



WASFR NEWS

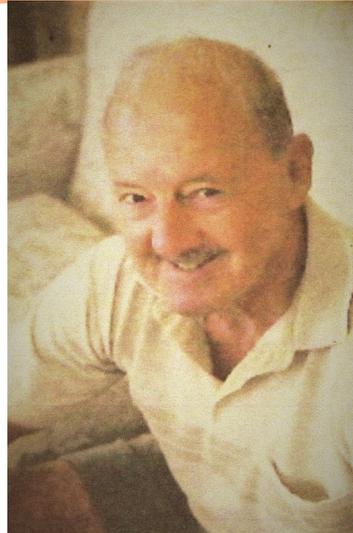
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February 2023

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Morning Everyone. To begin with, I must apologise for an error in the November 2022 newsletter. We had written that the LMITO (Low & Middle Income Tax Offset) was due to be phased out "after this financial year ends". As you probably know it actually finished on 30 June 2022. It had been increased to \$1500 - but only for that one year (coinciding with the Federal election). Attempts have been made to get it reinstated but we won't know if that has been successful until after the May Budget.



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At this point I would like, on your behalf, to offer sincere congratulations to one of our members who received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the 2023 Australia Day Honours. **Tim Bailey**, who has been a longstanding member of WASFR, received this award for his efforts, over several decades, towards mechanical engineering. Tim has been the WA President of the Fluid Power Society for 27 Years and has also served as the National President. He has been a volunteer for several community organisations incl. the Centre for Asylum Seekers. Congratulations Tim, well deserved.

We have lodged our 2023/24 Federal Pre-Budget submission with the Treasury (deadline was 27th January), and are now in the process of sending copies to several politicians with a request to meet up with them and discuss the items involved. There are 9 items and a summary is included on page 4. As you know, this is a joint submission shared with SCOAWA (the Superannuated Commonwealth Officers' Assn. WA), so some of the items are more applicable to them. For example, Item # 1 refers to the situation regarding tax on superannuation contributions prior to 1 July 1988. Briefly, the ex-Commonwealth pensioners are being hit with tax for a period where there was no tax applicable to superannuation contributions (prior to 1 July 1988). These pensioners also pay full income tax on their superannuation pensions - as opposed to the general public whose super. pensions are tax free (if over 60). The details involved with these 9 items extends to 5 pages and, at this stage, it does not seem appropriate to include the whole submission in this newsletter. Anyone who wants to see the full submission can, either, contact the Secretary, myself or try the WASFR web-site - wasfr.org.au.

In regard to the WASFR web-site I can advise that, after many years, we are now on the path to bringing this piece of technology into the 21st century. After commencing in 2011/12, and not being kept up to date, it has got to the stage where we nearly abandoned it and considered starting afresh. Despite the involvement of several valued helpers over the years, the web-site did not receive the attention that these things need, and deserve.

We are eternally grateful to Edward Goodchild who has volunteered to do whatever is necessary to get this web-site up and running. There may be a few changes, but they will all be for the better. This may take another week or so, but it will be accessible for everyone.

Happy Easter



It will be interesting to see if this year's Federal Budget will include some issues that do need to be addressed. The Stage 3 Tax cuts, Aged Care, Medicare, changes to superannuation (??), the Voice (and its referendum), the NDIS as well as the "Let Pensioners Work" campaign. This campaign, started by National Seniors towards the end of 2021, of allowing Age pensioners to engage in paid employment without any corresponding reduction in their pension payments, has continued to gather support. This does not cost the government any money - but will provide additional revenue through additional income tax. A government decision last year to increase the "Work Bonus" from \$7,800 to \$11,800 was the best that they could do. I wonder if the powers-that-be realise that this simply means allowing Age pensioners to engage in an additional 3 hours of paid work per week? Ridiculous. This is not going to fill all those vacant positions that exist throughout the country, and does nothing to encourage Age pensioners to get out there and get their hands dirty. A bit of commonsense would go well here.

You would be aware that there has been quite a bit of publicity given to the date for the celebration of Australia Day. This seems to happen regularly at this time of the year but, this time, there seems to be quite a bit more space being taken up in the daily papers.



