



# Maroondah Message

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## *Years Ahead—road safety for seniors*



At our February meeting Mel Higgins from the RACV gave a very comprehensive presentation on road safety for seniors

including: driving and road safety tips for drivers passengers and pedestrians; the importance of choosing a safe vehicle; the impact of health and medications on driving; how to assess your own driving ability and how to plan for future mobility.



At our next meeting on May 9th Kate Hammond will discuss the role of the Legal Ombudsman



### What is coming up:

- May 9th Kate Hammond "Role of the Legal Ombudsman"
- May 12th Dine-out at Sweet Chilli
- May 19th Bushwalk
- May 26th Coffee Club at the Balsamic
- May 29th Potatoes Paddock to Plate
- June 20th—Robyn Anderson a nurse in Vietnam

## *A Man and His Passion*



This week at a business networking function our speaker was Leonard Long a very successful landscape artist. Awarded the Order of Australia Medal

in 1993 for his services to Australian Art. Leonard's work is in numerous galleries and private collections throughout the world including: HRH The Queen Mother's Collection; Art Gallery of NSW, The Vatican Collection, Rome; the National Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.

He is 93 years old and still paints five days a week starting at 8:30am. He lectured the artists present on the need for good business practices and told the business people how important it was to love what you do. He was witty, passionate, entertaining and an inspiration to everyone in the room.

A great role model for seniors!

## *Social Activities*

### **DINNER CLUB - Thursday May 12th 7pm**

Following our first successful night at La Porchetta the dine-out group have decided their next dinner will be on May 12th at *Sweet Chilli* Thai Restaurant in Heathmont shopping centre. No pre-payment is necessary but we do need to advise the restaurant of numbers. If you will be attending this please let one of the people on the Activities Committee know (see back page).

### **Tarrawarra Museum of Art - Wed 18th May - Cancelled**

This outing did not attract any interest so we have cancelled it. However if you are ever looking for an interesting place to visit in the Yarra Valley I thoroughly recommend it.

### **Bushwalk—Thursday May 19th**

By popular request we have organized a walk through the Mullum Mullum Creek Linear Park between Reynolds Rd and Warrandyte Rd Doncaster East. We will meet at 9:30 am at the parking lot for the Hockey Oval next to the Cnr of Reynolds Rd and Springvale Rd. It is an easy 30 to 45 minutes walk to Beasley's Nursery where we will have morning tea before returning at about midday. For more information phone Rae Feeney 9876-1577.



### **Coffee Club—Thursday May 26th**



The first meeting of the coffee club was voted a success by the 11 people who attended so another meeting has been organized for Thursday 26th May at 2:00pm at the Balsamic (upstairs next to the cinema at Eastland). You don't need to book just turn up for a cuppa and a chat. At the last meeting there were 10 ladies and Garry. Eileen says the ladies made Garry welcome and would welcome any other males who would like to attend.

### **Potatoes, Paddock to Plate - Sunday 29th May**

This bus tour is being organised by Doncaster Branch to the charming township of Thorpdale (Victoria's potato capital) where you will be able buy some fantastic Potato Bread, wander through Val's Country Garden and sample some real Potato Ice-Cream, low fat of course. Lunch will be at the Trafalgar Hotel where of course the Spud is on the menu, served as a main course with all the good trimmings. The bus leaves Bulleen at 9:00 am arriving back approximately 4:30-5:00pm. We already have a group from Maroondah going so they will do a pickup in Ringwood. The cost will be from \$32 to \$36 depending on how many people go.

## May 2005 Zone Meeting

The zone meeting was held on the 2nd of May. Peter Feeney, Gino Barba and Garry Tatnell attended from our branch. The meeting was addressed by Jim Purcell who in January 2005 was appointed Senior National Policy Officer for COTA National Seniors. He explained to the group how he promotes policy by his role on various boards, committees and advisory groups. He makes regular appearances before Government and Senate enquiries and is in regular contact with senior public servants. He also explained how the most significant outcome of the merger with COTA has been the incorporation of State Policy Councils into the group and the employment by each state of full time Policy Officers. The new Victorian Manager, Policy and Programs who starts on the 9th is Mandy Levaratt.

