



# Autumn



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## SBA NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2022

Welcome back to our first seasonal edition for the year 2022. "Let's hope it's a good one without any fear," sang John Lennon. Our steady decline in Coronavirus (COVID 19) has us dusting off those shelved travel plans. With all our recent experiences, perhaps some 'flu' injections won't be a bother to us. With our summer seasons getting longer with our winters in retreat, maybe this could be a factor that has caused both male and female team sports to be on the increase. Now it will be good walking weather, so go out and kick some leaves.

### Vale John Steward

Members of the Smiths Beachcomber Association were deeply saddened with the loss of our beloved Treasurer, John Steward. He passed away aged 87 on New Years Day 2022 following a fall and a stroke. He was born in 1934 in Glenhuntly and spent his early years living there. He went to Melbourne Grammar School and later studied accountancy and was employed in this field for all his working life. He married in 1962 and they had a son, Duncan in 1965. Unfortunately, he and his father John, were to lose their wife and mother through illness in 1974.

John was to later meet a fellow accountant, Joy Fowler, who was in the process of building a house at Smiths Beach. She was very active in local affairs and soon John was to join her in them. They were both to be Founding Members of our Smiths Beachcomber Association (the SBA) as they attended the very first meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1976. After many further activities within our organisation later, they were to marry in March 1977. They lived in their home in Queens Avenue, Caulfield opposite the racecourse. They sold their other holiday house in Somers to keep their Waikiki Crescent Smiths Beach home. John's son, Duncan says that he was able to convince them of this as the surf was better on Phillip Island.

Both John and Joy became our Treasurers for long and at different times of our SBA's history. John's accounting friends provided an Auditor for our finances every year at our AGMs. John and Joy were married for 41 years and were to travel widely with Duncan in Australia and overseas. John's other interests were his vast collection of coins, stamps and postcards. He also would get into trouble with some neighbours because he would make up balls of meat to feed his flocks of magpies each night. John's health had its ups and downs but he always remained cheerful particularly when the Richmond Tigers were doing well. Here we celebrate the memories of a valued and hard-working member of our Association. Our SBA sends their sincere condolences to Duncan and Wendy.

Ian Shand SBA Newsletter Editor

