



Retired Principals' Newsletter June 2007

Luncheon:

Some 38 retired principals attended the luncheon that was held on Thursday 7th June. The pre drinks were held at the Covent Garden Hotel before moving to the East Ocean Chinese Restaurant. A \$30 banquet meal was provided with members only having to pay \$20 thanks to the support of our sponsors First Capital Financial Planning Pty Ltd/Ed Plan. The Association welcomed their representative Phil Campbell to the luncheon as our guest. There were a number of new faces including Bob Whittaker, Brian Anson, Maurie Bird, Ray Bowd, Sue Ingram, Neal Trenear and Brian Powyer. A small raffle for Stewart House was organised by Cheryl Buckley in the absence of our other Vice President, Heather Causley, and as most retired principals knew that they would be paying no tax shortly, \$280 was raised. Well done everybody and just a reminder if you wish to donate to Stewart House on a regular basis from your pension just contact Heather Causley who can give you the necessary information.

In the absence of our Treasurer, Graham Hayton, Colin Labrie became the "bag man" and after much adding and subtracting was able to pay the bill and still give a positive report back to the Treasurer. Our President, John McMillan, had a few words of welcome and outlined a number of activities planned for the rest of the year.

Lead (as usual) by Peter Shuttleworth most of the group moved back to the Covent Garden. A hardy few moved onto the Crystal Palace and were known to still be there when the NSWPPA State Council Representatives returned from their daylong meeting. Plenty of good advice was given out by that time of the day!

Executive Meeting:

Before the luncheon the Executive held a short meeting to discuss plans for the future. The following were some of the items discussed:

PPA Anniversary:

President John has met with Geoff Scott to try and organise some special function to celebrate 25 years since the first PPA meeting. John is working on aspects of the history of the PPA and if you have anything to contribute please contact him. John and Geoff are hoping to plan something by the time of the PPA State Conference.

Membership Booklet:

A small booklet was produced by members of the Executive and was aimed at Principals close to retirement. I was able to distribute these to all Delegates at the PPA State Council held in Term1.

Membership and Finances:

The Executive resolved to retain membership at \$50 p.a. and this will become due after July. A number joined or re-joined at the luncheon and of course that will cover them for 2007/08. The Treasurer sent in his report that showed a balance of \$8548.49. This means that subsidies will continue at our functions and plans are still being discussed as to how best meet the needs of country members.

Survey

To better understand what our members want and are thinking about the Association it was resolved that a survey be developed to be emailed to the members. This should be ready before the end of July.

Next Luncheon:

The next luncheon will be on 6th September and at that meeting First Capital Finance Planning will be giving a talk on "Planning Strategies for Aged Care". The venue will be announced well in advance.

Mentoring:

Some Retired Principals have been doing mentoring on an informal basis and John McMillan has been talking with DET about a more formal process that would be of great advantage to current Principals. However there is a bit of negativity within DET about this concept but John is not giving up and will continue to push the cause for those who showed interest.

Newcastle/Hunter:

The Executive is keen to try and get a bus trip up to this region and we are hoping to contact a number of people in that area to make it an enjoyable social occasion. If you would like to offer your support in getting this trip going please contact any of the Executive.

Advantages of Getting to a Luncheon:

If you are like me and live in the country area you might question as to why you would travel down to Sydney for a luncheon. However it is a pleasant social occasion with like-minded people and there are unexpected advantages. For example I intend to travel to England and Europe in August/September and it was amazing the number at the luncheon who had already done the trip and had some very helpful advice. You can also stay at the Citigate Hotel (used to be the Carlton Crest) at the NSWPPA rate that is much cheaper than the full cost and the rooms are a very good size. If planned properly you also might like to catch a show in Sydney at the same time. A number of members are fortunate that trains run at a convenient time for them and find that mode of travel very cheap. It is worth the effort. We have had members come from the Riverina, the Far North Coast and the Western Slopes and Plains and it is great to see them.

*Ken Pares,
Publicity Officer*