



Retirees Review

President's Message

Thank you to all our members who attended the Congress and Annual General Meeting, which was held with great success. The venue seems popular with our members.

The morning gave members an opportunity to exchange friendships and meet fellow members, which is part of our aim here at Retirees WA.

The Congress provided an opportunity to reflect on last years' achievements, which were many, and it is with pride that I say we had a successful year.

The new board members and our professional board members were introduced to the meeting. I do hope you were able to meet and have a chat with them.

New Members are always welcomed and if you know of someone who may be interested in joining, please direct them to our website or call Head Office.

As mentioned at the Congress, we always have someone from the office or board members chat on Tuesday afternoon with Jenny Seaton on Curtin FM with lots of information about upcoming events, the funeral fund, accommodation and other interesting items. We encourage members to listen.

This coming year I would like to be able to build up our Branches, which are important to our members, which is a wonderful way to meet and share stories with other members. If you can assist with this, please contact our office. I do hope to see you at the RWA Picnic.



Danuta Newman
State President

Retirees WA Picnic at Whiteman Park – Wednesday, 27 May 2026 11am to 3pm

Sausage Sizzle available @ \$2 each
Meeting Place near Motor Museum

Shuttle service available from
Whiteman Park train Station.

Expressions of interest :

info@retireeswa.com.au



Dear Members

As you are already aware, the Association was under investigation by DEMIRS. The Board early last year accepted the appointment of a supervisor. I am happy to inform you that that Supervisory role finished as of July this year.

Retirees WA have successfully implemented the remediation plan and has achieved notable progress and success.

- A new constitution was created and implemented following a vote at a General Meeting of the Members.
- A new Board was constituted through elections at an AGM, with special thanks to the membership, which incorporated 4 Board Members who are specialists in their respective fields and are not members of RWA plus 4 Board Members who are members of the organisation.
- Various committees like the Remuneration Committee, Audit Committee, Clinical Governance Committee, Funeral Fund Sub-Committee, Disputes Committee have all been constituted to help with better governance.
- Board remuneration has been put in place for the first time and passed by members at the AGM, providing compensation for the demands placed on the members of the Board for often prodigious demands on their time and expertise to bring forth well considered oversight and direction.
- The functions of CEO and CFO have been permanently separated; the CFO operates independently of the CEO to ensure independence of financial governance and reporting.
- A new Funeral Fund trust deed was created and adopted by the Board
- A new Funeral Fund Deed Poll was created to allow for the repayment of all debts to the Funeral Fund over a 3-year period; this was also adopted by the RWA Board and accepted by DEMIRS
- New Auditors were appointed with special thanks to the membership who approved this last year at a Special General Meeting. The Audits for the past two years were carried out and completed successfully and on time. A clean Audit report was handed down which is a noteworthy accomplishment and a testament to the level of honesty and transparency of the Board and the administration of the Association
- The administration of RWA's property management has been revitalised and important additional staff appointed to carry out this vital work
- The new aged care facility at Salter Point has been successfully opened to residents.
- The construction loan of \$32M, which was drawn to fund the construction of the Salter Point Aged Care facility, has been paid off.

I do hope you will agree with me that the Association now stands upon the threshold of a new way forward with enhanced governance, expertise and confidence.

We have a new President in Danuta Newman. Danuta has been the Vice President since March and in October with the resignation of Candessa Ashbury in September, and as per the constitution the Vice President steps up. Danuta will undoubtedly make an excellent President, and I encourage you to join me in supporting her in this role. We also wish to extend our sincere thanks to Candessa for her valuable contribution to Retirees WA.

This year we held our Village Annual Meetings and for a change invited the residents of the Metro villages to Head Office. With the new Aged Care Act now in effect and the Retirement Village Act soon to follow, this is an important time for us to strengthen our connection with residents and ensure we continue moving forward together.

We warmly invite all Members and Branches to visit Salter Point, meet our Head Office team, tour our facilities, learn more about how we support you, and experience the culture and values that drive Retirees WA.

If you have recently changed your address, telephone number or next of kin details, please remember to update your information with Head Office.

To our Fund members: if you have fixed your fund, please ensure your membership fees are paid. Some Fund Members have also been asked to sign your variations to the contract letters. Please check whether these may still be sitting on your desk or action pile.

I encourage all members to join their local Branch and enjoy the camaraderie they offer. Branches are a great place for social connection and a friendly chat. If you need help finding a Branch, please contact Nick or Simon at our office. Retirees WA is also organising a picnic at Whiteman Park, and we encourage you to attend. More details can be found in the newsletter.

Remember, growing older is mandatory — but feeling old is optional. On behalf of myself, the Board and the staff at Head Office, we wish you all a Healthy and Happy 2026. Warm Regards, Henrietta de Sa

FUNERAL FUND NEWS

Are you a Member of Retirees WA? Then you can be in the Funeral Fund.

The Funeral Fund is designed to assist members who are financially disadvantaged and would otherwise be unable to afford a funeral without the fund's assistance.

It allows its members to pay towards the contract price in installments of a minimum \$50 per month.

We have 3 options available to members.

- Option A: Funeral Directors' in Western Australia. \$4,493.00
- Option B: Independent Funeral Directors. \$4,248.00
- Option C: Independent WA Owned and Family Operated Funeral Homes. \$3,567.00

A list of the participating Funeral Directors is available from Head Office or on our website. For further information please contact Simon Hughes on 9362 0100.

Social Club

Bookings Open 9 Feb 2026

All trips depart from the Tourist Bus Stand (James Street) at 9am sharp or at 8.15am from 915 Albany Hwy, East Victoria Park and return between 4pm and 5pm.

PS: Some food venues may change due to circumstances beyond our control.

WA Maritime Museum Exhibit

Date: Tuesday, 17th March 2026

After stopping off and having a nice morning tea, we will head to the WA Maritime Museum in Fremantle which will be showing a limited exhibition about how early Australian culture was shaped. Afterwards, we will head off and enjoy fish & chips by the ocean.

COST: \$80.00 per person, includes morning tea, entry fee and lunch.

Stargazing at the Perth Observatory

Date: Tuesday, 21st April 2026

On the way to Bickley, we will stop to enjoy morning tea, before driving up to the Perth Observatory to tour the current & decommissioned NASA equipment, before touring their museum. Then off to The Mundaring Hotel for a 2-course lunch.

COST: \$80.00 per person, includes morning tea, entry fee and lunch.

The Retirees Lawn Bowls Championship

Date: Tuesday, 19th May 2026

We are excited for you all to join us for our first

ever Retirees Lawn Bowls Championship!! Morning tea & lunch will be catered, there will be prizes for the winners, and all participants will have a chance to win it big at the raffle!

COST: \$80.00 per person, includes morning tea, entry fee, raffle ticket, and lunch

AQWA

Date: Tuesday, 16th June 2026

Join us for a deep dive into our oceans at AQWA! Morning tea will be at Café Bella Rosa before the aquarium, then fish & chips in Hillarys Boat Harbour.

COST: \$80.00 per person, includes morning tea and lunch.

Harvey

Date: Tuesday, 21st July 2026

Join us for a day trip to Harvey where we will stop at Café Chérie in Pinjarra for a high-tea – before setting off for Harvey where we will do a tour of the acclaimed Ha Vee Cheese factory. Following which we will head on into the heart of town to enjoy a lunch at The Wokalup Tavern.

COST: \$80.00 per person, includes morning tea and lunch.