

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA SELF FUNDED RETIREES INC.

State and Federal Advocates for Fully and Partly Self Funded Retirees



## WASFR NEWS

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2    AUTUMN 2015

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Summer has almost gone and those of you who don't appreciate the hot weather will be giving thanks to the Almighty. Certainly, the electricity bills will become less! Personally, I don't mind a bit of warm weather, although 38 degrees is getting a bit too much.

If I may, I would like to commence by offering sincere congratulations to the founder of our movement in WA (originally AIR and now WA Self Funded Retirees), Mr Bob Arnold, on his recognition in the 2015 Australia Day awards. Bob was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his services to the Community, including the RSL and Legacy. It is a matter of interest that this OAM medal now proudly sits alongside several other medals, including the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) earned from service in Vietnam. Very well deserved!

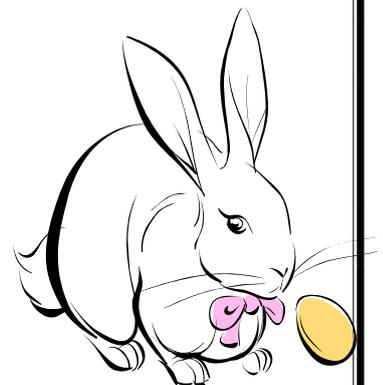
There has been a lot of publicity given to the popularity of the current Government and, at one stage, it did seem that we might have a new Prime Minister. As we all know, that did not eventuate. One good outcome from this issue is that several of the unpopular policies of the Government are now either under review or scrapped entirely. In particular, the potential for a reduction in the rate of indexation of the Age Pension, commencing September 2017, is something that we are concerned about. Fortunately, many other similar organisations are lobbying the Federal Senators in an attempt to have them block any legislation that may just get through the Legislative Assembly. If I were a betting man, I would like to think that it will not "get up".

The 2015 Intergenerational Report was released to the public last week. WASFR received a copy of this document (the whole 170 pages) and we are yet to try to wade through it. So far, it does appear to be somewhat repetitive, but I guess that is what is needed to get the message through. To begin with, it appears that the previous Intergenerational Report, in 2010, was not very accurate as several statistics now seem to be much different. I don't intend to go into much detail but it now looks as if the population will grow to 39.7 million over the next 40 years, and the number of people aged over 85 will rise four-fold to 1.9 million.

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**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** *Continued from Page 1)*

Another frightening projection is that the number of people (workers) aged 15—64 will decrease to 2.7 for every person aged over 65 (down from 4.5 people today, and 7.3 in 1975). Health spending (per person) is projected to more than double by 2055. It doesn't look too good does it? I must confess to be looking forward to the Intergenerational Report for 2020 to see if these projections are still current—or if we have a different set of statistics!

Aged care is another subject that we are all very concerned about. A number of changes came into play last year, and there are more changes due to occur on 1 July this year. None of us has a really good grasp on all the changes, both current and projected, but the overriding perception is that those who can afford to pay more will do so. We have scheduled a knowledgeable person, who works in this field, to talk to us on 12 June. Paul Purdy was approached some months ago and, all things being equal, will be our “expert” to give us the latest information on Consumer-Directed Care. A recent article in *The Senior* newspaper indicated that there might not be sufficient funding for this scheme to function as we would like (so what's new?!). I guess that one issue that is important to most of us is who can we turn to to give us a clear outline of our alternatives, and what it will cost us.

As you all know, we have submitted our Pre-Budget submission to most of the Federal politicians. As a member of the WA Seniors Consultative Forum (WASCF) we have also submitted a similar document to the WA State Government. We have received acknowledgements from both groups, but no real positive responses. All we can do is to maintain our objectives regarding improved concessions for retirees, and hope that the financial position improves some time in the future. We are aware that several of our requests to the Federal Government will not be a financial burden on them and we continue to pursue this aspect.

Guest Speakers are a constant item for discussion at Committee meetings. Thankfully, we have our beloved Vera Payne who does a tremendous job in contacting these people and arranging for them to talk to us. So far, we have been able to maintain a steady stream of speakers who can speak to us on a wide variety of subjects (don't forget the Belly Dancers who led an extremely interesting discussion on the history of this very popular art!). If anyone has any contacts that might be able to give an entertaining presentation on any subject, then we would welcome your coming forward and telling us about them.

