



# DONALD SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTRE

**March 2017**



*Braidwood String Trio performing at Donald Simpson centre Cabaret*

## **February 25 Cabaret**

Our first cabaret of the year was held on Saturday February 25. Featured were two groups, a string trio, *The Braidwood String Trio*, and *The Constellation of the Wolf* who played their own compositions and one cover of Mark Knopfler's "Going Home".

Over eighty people attended and listened to a variety of classical and modern music from the strings. Both groups were young providing an intergenerational aspect to the night. The guitars, keyboard and synthesizer of the Constellation provided a contrast to the smoothness of the strings.

Two delicious chicken and vegetarian curries were provided as part of the entry fee of \$10. Thanks to the volunteers who gave generously of their time to prepare and serve the meal and clean up afterwards. As usual, without our volunteers who set up the evening, collect tickets and clean up, conducting our functions would be impossible.

We hope that we can bring a variety of music to the Centre to cater for different tastes and also for those who just enjoy music. We have rock group *Off the Record* on 20 May, Jazz quartet *The Blue Notes* on 15 July and a yet to be organised group for 21 October.

## *Contents*

<b>Cover Page - A successful Cabaret Evening</b>	
<b>From the Chairman</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Centre News - From the Manager, Coming Events</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Features Page - The worst retirement myth</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Features Page (contd) - Retirement myth, My Story</b>	
<b>by Peter Lindley, Five.Good.Friends.</b>	<b>5,6</b>
<b>90's Club invitation</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Poetry Page - Val Vallis</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Out With A Difference</b>	<b>9,10</b>
<b>Away With A Difference</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>30th Anniversary Luncheon</b>	<b>12</b>

### **From the Chairman**

During January this year, the Donald Simpson Centre Board took the unusual step of conducting Extraordinary General Meetings of members to test members' feelings about a proposal to extend the Centre by building 4 floors at the eastern (or park) end of the current centre.

The meetings were conducted over five consecutive days to take advantage of those in the Centre over a full week as well as providing a choice of days for members who do not regularly visit the centre. Approximately 240 members attended the meetings. Compared to the attendance at the 2016 Annual General Meeting this was a good, representative number of members who regularly attend the Centre.

The issues addressed at these meetings was not new to most members. It had been canvassed around the activity groups, in writing to our members and followed a large number of contacts by members with the Centre, Redlands Councillors and the local member of state parliament. The Board already had a good idea of how members felt about this particular development.

The meetings also followed a meeting with the Mayor attended by all Board members after which the Board was asked to state whether it wished to participate in further discussions on the proposed hub development. The Board felt

that members should be consulted and declined to respond until the January Board meeting following meetings with members.

At that Board meeting, possessed of the almost unanimous view of members that they were not in favour of the current proposal, the Board resolved to advise the Council of its wish to withdraw from consideration of the current proposal but that we are willing to continue discussions on other proposals more favourable to the Donald Simpson Centre.

In her response to this advice, the Mayor wrote to the Board expressing her disappointment with our decision.

In conclusion, it should be mentioned that there has been some suggestion that our decision is related to the fact that three of the groups involved with the proposal were groups catering for people with disabilities. I can assure members that at no time was this discussed as a particular or relevant issue by the Board or at any meeting of members in their making of decisions. It was mentioned as a caution at Board meetings that our opposition was not and should not be seen as related to people with disabilities but the Board did not consider this of any real concern.

As many of our members can attest, the Centre already welcomes a large number of people with various conditions which some may consider disabilities who attend regularly and are part of our satisfied membership. Some of these members are not seniors and I am sure we will welcome many more members regardless of age or disability in the future.

Tony Christinson

Board Chairman

### **NOTICE**

**The Centre would like to hear from members or potential members who would be interested in social tennis or a gardening club.**

# Centre News

We are already in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Calendar month, but since this is the first newsletter for the year I take this opportunity to welcome everyone and 2017 is looking to be a very exciting year ahead.

