

NEXT BRANCH MEETING: Tuesday 12th MARCH 2024 10am, at the Kalamunda Church of Christ Multifunction Centre, 22 Mileti Road, Lesmurdie.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	
Richard Arnold: President 0407 945 465	Clare Arnold: Social Planner 0407 945 465
Tony Crowder: Vice President 9257 2520	Maureen Moffett: Speaker Planner 0427 084 422
Chris Milne: Secretary 0475 582 118	Noreen Townsend: Newsletter Editor 0418 952 076
Patricia Skinner: Treasurer 0428 611 835	

Arleen Quinn: Branch Policy Advisor Group (PAG) Representative: 0402 272 868

GUEST SPEAKER: PETER SNOW OAM, Director, Special Projects, Jacees Foundation Ltd.

SUBJECT : 'From Derelict to Iconic and... Beyond!'

Hear the remarkable story behind Australia's last whaling station – the restoration and creation of a tourism icon. The derelict whaling station in Albany was gifted to the Jacees Foundation in 1980 and is now one of the region's major tourism drawcards.

Since then, this community project has contributed more than \$40 million to Albany's economy and was gifted to the local community by the Jacees in December 2022.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR MARCH, APRIL & MAY

Mystery Tour – Minimum of 40 members required for this outing to proceed. At present, only 32 members have their names down. Final decision to be made at the March Branch meeting.

If you are interested give Clare or Richard a call on 0407 945 465 and pay at the March meeting.

Thursday, 21st March, Departing ex TOTH at 9:00 am. This Mystery tour has 3 brand new places and a 4th that was a favourite. Not bad when you think about it with so many places either doing reduced openings, while some have even closed. We know you will have a fun day on this trip. We had never been to any of the 3 new places we will visit on this trip, we found all three to be very different, but all have one common denominator, and you guessed right, I am not going to tell you because it will no longer be a mystery trip. As always, we have tried to get something to suit all tastes. Maybe not everyone will have the same amount of interest in all 4 places, but I can guarantee you will find them different in their own way and worth the visit, and all the while being in shroud of mystery. Return to Kalamunda by 4.00pm.

Cost includes Coach, morning tea, 1 course lunch, entry fees. Min 40

Cost \$ 63.00 pp. Note can you please pay \$65.00 pp and we will give you a \$2.00 coin as change, this makes things much easier for Sheila and Glenda. Thank you.

HMAS Stirling Naval Base & Rockingham tour.

Tuesday, 16th April, Departing ex TOTH at 9:00 am. Depart Kalamunda and travel to Wells Park, the sight of the Kwinana Wreck, for a morning cuppa and cake, before travelling to HMAS Stirling Naval Base for a guided tour of the Garden Island Base, the different port facilities, and the lookout. We will enjoy a light lunch in the Base canteen before visiting the museum. Following a short comfort stop at a local park on the Rockingham foreshore, we will return back to Kalamunda by 4:00pm. Includes Coach, morning tea and light lunch. Min. 40. **Cost \$ 50 pp**

NSA Kalamunda Branch - 3 day Vines, River and Sea tour.

Tuesday 22nd October 2024

Day 1 Depart Kalamunda 8.30am travel to our 2nd pick up at the Maida Vale Shopping Centre car park to join our Foothills members then via Roe Highway to Clarko Reserve on the coast for a morning cuppa and cake. Travel to Hillary's for a visit to the amazing Aqwa for a chance to enjoy the spectacular creatures of the deep. (Lift available) Continuing north to Mindarie for our 2 course lunch at the Union Kitchen restaurant on the Marina. We travel to Two Rocks and a trip down memory lane of the Atlantis days. We will visit Mary Lindsay Homestead on the old Wydgee Pastoral Company that was Yancheop Station before Alan Bond purchased it for his Atlantis dream. Continue to the lovely Vines Resort our home for the next 2 nights, arriving about 4.30pm. Time for a stroll in the gardens before dinner.

Overnight Vines Resort in the Swan Valley.

Day 2 After breakfast we depart at 8.30am and travel to Gingin for some cake and a cuppa in Grenville Park. (Waterwheel) We travel to Guilderton at the mouth of the Moore River to join the local tour boat for a pleasant cruise up the Moore River. We reboard the coach and travel to Seabird and our 2 course lunch at the oceanside Seabird Tavern. Travel south on Indian Ocean Drive to Yancheop Beach Rd and the Yancheop Lavendar Farm, in Carabooda for an inspection of the farm area and distillery before enjoying a delightful lavender flavoured treat. We continue to the Vines arriving about 4.30pm. After dinner we will have a Quiz night so sharpen your pencils, we will have prizes.

Overnight Vines Resort in the Swan Valley.

