

National Seniors

AUSTRALIA

Perth Western Suburbs WA

Branch Newsletter - February 2025

Meeting Venue : Our Branch meets at 9.30am for 10.00am on the second Thursday of each month at Mount Claremont Community Centre, 109 Montgomery Avenue, Mount Claremont WA 6010.

Bank Account : Westpac Bank in name of National Seniors Australia Perth Western Suburbs Branch ;

BSB: 036 063 Account: 257852

When making payment, please identify by your name & type of payment – e.g. “Concert”, etc.

Website :

<https://nationalseniors.com.au/about/branches/perth-western-suburbs>

Our meetings may be subject to the COVID-19 regulations of the day as imposed by the WA State Government and the City of Nedlands. However, there are presently no restrictions.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Members of Perth Western Suburbs Branch of National Seniors Australia wish to acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Whadjuk Noongar Nation, on whose Lands we conduct our meetings, and pay our respects to the Noongar Elders past and present.

BRANCH OFFICERS FOR 2024/2025

President: Joseph Lieberfreund 0429 809.080
president@nsaperthws.org.au

Vice Pres: David Thomas 0418 448 933
vicepresident@nsaperthwa.org.au

Secretary; Derek Cockle 0417 939 420
secretary@nsaperthws.org.au

Treasurer: Larry McIntosh 0416 161 816
treasurer@nsaperthws.org.au

Membership: Marion Laws 08 9387 8383
membership@nsaperthws.org.au

Newsletter: Derek Cockle (Temporary)

We thank Christine Tonkin MP for enabling this newsletter to be printed.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

First of all – best wishes to all our members for a very happy, healthy & enjoyable New Year !

I would like to thank Viv Partridge for stepping in to prepare our last December Newsletter. Unfortunately she has advised that she cannot continue, so I've temporarily taken back the reins to prepare this edition to ensure you all get our latest Branch news !

Contributions to me for the next March edition would be much appreciated – **closing date Fri 28 Feb.**

Derek J Cockle

Branch Secretary & Editor,

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



As we start the new year it is very pleasing to see some fresh initiatives and diversification in our activities take shape. In planning for this year are:

- Good range of interesting speakers;
- Tours and social activities;
- Science interest group;
- Gardening and native flora interest group;
- Music concerts

Our tour volunteers are well advanced into preparing a wonderful array of interesting tours and trips this year. This is augmented by having access to a specially fitted out 20-seater bus made available by Retirees WA for our use.

Our gardening and wildflower interest group will be headed by Sabrinah Hahn who has agreed to give three presentations to us, starting in the second half of his year.

Our science interest group is in the planning stages and more to come on this.

Four music concerts are planned in April, August, October and December. The first two will be quartets at Mount Claremont Community Hall while the last two will be at Churchlands SHS auditorium. The October concert will celebrate our Association Branch 20th Anniversary and will include a world premiere of a short composition by the incredibly talented

14-year-old Ellie Malonzo who will perform at this concert.

All of these initiatives depend on their success on your participation and support and I am sure that you will find something to interest you. I hope that you will feel happy to participate in the activities we are planning for the coming year.

Joseph Lieberfreund

Branch President

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the following fourteen new members who have joined our branch over the last three months :-

Jennifer Allan, Evelyn Barrett, Kevan Barrett, Janelle & Patrick Dubois, Gale Martin, Mary Yates, Deb Haynes, Di Blesing, Karen & Richard Whiting, Pamela Keenan, Kathy Gale & Paula James.

We look forward to meeting you all at our forthcoming Branch meetings throughout 2025.

Many of these new members attended a very pleasant morning tea with our Committee members at Membership Secretary Marion Law's home in Floreat Park on Thurs 9th January. Many thanks to Marion for her hospitality !



New members & Committee enjoying morning tea at Marion Laws home in Floreat Park



President Joseph Lieberfreund outlined his meeting and special event plans for the forthcoming year, including a number of possible bus tours, social lunches, dinners and several concerts. Further details will be published soon.

NEXT BRANCH MEETING - THURS 13 FEB 2025 – Our guest speaker will be Prof. Nick Beeching whose topic will be “Traveler’s Tales – what to catch & where to catch it”. Let’s hope it will not be infectious, apart from the humour. This talk will include medical anecdotes and travel advice for a non-medical audience.



