

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026

President's Report

Welcome back to another year at the Club. This is our first Newsletter for the year and the final one before our AGM, which will be held on Monday, 27 April 2026, at 12 noon. The program will begin with a light lunch, followed by our guest speaker, David Barbey, who is the Tour Director with Southern Star Tours, who will be hosting our extended tour of Adelaide in November this year. The AGM will follow the guest speaker.

In accordance with the Constitution, all Committee positions will become vacant prior to the AGM on Monday, 27 April 2026. We warmly welcome new members to consider joining the Committee and encourage anyone interested to complete a Nomination Form. Current Committee members are eligible for re-election. Nominations must be submitted to the Club Secretary no later than fourteen days before the AGM. If you know of a member who may be interested, please consider nominating them for a progressive and capable Committee in the coming year.

A reminder that the Beyond Age Workshop and Photo Shoot, presented by Gary Ferguson, will be held on Monday, 13 April 2026, from 12 noon to 3 pm at the Watsonia 50s Plus Club. As part of the Workshop, participants are invited to bring a photo of themselves aged between 20 and 50 and reflect on the question: "What would you tell your younger self now about getting older?" Banyule City Council will be providing a light lunch at the start of the event.

Kind regards

Dennis Richards

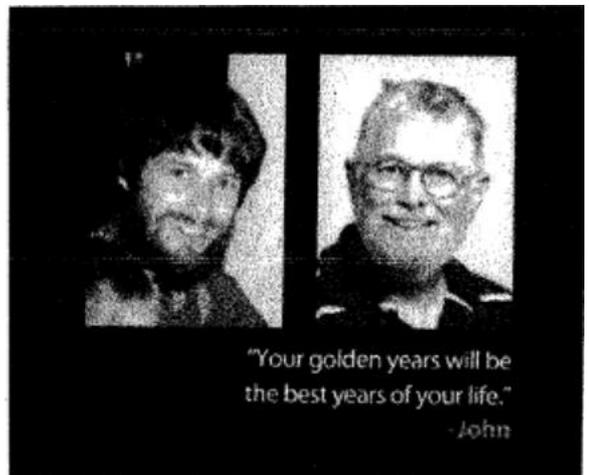
Beyond Age Workshop and Photo Shoot

People have different experiences of what it means to grow older and there is not a lot of opportunity to talk about these. In the Beyond Age Workshop you will be able to talk about what ageing means to you. Sometimes growing older can be positive and sometimes it will be challenging. The Workshop discusses all of these and then looks at how we can challenge ageism, which can devalue older people.

As part of the Workshop, participants are asked to bring along a photo of when they were younger (between 20 years and 50 years old). This is used to answer the question “What would you tell your younger self now about getting older?”

After the Workshop, you can have your photo taken by a professional photographer and with the photo of your younger self and your response to the question, be part of the Beyond Age Exhibition.

The Beyond Age Project is a collaboration between Banyule City Council and Seniors Rights Victoria. Gary Ferguson, the Community Education Coordinator from Seniors Rights Victoria will be leading the discussion.



The Workshop will be held on Monday 13th April from 12 noon for an hour and the photo shoot will take place immediately after the Watsonia 50s Plus Club. All you have to bring along is a photo of when you were younger (and a smile).

You can contact Kim on 0422 925 945 or Gary on 0407 329 290 to find out more about the Beyond Age Project and Workshop.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Watsonia 50s Plus Club Inc
Community Hall
35 Lambourn Road, Watsonia

DATE: 27 April 2026 at 12 pm

NOMINATION FORMS IN FOYER OF CLUB ROOMS

Nominations close on 13 April 2026

Any vacant positions can be filled at AGM

A light lunch will be provided following the AGM

The tour company director David Barbey will be our guest speaker at our
AGM.

David will speak about our Adelaide and surrounds annual trip in
November.

He will be happy to answer any questions in this regard.

