

NSA News: Let's get aged care funding right.....(shortened version)

Implementing the new Aged care Act has been delayed, giving time for the government to work through the details of funding changes, NSA CEO, Chris Grice writes.

The federal Government has signalled a delay in implementing the new Aged Care Act, which gives it time to nut out the details of any changes to funding arrangements . It only comes weeks after the Aged Care Taskforce's final recommendation were made public and 5 years since the previous government responded to the final report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and safety. As the Royal Commission noted, meaningful changes can not happen without sustainable funding. Where the funding is coming from has been a key stumbling block in a complex reform process. As we reported recently, the Taskforce released it's final report outlining 23 recommendations on March 12. This is an important milestone on a long road towards a safe and quality system of care, but the next step, designing the changes in detail for legislation, will be most important most fraught because these changes will be carefully scrutinised by all. The Taskforce report addresses the key questions of where the additional funds will come from to improve the system. According to the taskforce report, government plays a significant part in funding aged care. Around 75% of the total cost of residential age care is funded by the Federal Government (via general revenue), with the Federal Government funding 95% of the total cost of home care services. With greater numbers of older people and many living longer, the government will need to grow to pay for this.The Taskforce has advised against a levy or other taxes, citing intergenerational fairness and cost of living concerns. Instead, it focuses on expanding existing co-contribution arrangements for those who can afford it, but with a strengthened safety net for those who can't. It's important to note, some people already contribute significantly towards the cost of residential care, notably for everyday living costs, depending on their financial circumstances.

National Seniors response....

The Taskforce recommendations are not the final word and have to be considered by the government. While some seniors have told us they are willing to contribute more, this is only if the changes are reasonable, fair and result in higher quality care .In this regard NSA believes the Federal Government should consider the following : The government must continue to consult about changes to funding arrangements related to co-contributions. Any changes to co-contributions must be reasonable, introduced incrementally and be grandfathered for those already in the system. Further transparency and accountability measures must be put in place to ensure funding. Care services should be of highest quality for older people accessing aged care, regardless of their ability to co-contribute. There is a need to broker multi-partisan support for funding reform, because aged care must be above politics.

While we are disappointed in the implementation of the new Aged Care Act being delayed, we hope this delay will be limited. Older people have waited long enough for the right to be enshrined in a new Act with a focus on human rights and quality care!

National Seniors

AUSTRALIA

Modbury Branch Newsletter

May 2024

Issue 219



Branch Diary

Guest speakers

20th May "Sight for All" (Eye Specialist from RAH) —

17th June Meals On Wheels -range of services

15th July Guide Dogs – pre training

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

Committee for 2023 & 2024

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Welfare	Ray Zurek	"
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Extra Member (2)	Mary Fioretti	
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Door	Eric Schubert & Mary Fioretti	
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Newsletter	Ray Zurek	

 Modbury National Seniors meet every third Monday of the month (4th if Public Holiday) at 1.30pm at Lutheran Homes Inc., 1217 Grand Junction Rd. Hope Valley except November and December.
 Entrance fee of \$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 guest-speakers 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 e.g. Christmas Lunch, Bus Trips etc.

	Single	Joint
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/fees can be paid by phone.
 No Credit card surcharge applies!

Riddle: Which vehicle is spelled the same forwards and backwards?

Grandma's wit and wisdom: In youth the days are short and the years are long, in old age the years are short and the days are long!

Interesting fact: Rhinotillexia is the scientific term for being unable to stop picking your nose!

Please wear your Name badges to meetings and Outings!

Forthcoming events for 2024

Monday 1st July, Lunch at Modbury Plaza Hotel 12noon, Raffle, Tea & Coffee Station,

Monday 2nd Sept. Tour of Beaumont House & Gardens, 631 Glynburn Rd. Beaumont,

Morning tea \$25, followed by tour of house, can wander through the gardens later.Will have

11seater Lutheran Bus for 9am, cost \$10, Approx. 12.30 light lunch at Pasta Delli Fire Station, Glynburn .Rd, park at Aldi next door!

Please let Rosalie know if unable to attend!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

May Birthdays: Val Jackson(8), Bruce Anderson(27), Pat Todd(29), Ray Zurek(30*), Selma McPharlin(28),

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil

Congratulations and best wishes to all!!!!!!

Vale: Esther Jordan

The grocer was alarmed to learn that Mrs. Jones's weekly order of a dozen cans of pet food was being fed to her husband. "Oh he doesn't know the difference," she said.

"I think he even likes it."

"But it could kill him," protested the grocer.

But Mrs Jones took no heed , but month later she entered the shop wearing a black armband.

"I told you so," said the grocer. "I told you the pet food could kill him."

"Oh no, it wasn't the pet food," she said. "We were going home the other evening and he sat on the tramline to scratch himself and got run over!"



Food and wine.....

Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we diet.

People who love home cooking should stay home.

Wine improves with age. I like it more the older I get