The Centre now conducts close to 40 activities in a week, and we are now starting to get a lot busier with the after hour activities. The Centre's focus on providing Wellness Activities has attained great success, as one or more wellness activities are conducted between Monday to Friday. So if you haven't joined one yet, check out our timetable to see which would suit you.

This year, we have also welcomed 8 young adults from Redlands Respite Care. These are young aspiring individuals who come to the Centre with their Carers, and have joined our Woodwork class. Some classes are nearing capacity which is a good problem to have, but if there is any activity you would still like to join do not hesitate to check with the management or convenors.

I have been talking about our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans and we are now formalising the programs to mark our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, this year.

Our trips are one of the sole reasons probably one chooses to join the centre. What better way to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, than by having a special trip? We have decided to go down to Gold Coast at the Crowne Plaza, Four Winds Revolving Restaurant, 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE. There will be a morning stopover at Santa Barbara Hope Island before we head for a buffet meal at this acclaimed restaurant. This special trip is open to all, and we are not charging a non-member fee. Bookings for this have been very popular, so if you plan to join us, RSVP at the earliest.

Secondly, as our Cabarets are growing popular and successful, we are planning to host a Rock and Roll Cabaret, to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 6pm to 9pm. More details to be coming soon on this.

Thirdly, a 2 day event, planned for the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September for all members and friends. This is going to be a free event, with entertainment, food, raffles etc. More details on this will be published in the following months.

Apart from the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration plans,

we are gearing up for Seniors Week with our Theatrical Group planning for 4 productions, and our Arts and Craft group would be displaying their artworks etc all planned for August.

I would like the members to know that certain improvements around the Centre are envisaged by the Board and Management, and will be planned over a period of time and subject to available funds/grants etc. I trust you all appreciate our new garden bed at the front entrance and the new signage to promote various activities etc.

So with all this and more planned, I doubt if any of you reading this would want to go for holidays this year (just kidding). I trust you all will be part of these celebrations and activities, and make sure you spread the word.

**Thomas Jithin**  
**Manager**

## COMING EVENTS



March 22	Information Session: Five.Good.Friends: a session about Consumer Directed Care and Home Services.
March 23	DSCC Board meeting
March 29	Members Over 90s Club lunch
April 3	New Members morning tea
April 10	Councillors morning tea(proposed)
April 19	Information Session: Volunteers in Policing,
April 27	DSCC Board meeting
May 10	Information Session: 9.30am CRIME STOPPERS; & 3.30 pm - Rotary Bowel Scan launch.
May 20	Cabaret: Rock group "Off the Record" playing songs from the rock era including a Beatles tribute session.
May 25	DSCC Board meeting
June 21	Information session: topic to be advised
June 26	Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea
July 3	New Members morning tea
July 15	Cabaret: Jazz quartet "The Blue Notes" with jazz standards, instrumentals and vocals.
July 19	Information Session: topic to be advised

# Features Page

It's time to bust the worst retirement myth of all (an article for those who have not yet dealt with retirement income)



[Kaye Fallick](#)

Every day, another survey on retirement income appears. Most are created by those with a vested interest in getting their hands on your money. So, don't fall for their so-called facts – particularly those on affordability.

We seem to be drowning in research, most of which is created by financial services organisations who have a vested interest in influencing your money decisions and persuading you to invest with them.

Sadly, many of these organisations will not actually help you increase your savings and subsequent retirement security as much as they claim. Often, they charge high fees, have been guilty of hiring rogue planners who commit white-collar crime and can rarely demonstrate the actual monetary value they say they deliver in the sphere of retirement income. So, when you read the next round of research claiming that a certain percentage of Australians are now retirement ready or are set to live a 'comfortable' life in retirement, make sure you challenge these statements rigorously.

