

# The Meridian

## A W.S.C. Monthly Publication

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Dear Members

The Club is now returning to full capacity, with the holidays over and school in, those who help with grandchildren are free to resume their club activities in full.

The Bridge Group, celebrated the 89th Birthday of Kay Fullagar on the 12th Jan. A nice afternoon tea was provided and it was a joy to see the pleasure on Kay's face as we sang Happy Birthday. I had the enjoyable task of saying a few words and you can see how much Kay enjoys her Bridge days and the opportunity for a chat with her friends. As I stood and observed, the only word that could describe Kay's face on the day was ecstatic. It was so nice that a friend and former member, Amanda Mitchell, came along and shared the day.

Mon 19th Jan was the first of our Birthday Days that members had requested. Daphne MacGregor kindly gave her time to come along and play for us. It was a bit disappointing that more people did not support the event--only SIX people joined the group. Undaunted, we had a lovely hour of Sing-along with many of the real old favourites we have not sung for some years. This was followed by a nice afternoon tea supplied by the Club.

Our next Birthday Day should fall on the 16th Feb., but as that is the day our own Committee is playing host to the Committee Members from other Senior Citizens Clubs, the day will be held over until Mon 23rd Feb. Daphne has kindly agreed to play for us again on that date, so I do hope that members will try to keep a little free time to attend. If you wish to participate in sharing the Birthday Cake please give your Birthday Month in to the Office. For those other members wishing to attend it would be appreciated if you could bring something for two to share, to help supplement what the Club can provide.

Our Public Officer, Dennis Glanville, has been in a Sydney Hospital for surgery on his hip. We all hope he will be on the mend soon. We will be without Dennis for at least 6 months, but Myra has kindly offered to take over this very important job for as long as she can. Thank you, Myra.

Our Secretary, Joe Hinton, suddenly took ill with a stroke. As I write, Joe is waiting to go into Rehabilitation. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Joe as he faces the few months ahead, regaining his health with the very strong support of his wife, Roz.

I think at this point in time, the Club is at its lowest point. What with our Committee Members off with illness, holidays, and those who resigned, our Committee is not at full strength. Office Duty is again an area where we need more help, otherwise it falls on the shoulders of the same 2 or 3 people. Please consider offering your services even if it is only for half a day, and it need not be every week. A big 'Thank you' to Bob Summersby who has offered to take the Minutes at the meetings -- we may be lucky enough to have him and Pat again on the Committee, even if only semi-permanent.

#### PARKING

The Road Work at Woden Plaza is having a great effect on people, so they park here. I received 5 calls on one day from people wishing to join a parent as a Member. That is fine, but then they added that parking was needed to go to the Library, Shopping, Health Centre etc, etc. When I explained our parking rules the offer for membership was declined.

Even after our time for activities, sometimes the car parking spaces are full with members--and non-members--still coming in. The Committee will need to have a lot more discussion on this. We need bigger, better notices up VERY SOON, before it gets out of hand. Is there a member/members who could paint notices for us? I do not think it fair to keep asking Santo to do jobs. Although he is always willing he did resign to have a REST. We used to have chains across the ENTRY-EXITS--would that be practicable? This can be brought up at the General Meeting, as sometime, there may not be a parking space for YOU.

We are hoping for a grant sometime in February or March but this has to be MATCHED by Club Funds. There are so many needs, and the money will not go far, so sadly, some groups will miss out, which seems unfair. Our Monthly Club Raffle will be drawn on the day of our Dance Social. Please support it and buy a ticket or two, as the funds from this will help provide what is needed for the groups who miss out on Grant money. We should all be thinking of our other Members and helping each other. The Southern Cross Club is going to donate some tables, and we may be considered for chairs with arms, from Woden Plaza's 1998 Wish List.

I have written to the Minister for Sports and Recreation, requesting that our Club be considered for a share in the money left over from last year's Masters' Games. It would be very welcome indeed if the club shared their Pay Out.

