



We at ARPQ feel it important to keep our members informed as to what is happening in the residential parks industry and also what is happening within ARPQ itself.

Many will know that Glen Franklin our original president has resigned from his position with us and is moving back to NSW, Yamba in fact. Glen was a founding member of our association and used his corporate background to help build ARPQ into the largest residential park home owners association in Queensland. Glen will be missed for his contribution but remains in contact with us, we wish him well.

Your new committee is listed on our web page but the following list is for your information showing the committee as it stands:

President	Don Ehrlich
Secretary	Beryl Dwyer
Treasurer	Judie Dewar
Advocacy Officer	David Paton
Media Officer	Barbara Oudt
Committee member	Warner Madden

Barbara is a very recent committee member but has been an ARPQ member for a long time and has always shown a keen interest in our work. Barbara's résumé is quite extensive, apart from being a trained nurse and midwife, she has completed a Bachelors, Masters and Doctor of Nursing Science degrees. She later became an ordained Anglican Church of Australia priest. After holding various positions in parishes throughout Queensland as well as a Principal of a university collage and Canon of a Cathedral, Barbara was forced into retirement for health reasons. Barbara brings variety of skills to the committee most of which is her passion for protecting the rights people, especially those living in residential parks. Barbara is a welcome addition to the committee.

Warner Madden is also a welcome addition to the committee. Warner is a retired Australian Army Major who has seen extensive active service during his army career. Apart from being with ARPQ he is also on the State Executive of MAP (Mature Age Party). Warner has a passion for choral music and is a director of a choral group on the Sunshine Coast.

While on the subject of the ARPQ committee we advise that our much valued treasurer Judie will be standing down as our treasurer at the end of this year but will remain on the committee as an ordinary member. The reason for this is that Judie is a professional bookkeeper and has her own business and is studying to further her qualifications so needless to say we are looking for a new treasurer to be trained to take over from Judie. The person we are looking for must have computer skills and a good basic knowledge of bookkeeping. We are sure that out there among our valued members there will be some with the skill sets to join us and keep the old brain alive, please phone Judie on 0417220747 to discuss further.

We still do have an affiliation with MAP and we are broadening our lobbying base further by talking to other mature aged and pensioner groups to form an affiliated body to protect

the interests of the growing number of us oldies that are generally not recognised for our past contribution to the wealth of this country by all and sundry, especially both State and Federal Governments.

The Deficit Debacle

As a point of interest and on reading about our first Prime Minister Edmond Barton who was the real mover and shaker back in the 1850s for Australia to adopt a federal system of government. At the time, the British Colonies (now Australian States) rejected the idea of federation apart from the one redeeming fact that appealed to the colonies and that was that under a federal system, (the now Australian States), could consolidate their debt under the one system thus proving that the States have always been in debt. Of course we now know that the States still run up massive debts which confirms that when we hear todays politicians blaming the other side of politics for our debt woes we will know that Australia and the States have always had debt.

The story of the old age pension fund

As a Wartime measure, the Federal Government gained sole control over Australian Income Tax. Labour Prime minister (Ben Chifley) introduced three bills to establish the National Welfare Fund, to be financed by a Compulsory Contribution (levy) **of one and sixpence in the Pound (20/-) on all personal income.**

In 1949 when the Menzies Government came into power and without any opposition from the Labour Opposition, the Menzies government took the funds that had accumulated in the fund worth **nearly 100 million pounds** and put it into consolidated revenue meaning our pension money was gone. The full story is on our ARPQ website under special bulletins.

Your ARPQ Committee May 2015