

NSA News: The cost of living is king – off with its head....

A recent survey to inform our budget submission and 2024 agenda has shown the cost of living is the most important issue for older people. This has been confirmed by the NSA recent Policy and Advocacy Survey (PAS) which had an incredible 6608 responses! The PAS is our survey pre-budget mini survey and part of our wider strategy to use insights from our community to make sure our policy agenda supports all older people. In our inaugural PAS we asked two simple questions:

*What is the most important issue to you?

*What expense are you most concerned about with regards to the cost of living?

What did you say?

Faced with a raft of choices, overall most chose the cost of living as the most important issue (they could choose 3 from the list). This was followed at number 2 by private health (cost of insurance, specialists, and hospitals). These 2 were the most important issues for older people regardless of the source of their income, geographic location and their gender. While the cost of living attracted more votes than private health, the order was reversed for people aged 67+ who don't receive a pension. The only other difference in the top 2 concerns was among people who rent or live in a retirement village. Among this subgroup the cost of living and housing affordability were the 2 top concerns. The digital economy (and move to on-line for essential services) was the 3rd most important issue for people aged 67+, and for people living in Metro areas or living on part pension. The Age Pension was the 3rd most important issue for homeowners with mortgages, renters and for people receiving the full Age pension. The survey reinforces that while there are commonalities among seniors, life circumstances have a huge impact on what older people see are the main issues of the day. It also tells us that a focus on the cost of living is critical to our policy agenda for 2024.

Building a picture of older people

As an advocacy organisation representing the interests of older people, we are keen to hear your concerns when building our policy agenda. Our PAS survey, which we will replicate every year in the lead up to the federal budget, is just a start. We will be sending out surveys to our community throughout the year to get your feedback on important issues. The next and most important of these will be our 2024 National Seniors Survey. In it, we develop specific modules to get deeper insights into your views and experiences around key issues affecting older people. For example, based on your concerns about private health, we have devised a set of questions for the upcoming NSSS in March. We will use this information to develop a private health research report to advocate for a better private health system for you. We will also send out requests for feedback to the general community and our dedicated Advisory Supporters Group to get contemporary feedback to help our advocacy cause. Thank you to the 6608 people who completed our inaugural PAS. It is your input that enables us to be an effective voice for you!!!

NB: Chris Grice has been chosen to replace Ian Hentschke as CEO of National Seniors

National Seniors

AUSTRALIA

Modbury Branch Newsletter
January 2024 Issue 215



Branch Diary

Guest speakers

15th Jan. Classy Celebrations

19th Feb. Aust. Super (General Information)

18th Mar. The History of Chocolate

- Modbury NSA is sponsored by the Modbury Plaza Hotel

Thanks to the Office of Federal Member for Makin, Tony Zappia, in the printing of this Newsletter

Committee for 2023 & 2024

President	Susan Boyles	0428 500 779
Vice President	Piero Fioretti	0423 784 050
Secretary	Bruce Anderson	0449 574 554
Treasurer	Heather Murphy	8365 6002
Assist. Treasurer	Alastair Boyles	
Activities Officer	Rosalie Zurek	8264 9681
Guest Speakers (interim)	Rosalie Zurek	0416 010 329
Welfare	Ray Zurek	"
Extra Member (1)	Robyn Neate	0408 496 305
Extra Member (2)	Mary Fioretti	
Ex Officio. Public Officer	John Fellows	
Door	Eric Schubert & Mary Fioretti	
Greeter	Beverly Anderson	
Newsletter	Ray Zurek	

 Modbury National Seniors meet every third Monday of the month (4th if Public Holiday) at 1.30pm at Lutheran Homes Inc., 1217 Grand Junction Rd. Hope Valley except November and December. Entrance fee of \$5.00
 Postal address: NSA Modbury, PO Box 499, St. Agnes, 5097

We always welcome visitors and potential new members. If after 3 or 4 visits you find that you enjoy coming to our meetings and being part of our group why not become a financial member of National Seniors Australia? Members are able to get involved in discussing and taking part in community issues pertaining to Senior Australians.
You can also take part in social events, hear interesting guest-speakers and meet like-minded members at other branches. Most importantly members can ensure that their voice is heard on issues affecting the over 6 mill. Australians over 50!
Only financial members are covered by NSA Insurance on outings! Financial members will also be given preference when there is a limit on numbers e.g. Christmas Lunch, Bus Trips etc.

	Single	Joint
1year membership	\$49.50	\$80
2 year	\$88	\$143
3 year	\$120	\$180
5 year	\$220	\$325

Enrolment forms can be found on activities Table or from Treasurer. M/fees can be paid by phone. No Credit card surcharge applies!
Riddle: I'm named after nothing, although I'm awfully clamorous and when I'm not working your house is less glamorous. What am I?
Interesting facts and figures: There is enough tissue in a human lung to cover a tennis court!
Grandma's Wit and Wisdom: Grandparents are there to help the child get into mischief they haven't thought of yet!
Please wear your Name badges to meetings and Outings!

Forthcoming events for 2024

Monday 26th Feb. Lunch at Highlander Hotel, Gilles Plains, 12 noon, 2 course Seniors lunch \$16
 Will have a raffle!

Jan. Birthdays: Jill Fenwick (3), Alistair Boyles (20), Coral Megaw (22), Brenda Harnden (24), Ron O'Flaherty (31)

Wedding Anniversaries: Rosalie & Ray Zurek (1),

Congratulations and best wishes to all!!!!!!!

Heavenly Intervention.....

Young Father Murphy phoned the bishop to say he was ill and couldn't celebrate mass that morning. As soon as he heard the bishop say he could get a replacement the young priest grabbed his golf clubs and was one of the first on the golf course. St. Peter saw this and nudged God. "Look at that Father Murphy. He lied to say he was ill, and look at him down there. He has to get punished. "Okay," said God, and they watched as the priest pulled out a number one wood, swung a mighty stroke and belted the ball straight up the fairway, narrowly between two bunkers onto the green to roll slowly in for one. St. Peter was aghast. "I thought you were going to punish him." "I have," said God. "A hole in one and who can he boast to?"