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

Committee is comprised of:

President
Vice President
Administrative Secretary / Public Officer (Secretary)
Financial Secretary
Membership Secretary

General Members - 7 positions to cover the following activities
(Committee Members may have responsibility for more than one Activity)

- Annual Tour Coordinator – 3 to 5 day tours
- Day Trips Coordinators
- Welfare Officer
- Theatre Outings
- Banyule Council Representative
- First Aid
- Newsletter
- Bowls
- Tai Chi
- Aerobics
- Scrabble
- Cards
- Table Tennis
- Craft Activities
- Club Lunches
- Purchase kitchen supplies

**Nominations close on 13 April 2026 any vacant positions can be filled at the
AGM**



WATSONIA COMMUNITY HALL
35 Lambourn Road, Watsonia
9016 8238
watsonia50splusclub.com
info@watsonia50splusclub.com

NOMINATION FORM CLUB ELECTIONS 2026

**I hereby
nominate**

**For the position
of**

**Nominated
by:**

Seconded by:

I am willing to accept nominations for the position of

.....
.....

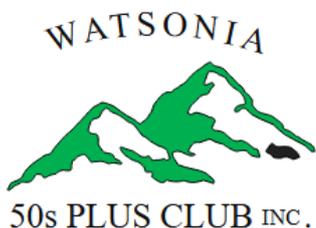
(Signed) (Dated)

Our Current Committee:

Executive:	Role:	Contact Details:
Dennis Richards	President – Bowls, Table Tennis Coordinator	0447 575 098 dr2232@gmail.com
Mary Ann Williams	Vice President, Membership Secretary, Annual Tours	0412 356 465 maryannw2@hotmail.com
Barbara Pike	Administrative Secretary Public Officer Aerobics Representative	0419 579 954 bandrpik@gmail.com
Anura Wijekoon	Treasurer	0417 054 229 awijekoo@bigpond.net.au

General Committee Members

Liz Triance	Day Trips,	0402 047 665 trianceliz@gmail.com
Margaret Porritt	Theatre	0409 857 884 porrittmargaret@gmail.com
Jackie Edwards	Newsletter	0422 067 334 jaedwards100@hotmail.com
Lynne Kearney	Cards	0400 154 002 lynjk1@bigpond.com
Brenda Spessott	Welfare Officer	0434 949 812 leo2740@bigpond.com
Robyn Fulton	Banyule Council Representative	0413 028 276 fultonrobyn@hotmail.com
Sue Rumney	First Aid Kit Maintenance	0409 132 153 susie_021@hotmail.com
Robert Triance	General Committee	0402 047 665 trianceliz@gmail.com
Marline Parmenter	Tai Chi Representative	0467 293 368 marlineparmenter@gmail.com



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MEMBERSHIP FORM 2026

info@watsonia50splusclub.com

Annual Fee: \$40.00 due on 31 January 2026.

All existing and new members, please fill out each section of this form.

Surname: _____ **First Name:** _____

Address: _____ **Postcode:** _____

Phone: Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact (Name) _____

Phone: _____

Please tick any activity/activities you participate in or intend to participate in:

Tai Chi Mon 9am Tai Chi & Qigong Mon 10am Tai Chi Wed 10am Tai Chi Thurs 9am

Canasta & Cards Craft Scrabble Aerobics Gentle Aerobics Bowls

Table Tennis Outings Theatre Xmas Lunches Extended trip

I, _____, acknowledge that my participation in any Watsonia 50s Plus Club activities, outings, or trips is undertaken at my own risk, and I agree to abide by Watsonia 50s Plus Club Inc.'s Policies and Procedures.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I, _____ give Watsonia 50s Plus the authority to seek whatever medical attention is required in case of an emergency. I agree to pay the costs incurred.

Signature: Date: _____

Payment is available by cash/EFTPOS at the Club, online, or in person at the Bendigo Bank

Bank details: Watsonia 50s Plus Club Inc BSB: 633000 Account No: 162 498 554.

Reference: your Name and Membership

If paying online or by EFTPOS, please email the Membership Form to the above email address, or alternatively, place it in the white letterbox on the whiteboard in Watsonia Hall. Cash payments and forms to be placed in a labelled envelope in the white box on the noticeboard.