Prof Beeching is a medical specialist in tropical and infectious diseases and was Emeritus Professor of Tropical and Infectious Diseases at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK), before retiring from clinical practice and emigrating to Perth in November 2022.

LOOKING AHEAD

Thurs 20 Feb - Claremont Golf Course T Box Café –These social afternoon tea meetings are organised by Marion Laws, however the

meeting may be held in the morning if hot weather is forecast.

Branch Meeting – Thurs 13 March – Speaker will be **Ian Stann** who will give an informative talk, the first part of which is titled "If Switzerland Ran Australia" about the political system in Switzerland which is called Direct Democracy. It highlights how the Swiss have ALL the parties in Government at the same time and participating in running the country. They have no OPPOSITION as all parties are involved in running the Government. This stops the angst we see on a daily basis with our Govt in Canberra and all the theatre that goes with it, while very little REAL POLICY is developed.

The next part of his talk will be on the BIG 5 industry groups, which comprise High Tech. The Swiss participate in many of these while we participate in none which results in us relying on service jobs in Australia e.g., retail, aged care, security, fast food and deliveries to keep our economy going. This results in casual jobs and low pay and where little training is needed. (Hence the constant need for skilled migrants as we do not have the youth training in place, unlike Switzerland).

Branch Meeting – Thurs 10 April - Speaker will be Alan Naber who will share his experiences of walking the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

SOCIAL & SPECIAL EVENTS



A PRESENTATION BY AN ICONIC AUSTRALIAN ORGANISATION
ROYAL FLYING DOCTORS
PLUS
"DEALING WITH DEMENTIA"
PRESENTER ONE: LARR ROSE (ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE WESTERN OPERATIONS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR)
PRESENTER TWO: BARB SMITH (RESOURCES NURSE AND DEMENTIA CONSULTANT)
Monday 10 February
9.45am (for 10am start) in the Floreat Salvation Army Lower hall
Cost \$5 (Includes entry fee and morning tea)
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED so be quick to book your spot
RSVP essential
Malcolm 0418906478 OR nola.gaff@btinternet.com
01 gary.armstrong2@salvationarmy.org.au

Salvos/Cambridge Council 55+Club Event – Mon 10 Feb – We have been invited to attend an address by Larr Rose from Royal Flying Doctor Service on their work in W.A. and Barbara Smith on “Dealings with Dementia”.

See information below and Marion Law's recent email to all members.

Meeting is held in Salvo's Hall in Brookdale St Floreat commencing at 9.45 for 10 am. Payment of \$5 can be made by cash on the day.

Note – Further information and registration must be to Malcolm Goff of Salvo's on 0418 906 478 or email nolagoff@hotmail.com (NOT to NSA)

REMINDERS

Please find and wear your name badges to Branch meetings as I'm not that good at remembering all your names. Also please PRINT the name of your emergency contact and phone number on the back of your name badge, just in case we need to contact that person or persons in the event that you may be taken ill, as happened at a Branch meeting earlier last year.

Another repeat plea to enlist the help of two or three able-bodied members to help set up chairs, tables, etc., from 9 am prior to each Branch meeting. At present this is being done by only a couple of struggling not-so-young people and they would appreciate some help !

A final plea – a volunteer new Editor with some experience of word processing to prepare future editions of this Newsletter – initial assistance will be available !

Just to finish with a smile

CREATION

God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael the archangel, found him resting on the seventh day. He inquired "Where have you been?"

Looking down through the clouds, God said "Look, Michael, look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled, and said, "What is it?"

"It's a planet," replied God and I've put life on it. I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a place to test 'Balance.'"

"Balance?" inquired Michael, "I'm still confused."

God explained, pointing to different parts of Earth.

"For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while southern Europe is going to be poor. Over here I've placed a continent of white people, and over there is a continent of black people - balance in all things..."

God continued pointing to different countries, "This one will be extremely hot, while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a land area and said "What's that one?"

"That's Perth, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful trees and gardens, a beautiful river, and days filled with sunshine. The people from Perth are going to be handsome, modest, intelligent and humorous and they are going to travel the world. They will be extremely sociable, hardworking, high achieving, carriers of peace and producers of good things."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration, but then asked "But what about balance, God? You said there would be "balance."

God smiled "I will create Canberra - wait till you see the idiots I'll put there....."

Unitl next time

Derek J Cackle

Branch Secretary & Editor