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**YOUR COMMITTEE****President:**

Ron de Gruchy: Ph. 9447.1313

**Vice-President**

Bob Dewar

**Secretary:**

Position vacant.

**Treasurer and Editor:**

Margaret Harris: Ph. 9381.5303

**Committee:**

Bob Arnold

Colin Atkinson

Joe McPhail

Ian Moller

Vera Payne (Membership and Speaker  
Liaison)

Rosemary Stevenson

John Yeatman

**Meetings:**

Meetings start at 10.00 am and are held at Cambridge Bowling Club, Floreat Sporting Precinct, Floreat on the Second Friday of each month excluding December and January.

**WASFR NEWS**

Material for inclusion in the Newsletter should be sent to:

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## CONGRATULATIONS

The founding “father” of our small organisation, **BOB ARNOLD**, was honoured in this year’s Australia Day Honours list when he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for outstanding service to the community.

In 1970 Bob received a Distinguished Service Medal for service in the Australian Army from 1947. He retired from the army holding the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Bob was a member of Perth Legacy for 35 years helping widows of ex-servicemen.

His civilian employment centred around the property development/real estate industry.

After his retirement he realized that self-funded retirees were not well represented in WA and because of the Assets Test some self-funded retirees received less real income than aged pensioners. Thus, the Association of Independent Retirees and, subsequently WA Self Funded Retirees were established.

So, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Arnold, DSM, OAM —  
Take a bow!

Also on Australia Day, at a Joondalup Australia Day Citizenship ceremony our President **RON DE GRUCHY** received a citizenship award for his long-standing and active involvement in the Joondalup community, and also for his tireless service to, firstly, the Association of Independent Retirees and currently to WA Self-Funded Retirees.

And, Ron, you also may take a bow.

Congratulations also to our **GEORGE GODDARD** who, on 18 December last, attained the magnificent age of 100 years. It is wonderful to see George still able to attend our meetings.



## Editorial

Last month Perth witnessed the arrival of the Giants, two larger-than-life marionettes depicting a Diver and a Little Girl. For the three days they were here they took on lives of their own and everyone who saw them, and many who did not, spoke of them as if they were real. Their “handlers” or Lilliputians gave them life. The expressions on the faces of the Diver and Little Girl brought tears to the eyes.

But what was most amazing was the crowd who followed their every move. Their behaviour was impeccable. There was no drunkenness, foul language or fights which often mar a visit to Perth city. Hundreds of thousands of people flocked to the city, mostly by public transport which was strained to the limit, but there was no pushing, shoving or bad manners. I patronised both bus and train on two occasions; maybe it was my age and white hair, but I was astounded by the kindness of everyone.

Late last year I also attended the commemoration of the departure from Albany of the First Convoy to the Great War. There I was also in the crowd scenes and received the same courtesies. This was a particularly poignant event for me as I had two Great-Uncles on board A15 Star of England which transported the Second Light Horse from Queensland, via Albany, to Egypt and then to Gallipoli. They would have been proud of the Australia and Australians they fought for.

These two events were the lead-up to our ANZAC centenary commemorations. I am looking forward to attending the Dawn Service in Kings Park where the people of Perth, I hope will once again make us all proud to be Australians. It is a shame that there must now be such tight security at an event such as this. I was fortunate to have attended the Anzac Day Dawn Service at Gallipoli in 1999 when the western world was still innocent and security was at a minimum.

Let 2015 be a wonderful year. It is too much to hope it will be wonderful in many parts of the world where killing the innocent is a way of life. But let Australia show what can be done when everyone respects everyone else. Is this too much to hope for?



Margaret Harris, Editor

## 2015 INTERGENERATIONAL REPORT

President Ron mentioned the Intergenerational Report in his President's Report. This whopping 170 page document circulated this month by Federal Treasurer Joe Hockey has been painstakingly summarised by Committee member **Bob Dewar** for the information and interest of our members. Thank you Bob for an amazing effort at very short notice.

He (Joe Hockey) believes our best years are ahead of us. To harness the potential of the future, we need to prepare and have a plan that aligns with the demographic challenges and opportunities we face.

This report is the social compact between the generations—children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents and each other. We are at a critical juncture in our history. To help us make the right choices the Intergenerational Report sets out what we need to do if we are to maintain and improve our standards of living.

Australians are living longer and healthier lives and this significant demographic change risks reducing our available workforce, impacting negatively on growth and prosperity, and our incomes will come under increasing pressure.

