

## Fete raises \$2400

**T**HIS year's autumn fete raised \$2400. While club president Anne Murray's target of \$10,000 was probably over-optimistic, the result was nonetheless disappointing, and inadequate reward for the enormous effort by club members. [Anne Murray discusses the outcome, and speculates on future fetes and future fund-raising efforts on page 3.]

Putting aside the disappointing financial return, the fete was successful in that it provided enormous fun for participants and visitors alike, demonstrating again the strong fellowship within the club.

The fete was opened by Chief Minister Jon Stanhope, who was introduced by Graeme Hellyer, who said that the club continued to undertake considerable improvements as it implemented its Master Plan. Graeme thanked the ACT Government for substantial grants it had made in the past, although clearly the club would need to continue seeking to identify ways to raise money.

Mr Stanhope said he was pleased to be invited to open the fete. It was



ACT Chief Minister Jon Stanhope, who opened the fete, chats with members.



Club Vice-President Barry Hogan has his face painted by artist Anna Birch. Well done, Anna! A distinct improvement!

the fourth consecutive year that he had done so, and he considered the club a model for how seniors' clubs should be conducted. He commended club management for its initiative and far-sightedness, and congratulated members for the enthusiastic way they supported events such as the fete.

Mr Stanhope re-emphasised the importance of clubs such as Woden Seniors in providing for a Canberra population that was increasing rapidly, and at the same time would increasingly be made up of older people. He assured his audience that his Government would examine sympathetically any proposals the club might make for future developments. D.B.

## Meet Noel and Marcia

Printing and distribution of *Meridian* is paid for by the club's sponsors, the Hellenic Club being particularly generous. We now welcome new sponsors, Noel Lane and Marcia Delander, real estate agents who have formed a partnership under Richard Luton Properties. Noel and Marcia will advertise in *Meridian* for at least a year.

"Mature" people themselves, Noel and Marcia have increasingly found themselves specialising in helping older clients who have reached "decision time" - "Our house is too big for us. The garden is becoming onerous. We'd like to move, but it seems so complicated these days. And where do we go?"

Noel and Marcia don't pretend there are easy answers. But it is a situation familiar to them, and one they are experienced in overcoming.

Noel enjoyed a successful career in the Public Service before becoming a real estate agent ten years ago. With a background in finance, economics, accounting and management, Noel is an ideal choice for anyone wishing to sell, or buy, a home.

Marcia has a background in the building industry and can be particularly helpful advising on maintenance and sprucing up your home prior to sale. Marcia worked in the non-government health sector prior to becoming a real estate agent three years ago.

## OBITUARY

### Vale Win Barnes

MEMBERS will have been saddened to hear of the passing of Win Barnes.

She died on 20 March just a few months short of her 86th birthday.

Win had been a member of Woden Seniors for many years, and was the conductor of the choir (the Woden Senior Singers) from 1991 to 2001. Even after "handing over the baton" to Joyleen Litherland, she continued to be involved as Music Director, until ill-health restricted her activities.

Her husband Ron still continues his involvement with the choir. Win was a very special lady who went out of her way to help people.

Her home was always like a drop-in-centre with visitors welcome, coming and going at all times.

She was very involved with the Baptist Church at Hughes and the Mirinjani Hostel at Weston. She will be missed and remembered by all.

Vale Win! God Bless.

*Gail Giuliano*

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*Member, Foot and Hand Carers Association*

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\*until end 2007

## Wanted! Women prepared to make a difference

THE club has received funds through the ACT Women's Grants Program to run a one-day leadership workshop for women members.

The workshop will be run by Grahame Hellyer and Alan Hodges on Monday 28 May.

Participating in the day will give you a better understanding of your work style and how you relate to other people. It will also help you understand other people and how to get the best out of them (ever wondered why other people niggle you, or you have difficulty working with someone?). In summary, it will:

- Increase cooperation
- Build self-esteem
- Reduce conflict
- Solve people problems.

The day will also include sessions on subjects such as how to work effectively in committees.

We hope that women who take part will be happier playing a more active role in the Club, and we are sure it will also help participants in other aspects of their lives.

The day will run from 9.30 to 2.30 and lunch will be provided. We can

### New membership deals

As from 1 July 2007 new members joining the club will find their membership fee (and car parking) goes from their date of joining - that is, if you join in October you will be due for renewal the following October. (At present all memberships end on 30 June each year.)

This change is now going to be possible with the magic of e-mail sending you a reminder in the month prior to your renewal. So if you have e-mail and have not let us know *now is the time*.

Send your email address to us at admin@wodseniors.org.au

Members not on e-mail will be contacted through the post, so don't worry, we haven't forgotten you. It is also very important that members notify us of any changes to their details - that is, changes to phone number, address, emergency contact, etc. Eventually this system will save the bottleneck that occurs when all members are trying to renew in July.

assure you that anyone who attends will have a fun day and that it will make a difference to your life. And remember it is FREE.

The club is allocating some of the places to the Canberra and Belconnen Seniors Clubs.

Anyone who is interested or wants to discuss it further should contact Anne Murray at the club (6282 2573), or leave your name with David Temple, at the office.

## And the lesson to be learned is . . .

Wealthy old lady goes to Africa, taking her aged poodle, Cuddles.

One day Cuddles becomes lost, and sees a leopard heading towards him with the intention of having lunch. Cuddles thinks, "I'm in big trouble now!", and then, noticing bones on the ground, he settles down to chew on them with his back to the approaching leopard. Just as the leopard is about to leap Cuddles exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious leopard! I wonder if there are any more around here?"

The leopard, terrified, halts in mid-stride, and slinks away. "Whew!", he says, "That was close!"

A monkey, who had been watching from a nearby tree, figures he can trade his information with the leopard for protection, hares after the jungle cat, spills the beans and strikes a deal.

The leopard is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, Cheetah or whatever your name is, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now Cuddles, who had seen the monkey head off after the leopard and guessed he was up to no good, sees the vengeful leopard returning.

Instead of running, Cuddles sits down with his back to the leopard and his passenger, pretending he hasn't seen them. When they get close enough to hear, Cuddles complains, "Where's that damn monkey? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another leopard!"

Moral of this story: Don't mess with oldies. Age and treachery will always overcome youth and skill!

