

# Yarra Ranges Grapevine

The Journal of the National Seniors Australia Yarra Ranges Branch Inc  
Incorporation No. A0048800C Branch No 100132

## JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2022

### PLEASE NOTE: Membership Renewals & Joining Members

Please ensure you use the 'Yarra Ranges NSA Application Forms' at the end of this 'Grapevine' & pay through the Branch. This informs NSA that you are a member of this Branch. The Branch receives an annual payment for your Membership.

[Click here for Membership Form](#)

### Branch Meetings

**Monday**

**14 February**

**7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

**Guest Speaker**

**Beverley Blenner Hasset**

***'Andrea Doria Wreck***

**Sank after colliding with the  
*'Stockholm'***

**Off the coast of Nantucket USA**

**Monday**

**14 March**

**7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

**Guest Speaker**

**Alan Somers**

***'Welfare Arm of St Vinnys'***

**If you have a suggestion for a Guest Speaker please let Denise or a Committee Member know**

### President's Report

*Hi Members,*

*Report time again, this has been another year with not a lot happenings club wise.*

*The Christmas Lunch at Sanctuary House was well attended again this year. This year the meal was excellent. We were looked after again by Sam & his wife the owners.*

*Our Break Up Picnic Lunch down at The Iva Mags Reserve was also very good, most members attended.*

*Thanks to Chris who organised the food with the help of Julie, well done Chris.*

*Hope to see everybody at the Barefoot Bowls, next to the Senior citizens hall in January 2022.*

*Happy Reading  
Trevor*

**Please Note: 2 Musicals -**

***'Jersey Boys'*** in May at St Kilda and ***'Mamma Mia'*** in June at the Karralyka Theatre Ringwood. Info near back of 'Grapevine'

**Yarra Ranges NSA Branch Committee**

**President**

Trevor - ☎ 9735 1104

**Vice President & Welfare Officer**

Pamela - ☎ 9735 5449

**Secretary**

**Newsletter Editor**

Lyn- ☎ 0459 155 527

Email: [yarrarangesnsa@gmail.com](mailto:yarrarangesnsa@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Anne - ☎ 97265135

**Activities Coordinator**

Chris - ☎ 0419 528 446

Email: [chrishill3@bigpond.com.au](mailto:chrishill3@bigpond.com.au)

**Guest Speaker Coordinator**

Denise

☎ 0400 179 086

**Newsletter Editor**

Lyn ☎ 0459 155 527

Email: [yarrarangesnsa@gmail.com](mailto:yarrarangesnsa@gmail.com)

**Committee Members**

Elaine - ☎ 9739 4642

*Welfare Officer Please contact our WO if you know of anyone who is unwell, having an operation, in need of help or has passed away within the family. Vice President & Welfare Officer Pamela on ☎ 9735 5449*



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**Congratulations to!**

- |                              |                    |                |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>No. January Birthdays</i> | <i>9 February</i>  | <i>John W</i>  |
|                              | <i>10 February</i> | <i>Adrina</i>  |
|                              | <i>11 February</i> | <i>Judy J</i>  |
|                              | <i>16 February</i> | <i>Sandra</i>  |
|                              | <i>18 February</i> | <i>Pamela</i>  |
|                              | <i>23 February</i> | <i>Patrick</i> |



*We would like to celebrate your day!*

Don't forget to email / phone your birthday & month to Lyn

**DIARY DATES**

**'WELCOME' to our BRANCH MEETING DATES - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month**

@ 'Lilydale Senior Citizens Centre Hall', 7 Hardy Street Lilydale @ 7:00pm for 7.30pm start

**Monday 14 February @ 7.00pm for 7.30pm Start**

**Guest Speaker - Beverley Blenner Hasset**



**Monday 14 March @ 7.00pm for 7.30pm Start**

**Guest Speaker - Alan Somers**

**Monday 11 April @ 6.00pm 'Dinner Meeting' at The Crown Hotel Main Street Lilydale**

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS - 1<sup>ST</sup> Monday of Month

@ Chris' place Meet @ 7.30pm

**Monday 7 February**

(Meetings held in accordance to covid guidelines)

**Monday 7 March**

**Monday 4 April**



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**'OUT & ABOUT' - BLUE**

**'DINING OUT' - PINK**



## Activities

**Please Contact Chris 'Activities Coordinator' to Book and to cancel in time**

**Please Note:** All payments in an envelope with name, amount of payment and Activity name. This will be a great help. Thank you, Chris