Across the years, YourLifeChoices has surveyed its membership (currently 220,000) on various aspects of retirement and retirement affordability. As an independent publisher with no financial gain to be made, we ask and report without fear or favour. And by asking questions rather than assuming knowledge, we have learnt that the majority of Australians struggle to make their money last in retirement. While most wish they had saved more, many feel that the ability to fund themselves in retirement was denied to them by external factors over which they had no control. Such circumstances might include health, fragmented work history, lack of income due to caring for others, work in low-paid industries and other such factors associated with life-course disadvantage.

What is becoming increasingly apparent is that the single greatest advantage in retirement is *not* the level of your savings or superannuation but

whether you fully own your family home, if you have a mortgage, or rent. And it is this fundamental aspect of home ownership which appears to be missing in action when it comes to the general perception and media reporting of retirement affordability.

So to take a case in point, the recently released [CommBank Retire Ready Index](#) states that 53 per cent of Australian households are expected to have enough for a comfortable retirement. But reading the fine print reveals that this survey, undertaken by Rice Warner, is based on the comfortable retirement standard as defined by the Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia (ASFA), which does not take into account whether the retiree is living in a fully-owned home, a home with a mortgage or is renting; nor does it consider debt repayments. The report does note this: "The data excludes the family home as this asset is not typically used for retirement income purposes".

Of course, it is not – it is used to live in so the owner/retiree does not need to pay rent!

But more importantly, the home is now considered by most reliable economists as the fourth pillar of retirement income. Firstly, because the increasingly high rent costs will not need to be covered, but also because equity in the home can be released, the home might be downsized to improve cash flow and because it may ultimately contribute to what has become a user-pays aged care system.

So, owning a home is critical to your retirement affordability prospects and unless you have a cool million or two stashed away, will be the main difference between comfort and penury in covering expenses in the last two or three decades of your life. The myth that whether you own a home or rent is immaterial to your retirement readiness is simply false.

*"No one will ever say you've got too much money in retirement, but a major factor in having enough is owning your own home – if you don't, then you really don't have security."*  
~ The Barefoot Investor, Scott Pape, YourLifeChoices Retirement Update January 2017

So, when a financial institution tells you that the best thing you can do is to sock away more cash into your super, ask yourself the quintessential (Latin) question – Cui bono? – or who benefits? If your planner is part of a bank, ask about the bank's charges for retail fund management versus those of other options. Ask them to show you a comparison. Still not sure? Seek an independent rating – for instance SuperRatings. Then ask whether your investment in this super fund will really return more than using the same money to reduce a mortgage so that you can enter retirement with less debt. And what about more money for household expenses? These are the really important questions you need to understand

## Features (continued)

and ask if you are to make the most of the money you have – regardless of how much that is.

The law on financial advice in Australia is very clear. Only a licensed financial professional can advise you on how to manage your retirement income, and this advice must take into account your personal situation, your goals and it *must* be in your (the client's) best interest.

What you read on this site and in newspapers, magazines, blogs or hear on radio or TV is commentary. It is extremely difficult to know how to get started when planning retirement or reviewing your financial situation in retirement. But a better understanding of the broad socio-economic trends is extremely useful as a backdrop to your own personal situation.

One such trend was revealed in 2015 by the Department of Treasury in the Intergenerational Report; a report released every five years. It noted that, by 2055, the proportion of Australians living in retirement on a full or part Age Pension will still be high – 67 per cent, compared to the 70 per cent in this situation today. The figure of 67 per cent is a projection, but from a reliable source.

To date, most retirees have entered retirement living in a home with no mortgage. This situation is changing rapidly, with those entering retirement today now carrying an average of \$162,000 in debt. For the vast majority of retirees who are renting, the sums simply don't and can't add up. They cannot cover the rising expenses of energy, fuel, health insurance and rent.

For retirees with a mortgage, depending upon debt levels, it is also very challenging to try and maintain their pre-retirement standard of living – which is a hint why you are seeing so many traditional homes on the market, and new apartments and townhouses being snapped up by boomer downsizers.