Day 3 Following breakfast we check out of our rooms then enjoy a game of *Mini Golf at the Vines fantastic course*. It's all about having some fun with prizes to celebrate winners and to cheer up the not so successful. Each person will be given a voucher for morning tea/coffee plus muffin or sausage roll, you can choose when to enjoy it at the Greenside Café. We depart the Vines late morning and travel to the fascinating Whiteman Park, where we will enjoy a trip into the past with a ride on the Bennett Brook Railway, before enjoying our 2 course lunch at the Village Café. Time to explore the many shops particularly the Handcraft Centre, which is full of amazing goodies, the Print shop where you can see the fascinating old printing presses still being used today and of course the lolly shop with its sweets from the past plus as many other attractions as time permits. We will travel home via Maida Vale 4.15pm to Kalamunda approx. 4.30pm.

Cost includes All Coach travel, Vines Resort accommodation with full breakfast, 3 Lunches, 2 Vines Resort dinners, 3 Morning teas, All entries, Moore River cruise, Bennett Brook train ride.

Cost Per Person - Twin share. Min 30 \$718.00 Min 35 \$707.00 Min 40 \$681.00.
Single supplement \$176.00 Deposit \$100.00pp to confirm booking.

Note If you are interested in joining this tour, you should confirm your place with a \$100,00 per person deposit at the March Meeting.

President's notes March 2024

Well, we had our first meeting for the year and though it was a very hot day 69 members and 2 visitors attended. Once again Maureen had arranged a great speaker and though she frightened the daylight out of most of us with tales of frauds and scams, she provided us all with some very important information on how to recognize scams and how to get rid of them.

Morning tea was special, pikelets to recognize that it was Shrove Tuesday (pancake day) and were provided by 6 members. Thank you, ladies, I know we all enjoyed the treat.

There were a lot of apologies, mostly because of ill health plus the Pember's had a tree blown down overnight. I hope those suffering health and injury problems are recovering and will be able to attend the March meeting, and that Neil and Margaret's tree was successfully disposed of.

I attended a BNF meeting recently and much of the discussion was in relation to the proposed visit from Chris Grice CEO and Karen Furnivall community engagement manager from head office to discuss local matters and any new developments nationally. The meeting is on the 11th of March (venue to be advised) at 1.00PM for three hours including a coffee break. There will be room for a limited number of branch members to attend so if you are interested let me know.

On the evening of Friday 15th of March there will be a Concert featuring music from the 60s 70s and 80s performed by the talented duo Fenton and Mel at the Romancing the Stone Gardens. This concert has a very special motive and that is to raise funds for a young lady who at the age 3 had both her legs removed as a consequent of Meningococcal Septicemia and because of the particular circumstances of her condition, she has not been able to have prosthetic limbs fitted. In a desire to establish some form of independence she is desperate to learn to drive. This would mean the purchase of a special car, and this will cost \$55,000 dollars. All proceeds from the show will go to this most deserving cause. Just imagine yourself sitting under the lovely big trees, surrounded by a beautiful garden after a hot day listening to great music and even being provided with supper. Though it is not usually done, we are able to reserve seats so we can sit as a group.

If you are interested give Clare or myself a call on 0407 945 465 and pay us at the March meeting. If you have already booked and would like to join the group, give us a call. We have already taken some bookings from members that have heard in advance about what we are doing.

Be sure to read the article on banking that Arlene has provided, I'm sure you will find it very interesting. We will discuss it further at the next meeting.

All for now, see you on the 12th.

Richard

Arlene Quinn article

The Dawn of a Cashless Society and the Decline of ATMs

In the digital age, the traditional banking system is undergoing a significant transformation. One of the most notable changes is the gradual phasing out of cash and the reduction of Automated Teller Machines (ATMs). In my own city of Kalamunda there remains only one bank, and all of the ATMs available charge if you use them or are another bank customer.

The Shift Towards Digital Transactions

The rise of digital transactions has been fuelled by the proliferation of smartphones, high-speed internet, and innovative financial technologies. These advancements have made it possible for consumers to make purchases, pay bills, and transfer money with just a few taps on their screens. As a result, the need for physical cash has diminished. This has the potential to impact on a myriad of current opportunities elders choose to share cash in families from tooth fairies offerings; physical saving in glass jars, through to teaching budgeting.

The Decline of ATMs

As digital transactions become more prevalent, the number of ATMs has started to decline. Banks are finding it less cost-effective to maintain these machines, given the high operational costs associated with them, including maintenance, cash replenishment, and security. Furthermore, ATMs are often targeted by criminals, adding to the security costs. Recent media exposure about elderly being asked, and escorted outside to use ATMs instead of having a bank clerk unavailable illustrates there is either a limited skill capacity in other bank staff to know how to distribute cash, or a deliberate attempt to safeguard a vulnerable elder to attack on a busy street corner. Either way the optics look bad, how easier it could be to dispense cash within the safe confines of a bank.

The Impact on Society

While the move towards a cashless society offers numerous benefits, including convenience and improved transaction speeds, it also raises several concerns. One of the primary concerns is the potential exclusion of those who do not have access to digital banking services, such as the elderly and the

economically disadvantaged. Therefore, it's crucial for governments and financial institutions to ensure that this transition is inclusive and does not leave anyone behind.

