NSA News: Stop dithering on older people's rights

Federal Parliament urged to stop delaying action on aged care reform.

Older Australians are urging a bipartisan approach from Federal Government and Opposition to urgently introduce a new rights-based Aged Care Act.

NSA is among a group of organisations representing older Australians and their carers calling for the Aged Care Act to be introduced into federal Parliament this sitting. If this happens, laws can be passed this year to address the neglect in aged care and stop putting the rights of older people at risk. Along with NSA, the organisations working with older Australians and their carers include Australian Independent Retirees, Carers Australia, COTA, Dementia Australia, Elder Abuse Action Australia and many others. Each group has written to both federal Government and Opposition urging them to act now to protect the rights of older Australians in aged care and introduce the Act so it can have proper parliamentary and public scrutiny.

COTA Australia CEO, Patricia Sparrow, said the promises both parties made Australians about bipartisan actions are welcome and important, but the time is running out for the promises to be delivered. "It's been more then 3 years since the Royal Commission into Aged Care heard countless harrowing stories of abuse and neglect in aged care, yet older people are still waiting for new rights-based Aged Care Act to be introduced," she said. "Every story heard during the Royal Commission, and the stories from decades before, differ slightly, but the fundamental thread was a lack of dignity, respect, and basic rights. "Both parties know that the reform we need requires the underpinning of a new Aged Care Act, yet for some reason we are still waiting for the Act to be introduced and debated.

"It is now time for the Government and Opposition to legislate rights as the bedrock of an aged care system that values and respects older people," Ms Sparrow said.

NSA CEO, Chris Grice, added, "Enshrining the basic rights of older people in a new Aged Care Act was a primary recommendation of the Aged Care Royal Commission. It is a fundamental step needed to address the many issues in aged care," he said. A new Aged Care Act is essential to provide the foundation for future reforms, such as the new Support at Home program slated to begin on July 2025," CEO of Older Persons Advocacy Network, Craig Gear, said older people want to see a multipartisan approach towards fairer funding in the Aged Care Act. As a very minimum, Mr Gear said, we need to see a new, rights-based Aged Care Act which include a commitment to Support at Home, introduced and passed this year. "Older people have waited far too long for their rights to be enshrined in legislation," he said. "Without this act passed, we don't have the promised increase in protection for older people and, honestly, we don't have viable and sustainable aged care providers. There's no doubt when it comes to aged care in this country, business as usual is unacceptable," Mr gear added "This needs to be above politics. Older Australians, and their voting families will hold both parties responsible if we don't see action to introduce the Aged Care Act and improve the system quickly.

Professor Tanya Buchanan ' CEO of Dementia Australia, said, "We need a system that is fair, transparent, affordable and has the needs and rights of older Australians at the centre of it. "This reform is about changing the aged care culture to be focused on older people . Older people have been consulted, they've contributed, and they waited long enough—now they need to see action.

Old Age:Do not complain about growing old, many are denied this privilege. By the time you reach 75years of age you've learnt everything. All you have to do is try and remember it.

National Seniors

Modbury Branch Newsletter

September 2024

Issue 225



Branch Diary Guest speakers

<u>16th Sept.</u>	Scams Alert	(Michael Bamton)	(AGM)
<u>21st. Oct.</u>	Bangers and M	ash (entertainm	ient)
18 th . Nov.	Christmas Lunc	h Windsor I	lotel
Modbury NS/	A 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

	2023 & 2024	
President	Susan Boyle	0410 500 779
Vice President	Piero Fioretti	0423 784 050
Secretary	Bruce Anderson	0449 574 554
Treasurer	Heather Murphy	8365 6002
Assist. Treasurer	Alastair Boyle	
Activities Officer	Rosalie Zurek	8264 9681
Guest Speakers (interim)	Rosalie Zurek	0416 010 329
Welfare	Ray Zurek	u
Extra Member (1)	Robyn Neate	0408 496 305
Extra Member (2)	Mary Fioretti	
Ex Officio. Public Officer	John Fellows	
Door	Eric Schubert & Mary F	ioretti
Greeter	Beverly Anderson	
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 likeminded 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: What flies forever, rests never? What am I?

Interesting fact: Viagra was developed to treat angina!

Grandma's Wit and Wisdom: in Youth study, in maturity compose, in old age correct! <u>Please wear your nametag at all meetings and Outings!!!!!</u>

Forthcoming events for 2024

Monday 18th NOv. Christmas Lunch, Windsor Hotel 410 N.E Road Windsor Gardens Seniors Christmas lunch \$25.90, 2 course meal with salad/vegetable bar, Raffle!!

Sept. Birthdays: Marlene Crossman(1), Jeanine McKenzie(6), Mary Fioretti(18), Ron Murphy(26), Andrea Randell(27), Liz Gillman(26), Piero Fioretti(30), Vin Wright(28) Paul Daniel(30),

Anniversaries: Margaret & John Fellow (21/9)

Congratulations and Best Wishes to All !!!

^^^^

Wendys Story (too funny not to be passed on).

Yesterday I was at Costco buying a bag of Purina Dog Chow for my loyal pet, Necco, the Wonder Dog, which weighs 54 kgs. I was at the checkout line when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog. What? Did she think I had an Elephant? So because I'm tired having to mess with people, so on impulse I told her that no, I didn't have a dog, I was starting my Purina Diet again. I added that I probably shouldn't because last time I ended up in the hospital, but I had lost 23 kgs before I awakened in intensive care with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVF's in both my arms .I told her that it was essentially a Perfect Diet and the way that it works that you load your jacket pockets with Purina Nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in line was now enthralled in my story).

Horrified, she asked me if I ended up in intensive care because the dog food poisoned me .I told her no, I stopped to Pee on a Fire Hydrant and a car hit me. I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard.

Costco won't let me shop there anymore . Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of crazy things to say.

Pass this on to all your retired friends, it will be their laugh for the day.

