

LEOP's talk'n in Northcote August Newsletter 2011

Meetings: First Tuesday of the Month
Lunch: Gold coin donation
Convenors: Shirley Glance & Peter Willcocks
Pixel Mixer: Peter Willcocks
Last Meeting: Hampton Community Centre
Tuesday 2nd August 2011 12.30- 2.30pm

Attendance: 18

August Speakers Jo & Ed Biggs

September Speaker - Peter Willcocks

Next Meeting: HAMPTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

14 Willis Street Hampton

TUESDAY 6th September. 2011 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Take away Soup

The soup has been good, sometimes we have some over, so please bring a Thermos.

Many thanks to Joe & Ed.

Jo and Ed did a great job of sharing their Scandinavian Holiday with us. Jo was very apprehensive about taking to the group, she was worried about putting us through a 1950's slide night, they did a great job and we learnt a lot.

They shared the costs of local travel with us which were surprisingly affordable. I know that when ever possible they travelled by local transport and avoided the big tour groups. As Jo told me later she told the tour company that she did not want one those holidays where everybody was in the bus by 7.30am and back by 6 tired exhausted and grumpy. It looks like the tour company came up trumps, as both Jo and Ed obviously had a great time.

I spent most of the next two days daydreaming about how I could get to have such a great European Holiday. Cathy did one better she raced off to the tourist agent and got some brochures on where - Scandinavia.

Learn from the web

www.rotary.org/en/EndPolio/ www.polioaustralia.org.au/ www.poliotoday.org/
www.postpoliovictoria.com/ www.polionetworkvic.asn.au/ www.post-polio.org/

Polio Update 17th August 2011

W.H.O. recorded 325 cases of polio for 2011
(612 for the same period 2010)

In 2010 there were a total of 1349 recorded polio cases.

Bentleigh Sunday Market (Rotary Club of Bentleigh / Moorabbin Central)
Sundays 7am - 12noon (Opposite Coles supermarket near the Bentleigh Railway Station)

Post Polio Victoria Northcote meeting

Just over 60 people (ten from Bayside) attended the inaugural public meeting of Post Polio Victoria on the 22nd August. The room was packed not only with enthusiastic polios but also with their enthusiasm. The idea that a group run and managed by Polio survivors due a great crowd, but more importantly people put their hands up to volunteer their support by joining the executive committee of the new now truly established Post Polio Network Victoria.

The first part of the meeting was put aside for all present to workshop the things that they felt they would like PPV to take on. High on the to-do list was a register of Doctors.

I was extremely saddened to realise that many in the group were unaware of the help available from Polio Services (St Vincent's Hospital) and our dear friend Dr. Stephen de Graaff. But the group was right when they pointed out that there are so few doctors that have seen the need to make a commitment to furthering their knowledge about PPS & LEOP.

The last session for the day was a real delight watching people confirm their commitment to PPV. I was also delighted to see that Stephen Hughes (PSV), Richard Garner & Dennis Hyland (Rotary) Jen Sykes (IA) showed their support by being at the meeting for the wonderful work done by the founding committee of Liz Telford, Jill Pickering, Geoff Dean, Martin Grillo and Ron Bell.

The next general meeting for Post Polio Victoria will be in November, where office holders positions will be voted on and confirmed. I implore all polio survivors to register with Post Polio Victoria so that they can be counted. Register on line or ask Peter or Shirley for an enrollment form www.postpoliovictoria.co

and now for something different



Need help getting to our meetings call Peter 9578 5953 or Shirley 9592 8212

Carer at our meetings: We all require different levels of assistance, unfortunately for legal reasons any assistance is undertaken at your own risk. Providing carer help at our meetings is extremely important as it enables us all to get out and about, enjoy our friendships and provide peer support.

Polio Australia Register 1254 and counting

http://www.polioaustralia.org.au/?page_id=134

The Australian Polio Register was established by Polio Australia in October 2010 to gather information on the numbers of polio survivors living in Australia today, whether or not they contracted polio in this country. On the 22 August 1254 polio survivors had their names added to the Register.

With limited resources to promote the Polio Register widely in the community Polio Australia are nevertheless pleased with the results to date, however we know there are many more thousands of polio survivors out there. To make the Australian Polio Register truly reflective of the unmet need for polio services throughout Australia, we urge every Australian polio survivor to join the Polio Register. Our strength lies in our numbers – please help us to get you the services you need by completing the **Australian Polio Register** form(Contact Shirley or Peter to ensure that you name is included on the register)

Polio Day 2011 Saturday 22nd October

**Join Polio Network Victoria in historic
Ballarat to celebrate Polio Day 2011**

For further information, please ask Shirley

A range of informative and inspiring speakers will let you know about all the services available for you in the community in both regional and metropolitan Victoria.

Hear speakers from Ballarat Health Services, Independence Australia, Traveller's Aid, Department of Human Services, local councils and much more. This is your chance to meet other members of the polio community and be equipped with all the information you need to help you make the most out of life.

Polio Services St Vincent's Hospital

Grd Floor. Bolte Wing Nicholson Street Fitzroy 3065

Tel: (03) 9288 3900 Freecall: 1800 030 324

BOOK YOUR POLIO HEALTH CHECK

Polio Services Victoria (PSV) was established by the Victorian Government in early 1998 to provide ongoing expertise and support for people who have had polio. Polio Services Victoria currently consists of a core allied health team that is available to provide consultations to clients about their healthcare needs. A rehabilitation medicine consultant is also available to consult on polio related medical needs as required.

Victoria's fight against Poliomyelitis

As many of you are aware I am working on a book - The History of Polio in Victoria. At our next meeting I would like your help to learn from some of my discoveries.

One of my reasons for writing such a book is to explore why polio survivors became isolated, then hidden members of the community. I have uncovered thousands of pages documenting the path of polio in Victoria.

Like most polio survivors, I was a kid when I had polio. I knew nothing of the science nor the history of the disease, nor did I particularly care. It was over for me by the time I became a teenager and I was out rolling in the mud with the rest of the rigger boys.

I knew little of the ostracism and shame experienced by parents and older polio survivors. I was staggered to discover that so much was known about polio prior to becoming a notifiable disease in Victoria in 1917.

The Australian Department of Quarantine published the findings of C.E Cox, chief Quarantine officer, Victoria, he had reviewed much of the then current literature on poliomyelitis.

In 1917 C.E. Cox wrote of the work of Swedish and American scientists whose research concluded that polio was by transferred person to person and that the majority of the population had been infected by the virus, with only a small percentage succumbing to the acute affects that led to paralysis.

But, as individuals we held onto the belief that only the unhygienic got sick and if we did, it was by coming in contact with "them". Polio maimed individuals and crippled society with guilt, fear and denial.

The problem with public misconception had been long identified. Recognition of the truth and change was left to people like Dame Jean Macnamara who fought public ignorance all her working life. Finally too late and too little, in 1952 the Government Printer produced a 46 page booklet **Victoria's fight against Poliomyelitis**.

The Department of Health, Victoria, has issued this booklet in the hope that it will provide encouragement and guidance to polio sufferers, their families and their friends.

It is also the aim of the Department to dispel, with its help, many of the superstitions and fears which unfortunately still arise when the word "polio" is used.

Bayside Polio Group is proudly sponsored by The Rotary Club of Bentleigh / Moorabbin Central Caulfield Park Community Bank 193 Balaclava Rd Caulfield North returning profits to our community