

# WARVRA Newsletter


**WARVRA**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No doubt you have all been affected by the COVID 19 epidemic and I hope that your physical health and mental well-being remain unaffected throughout this crisis. It is important that we follow the directions regarding social distancing and limiting our social contacts.

This is the time, however, to support our neighbours in maintaining contact even though that contact may be by telephone or coffee or tea outside our units. If you don't see your neighbour at times, when you think you should see them, a telephone call may be a good idea to establish that all is well.

I have read the fact sheet from the Commonwealth Department of Health and the information from the Retirement Living Council and they all make good sense in these critical times. I hope that they can be implemented with some compassion and good humour and when the time is right dispensed with, in order that personal freedom is restored as quickly as possible.

In spite on the limitations on movement, I have had some very productive contact with the Retirement Living Council and have written to the Minister for Health, Roger Cook, requesting that operators of retirement villages be given direction on what they might do in the case of a resident contacting the COVID 19 virus. While I understand an individual's right to privacy, retirement villages have many vulnerable people as residents and their rights also need protection.

An important issue for us all is the cancellation of budget meetings even though they are required under Retirement Village legislation. My opinion is when residents and operators work cooperatively, this matter can be addressed by the Residents' Committee providing support until a budget meeting. Discussion by email and telephone is to be encouraged after residents have received a copy of the budget.

The Council is still waiting for Birman and Ride to complete their review of the Constitution. The review was brought about by the election to Council of a person who is a member of a board which oversees the operation of six large retirement villages in Western Australia. I am aware of several other people who

**Due to the  
COVID-19 pandemic, the  
General Meeting  
of the Association,  
scheduled for May,  
has been CANCELLED**

occupy similar positions, one being the owner who lives in the village, and as that person is a member by virtue of the fact that the village is a member of WARVRA, could nominate for election to join the Council.

I contend if this was allowed to happen residents may become less likely to bring concerns and issues to WARVRA and this would have the potential to change a fundamental platform of the organisation. I would be very interested to hear your views on this matter. A motion will be put to the next General Meeting to address the situation.

Until the unplanned COVID 19 epidemic came on the scene, I had planned to visit all of our regions. I would like to thank all of our Regional Coordinators for their work in planning these meetings. Their work is very much appreciated and, hopefully, we will have meetings in the regions when this crisis is over.

With regard to membership, by 31 March, 79 out of 109 villages paid their membership fees and 89 individual members are financial. If you have friends in other villages who are not members, WARVRA would welcome their membership.

*Ron Chamberlain, President*

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### Available on the WARVRA Website

- Membership Application Form
- WARVRA Associate Application Forms
- Village Contact Details Form

**Western Australian Retirement Villages Residents Association Inc**

ABN 83 503 721 383

[warvra.org.au](http://warvra.org.au), [warvra@warvra.org.au](mailto:warvra@warvra.org.au), 0481 817 758

# WARVRA Council Directory

NAME	ROLE(S)	PHONE(08)	MOBILE	
Ron Chamberlain	President, Convener, L&A*	9456 4598	0447 315 160	<a href="mailto:ronlyn_2@bigpond.com">ronlyn_2@bigpond.com</a>
Lindsay Lane	Vice President	9304 5183	0421 989 625	<a href="mailto:lindsaylane1543@hotmail.com">lindsaylane1543@hotmail.com</a>
Maureen Miller	Secretary	-----	0424 208 873	<a href="mailto:maureenmiller@westnet.com.au">maureenmiller@westnet.com.au</a>
Corry Knappers	Treasurer	9550 4964	0488 059 103	<a href="mailto:corryadri@terancamews.com.au">corryadri@terancamews.com.au</a>
Lexie Beardmore	L&A	-----	0406 539 720	
Eugene Browne	L&A	-----	0424 818 840	
Barry Butterworth		9537 6937	0499 187 128	
Frank Egan		9531 0210	0431 836 025	
Chrissie Jordon		9384 7946	0409 086 412	
Ronald Onions		9304 5271	0457 193 606	

## Regional Committees Directory

NAME	POSITION	PHONE	MOBILE	
Monika Cull	(Great Southern) Convener	9842 3786	0407 691 975	
Lorraine Watts	Co-Convener (South West) Busselton	9754 2346	0408 127 674	
Dianne Wilson	Co-Convener (South West) Bunbury	9724 4889	-----	
Colin Edwards	Convener (Peel)	9535 6005	0427 247 514	
John Lewis	Convener (Mid West)	-----	0437 780 798	

## Legislation & Advocacy Report

The L & A Committee has almost completed WARVRA's response to CRIS-2. We decided to request an extension to mid or late April. A meeting on the ZOOM app was held on Tuesday 14 April and another on 21 April to complete the response.

It has been very pleasing to witness the increased involvement of committee members in writing parts of the response. This process we hope will widen the knowledge base of the L & A Committee and as a result strengthen WARVRA by having a greater number of people with a good understanding of the legislation.

Please be aware that the CRIS-2 paper covers some very important matters such as budgeting, what constitutes capital works, refurbishing of units after exit and obligations of the operator to work exclusively in the interest of residents. Consequently, it is a very important paper for current residents and contains a number of challenging issues that are not always easily resolved.

This week, we were advised that the response time for CRIS-2 had been extended until 30 June and the release of CRIS-3 which, we were told would be released on 31 March, would be extended to an undetermined date. I expressed my concern about this delay as after CRIS-3, there are three more papers to be released. I must say that this delay is frustrating. I understand the reason given, people having to deal with COVID 19, but it is a serious delay in what is a very tight timeline to have recommendations going to the Minister by mid-2021.