**Friday 7 Jan @ 6.00pm**

**Friday 21 Jan @ 5.30am**

**Tuesday 25 Jan @ 12.30pm**

**Wednesday 2 Feb @ 10.00am**

**Thursday 10 Feb @ 12.30pm**

**Sunday 20 Feb @ 12.00pm**

**Friday 25 Feb @ 6.00pm**

**Sunday 13 Mar @ 12.30pm**

**Thursday 24 Mar @ 12.30pm**

**Thursday 31 Mar @**

**Sunday 3 April @ 10.20am**

**Sunday 1 May @ 11.00am**

**'Fish'n'Chips by the Yarra'** Warrandyte Park opp. Webb St

**'Bare Foot Bowls & Sausage Sizzle'** Lilydale Bowls Club  
Hardy St Lilydale - (Please Book **ASAP**)

**'Picnic in the Park on Chapel' Lunch** end Chapel St Lilydale  
BYO food, drink and chairs

**'Back Packs for Kids'** Cranbourne (6 volunteers & 2 drivers)  
(Please Book **ASAP**)

**'Grants Reserve Cafe' Lunch** 70 Monbulk Rd Kallista

**'Chris Cafe' Lunch** 3 Mangans Rd Lilydale **\$25**  
(Includes: spit roast meats, salads, sweets, punch, chocs, coffee, tea. BYO alcohol) - (Please Book **ASAP**)

**'Fish'n'Chips by the Yarra'** Warrandyte Park opp. Webb St

**'Dixons Creek Cafe'** 1925 Melba Highway Dixons Creek

**'Mornington Park Picnic'** Snapper Drive Mornington BYO

**'Elvis Costume Exhibition'** Bendigo – train

**'Grazeland'** Footscray – 2 trains medium walking. International  
Pop up Food stalls

**'Yarra Valley Train Ride' Lunch** in Healesville TBA

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**'SATURDAY WALKS' - Contact Chris 'Activities Coordinator' for details**

**Please Note** - Walks start **9.00am** for summer. **8.30am** if the temperature is over 30 degrees

These 2 photos are from the same walk – do you know where? Answers in next 'Grapevine'  
Photos 1 & 2 in last 'November & December Grapevine' were from the Lilydale-to-Lilydale walk

**Sat 1 Jan 2022** Lilydale Lake

**Sat 8 Jan** Barneong Reserve Croydon North

**Sat 15 Jan** Mooroolbark Community Centre

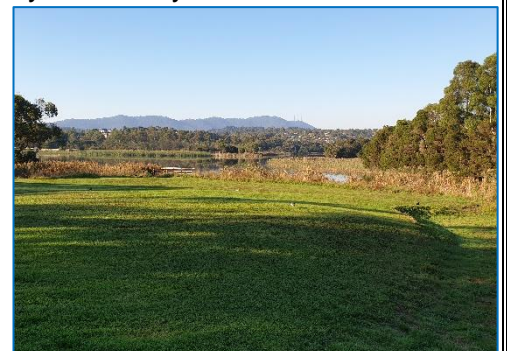
**Sat 22 Jan** Wandin to Seville

**Sat 29 Jan** Seville to Killara

**Sat 5 Feb** Norton Road Croydon

**Sat 12 Feb** Mullum Mullum Creek Burnt Bridge

**Sat 19 Feb** Lilydale to Mt Evelyn



**Sat 26 Feb**

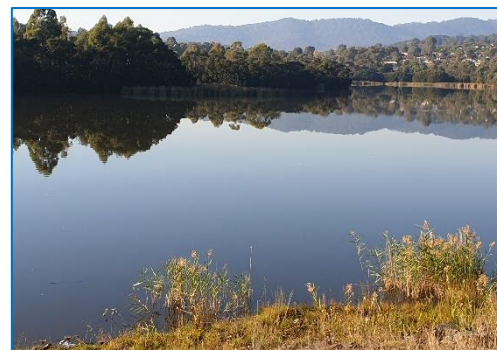
Lilydale to Lilydale

**Sat 5 Mar**

Chirnside Park Community Centre,  
33 Kimberley Drive Chirnside Park

**Sat 12 Mar**

Mullum Mullum Creek Burnt Bridge



**Note:**

If there is an all day '**Out & About**' organised, we won't be walking.

