



**DONALD SIMPSON
COMMUNITY CENTRE**
May 2017



Camellias in flower at the Centre

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From the Chairman

Most members would know by now that the Redland City council, by a vote of six to five, has set about to cease operational funding to the Donald Simpson Centre. This amounts to a loss of \$100 000 from our annual income of around \$360 000. Nobody would expect that this would not affect our operations.

It is not clear why this has happened, certainly not from the inaccurate report presented to Council which was made available to us after the decision was made. There is some suggestion that this is to support a community age-friendly program but no such program exists at present and, if it takes shape, the funds applied to it will dwarf the \$100 000 taken from us. There is also no evidence of there being similar reductions in Council support for other non-profit organisations.

The decision has been made and in the 2017-2018 financial year we will lose \$50 000 and there will be no further funding if the decision stands. In all other respects, as far as we know, there remains a good working relationship with the Council and this is important for the continued growth and improvement of the Centre. We will endeavour to maintain this relationship and hope that, as Councillors become more aware of our true financial position and the improvements which we need to make to the building, a better financial arrangement can be reached.

To cope with our loss of operational funding as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the Board has had to take certain initiatives. These have been made with the intention of the least possible effect on members but inevitably this cannot be entirely avoided. The first of these is on the savings side of our ledger. The Board has determined to invest in a 90kW solar system which will save considerable expenditure on electricity for many years. Provided that Council approval is obtained, this should be accomplished in coming weeks.

Our other initiatives, aimed at improving our financial position, will be directed towards bringing funds into the Centre from a variety of sources. These will include seeking sponsorships, raising the price to attend some of our activities and seeking grants. Unfortunately, there are no grants which provide operational funds but we will seek to improve physical aspects of the Centre and provide new equipment as well as maintaining current equipment and fulfilling our requirements for general maintenance around the Centre.

We are always willing, under these circumstances, to accept philanthropical donations from Gold Lotto winners and others but, as you would know, these are few and far between. Above all we must do more than just maintain our effort at the Centre and keep the forward movement we have developed in recent years.

Tony Christinson
Board Chairman

From the Manager

Before we blink our eyes, we are half way through the year. As you all are aware by now, this year marks our 30th Anniversary, and our celebrations have commenced with a great start.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the recently concluded Cabaret, was the biggest one we did, and was a Sold out event. Huge thanks to the band Off the Record, and all who attended on the day to make it a huge success. This was the first planned event, as part of the 30th Anniversary. Special thanks to our Chairman Tony, and Board members and volunteers who all helped out on the day.

Our next event, is a trip, down to the Four Winds Revolving restaurant. This event is also now booked out, and have a few more keen members on a waiting list. Lastly, we are planning our AGM, and general gathering for all our members with free morning tea and afternoon tea on 25th September (Monday). More details of this program will be available soon. At this stage we have invited Mr Craig Zonca from 612 ABC radio as one of the Special guests.

Apart from the 30th Anniversary celebration programs, the DSC is hosting Biggest Morning Tea on 26th June 2017, so get in early to book your tickets from our office. There is going to be entertainment, raffles, luck door prize and much more. Come along, to have a great time and support a good cause.

I recently was invited to our computer forum group, to talk on how to use Facebook. I was happy to guide our members to navigate through Facebook, and show them our Facebook page which is

Continued next page

Centre News

<https://www.facebook.com/DSCCentre> where they are able to access current news, events, etc. So if you haven't "liked" our page yet, please do so to keep up to date with the news around the centre. Also, to have a more prominent image on the web, our website has been upgraded. If you haven't recently checked our website, have a look at www.donaldsimpsoncentre.com.au

The Board has approved a few upgrades around the centre. Some of the major ones include, a Digital Outdoor Sign to promote our activities and events, and secondly Solar Panels to be energy efficient, and save costs on electricity. We are also going to have our café foyer area air-conditioned soon. So with all this and more happening, we aim to keep revitalising the centre.

To conclude, just a friendly reminder that membership renewals are now due. You have until the 30th of August to maintain the current renewal fee at \$16.50. Hence beat the rush, or if you are going away soon, make sure you renew your membership for 2017-2018. If you are not able to come into the centre, you are welcome to renew over the phone. The centre continues to partner with local organisations to keep giving you benefits. Check out our website for more details.

Until next time.....