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Membership 2026:

We currently have 204 members at our Club. Thank you to the members who have re-joined the Club and a very big welcome to new members. A reminder that annual fees were due on 31 January 2026. There are a few members who have paid but have not submitted their 2026 Membership Form. I can email one to you or there are “hard copies” available in the foyer at the Club on the days we are open.

We will try to give new members a membership badge in the coming weeks, or if you have previously requested one and are attending our first outing to Rippon Lea I will give one to you then. It would be great if members wore their badges to outings to enable people to mingle more easily.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding membership.

Mary Ann Williams

Welfare Report:

Club sent a Sympathy Card to the family of Angie Sugihto.

Brenda Spessott

Scrabble Report:

Struggling with numbers. Anyone wishing to join Scrabble please call Angie Winkler on 0401 810 330.

Angie Winkler

Cards Report:

Our numbers so far this year have been very pleasing. We have four new members who have joined us which enables a good mix of players. Unfortunately, we have recently lost two of our members due to ill health. We are always looking for new players so please spread the word. We look forward to another great year of fun and friendship.

Lyn Kearney



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Please place these dates into your calendar:

Monthly Outings:

Western Treatment Plant

Tuesday 18 August 2026

Queenscliffe Train Trip

Tuesday 22 September 2026

Mystery Tour

Tuesday 27 November 2026

Liz Triance – Outings Coordinator

Theatre Productions:

Waitress

Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 1pm

Her Majesty's Theatre

(50 tickets have been booked)

– see details on flyer attached

Pretty Woman

29 July 2026 at 1pm

Regent Theatre

(54 tickets have been booked)

A Beautiful Noise

Wednesday 21 October 2026 at 1pm

Princess Theatre

(54 tickets have been booked)

Margaret Porritt – Theatre Coordinator

Adelaide and Surrounds 7 Day Tour 16 November - 22 November 2026

This year we will be doing a coach tour to Adelaide and Surrounds with a different Tour Company Southern Star Tours.

The price is \$2,334.00 per person or \$2,894.00 single supplement. We have added \$10.00 for gratuities and a \$5.00 administration fee for Watsonia 50s Plus Club to the original price advertised for this trip last year.

Members will be offered first preference for the trip. Non-members will be accepted if they share a room with a member.

The tour company director David Barbey will be our guest speaker at our AGM on 27 April 2026. He will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the trip. A full itinerary has been attached with the Newsletter, and a hard copy is available at the Club.

There is a tour Booking Form attached. Hard copies of the Booking Form are also available at the Club. This form must be completed if you wish to go on the trip. I will be accepting names when you submit a Booking Form to me.

A non-refundable deposit of \$200.00 per person needs to be paid into Watsonia 50s Plus Bank Account by Friday 10 July 2026. The final payment is to be made by Friday 4 September 2026. There is a cancellation policy following the final payment, whereby a partial refund may be given if any cancellation is made between 28 -14 days before departure. It is therefore worth considering getting travel insurance.

We are happy for you to pay for the trip in instalments if that is more convenient for you and we would be grateful if you could make payments through direct bank transfer or deposit cash at the Bendigo Bank Greensborough into the Watsonia 50s Plus Club Inc bank account.

BSB 633 000 Account No 162498 554 (Ref your name and Adelaide Tour).

**Mary Ann Williams, Sue Rumney and Jackie Edwards
Tour Coordinators**

Parliament House 28 April 2026

Member: \$45.00

Non-Member: \$45.00

Enjoy a High Tea with a tier stand that has finger foods – sandwiches, scones and cakes with your choice of teas, coffee, wine or soft drink. I have heard from the horse's mouth that a tier for two people is more than enough to enjoy and be satisfied.

After morning tea there will be a guided tour of Parliament House. We will be travelling by train to Parliament Station.