I don't wish to get too involved in such a controversial matter but a recent email did catch my attention. This email said that the 26th January 1949 is the date when The Nationality and Citizenship Act was passed/proclaimed. Rather than being identified as subjects of Britain, this Act established Australian citizenship for people who met eligibility requirements. That was the day we were allowed to travel with passports as Australians and NOT British subjects, and is the day we received our independence from British Rule. As a side issue, the landing of Captain Cook in Sydney took place on 29th April 1770, and the First Fleet arrived in Botany Bay on 18th January 1788. So, does the 26th January qualify as "Invasion Day"?

Ian Yates has been involved with COTA Australia for the past 33 years and has now stepped down from his position as CEO (after 20 years). His successor is Patricia Sparrow who commenced as the CEO last month. Ms Sparrow returns to COTA Australia with extensive experience in human services over a long career including in local and state governments and the non-government sector, and as an aged care

advisor to Federal Ministers. She has been the CEO with Vision 2020 and has been with Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA) for 5 years. Ian will continue to contribute to the welfare of older Australians in other roles such as Chair of the Council of Elders.

COTA Australia have always been very active in activities that affect elderly people and have recently been involved in a Select Committee to enquire into, and report on the cost-of-living pressures being faced by Australians and the impacts these are having on their day to day lives. There is a survey currently under way which will close on 9th February - details can be obtained at cota.org.au (Cost of Living pressures survey).

The WA government has launched a 10 year whole-of-government strategy which is being developed by the Dept. of Communities to support older West Australians to live their best life as they age. This is called the WA Seniors Strategy and comments/suggestions are invited from the wide community. Note that this subject is expected to be discussed at the next meeting of the WA Seniors Alliance (**WASA**), on Wednesday 1st February.

The WA Seniors Alliance (**WASA**) continues to meet on an irregular basis. As already mentioned, the next meeting is scheduled for 1st February and will include representatives from the Australia-wide organisation Aged Care Reform Now (ACRN). ACRN has been very active in submissions being made to the government and in meetings with politicians. As to be expected, the main areas of concern are (a) shortage of staff, (b) pay parity, (c) national registration and (d) palliative care. Some of these issues are being acted upon, however, the time involved in fixing these issues is dragging out for too long. Seems that there is no "quick fix" available.

In addition to the problems with Aged Care the WASA will also be compiling our annual submission to the WA State government. Currently, there are 7 different organisations represented in this submission - but there is scope for others to also join in.

Over the past few years we do not seem to be making much headway with our approaches to the WA government - maybe this has something to do with the current political situation ?

The next meeting of the WASFR Investors group will be on Thursday **9th February** commencing at 9.50am. The speaker will be Patrick Taylor who is the Director and Analyst of Taylor Securities. Patrick has had more than 20 years experience working in the Australian and UK stock markets. Taylor Securities offers investing strategy, trading advice and company research to commercial and retail clients looking for a portfolio-based approach to investing in Australian shares. Taylor Securities selects its Growth Stocks from the ASX Top 500 and Income Stocks from the ASX Top 200. The following meeting will be held on Thursday **13th April** and will feature Shirley Tascone and Emily Nixon from Bespoke Wills and Estates (BWE). Topics will include Estate planning, Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA), Advanced Health Directive (AHD), Executors & Probate and Getting Your Affairs in Order.

In the last edition of WASFR News we devoted a full page to the possible Class Action being considered by MITRY Lawyers (who are located in NSW and Victoria), regarding the exclusion of those aged over 65 from the NDIS. At this stage, we do not have any further information on just how far this matter has progressed. We have contacted the company and are awaiting their response. As you know, this continues to be included in our Federal submissions - item # 6.

As an afterthought we are including the wording that supports item # 2 in the 2023/24 Federal Pre-Budget submission. Perhaps not everyone will be prepared, or able, to access the web-site to see the full submission so we thought that this is an opportunity for you to see the extent of our efforts for a better life for retirees (below). Welcome any comments.

Finally, may I, once again, make an earnest plea for someone to volunteer to assist us by coming on to the Committee. Committee work need not be arduous. As a trial, we will now meet every second month, on the Friday before the General meeting, at 9.30am. Your views will be sought on a variety of subjects and you may be asked to help out at the reception desk during our General meetings. Most of the current Committee members have served for quite a number of years, are getting older and are getting ready to retire. If we are not careful, the day might come where we don't have enough Committee people and we will be forced to close shop. Please think about it.

