

Greensborough Gossip

Greensborough Branch Newsletter

Branch No. 100133 Incorporation No. A0044936A

FEBRUARY 2014

Editor - Marlene Goodyear



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

Last year the Branch conducted a survey to indicate how the Branch could move forward. The survey revealed that many members wished to participate in more extensive activities, such as extended trips, cruises, theatre nights.

Therefore at the end of the year we formed a Social Committee which is independent of the Executive Management Committee.

The Social Committee members are Marg Wood (Chairperson), Jill Sanders, Lorraine Oaten, Frank Beale, Ian Schuck, Bob Goodyear.

Marg through her contacts and knowledge has put together a range of cruises for 2014 and 2015, plus a trip to Thailand.

Interest from members re the suggested activities has resulted in the following trips being offered at this time.

2014:

Tue 25-Thu 27 March: "Discover Loddon's Treasures" Bus Tour - 3-days (2 nights)

There are now **two options** with regard to travelling to Bendigo to commence the tour **(A)** Use our Government V-Line ticket to Bendigo where we will be collected by our tour bus - cost: \$385.00/pp, or **(B)** Bus pick up at Greensborough Memorial Park - cost: \$455.00/pp - *we need min 30x people if we use option (B).*

A decision regarding the feasibility of the Loddon Valley tour will be made at the February Branch meeting.

2015:

10 February: Thailand Tour - 12-14 days (see Marg Wood's report on page 6).

31 March: 12 Night 'South Pacific Paradise' Cruise (see page 6 for details).

We realise that some members may not have had a lot of time to decide about the extended tours. In future, where possible, we anticipate scheduling activities a few years in advance so that members can adequately plan their diaries and finances.

Flinders Ranges Tour (COBA):

Please note that a deposit of \$500.00/pp is due by 31 March. The final cost of the trip will be determined by the total number of people going on the tour. *See details page 4.*

Film/Luncheon - Balwyn Palace Theatre:

Members are reminded that the February Branch meeting is the last opportunity to book for this activity. The film "12 Years a Slave" has been nominated for many awards. *See details page 4.*

March Branch Meeting:

Reminder to members - the March meeting is an **evening** one, commencing at 6.40 pm. The doors will be open from 6.00 pm for dinner.

June Branch Meeting:

In response to members' responses to the survey we conducted last year, the Committee has decided that the June meeting will be now held during the day. Therefore March and September will be the only night meetings in 2014.

Bob Goodyear, President

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Management Committee
2013/2014

**President/Activities Officer/Zone 121
Chairperson**

Bob Goodyear 9435 2529

Vice President/Activities Officer

Peter Oaten 9434 6795

Treasurer/Social Committee

Lorraine Oaten 9434 6795

Secretary / Newsletter Editor

Marlene Goodyear 9435 2529

Email: r.m.goodyear@bigpond.com

Publicity Officer/Branch Meeting Manager

David Hewett 9459 0653

Email: dfhewett01@bigpond.com

Communications Officer/Asst Fundraising

Peter Maw 9401 6717

Membership Officer/Zone 121 Dep Delegate

Ken Pickett 9435 0076

Fundraising Officer

John Brook 9432 1695

Asst. Membership Officer/Social Committee

Marg Wood 9438 4219

Speakers Sub-Committee

Jim Kindness 9469 4469

Bob & Marlene Goodyear, Gaylynn Pinniger

Welfare Officer

Judy Harvey 9401 6752

Door Attendants/Registration

Lynne Maw 9401 6717

Barbara Crosling 9435 5020

- Branch Minute Taker** - Lorraine Callow
- Speakers Gifts & Door Prizes, Coffee Club Coordinator** - Gaylynn Pinniger
- Book Exchange Coordinator** - Ken Pickett
- Craft Books Coordinator** - Lois Williams



**Greensborough Branch
Email, Website, Mail**

Greensborough Branch Email Address:
greensboroughnationalseniors@gmail.com

Greensborough Branch Website:
www.greensboroughnationalseniors.com.au

Mailing Address:
Box 838, Macleod Post Office, Macleod 3085

Next Branch Meeting

**Tuesday 18 March
6.40 pm start
(doors open at 6.00 pm for dinner)**

**Speaker:
John Harrison, (Horticulturalist)
(Volunteer Apothecary/Herb Doctor
at Sovereign Hill)**

**Topic:
"Medicines of the 1850's"**



*To members who are
unwell or recuperating,
your friends at the
Greensborough Branch
are thinking of you and
send best wishes for a
speedy recovery.*