So let's retire the worst myth of retirement once and for all, the one that suggests retirement income has a 'one-size fits all' measurement. More than half the population is simply not 'retire ready' as the CommBank has reported – most of us are still struggling with how to cover the basics.

**YourLifeChoices**  
Simplifying retirement

15 February 2017

**Join YOURLifeChoices, it's free**

Receive our daily newsletter

Enter competitions

Comment on articles

(Editorial: Joining is easy and free; just press "control" and left click on this link for registration invitation. There are many interesting articles etc)

**CLICK: <https://tinyurl.com/htt67z5>**

---

### **My Story** by Peter Lindley



My name is Peter Lindley. I am 78 years of age, and have had a profound, post lingual hearing loss since I was seven, having lost my hearing as a complication of mumps at that time. This had a major impact on all aspects of my life.

I lived in an age when the pace of life was slower, following the end of the second World War, and at a time when technology as we know it today was still in its infancy. People then spoke more slowly than they do today, and their speech tended to be somewhat easier to decipher for someone who was hearing impaired and wore a hearing aid - though still requiring intense concentration.

This is not the case today, and with the advent of the technological age the rate of speech has become much faster, in line with the pace of life and the speed of change. In the area of hearing loss, that change in technology has been remarkable, with the advent of hearing aids which are far superior to the primitive hearing aid I used to wear. I now have a cochlear implant which provides me with a better level of sound than I had previously with a hearing aid.

However, neither aid nor implant enables me to clearly understand what I am hearing. I need **people to be prepared to face me, speak clearly and not too quickly**. Like many of my hearing impaired friends today, a request to speak clearly and not too rapidly, almost without exception, falls on 'deaf ears' – and becomes a daily experience outside of the home environment.

Let me give you an example. Recently, I have visited two different medical specialists. In such an environment it is imperative for me to understand

## Features (continued)

what they are saying because my health and well being depends on it. On making the request, I received a blank look, as much as to say, "He has a cochlear implant – what is this all about.!" The result was that neither doctor made the slightest attempt to comply with my request. If my wife had not been present, I would have been none the wiser about the outcome of the consultations.

Most people with hearing loss cannot process spoken information at the same rate as a person with intact hearing – and almost all the hearing impaired people I have had contact with over the years, agree with my perceptions and experiences - which is why I want to support Deafness Forum in their campaign to have hearing loss classified as a National Health Priority. This includes the need for a National Hearing Health Campaign as a public awareness raising objective on television, in line with programs such as the cancer, diabetes, heart disease and the slip, slop slap campaign.

Over 4 million people who have a hearing loss are generally not recognised within the public consciousness as having a serious disability that impacts on almost every aspect of a persons life. During my life as a hearing impaired person, I **experienced the lack of understanding of the effect of my hearing loss, as the greatest single barrier towards effective communication.** It has been my experience over time that nothing has changed.

I would like to quote from the Executive Summary of the 2010 "Hear Us" Senate Inquiry into hearing loss in Australia. I quote: *"Australians with hearing loss must live with the paradox that their disability is so prevalent in our community and yet suffers from a generally low level of awareness and understanding."*

I spent almost all of my working life as an employee in a hospital and occasionally as a patient. Given that effective person to person communication is an essential component of good health care, and is also essential in other areas of life, it has always left me wondering as to why, awareness raising about the serious effects of hearing loss is not a priority in so many areas of public life.

I believe that much of the advertising on television and in the print media, contributes to the public misconception and gives the impression that all that is needed to correct a hearing loss is a hearing aid or a cochlear implant. That is not to decry the value of these technologies – they are an essential component of hearing health. But equally so, is the human factor in providing appropriate communication to fully supplement

the benefits of the technology.

Failure to communicate effectively can lead to misunderstanding which can have frustrating consequences which can sometimes lead to serious or catastrophic outcomes.