Our next General meeting is on **Friday 10th February** and the guest speaker will be Lee Tate who will be talking on *Awesome WA - Fascinating and Fun Facts*. Look forward to seeing you there.

Ron de Gruchy

Recommendation 2:

That pensioners in receipt of the Centrelink Age pension be allowed to engage in paid employment with no corresponding reduction in their pension amount.

There are said to be close to 480,000 vacant positions throughout the country that have been, mainly, caused by the Covid 19 pandemic. Australia's rate of unemployment is the lowest it has been for a number of years. Businesses everywhere are crying out for staff. There are over 2.5 million Age pensioners that could, in some cases, provide relief for some of these vacancies.

However, the current rules applicable to additional income for Age pensioners is preventing them from applying. The 50 cents penalty for each additional dollar earned (over the allowable \$454 per fortnight), needs to be reviewed. There is a campaign called *Let Pensioners Work* that calls for Age pensioners to be allowed to engage in paid employment without any reduction in their pension.

The recent increase in the Work Bonus to \$11,800 (from \$7,800), is a temporary increase and expires on 31 December 2023. The additional \$154 per fortnight is of negligible value (? 3 hours per week).

Whilst not every Age pensioner would be capable, or would want to go back into the workforce, it has been claimed that even a modest increase in older people in the workforce of 5% would add almost \$48 billion to the economy in today's terms (Deloitte Access Economics).

This is a simple request that will not be a cost of revenue to the government. In fact, the government will gain additional revenue through the additional income tax payable by pensioners.

This concept of allowing Age pensioners to work without any financial penalty being applied already exists in Canada and in New Zealand - which has 24.8% of Age pensioners in the workforce. It will not be taking employment away from the general public - it will be filling a shortfall that is being felt everywhere.

Summary of Recommendations

Following is a summary of the recommendations included in this submission from Superannuated Commonwealth Officers' Association (WA) Inc. and Western Australia Self Funded Retirees Inc. We sincerely request that your full consideration be given to each of the issues raised.

Recommendation 1:

That the pre-1 July 1988 Taxation arrangements for the 1922/PNG/CSS/PSS Comsuper pensions be treated in the same manner as all other superannuation schemes.

Recommendation 2:

That pensioners in receipt of the Centrelink Age pension be allowed to engage in paid employment with no corresponding reduction in their pension amount.

Recommendation 3:

That the mandatory minimum drawdown percentages of superannuation funds, applicable to people over the age of 60, be reviewed with the intention of lowering them.

Recommendation 4:

That the "Work Test" applicable to retirees for personal concessional contributions to superannuation be abolished.

Recommendation 5:

That retirees be enabled to transfer funds into superannuation, at the prescribed contribution levels, irrespective of their age.

Recommendation 6:

That Australian citizens, over the age of 65 and with a disability recognised under the current NDIS legislation, be accorded the same benefits (both financial and otherwise), as are accorded to those people under the age of 65. The simplest way for this to happen is for the NDIS legislation to be amended to include those aged over 65. If this is not practicable, then the Aged Care legislation should be amended so as to produce the desired outcome.

Recommendation 7:

That the Medicare and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Safety Net thresholds for single retirees be restructured so that access for them becomes available at 65% of the levels applicable to couples/families.

Recommendation 8:

That the SAPTO Tax Offsets (currently \$2,230 for singles), be adjusted annually to account for increases in the cost of living, and that the SAPTO Rebate "shade out" income thresholds should be increased immediately so as to be equal to the Medicare Levy low income threshold. They should then be reviewed annually so as to always be equal to the Medicare Levy low income thresholds

Recommendation 9:

That the components of a retiree's income derived from an untaxed superannuation scheme, and from other sources, be assessed separately for taxation purposes as is the case with a retiree who derives an income from a taxed superannuation scheme.

