

WARVRA Newsletter

29 January 2016: Vol. 16 No. 1

Issued Quarterly



WARVRA

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the

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 February 2016 at 10.00am

AGENDA

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Legislation Update

Election of Committee Members

General Business

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Elections for membership of the Committee are due at the meeting on 12 February 2016. Colin Edwards, Julia Lynch, Verelle Ward and Arthur McCarthy all have one more year of their current term to run. Len Rathmann would also have had one more year but he has resigned. Des Cousins, Ian Nordeck, Brian Davies, Ron Hasluck and David Street complete their two year term. Brian, Ron and David are not offering themselves for re-election.

There are 6 positions to be filled (5 normal retirements and one special (Len)). Nominations have been received for **Des Cousins** (*Harbourside, Mindarie*), **Ian Nordeck** (*St Ives, Mandurah*), **Val Brown** (*Affinity, Baldivis*) and **Bob Hamilton** (*St Ives, Mandurah*).

As the number of nominations received does not exceed the number of vacancies on the Committee, no ballot will be necessary.

The remaining two vacancies can be filled during the year by the Committee in accordance with the WARVRA constitution.

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WARVRA Newsletter

Next Issue 29 April 2016

All contributions should be received by Wednesday
20th April. Contact Secretary for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS

Parkland Villas

at Halls Head

Celebrated its 30th Anniversary

Teranca Mews

at Mandurah

Celebrated its 10th Anniversary

Western Australian Retirement Villages Residents Association Inc

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WARVRA COMMITTEE DIRECTORY 2015-16

President	Colin Edwards	9535 6005	talworth40@gmail.com
Vice President	Verelle Ward	9204 3402	jonver2@bigpond.com
Secretary	Val Brown	9557 1845	gg.vb@bigpond.com
Treasurer/Membership	Ron Hasluck	9456 1991	rhasluck@bigpond.net.au
Membership Development	Ian Nordeck	9534 7650	ianandrae@internode.on.net
COTA Representative	Ron Lullfitz	9388 8645	rlullfitz@hotmail.com
Legislation & Advocacy (C) (on leave of absence)	David Street	9586 1667	pericles38@bigpond.com
Legislation & Advocacy (Acting Convener)	Des Cousins	9407 7849	dcousins@iimetro.com.au
Legislation & Advocacy	Arthur McCarthy	9447 4077	
Seminars Co-Convener	Julia Lynch	9350 6872	julialynch@westnet.com.au
Seminars Co-Convener	Brian Davies	9387 3832	brilee5@optusnet.com.au

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSES

PRESIDENT	Colin Edwards	11/10 Hungerford Avenue, Halls Head 6210
SECRETARY	Val Brown	145/38 Norwood Avenue, Baldivis 6171
MEMBERSHIP	Ron Hasluck	23/41 Geographe Way, Thornlie 6108

Presidents Newsletter Report January 2016

To all our WARVRA members I hope your 2015 Christmas was all you wished for (yes surely you still recognise Santa) and you heralded 2016 in with wishes for a healthy and happy 2016, as have I.

For your Committee, 2015 was a very busy year with both successful and not so successful projects both of which have set us identified challenges which have been already discussed by Committee and planned for 2016.

On the positive side 2015

As will be reported elsewhere in this publication most of the new regulations contained in Bill 1 of the Code review are now fully effective, following an enormous amount of work from your Legislation team over nearly 5 years.

The team will continue its work in 2016 on Bill 2 of the Legislation.

Also our membership team recruitment drive now sees us with near 10,000 members from around 100 Villages from both the WA Metropolitan and numerous Country Regions.

The team will continue this work in 2016 also reinforcing the regional branches processes towards fully independent operations.

On the negative side

Despite much organisational work on both advertising and material preparation our Seminars & Forum presentation the team had a very disappointing response to all projects. This leads us to assume members in general are not prepared to travel for information sessions.

We therefore will embark on a "come to our members" policy of "on call" visiting Villages with both information and discussion sessions to address Village Members needs.

Our other principal service to members (and occasionally potential members), that of Advocacy has been quite heavily drawn on both by individuals and Village groups.

Whilst I tend to deal with many from phone enquiries, members of our Legislation team and in particular Des Cousins have visited many Village groups with assistance.

Regrettably we are losing three valuable Committee members all of whom have given freely of their energy and time over a number of years. David Street, Ron Hasluck and Brian Davies are all leaving due to genuine family and/or health reasons and will be very hard to replace. I'm sure you all will agree with me in wishing them well, particularly David who is facing some serious surgery late in January probably requiring extensive rehabilitation.

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP !

To address both our Committee situation and our aim to provide more

"in house" services to members and groups we desperately need some support by way of people who have the ability to communicate and provide occasional information presentations for WARVRA to both member and potential member villages.

You will not necessarily be locked into a Committee but rather supporting our various activity coordinators.

Please give me a call on 9535 6005 for further information

In closing, a huge thank you to all my Committee members for their support during 2015 and also those wonderful additional volunteers whose help has been invaluable including Denise Nicolay (Data Base etc) & our Newsletter Editor Noelline Edwards.

Regards to all our members
Colin Edwards, President

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership:

Back into the New Year with plenty of activity planned throughout the Regions.

