

August, 2014

Volume 11, Issue 8



Maroondah Message

Dates to Remember

- **August 30**—Breakfast at Table Talk
- **September 1**—Branch Meeting at Maroondah Sports Club
- **September 4**—Walk at Mullum Mullum Creek
- **September 5**—10th Birthday Lunch at MSC
- **September 9** -Morning Melodies at Karralyka, Tiffs and Riffs
- **September 18** - Walk from H.E. Parker Reserve
- **September 24**—Dinner at Raffaele's

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 1. Our speaker will be from Assistance Dogs about the training and placement of assistance dogs to physically disabled recipients, providing greater independence and life improvement through the human and dog interaction and assistance.

AUGUST MEETING



This month we celebrated our 10th Annual General Meeting. The Committee remains unchanged, except for the resignation of Thelma Licheri who has served for ten consecutive years. Many thanks to Thelma for all her hard work over this time.

Following the formalities of the AGM our member-speakers once again proved to be a huge success.

We heard about some of **Roger Boness'** adventures whilst on holidays. Roger told of his role in the rescue of a drowning woman in a river in Vietnam, only to witness her arrest a short time later! He spoke of his very lucky escape from a falling elephant during a safari in Thailand, as well as his and Julie's part in the rescue of two drowning Japanese tourists during a snorkelling expedition.



Mel Lawrence spoke about his recollections as a boy during World War II, both in Melbourne and the country. His memories included those of newsreels during his visits to the cinema, depicting some very graphic images of the capture of enemy soldiers and his visit to Melbourne to join in the jubilation as Melburnians celebrated the end of the war.

Rod Fox entertained us with his story about being selected for the very prestigious role of the **Lone Piper** at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. He spoke of his hazardous location on the ramparts of the castle during his presentation, as well as his fear of not performing well. Fortunately all turned out well, as did his excellent rendition of *The Dark Isle* which followed his talk.



Congratulations to our speakers on their excellent preparation and presentations. As mentioned after our previous member-speaker session, it is never an easy task to be a guest speaker to one's fellow members.

GOURMET FOOD HAMPER LUCKY NUMBER COMPETITION



This is the second of the hampers received from our local MPs, Michael Sukkar and Dee Ryall. All proceeds will go to our branch. Tickets will be sold at the September meeting, for \$1 each or 3 for \$2. Don't forget to bring along your gold coins so that you can be in the running to win this delicious hamper which contains a variety of gourmet treats.

MAROONDAH SPORTS CLUB



If you are not already a member of Maroondah Sports club, join up to save yourself the hassle of signing in for every meeting. There are significant benefits for members including 10% discount on bar prices as well as special members' nights with a host of giveaways. Membership costs \$16.50 single and \$22.00 double. Find out more at: www.maroondahclub.com.au

WALKING GROUP

Thursday, September 4 –September 4 Mullum Mullum Creek Walk



This is one of our longer walks—approximately 45 minutes each way— but is fairly flat.

Meet in the car park at the rear of Sofia's restaurant. We walk along the creek to Café Torrente for morning tea before returning to Sofia's.

Short version:- Meet the rest of the group as they cross Oban Road—approximately 20 minutes later than the walk starting time.

Thursday, September 18 - H.E. Parker Reserve

Starting out from the car park at H E Parker Reserve in Heathmont (Melways Map 64 C2). This is an easy treed walk about 35 minutes each way.

If there is heavy rain the walk will be cancelled and we will meet at Myer Cafeteria for coffee at 9:30 am. Current regular walks begin at 9:30 a.m.

Please contact Mel 9870 1597 for more details about any of the walks.

TOUR OF HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE



Our tour of 'The Maj', as it affectionately known, on July 21 was a great success with over 20 participants. We were presented with a brief film history of the theatre before our tour. The highlight of the tour for most of us was being able to walk on-stage and discuss the production and sets of *Les Mis* with the stage manager. We were also fortunate to encounter the owner of the theatre, Mike Walsh, in the corridors behind scenes, on one of his infrequent visits to Melbourne, from his current home base in England. We were served a scrumptious lunch of gourmet sandwiches. The visit inspired a group booking to a matinee performance of *Les Miserables* on November 19. At time of going to press there are still a few tickets available at \$60 each. All in all, a most enjoyable outing. Many thanks to Helen Fox for her excellent organisation.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT WILD CATTLE CREEK ESTATE

Our branch Christmas Lunch will held at Wild Cattle Creek Estate, 473 Warburton Highway, Wandin North from 12 noon on Thursday, December 18. The cost is \$49 per person plus the cost of drinks. Included in the lunch package is a two course meal—main and dessert—with tea and coffee. The venue is available to us until 4.00 p.m. so there will be plenty of time for our meal and exploration of the beautiful winery estate. Book online or at our monthly meeting.