To drive higher levels of prosperity through economic growth, productivity and participation must be increased. Those currently not in the workforce should be encouraged to re-enter and the older Australians encouraged to enter or stay in work, where they can choose to do so.

With a growing population that will live longer, pressure is put on the health service and the budget, such that the sustainability of those services are threatened.

Presently, the Government is spending \$100 million a day more than its revenue, which means that shortfall has to be borrowed.

The Government sets out a credible trajectory to once again live within our means, by promoting growth, jobs and opportunity, so that it can relieve

the burden on Australians and unlock the immense potential of our future.

Average incomes have doubled in real terms since 1975, with this increased wealth shared broadly across the community. As a result, Australian families enjoy access to a well-functioning health system, good schools, a strong social safety net and options for recreation and leisure that our grandparents could only dream about. All Australians share aspirations for economic security and an even more prosperous future—a better place for our children and the generations beyond. We need to make choices today to build a strong and resilient economy and lay the foundation for future prosperity.

*How will Australia change over the next 40 years?*

Life expectancy in 2055—men 95 years and women 97 years—up four years on today's figures. There will be 40,000 people living aged over 100 years. In 1975 there were only 122.

Total population is forecast to reach 40 million in 2055, up from 24 million today. Included in these numbers, 5% over 85, compared with 1% today. Present fertility rate of 1.9 births per woman is expected to remain. Immigration at 215,000 per annum remains as is. The proportion of working-age people out of the total will drop alarmingly.

However, female employment in 1975 only 46% had a job. Today that percentage is 66% and by 2055 it should be up to 70%. We are still behind Canada and New Zealand in this participation and more can be done to encourage women to enter and stay in the workforce.

Umpteen chapters then follow covering:

Productivity, Economic projections, Environment, 40 years of Budgets, charts on underlying cash balance of net debt, Government expenditure, and preparing for the future.

To enhance both productivity and participation Australia will need a better tax system to deliver taxes that are lower, simpler and **fairer**.

*Continued Page 10*

# GUEST SPEAKERS

## MEETING : 12 SEPTEMBER 2014 HON. BOB KUCERA: ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Although Bob Kucera’s talk was advertised as “Israel and Palestine”, because of his involvement with the Friends of Israel he spoke solely on Israel. Nevertheless, it was very interesting and informative.

First of all, Bob Kucera, as most of us would know, was a member of the Police Force for 34 years, finishing his ‘police’ life as Assistant Commissioner. He then branched out into politics as a Labor member of the WA Government for eight years.

He is Commodore of Fremantle Sailing Club, State President of COTA (Council on the Ageing), and Chairman of the Friends of Israel, although he is not Jewish. His family were Eastern European refugees and he grew up in Wales.

When Bob entered politics his electorate took in the Mount Lawley area which has a considerable Jewish population. His father had always stressed that no one should judge others unless he had ‘walked in their shoes’, so in 2006/07 as part of a parliamentary delegation he visited Israel. In politics, the ‘extreme Left’ believed Palestine had a real cause, while the ‘extreme Right’ believed Israel always got it right. After travelling to Israel, he believes the truth lies in the middle.

Israel is the only place in the world where the Jewish people have their own state and it is their wish to defend their right to live in peace. This is a right of every citizen in any country. Also, unlike other Middle Eastern countries, women have equal rights with men, regardless of race.

The enemies firing rockets on Israel are so close—Bob used as an example, a rocket fired in Victoria Park landing in Mount Lawley—it is that close. Israel has the technology to return fire to the exact position an enemy rocket was fired from. So what does the enemy do? It fires its rockets from places like schools, hospitals and residential areas so the return fire does

Cont. Page 6

Now, let us have a look at the geographical position of Israel:

Israel is only 1/800 the size of the Arab world.  
Israel is 466km long and only 14km wide at its narrowest point.  
Israel would fit into Australia 369 times!  
Israel is the ONLY FREE COUNTRY in the Middle East (Freedom House 2010).



REGIONAL MAP



And the present political perspective:



## HON. BOB KUCERA: ISRAEL AND PALESTINE (CONT. FROM PAGE 5)

the most civilian damage, thus the news reports we hear make the Israelis the criminals. All news coming from the Middle East to our ABC and SBS networks is through Al Jazeera, which is sponsored by the Arab States.

In 1948 the United Nations mandated the State of Israel. Countries surrounding Israel - Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Iran, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates -were all created and had their borders designated after WW2 by the United Nations.