Thomas Jithin
Manager

Response to Redland City Council Funding Agreement Report

The briefing paper presented to the Redland City Council was out of date in that it omitted a great deal of information which grossly distorted the financial position of the Donald Simpson Community Centre.

It is noted that the financial figures provided were drawn from the Centre's 2016 Annual Report. These figures show cash reserves of \$223 831 and an operational account of \$100 000. It is then stated that only \$30 000 is committed to Centre developments.

This information completely ignores information provided to the Council in our monthly meeting papers containing minutes of meetings and full financial statements including current Balance Statements and Income and Expenditure Statements. Our last quarterly report to Council also showed a vast amount of detail which was not provided in the paper.

Further, the minutes and information available to

the Council Officer and Councillor who attend our meetings show that, initially, the Centre Board was holding funds at the request of Council Officers in anticipation of having to contribute to the Community Hub. As a normal business, to observe prudent management procedures, we retain a reserve of around three months' operational expenditure, amounting to around \$150,000.00 as a hedge against loss of revenue for some unforeseen reason. Following the decision to withdraw from the then current Hub discussions, our freely available Centre Development Committee reports and minutes of Board meetings show that the Board has decided to set about some much-needed improvements to the Centre. Improvements for which expenditure is already approved by the Board are:

1. Digital sign on Bloomfield Street frontage **\$30 000**
2. Air-conditioning of cafeteria **\$10 000**
3. Repair of vinyl flooring in cafeteria **\$ 1 200**
4. Repair to damage done to shed by homeless person **\$ 2 000**
5. A metal awning to protect two outside seats used by those waiting for transport **\$ 2 500**
6. Planting of callistemon hedge in front of Centre **\$ 300**

TOTAL \$46 000

Other improvements which are awaiting approval by the Board are:

- Solar panels for roof to offset electricity costs **\$73 000**
- Built-in data projector for auditorium **\$ 8 000**
- New stage curtains (Awaiting result of grant application) **\$20 000**
- Back projection for scenery lighting effects **\$30 000**
- Resort Buggy to assist movement in carpark **\$17 000**
- Relocation of entrance to escape effect of westerly winds
- Remodelling of reception area

Centre News (cont)

- Remodelling of kitchen and servery
- Remodelling unsatisfactory backstage dressing rooms and toilets

(Costs for last three items unknown at this stage)

Obviously, these improvements are well outside our resources but the growing needs of the Centre make them imperative in the future.

It is worthwhile mentioning other information revealing the community value of the Donald Simpson Community Centre as this was omitted from the document in favour of vague comments about Age-friendly Communities and the Community Hub with which we are well acquainted.

The Donald Simpson Centre currently has in excess of 2200 fully financial members. As with other organisations, this changes every 1 July as dues become payable and, after a period of grace, membership lapses. Though the Centre was funded and built predominantly as a seniors' centre, we have an increasing number of younger members, including some of school age playing table tennis and a group of teenagers from a respite centre who participate alongside our senior members in Woodcarving. There is no bar involving the use of the Centre on the grounds of age or disability. We recently have formed a club for members 90 and over and invite them to lunch and entertainment twice a year at no cost to them.

Our membership is spread around Redland City with, understandably, greater numbers from centre closer to Cleveland. We have plans to undertake activities in community halls but we have experienced difficulty finding conveners. At last count, the breakdown of membership in various areas showed the following numbers in some areas:

Alexandra Hills - 154	Redland Bay – 126
Birkdale - 174	Thornlands - 204
Capalaba - 141	Victoria Point – 251
Cleveland - 568	Wellington Pt – 125
Ormiston - 173	

Improvements have already been made to the Centre totalling around \$40 000. These include: outfitting the Boardroom to make it more attractive for Donald Simpson Centre use and hiring to external groups; purchase of more appropriate café furniture; the addition of kitchen appliances to

broaden our café menu; an interior decorator design for café renovation and purchase of a shed to expand our limited dressing room facilities for shows.

In order to continue our improvements to the Centre, we will have to find ways to replace the Council contribution and, as you may know, grants are available for capital improvement but not to provide operational funding.

In addition to our members and the forty plus activities in which they participate, many others use this Centre in one way or another. Some meet here and share some joint membership, such as, U3A Redlands, the Redlands Orchid Society, the Genealogical Society, the Hearing-Impaired Group, the Low-Vision Group, the Seniors Network and for a period of time, the Community Hub Steering Committee.

