



Can you afford to retire when you want to?

This is something your entire family should read!!

In 1901, life expectancy in Australia was 55 for men and 58 for women. The total population was less than 4 million and the median age of that population was 26. By 2015, life expectancy had grown to be 80 for men and 84 for women. The population was 24 million and the median age of that population was 37. When 2050 rolls around, the average age of an Australian will have increased to 42! (*source: ABS*)

In Egypt at the time of the Pharaohs, Life Expectancy seems to have been just under 30 and in the times of the Roman Empire is thought to have been a bit less than 35. Progressing through time, high infant mortality, disease and the ever present risk of crop failure have all played their part. Workplace injuries such as Military service has claimed many male lives, and for women even today, in some regions childbirth still comes with a high risk for both the mother and newborn.

Originally the social cost of caring for the elderly simply was not a problem. Here, in Australia, the retirement age was set at 65 at a time when life expectancy was quite a bit less than 65. It was 1948 when life expectancy for men passed 65. It wasn't until the early 1990s that life expectancy for men reached 75, and by 2015, life expectancy in Australia had reached 80.3 for men and 84.4 for women. (*source: ABS*)

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, in 2017, 15% of our total population was aged 65 and over. That proportion of older Australians is expected to continue to grow. By 2057, it is projected there will be approximately 22% of the population aged 65 and over.

In to the future, the social cost of caring for the elderly may well become a problem. As our society grows and expects to pay less taxes and have increased levels of State and Federally funded services and infrastructure, the more reliance will be placed on Superannuation to fund your retirement.

Alongside reliance on self-funded retirements, there will be the need to provide various options for older Australians to remain in the workforce because the simple truth is that not everyone will have been able to fund their own retirement, and the strain on government funding will increase as the number of people in the population aged over 60, 70 and 80 increases.

Here at Bayside Financial Planning, we look at some of the best ways to build wealth and boost your super while you're still working, such as:

- How is your Superannuation invested?
- How many Superannuation accounts do you have?
- How to make the most of tax benefits available to you.
- How much you could need for retirement.

In our experience, it is never too early to sit down with one of our Financial Planners to discuss what will quite possibly be your biggest and potentially most important asset into the future. Call us on (07) 3822 3437 for a review appointment or to organise an obligation free appointment for your spouse, child or a loved one.