

# WARVRA Newsletter

## President's Report

It is an honour for me to be elected President of our Association and you can be assured of my total commitment to continuing the outstanding work of my predecessors, Colin Edwards, Des Cousins and Patrick Wyburn.

As a result of the recent State election, we now have a new parliament and a new Minister for the Department of Commerce. We will endeavour to arrange a meeting with the new Minister as soon as possible to ensure that the second tranche of the legislative review commences forthwith.

The new structure of membership will allow us to provide recruitment presentations and member education seminars throughout our State. The numbers of people living in retirement villages continues to grow and we need to grow with it to continue to be a significant force in the industry.

To create activity, your Membership Committee has recently sent emails to all our Member Villages, promoting our services, and letters to all Non-Member Villages, encouraging them to learn about the benefits of WARVRA membership.

Foremost to me is the fact that every benefit and improvement within the Village life is generally brought about by the activities of WARVRA, and this benefits every person residing in a Village – why then are there only 50% of residents of village, members of our Association?

We can all help our growth by promoting WARVRA at every opportunity.

### Membership

In the period under review, our membership has increased substantially:-

2015	72 Villages	7,000 members
2017	105 Villages	14,500 members

But we still have a long way to go, there now being 228 villages with 24,000 members in Western Australia.


**WARVRA**

## NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

The General Meeting of the Association will be held at  
**Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre,**  
**Leach Highway, Winthrop.**  
 (The entry to the Centre is on the south side of Leach Highway, between  
 Murdoch Drive and Winthrop Drive)

**FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017 at 10am**

### BUSINESS

President's Report; Treasurer's Report  
 Legislation and Advocacy Report  
 Membership and Education Report

### General Business

Q & A SESSION

Members have the opportunity to discuss issues

### Member Services

We have greatly expanded our services to members.

### Member Education and Presentation Services

There are four presentations available to villages for the information and benefit of their residents.

#### **"Why Join WARVRA –The Benefits of Membership"**

This presentation is most important to all members as the average turnover of residents is 10% annually, and it is quite possible many of your residents are not aware of the purpose or benefits of WARVRA membership

**"Exiting Your Villa"** If your village is LEASE FOR LIFE style, as opposed to STRATA, this presentation is most  
 Continued on page 3

### In this Issue

Notice of next General Meeting .1	Financial Matters.....3
WARVRA President's Report .....1	Legislation and Advocacy Report .....3
Membership matters ..... 1&3	A retirement joke.....3
Committee Directory .....2	Publicity.....2

**Western Australian Retirement Villages Residents Association Inc**

ABN 31 565 412 127

warvra.org.au, warvra@warvra.org.au, 0448 812 888

# WARVRA Committee Directory 2016-17

Name	Role(s)	Phone	Mob	Email	Correspondence
Ian Nordeck	President	08 95347650		president@warvra.org.au	57/22 Carnegie Place, Greenfields 6210
Bob Hamilton	Vice-President & Treasurer	08 9535 2240	0427 199 711	treasurer@warvra.org.au	53/22 Carnegie Place, Greenfields 6210
Val Brown	Secretary	08 9557 1845	0419 910 724	secretary@warvra.org.au	145/38 Norwood Avenue, Baldivis 6171
Julia Lynch	Publicity	08 9557 5139	0401 284 555	publicity@warvra.org.au	
Robert May	Legislation	08 9271 6015		hagenboss@yahoo.com.au	
Laurie	Varendorff		0417 094 147	Laurie.Varendorff@gmail.com	

## Regional Committees' Directory

NAME	POSITION	PHONE	MOBILE	EMAIL	REGION
Monika Cull	Convenor	08 9843 3786	-	monikacull@gmail.com	GREAT SOUTHERN
Ron Sparks	Co-Convenor	08 9754 2614	0427 002 614	norskrap@bigpond.com	SOUTH WEST; Busselton
Dianne Wilson	Co-Convenor	08 9724 4889	-	didiroy@hotmail.com	SOUTH WEST; Bunbury
Ian Nordeck	Convenor	08 9534 7650		membership@warvra.org.au	PEEL
Patricia Nelson	Convenor	-	0417 948 092	patnels2@gmail.com	MID WEST

## Publicity and Promotions

This year I am continuing to hold booths at events being held for seniors. The aim of taking part in these activities is to promote WARVRA to many people including those thinking of entering a village and also employees and volunteers who work with seniors. The more people who know about WARVRA and our role on behalf of retirees living in villages the better. This can help with recognising the value of WARVRA as an association representing retirement village residents. Many people working in the aged care industry have not heard of WARVRA and, on meeting us, have shown significant interest in knowing about our association.

Several myths about village life exist in the community and when we involve ourselves in a public activity we have a great opportunity to try and dispel some of the incorrect information that people believe about retirement villages. Two issues are "no way will we move into a village because they take all your money and you get nothing back" and "I'm not ready yet, when I need a lot of help then I'll move into a village". These issues need addressing if people are to be able to make better informed decisions about retirement villages and whether they are suitable for them.

We are booked in for two more booths, one in Armadale on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May and another in Belmont on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May.

Val and Gordon Brown have offered to run these two activities as I will be away for all of May, June and half of July. Thank you very much Val and Gordon for your assistance.