Dine-Outs Coming Up



Lunch: Friday, September 5. 12:30—10th Birthday Celebration Lunch at Maroondah Sports club.

Dinner: Wednesday, September 24, 7:00 p.m. Raffaele’s Italian Cuisine, 4/66 Main Street, Croydon.

Bookings can be made on our web site, at the September meeting or by telephoning **Trish Nixon**.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Please remember that it is most important, if you have booked for an event and are unable to attend, that you cancel your reservation as soon as possible. It can cause embarrassment to the organizer if people who have booked do not attend and the venue has prepared for a larger group.

If you need to cancel a booking that you have made for a **lunch** or **dinner** dine-out, please contact Trish Nixon on **9725-5883**.

Also, don’t forget to bring along enough cash to pay for your share of the bill as credit card payments are not acceptable, due to many establishments not accepting bill-splitting.

MORNING MELODIES AT KARRALYKA



There are still tickets available for the next Morning Melodies on Tuesday, September 9. The show is *Riffs and Tiffs*.

Husband and wife team Brenton and Jacqui Edgecombe - aka String Fever - are a classic mismatch of cello-toff with fiddling maniac. This dynamic duo combines their early careers in the symphony (working with artists such as Pavarotti and Ray Charles) with 15 years as entertainers. Their amusing musical battle of the sexes will take you from bluegrass to Beethoven to the Beatles, including a cheeky tribute to Andre Rieu and an unforgettable Elton John impression. You can book on line or by contacting Peter Feeney. Bookings must be made before September 1 so that tickets can be obtained for our September meeting. The cost is \$18.50 which includes a sumptuous morning tea which is served at 9:45 followed by the show commencing at 10:30 a.m.

NSA VICTORIAN OFFICE THURSDAY LECTURES

These are held at 2nd Floor, Block Court, 290 Collins Street, Melbourne. This is a separate entry to Block Arcade. Look for Lift 4 just before Hunt Leather. Sessions are from 11.00a.m.—12.05p.m. with free morning tea.

18th September—Chris Grice, General Manager NSA Insurance “Travel insurance and other insurance issues for seniors”.

16th October—Arnold Bates, Chairman Victorian Policy Advice Group “The Victorian Election—Issues for NSA members”

STITCHES AND CRAFT FAIR

Locally Made, the craft shop in North Ringwood, has a bus attending the fair at Caulfield Racecourse on Thursday, October 23. Book early on 9876 2384 as seats are limited.

MAROONDAH-RINGWOOD BRANCH

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Contributions to the Newsletter

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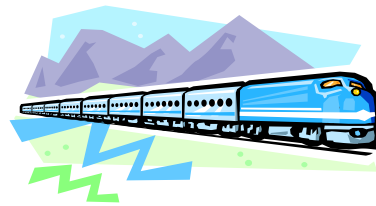
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BENDIGO TRAIN TRIP

On Wednesday, September 10 we have planned to travel to Bendigo for the day using our free rail passes. The Bendigo train departs Southern Cross Station at 7.42 a.m. and arrives in Bendigo around 10.00 a.m. The connecting train leaves Ringwood at 6.34 a.m. and arrives at Southern Cross at 7.13 a.m. This will allow plenty of time for change of platform, restroom visit etc. During our time in Bendigo a visit to the Bendigo Gallery is intended (entry cost is \$9.00 concession), followed by lunch at a local eatery near the Gallery.

The returning train from Bendigo leaves at 3.03 p.m. and arrives at Southern Cross at 5.11 p.m.

Tickets can be booked at Ringwood Station. If you book your ticket individually, as seats are numbered, you may not be sitting with other members of our group. It is planned that those wishing to be seated together attend our monthly coffee event at Eastland on Thursday, August 28, and then together, walk to Ringwood Station to make a group booking. (Don't forget your voucher!) It is no longer possible for one person to make a group booking at the local railway station using free travel vouchers.

COFFEE GROUP



Our regular fourth Thursday coffee event will be held at Café Zukka, at 2.00p.m. in Eastland, near the stage at the rear of Myer. No need to book, just come along for a friendly coffee, chat and perhaps a cake. Members and friends welcome.

Thursday, August 28 & September 25

We hope to see you there.

(See related information above regarding Bendigo rail tickets bookings.)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday, October 7 –The Swing Spectacular, Melbourne Town Hall, followed by dinner. More details to follow.

Thursday, December 4—COBA Christmas Lunch at Sky High, Mt. Dandenong

Thursday, December 18—Branch Christmas Lunch at Wild Cattle Creek Estate, Wandin North.

Don't forget, if you need transport to a meeting or social outing, just call a committee member.

If you know of a member who is unwell, please let us know so that we can send our best wishes. Call the President, Helen Fox on 9879 4058 or Secretary, Carol O'Brien, on 9722 9870.

