



# “ARPP”ENINGS

February 2009

## **Christmas Luncheon**

Over 60 ARPP members and their partners enjoyed a warm and relaxing Christmas Luncheon at Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club on December 11 last year. Many stories were swapped and many tall tales were delivered with gusto as old friendships were renewed and new ones established. Many of our retired colleagues travelled considerable distances to enjoy the camaraderie and absorb the atmosphere as well as some liquid refreshments! A similar event is planned for this year and it is anticipated that, despite the financial gloom, it will be well supported by our retired colleagues.

Once again, our retired colleagues demonstrated their generosity with a well supported raffle for Stewart House. Over \$300 was raised for this worthy cause. The raffle winners were:

- Night at the Sofitel – Neville Palmer
- High Tea at the Intercontinental (donated by Heather and Ray Causey) – Tania and Bruce Morton

The highlight of the afternoon was the reverse Christmas Tree, presided over by Vice President Cheryl Buckley in her well organized and efficient manner. Some of the gifts were unique and presented quite a challenge as to the best way to make them useful as well as decorative – as Peter Shuttleworth found out!

## **A History of the Primary Principals Association – Chapter 2**

The writing of the history of the Primary Principals council through the '80s is almost complete. The many contributors have provided some very colourful and interesting stories about this period. As well, access to the original minutes of the Primary Principals Council has provided a detailed history of the issues of those times. It brings back many memories! This part of the history should be ready for publication within the next two months.

## The Mudgee Trip

Our first outing for 2009 for retired principals and their partners is an overnight trip to Mudgee on Wednesday March 4. We have block-booked twenty rooms at the *Quality Parklands Resort* which was formerly known as the *Country Comfort*. This is where the Western Region PPA Conferences were held for many years and is a great venue. Cost is as follows:

- A single room without breakfast (one person) is \$100
- A single room with breakfast (one person) is \$118
- A double room (two people) with breakfast is \$136.

Room bookings should be made directly with the *Quality Parklands Resort* by ringing on 02 6372 4500 and stating that you are booking under the Association of Retired Primary Principals and quoting the rates mentioned above.

We will also have a Wine Tasting and BBQ Dinner at the *Farmer's Daughter Winery* for \$25 per head. Travel arrangements from the resort to the winery will be finalised when numbers are known. If numbers are good we will organise a bus to the Dinner.

As well, John Dixon, formerly Principal of Wellington Public School, is organising golf at the Mudgee Golf Club with a hit off at midday on the Wednesday. He is making a tentative booking with the Club Professional and has also booked some golf carts.

The Association will subsidise this outing by paying for your BBQ Dinner and Wine Tasting. If a bus is required, the Association will also pay for the bus. The costs to you will be only the Motel, Golf and drinks. This has been made possible through the sponsorship of Phillip Campbell, Director of First Capital Financial Planning and because we have an excellent Treasurer!

For organisation purposes, our Event Organiser, Tom Croker, requires the following information by **February 9**, earlier if possible, as we have to organise a bus, catering and the Winery.

**Please let Tom know** if you are attending or playing golf by providing:

- **Names of retired principals and partners attending the dinner and wine tasting**
- **Names of retired principals and partners intending to play golf.**

Tom can be contacted on 0409926826 or email: [mtcroker@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mtcroker@bigpond.net.au)

We do hope that you and your partner are able to attend this event. Mudgee is approximately a three to four hour trip from Sydney depending where you live. If you know of any retired primary principals who are not on our data base and may wish to attend, please let Colin Labrie know.

## **A Healthy Association**

Not only are our retired colleagues enjoying good health, the ARPP is steadily growing in numbers and assets. Our Treasurer, Graham Hayton reports a sound bank balance and a membership of 76. All in all the future looks bright!

### **Diary Dates**

The Retired Principals' Committee has tentatively planned the following dates for our outings in 2009. Please place them in your diaries to ensure that you will be available.

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Event/Venue</i></b>
4th March 2009	Trip to Mudgee
2nd April 2009	Lunch at City Tats
4th June 2009	Lunch, venue to be announced.
3rd September 2009	Lunch, venue to be announced.
10th December 2009	Xmas Lunch at Ryde- Eastwood Leagues Club

### **Be Involved**

The ARPP is only as strong as its members. Become involved and attend as many events and activities as you can. Old friends and colleagues are waiting to catch up, reminisce and explore the future!

***John Davies***  
***Editor***

### **A Message From President John**

On behalf of everyone, we extend our condolences to all people who suffered loss of family in the recent bush fires. It is apparent that at least 3 schools have been burnt to the ground, which will have a tremendous impact on those communities for years to come. We also acknowledge the passing of Ken Rowe who was a well-known and highly regarded educator. He worked for some years with the ACER and was involved in a review of the teaching of literacy for the last Federal government. Ken was a victim of the fires last Saturday.

We will make a donation to the fire appeal in the coming weeks.

***John McMillan***