*Ron Chamberlain, Chair, L & A Committee*

## Backing up your computer:

Our computers store a lot of information - documents, photo's, email history, contact details and so on.

Have you thought about how safe all this information is?

Backing up our computer to protect this data is an often-overlooked procedure that should be given serious consideration.

Computer hardware is not infallible and a regular procedure to perform a backup is a simple process and low cost.

### What do you need?

Although Windows comes with a backup program, a better option is a program called Macrium Reflect.

There is a free version that provides all the features to do regular backups.

The only cost is an external USB hard drive that can be purchased for under \$100.

Macrium Reflect not only backs up your data, but also Windows itself and all your programs as well - after a computer is repaired or replaced the most recent backup can be used to restore your computer back to exactly as it was.

Note: if you are an Apple Mac user it comes with a backup program called 'Time Machine' which is all you need.

This article will be placed on the WARVRA website with more complete details shortly.

If you have questions, you can contact me via the contact form on the WARVRA website - choose 'Web-Master - Dave Porter' as the enquiry type. <https://warvra.org.au/contact/>

*Dave Porter, Web-Master*

Arthritis & Osteoporosis WA  
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 PO Box 34, WEMBLEY, WA 6913  
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 or 1800 011 04.  
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# Treasurer's Report

END OF FIRST QUARTER

31st March 2020

## Do you have Osteoarthritis of the Knee or Rheumatoid/Psoriatic Arthritis??

Learn how to manage your condition from the comfort of your own home!

Arthritis & Osteoporosis WA are now offering their popular Education & Self Management programs for these conditions ONLINE and LIVE!!

Each program provides disease specific education and self-management techniques to effectively manage your condition. Run over 6 weeks, you will have the opportunity to interact with other participants and ask questions from the health professionals during each session.

All you need is a computer/ laptop/ iPad or smart phone, internet connection, and sound/speakers.

Easy to use instructions provided on how to log in and join once registered.

For more information & details of dates, times and registration, check out our website

[www.arthritiswa.org.au/events](http://www.arthritiswa.org.au/events)

Stay up to date with the latest information on arthritis or osteoporosis by subscribing to our E-News <https://www.arthritiswa.org.au/contact-us/>

*Arthritis & Osteoporosis WA is a not for profit organisation whose objective is to reduce the incidence and disabling effects of arthritis, osteoporosis and related conditions in the people of WA.*

**Take Note**

Holders of:

- Pensioner Concession Card
- Health Care Card
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- Dept of Veterans Affairs Card, or
- Veterans Repatriation Health Card

You can apply for a MyPost Concession Account by downloading an Application Form on the Australia Post website or completing a Form from any Australia Post Office branch.

When a card is issued local postage stamps can be purchased for \$0.60 in books of 5 with a maximum of 10 books per year.

# Treasurer's Report

END OF FIRST QUARTER

31st March 2020

	Year to date \$
<b>Opening Balance 1 Jan 2020</b>	<b>13,960.71</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	
Village Membership	13,558.00
Individual Memberships	920.00
Associates Family	230.00
Associates Management	190.00
Bank Interest	2.92
Donations	15.00
Received by mistake	1,650.00
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>16,565.92</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Software for newsletter	150.00
Legal expenses	990.00
IT Services	612.98
Postage	60.70
Transperth train & parking	30.05
Morning Tea supplies	52.00
Meeting expenses	36.40
Telephone	45.00
Auditor	50.00
Flights to meetings	455.23
Refund amount received by mistake	1,650.00
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>4,132.36</b>
<b>Cash Book Balance at 31/03/2020</b>	<b>26,394.27</b>
<b>Bank Reconciliation at 31/03/2020</b>	<b>26,394.27</b>
<b>Total Funds ANZ Bank account</b>	<b>26,394.27</b>
<b>Plus Westpac Business Cash Reserve</b>	<b>2,828.24</b>
<b>Plus Term Deposit Investments</b>	<b>47,287.49</b>
<b>Total Funds as at 31/03/2020</b>	<b>76,510.00</b>

## WARVRA Newsletter

Next Issue 31 JULY 2020.

All contributions should be received by 24 JULY 2020.

Contact Secretary for more information. (See Directory on page 2)

## BUDGET PROCESSING IN VIRUS DAYS

Budget processes this year will need to be modified due to COVID-19. Here is a suggested process that the WARVRA Legislation and Advocacy Committee suggests you put to your village Operator as a way forward.

Before the Budget can be finalised, there are two requirements to be met (RV Code 17(8)):

residents must have two weeks to consider the budget (after it is either posted on the village notice board or distributed to all residents); and

the Operator has held an annual budget meeting (which is where residents have the opportunity to question and discuss the budget).

Operators can easily meet the first of these requirements by distributing the proposed budget to all residents by a letter box drop. Explanatory notes are already required to be provided by the Operator, but in this case fuller explanations might be necessary and the process might be helped with comments from the Residents Committee or Finance Committee

Instead of the meeting, residents should be given the opportunity of submitting their questions and comments in writing (say within 14 days of receiving the budget) and the Operator and/or Residents/Finance Committee should provide answers to all questions and responses to all comments in writing and distribute them to all residents, again by letter box drop.

Full implementation of this process will give residents all the opportunities to query and comment on the budget that they would have normally. If all these steps are taken, we believe it can be fairly said that the "budget is finalised".

*Ron Chamberlain, PRESIDENT*

*'Written with the assistance of Des Cousins, with thanks'*