**OTHER NEWSY BITS!**

**Winners of the Christmas Hamper Raffle!**

There was a huge amount of 'carry bag' size hampers to be won. They are as follows –

*Margaret D, Judy J, Kathy N, Judy J, Sue B, Meredith F, Dorne M, Margaret c/o Janice P, Emma D c/o Lorraine Sc, Dorothy A, Emese M, Julie F, Ross T, Alan S, Valda A, Ruth W, Sue B, Sandra S*

Congratulations to you all!

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It was a perfect day to travel approximately an hour to our '**Out & About**' of the '**Moonlit Sanctuary**' on Smith Lane Pearcedale. After the usual covid check in and showing of immunisation status, a cuppa in the café was next on the agenda to have time to read the map and find out that on the hour there would be demonstrations for approximately 10 – 15 minutes provided by the keepers on various animals. This is held in a small amphitheatre.



Unfortunately, we missed the first one at 11am which was on '*How to Train a Dingo*', as we were too busy watching the Southern Hairy Nosed Wombat being given a metal container of food on a chain which was tied to the fence. He knew what to do. When he was halfway down the container and he could not get any more food, he then proceeded to head butt the container about 4 times up in the air until the contents fell on to the ground – you can't outwit a determined Wombat!

We then followed the map in a clockwise direction entering a walk-in Bush Bird Aviary spotting various birds of the bush. Then passed a large bird aviary of a Red Tailed and a Yellow Tailed Cockatoo, plus a Major Mitchell and two Gang Gang Cockatoos. The Major Mitchell was very curious of us (see photo).



Past the playground and into the Koala area where the animals are easy to see and some were active. The lizard enclosure had Water Dragons, Turtles and Blue Tongue Lizards. In the next door cage was a young Lace Monitor Lizard (goanna).





Heading towards the Show Arena, passing more birds – Bower Birds, Sacred Kingfisher, Barn Owls, Tawny Frogmouth, Emu etc. We made the 12noon showing in time and the keeper had a Shingle Backed Blue Tongue Lizard and a Southern Eastern Python (carpet snake), the latter was a real poser for the cameras. The demonstration was very good, giving lots of information on their habitat, food and how they care for them at the Sanctuary.

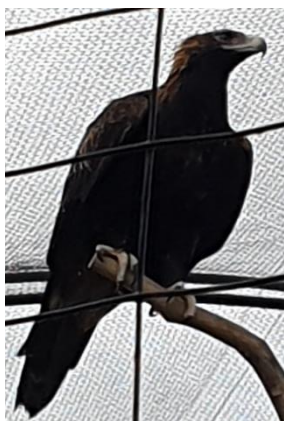


Time for lunch, so headed back to the little café and this time making sure we made the 1pm Show Arena. It was the turn of the birds. A Tawny Frog Mouth and a Barking Owl. I knew a little of the Tawny Frog Mouth who belongs to the Night Jar family and is not an Owl at all as a pair nested and reared a young one in one of the tall gum trees at school. The Barking Owl was noisy and kept barking all the time and when the keepers didn't give him his reward food when he thought he should have it, gave a low growling sound as much to say – 'Well where is my reward?'



After leaving the display, the Cape Barron Geese, who roamed freely, were being fed by some little children. We moved onto to the snake enclosure which is still being developed with our friends the Shingle Back, Southern Eastern Python and one other Python

Continuing on to the Orange Bellied Parrot Breeding Facility and Display. The Sanctuary are in a breeding program with Healesville Sanctuary to increase these parrots back in to the wild. So far, they have released 20 parrots. The Grey Kangaroos and Wallabies were very friendly especially if you happen to have a pot of food which was available for purchase from the café. As I was feeding one of the kangaroos, a keeper walked past and said 'This kangaroo loves to have his chest patted'. Well, he was just like dog, went into a complete trance and loved the attention.



Kookaburras, Lorikeets and Bush Stone Curlews. Then the two magnificent Wedge Tailed Eagles. Both of these Eagles are rescued, the male from Gippsland and the female from near Bendigo way. There is a write up about them on their cage.