Other groups which hold functions here are the Bonsai Society, Gideons International, RDCOTA for the Seniors Walk breakfast and a variety of others on a casual basis. Some of these groups are hosted, with refreshments, free of charge as our service to the community. We have estimate in our returns for various purposes that there are annually 55 000 to 60 000 individual visitors to the Centre.

The Centre hosts a number of free functions including the Nineties Club, volunteers' break-up and an free function for members to reward their loyalty.

The Centre staff has now grown to five individuals or four full-time equivalent positions: a Manager; an Administrative Assistant; a hospitality-qualified person in the kitchen and two job-sharing caretaker/cleaners. Much of the work at the Centre is done by 120 volunteers ranging from kitchen and general volunteers to activity conveners. At the recognised rate of \$25 per hour, these volunteers contribute \$3000 per worked hour to the community for varying numbers of hours depending on their roles.

While we understand that the Council decision was made on the presented report, I hope that this more in-depth report of the Centre's position will make it obvious that the Donald Simpson Board is managing an asset which the Council holds in trust for the community and we manage on behalf of the community. The 28% reduction in our annual income will provide us with a considerable challenge to continue to provide services to the Redlands community.

Tony Christinson, Board Chairman

Centre News (cont)

COMING EVENTS

- June 21 Information session:
Depression
- June 22 Board Meeting
- 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:
Physiotherapy
- July 27 Board Meeting
- August 19 to 27 Seniors Week
August 19, 20, 26, 27
Donald Simpson Theatricals
Performance: *Simply The Best*
- August 26, 27 Donald Simpson Centre Art
and Craft Show
- August 26 Board Meeting
- September 18 New Members' Morning Tea
- September 25 DSCC Annual general
Meeting and members' lunch
including guests
- September 28 Board Meeting
- October 21 Cabaret
- October 26 Board meeting

Anyone For Tennis?

Would anyone interested in playing social tennis as a Donald Simpson activity email Tony Christinson at:

chairman@donaldsimpsoncentre.com

Or ring 0447 177 633.

If there is sufficient interest, a meeting will be called to initiate a social tennis activity at a suitable venue.

Notices

Activity Fee to Rise

To assist with making up the shortfall in operating funds brought about by changes in Redland City Council funding, the Centre Board, in considering a number of options, determined that to ensure the least effect on members a small rise in the activity fee would be appropriate. Consequently, from 1 July 2017, members would be asked to contribute \$5 instead of the \$4 which they now contribute.

Gardening Group

We have begun the task of creating productive and decorative gardens around the Centre and generally maintaining the tidiness of our surrounds.

Would those who have already expressed interest and any others interested in joining a Gardening group come to a meeting at the Centre on Thursday 8 June.

Information Sessions

Important sessions planned for coming months are:

Wednesday 21 June: A session on Depression will be held with two guest speakers: a speaker from Beyond Blue and a Psychologist from a local practice. (see flyer later in this newsletter)

Wednesday 19 July: Physiotherapy; a session to be delivered by a local physiotherapist from which further activities at the Centre may emanate—watch for future flyer.

Tuesday 12 September: A lengthy session (9am to noon) will be held featuring speakers from Alzheimers Australia; FSG (a large organisation catering for aging and mental health amongst other areas and Home Instead, a local in-home care provider. Please mark the date and watch our for further information.

Features Page

DONALD SIMPSON CENTRE WALKING GROUP

The walking group began almost one year ago and has developed into a close knit group who not only enjoy getting fit, but also the social side by having a coffee and a chat together after the walk.

Sam Anderson was one of the early members of the group and Susan Nichols joined in September after moving to the area to live with her daughter. Sam kindly offered to give Susan a lift to the Donald Simpson Centre for the regular walking group as he lived in the same area.

As the saying goes 'the rest is history' when Susan and Sam were married at Christmas. All members of the walking group would like to congratulate them and wish them every happiness in the future.

All needs are catered for with the main group walking for approximately one hour and a short walk for those who do not wish to go the full distance.

New members are always welcome and can join by contacting convener Peter Armstrong on 0417706849 or by meeting the group at 7am on any Tuesday or Thursday in front of the Donald Simpson Centre.