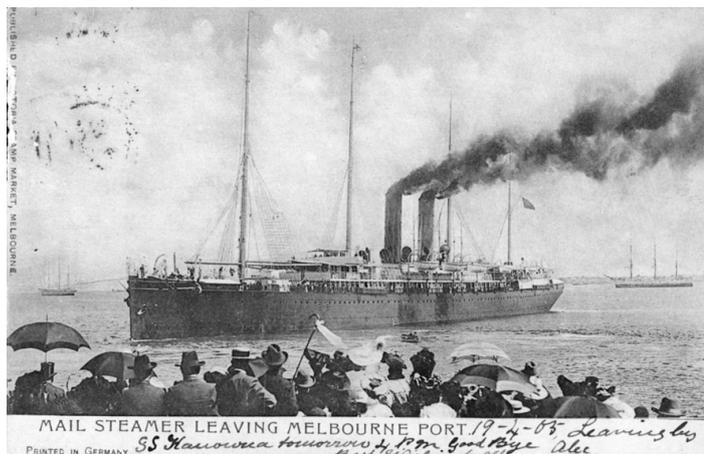
PORTHOLES AND PARTIES**Travel in the Golden Age of Ocean Liners**

E. Goodchild

Wendy Lugg, The Royal WA Historical Society's artist in residence, was the guest speaker at the October meeting, speaking on travelling during the "golden age" of ocean travel when ocean liners plied the world in the days before air travel became dominant. Her talk was anecdotal and based both on her and her family's experiences and on the Historical Society's museum exhibits and archive. She started with a quick summary of the early days of ocean travel before the advent of ocean liners but she concentrated on ocean liners through the 20th century. The talk was liberally illustrated with photos both from the Historical Society archive and from her own family's ocean travels, starting with her grandmother's emigration to Australia in 1916.

In summary: Up to the middle of the 19th century, ocean travel was arduous, perilous and slow in sailing ships whose passenger accommodation was, at best, basic and cramped. The journey to Australia from the UK took many months and only the wealthy could afford the few tiny private cabins on board. Other passengers would be crammed together in the hold, sharing their accommodation with rats and other vermin. Having made it to Australia, few could afford the equally long and uncomfortable journey back and most only did so out of real necessity.

The advent of steam ships in the middle of the 19th Century, initially for the trans-atlantic routes and later on longer voyages to the Indies and Australia, made ocean travel a much less daunting (though equally expensive) prospect. Even the early steam-assisted sailing vessels cut voyage times somewhat, mainly by allowing them to proceed even through unfavourable or calm wind, although still very much at the mercy of bad weather. At the same time, iron and steel construction made larger ships feasible which, in turn allowed passenger accommodation to become somewhat less basic, although conditions in "steerage" remained very primitive. Later, much larger, dedicated steamers cut journey times further (to around four or five weeks from London to Fremantle) and allowed a larger number of passengers to travel in greater comfort even in the cheapest accommodation — while first class travel, for those who could afford it, became positively luxurious. All this made ocean travel less daunting prospect and opened the way for international travel for reasons other than dire need.



As steamships got larger, more reliable and less dependent on weather conditions, voyage times became more predictable such that scheduled services became commercially viable even on long routes such as the Australia run. This signalled the birth of the ocean liner who's heyday lasted through until the early 1970's when air travel became more accessible and the pace of life precluded most people taking long breaks to travel by sea - except on holiday. This signalled the transition from ocean liners being a means of purposeful travel to cruise liners being floating hotels used for leisure.

Scheduled services were interrupted during both World Wars as the liners were requisitioned for war work as troop carriers etc. with civilian ocean travel only restarting in 1919/1920 after WW1 and in about 1946/1947 after WW2.

'Sea bathing in the Tropics' from the illustrated diary of Edward Snell, who sailed from London to Melbourne aboard the Bolton in 1849. This illustrates the difficulty of keeping clean onboard, not least the lack of privacy available.



The Forgotten Nashos

by Sid Breedon

Many readers will remember the 1951-59 National Service introduced under the National Service Act 1951. This required compulsory call-up of all males who turned 18 on or after 1st November 1950 and was at a time of global Cold War tensions that led to Australia entering the Korean War from September 1950 to 1953 followed by the Australian military staying in Korea for a further four years. Even today Australia still deploys four ADF personnel twice per year to ensure tasks conducted within the DMZ are in accordance with the terms laid out in the Korean Armistice Agreement of 1953. So much for some dubbing it 'The Forgotten War'.

Nashos was primarily Army but also Navy and Airforce. Some 227,000 Nashos were trained over the 1950s eight years scheme. Army Service consisted of three months arduous basic training followed by compulsory two or three years in the Citizen Military Force (CMF) and five years on the Reserve List. This meant we could be called up and deployed wherever required but to my knowledge no conscripts were sent overseas. Obviously the entire five years process interfered with our civilian lives but back then, with WW2 still firmly in mind, most accepted it as part of duty to country. In fact, most considered it one of the best experiences of our lives with camaraderie and lifelong mateships forged. The time period for the Airforce and Navy training consisted of a straight 6 months service with no further requirement to attend fortnightly training sessions, or annual camps. Some lucky people were able to obtain their private Pilot's licence.