(If you know of any member who is unwell, please contact our Welfare Officer, Judy Harvey, on Tel: 9401 6752 or email: judyh43@tpg.com.au)



*To those celebrating
a birthday this month*



Paddy says to Mick "I found this pen, is it yours?" Mick replies "Don't know, give it here."

He then tries it and says "Yes it is." Paddy asks "How do you know?" Mick replies "That's my handwriting."

COFFEE CLUB



Wed 5 March - 10.00 am

Sweet by Nature

131-133 Bamfield Road
Heidelberg West
Tel: 9456 9300

Coordinator:

Gaylynn Pinniger - Tel: 9458 2603

DINNER CLUB



**Friday 7 March - 7.00
for 7.30 pm sitting**

Templestowe Hotel

23 Parker Street
Lower Templestowe
Tel: 9850 4866

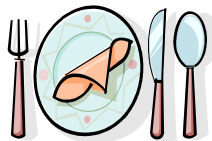
Smorgasbord - \$28.90/pp

Contact: Faye & Ken Pickett

Tel: 9435 0076

RSVP: Mon 3 March

LUNCH CLUB



Thu 13 March - 12.00 noon

Eltham Hotel

746 Main Road (Cnr Pitt Street)
Eltham
Tel: 9439 9224

Contact: Bev Hayes

Tel: 9435 2322

Email: hayesbeverley@yahoo.com.au

RSVP: Thu 6 March

Walking Club



Walkers meet at 9.30 am

1st Tuesday of the month:

Kalparrin (opp. Skateboard rink).

2nd & 3rd Tuesday of the month:

Henry Street end of Greensborough Memorial Park.

4th Tuesday of the month:

Bottom Car Park, Lower Plenty Hotel, Main Road, Lower Plenty.

Exception to the above routine:

Branch meeting days - when the group walk on **Wednesdays** at Greensborough Memorial Park.

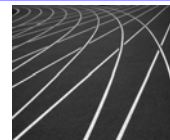


Confused??? ...

Contact Coordinator:

Ken Pickett - Tel: 9435 0076

Low Impact Walking Club



NOT UP TO HILLS?

Walkers meet Tuesdays at 9.30 am at Willinda Park Athletics Track, end of Nell Street, Greensborough (except on Branch meeting days when the group walk on Wednesdays).

On 4th Tuesday of the month the group meet at **9.30 am** at the **Lower Car Park, Lower Plenty Hotel** for a gentle walk.

Coordinator:

Margaret Lloyd - Tel: 9404 3393

NOAH'S ARK

Everything you need to learn from Noah's Ark:

ONE: Don't miss the boat.

TWO: Remember that we are all in the same boat!

THREE: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

FOUR: Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

FIVE: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

SIX: Build your future on high ground.

SEVEN: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

EIGHT: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

NINE: When you're stressed, float awhile.

TEN: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

ELEVEN: No matter the storm, there's always a rainbow waiting.



UPCOMING BRANCH EVENTS



Branch & COBA Activities

Reminder to members:

A deposit of \$20/pp is now required when placing your name on an activity list.

Tue 25 February: Balwyn Palace Theatre Film/ Luncheon

Film — "12 Years a Slave"

Meet in foyer 10.45 am — 1.30 pm

Cost: \$15.00/pp. Own transport.

Thu 20 March: Phillip Island

Incl. morning tea, 2-course lunch at Phillip Island RSL. Visit Vietnam Veterans Memorial/Museum, the Seal Rockies, the Nobbies & Boardwalk. Depart by bus Greensborough Memorial Park (McDowell Street entrance)

Time: 8.30 am - 5.00 pm. Cost: \$50.00/pp (48+), \$52.00/pp (36-40x), \$56.00/pp (30-36).

