



BULLETIN

JANUARY 2026

Dear Members

Christmas Lunch – 10th December 2025

Approximately 60 members and some non-members attended a wonderful 3 course meal provided by our fabulous kitchen staff.

This year was a secret Santa and there was much excitement as each person opened their gift. It was disappointing that some did not contribute to the gifting and as a result some people missed out on receiving a gift.

Entertainment for the day was Justin Friend with his wonderful singing, Leslie with her brilliant poems and an elimination game by our president, won by Nona Vine.

It was lovely to see the amount of people who did dress up.

The biscuit packages were made by Sue Melville, thank you so much Sue and the Xmas Cake on the tables was made by our Val and Sally. Hope you all got a piece to enjoy. The serviettes were the effort of our President. The ham raffles were won by Dianna and Margot.



Ray Sullivan
Wednesday Lunch
03/12/25



Georgina Jenkyn
sharing her Xmas
spirit



The Elves take
safety very
seriously



The ever-popular
Justin entertaining
us for Christmas
Lunch



“The mission of the Esperance Senior Citizens Centre is to provide a safe, friendly, inclusive venue where senior members of the community can gather to enjoy physical and mental activities. We strive for excellence”



Leslie entertaining us with some of her poems. Poor old Santa was having a bad day.



We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year but now is the time to get back to normal. Exercises will commence with the opening of the centre, as will Knitting, Rummekin, Mahjong, Carpet Bowls, Bridge, Ukelele, Hobby Painters, Cribbage, Boot scooting and Death Café.

Committee meetings will recommence 19th January (due to public holiday on 26th).

Meals will start on the 4th of February – please contact the office to place your order.

Paint by Numbers will start in February, as will Sing-a-long, Sketching, Patchwork and Book Club.

Quiz is the 16th of February.

Please check the notice board for exact starting dates.

Calendars

There has been an error in creating the calendar – June days are noted incorrectly as are Mother's and Father's Day. You can return your calendar for a reissued/corrected calendar, or we have photocopies of June that you can glue into the calendar if you would prefer.



Donations



You were all amazing last year with donating towards our Mother's Day Raffle and our prize table for Biggest Morning Tea for cancer.

Can we ask that you do the same again this coming year? Please drop them off at the office. Thank you.



Membership

As discussed at the AGM, the Annual Membership Fee is \$35 and is now due. Cash, Card or Bank Transfer is available.

If choosing to pay by bank transfer the details are:

NAB: Esperance Seniors Citizens Centre

BSB: 086 554

ACCOUNT NO: 42053 1975

EMAIL: seniorcitz@outlook.com

PLEASE put your name in the comment section and email the office, so we know who has paid and we can update your records accordingly.

Each class that you attend, will now be \$2.00. Your group may take an extra \$1 which goes towards that little something extra that your group may do. Paint by Numbers have wine and cheese on a regular basis paid for by the extra \$1 (as an example).

Interested persons may attend 3 sessions to see if it is something they would be interested in joining but must then become a member or not attend any further.

Suggested Functions for 2026

April - Easter Weekend, After 5 and Evening Wear display

April/May - Mother's Day Raffle

May - Biggest Morning Tea for Cancer –Theme: Denim and Lace

2 May - Vet Car Drive- Stonehenge with morning tea

25 July - High Tea with Red Cross Clothing parade

5 Sept - Australiana Father's Day, Old Time Dance, raffle with DJ Gerry Henderson

October - Agricultural Show

Wildflower trip- locally

If you are willing to assist prepare for any of these events, please let the office know. Many hands make light work.

You may have noticed the build-up in the lounge; this is in preparation for the display to be held at Easter – these things don't just happen – they need time.

Also, if we proceed with the calendar next year – depending on sales of the 2026 calendar. We have gathered older clothing etc to go with the vintage cars. The models will dress according to the era of the car.

From the Office

- The following people **accidentally paid twice** last year. They just need to pay the **\$5 difference** to be up to date on their membership for 2026. Ruth and Stephen Mansell, Jan Murray and Ian Letts.
- If you haven't filled out a **new membership form** yet, please fill one out when renewing your membership.
- All cups, spoons, etc must be **washed** with soap & water before putting them away.
- **Recycling**- Rinse milk bottles and containers out before putting them in the recycling bin. All metal lids and plastic lids **bigger than a business card** (8.5 cm) can be recycled in your blue bin.



Online Shopping Scams

Last year, Australians lost \$9.8 million to online shopping scams, with criminals exploiting the convenience of online shopping and our search for a bargain.

Watch out for fake online stores

Criminals use social media ads, emails and text messages to lure shoppers to fake websites. These sites might promote big discounts, claim they're closing down, or use fake celebrity endorsements to seem more trustworthy.

One common scam is the '**ghost store**'. These sites pretend to be local boutiques, often saying they're based in major Australian cities and closing down after many years in business. In reality, they're overseas operators who sell poor-quality products and often refuse refunds.

Spot the red flags

- Prices that seem too good to be true and pressure to act quickly so you don't miss out on an offer.
- Emails, text messages and advertisements that pop up on your screen with links to unbelievable sales. These may contain malicious software or direct you to fake websites that steal your information.

- Websites with blurry logos or images. But some may have images that look too perfect and unrealistic (AI-generated), sometimes showing the 'owners' outside their store.
- No evidence a real store exists when you do an online search.
- You can't find information about a refund policy on the seller's website.
- Sellers who ask you to pay with gift cards or cryptocurrency.

I was told in a scam workshop that if you do want to shop online, it can be a good idea to use a rechargeable credit card and only add the amount you need for that shop. It's safer than using your personal card because then they can't access your bank accounts directly.

Sue Melville read this out too much laughter in Gentle Gym.



"Pearly Gates"

In Heaven, Saint Peter is at his desk near the Pearly Gates, when a dirty white Ford Transit pickup stops at the entrance. Inside are three travellers. He looks at them with distaste and asks "What do you want?"

"We've just been killed in a road crash, and we want to come in."

St Peter replies "Well, we don't want any of your sort up here."

"But this is the Kingdom of Heaven. You don't refuse anyone, not if they've repented of their sins."

St Peter says "Wait here a minute then I've got to go and ask the management." He goes off to find the Almighty.

St Peter finds God sitting on his throne, and tells him what has occurred.

"Go back and tell them - all are welcome. Let them in." says God.

"Oh, very well then." replies St Peter, not very enthusiastically.

Five minutes later, St Peter returns.

"They've gone!"

"What! The travellers?"

"No. The gates"

This picture is in memory of the cake shop I grew up in, called The Gingerbread House. I half laughed and half winced at this, as there's one thing that I've always loathed and that's gingerbread. My Mum made me a gingerbread house for my thirteenth birthday; we ate a few lollies each of it and it sat there for months until mum couldn't stand the sight of it anymore and binned it. One year, we made an enormous one nearly as tall as my 13-year-old sister for Telethon. Merry Christmas everyone. Isabel

Please continue to clean chairs and tables after every use.

Please clean up after yourself in the kitchen.

Please remember to refill the urns, kettles and water bottles – don't leave it for someone else

Please don't come to the Centre if you are feeling unwell.

The Centre will be re-opening on Monday the 12th of January 2026.

Submissions for inclusion into the monthly Senior Citizens Bulletin are most welcome. Please see Isabel in the office with your information clearly written or typed