Western Australia was the 17 National Service Battalion and training was at Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne with footslogger Corps training at Kingston Barracks, Rottnest. Our trainers were regular army mostly ex-Korean veterans. They were exemplary men, hard but fair. They melded a disparate group of young men into a physically fit well-disciplined team. Besides inevitable parade ground Drill we were trained in the use of various weapons. Discipline included arising at Reveille and stumbling onto the Parade Ground for raising the flag and roll call. Regular hut inspections ensured our beds were made to Army specifications plus clothes clean and folded in our drawer. Spit polished boots, khaki Blanco webbing with polished brass parts and a super-clean rifle were the norm.

My intake's early Spring crossing to Rottnest was in WW2 40 foot workboats. The sea was so rough we were instructed to loosen our hobnail boots for fear of capsizing. Our boat had a yellow 8 inch cray pot type float on which we all wrote our names so if we went down they'd know who was aboard. I am the custodian of that float and hope the Fremantle Army Museum will want this unique piece of 1950s Nashos.

Route marches over Rottnest sand dunes were so strenuous that we had to take turns carrying the heavier weapons. Apart from our Lee Enfield .303s, whose number, like our personal Service Number, we never forgot, we were trained in using two and three inch mortars, Bren Guns, sub machine guns and hand grenades. Only our instructors were allowed to use Bangalore Torpedoes (to pulverise barbed wire), and the Vickers machine gun. The Vickers was used to fire over our heads as we belly crawled under rows of low slung barbed wire. We disliked carrying the heavy Browning Automatic Rifle (B.A.R).

Back at Swanbourne our March Out was a spectacular display with family and friends watching. The main event was a demonstration attack on a mock enemy with appropriate explosions to create reality and the Armoured Corps whipping around in Bren Gun Carriers, Staghounds and Ferrets. I drew the short straw to carry the brutishly heavy B.A.R in a flanking manoeuvre through the sand dunes. I would have much preferred a light weight machine gun or trusty Lee Enfield 303. My father took an 8mm colour movie of the day which I have digitalised.



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South West CMF weekend bivouacs were in winter at the rugged Collie Army Training area. Other platoons held theirs at Lancelin. To keep us in readiness for wartime conditions we were made to endure rain, mud, and use WW1 style ponchos as a one-man tent on the side of a hill. Rain flooded the ditch we had to dig around our poncho making it a cold, wet half sleep night. The Lancelin lads spent their nights out in the bush sleeping in muddy fox holes created from firing their 3 inch mortars at an imaginary enemy. We also trained on a flying fox across the Collie or Avon Rivers and engaged in cross country Orienteering.

Long-distance transport to and from training areas was usually sitting on lengthways wooden benches bumping along in the back of a six-wheel-drive GMC Army truck.

We also had compulsory 'Parade' nights in Drill Halls around Perth and country towns. These intruded into our social lives but we accepted this as normal. Overwhelmingly the local population was proud of us.

As CMF we marched on Anzac Days and carried out Catafalque Party duty at appropriate Services.

A group of us went back to Rotto for a memorable 50th anniversary nostalgic visit to our old haunts.

They were great days and the discipline didn't hurt us one bit. It would surely benefit many of today's youth.



Sid Breeden & Vern Boys Nashos Swanbourne

Editor's note: *There are many people who think that bringing back National Service would be a worthwhile exercise. The disciplinary training could be of great benefit to a number of young people.*



A little silver-haired lady calls her neighbour and says, "Please come over here and help me I have a killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get started, you know my eyesight isn't what it used to be."

Her neighbour asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?"

The little silver haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster."



Huh?

Her neighbour decides to go over and help with the puzzle. She lets him in and shows him where she has the puzzle spread all over the table.

He studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says, "First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster."

He takes her hand and says,

"Secondly, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea", and then, he said with a deep sigh
"and let's put all the Corn Flakes back in the box."