Scheme to encourage older Australians to downsize



As part two of Scott Morrison's attack on housing affordability, a scheme to encourage older Australians to downsize will be introduced. From 1 July 2018 Australians aged 65 and older will be able to make a non-concessional contribution of up to \$300,000 into their superannuation from the proceeds of the sale of a family home.

How will this work?

Helping George and Jane downsize

George and Jane, both retired and aged 76 and 69, sell their home in which they've lived for more than 10 years to move into more appropriate accommodation. The proceeds of the sale are \$1.2 million. They can each make a non-concessional contribution into superannuation of up to \$300,000 from the sale proceeds (\$600,000 in total), even though Jane no longer satisfies the standard contribution work test and George is over 75. They can make these special contributions regardless of how much they already have in their superannuation accounts.

Case study source Commonwealth of Australia, 2017.

Opinion: Seller beware - there's a catch

The Budget documents state that this measure will 'free up housing stock' particularly 'larger homes for younger families'.

But seller beware!

Debbie and I did the sums in the budget Lockup and think this policy clearly assists the budget bottom line in significant ways. The sale of more retirees' homes will increase stock and the lower the price of homes, thus easing the housing affordability squeeze. However, as in the example of George and Jane, if they sell their home for (net) \$1.2 million, then put \$600,000 into super, it may assist the Budget, but *they* will probably be worse off.

How so?

Well we assume that the property is owned outright and the other half of the proceeds of the sale are used for a new dwelling which would be

Features (continued)

a considerably smaller property, perhaps in a less salubrious neighbourhood. If they have an 'average' couples' super balance, they probably already had around \$300,000 in super. So, their new super balance they probably already had around \$300,000 in super. So their new super balance is \$900,000 (after half the sale amount is included) and this means they will not qualify for an Age Pension as they exceed the [asset threshold](#) for part Age Pensions. If they had not sold the family home, its value would be exempt from the asset test and they *would* receive an Age Pension.

So without any form of Age Pension at all, they will be forced to live on the earnings from their \$900,000 balance. Drawing down the minimum of four per cent, they will have \$36,000 per year to live on, compared to the full Age Pension they might have had, pre-sale, of \$34,820 including supplements but with only the balance of proceeds (\$600,000) to spend on what will have to be an inferior home, perhaps in a less desirable neighbourhood.

So make sure you do your sums very carefully, and check them with a qualified financial professional, *before* you put your home on the market.

9 May

YourLifeChoices 2017

Budget 2017: Age Pension portability changes scrapped



Announced in Budget 2015/16, changes to Age Pension portability have been scrapped as part of the overall dump of measures that the Government has failed to pass through the Senate.

The changes would have seen those who choose to live overseas have their Age Pension payments subject to the work life residency rule after six weeks, rather than the current 26 weeks.

The work life residency rule means that those

who have not resided in Australia for 35 years or more between the ages of 16 and Age Pension age, have their Age Pension paid at a pro rata rate should they leave the country for a period of more than 26 weeks. For example, if you have only lived in Australia for 24 years between these ages, you will receive 24/35ths of your applicable Age Pension payment.

The scrapped change was due to take effect from 1 January 2017 and would have affected around 81,000 age pensioners, however, it was a measure that was vehemently opposed by the opposition and crossbench senators.

9 May

YourLifeChoices 2017

FRIDAY CRAFT GROUP

The Friday morning Craft Ladies gather in Activity Room 3&4. An eclectic mix of talented, generous, friends sit down together to make beautiful and useful items - most of which are given away. A hum of conversation and laughter accompanies the work. Beneficiaries include the local Cancer Council Fundraising group, the local Redlands Hospital and a Foster Children's Charity.

These good ladies share their knowledge by showing their finished items (show and tell) and are happy to teach one another the tricks of their craft. Any problem can be solved, any pattern found, any craft making item tracked down. A single strand of donated wool can become a small child's jumper, scraps of fabric - a warm and colourful quilt, a strand of shiny cotton - a work of art, paper and bits and pieces - an attractive card. Anyone can come along with little or no experience and be helped along the way.

Supporting one another through life's ups and downs - is an added bonus!

On the day this survey was taken there were 45 ladies present. Each one was asked how long she had been doing her particular craft (some did more than one). For example; Beryl has been knitting for 86 years, and Patricia crocheting for just 1 year. The total years of experience in the room that day were knitting - 2102 years, crochet - 1222 years, patchwork/quilting -117 years, embroidery and cross stitch - 1135 years and card making 79 years. This makes a grand total of 4655 years of crafting knowledge, and it all happens every Friday at the Donald Simpson Centre!