The two Dingos were being taken for a walk and they looked magnificent. They had a large enclosure further on. There were also the most contented looking pair of Tassie Devils sunning themselves

It was a really good days outing and thank you once again Chris for organising it. We all agreed that it was in some ways better than Healesville as it has easy access to the animals, paths were flat and well maintained. There was a picnic area to the left of the café if you preferred to bring your own food. Will definitely visit again.



Two of my grandchildren and their parents have visited since and agree it is a great place to see Aussie animals up close.

## Contributions to our Newsletter



**Have you been travelling?**  
**Have you attended a good show?**  
**Have you read a good book?**  
**Is there something you have experienced, that you would like to share with the members of the Branch?**

**A story? One-liners? Photos from outings?**



## A Look at the Lighter Side of Life!



**Please ensure you have this app installed on your phone – it could save lives and maybe even your own.**

**Emergencyplus** is an app you can put on your mobile. (It was recommended by a trainer who trained the staff at my school.)

You can choose to load onto an Apple or Android system (2nd choice). When loaded the right-hand screen will appear.

The **000 Emergency, SES & Police** are live buttons that will automatically call that service when pressed.

Also, you will note your 'location coordinates' appear so you can pass the information to the service concerned as to where your location is.

**Save the App that could save your life.**

Available on the **App Store** [\[Free Download\]](#)

GET IT ON **Google play** [\[Free Download\]](#)

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## Update your medicines list now – you'll need it if you go to hospital



A medicine list is a complete list of all your prescriptions, over the counter and complementary medicines.

Now is the time to make sure you have that list up-to-date and easy to find in case you unexpectedly have to go to hospital or visit a doctor or pharmacist who is not familiar with your health status.

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## National Seniors AUSTRALIA

### Some News Items from National Seniors that you may have missed

#### Experts Call for Pension Certainty

National Seniors first pre-election webinar, 'Is the pension fair?', highlighted the need for politicians to assure older Australians the pension will continue. (16 December 2021)

Experts at our recent 'Is the pension fair?' webinar described the Age Pension as a critical base for delivering income adequacy in retirement.



<b>Ian Henschke</b> Chief Advocate National Seniors Australia	<b>Dr David Knox</b> Senior Partner at Mercer and Senior Actuary for Australia	<b>Dr Deborah Ralston</b> Member of the Retirement Income Review	<b>Noel Whittaker</b> International best-selling author
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The webinar is the first of a pre-election series covering issues of concern to older Australians and was hosted by Chief Advocate Ian Henschke and featured key retirement income experts Noel Whittaker, Dr Debra Ralston and Dr David Knox.

Discussing the ins and outs of the present pension system, the panellists argued the government (and opposition) should do more to alleviate fears it might someday disappear. They noted the pension in its current form is fiscally sustainable.

As Dr Deborah Ralston noted, "One of the strengths of the Age Pension is that it is targeted well at people who really need it and improves equity in retirement for those who haven't been able to save much."

This was supported by Dr Knox who commented that while we are facing additional costs from other related spending areas such as aged care, Australia is headed towards having the "lowest cost Age Pension of any OECD country" by 2050.

#### The Pension System in Australia is extremely complicated

Panellists agreed Australia's pension system is very complex. It was also acknowledged that while the system works well for some, it doesn't for others.

As Dr David Knox pointed out "the current age pension system is incredibly complicated in Australia. Very few people understand it and therefore people do miss out as it's hard for people to get all the benefits available to them."

While many retirees enjoy a much higher standard of living than past generations, the reliance on savings derived from employment to top-up the pension means some people have limited savings and income in retirement.

As was highlighted in the webinar, retirees may have limited savings to supplement the Age Pension if they haven't worked or been forced out of the workforce early through ill health, been divorced, worked in low paid

jobs or jobs where the superannuation guarantee doesn't apply, may have limited savings to supplement the Age Pension.

Poverty in retirement is also exacerbated if a retiree cannot afford their own home and rely on the rental market.

"The people doing it tough are the single people having to rent," said Noel Whittaker.

This point was echoed by Dr Ralston, who said the Retirement Income Review (of which she was a panel member) found renters were a key concern because support was not keeping pace with rental costs.

"When we did the review, we found that Commonwealth Rent Assistance has not kept pace with the cost of housing, which is a serious concern."

With the superannuation system still immature and in need of further refinement, it could be some time before the savings and incomes of most retirees are adequate.

