



# Meridian



Volume 2 Issue 11

The monthly newsletter of the Woden Senior Citizens' Club

November 2000



Overheard in the Bridge Room:

*She said she'd like something with lots of diamonds. So I've bought her a pack of cards .....*

## THE PRESIDENT REPORTS:

As I write this it is November 26, the day after our Summer Fete, and I have just returned home after being at a Pantomime rehearsal, "The Sleeping Beauty", presented by the Southern Cross Players. Over twenty Club members attended this very enjoyable presentation. Did you know that the Southern Cross Players rehearse in our clubroom every Tuesday evening?

Tremendous efforts and excellent contributions were made by the Club members to the fete. It was a very good day for us. When the financial position is clear we will "post up" the results. Thank you all so very much. We will now begin the planning for Woden Wool 2001!

The Committee met on 16 November. The following details relate to key components of the meeting:

1. Elizabeth Halfnights resigned as Vice President but agreed to stay on the Committee; Shirley Kelly was appointed as Vice President. We are very pleased that Elizabeth will continue as a committee member and I know that Shirley will make a great contribution.
2. A sub-committee was established to review and make recommendations on safety and security measures for the Club building and environment. It will report by the end of December.
3. The Bureau of Sport & Recreation has been approached to provide three new table tennis tables. We expect a response soon. We are also seeking some government assistance in the provision of more user-friendly taps in the

bathrooms. Incidentally, I discussed the upgrade of the car park with the Chief Minister when he was here on Fete day. I am quite optimistic of government support.

4. The grounds have been professionally surveyed and Umar Bourke our Office Administrator has taken on the project as a Club member. He expects to have Stage 1 of the grounds development plan ready to submit to a professional draughtsman in the very near future. There has been a change of emphasis and our plans now include an increase in car parking space over what is now available.

5. The hairdresser's contract has been cancelled, but the Committee has decided to readdress the issue. Shirley Kelly is convening a sub-committee which will examine all factors relating to the re-establishment of a hair dressing service at the Club. You will have noted the details on the Club notice boards.

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## CHAT WITH PAT

Dear Members,

Are we ever going to get some sunshine? I'm always being told that rain is good for the garden and my own patch is living proof that everything is "blooming lovely" - especially Bob's roses.

I phoned Maureen Schenk recently. She sounded cheerful although tired. Maureen is still having chemotherapy and will have a CAT scan soon to see if further surgery is possible. She went on to say that Werner is a very good carer and that he is a tower of strength. She wishes to be remembered to you all. Maureen is asking for light reading material if anyone has any to spare.

I notice that each group at the Club is keeping busy and that the Melbourne Cup day was a big success. Now we are all gearing up for Christmas, which will be upon us very soon

My best wishes to you all

Pat Summersby

### Thought for the month.

Don't resent growing old. Some people never have the opportunity to do so.

#### EDITORIAL

Readers are probably wondering why this issue of The Meridian did not "hit the streets" until November was history. By way of explanation, a draft lay-out of Meridian is normally not decided upon until after the monthly committee meeting, so that matters raised there can be disseminated.

Furthermore, tradition dictates that certain contributions must be included, and if an important Club event intervenes, taking the time and attention of the Executive, these contributions may understandably be delayed. This month, a combination of a late committee meeting and the annual fete, held late in the month, meant that normal deadlines could not be met. (And anyway, we retired to get away from deadlines, didn't we?) Another matter which has been occupying the mind of your Editor lately is that of old records. Before the Club acquired its own computer, a lot of Club documents were stored on their authors' privately owned computers, taking up much wanted disk space. A matter which will soon need to be addressed is the question of which of this material should now be transferred to the Club's machine, and which may safely be consigned to oblivion. In many cases the decision is easy. Clearly, permanent documents such as the Constitution must be kept, and equally clearly things like old memos, Public Officers monthly accounts and reports etc. are never likely to be wanted again.

In between however there is a no-mans-land where matters are less clear cut. For example, some years ago a group of our members compiled, at the behest of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, a small book of wartime reminiscences. It seems a pity to send these literary efforts to that great Byte Cemetery in

cyberspace, but can their retention be justified? I think not. But before they are erased the Computer Group has intimated that it will be happy to make a copy for anyone willing to supply a floppy disk for the purpose. Incidentally, the budding authors were: Jim Mayne, Margaret Cannons, the late Nan Davies, John Flowers, Kathleen Heath, Marie Howard, Nerida Hunter, Norman Hunter, Margaret Noakes, Renee Prosser, Rosa Jones, Dennis Glanville, Pat Summersby and the late Elsie Willoughby.



