



March / April 2009

NEWSLETTER

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Home of Peel Seniornet

GENERAL MEETING Monday March 23rd. 2009

President Christine Jackson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

First of all we heard all the interesting information that has occurred during the last month.

Telstra Connected Seniors . There has been some sort of hold up that Telstra's Website is experiencing which will cause a delay in all applications. The grant application to run mobile phone courses, has gone in plus buying a couple of mobile phones to be used as a learning tool at the courses. Sirkka left us a training disc which have been copied that will be used in training sessions.

We have no date for commencement yet though.

Also we are waiting on the outcome of our grant application to the City of Mandurah for training equipment, books etc. This should come though shortly, we hope.

The digital photo workshop on 20th May is fully subscribed and a waiting list is active. We might be able to run another such workshop if enough members put their names down; just contact the secretary

The 'give away' table is now available. Members spare computer items are on the table. There is a donation box for any small contributions but that's not mandatory.

At the end of the afternoon any items that have not found a new home will be chucked in the bin – or you can take them home again!

This will interest members I'm sure. Free public Transport Travel Entitlements for WA Senior, Aged and Disability Support Pensions.

From Saturday 4th April 2009 we will be able to travel for Free on a Transperth service between 8.30am and 3.30pm. Monday to Friday, all day Saturday and Sunday as well as public holidays. Accessed via Smart Rider, Transperth's electronic ticketing system . A Seniors Smart Rider or The new Pensioner Smart Rider to travel for free during above times.

Anybody going away soon? Try this email address newsletters@aboutseniors.com.au some really good stuff while you travel !

Also we keep urging members to have a good look through the monthly ASCCA newsletter and newsbreaks which contain an awful lot of excellent information for all of us.

There are Newsletters from other groups, on the table – have you a had a look ? really interesting.

Telemarketing

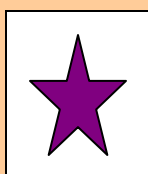
All Australian mobile telephone numbers will be released to telemarketing firms as from next month.

You can have your phone number(s) removed from telemarketing lists by registering at <https://www.donotcall.gov.au/>

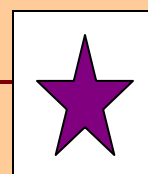
Training.

It is great to see that Tom is now fully back on deck and that the special sessions he is running are going so well.

The General Sessions are still in place but he advised us to check 'Training' in website for adjusted learning sessions.



Greetings to new members
Pam Bungate, Lois Burk, Brenda Roberts.



The Social Functions

A little bit of what you missed !
Morning Tea at Edenvale was on the 10th March was great and in an outdoor setting. Also we wandered around the Art & Craft shop and several members made some interesting purchases.

The next Morning Tea is at Gloria Jeans (opposite the Brighton Hotel) on 7th April Cost is (\$8.) Hope to see you there.

May Morning Tea will be at Cicerello's on Tuesday 5th May.



The 10th birthday lunch will be held in August not June. Apparently the Inaugural meeting was actually in October '99 but that's a difficult time for us! As that is our Annual Meeting month. The Origin and History of our club is on the Website but if you know of any other interesting news we'd love to hear it.

Members contributions and questions among which were :-

Mac recommended an interesting program which is great for Seniors called 'brain exercises'. It is approximately 1hr long and please contact him on mac@jarrahbark.com if you would like details on the program.

Try Photo Story 3 it is free from Microsoft. ([link on our web page](#)). Picasso 2 and are also drawing plenty of attention from members and Hans can help with this on hnissen@bigpond.net.au if needed or just go to Google .

Don't forget that there is loads of information on www.peelseniors.net which Tom is frequently updating.

Our Speaker this month.
Sandy Boulton.

Sandy commenced her talk by demonstrating the visual and sounds made by the cane toads. Then explained where her work began. First 3yrs as a volunteer in Kununurra. She also has 5 children so is busy as a bee! Some of the features are the ridge in the head, very round eyes and no web toes to speak of. Can be caught easily. Can't survive without water. Poison situated mostly just behind the ear. Must be swallowed though. Can blind the eyes too.

MembersComments prompted Sandy to tell us that toads are not native of Australia .



Toads came to Australia from many parts of the world to the Cane Farms to eradicate sugar beetles.

They die off with the dry but swarm in with the water. Any of our wild life are very easily poisoned when they eat them. Even crocodiles. Humans can be blinded if the toads poison accidentally gets into the eyes.

Interesting – they can be killed with dettol antiseptic fluid!

2004 toads began to cross the boarder and money was raised for research and volunteers began to work and educate real zeal.

The Bungles are in danger right now as there is so much wild life there. This would be devastating.

The toads have got as far as Lake Ayer Sandy said she showed us a couple of stuffed toads which drew a lot of interest. Plus some photos of volunteers from a Western University.

At the moment volunteers are 'toad busting' in an area as big as Tasmania.

With a map Sandy showed us how toads are spreading since 2005 across Australia.

Lava of parasites are being used to halt the toads which hopefully will stop breeding.

Constant help is needed for research, Sandy said.

It was agreed that the 'Toad Busters' do a wonderful job and hopefully the march of the toads will eventually cease.

We showed Sandy how much we enjoyed her presentation and President Christine presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$50 cheque to be used towards research.

The next monthly meeting, we were reminded, will be the third Tuesday of the month (because of Anzac Day) 21st April and the speaker will be Karen Allen with a presentation on Banking.

Cheers Christine.

