



Newsletter No 15 March 2008

Luncheon

It was a congenial gathering of some 48 retired principals that met at Sydney City Tattersals Club for a seminar from our sponsors and lunch. Phil Campbell from First Capital Finance Planning, who is our Number One sponsor, organised the seminar on the current state of the economy and investment markets and possible future scenarios



Our sponsor Phil Campbell (centre) with guest speaker Stephen Guinnene on his right.

It was a pleasure to welcome Bill Whittaker who retired from Epping West over a decade ago and just shows it's not too late to join our association and catch up with old colleagues. It was also pleasing to welcome Glenys Hall from Albury and Brian Debus from Menindee.



Part of the luncheon crowd with Glenys Hall from Albury at the front.

The information from the seminar was digested over a pleasant lunch subsidized by our sponsor with some drinks provided by the association. Our president, John McMillan, welcomed everyone in his usual “laconic” fashion and special mention was made of the fact that Sue Ingram had made the trip down from Lake Macquarie on her birthday and retirement day. Sue, who was a dedicated champion of public schools whilst serving on the PPA Executive for many years as Deputy President and President, was presented with a birthday cake and the usual birthday chorus. I’m not sure if the cake made it home!

Travel

Many of us travel to the luncheon in different modes of transport such as car, bus, train or even plane. But I must admit none did it better than our Secretary, Colin Labrie, who made a leisurely trip on the river cat down Parramatta River. I am sure that is when he actually writes out the minutes of the last executive meeting, which takes him to the next wharf and then he looks at all the Rowing and Yachting Clubs as possible venues for our next lunch.....nothing like a hard working Secretary!



Our Secretary boarding the River Cat with his notes at the ready.

Research

Warren Marks spoke at the lunch about his work on his PHD regarding principals in retirement and thanked all those who had responded to his survey. He will be following up his initial request and we trust those who responded will support him in his research.

Mentoring

Approximately 25 nominations of retired principals have been received by the NSWPPA and it is hoped that this initiative can be put into operation shortly. It has been a difficult road to get DET to respond and the ARP thanks the NSWPPA for its support.

Finances

Thanks to our diligent Treasurer, Graham Hayton, the Association has nearly 80 fully paid up members and a healthy balance of over \$8,000 (less expenses for the last lunch of course). This will help not only to subsidize future lunches but also allow us to branch out into the regional areas.

Future Outings

May 15: A luncheon is being organised in Wollongong for that region and other interested retired principals. Warren Marks and John Salt are organising this function and we hope to keep you informed of the venue etc. although we do know it will be somewhere near the railway station to assist train travellers.

June 5: Subject to a booking being available, a luncheon will held at the Manly 16ft Skiff Club. We will be assembling at the "Ships Inn" at Circular Quay from 11:00am to catch the ferry over to Manly for a 1:00pm lunch. Don't forget your Seniors Card!
More information will come to you when our Secretary has finalised a booking

Sept 4: A seminar luncheon will be held at a venue to be decided. The seminar topic will be "Centrelink Benefits".



Geoff McAlary waiting for Centre link support

Sponsorship

The Association thanks Phil Campbell and First Capital Finance Planning for the continued support and organizing our seminar speakers. These seminars are highly relevant and many ideas come from our own members. First Capital Finance Planning has established an office in Dubbo and is in Castlereagh St Sydney (ph: 0292221202). We shouldn't just think of ourselves either. As a personal experience I had some family members in Sydney who were looking for advice and I was able to recommend Phil's company and they were most happy with the service provided.

Elections

The election for all positions on the Executive will be held this year. At the luncheon Dennis Suttling was elected as Returning Officer and later in the year he will be calling for nominations so keep reading your emails.

Renewable Energy

It was also discussed at the luncheon with so many public schools gaining air conditioning and more technology, schools must be big uses of energy. It was resolved the publicity officer compose a letter to the federal government to set up a specific scheme to allow schools to apply for grants for renewable energy. At the moment there is a scheme but it is not an easy process for schools and the ARP would like to see the government use a scheme similar to the highly successful "Investing in Schools" program that reduced red tape to a minimum. The letter will be composed shortly and a copy sent to each member.

Cheers
Ken Pares
Publicity Officer



Our publicity officer on Lords Oval, England before he was asked to get off the grass.