Bob was very passionate about the Israeli people—Jews and Arabs—and their love of their country. The Israeli parliament is comprised of all races: some are pro-Israel and others are not, but they all take their part in the parliament. All Israelis must do national service—not necessarily in the armed forces—it can be served in hospitals or in the police service.

Every citizen of Israel, regardless of race or religion, has the opportunity to go to University. The universities are controlled by the government, not deregulated as it is here, so it is relatively cheap. Students come from all over the world to study in their universities. At this point Bob criticized our government for effectively pricing our kids out of university study. He said our government could learn a lot from Israel and their system of education.

Despite the continuous bombing of the country Israel has contributed much of the technology we take for granted today. In fact, 38% of their GNP comes from technology. The chip in your mobile phone will have been made in Israel—the phone itself probably made in China. But the important part came from Israel.

Israel has produced more Nobel Prize winners than any other country. Our local Nobel Prize winner, Barry Marshall, told Bob he was amazed at what they have achieved.

While he was in Israel Bob visited a wind farm. Wind farm technology originated in Australia at RMIT, but neither the Australian government nor private industry was interested in capitalizing on this invention.

The Israelis ran with it and now produce most of the wind farm technology through the Siemens company, which originated in Germany.

Each year, \$US500 million is set aside in a trust account to go around the world to look for technology to capitalize on. A few years ago, a company working with Princess Margaret Hospital and the Telethon Institute developed a small device which, when placed on the throat of a child with asthma, will tell the parents whether their child should go to hospital. Think how many parents will benefit from this when it comes on the market, at a cost of about \$30. This was developed here, but could not be capitalized.

Outside all the bombing, Israel is a smart nation and there are many more medical inventions being developed in Israel—MRI and CT scan technology, a vaccine for the treatment of AIDS, and an artificial retina which will repair a blind eye. They have not yet perfected the repair of the human spine, but they are working on it. Because the country is short of water, they have perfected the recycling of water from many sources. These are just a few.

Israelis are a hard race of people. They say their people were murdered in the gas chambers and many of the survivors fled to Israel. They had nowhere else to go except to the country God gave them.

Bob mentioned many more achievements made by the country since 1948, but space is limited here. Let me finish with a quote by Bob: *“Palestine must live beside Israel, not instead of Israel. More and more, violence will not win over Israel.”*

We all know what is happening in the region now; it is not my intention to play politics. Bob Kucera spoke of their cause passionately, having seen their country through the eyes of a policeman and politician.

*Margaret Harris*

*In order to remain unbiased, in October 2015 we plan to have Melissa Parke, Federal MP for Fremantle, to speak to us from the Palestinian point of view, as well as Dr Sandra Nasr from Notre Dame University, to present a balanced historical perspective of this emotive, divisive and complex topic.*



**MEETING : 10 OCTOBER 2014: NUALA BETTS—WEALTHWISE**

This was a return visit by Nuala and her colleague from Wealthwise, Paul Turner. Paul introduced Nuala who, he said, was concentrating her expertise in the aged care sphere of financial planning.

Before proceeding, we must advise that this presentation is not intended to constitute financial advice. You should consult the relevant professional for advice before making any decisions on the basis of this information, which is current as at October 2014.

Since Nuala and Paul spoke to us last there have been many changes in the provision of aged care services and the system is now much more complex.

Nuala said that she would be making reference to Centrelink quite often during her talk. Because of our self-funded status, many of us have probably not had any contact with Centrelink in the recent past. However, it will now feature quite a bit as all reporting is done through Centrelink and then passed on to other agencies. Besides, as there will be considerable costs involved, although we may not have had to resort to Centrelink funds in the past we may need to do so in the future when capital decreases and eligibility for a part-pension become a reality.

Firstly, everyone seeking aged care assistance must be assessed by ACAT (Aged Care Assessment). This is to determine what level of care is required, how to afford to pay for it, and other financial implications of moving into care. The big questions facing everyone in this situation are:

- What are the upfront costs for accommodation;
- What are the ongoing costs; and
- What will happen to the family home.

This last item is probably of prime importance to most of us. The family home will not necessarily be assessable by Centrelink where a spouse will remain in the home. This also applies if a long-term carer remains in the home and is receiving Government support.

Where the home does turn out to be assessable, the assessable amount is capped at \$155,823.20. This is regardless of where you live—in a one bedroom apartment or a mansion. Part of the value of your home may be used to determine the cost of care. At some time you will be asked to fill out a form detailing your total assessable income.

