you personally then please come and say hello prior to the starting time or during the morning tea break; I love meeting people and sharing life stories.

Under the pump – since we last met I have spent a week at the Busselton Beach Resort and a week at the Shearwater Resort in Devonport Tasmania. I returned home to sort out 34 email messages (mainly NSA related) and the pleasure of putting together this newsletter before departing for Geraldton in order to attend the Zone 114 conference on Saturday 31 August; no pressure, just some stuff that keeps me off the streets and something to think about.

New publication – the National Seniors magazine, formerly “50 Something” now “Our Generation” is chock full of interesting material designed to attract interest and encourage input. Just prior to the winter (current) edition, a decision was made to make the magazine available in its digital format to all members who have provided an email address. This was a cost-based decision to ensure continuation of the circulation process. Understandably, people were unimpressed at not been given a choice but now they can update their preferences to say they’d like a printed copy. They can do this by logging onto their account on the website or by phoning the membership team on 1300 76 50 50.

Name Bars – there are a number of people attending meetings and outings on a regular basis who are not wearing a name bar. I understand that unless you store it in the car, it’s the last thing you’re thinking about when you dash out the door; but maybe you’ve lost it or you don’t have one. I can fix that by either making a no-cost paper one in a plastic holder or placing an order for a more professional one at a cost of \$8. Please let me know because it’s good to recognize people by name; guessing is not a good option!

Advocacy Matters – *The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety is a landmark inquiry for Australian residential and in-home care. Despite ongoing reform, systematic failures leading to poor quality care for older Australians continue. Statistics show the number of serious risk notices issued to aged care providers jumped 170% in the past year and significant non-compliance leapt 292%.*

National Senior’s research revealed people using aged care services feared retribution if they complained. It also found that some of those who worked in the sector were so scarred by their experiences they vowed never to go into aged care themselves.

National Seniors’ contribution – *We have promoted the need for reform of aged care for many years and through our advocacy have contributed to ongoing aged care sector reforms. We have contributed to the commission’s investigations through our submissions – providing an overview of important issues, recommendations and the impact of dementia, the submissions of our members and evidence provided at hearings by our CEO and Director of Research, Professor John McCallum.*

Filling the gaps – January and November are months where we don’t provide a social outing. The former because of school holidays/family gatherings and the latter due to the number of Melbourne Cup functions on offer across the community. There may be members who would appreciate some form of social activity during each of these months and the Management Committee has some suggestions in mind that we will discuss at the September Branch meeting.

SOCIAL CORNER

Event – 10th Light Horse Display

Date – Tuesday 17 September

Cost - \$55 per person; includes transport to Neergabby, entry to display, morning tea and lunch at the Gingin hotel.

Depart – Thai in the Hill 9.00AM

Event – Three day South West tour organised by Richard and Clare Arnold.

Date – Tuesday 22nd to Thursday 24th October.

There are 38 members registered for which promises to be a highly enjoyable adventure; people with which we share similar interests and social outcomes.

Plan to be there - We have a speaker in September talking about WA historical events which should keep us riveted for the duration of his presentation. I look forward to seeing you at this meeting so keep safe, keep smiling and keep well.

GRAEME 😊

CARPE DIEM

Printing by courtesy of Matthew Hughes MLA, member for Kalamunda