

### 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 – TUESDAY 11 AUGUST, 10 AM** at Kalamunda CoC Centre, 22 Mileti Road Lesmurdie

**GUEST SPEAKER – Nigel Dickinson, local professional actor presenting us traditional stories from around the world.**

Whilst we in Western Australia are certainly not out of the Corona woods, I bet there are lots of people on the east coast who wish they were living in the sunshine state. I have immediate family members living in Melbourne and thank goodness they haven't (to date) been affected by this dreadful virus but their chances of making it to the wedding of Joyce and Graeme in November are looking decidedly grim. Sealing us off from the eastern states is no doubt a huge problem for business, tourism and family associated gatherings but there's no doubt that this government initiative has kept us largely free of Covid -19 outbreaks, as currently being experienced in Victoria.

So where does that leave us in terms of coming together at a branch meeting? It's a long time since we last met and there may be some members who have difficulty in recalling the time and format which caused us so much interest and enjoyment at past gatherings. You no doubt will find some differences in August; mainly in the absence of morning tea. **It's all got to do with social distancing.** It's going to take longer getting through the door because of hand sanitizing **but the good news is that entry for this meeting is free.** We are unable to host morning tea due to insufficient space and although this is disappointing, we will adjust and be thankful that we are back together as a group of like-minded seniors – trust me!



**For your earnest consideration –** The Management Committee has continued to meet on a regular monthly basis and we have been diligent in ensuring that our meeting in August complies with those government requirements designed to keep us safe. Our immediate problem however, is finding members within the branch willing to take on (A) the role of Vice President (B) the role of Social Organiser and (C) the role of Guest Speaker Coordinator. Never in the 19 year history of the branch have we been faced with a dilemma of this magnitude. In order to operate as a branch of NSA within the Constitution, we are required to have a President, Secretary and Treasurer and thank goodness those positions aren't in jeopardy. However, as you no doubt will agree, without guest speakers and social outings our meetings would soon become deadly dull and boring. Somehow we need to find the key to this conundrum and the outcome is in your hands. Are we going to throw our hands in the air and say it's

all too hard and close the branch, do we take the easy road and go without speakers and outings or are those among us willing to step up and answer the call. I believe we have been so comfortable for so long with a sound committee that all I'm saying may come as a shock but believe me, the Pandemic may also indirectly be the cause of our demise! Being a committee member is interesting, satisfying and enjoyable; it's what we make it and you can be part of it.

**Gnombesville** – Last year, as part of the branch three day tour to the Bunbury region, we visited this amazing place where several of our members took the opportunity of adding some gnomes to the many thousands already in place. Joyce and I aren't exactly sure if those in the attached picture are in fact the ones in question but no doubt someone will correct me if I'm wrong. In hindsight we should have had a sign telling people that they were placed by Kalamunda Districts National Seniors. By the way, the history of how all this came about is recorded on a prominent on-site notice board and surprise, surprise our own Tony Crowder had a large part to play in this wonderful initiative – just ask him how!

**Member milestone** – Margaret and Neil Pember are celebrating 60 years of marriage following their wedding in Kalamunda at the old Anglican Church in Central Road, which is now Kads theatre opposite the Coles escalator. I don't think there would be too many, if any, within the branch who could emulate this achievement and we congratulate them on their accomplishment, as well as their contribution to the Kalamunda community and for being great people within our branch membership.

**Personal note** – If you have a grandchild who is proficient with a digital camera and willing to take some shots at a not too far distant wedding, then I would be pleased to talk about a paid proposition.

I see people around my age climbing mountains; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance!

**Much is being done on our behalf** – you would have noticed that our Chief Advocate Ian Henschke has been prominent of late, both on television and radio, presenting the NSA case for better deals for older Australians. The latest "Our Generation" magazine also carries some important messages from Ian as

seen on pages 26, 28 and 29. We shouldn't lose sight of the fact that we gather under the banner of NSA and I encourage you to use the facilities being offered to seek answers to any concerns you may have about senior related matters.

**Down among the Ups tour** – Barring a second Corona outbreak, the planned three day tour is all set to go and there are 40 excited souls all looking forward to the event. Getting away together in a relaxed companionable atmosphere will be a much looked forward to tonic. **Note.** 1 single male room & 1 double/twin room is available.

A tough old Scottish sheep farmer gave some good advice to his grand-daughter. He told her that the secret to a long life was to sprinkle a pinch of gunpowder onto her porridge every morning. She followed this dictum religiously until her death at the venerable age of 103. She left behind 14 children, 30 grandchildren, 45 great grandchildren, 25 great-great grandchildren and a forty foot hole where the crematorium used to be!

**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; your positive decision could well be the saviour of the Branch.**

GRAEME ☺

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**CARPE DIEM**

Printing by courtesy of Matthew Hughes MLA, member for Kalamunda