**Entry Fees:**

- Lump sum bonds are Government guaranteed so in the event a care facility becomes financially unviable your bond is not lost;
- Residents do not need to advise the aged care facility as to whether they are paying a lump sum or periodic payments until up to 21 days after they enter the facility. This is so the care facility will not give preference to a wealthy person who will be paying the maximum amount over a person who is perhaps relying on a pension.
- In the event that a person leaves the care facility for whatever reason the bond will be fully refundable. In the event of the death of the resident the amount will be paid to the estate.
- Bonds are exempt for Centrelink means tests but they will count for the means tested fee calculations.

**NUALA BETTS—WEALTHWISE** *Continued from Page 7*

	<b>Protected Resident</b>	<b>Standard Resident</b>
<b>Entry Fees:</b>		
Assets threshold	Assets below \$45,500	Assets above \$45,500
Income threshold	\$25,118.60 Single \$24,650.60 Illness separated	\$25,118.60 Single \$24,650.60 Illness separated
Accommodation Contribution	\$0—\$53.04 per day	N/A
Accommodation Deposit	\$0	Up to \$550,000
<b>Ongoing Fees:</b>		
Basic daily care fee	\$47.15 per day	\$47.15 per day
Means tested fee		Maximum means tested fee \$53.04 per day
Cannot exceed		\$25,349.21 per annum
Cannot exceed a lifetime cap of		\$60,838.12

**Means Tested Amount**

Maximum income tested contribution (MITC)  
= 50% of income above income free area /364

Maximum asset tested contribution (MATC)  
= 17.5% of assessable assets between \$45,000 and \$155,823.20  
+ 1% of assessable assets between \$155,823.20 and \$376,469.60  
+ 2% of assessable assets above \$376,469.60 /364

Means tested amount (MMTC)  
= MITC + MATC

Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD)  
MMTC > \$53.04

Accommodation Contribution  
MMTC < \$53.04

Ongoing Care Fee (CF) = minimum of:

- MMTC minus \$53.04
- Annual cap \$25,349.21
- Lifetime cap \$60,838.12

And now that we are all totally confused, Nuala once again stressed the importance of obtaining good professional advice on, among other things:

- How to pay the bond—by lump sum, periodic payments or a combination;
- On what to do with the family home;
- On maximizing Age Pension entitlements and reducing ongoing care costs.

And my advice to myself is to stay healthy for as long as possible and then let someone else worry about me!

*Margaret Harris*



**MEETING : 13 FEBRUARY 2015****CAROLYN GREEN: HOME INSTEAD**

Almost every hand in the room was lifted in response to Carolyn Green's introductory question, "How many of you want to stay living at home as long as possible?" Carolyn is the Client Services Manager for *Home Instead*, a company established in Nebraska in 1994, franchised internationally in 2000, and arriving in Perth in 2008. There are 24 offices in Australia, and all franchises are owned and operated individually.

Clients are helped to maintain independence in their own homes with carers doing basically anything that a family member or friend would do, except change light-globes, lift heavy furniture or do heavy gardening. Help is given with personal care, medication reminders, companionship, light housekeeping, light gardening, meal preparation, shopping, transport to appointments, paperwork, and much more, all tailored to the client's needs. At precisely the time required and requested. There is also an after-hours service.

*Home Instead's* Care Manager is a registered nurse, who regularly liaises with the client and the family. The care-givers are carefully selected in a stringent selection process. Caring, compassionate, mature people (average age 50), they are fully trained, have Police Clearance, speak English well, can drive and they and their car are insured. There is a full-time training officer, a quality assurance programme is in place, and continuity of care is ensured by the same caregiver going in regularly to a client. Collaboration with other companies ensures top-up services.

A checklist of questions to ask a home-care service provider was distributed, as also information on Government-funded respite for family carers. (This has been taken from the *myagedcare* website bolded below.)

As with nursing homes, there are options for government care, private care, or a mix of both. The care is consumer-directed, the client being in charge of both service provider and budget and there is full transparency in how package-funds are being spent.

Government-funded services at a higher level require an Aged Care Assessment (ACAT) which can be obtained through a GP or in hospital. These services do not always meet the requirements of self-funded retirees or part-pensioners, both of whom do have to pay a contribution. The Department of Human Services (Centrelink) works out the income-tested care fee for each of the four levels of care, from basic to very high.