Conveners' Judy 3829 0263

Kay 3207 9981

Poetry Page

Donald Simpson Centre Board member, Laraine Dillon, is a published author with two novels, *The Easement* and *The Pitts in Paradise* in the Donald Simpson library. Laraine has just completed a third book which is yet to be published. This one is research into her own family and features poems from a relative, Russell Comerford. This first one is entitled *Wallangarra*. Here it is with some excerpts from Laraine as an introduction.

Occasionally he would be posted away from his Bulimba, Brisbane base, I suppose for manoeuvres and training exercises, and the like. Wallangarra was the one that changed all our lives for many years after it seemed that life was either gauged on, "before Wallangarra" or "after Wallangarra". He must have thought that he was going to die there. Wallan bloody Garra as he referred to it, is situated on the granite belt not far from Stanthorpe.

Wallangarra left such a lasting impression on him he wrote the following verse. It was the birth of an inherent and dormant talent. God knows what he could have been if he had had a more formal education.

Wallangarra

*Along the Queensland border, lies
A place renowned for dust and flies,
For chilly winds and cloudy skies;
A place name Wallangarra.
In summertime the heat is bad.
(And so's the amber-brew my lad)
In fact they both will drive you mad,
Down here at Wallangarra.
In winter, there is frost, and sleet
That chills your hands and face and feet.
But by the Lord it makes you eat.
Down here at Wallangarra.
The drinking water's "on the nose".
It rots your stomach, soils your clothes.
A fair example I suppose*

Of things at Wallangarra.

There's hills around the Army camp.

They keep the place both cold and damp.

I think I'll pack my gear and tramp

Away from Wallangarra.

So, merrily my gear I pack.

I'll soon be on the open track.

I'm "shooting through", and won't be back!

Farewell to Wallangarra.

R J Comerford

November 1950

The Critic

An article I'd written (I was young, and somewhat smitten by the urge to see the family name in print),

And the subject of my choosing, was the heinous crime of boozing; and the money that the nation spent on gin and peppermint.

With my effort I was happy, for I thought my style was snappy; and I castigated all who drank such stuff.

I disserted on the sadness caused by drinking; and the badness. And I ended with a query when I thought I'd said enough.

But lest it was rejected by the person who inspected all the manuscripts submitted to his sheet;

I invited home a fellow, a friend named Martinello who was known to be a critic with knowledge quite replete.

O'er my manuscript he pondered; whilst I stood beside and wondered would I ever be a writer after all?

Then, a look of circumspection he cast in my direction; and my knees began to tremble, and my hopes began to fall.

He cleared his throat, and stated: "You have somewhat overrated your ability to write a lucid tale.

So, unless you prune and polish, and some phrases you abolish, I think you'll find it difficult indeed, to make a sale!

It's humour is redundant. With clichés, it's abundant. It's smiles are vapid – not worth the use of ink!

Poetry Page (cont)

In it's purpose it's a failure; for the people of Australia (should they read it) would be bound to go and drown their woes in drink!

In a manner of a surgeon asked to vivisect a sturgeon; (disdain upon his countenance) he lifted up his quill.

He jotted, scored, and measured the material I treasured; whilst my humble pride I swallowed – 'twas indeed a bitter pill.

He said: "Your ego's swollen," as he scored a semicolon from the place that I had put it to emphasis a point,

"Your pristine style of phrasing is simply, quite amazing! Your style is far too jerky. And in short, you disappoint."

"So I'd recommend revision, with the very strong provision that you side-step hackneyed phrases, and avoid quotations trite.

If my help's appreciated I am amply compensated!" There, he took his hat, and left me, with a very curt: "Good night!"

Then, I gathered my narration of the sad state of the nation; and examined the conclusions of my critic, guide, and friend.

All I saw, was interspersions where he'd made his sharp incursions. All he'd left me of my opus was, the query at the end.

By Jimmy Russell

(also known as RJ Comerford)

oooooOOOooooo

The following is a short story written by R.J.Comerford. As it is too long to include in this edition of the newsletter, it will be presented in instalments.