Senior citizens are constantly being criticised for every conceivable deficiency of the modern world, real or imaginary. We know we take responsibility for all we have done and do not try to blame others.

HOWEVER, upon reflection, we would like to point out that it was **NOT** senior citizens who took:

The melody out of music,

The pride out of appearance,

The courtesy out of driving,

The romance out of love,

The commitment out of marriage,

The responsibility out of parenthood,

The togetherness out of the family,

The learning out of education,

The Golden Rule from rulers,

The nativity scene out of cities,

The civility out of behaviour,

The refinement out of language,

The dedication out of employment,

The prudence out of spending,

The ambition out of achievement.



We certainly are NOT the ones who eliminated **patience** and **tolerance** from personal relationships and interactions with others!

We **DO** understand the meaning of patriotism, and remember those who have fought and died for our country.

YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!

I'm the life of the party.....even if it lasts until 8 p.m.

I'm very good at opening childproof caps.....with a hammer.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time, because I can't hear a thing you're saying.

I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.

I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.

I'm beginning to realise that aging is not for wimps.



Yes, I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life! Now if I could only remember who sent this to me, I wouldn't send it back to them.

Or, maybe I should send it to all my friends anyway. They won't remember, even if they did send it.

Spread the laughter and share the cheer.

Let's be happy, while we're still here.



THOUGHTS ON BEING EIGHTY-PLUS

It's not my age that bothers me: it's the side effects.

My tolerance for idiots is extremely low these days. I used to have some immunity built up: but, obviously there's a new strain out there.

I'm not saying I'm old and worn out, but I make sure I'm nowhere near the kerb on garbage-day.

As I watch this generation try and re-write our history, I'm sure of one thing: It will be mis-spelt and have no punctuation.

As I've grown older, people think I've become lazy. The truth is I'm just being more energy efficient.

I haven't really done anything today. I've been in the Produce Department of the supermarket trying to open their stupid plastic bags.

If you find yourself feeling useless, remember it took 20 years, trillions of dollars, and four US presidents to replace the Taliban with the Taliban.

Turns out that being a 'senior' is mostly just googling how to do stuff.

I want to be 18 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the world. Then he made the earth round ... and laughed and laughed and laughed.

I'm on two diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

I put my scales in a corner of the bathroom and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologises.

My mind is like an internet browser. At least 19 open tabs, 3 of them frozen: and I have no clue where the music is coming from.

Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall and, when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.

Apparently, RSVP-ing to a wedding invitation, "*Maybe next time*" isn't the correct response.

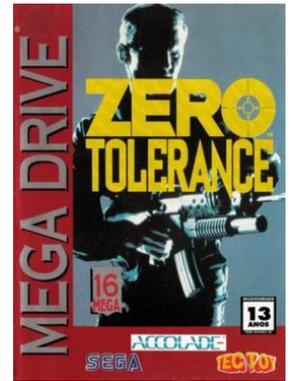
She says I keep pushing her buttons. If that were true, I would have found 'Mute' by now.

So you've been eating hot dogs and McChickens all your life, but you won't take the Covid vaccine because you don't know what's in it. Are you kidding me?



Sometimes the Universe puts you in the same situation again to see if you're still as stupid as the first time.

There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. The truth is that once you get old, you stop being polite and start being honest.



**"If you tell the truth,
you don't have to
remember
anything"**

Mark Twain



WESTERN AUSTRALIA SELF FUNDED RETIREES Inc.

www.wasfr.org.au

MINUTES

Minutes of the General Meeting of WASFR Inc. held at the Cambridge Bowling Club, Howtree Place, Floreat, on **Friday 11 NOVEMBER 2022.**

The President opened the meeting at 10.05am. He reminded members that today is Remembrance Day and that we will be standing for one minutes silence at 11am. There were 34 members present.

APOLOGIES:

V. Payne, E. & S. Goodchild, I. & V. Moller.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: R. Wyatt raised the matter of the government's intention regarding retrospective action on franking credits and asked that his name be removed from the Minutes. After receiving agreement to this request, R. Wyatt then Moved, seconded by G. English, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2022 be accepted as a true record. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Investment Group: The President advised that the last meeting of the Investors group was held 2 days ago (9th November). There were 18 members present and the speaker was Naomi Mee-Martino who is a Certified Financial Planner/Director from the Bastion Financial Group. The main topic was recent legislative changes that impact self-funded retirees, investment and legacy/estate planning, including tax management and asset protection. No date has yet been set for the next meeting (probably in February 2023). If an earlier date is required then members will be notified by email.