Since 1 July 2014 everyone has to pay from \$135.80 per fortnight for Consumer Directed Care packages. This figure changes every six months. CDC packages are very much "client decides" slanted. The family home is not included in the assessment of assets, unless there is an application for financial-hardship assistance. Filling in the CDC (or other) forms may be time-consuming, depending on how complex your income is. For an estimation of fees, as well as for a fuller overview of this topic, go to the [myagedcare.com.au](http://myagedcare.com.au) website or phone 1800200422.

If the choice is not to have Centrelink's income assessment, the client must choose and pay a private provider. But some who need extra services may find that the funded package is actually more expensive than the private one. Not all providers charge the same amount, nor do they give the same services, so see the checklist of questions. Carolyn pointed out that *Home Instead* ticks all the boxes. The company is involved in research in the USA as well as in Australia and educational resources are constantly being developed. See their website:

**[homeinstead.com.au](http://homeinstead.com.au)**

*Home Instead* is a preferred provider for Commonwealth respite care in the home. It can be accessed through Commonwealth Respite and Centrelink (CRCC). Assets are not taken into account when applying for respite funding.

Questions from the floor:

*What is the approximate hourly rate?* \$46.80 per hour Monday-Friday, extra for the weekend. Overnight services are at a reduced rate. It isn't cheap, but the company has to pay the carer's wage, superannuation, Indemnity and Public Liability insurance, and tax, in addition to the general overheads.

*Continued Page 10*

**CAROLYN GREEN: HOME INSTEAD  
(CONTINUED)**

*Is there a waiting list at Home Instead?* For the two lower levels of care using the funded services, there are always vacancies. Levels 3 and 4 normally have a waiting time if the service is government-funded. *Home Instead*, a private provider, rarely has a waiting time because it is constantly recruiting carers.

*How great is staff turnover?* Not generally big. There are currently 80 caregivers. Each one may have only two clients, hence consistency is kept. If the client needs services for five or seven days, it may not always be possible to have the same carers, but generally no more than one or two caregivers are involved.

*Are there many referrals from Silver Chain?* *Home Instead* works with Silver Chain when they have a mutual client, but does not do the work of Silver Chain.

For those of us who wish to stay in our homes until we take the final journey over the rainbow, it is good to know that there is competent and caring help out there. Carolyn was thanked and shown appreciation for her succinctly informative presentation.



Vera Payne

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** *Continued from Page 2)*

Finally, once again I must remind everyone that we need to recruit additional Committee members if we are going to be able to maintain our vibrant Association. Our current Committee is dedicated (and healthy), but we still need some new blood. The work is not onerous, and it will give you a sense of well-being in that you will be contributing to the betterment of your fellow retirees. Think about it.

That's all for now. Hope you are all keeping as well as can be expected.

Ron de Gruchy



**INTERGENERATIONAL REPORT**

*(Continued from Page 4)*

A well-structured tax system can assist in making Australia a more attractive place to invest, boost economic growth and create new jobs.

The Government is working with the States and Territories to produce a white paper on the Reform of the Federation to clarify roles and responsibilities. The objective is to reduce and end, as far as possible, waste, duplication and second guessing between different levels of Government.

Many charts illustrate the three relevant policy scenarios:

Previous policy—Australia bankrupt;

Currently legislated policy—Tolerable situation but still deeply in debt;

Proposed policy—If implemented fully—out of debt by 2031

Superannuation presently 9.5% rising to 12% by 2025.

Methodology of projections in the various components of the budget is explained at great length. This scenario is based on the huge assumption that spending and revenue will occur on the basis of announced policy, and assumes all outstanding measures are implemented. It is claimed that this scenario follows the usual practice of projecting fiscal aggregates based on the full implementation of the policies of the Government of the day, and that the Charter of Budget Honesty Act 1998 requirement that the Intergenerational Report model current Government policy.

My reading of this document has not been what you might call—detailed—but it reads well, is positive but, essentially, is a mathematical exercise, heavily reliant on what has happened in the past, with no mention of new policies which could possibly achieve what is required.

Bob Dewar



## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

### Finding work in Australia:

He set his alarm clock (Made in Japan) for 6 a.m.

While his coffee pot (Made in China) was perking, he shaved with his electric razor (Made in Hong Kong)

He put on a shirt (Made in Sri Lanka), Jeans (Made in Singapore and shoes (Made in Korea).

