

# National Seniors

## AUSTRALIA

### Melville Branch – April 2022

With most restrictions lifted we are almost back to normal. Won't it be great when we don't have to wear masks when we go shopping. I have tried several different masks and when I got new glasses a few weeks ago I found that the cheaper mask was fogging the new glasses up terribly. I had ordered the recommended KN95 masks online and by luck they came in the post the same afternoon. I now wished I had gone to the expense of buying the medical grade masks from the outset. They don't fog my glasses and are much more comfortable to wear. I do have 5 packs of 10 masks and if anyone is interested, they can purchase a pack from me for \$10.00.

The breakfast at the Shelley foreshore was again a great success and I would like to thank Helen for arranging all the food, and Ken and John for slaving over the BBQ. I know a number of other members contributed on the day and I would also like to thank those people.

### MEETING ATTENDANCE FEES

**Payment:** Just a gentle reminder, that if you are paying in cash for the meeting, please place your \$8 in an envelope, clearly marked with your name, amount and Meeting (e.g.: Mary Smith, \$8, meeting).

Please note there is no change available

### PROOF OF COVID VACCINATION

It would be much appreciated if members could wear their name badge and for those who have already had their vaccination checked, you should keep the red dot on the badge. If you have not kept your red dot make sure that you get another one and place it on your name badge and keep on for future meetings. Also, if this is your first meeting, then you will need to produce your vaccination certificate and a red dot will be supplied.

If you are immune compromised a fourth injection is now recommended 4 months after receiving your third injection

## **LUNCH ORDERS AT RAAFA ON MEETING DAY**

As was arranged for our March meeting, if you want to receive your meal in a timely manner you will be able to go up and pre-order your meal in the morning tea break.

## **PBS PRESCRIPTIONS and MEDICAL THRESHOLD**

In the 2022 Federal Budget speech the Treasurer announced that the threshold would be reduced. However, he did not provide any details. I also found a press release put out by the Health Minister and again, while he referred to a reduction in the threshold, he did not provide any details. I have now found the following information on the internet.

As of July 1, the PBS safety net threshold will be reduced to \$244.80 (down from \$326.40) for concession card holders and \$1,457.10 (down from \$1,542.10) for general patients.

While the PBS threshold has been reduced the government has increased the threshold for out-of-pocket medical costs.

The following is the new rate for pensioners

Thresholds	Threshold amount	Who it's for	What counts towards the threshold	What benefit you'll get back
Extended Medicare Safety Net (EMSN) - Concessional and Family Tax Benefit Part A	<b>\$717.90</b>	Concession cardholders and families eligible for Family Tax Benefit Part A	Your out-of-pocket amount for the calendar year.	80% of out-of-pocket costs or the EMSN benefits caps for out of hospital services.

## **Containers for Change**

As result of members bringing in containers to the February and March meetings, we received \$36.80 taking the total for the year to \$88.40. Well done members! Keep up the good work.

## **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April – METRONET - The speaker will give an overview of the construction of the Mandurah rail service via Canning Vale and Thornlie. A number of members attended the Zone Conference last year and the METRONET speaker gave an overview of the construction of the rail line to High Wycombe. This was very interesting and I am sure the presentation to the April Branch meeting will be just as informative.

## OUTINGS

### **Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of November-** Bentley Pines Restaurant

In order to secure a booking of our choice, Bentley Pines Training restaurant has been booked for their lunch Christmas menu for 11.30 on 25/11/22

It is a 4-course set Christmas menu with tea and coffee and includes the **first** drink of wine, beer, soft/juice for \$35.00 per person. A \$10.00 deposit **per person** is required. This will need to be paid at the April meeting to Helen our wonderful social organizer.

If you would like to attend this event, please place your **\$10 deposit in an envelope** (CASH ONLY no cheques) with your name, amount enclosed and the function, eg: Mary Smith, \$10, Pines. Alternatively, you can also pay by EFT to our Bank account : 036-084:434141. Please mark your transfer with your last name and PINES.

**The balance of \$25 is to be paid no later than the August meeting.**

### THEATRE VISITS, Etc (Lorelie)

#### **Thursday 12 May - MELVILLE THEATRE CO. - 8 P.M. \$20**

**"FIREBRINGER" the Stone Age Musical.** Colourful cult-favourite musical comedy.

Chinese Banquet at Golden Gate at 6 p.m. \$25

**Names and payment at our meeting on 26th April.**

## SENIOR JOKES for APRIL

### A SWEET GRANDMOTHER

A sweet grandmother telephoned St. Joseph's Hospital. She timidly asked, "Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?" The operator said, "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number of the patient?"

The grandmother in her weak, tremulous voice said, Norma Findlay, Room 302." The operator replied, "Let me put you on hold while I check with the nurse's station for that room."

After a few minutes, the operator returned to the phone and said, "I have good news. Her nurse just told me that Norma is doing well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood work just came back normal and her Physician, Dr. Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged tomorrow."

The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful. I was so worried. God bless you for the good News."

The operator replied, "You're more than welcome. Is Norma your daughter?"

The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in Room 302. No one tells me shit."

## **Married Four Times**

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time.

The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation. "He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought... He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now - in her 80's - a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

**(Wait for it...)**

- She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

## **A Perfect Marriage?**

A man and woman had been married for more than 60 years. They had shared everything. They had talked about everything. They had kept no secrets from each other, except that the little old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she had cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.

For all of these years, he had never thought about the box, but one day, the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would not recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside.

She agreed that it was time that he should know what was in the box. When he opened it, he found two crocheted dolls and a stack of money totalling \$95,000.

He asked her about the contents. "When we were to be married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doll."

The little old man was so moved; he had to fight back tears. Only two precious dolls were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with happiness.

"Honey," he said, "that explains the dolls, but what about all of this money? Where did it come from?"

"Oh," she said. "That's the money I made from selling the dolls."

## Les Davey President

POSITION	NAME	HOME - Mobile	PHONE - Home	EMAIL
President	Les Davey	0412 709 806		<a href="mailto:les.davey@bigpond.com">les.davey@bigpond.com</a>
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Treasurer	Sally McCartney	0405 171 363		<a href="mailto:sally.mccartney@gmail.com">sally.mccartney@gmail.com</a>
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Speakers	John McCartney	0405 171 363		<a href="mailto:jamboj@westnet.com.au">jamboj@westnet.com.au</a>

Associations Registration Number – A1006794T

Branch's Westpac account details BSB 036084 and Account Number 434141



## **Dates of Melville NSA Events 2022**

Tuesday 26 April - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Monday 9th May – Committee Meeting - Lorelie

Tuesday 24 May - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Tuesday 28 June - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Committee Meeting – Sally and John

Tuesday 26 July - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Tuesday 23 August - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September – Committee Meeting – Ken and Margaret

Tuesday 27 September - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Tuesday 25 October - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Committee Meeting - Ann

Tuesday 22 November - 10.00am – Branch Meeting

Friday 25 November – 12.00pm – Bentley Pines Restaurant

Thursday 8 December – 12.00pm – Branch Christmas Lunch