Tue 25-Thu 27 March: "Discover Loddon's Treasures" Bus Tour - 3-days (2 nights)

Using own V-Line ticket to Bendigo.

Cost: \$385.00/pp. Single supplement: \$25.00/pp.

Based on min 23-35 people, **OR \$455/pp for bus from Greensborough Memorial Park for 30x.**

Wed 23 April: Cranbourne Botanic Gardens

Incl. morning tea, walking tour of Gardens (*shuttle bus available at cost of \$4.00/pp for pension card holders*), 2-course lunch at Kelly's Motor Club.

Depart by bus Greensborough Memorial Park (McDowell Street entrance)

Time: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm. Cost: \$44.00/pp (by bus) \$22.00/pp (by car) **(COBA)**

Thu 9—Wed 15 October: Flinders Ranges, SA 7-day luxury coach tour (COBA)

Accommodation at Wilpena Pound in Flinders Ranges. 15 meals (6 breakfasts, 6 dinners, 3 lunches). All entry fees and guides.

Prices: \$1549.00/pp (30x), \$1499.00 (35x), \$1449.00 (40x). Single supplement \$498.00/pp. min Nos. 30 / max nos. 90)

Deposit of \$500.00/pp by March 31. Final payment by June 30. Payments are non-refundable after the above dates, so Travel Insurance is recommended. Daily seat rotation on bus.

For bookings see Peter at Branch meetings or phone: Peter Oaten - Tel: 9434 6795 or Bob Goodyear - Tel: 9435 2529

2014 Activities Program:

The activities listed below are activities for the remainder of the 2014 year:

Monday 26 May — Tour of Her Majesty's Theatre with lunch

Thursday 25 June — Morning Melodies with lunch, Werribee Tigers Clubhouse

Thursday 24 July — Xmas in July Lunch & Show, Tivoli Theatre, St Kilda (COBA)

Wednesday 27 August — Ten Pin Bowling, Thomastown

Monday 24 November — Tour of Latrobe Cottage & Government House

Thursday 4 December — Xmas Lunch at Sky High Restaurant, Dandenong (COBA)

Tuesday 9 December — Branch Christmas Dinner Dance at RSL.



AUTUMN 'SONGS OF PRAISE'

A delightful, pleasant Sunday afternoon program called **AUTUMN 'SONGS OF PRAISE'**, has been arranged for **SUNDAY, 30th MARCH, 2014, from 2.00 to 4.45 pm** and you and 'your people' are invited to be guests at this special event.

There is no charge and a delicious Afternoon Tea will be served following the program.

A pre-program of music and DVD'S starts at 1.30pm. The VENUE is Diamond Valley Baptist Auditorium at 309 Diamond Creek Road, Plenty. (Melways 11 D7)

We will join to sing many favourite hymns and songs and our GUEST ITEMS will include:-

KAYE HARRISON – a tribute to Dame Vera Lynn

THE WALTON SISTERS – Violin Duet

DALE PHILIP – Our own popular SOP Baritone will also sing and RON ELLIS will again comper the

event.

Although people of all ages attend, this pleasant Sunday Afternoon is an uplifting outing for extended families, residents of retirement villages and 'forgotten' people in our community. Why not invite some to travel in your car or perhaps arrange a busload?

Songs Of Praise is a DVBC 'Women In Focus' initiative!

Enquiries to the Honorary Organiser, Ron Ellis OAM on 0407 306 353 or by email: ron@ronellis.org



TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorraine Oaten

Balance as at 01/01/2014	16,004.59
Plus Income	
Cranbourne Gardens	142.00
Film Lunch	150.00
Phillip Island	559.00
Flinders Ranges Tour	1,470.00
Loddon Discovery tour	40.00
Attendance	284.00
Raffle	146.00
Total:	2,791.00
Less Expenditure	
Petrol Money Guest Speaker	35.00
Speakers Gift & Door Prizes	52.30
Gossip Printing December	91.00
Gossip Printing January	74.00
Computer Cartridges	114.49
Xmas Dinner Expenses	222.60
Total:	-589.39
Balance as at 31/01/2014	18,206.20

National Seniors Victorian Office Lecture Program - 2014

Australia

All members are welcome to attend the interesting and informative free one hour talks on **3rd Thursday of the month at Melbourne NSA office**, Block Court, Level 2, 290 Collins Street (take Lift 4 near Hunt Leather).