- Departure:** Watsonia Train Station at a time to be advised – first carriage
- Payment due:** 31 March 2026
Preferably by bank transfer payment
Watsonia 50 Plus Club
- Direct Payment Details:** **BSB: 633 000**
Account No: 162498554
Ref: (INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND PARLIAMENT HOUSE)
- Non-Members:** Please email your name and telephone number so we can contact you in an emergency to:
info@watsonia50splusclub.com
- Cash Payments:** If paying by cash, please place the cash in an envelope and place in the White Box in the Club Rooms with your **Name and Parliament House clearly written on it**

Melbourne Arts Centre 26 May 2026

Members \$25.00
Non-Members \$25.00



Enjoy a tour of the Arts Centre consisting of a complex of theatres and concert halls.

Explore Hamer Hall's gold and amber interiors. You will also cross to the theatre's building to the foyers and auditoriums.

Tours are capped at 20 people. They will endeavour to accommodate us if we have a larger group. I will put the board at the front of the hall for names of those wishing to attend this tour in April to enable me to organise this great event with the Arts Centre.

Lunch will be either at the venue or in the city.

We will be travelling by train to Flinders Street Station.

Departure: Watsonia Train Station at a time to be advised – last carriage.
Time to be advised closer to the date.

Payment due: 5 May 2026
Preferably by bank transfer payment
Watsonia 50 Plus Club

Direct Payment Details: **BSB: 633 000**
Account No: 162498554
Ref: (INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND MELBOURNE ARTS CENTRE)

Non-Members: Please email your name and telephone number so we can contact you in an emergency to:
info@watsonia50splusclub.com

Cash Payments: If paying by cash, please place the cash in an envelope and place in the White Box in the Club Rooms with your **Name and Melbourne Arts Centre clearly written on it**

Waitress Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 1pm

Her Majesties Theatre

Members: \$81.00

Non-Members: \$91.00



Please note: Members have first preference on all outings

Departure: Watsonia Train Station at a time to be advised – last carriage

Payment due: All people listed as attending this show please pay no later than:

Sunday 22 March 2026
Preferably by bank transfer payment
Watsonia 50 Plus Club

Direct Payment Details: BSB: 633 000
Account No: 162498554
Ref: (INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND WAITRESS THEATRE PRODUCTION)

Non-Members: Please email your name and telephone number so we can contact you in an emergency to:
info@watsonia50splusclub.com

Cash Payments: If paying by cash, please place the cash in an envelope and place in the White Box in the Club Rooms with your **Name and Waitress Theatre Production clearly written on it**



Watsonia 50s Plus Club Inc 7 DAY ADELAIDE & SURROUNDS COACH TOUR with Southern Star Tours

**Departing from Elder Reserve on Monday 16 November 2026
Returning to Elder Reserve on Sunday 22 November 2026**

**Price per person \$2334.00 (twin share)
Single supplement - \$2894.00 per person
\$200.00 deposit by Friday 10 July 2026 together with a
Booking Form
Balance to be paid by Friday 18 September 2026**

**Please make payments to Watsonia 50s Plus Club Inc
BSB: 633 000
ACCOUNT No: 162 498 554
Reference Your Name and Adelaide Tour**

The price includes 6 nights accommodation, 6 dinners, 2 lunches, 6 cooked breakfasts, luxury coach travel, gratuities, fully escorted with driver and hostess. Pick up and drop off at Elder Reserve Watsonia.

This is a coach tour with a one-night stop on the way to Adelaide then staying in the heart of Adelaide where we explore the many attractions of the city as well as the Barossa, the Whispering Wall, Hahndorf, McLaren Vale, Glenelg, Monarto Safari Park. Please refer to the full itinerary and booking form.

Group Activities:



Scrabble Groups – Wednesday afternoon from 1pm to 4pm. We have a beginner and advanced scrabble group. All welcome.

Contact: Angie Winkler – 0401 810 330



Cards 500 and Canasta – Cards are played on three afternoons each week – Monday and Thursday 12 noon to 3.30 pm and Saturday afternoon 1pm to 4 pm (**Canasta only**). Beginners or long-term card players welcome.

Contact: Lynne Kearney – 0400 154 002



Carpet Bowls – are played every Monday and Thursday afternoon from 1pm to 3.30 pm and Saturday afternoon 1pm to 4 pm. We cater for all abilities. Beginners always welcome.