The Kleptomaniac

. A short story by R.J. Comerford

I'd just nailed down the loose board under Mike's bunk, when I heard a car approaching.

Hoping it was Mike, I went to the door of the shack and gazed at the dust cloud that was rising beyond the bend in the road.

To say that I was annoyed with Mike would be putting it mildly. I had quite a piece to say to him.

He had gone to Scottsville – the nearest town – to pick up supplies and, as he put it, "to drink a drop of the best".

This was a monthly pilgrimage of his, and usually he was back on the second day with a hangover that would have troubled a rhinoceros, but able

to muster a grin and greet me with:

"Well, Shamus me bhoy, 'tis a foine lot of supplies I've brought ye, as well as some mail from yer little colleen."

The grin and rich brogue usually dispelled any anger I felt about his absence. Today, however, it would take more than supplies, or mail from Betty, to placate me.

This was his third day of absence, and I was existing on a diet of black tea, damper, and rabbit. And in addition, I had made a startling discovery.

Annoyed by a board that creaked each time Mike turned in his sleep, I had removed it to "bed it in". And what had I found underneath?

There, stacked in neat piles, were a score or so of signs and nameplates "captured" from street signposts and the doors of business premises, not

to mention the sign from the gate of the local Caledonian Club. Undoubtedly these were souvenirs of his visits to town.

Having known Mike for a long while, this loot spelt trouble. Twice before, his penchant for practical joking had been the cause of our hurried departure

from towns, and I could see the third occasion looming before me. I did not want to annoy the people of Scottsville, particularly the trades

people, as their goodwill was important to us.

We were prospecting in the foothills around the Snowy, and although the gold was patchy, it held sufficient promise to keep us there. To date,

we had barely met expenses, and the storekeepers – mostly Scotsmen – were relieved when their bills were paid. The sound of the engine became

louder, and a strange car rounded the bend and came to a stop outside the shack. In it was Thompson, the Sergeant of Police with whom we'd

talked on our arrival in the district. He uttered a curt "Good-day", passed a remark about the weather,

and accepted my invitation to come inside. Seated on one of the wooden boxes that served as chairs, he surveyed the interior of our one-roomed dwelling while I stirred the fire to make a cup of tea.

(to be continued)



INFORMATION SESSION

What do you know about

DEPRESSION?

Wednesday 21 JUNE

9.30am to 11.00am

At the Donald Simpson Community Centre

Come along to listen to our two speakers:

Marjorie Green

Marjorie Green is a retired medical research scientist; she is a widow and has three sons, three granddaughters and one grandson.

Marjorie is a volunteer speaker for *beyondblue*, a national organisation that works to raise awareness about anxiety and depression, reduce the associated stigma and encourage people to get help.

Marjorie became a *beyondblue* speaker because she is very aware of the lack of knowledge, understanding and stigma surrounding illness like depression and anxiety.

Marjorie's interests include community work, Quilting and her two small dogs.

Corinne Coe

Corinne Coe is a psychologist with almost 20 years of experience in treating people with mental illness, including Depression and Anxiety. She operates a private practice in Bloomfield Street, Cleveland, and provides therapy and supportive counselling to individuals, couples and families.

Corinne Coe has just recently published a book called *Heal Your Mind, Heal Your Life*, which is a self-help book for Depression and Anxiety. The book will be available to purchase at the presentation for a discount. It is also available as an e-book from Amazon.com.au

Including free morning tea

provided by Bendigo Bank, Community Bank, Victoria Point Branch



Victoria Point
Community Bank®
Branch

Travel Pages

Out With a Difference



Saturday, 24th June, 2017 - Carrara Markets, Gold Coast - With indoor and outdoor shopping, the 10 acres of these markets are a popular venue. There are over 500 stalls loaded with goods ranging from sunglasses, fashion, fruit and vegetables, and second-hand goods. There are several eating outlets where you can purchase your own morning tea and lunch, or bring your own if you prefer. There will be plenty of room under the coach for your personal trolley. Members cost \$35.00 Bookings close 9th June, 2017.

