

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Graeme Piggott: President/Editor 0418 109 656	Joyce Everton: Public Relations Officer 6252 7135
• Vice President – position vacant	• Social Organizer – position vacant
Chris Milne: Secretary 9293 2001	• Guest Speaker Coordinator - position vacant
Patricia Skinner: Treasurer 9293 1113	

NEXT MEETING – WE WILL MEET AGAIN ON TUESDAY 11 AUGUST; SAME PLACE SAME STATION.

Hello again and I hope the conditions under which we are currently forced to live are not impacting too greatly on the way in which you manage your daily routine.

It seems that the Pandemic is showing signs of running its course in WA, and it's therefore likely that our getting together at a branch meeting will happen in August. Most of the government restrictions concerning large gatherings of people will be lifted by then but rules like the following will need to be adhered to:

1. Maintaining social distancing means that entering the meeting venue will take longer and members will be required to be seated well apart from one another.
2. Hand sanitizer must be used prior to entry and on departure.
3. Members need to personally sign in by name and contact telephone details; not just ticked off on the Register.
4. Money cannot be passed from hand to hand and correct entry payment will be deposited directly into a receptacle of some sort.
5. No raffle permitted due to the need to physically pass tickets from hand to hand.
6. Morning tea will need to be managed differently due to the confined space available. Catering will be two biscuits in a plastic wrapper and throw-away cups the norm, unless you bring your own mug and take it home.
7. The meeting place must be totally sanitized by a membership team prior to vacating the venue.

Of course, if conditions improve to the point where the state government lifts all restrictions, then we would most certainly get the ball rolling again and continue from where we left off last February. These are the thoughts of the management committee and your feedback would be appreciated.

Annual General meeting – Due to extenuating circumstances the AGM will be moved to a later than usual date in the 2020 calendar year. Members need to be conscious and concerned that vacancies on the management committee need to be filled. There are three vacancies, as you may note in the Management Team box heading this Newsletter. Just a gentle reminder at this stage but I would be delighted to hear from anyone willing to fill the breach; **our existence depends on member support and I can't put it any plainer than that!!**

Down under trip – Richard and Clare are hoping that the planned three day October adventure will proceed as planned. The logistics of organizing this event is in their hands and I believe details concerning the matter will be circulated closer to the event

Praise where praise is due – Richard Arnold and Les Guest have served our branch incredibly well over a long period of time and I know everyone would concur with that statement. Their resignation from the management committee is certainly our loss and we will miss their contribution. Maureen Moffett has had to resign due to family issues. A more recent addition to the Management team; Maureen has made an amazing contribution. Please contact me if you need a challenge in your life; bearing in mind that there's lots of help on hand and our capacity to maintain credibility as a successful NSA branch will be ensured.

Some good news to share - Joyce Everton and Graeme Piggott are getting married in November 2020. Our relationship has spanned sixteen years; thirteen as a trio of friends with Deirdre (deceased) and the past three years in a closer relationship. We are a couple of seniors determined to live out what time is left in a manner that gives us both joy and happiness.

National Seniors News - Our approach to supporting 'Community' members at this time has focused on providing certainty and safety and in particular, we have concentrated on 3 key themes for our information, communication and product and service support. The three areas of priority are **Health, Finance and Mobility**. We have sought to ensure that any advocacy or support that we provide at this time references these areas and here are a few examples of the many activities that are currently underway.

Retirement Income Review: Our Chief Advocate, Ian Henschke has been promoting in the public domain the concept of a universal pension and the socialisation of this concept has triggered robust discussion and new thinking as Treasury and the Government look to shape policy in relation to the retirement income system going forward.

Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC): With many self-funded retirees losing income at present, we have been heavily promoting the opportunity for self-funded retirees to access either the pension possibly in some shape or form and or the Commonwealth Seniors Health Care Card. Folk registered prior the July cut-off also become eligible for the second \$750 stimulus payment. Ian Henschke also has been leading this campaign and the mainstream media has now picked up on this important matter also which is providing a better financial outcome for a number of older Australians.

In addition, National Seniors Australia has developed an Aged Pension Service and Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC) application and support service which manages this process on behalf of applicants and fast-tracks the time that it takes for older Australians to get benefit and or their money.

VALE LORNA McCLAREN

Lorna's passing in late May brought sad news and our collective sincere condolences go out to her three boys, friends and all who knew this kind and gentle lady.

VALE ARTHUR PAYNE

Sincere condolences to Arthur's immediate and extended family; plus friends and all who knew him. An amazing, well respected man who certainly made a difference.

Mike put his 3 year old daughter to bed, told her a story and listened to her prayers which ended by saying, "God bless Mummy, God bless Daddy, God bless Grandma and good-bye Grandpa." Mike asked, "Why did you say good-bye Grandpa?" The little girl said, "I don't know daddy, it just seemed like the thing to do." The next day grandpa died. Mike thought it was a strange coincidence. A few months later Mike put the girl to bed and listened to her prayers which went like this, "God bless Mummy, God Bless Daddy and good-bye Grandma." The next day the grandmother died. "Holy Smoke" thought Mike, "this kid is in contact with the other side." Several weeks later when the girl was going to bed, Mike heard her say, "God bless Mummy and good-bye Daddy." He practically went into shock. He couldn't sleep all night and got up at the crack of dawn to go to his office. He was nervous as a cat all day, had lunch and watched the clock. Mike figured if he could get by until midnight he would be okay. He felt safe in the office, so instead of going home at the end of the day he stayed there, drinking coffee, looking at his watch and jumping at every sound. Finally midnight arrived; he breathed a sigh of relief and went home. When he got home his wife said, "I've never seen you work so late. What's the matter?" He said, "I don't want to talk about it; I've just spent the worst day of my life. **"She said, "You think you had a bad day, you'll never believe what happened to me. This morning my golf pro dropped dead in the middle of my lesson!"**

Final word - Keep well, keep safe, keep smiling and I look forward to hearing from you whenever you have the time, or the enthusiasm to chat. I also look forward to seeing you all again in August; an event which is something to look forward to and I think we would all acclaim to that. **Don't forget to give me a call if you have a desire to be part of the management team.**

GRAEME 

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CARPE DIEM

Printing by courtesy of Matthew Hughes MLA, member for Kalamunda