The voting on the various policy motions presented at this meeting went the same way as recommended by our own policy sub committee with the exception of the motion opposing the full sale of Telstra which was passed by a slim majority.

The next zone meeting will be on September 5th and will be hosted by our branch giving delegates from other branches a chance to visit beautiful Maroondah and giving more members from our branch a chance to meet people from other branches and see the how COTA National Seniors policies are formulated.

## Quartet - the Curtain Comes Down

On Saturday evening a small group of us saw the play "Quartet" at the Karrylyka Theatre. This is a very intimate theatre with an excellent layout so that even in the back row you have an excellent view and excellent acoustics (but we were in the second row). It was a full house this evening with 95% of the audience being over 50 and every single one of them loved it. It was also clear that the older you were the more you could identify with and be amused by the characters on stage.

The acting was excellent, and the spontaneous reactions of the audience a clear indication of how pointedly the script touched people. The play ran the gamut from poignantly intimate to rollickingly boisterous and as their publicity said it really was a "must see" for anyone of any age who hopes to grow old with gusto!

It has moved on to NSW so if you have friends in Canberra or Wollongong tell them not to miss it.

Don't forget our next Meeting on Monday May 9th:

- Kate Hammond discusses "The Role of the Legal Ombudsman"
- Federation Estate  
32 Greenwood Ave  
Ringwood  
starting 2:00pm

# 2005 CONVENTION



Travel with Deer Park Branch in a luxury five star coach featuring on board toilet facilities. Travel will be interspersed with ample breaks to relieve muscles. Videos will be shown to while away the time.

Twin share accommodation inclusive of breakfast will be provided in the Blue Mountains along with transport to and from the Convention.

Day tours of Sydney and the Blue Mountains are also included in the package.

- ◆ Departure 7.00 a.m.
- ◆ Thursday 13th October
- ◆ Deer Park Club 780 Ballarat Rd, Deer Park
- ◆ Return Monday 17th October.
- ◆ To make bookings or obtain further information ring Rose Ellen Hanna on 9363 2604
- ◆ Cost: \$530
- ◆ Deposit: \$130 by 1st June
- ◆ Balance: \$400 by 22nd September
- ◆ Cheques made payable to National Seniors Deer Park Branch
- ◆ Convention Costs and Meals not included.
- ◆ (Pay Convention Fees to COTA National Seniors see 50 Something Magazine for further information)

## National Seniors Association Maroondah-Ringwood Branch

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*The independent voice of senior Australians*

### Our Committee

President:	Peter Feeney	9879-0622
Vice-President	Gino Barba	9876-3619
Secretary	John Longayroux	9725-7798
Treasurer	Harold Davidson	9876-3921
Policy Officer	Stephanie Mitchinson	9725-2181

### Activities

Committee	Rae Feeney	9876-1577
Committee	Sandra Price	9720-9797
Committee	Gary Tatnell	9725-0891
Committee	Tricia Kristenson	9723-9389
Speaker Organizer	Lenore Macdonald	9893-2032

### General Committee

Jan Black	9870-8662
Tony Hampton	9876-1946
Thelma Licheri	9876-4014

The Next committee meeting will be May 23rd at the Licheri's home commencing at 2:00pm.

If you are interested in attending any event in this newsletter please phone one of the Activities Committee above or e-mail [peter@innsys.com.au](mailto:peter@innsys.com.au)

### Contributors Wanted

I am sure that there are many of you out there with something to say and here is your chance. I am looking for contributors to this newsletter. I am looking for articles of interest to our members or even a review of one of our speakers or one of our outings.

Or maybe you have some gripe that you want to air or some issue that you would like to see discussed by the policy committee or maybe you even have a good news story. If you do then send it to me.

You can either e-mail me [peter@innsys.com.au](mailto:peter@innsys.com.au) or post it to Peter Feeney, 11 O'Neill Way Warranwood 3134.

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*Save Money and Help The Group  
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