Saturday, 8th July - Queensland Garden Expo., Nambour - A must see for green thumbs this popular event is now 32 years old. With over 55 nurseries and over 360 exhibitors, there are plants and things to do with plants and gardens as far as you can see. The "Gardeners Gourmet" stage gives great tips on turning your produce into gourmet meals, or you can take your gardening problems to the "plant clinic" for help. There is also a "cloak room" where you can store your purchases. There are plenty of eating outlets where you can purchase your lunch. Bring your own trolleys if you wish. Members cost \$50.00. Bookings close 23rd June, 2017



Wednesday, 12th July - Majestic Theatre, Pomona - The Majestic Theatre is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register and is promoted as the oldest authentic silent movie theatre in the world. Although re-furbished recently, it still remains the rare and functional example of a pre-world World War II country hall. Lunch will be at the Tewantin-Noosa RSL. Members cost \$79.00. Bookings close 14th June, 2017.



Friday, 14th July - Ex-Inmate Tour, Boggo Road Gaol - Dutton Park. The tour of this notorious prison is guided by ex-inmates and ex-officers who share stories of their time. We will learn about the rooftop riots, hunger strikes, protests and escapes. The one hour tour will start after morning tea which is served on arrival. After the tour, we will go into the city where you can BYO lunch and spend time window shopping. We will leave the city at 2.00 pm sharp. Members cost \$50.00. Bookings close 23rd June, 2017



Out With a Difference



Saturday, 22nd July - Southern Downs Steam Railway - Warwick to Hendon return. We board the train at Warwick for a 1 1/2 to 2 hour trip. Sit back and enjoy a leisurely ride on this fully restored steam locomotive. On our return we will have lunch at the Warwick RSL. Here you can make your selection from the Hot Box and sweets from the cabinet. Tea and coffee are included. We will be arriving home at approximately 5.00 pm, a little later than usual. Members cost \$86.00. Bookings close 30th June, 2017

Wednesday, 26th July - Christmas in winter - Buderim Tavern - Enjoy a cosy traditional Christmas Luncheon at Buderim Tavern with beautiful scenic views and the warmth of an open fireplace. Morning tea will be at Centenary Park, Caboolture. Members cost \$72.00. Bookings close 5th July, 2017



Sunday, 6th August - Byron Bay Markets - Take a casual day trip down to Byron Bay where you can spend the morning browsing the stalls. From here it is an easy walk into the main street where you can purchase your lunch or stroll down to the beach. Morning tea will be at Yelgun. Personal trolleys can be catered for. Members cost \$43.00. Bookings close 24th July, 2017.

Tuesday, 22nd August - Mudgeeraba Light Horse Museum and Lunch at Danny's Restaurant - Coolangatta-Tweed Heads Gold Club. A special Seniors Week outing - non-members at members cost. This museum was established in 1981/82 and relives the history of the Australia Light Horse to pay tribute to those who served our country. From here we travel to Coolangatta - Tweed Heads Golf Club to partake in one of their famous buffet lunches. On the way home we will call into Yatala Pies if desired. Members cost \$65.00. Bookings close 1st August, 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

Away With A Difference

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; landra 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 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 starts at interior \$2899.00 per person twin share.

Taiwan & Colours of the Lantern Festival - Tuesday 6th - March 18th, 2018 - Includes return economy flights from Brisbane to Taipei with China Airlines, luxury accommodation, meals as per itinerary and English speaking guide. Excursions include Taipei 101 Observatory (own cost), Martyrs Shrine, Yehliu Park Rock Formations, woodcarving village of Sanyl and Chung Tai Monastery. We have a Sun Moon lake cruise, see the spectacular Taiwan Lantern Festival, have a traditional foot massage, visit the Liuho Night Market, Stone Umbrella, Cave of the Eight Immortals & Stone Steps, stunning Taroko Gorge, enjoy the Taiwanese Tea Plantation Cultural experience and much more. Tour cost \$4,525 per person twin share., plus taxes. Price based on minimum 20 passengers ex Brisbane.



The Savannahlander & Tropical North Queensland - 9th - 17th June 2018 - Tour highlights include - Spirit of Queensland; The Savannahlander; Stony Creek Falls; Kuranda; Dimbulah; Chillagoe Cave; Town Tour; Mt. Surprise; Einaseigh; Forsayth Night Tour; Cabbold Gorge Cruise; Undara; and much more.

Price includes: Spirit of Queensland Railbed - Brisbane Cairns; Economy flight Cairns to Brisbane - Coach charter while touring, Savannahlander, 7 nights accommodation, all meals and attractions per itinerary. \$2,690 per person twin share

Bookings open for all tours; Brochures available.

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