## Thank you for your support!

National Seniors has worked tirelessly for more than 45 years to improve the lives of older Australians and we couldn't have done it without you.

Being a not-for-profit, your membership directly funds our Advocacy and Research. It's helped us fight to fix pension poverty, tackle the cost of living and health care, improve aged care, get lower deeming rates and fairness in retirement income.

Every dollar counts, so thank you for funding our work and supporting older Australians again this year.

We'll continue to be your voice as we tell government about the issues affecting you and ways it can make your life easier.

We'd like to wish you and all our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thanks for supporting us,



Ian Henschke - Chief Advocate



[nationalseniors.com.au](http://nationalseniors.com.au)

**National Seniors**  
AUSTRALIA

## Top 5 advocacy wins



### Aged Care Royal Commission

We fought, and continue to fight, for urgent reforms to the aged care system.



### Deeming rates

We successfully lobbied for lower rates and a better deal for older Australians.



### Electricity prices

We pushed for regulated prices to protect vulnerable consumers.



### Home Care Packages

We helped secure additional packages so more older Australians can remain at home.



### Pension age

We fought against the proposal to increase the age to 70 – and won.

1020213969PAR

Thank you for supporting our advocacy campaigns with your membership.

Find out more at  
[nationalseniors.com.au](http://nationalseniors.com.au)



For further information or bookings, please contact: **Lyn ☎ 0459 155 527**  
**All Payments in an envelope with Name, Show & Amount by due date please**  
**Or by direct bank deposit**



## ‘JERSEY BOYS’

**CLOC Musical Theatre Production**  
**National Theatre**  
**Cnr Barkly & Carlisle Street ST KILDA (Melway 2N)**

**SUNDAY 22 May 2022 @ 2.00pm (Matinee)**

Music by Bob Gaudio, Lyrics by Bob Crewe  
and the Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice

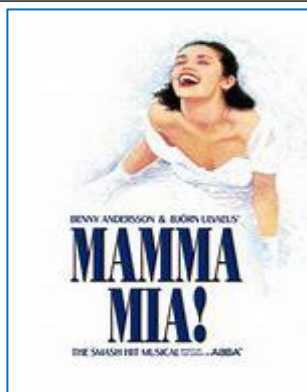
Jersey Boys is a 2005 jukebox musical.

It is presented in a documentary-style format that dramatizes the formation, success and eventual break-up of the 1960s rock 'n' roll group 'The Four Seasons'.

Winner of Best *Musical* at both the Tony Awards® and Olivier Awards®

**COST: \$52.00** (20 Tickets only)

**PAYMENT BY MONDAY 14 March 2022 PLEASE**



## ‘MAMMA MIA’

**Babirra Musical Theatre Production**  
**Karalyka Theatre, Mines Road,**  
**EAST RINGWOOD (Melway 50 A 6)**

**SUNDAY 12 June 2022 @ 2.00pm (Matinee)**

Mamma Mia! is a jukebox musical written by British playwright Catherine Johnson, based on the songs of ABBA composed by Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus, members of the ABBA band.

The title of the musical is taken from the group's 1975 chart-topper "Mamma Mia". Ulvaeus and Andersson, who composed the original music for ABBA, were involved in the development of the show from the beginning. Singer Anni-Frid Lyngstad was involved financially in the production and she was also present at many of the premieres around the world.

**COST: \$44.50** Including 50c booking fee (20 Tickets only)

**PAYMENT BY MONDAY 9 MAY 2022 PLEASE**

Yarra Ranges National Seniors Australia Branch  
Membership Application (NSA ABN 89 050 523 003)

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr First name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**JOINT MEMBER DETAILS**

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr First name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP AND PAYMENT DETAILS**



I/we would like to join for: (please tick) includes GST

- 1 Year  Single \$45  Joint \$75      2 Year  Single \$80  Joint \$125  
5 Year  Single \$195  Joint \$295      Lifetime  Single \$425  Joint \$650

TOTAL PAYABLE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Cheques / Money Order enclosed (payable to: National Seniors Australia)  
 Please charge my credit card:  Visa  Master Card

Card number:

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

NSA respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal information.  
You can view the full details of our privacy statement online at [nationalseniors.com.au](http://nationalseniors.com.au)

- I would like to receive 'My Generation' Magazine by Mail

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