

The Meridian

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Well, February was yet again a very busy month for some. On the 16th our Committee played host to the Committees of the other Senior Citizens Clubs. It was not a long drawn out meeting, but certainly very fruitful. We shared what is happening in each of our Clubs--the activities and ways to raise funds etc. It was a time of sharing and getting to know each other better, followed by a nice afternoon tea. We shall display each other's activities and events, and I shall certainly be visiting each of them over the next few months and sharing in an activity. I have had some very nice feedback, comments on the day.

The 18th was certainly a great day of celebration by the Bowlers Group, when they had a Surprise Lunch for Doll (Mrs Marks) who has reached the grand age of 94! It is a wonderful thing to reach such a golden age, but what is more amazing is that Doll still bowls (a mean ball, too.). This shows that age is no barrier to keeping fit and busy. Warmest congratulations to you, dear. I am sorry I could not share the day with you, but it was a day out with Choir.

Speaking of Choir, they are keeping very busy, out every week at the moment. Our bus failed to turn up on one day, so we all piled in to every available car, so that the residents were not disappointed. A new member has joined recently. Welcome Gail--I do hope you enjoy being with us.

There was an enjoyable Day Trip to Kosciuzsko on the 20th--a rare time to relax and enjoy a day out. It was disappointing that the Wildflowers had mostly died off because of the elements, but the morning and afternoon teas and lovely picnic lunch supplied by Levers, more than compensated.

We had our Saturday Social on the 21st. I was in at 9am to get started as our usual helpers were out selling raffle tickets, but I was pleased to have the help of Margaret Perry and two new helpers. Everyone praised the afternoon tea, thanks to Vi Douch who buys the supplies. Those who won the 6 Spot Prizes and the free raffle prize, were very pleased indeed. We have seen numbers growing again which is good.

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Myra once again organized the Polling Day Raffle, and with the willing aid of a small band of helpers, who sold raffle tickets and sold Craft Items, raised the grand amount of \$717 !! Very well done, and a big Thank You, yet again from myself Committee and Members. It led me to think of the news items recently on Australia's National Treasures, well who would dispute we have our own here at Woden Club--those who quietly go about helping, doing what they can to raise funds and yet do not look for special mention. I greatly admire those few who do so much for the many.

All the other groups are going well. The Folk Dancers are learning new dances; we already have two engagements for the near future, and no doubt more to come.

Monday 23rd was Birthday Day. Again it was a disappointing start to the afternoon and I am afraid I felt a bit upset at the lack of support--not for myself, but for our guest pianist, Daphne McGregor. However, gracious lady that she is, she was prepared to play, even if only two of us were there. Like a true artiste the show must go on. But the group grew, and once again everyone was singing the items with gusto. Daphne can play anything you ask and not a sheet of music in sight. We had 5 Birthday people who shared cutting the cake and we all joined in the eating of it. Thank you to the person who donated it, yummy.

The Raffle was drawn just before we broke up, with the following prizewinners;

1st Margaret Bingham \$50 voucher
2nd Len Minty Leather Handbag
3rd C. Miland Dinner at Yamba Club
4th K. Smith Box of Chocolates.

POSITION VACANT

SECRETARY--Responsible Position--Remuneration NIL

PERKS--only our appreciation.

We legally MUST have a Secretary.

I had a phone call from the Marketing Manager of Woden Plaza, who was concerned about our parking problems. These are getting beyond control and make a full time job for our Duty Officers. I am pleased to say that Woden Plaza has offered to have signs made for the Club which we hope will alleviate the problem. But, we are still finding MEMBERS with no visible sticker. Please, co-operate and make our job easier. We hope the new signs will be up very soon.

STOP PRESS--the signs arrived as I was typing this. L.P.

I wish to thank those members of the Table Tennis Group, who as former Committee members, have helped out in the office on Wednesday afternoons. They saw the need and their assistance is much appreciated. However, we must have a full complement, as we have no names on our emergency list at all, who can be called on to replace a Duty Officer who is sick or has to be away for other reasons. We are not asking for help EVERY week, or EVERY month as has been previously indicated in these pages, but surely, with the number of members we have, there are a few more out there who could offer some service to the Club in this way. With Winter approaching, with its ills and chills. we have to make sure the office is "manned" (mostly "womanned") from 9.30am to 3pm. There will be more discussion on this at the General Meeting.

For those groups who will benefit from the Sport & Rec. Grant--the Bowlers Group now have their new mat and a decision will be made on one of the old ones, whether it could be passed on to a Retirement Village as requested. The Bike Rack will be in place very soon. Those members who cycle to the Club will be REQUIRED to use this facility as we must be mindful of the safety of our members, especially those with walking difficulties etc. The Table Tennis players will have their items very shortly.

Despite many requests there are still a few members who do not display their car sticker. The Duty Officer of the day checks the cars to find out who is parking illegally. During these checks it has been found that some members are not financial, membership having run out in 1996/1997. You will receive a friendly reminder soon. More on parking at the Special General Meeting. (How did they get the current coloured sticker?) The car park will SOON be patrolled by RTA Parking Inspectors who will issue on-the-spot fines for cars without a WSC car pass ON DISPLAY.

We had our Committee Meeting on 9th March and also had our guest speaker Constable Tania Shakshania. It was VERY PLEASING to see so many people turn up. The talk was excellent and very well-received. I will ask for more brochures for the Club. Those members wishing to order a Personal Alarm please leave your name at the office for Marion to order. REMEMBER--our next Informal Monday 20th April 12.30, will be a demonstration of One Pot Cooking---and, yes, you get to sample the finished meal.

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Easter will soon be upon us; Members will be able to avail themselves of buying some small Chocolate Eggs, if they wish, here at the Club. There will also be an Easter Raffle. Thank you for the ideas, Myra.

Our Public Officer, Dennis Glanville, is out of hospital and already catching up on a backlog of work -and not taking the time to fully recover, as I feel he should. But then, are we not all the same at times. His wife, Jean, goes in to hospital soon for an eye operation; Jack had a fall on Tuesday (no serious results); Edie Douch has been in hospital and Jean Dymond (Table Tennis) also had a fall. I send my good wishes to all of these friends, for a very quick recovery, as do the Committee and Members. As I was writing this Marjory from the Craft Group, rang to say that she is going into hospital also.

In the midst of all the sad news- one Happy Event. Sharon, who usually helps Kath with the Thursday Lunches, has recently had a baby boy. Congratulations. No name or other details yet known.

Marion Ferguson

President.

Patty Wigram and Myra Hickey recently attended a meeting to discuss the 27th Annual Seniors Handcraft Exhibition. The meeting was held at the Queanbeyan Senior Citizens Centre.

The Exhibition will be held in October.

'Set-up' day will be Tuesday 6th October; Official Opening on Wednesday. The Exhibition will be open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. As Thursday is Q'bn's Late Night Shopping, the Exhibition will be open until 8pm on that day.

The next meeting will be on Monday 4th May.