Having lived for 71 years as a hearing impaired person who has had to deal with the frustration and loss of control of my situation, through misunderstanding what people are saying, leading sometimes to serious consequences, I am convinced that public education about the true nature of hearing loss is an issue that needs to be addressed as a high priority.

I agree with and wholeheartedly support Deafness Forum's 6 point plan

Peter Lindley

### Information Session



The international study, 'Blue Zones' researched the world's longest-living people. It found friendship as the key factor contributing to their longevity. The 'stress shedding' power of friendship enhances the life of these people who live their full and long lives in their own homes and communities. On average, these men and women have a circle of five to six good friends who travel through life with them.

*We acknowledge the care sector can be difficult to navigate at times and the government has recently introduced reforms to give you, the consumer, more choice and control. This is important information for you to know to make the best decisions for yourself and your loved ones. To that end, we have invited industry expert, Julia Lawrence, to explain the reforms, what home care options are available, how to access them and how much they cost. Julia has over 30 years' experience in aged and community services and is the Head of Care for Five Good Friends.*

**Wednesday 22 March**

**9.30am to 11.00pm**

**Including morning tea provided by Bendigo Bank, Community Bank, Victoria Point Branch**



*Donald Simpson Community Centre*

*Welcome to our*



# *90s Club*

**To embrace the longevity in our community,  
we are starting up a 90's Club.**

*Membership Policy*

- a) Be current financial member of Donald Simpson Centre
- b) Aged 90 yrs or over

*Membership Benefits*

- a) Special Over 90's DSC Membership badge
- b) 2 Luncheons a year, hosted by Donald Simpson Centre
- c) Free Birthday Lunch for you at Hub Cafe.

*First Luncheon to be hosted on 29th March 2017.*

Join us today, and RSVP for the 29th March luncheon.

*Call 07 38211089 for more information  
or visit us at 172 Bloomfield Street Cleveland*

*Donald Simpson Community Centre, celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 2017*



### He inspired students with the richness of literature

Those who studied in the English department at Queensland University between 1965 and 1981 may have sat in front of poetry lecturer, Val Vallis. I found this *Sydney Morning Herald* article when searching for one of his poems but could not find a poem.

*Sydney Morning Herald*  
February 6, 2009

#### Valentine Vallis, 1916-2009

*I am of the east coast country;* (From *Songs Of The East Coast*, 1944)

Not from the great cities that play Faust,  
*With flats for souls, but where the Queensland hills*  
*Bite the blue skies with their emerald teeth,*  
*And where the sun sets witches' fires on the waterline.*

The poet and academic Val Vallis went to war, to Brisbane and to London for education and to opera around the world, but his heart never left the Queensland coast around Gladstone. "My slumber song," he wrote when serving in Madang in 1944, "was the tide's thundering."

Valentine Thomas Vallis, who has died at 92, was one of four children of Henry "Michael" Vallis, a fisherman and wharf labourer, and his wife, Daisy (nee Bancroft). His love of poetry was kindled during his primary education at Gladstone state school, as he worked through the Department of Public Instruction's graded reading books. Peter Porter and David Malouf have been grateful for that same influence.

Vallis boarded with an aunt, Rose Bancroft, for his secondary education at Rockhampton High (1929-32), where the headmaster was the famous educationist and war hero, James Alexander Robinson, who encouraged his pupil's intellectual and creative gifts and took pride in Val's successes in literary competitions.

Leaving school in the Depression, he worked in the Gladstone Town Council offices before joining the army in 1940. In New Guinea, he was major to the literary scholar and writer Tom Inglis Moore in the Army Education Service.

After the war, Vallis enrolled in an arts course at the University of Queensland. In 1947 he won the Monteith Prize for English II and in 1948 the Douglas Price memorial prize for Philosophy II, graduating with first class honours in philosophy in 1950. He was appointed assistant lecturer in philosophy, while working for his MA (1953), then read for his PhD in philosophy at the University of London (1955).