#### FUND RAISERS

The Club has had very heavy costs over this past year and still more to be considered, particularly better heating for our main hall before winter sets in. These last two winters, members of the Choir had to

have coats over their knees to keep warm. With a very bad winter forecast for this year, heating costs will soar. Heaters are very expensive to install (air-conditioning is not an option for this building), so, no matter how much we have in the Bank, we need to look at what we can do to bring in more funds. The Table Tennis Group will host Tournaments on the following dates-- March 8th; June 21st; September 13th.

It has also been suggested that there could be a Cards Day, but this still has to be approved and confirmed by Group Leaders. So, come on, you other groups, let's get behind something positive for this year, to make it even better than last. Your ideas, suggestions, would be very much appreciated.

The Craft Group is a very hardworking group of ladies (and one gentleman) who turn out all sorts of lovely handcrafted items. This brings in quite a lot of money over the year, especially at the Fete and the Pre-Christmas Stalls etc. They all enjoy a chat and a cuppa while they work with such patience. Thank you all.

Sill on the subject of Fund Raising, I have arranged to have a Fashion Show, by Noni B. This will take place at the Club on Monday 21st September at 12.30pm. We will have some of our own members to model the clothes. Some have already accepted and I shall be approaching more, as we need 10 models in all.

It would be nice if we could have an International Day--especially if some of our members would consent to make a dish which represents their own country. We have nearly 20 Nations represented in the Club. Could be a great day!

It could be a 'Food Tasting' Day, or a Lunch, depending on the offers of support. Entertainment would be provided also. This could take place possibly in October. If you would like to participate in what would be a very nice event, please give your name to me (Marion) and give an idea of what you could offer.

#### RECIPE BOOK

Pat Summersby has kindly agreed to put together a book for November--just in time for Christmas. She will be asking members to give recipes (not more than 2) from their own country to be included. We will keep the cost as low as possible.

Again on the subject of Raffles, I wish to extend a very big 'Thank You', on behalf of myself, the Committee, and Members, to Mrs Myra Hickey and Mrs Cynthia Roberts. These ladies took on the awesome task of approaching almost every business in the Woden Plaza, the Clubs etc., to request donations for prizes for our Club. Now this, to me, was a Mammoth Job, which required many hours of footwork. Then they carried the treasure back to the club in the terrible heat, which would have been very tiring. Add to this all the paperwork--but they both did it VERY WILLINGLY as it was for the good of the Club. Now, if TWO ladies could do all this, just think what could be achieved if more people pulled together; not only in the possible events, activities, that could be arranged, but by putting aside a little of your time to support these events. It is so easy, as we get older, to get into a rut (as the saying goes), and to be involved in just our own activity. We are caught up with family problems, our health, the heat that takes a toll on our energies. But come on! Let's get some new life into our Club; let us get behind what is going on outside of our own groups. Consider the importance of our Committee; we MUST have a full quota in every area, otherwise our Club can not survive. We have to look to the future, not just the present. What happens if no-one is willing to take over, or to help fill in when a crisis arises, I hate to think. If the Club collapsed I know there would be many who would be lonely and bored. I for one.

BEWARE -- TAKE CARE!!!

As I have previously advised some groups, and for those who may not yet, bag snatchers are around. It was a very stressful experience on Monday 26th January, when one of our Choir Members had her bag snatched right outside the Club. The Choir were practising as usual, even though it was a holiday. Apparently, our member was followed all the way from the Post Office. There were no other people around apart from that young man, so another member could see a young man follow Mary, who was out of hearing distance. Members, please be Very Careful; keep your bag close to your body. If you do not need Bank or Credit Cards on the day, it would be safer to keep those at home. I have arranged for Constable Shashana, Victim Liaison Officer in Woden), to come and give a talk--possibly Monday 9th March.

Please try to arrange your time to come along and listen. It should be very informative.