After cooking his breakfast in his electric skillet (Made in India), he sat down with his calculator (Made in Mexico) to see how much he could spend today.

After setting his watch (Made in Taiwan) to the radio (Made in India), he got into his car (Made in Korea), filled it with petrol (From Saudi Arabia) and continued to search for a good paying Australian job.

At the end of yet another discouraging and fruitless day checking his computer (Made in Malaysia) Joe decided to relax for a while. He put on his sandals (Made in Brazil), poured himself a glass of wine (Made in France) and turned on his TV (Made in Indonesia) and then wondered why he can't find a good paying job in AUSTRALIA.



### Tongue-in-cheek Letter to the Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald:

#### Age-old deficiency

It's about time the authorities did something about older drivers on our roads.

For far too long older drivers have caused havoc as they hog the left lane, stick to the speed limits (even the road work limits) and stop at stop signs, causing great inconvenience and often preventing others from doing whatever they like.

Another major concern is that by avoiding fines and demerit points, they are not doing their bit for the revenue of our State, and therefore placing a further burden on younger drivers.

Until older drivers can prove that they are proficient at weaving in and out of traffic, driving while texting, tailgating, using drugs or doing burnouts, they must be banned from holding a licence.

*Doug Money, Oak Park*

### Australian Computer Technology:

This is why Aussies are so excellent in all matters IT.

LOGON: Adding wood to make the barbie hotter;

LOGOFF: Not adding any more wood to the barbie;

MONITOR: Keeping an eye on the barbie;

DOWNLOAD: Getting the wood off the ute.

HARD DRIVE: Making the trip home without any cold tinnies;

KEYBOARD: Where you hang the ute keys;

WINDOW: What you shut when the weather's cold;

SCREEN: What you shut in the mozzie season;

BYTE: What mozzies do;

MEGABYTE: What Townsville mozzies do;

CHIP: A pub snack;

MICROCHIP: What's left in the bag after you've eaten the chips;

MODEM: What you did to the lawns;

LAPTOP: Where the cat sleeps;

SOFTWARE: Plastic knives and forks you get at Red Rooster;

HARDWARE: Stainless knives and forks from Big-W

MOUSE: The small rodent that eats the grain in the shed;

MAINFRAME: What holds the shed up;

WEB What spiders make;

WEBSITE: Usually in the shed or under the veranda;

SEARCH ENGINE: What you do when the ute won't go;

CURSOR: What you say when the ute won't go;

YAHOO: What you say when the ute does go;

UPGRADE: A steep hill;

SERVER: The person at the pub who brings out the counter lunch;

MAIL SERVER: The bloke at the pub who brings out the counter lunch;

USER: The neighbour who keeps borrowing things;

NETWORK: What you do when you need to repair the fishing net;

INTERNET: Where you want the fish to go;

ON LINE: Where you hang the washing;

OFFLINE: Where the washing ends up when the pegs aren't strong enough.

*Now, we do hope this makes life easier for those among us who are not computer literate!*

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name/s: .....

Address: .....

Telephone: .....

Pre-retirement Occupation/Interests  
(optional)

Annual Subscription: Couple \$30.00  
Single \$20.00

Please forward application and subscription  
to:

The Treasurer  
Margaret Harris  
WA Self Funded Retirees Inc.  
201 Bagot Road  
Subiaco WA 6008

***GUEST SPEAKERS***

10 April: Stroke Foundation: Stroke Safe

8 May: Malcolm Evans: Private Wealth  
Management

12 June : Paul Purdy: Aged Care

It is our aim to present guest speakers whose topics are pertinent to our members, i.e. people who are ageing gracefully, keen on preserving or enhancing their income and of quick wit and high intellect.

So, please let us know whom you would like to hear or the topics which interest you most. And as many of our members belong to more than one organisation it will be helpful if you can nominate a speaker whom you have heard and whose presentation was impressive and interesting, to a group such as ours.

Our Guest Speaker coordinator is Vera Payne and Vera can be found at most meetings, but if she is not present on the day that you plan nominating a speaker, any committee member will be happy to receive your suggestion.

DISCLAIMER

Please note that nothing written or spoken in the course of WASFR meetings, talks given, or in any publication is to be construed as advice to members or visitors.

THANKS

To the Cambridge Bowling Club for extending the use of their facilities to us for our Committee meetings, at no extra cost.

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**MP for Stirling**

As a Community Service