He returned to Queensland University as a lecturer in philosophy in 1956, specialising in aesthetics, then an orphan-child in the discipline. He became a senior lecturer in 1961, moving to the English department in 1965 and was a reader there when he retired in 1981.

Vallis inspired innumerable students with the riches of literature, especially poetry. Advising honours students to attend a series of Vallis's lectures, Cecil Hadgraft, renowned reader in English, once said: "You won't hear anything of this quality about the creative process anywhere else."

In 1959 Vallis collaborated with Robert Byrnes in editing *The Queensland Centenary Anthology* and in 1988 delivered the Colin Roderick Lectures under the title, *Heart Reasons, These*.

As an undergraduate he had met the young Judith Wright, then working in the university's statistics office. They became lifelong friends and in 1970 edited *Witnesses Of Spring*, the unpublished poems of Shaw Neilson. He was a regular contributor to the *The Bulletin* and a Douglas Stewart loyalist, yet he admired Wright's poetry and was determined that she received full credit (which was commonly given to Clement Christesen) as a founding spirit of *Meanjin*, who also did most of the work. "They were modernists," he said. "Poetry needed the whiff of eucalyptus leaves to be acceptable to 'The Bully'."

He had contributed criticism to *The Bulletin* from the 1940s, expanding his scope to concerts and opera, his abiding passion. Later he wrote for *The Australian*, notably during the arts editorship of Maria Prerauer. He reported in Brisbane for *Opera*, the London magazine.

For almost 20 years, Vallis lectured at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music on opera - its history and repertoire but especially on its capacity to generate the profoundest artistic passion. He was a member of the Queensland working party of the *Australian Dictionary Of Biography* for 10 years.

Passion, or as one reviewer of his poetry put it, "his exuberance", was Vallis's hallmark. No one who met him - meetings were often lengthy, especially if good food and wine were involved - could escape the aesthetically exciting power of that informed exuberance.

Don Munro, the critic and former University of Queensland registrar, said Vallis's lodestar was Henry James's maxim, "Real culture lives by sympathies and admiration, not by dislikes and disdain." Or, as Vallis put it himself in *Embarkation*, about the soldier's lot, but no less about his own approach to the beautiful:

*Till all the clod of commonplace becomes*  
Awakened treasure, gleaming, permanent.

**John Carmody**



**Wednesday, 26th April - Nerima Gardens, Ipswich -** Today we are venturing out to our neighbouring City of Ipswich, our first stop will be the Ipswich Information Centre. Here we will enjoy a delicious Devonshire morning tea out on their veranda. From here we will walk (or bus) down to Nerima Japanese Gardens within Queens Park. A place of peace and tranquillity. The first stage was opened on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2001 by the then mayors of Ipswich and Nerima to commemorate the sister city relationship. A place to meet nature and calm the spirit. Lunch today will be at Brothers League Club Ipswich. Menu on reverse, select your options when booking. Members cost \$58.00. Bookings close 5th April, 2017.

**Friday 12th May - Bungunyah Manor - Mothers Day Luncheon.** Enjoy the chance to get dressed up in your finery and spoil yourself with this special pre-Mother's Day Luncheon at Bungunyah Manor House (circa 1882) Mt Tamborine. Jacques Manor Restaurant presents the very best in "fine food" distinctively French, but with the flavours of Mt Tamborine. Test your taste buds with a delightful 3 course luncheon in the old-world building with its beautifully presented dining room. Gallery walk is only a short distance from Bungunyah Manor, if you would like to stroll through it before lunch. Menu on reverse. Members cost, \$79.00. Bookings close 17th April, 2017



**Wednesday, 17th May - Elton John Experience - Caloundra RSL -** Greg Andrew has the reputation of being one of the best Elton John impersonators in the world. His brilliant piano playing and vocal timbre are often enough, however his uncanny resemblance of Elton John is mind blowing. Covering iconic hits from "The Yellow Brick Road" and hits from the 70's through to the present day this is the ultimate Elton John experience. Morning tea will be served on arrival and lunch is alternate drop of roast Beef and gravy or lemon pepper grilled fish and dessert. We need 40 people or this trip to proceed. Members cost \$35.00. Bookings close 26th April, 2017.