Morning Tea will be served from 10.30 - 11.00 am to give members the opportunity to mingle. The talks then commence at 11.00am.

PROGRAM:

20 February: Peter Dunn, Deputy Flotilla Commander, Coast Guard St Kilda, CG RV Skipper, Trainer and Assessor will talk about the adventures and responsibilities of the volunteer coast guard.

20 March: Stroke Prevention by Kevin English from the Australian Stroke Foundation.

17 April: Healthy Ageing presented by the City of Melbourne.

15 May: Centrelink: Paul Fleming will give an update on any changes or new policies in 2014 Federal Budget that impact on seniors.

19 June: Energy and Water Ombudsman on topical issues such as flexible pricing.

17 July: The Dunny Man: "Taking Care of Business": an historical viewpoint, presented by John Gardner.

MELBOURNE INVESTMENT GROUP:

For those interested in personal finance, shares and superannuation, the **Melbourne Investment Group** welcomes members from all branches to their meetings which are held on **1st Thursday of the month at 10.00 am**. There is a talk, followed by questions & answers.

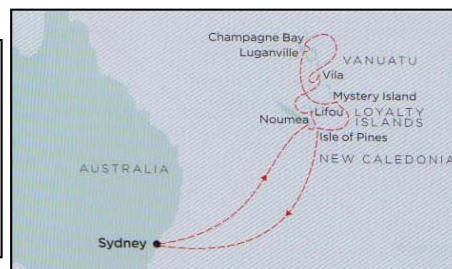
OVERSEAS TRIPS — 2015

Responses to the proposed cruises/overseas trips were as follows:

The **March 31 South Pacific Cruise** was the most popular choice. To lock in early bird discounts and cabins of choice (almost all in our group requested Midship Deck 4) people had to pay their deposits by 2 February. We thought we should go ahead and lock in those who had made a commitment so they wouldn't miss out on their preferred cabins. However I have since been able to extend the cut off time for further bookings (which is less than early bird discount - see price below) for those who needed more time to make a decision. **We currently have 11x people confirmed for this cruise.**

Bookings can still be taken for the above cruise but a deposit of \$100.00 must be paid 26 February. People will have a booking on Deck 4, but cabin allocation will not be made until a further \$400.00 deposit is paid to secure the preferred cabin number.

South Pacific Paradise	Departure 31 March, 2015
Radiance of the Seas	Royal Caribbean Cruises
12 nights	7 Ports
Ocean View mid deck 4	- \$1695.00/pp
Prices are based on twin share	
Cruises leave from Sydney & flights & transfers are extra	



Thailand in February was the second most popular tour. There were only a couple of members who had put their names down for both the cruise and Thailand and, after consulting those members, the Social Committee has decided to do both trips in 2015.

As Thailand is not a conducted tour, the cost is not a fixed one but should be approx. \$3000 - \$3200/pp based on current prices. The duration will be 12 to 14 days (10-24 February 2015) depending on what you want to fit in and how hectic you want the pace to be.

Included will be:

- Return airfares Melbourne / Bangkok (flight takes approx. 10 hours) & transfers to the hotel.
- Accommodation in Amari Watgate Hotel, Bangkok, incl breakfasts. (The hotel is located in the middle of the main markets & shops.)
- 3 day/2 night tour in Kanchanaburi, incl breakfasts & lunches. Kanchanaburi is where Australian soldiers were prisoners of war and we will visit the cemetery, museum and Hellfire Pass dedicated to this event. Other options (the group will decide which options they want included) are elephant riding, a trip on the Thai/Burma railway, the site of the famous Bridge on the River Kwai, waterfalls & tigers living with the monks.
- Flights from Bangkok to either Phuket or Koh Samui.
- Accommodation on the Island, incl breakfasts.
- Transfers to island airport, overnight accommodation at airport hotel & return flight to Melbourne.