The Future of Banking

The future of banking lies in digital transformation. However, the transition should be gradual and considerate of all societal segments. While the decline of ATMs symbolizes the end of an era, it also marks the beginning of a new one - an era where financial transactions are seamless, quick, and predominantly digital.

In conclusion, the phasing out of cash and the reduction of ATMs is a clear indication of the changing landscape of the banking industry. As we move towards a more digitalised world, it's essential to ensure that these changes benefit everyone in society.

Article written by A.I and Arlene Quinn WA Policy Group member Feb 2024

A Dog called Bonny

A Dog called wag A rudder Bom Boush lop eared pooch (Bonny for short)

In the late 1940s my family returned to Australia from the UK and purchased a farm in Redland Bay Queensland. It had been abandoned for some time. We found that two dogs had been left to fend for themselves. They were brother and sister about 9 months old. The male was given to a neighbor, and we kept the female and Mum gave her the name as featured above.

Bonny proved to have two particular attributes they were, the ability to drop 10 to 12 pups on a regular basis, plus the ability to hunt and kill black snakes which were common in Southern Queensland at that time. As Bonny's reputation for disposing of snakes spread getting rid of the pups got easier, people lined up to take them hoping they also had the ability to dispose of the snakes.

Bonny's natural mothering instinct (she never lost any of her litters) was extended to myself as I was 3 years of age and liked nothing more than to roam around the various farm properties that Mum and Dad bought and as Bonny went wherever I went, the folks felt that I was in good hands so to speak. More than once the dog stopped me from doing the wrong thing such as going for a swim in the Narang River before I had learned to swim.

One day I was exploring our property on the Gold Coast some two miles inland from Broad Beach when I jumped over a log, to this day I can still see the head of a snake to my right raised and ready to strike. I froze as Bonny came out of nowhere took the snake in her jaws, just below the head threw it in the air, caught it as it came down and bashed it on the ground which she continued to do until the creature was dead, then stood over it as I took off for home.

Dad arrived home about 30 minutes later, I was concerned that Bonny hadn't come home so we set off, only to find she was still with the snake periodically picking it up and bashing it on the ground. The creature proved to be 6ft 6in long. If it had bitten me and as I was only 6 years old, I would have been dead in 20 minutes.

Some months later it was decided that we would move to WA, the fact that Bonny would have to come with us was a no brainer, so on the 27th of January 1952 the 5 family members plus the dog in a Vanguard estate car towing a 4 berth wood caravan (I slept in the car with Bonny) left on a 3 week journey across the Nullarbor and on second night in a house on our arrival in Perth Bonny dropped 11 pups. Two nights later and she took on 9 Dalmatian pups whose mother had been run over by a car. All 20 pups survived. We finally settled on a 30 acre property in Wattle Grove. Bonny was with us until well into the 60s and at the ripe old age of 17 she left us. And now some 60 years on, I still have fond memories of a dog named Wag A rudder Bom Boush Lop eared Pooch, (Bonny for short.)

Author Richard Arnold

Quote of the day:

“The trouble with quotes on the internet, is that it’s difficult to determine whether or not they are genuine.” Abraham Lincoln

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&
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Fenton & Mel



3 Lilian rd Maida Vale cnr Lilian & Hawtin rd

FRIDAY 15th MARCH 2024

7:30 pm to 10:00 pm Light supper included
OUTDOOR VENUE..CHAIRS PROVIDED..BYO..AMPLE PARKING

Phone Tom ..9454 4298 or book online

amandayoungfoundation.org.au \$35

\$55,000 GOAL!



Will you help Jess get her wheels?
Jess needs your help to purchase a wheelchair accessible
KIA CARNIVAL
She is funded for lessons & modifications through NDIS

JESSICA'S ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE

JESS CONTACTED MENNINGCOCK AT THE AGE OF 3 (30 YEARS AGO). SHE IS A QUAD-AMPUTEE, WITH BOTH LEGS AMPUTATED JUST BELOW THE HIP JOINT, WHICH MEANT SHE HAS NEVER BEEN ABLE TO HAVE ARTIFICIAL LEGS FITTED.

JESS, "THE LEGLESS GIRL" NEEDS OUR HELP TO PURCHASE A NEW WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE, KIA CARNIVAL CAR, FOR \$55,000.

JESS IS FUNDED FOR LESSONS AND MODIFICATIONS THROUGH NDIS, BUT THE ONLY WAY TO QUALIFY FOR THESE BENEFITS IS TO PURCHASE A NEW VEHICLE, (NOT SECOND-HAND)

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE CONCERT, "CLASSIC LEGENDS OF THE 60'S TO 80'S" AT ROMANCING THE STONE GARDEN, ON FRIDAY 15TH MARCH, WILL BE DONATED TO JESS TO HELP HER CAUSE.

ANY DONATIONS WILL ALSO BE THANKFULLY RECEIVED
PHONE TOM HOGG.. 94544298 OR FAX ONLINE

amandayoungfoundation.org.au