To recap, our numbers when we commenced the drive for new members in September 2014 were 74 member villages with a total membership of 9,000.

At December 31, 2015, we have 93 villages with a total membership of 10,839 which is a significant increase and a great credit to the WARVRA Committee.

But there is more!! Nine villages have confirmed appointments for WARVRA to address them in January/February and there are a further five villages to confirm dates for speaking appointments.

A lot of this activity resulted from our December mail-out and a big thank you to the villages that updated their database communication records.

Regional Development:

Regional development was completed during the year and WARVRA now has Regional Groups established as follows:

Great Southern –

Convenor: Monika Cull: phone 98423786

Email: monikacull@gmail.com

South West –

Co-Convenor: Ron Sparks (Busselton):
phone 9754 2614

Email: norskrap@bigpond.com

Co-Convenor: Dianne Wilson (Bunbury):
phone 9724 4889

Email: didiroy@hotmail.com

Mid West –

Convenor: Pat Nelson: phone 0417 948 092

Email: patnels2@gmail.com

Peel –

Convenor Ian Nordeck: phone 9534 7650

Email: ianandrae@internode.on.net

Each Region will meet in the near future with meeting notices and invitations being distributed soon.

We look forward to your attendance at these popular events

Member Education:

The WARVRA Committee has decided to bring Membership Matters and Presentations to the villages together in an attempt to reduce travelling times and costs for individual members.

Our Presentations are proving very popular and if you would like the Committee to present at your village, please call:

Ian Nordeck: Phone: 9534 7650

Email: ianandrae@internode.on.net

Ian Nordeck

Membership Development

“WELCOME TO WARVRA”

To date we have two new Villages for the year:

NEW VILLAGES:

Silver Vines, Margaret River

52 Villas, 78 members

&

RAAFA, Meadow Springs

277 Villas, 415 members.

We welcome these new members and look forward to their attendance at functions.

Latest updates

David Street.

As at January 23rd (2 days post operation) Wendie, David's partner advised me his surgery went to plan and he has already taken a couple of steps but is in a lot of pain. David, our thoughts are with you for a fully successful recovery.

Joan Worthy.

Another of our much loved and great WARVRA supporters who has unfortunately suffered a stroke. I understand she did return home to recuperate as she has since had a fall breaking an ankle (take more than that to stop Joan). A close friend of Joan's assures me she will be home again soon.

Alternate WARVRA Meeting Venue search...

Our last meeting at Piney lakes attracted a much larger member participation than normal (possibly with our growing membership). We now think it necessary to search for another appropriate venue.

Criteria of course will be a central location with easy access by car, or rail/bus services plus adequate parking. Our Secretary Val Brown has this project in hand and we hope to have an update at the next General Meeting in February.

Colin Edwards
President



Here's some good advice

Getting ready for Budget 2016-17

Village operators will soon begin preparing budgets for the 2016-17 financial year ("FY 17"). These budgets must comply with the Retirement Villages Code 2015 (if you need a copy, go to the WARVRA website to download it – <http://warvra.org.au/current-residents/legislation/>). The requirements for the annual budget are in Clause 17 of the Code.

There are many changes to the requirements for a village budget in this new Code. For some residents, there will not be much change as your operators have been following the Australian Accounting Standards. But for many villages, you should now get budgets with much more information than in the past.

We will all need to check that the FY 17 budgets presented to us do comply – and a good way to ensure this is to quietly let your village manager/operator/owner know that you are aware of the changes to the Retirement Villages Code – that will keep them on their toes!

What are the main budget requirements?

No later than the end of May, the village operator must display the "budget documents" at a central location in the Village and make a

copy available to each resident on request. The "budget documents" are:

- a proposed operating budget for the next financial year;
- a proposed reserve fund budget for the next financial year (if residents or former residents are contractually obliged to contribute to a reserve fund however named);

NEW

- information used in the preparation of the budgets that might reasonably be expected to be made available to residents so that they can understand the budgets, including but not limited to:

➔ relevant accounts of actual expenditure (year-to-date will comply);

➔ an explanation of any fee changes or changes to amenities or services.

The village operating budget must contain the separate line items detailed in Code 17(3) (a-s) – this is a minimum requirement, additional items can be added as needed.

NEW

The village reserve fund budget must contain the separate line items detailed in Code 17(4) (a-j) – again this is only the minimum requirement.

NEW

Budgets must include notes disclosing:

➔ the method by which the recurrent charge is calculated and the method by which a contribution to the reserve fund is calculated.

NEW

➔ recurrent charges and reserve fund contributions received from the village operator in lieu of charges that would have been payable by residents who have "permanently vacated" (s 23(5) of the Retirement Villages Act).

NEW

➔ the method of calculation used to apportion expenses between the village and any other entity of the village operator (such as an aged care facility);

NEW

➔ the method of calculation of management and administration fees and the separate disclosure of significant items of expenses relation to management and administration that have not been otherwise disclosed.

NEW

We have worked hard to have these changes made to the financial reporting requirements for retirement villages. Please monitor them carefully in your village and contact the Legislation Committee convener and members if you need help.

Des Cousins
Legislation and Advocacy