#### ON THE BOARDS

- items you may have overlooked on the Notice Boards.

##### ATTENTION GROUP LEADERS:

On the board in the Entrance Hall you will find a notice which enables you to let everyone know the date of your last meeting before the Christmas break, and when you will be starting again in the new year. Yes, I know you have announced this to your own group, but you would be amazed how many enquiries the Office receives when there is no-one from your group around to ask! So please take a moment to put the dates in for all to see.

#### THE CONSTITUTION

By the time you read this there should be available in the main hall a copy of the Constitution as amended at the last AGM. So this seems is a good time to remind you of an important consequence of those amendments, namely, there is no longer a period of grace for late payers. Membership ceases immediately if subs are not paid by July 1st., and if you let your membership lapse you must re-apply for membership by completing a membership application form.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Contd.)

6. The Club will be officially closed from 25th. December to 1st. January inclusive. Activity group conveners are asked to inform us when their groups will finish for the year and when they will recommence in the New Year. There is a form on the notice board for this purpose.

The Committee will meet once more this year and there will be a final issue of The Meridian for the year before the end of December.

We were all very saddened by the death of Kay Fullager on 15th. November. Kay was a founding member of the Club and a wonderful woman who made a great contribution to the Club.

Anne Murray  
(President)

## UNCOLLECTED PARKING PERMITS.

Parking permits bearing the names of John White, Ian Grigor, Joan Rackham and Robert Keenan have been in the Office for some time and should be collected as soon as possible.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Dear Sir,  
Could you please find space in the Meridian for me and my fellow workers on the Cake Stall at the Fete to express our thanks to all those members and friends who contributed those lovely cakes and pastries etc., or the ingredients for making them. I would like to thank each of you personally but there are so many that this is not possible. Without your support the Stall could not have been the success it was.*

*Jean Glanville*

*The following is going around the Internet. No comment.*

NOTICE OF REVOCATION OF INDEPENDENCE

To the citizens of the United States of America:

In the light of your failure to elect a President of the USA and thus to govern yourselves, we hereby give notice of the revocation of your independence, effective today.

Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will resume monarchical duties over all states, commonwealths and other territories. Except Utah, which she does not fancy. Your new prime minister (the Rt. Hon. Tony Blair MP., for the benefit of those 97.85% of you who have until now been unaware that there is a world outside your borders) will appoint a minister for America without the need for further elections.

Congress and the Senate will be disbanded. A questionnaire will be circulated next year to determine whether any of you noticed.

To aid in the transition to a British Crown Dependency, the following rules are introduced with immediate effect:

1. You should look up "revocation" in the Oxford English Dictionary. Then look up "aluminium". Check the pronunciation guide. You will be amazed at just how wrongly you have been pronouncing it. Generally, you should raise your vocabulary to acceptable levels. (Look up "vocabulary".) Using the same twenty seven words interspersed with filler noises such as "like" and "you know" is an unacceptable and inefficient form of communication. (Look up "interspersed".)
2. There is no such thing as "US English". We will let Microsoft know on your behalf.
3. You should learn to distinguish the English and Australian accents. It really isn't that hard.
4. Hollywood will be required occasionally to cast English actors as the heroes.
5. You should relearn your original national anthem, "God Save The Queen".
6. You should stop playing American "football". The 2.15% of you who are aware that there is a world outside your borders may have noticed that no one else plays "American football". You should instead play proper football. Initially, it would be best if you played against girls only. It is a difficult game. Those of you brave enough will, in time, be allowed to play rugby (which is similar to American "football", but does not involve stopping for a rest every twenty seconds or wearing full kevlar body armour like nancies).
7. Be aware that the Russians and Iraqis have never been the really bad guys. Instead you should declare war on Quebec and France, using nuclear weapons if they give you any merde. (Look up "merde" in a French dictionary).
8. July 4th is no longer a public holiday. November 8th will be a new national holiday. It will be called "Indecisive Day".

*There's more, but in the interests of international diplomacy let's not pursue it.*

*Ed.*