

# National Seniors

## AUSTRALIA

### Perth Western Suburbs WA

## Newsletter September 2024

Perth Western Suburbs Branch usually 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: National Seniors Australia

Perth Western Suburbs Branch

BSB 036 063

Account 257852

Our website is:

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

Our meetings are currently subject to the COVID-19 regulations of the day as imposed by the WA State Government and the City of Nedlands. 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.*

### **2023-2024 Officers:**

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

### **FROM THE EDITORS FLOREAT DESK**

Here it is folks, my final Editorial, the first one having been in October 2018, and I hope that I have issued a few words of wisdom and a bit of levity over the past 7 years. It's been a steep learning curve with the odd blunder along the way, and I don't know where it will sit in my CV, - probably don't go looking for a position as a journalist!

The September Branch meeting, which will be preceded by the AGM, likely of the late John Dingle (RIP) type brevity, will again feature Geoffrey Thomas, imparting words of wisdom on happenings in the sky.

Later in the month will be another of Joseph's concerts where he will be going for a crowd-puller on the big stage. Being a one-time, would-be clarinetist, I am hopeful that the performer on the day, pulls out all stops on the Mozart Clarinet Concerto, a favourite of mine.

Best wishes to all, from Terry Middleton

## RECENT EVENTS

### Branch Meeting Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>

The first event was the presentation of a commemorative plaque by WA Lotteries West for the grant of \$10,000 to Joseph Lieberfreund, Director of NSA Music, by Katrina Stratton MP representing the State Seat of Nedlands. This will enable further concerts to be held.



### Dr Katrina Stratton MP & Joseph Lieberfreund

The principal Guest Speaker was Jon Broomhall, Assistant Commissioner of Metropolitan Operations for the WA Dept of Fire and Emergency Services.

**Secretary Derek Cockle** continues – “A senior leader and highly experienced strategic commander with over 30 years extensive urban and rural fire-fighting experience in all ranks, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of DFES. We were surprised to learn that his Department is not only involved in what was originally known as the “Fire Brigade”, attending to property and bushfires throughout the State, but also for rescue operations on land sea and air. It is often involved in co-operation with Water Police, Volunteer Marine Rescue and aerial fire retardant dropping.



### Jon Broomhall, Dept of Fire & Emergency Services

“DFES is supported by some 29,000 emergency services and 1,249 career firefighters.

“Jon is personally responsible for 25 career and 13 volunteer Fire and Rescue Service Stations, 19 State emergency Service Units and 4 Volunteer Fire Service Brigades across the Metropolitan area. He leads the State and Metropolitan Operations Centre during times of emergencies, including natural Hazards, throughout Western Australia”.

## PAST SOCIAL EVENTS

**Wonderful Wattles Walk, Kings Park Aug 21<sup>st</sup>.** If anyone else called up the KP visitor centre, like your editor, you would have been informed that it had been cancelled – no explanation, sorry about that!

**Subsidised Rottnest Ferry Excursion.** This was available up to August 18<sup>th</sup> and our Judith Lauri plus a number of (more adventurous) Perth Branch NSA members did brave the stormy seas. Judith’s report follows.

### ROTTNEST DAYTRIP

On 13 August 2024, the Perth Branch of National Seniors organised a day trip to Rottnest to take advantage of \$30 ferry fares for WA Seniors subsidized by the State Government until 18 August 2024. Fifteen of their members and myself went on the trip. The weather forecast was for rain and this put some people off going, however the Weather Gods smiled and other than a ten minute shower while on the 30 minute ferry going over to Rottnest, the rain then held off until I had just walked in my front door after catching the return ferry, a train to Cottesloe and walking home.

The day started with morning tea at Rottnest, provided by the Perth branch. Like our wonderful morning teas this one had sandwiches but instead of our famous scones, the Acting President Adolph de Souza had got up early to make delicious samosas to go with tea or coffee.

None of us had brought bikes nor were we interested in hiring them and instead we did the Hop On Hop Off bus tour of the island. The buses go every 20 minutes and the fare for seniors is \$22 which covers unlimited trips for 1 day.

After returning to the main settlement, we shared lunch. After this some went to the chapel, others decided to get on the bus again and I went to view the Wadjemup Museum. The free museum, staffed by volunteers, is in the Old Mill and Hay Store and exhibits cover the 40,000 year history of the island, including artefacts from the time when the island was connected to the mainland as well as more recent photos and exhibits of post-colonisation times when the island was an Aboriginal prison. There are audio and film displays giving stories of imprisonment, natural history, and arts and culture, as well as contemporary milestones of the island.

After a quick coffee, it was time to catch the ferry home. Once again Perth Branch deserve thanks for sharing their outings with our members.

**Judith Lauri**

## **VISIT TO W.A. HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, MON, MAY 27th**

Several NSA Branch members attended a most interesting tour of Parliament House organised by the Floreat Branch of Salvation Army in conjunction with 55 Plus Club, supported by the Town of Cambridge.

We initially gathered at the Salvo's and were taken in their very comfortable bus right to the Parliament entry doors for a short tour of Reception areas and then enjoyed and appreciated their extensive morning tea & refreshments. Our official guide then conducted us through the many corridors of members facilities and then through both Houses. A couple of bold members even sitting in the Speaker and Premier's chairs, but fortunately they were not permitted to regale us with any longwinded speeches !!

One interesting picture on the corridor walls caught our eyes – I believe it depicts the first female aboriginal Member of Parliament addressing the House. if you look very carefully, you will note that all the member faces are those of aboriginals !! Several members appear to have nodded off, or are about to !!

Sincere thanks to Salvo organisers Malcolm & Nola Goff for their hospitality.



**WA Legislative Assembly, 1950's (?)**

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

**AGM & Branch Meeting, Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 9.30 for 10.00am.** At the Mt Claremont Community Centre, the present committee will be dissolved and a new committee chosen.

After morning tea, we will welcome our customary "moving day" guest speaker, Geoffrey Thomas, who will take the podium and present on all things aviation. So, bring along your questions.

In the event of specific officer-ships not being fixed on the day, the first Committee Meeting will likely be held on September 26<sup>th</sup> (TBA) and positions allocated.

**NSA Music Spring Concert, at Paul Latham Auditorium, Churchlands Senior High School, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 10.00am. Price \$15. Bookings on Eventbrite or email [joseph@airbell.com.au](mailto:joseph@airbell.com.au)**. The orchestra comprises students from the UWA music school, as usual, and the principal works are the universally popular Mozart's Clarinet Concerto and Haydn's "Farewell" Symphony. Tickets may also be purchased at the Sept 12th branch meeting.

## **FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS etc**

**Marion's T-Box afternoon tea, Lake Claremont golf course, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month, next Sep 19<sup>th</sup>, 2pm.** Last one on, Aug 15<sup>th</sup> attracted 18 for our refreshments and good cheer. Call Marion.

**Alzheimer's Disease Discussion with Prof Ralph Martins, 6.30- 8.00pm, at Boulevard North Room, Ground Floor, Cambridge Library, Floreat.**  
Information from Lions flyer, emailed separately, book via the Q-code.

**Australian Independent Retirees October Monthly meeting, Friday Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 10am, Cambridge Bowling Club, Chandler Ave, Floreat.**  
The Guest Speaker, will be Nick Bruining, financial consultant, presenting on Financial Planning for Aged Care. Visitors \$5, just roll-up with welcome by Margaret Walsh.