As I will be leading this tour I would like members to research activities available in Kanchanaburi and also which beach resort they would prefer to stay in, i.e. Phuket or Koh Samui. From the feedback I receive I will tailor the tour accordingly. Activities in Bangkok can be decided on close to departure and during the year I will have some brochures available to peruse. Group activities can be arranged in Bangkok and on the island, or if you prefer you can have days to yourself for sightseeing and shopping. I think however you will want to do some of the options as a group, especially the night entertainment.

NOTE: If you have trouble walking or can't cope with the heat you should think twice about doing this tour. The weather is always hot and pavements are often broken and steps up from roads to the pavement are often quite high.

Numbers are limited to a maximum of 16 and I already have 10 names on my list.

If you are interested in participating in the above trips, please contact me by Email at: marg.wood@myshercon.com or Tel: 9438 4219 / Mob: 0412 607 844

<i>PS: A further overseas trip will be planned for 2016. We will seek members' suggestions / interest and you will be advised of the preferred destination well in advance.</i>

NOTICE BOARD



Are you planning to visit Thailand?

Member, **Marg Wood** - Tel: 9438 4219, is a regular visitor to Thailand and would be happy to advise you on:

- **The best shopping places.**
- **Where to buy tailor-made suits.**
- **Pitfalls for tourists.**
- **The wonderful, exciting experiences you can have.**

A must visit is to Kanchanaburi (the Thai Burma railway, the Bridge on the River Kwai, tigers living with monks, elephant rides & beautiful scenery).

Do not pre-book a tour from Australia for Kanchanaburi - you can do so much better if you deal directly with a local travel agent.



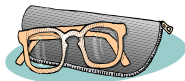
Are you interested in knitting children's garments or maybe toys?

Member, **Brita Daly**, collects knitted children's garments/toys.

If you no longer knit, but have unused wool at home, Brita would be happy to take this off your hands as she can give this to her knitters.

Items can be collected at Branch meetings, or you can contact Brita on **Tel: 9435 2816**.

(Don't forget you can always borrow one of the knitting books from the Craft Book Exchange!)



Spectacles & Sunglasses

The Fred Hollows Foundation uses second-hand spectacles and sunglasses to improve the sight of people in deprived communities in our Far North & Australian Islands.

You can assist by bringing along no-longer-used specs/sunglasses. *Cases for specs/sunglasses are also needed.*

Member, Lorraine Callow, will be happy to collect them at Branch meetings.

BOOK EXCHANGE & CRAFT BOOK EXCHANGE

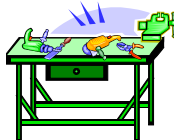


We operate a **Free Book Exchange** on Branch Meeting days. We ask only that you return the books to the Branch when you have finished reading them so that other members may have the opportunity to borrow the books.

(Tables are set up at the rear of the function room.)

Coordinators for this activity are:
Ken Pickett — Book Exchange
Lois Williams — Knitting/Craft Patterns

Members, please bring along your unwanted books.



Banyule Men's Shed

Do you know men with spare time and skills to share?
Men who enjoy tinkering with tools or getting their hands dirty in the garden?
Well, the Banyule Men's Shed is looking to recruit men to volunteer and be part of the shed.

At the shed, you're free to work on your own projects or help others work on community projects.
To get involved or find out more: **Call 9450 2000 or drop in any Monday 1.00 - 3.00 pm**
Cnr St Hellier & Edwin Streets, Heidelberg Heights



Anyone for Tennis?

If you would like to play social tennis in a very relaxed atmosphere on a Monday morning, between 9.30 am — 12 noon, please see **Glenda Sundstrom (Tel: 9435 4755)** or just turn up (weather permitting) at about 9.30 am for a game. The only criteria is that correct tennis shoes must be worn. The cost is \$3.00 per morning (incl a cuppa & biscuit).

The courts are located at the rear of the **Diamond Valley Baptist Church, 309 Diamond Creek Road, Plenty (Melways 11D7)**.

Garden Workshop Bunnings Eltham



Members are invited to attend the Bunnings Garden Workshop held in their Eltham store on 1st Thursday of the month at 10am - 12.00 noon. There is free morning tea. The topics are interesting and informative, with guest speakers and everyone has a lot of fun.

Bookings are required, for catering purposes - please contact: **Helen Philp - Activities Organiser on Tel: 9430 0100**.

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