Contact: Dennis Richards – 0447 575 098



Tai Chi - Monday and Thursday morning at 9 am.
 Tai Chi/ Qigong – Monday morning at 10 am.
 Tai Chi for Arthritis – Wednesday morning at 10 am.

Contact: Marline Parmenter - 0467 293 368



Aerobics for older adults – Every Thursday at 10 am.
 Gentle Aerobics at 10.45 am designed for the less active.

Contact: Barbara Pike - 0419 579 954

Group Activities:



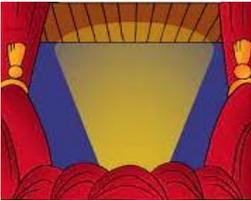
Craft and Chat - 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month 10am to 12 noon.
We meet for a morning of crafting and socialising.
Bring along your own craft project.

Contact: Lorraine McLellan – 0407 556 367



Table Tennis – Wednesday 1pm to 3pm.

Contact: Dennis Richards – 0447 575 098



Theatre Matinee Shows – usually on Wednesday two to three times per year.
Group tickets are purchased – people arrange their own transport to the theatre.

Contact: Margaret Porritt – 0409 857 884



Day Trips / Lunches - there are several day outings each year.

Contact: Liz Triance - 0402 047 665



Christmas Activities

Contact: Sue Rumney - 0409 132 153 / Jackie Edwards – 0422 067 334



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Extended Trip – one extended trip per year.

Contact: Mary Ann Williams – 0412 356 465

MEMBERSHIP \$40.00 PER YEAR

The Watsonia 50's Plus Club Inc. was formed to provide social events and activities which promote health and happiness to all over 50's who are retired or near retirement, in a non-discriminative, supportive, and appropriate environment, and live in Watsonia and its surrounding areas.

MONDAY

Tai Chi	9.00 am - 9.45 am	Gold coin fee
Tai Chi & Qigong	10.00 am - 10.45 am.	Members \$5 (Non- Members \$8)
Social Afternoon – Canasta & Cards 500 Carpet Bowls	12.00pm – 3.30 pm 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm	Gold coin fee Gold coin fee

TUESDAY

Bus outing	Once a month	
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WEDNESDAY

Craft and Chat	10.00 am – 12.00 pm	Craft the 1 st & 3 rd week of each month- Gold coin fee
Tai Chi for Arthritis	10.00 am – 10.45 am	Members \$5 (Non-Members \$8)
Scrabble	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm	Gold coin fee
Table Tennis	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm	Gold coin fee

THURSDAY

Tai Chi	9.00 am - 9.45 am	Gold coin fee
Aerobics	10.00 am - 10.45 am	Members \$7 (Non-Members \$10)
Gentle Aerobics	10.45 am - 11.30 am	Members \$7 (Non-Members \$10)
		Both classes – (Members \$10.00 Non-Members \$13.00)
Social Activities – Cards 500 / Canasta Bowls	12.00 pm - 3.30 pm 1.00 pm - 3.30 pm	Gold coin fee Gold coin fee

SATURDAY

Carpet Bowls, Cards - (Canasta only)	1.00pm - 4.00pm	Gold coin fee Gold coin fee
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Watsonia50s plus Activities 2026 (DRAFT 2)																											
Updated Nov 30 2025 for 2026				April				July				October															
January				May				August				November															
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February							August							December													
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March							September							December													
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29	30	31					27	28	29	30				27	28	29	30				27	28	29	30	31		

Day Trips, Theatre Trips, School Term Holidays AGM 12PM 28/4, Committee Meetings, 11AM 4 to 5 day Trip
 Activities Centre open during school holidays for Bowls, Cards and Aerobics. Some Activity Dates may change, watch noticeboard and newsletter
 Xmas in July, Xmas Break up Lunch, Xmas BBQ Club Rooms, Public Holidays.
 President- Dennis Richards-0447575098, Mary Anne Williams - 5 day tour, Liz Triance 1 Day Trip Co-ordinator Margaret Porritt, Theatre Outings