Franking Credits: The President reminded members that WASFR had sent a report to the government requesting that retrospective action (back to 2016), not be taken when/if companies are prevented from paying fully franked dividends that are funded by capital raisings. Several Federal politicians, who WASFR had contacted seeking support for this matter, had responded saying that they understood the problem and would do whatever they could to ensure that did not happen.

WASFR web-site: The President advised that E. Goodchild had met with M. Walsh and accepted the task of maintaining the WASFR web-site. There is still a small problem in that internet issues were delaying any actual work on the web-site, however, it is hoped that this will only be a temporary impediment and the web-site should start to show improvements in a matter of weeks. If any members feel inclined to nominate themselves as a "back-up" then feel free to contact any of the Committee members.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Emails re web-site
- Email re A.I.R. November newsletter
- Emails re guest speakers
- Emails from Town of Cambridge
- Emails from National Seniors - inc. NSA Connect 13th, 20th, 27th October and 3rd November
- Emails re Investors meeting
- Emails re increases to the CSHC (operative as from 4th November 2022)
 - discussion on some issues involved in applying for a CSHC
- Emails re the NDIS - possible Legal Class Action (incl. GCR, BNR, ACPSRO, PSS and A.I.R.)
- Emails re proposed changes to franking credits (incl. Ms K. Chaney's response)
- Email re the Future Fund (\$193 billion - total \$241 billion)
- Email re ASFA call to cut superannuation concessions to "the wealthy"
 - discussion on some details of why such treatment came about
- Emails re Aged Care (both In Home and Residential) also webinar on 7th December

COMMUNICATIONS: cont.

- Emails concerning "Labor's Budget" (comments from several sources)
- ACOSS media releases (7)
- Aged Care Reform *Now* newsletter
- COTA Australia - October newsletter
- COTA WA Connections - November newsletter
- SuperGuide - October newsletter
- SMSF Weekly News Digests (8)
- Brisbane North Retirees - November newsletter
- Gold Coast Retirees - October and November newsletters

FINANCE: In the absence of the Treasurer the President invited members to look at the monthly financial statement printed on the reverse of today's Agenda. Funds available to WASFR as at 4th November were \$7,197.81. A question was raised when would the funds held in the NAB account be placed into a Term Deposit (now that rates are in excess of 4%). The President replied saying that we are waiting for the Banks to respond to last week's increase before taking such action - may only be another week or so.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

2023/24 Federal Pre-Budget submission: The President referred to the 2022/23 submission and invited members to suggest any additional items that could be considered for the 2023/24 submission. With the next Federal Budget due in May 2023 we need to finalise our submission before February in order to allow time to discuss with the politicians.

At this time the President introduced the Band "Fragments" who would be playing a few old tunes whilst members enjoyed a variety of snacks that had been laid out on the tables at the rear of the room. Three raffles were drawn during the meal break before the time came for remembering the gallant soldiers from World War 1. The Band played "The Last Post" and everyone stood for one minute's silence as a mark of respect. A small token was given to the Band as a show of our thanks for them to come along and share their love of music on this day.

The President then wished everyone a *MERRY CHRISTMAS* and said we look forward to catching up again in the new year.

Speakers for the following months are as follows

- 10 February 2023 to be confirmed
- 10 March 2023 to be confirmed

Confirmed

Date

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2023

***WASFR Inc. does not give advice on any personal or financial matters.
Nothing written or spoken in the course of WASFR meetings, talks or publication is to be construed as advice given to members.***

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

Email: littlejim2@optusnet.com.au

YOUR COMMITTEE

Web site: www.wasfr.org.au

President:

Ron de Gruchy 9447 1313

Vice-President:

Position vacant

Secretary:

Sharon Goodchild 0452 580 753

Treasurer:

Margaret Harris: 0417 991 947

Committee:

Margaret Cresswell 0499 968 411

Joe McPhail 9446 7376

Peter Farr 0419 905 864

Robert Ellis 0458 953 805

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.

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.

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Is printed by

Kate Chaney
Member for Curtin



***YOUR COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU .
TALK TO RON, SHARON OR MARGARET
IF YOU WISH TO GET INVOLVED.***