**Saturday, 20th May, 2017 - Qld Pops Celtic Spectacular** - Once again here's your chance to get into the Irish – Scottish and Welsh music. The Celtic magic continues to receive record ovations everywhere with the audiences wanting more-more-more. Introducing Sarah Calderwood to the Pops audience, the singer - songwriter, and flautist writes classic and contemporary folk music, and is well known in Celtic band circles. Featuring Highland Dancers and the Watkins Academy of Dance the orchestra will be joined by Celtic Rock Ensemble, Murphy's Pigs, who will treat to you some irresistible Celtic tunes. B.B.C. Pipes and Drums will make this show complete. There is a limit of 30 seats so book early. Members cost \$114.00. Bookings close 24th February, 2017



# Out With a Difference



**Thursday, 25th May, 2017 - Madura Tea Estate** - Located in northern N.S.W. hinterland Madura Tea is Australia's only owned and operated tea estate. Nestled amongst rainforest, farmland and crystal clear streams. Madura operates in harmony with the environment native plants and wildlife. Nowhere in the world can you experience the plant to pack tea production process other than at Madura Tea Estate. Today Madura Estates welcome us on their guided tour and experience all there is on offer. Madura Tea range includes premium blend, English Breakfast, Irish Breakfast, Earl Grey, Green Tea, and Green Tea with Papaya Leaf, as well as a gift range and their gold label range. A sample bag will be given to each person as part of the entry fee. Products are available for sale. A guaranteed freshness from the plantation to your cup. **Closed in shoes must be worn.** Lunch today will be your selection from the blackboard at **Kingscliffe Bowls Club**, sweets, tea/coffee. Members cost \$59.99. Bookings close 4th May, 2017.

**Sunday, 28th May - Dayboro Day Festival** - Event organisers have put together a jam-packed programme of exciting events, great family attractions, with a showcase of local food available. The wide variety of stalls include craft, books, plants and white elephant, As well as food stalls on site there are eateries in the town. There will be a free shuttle bus running between the main township and the showgrounds, although it is only a leisurely stroll through parklands from one to another. This will be a casual day out in a small country village. Come and enjoy the fresh air. Members cost \$35.00. Bookings close 12th May, 2017.



**Tuesday, 30th May - Paul Hayman presents 50 years of legends - Twin Towns.** Paul is quickly becoming renowned for creating unique entertainment packages and "50 years of Legends" is no different. This show is not just about legendary singers. Paul engages with his audience, he performs his own unique combination of musicianship, storytelling and light-hearted humour. He is supported but a superb 4 piece band and special dancer Kylie Wall. A variety of show quality costumes worn by Paul and Kylie completes the package. Coach only will also be available for \$30.00. Members cost \$43.00. Bookings close 17th April, 2017

**Wednesday, 9th August, 2017 - The Body Guard — the musical** -We all remember The Bodyguard Movie starring Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner. It's now being presented by Michael Harrison and David Ian, directed by Thea Sharrock. Australia's Paulini is taking the starring role of Rachel Marron singing all the songs made famous by Whitney Houston. The production tells the original story as written by Lawrence Kasdan, of a bodyguard who is hired to protect superstar Rachel Marron from a stalker. Under Thea's productions the most important thing was to get the arc of the relationship and interweaving it with the stalker, because without him you wouldn't need the bodyguard. It's a thriller a musical and a kaleidoscope of love stories. Members cost \$99.00. Bookings close 1st May, 2017



***Out With a Difference reserves the right to alter or omit any part of the itinerary or change the reservation, features and/or means of conveyance without notice. OWAD reserves the right to cancel the tour should it not reach minimum numbers and clients will be notified prior to departure should this occur. A \$7.00 cancellation fee applies***