Further on in 2017 we hope to be invited to take part



Julia, Val and Gordon Brown at Leederville Recreation Centre in March

in the weekend seniors' expo held at the Claremont Show Grounds in October. Our experience last year was very positive and we are hoping for the same response this year. **Have a Go Day** at Burswood last year enabled us to talk with many passers-by and we may take part in this event again this year. Decisions on both of these events have yet to be made.

We have recently had new WARVRA pamphlets printed which have generic contact details on the back, so as Committees change the contact details will remain the same and not become outdated. As it is an expensive exercise developing and printing pamphlets they are currently being used more during the public events we attend rather than giving out to people who are familiar with WARVRA.

*Julia Lynch, Publicity*

Continued from page 1

important to help residents understand the steps required to vacate your villa quickly and economically. It may also be very important for Executors of estates.

**“Financial Budgets and Responsibilities”** This presentation helps residents understand the new legislation relating to budgets and the information that must be provided by the Administering Body.

**“Managing Disputes and Complaints”** These do occur, and this presentation provides a blueprint of the steps required to bring disputes to a satisfactory conclusion. It is important information for both members and Villages.

Your Village may request presentations be made to the residents at a time and place convenient to you. We will visit you!

It is a FREE SERVICE, we provide the speakers, hand-outs and equipment for Powerpoint presentations.

### **Committee Growth and Training**

To cater for our growth in both numbers of members and education services, a Training School was conducted last year to assist volunteers in learning about WARVRA and its services, with a view to helping inform and educate members.

WARVRA now consists of:-

The elected WARVRA Committee

Two sub-committees –

**Legislation & Advocacy**, the Convenor being Laurie Varendorff, with eight volunteer committee members; and

**Membership**, the Convenor being Ian Nordeck, with seven Volunteer committee members

In addition, the State of WA has been divided into 3 zones for the purposes of Membership and Member Education.

**North of the River zone**, including Geraldton in the Mid-West, comprising a team of 3 volunteers, Laurie Varendorff, Marion Millin and Michael Harvey.

**South of the River zone**, extends to Peel, comprising a team of 2 volunteers, Ron Chamberlain and Susan Burns.

**Peel and the South-West zone**, including Albany, Busselton, Bunbury and Mandurah, comprising 2 volunteers, Gordon Brown and Ian Nordeck

A significant amount of planning and training has contributed to the creation of this structure. We are here to serve the members of WARVRA- all you need to do is ask by contacting me, and we will arrange a visit to your village.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*Ian A Nordeck, President: Ph: 9534 7650*

## **WARVRA Newsletter**

**Next Issue 28 JULY 2017**

*All contributions should be received by  
FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2017*

*Contact Secretary Val Brown for more information  
(See Directory at top of page two)*

## **Legislation and Advocacy**

This is my first input to the WARVRA Newsletter so I will provide some details on my involvement to date.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> March I attended a meeting at the Department of Commerce as an observer with Verelle Ward & Peter Thobaven where WARVRA were present on behalf of the residents of the Villages of RETIREES WA.

The attendance at this meeting opened my eyes & mind as to the issues that arise with residents & management at Retirement Villages.

I have unfortunately been absent & overseas the past 6 weeks but I am now back in Perth since Monday & available to address my responsibilities as the person responsible for Legislation and Advocacy for WARVRA.

Should anyone wish to contact me I am available via Phone: 0417 084 147 or Email: Laurie.Varendorff@gmail.com

I look forward to being able to provide members with a more comprehensive report for the next WARVRA Newsletter.

*Regards, Laurie Varendorff - Legislation and Advocacy*

## **Financial Matters**

Since the beginning of April the Association Secretary, Val Brown and I have been involved in sending out reminders for payment of annual fees. In my case there were a total of 43 invoices forwarded to villages, fortunately these were sent by email thus not being a major cost to the organisation, although it took a considerable amount of time to organise.

Of the 43 invoices forwarded it is pleasing to note that already 12 villages have responded and I anticipate that by the end of April, allowing for meetings to be held, we will have received most of the fees.

Val was however in a different position and had to forward 124 notices by mail at a cost of \$1.00 each for postage alone. This is a time consuming and expensive operation but resulted in a reduction. The final numbers on the list Val has for people that require newsletters etc by mail is 25 which is much more manageable and considerably cheaper for the organisation..

The database which is now running will I hope make the annual fee reminder an easier operation in future, although some work is still required in that matter.

*Bob Hamilton, Treasurer*

Miss Beatrice, the church organist, was in her eighties. She was admired for her sweetness and kindness to all. One afternoon the pastor came to call on her and she showed him into her quaint sitting room. She invited him to have a seat while she prepared tea.

As he sat facing her old Hammond organ, the young minister noticed a cut-glass bowl sitting on top of it. The bowl was filled with water, and in the water floated, of all things, a condom! When she returned with tea and scones, they began to chat.

The pastor tried to stifle his curiosity about the bowl of water and its strange floater, but soon it got the better of him and He could no longer resist. “Miss Beatrice”, he said, “I wonder if you would tell me about this?” pointing to the bowl.

“Oh, yes,” she replied, “Isn’t it wonderful? I was walking through the Park a few months ago and I found this little package on the ground. The directions said to place it on the organ, keep it wet and that it would prevent the spread of disease. Do you know I haven’t had the flu all winter?”