**Check [www.donaldsimsoncentre.com/trips](http://www.donaldsimsoncentre.com/trips) calendar for further details**

# Away With A Difference

**“Spectacular Scandinavia” with optional Baltic Adventure cruise aboard Holland America’s “MS Zuiderdam” - 14th May - 12th June, 2017 inclusive.** Land only 18 days/17 nights, land with cruise 30 days/29 nights. Includes fully customised itinerary. Flights with Emirates, via Dubai and a sightseeing tour in Singapore. Starting in Copenhagen, and travelling through Sweden and Norway through stunning scenery, fiords and historical villages the trip ends in Oslo. From there you either board your flight home or continue on for your cruise around the Baltic. Ports included Tallin, St Petersburg and Helsinki, finishing in Copenhagen. Places still available. Please book and deposit ASAP. Final payment 22nd February, 2017. With nearly 30 folk celebrating the 30th anniversary of the DSC with a 30 day trip through Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea this will be a trip to remember.



**Christmas in July - Macleay Valley, New England, Warwick’s “Jumpers & Jazz” - 24th - Sunday 30th July, 2017.** Includes luxury coach travel, quality motel accommodation, all meals, tours and attractions as per itinerary. Highlights include House with No Steps, Solitary Islands Aquarium, Slim Dusty Centre, Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Saumarez Homestead, Standing Stones. Christmas Dinner at the Abbey of the Roses and one full day to explore the Jumpers & Jazz Festival and much more. Price \$ 1840.00 pp twin share. Tour price based on minimum of 20 passengers. Itinerary is subject to change without notice.

**Country NSW - Blue Mountains – Cherry Blossoms - Monday, 9th October - Monday 16th October, 2017 -** Tour price includes return economy flights, luxury coach travel, 7 nights quality accommodation, all touring and entrance fees and meals as per itinerary. Highlights include, Norman Lindsay - National Trust Gallery and Museum; Echo Point and Three Sisters Lookout; Cowra Highlights Tour, Japanese Gardens and Cultural Centre; Iandra Castle Lambing Flat Museum, Kiama Blowhole and Cathedral Rocks; Nan Tien Temple, Sea Cliff Bridge and much more. Tour Cost:\$ 2745.00 per person twin share



**Christmas Cruise to New Zealand - 21st December, 2017 - 4th January 2018 -** on the “Sea Princess”. After three sea days, spend Christmas Day cruising the magnificent Fiordland National Park. Ports include Dunedin, Akaroa, Wellington, Napier, Tauranga and Auckland. There will be plenty of time at each port for sightseeing, either by yourself or on the ship’s excursions. The ship departs Hamilton Wharf at approximately 4.00 pm. Transfers from Cleveland will be arranged by Val Henry and paid separately. Tour price is based on minimum 16 paying passengers. Cruise prices start at interior \$2899.00 per person twin share.

Bookings open for all tours; Brochures available.

**[Download full itineraries and prices from our website.](#)**



**DONALD SIMPSON'S  
30TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON  
FOUR WINDS REVOLVING RESTAURANT  
GOLD COAST  
WEDNESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 2017**

**COST \$80 .00 covers coach, luncheon  
Community Event - Non members at Members Price  
\$ 20.00 Deposit - Balance before 9th June 2017  
COACH DEPARTS CENTRE 9.00 am  
Southbound coach pickup applies**

Today is a chance to join fellow members and Board members for lunch at the Four Winds Revolving Restaurant for the 30th anniversary of friendships made with plenty of laughter while attending activities over the years. Four Winds provides a 360 degree scenic vista from the horizon to the hinterland whilst you enjoy a first class buffet. There is something for every taste bud. For example, street food, stir fries, sushi, seafood, cold meats and salads are served. Finish with very delectable sweets, cheese varieties, crackers and nuts. A cash bar is available to purchase your drinks. **This is a special price for a special celebration.**

***Friendships and fellowships are the blessings of life***

