

R.I.P.
(Retired Information for Principals)
The Official Newsletter for the Retired Principals' Association
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R.I.P.

As there was a distinct lack of response for the name of our Newsletter, for the time being "R.I.P." will be used. It is definitive and finite and allows for little, if any, return correspondence. As there was also very little in the way of "newsy" items I have included a few snippets that I have gained from emails or conversations with various people. I trust you will enjoy keeping in touch.

Vice Presidents.

Congratulations to Cheryl Buckley and Heather Causley who were appointed Vice Presidents of our growing Association. All positions are appointed until July 2006 when the first election for positions will occur. The present Executive (John McMillan, President, our 2 Vice Presidents, Colin Labrie, Secretary, Peter Newman, Treasurer and Ken Pares, Publicity Officer) have a charter to establish the Association, work closely with the NSWPPA, explore pathways of involvement in Education for Retired Principals and organise social gatherings around the State. It might take time but the wheels are in motion.

Everyone's a Traveller.

The Retired Principals' Executive has either been overseas or is still there. John Mac. has just returned from Mexico which he said he thoroughly enjoyed, particularly as the crew on the bus was all able to talk disparagingly about George Bush! He thinks he came back with some Montezuma disease (it sounded like it with his coughing on the phone!) and he did have difficulty in finding a racetrack. Cheryl Buckley has just taken off for Hong Kong but will be back for the luncheon. Colin Labrie has been emailing updates to me on his travels through Europe although most of the information is about the type of beer or its cost. Peter Newman slipped off quietly on his overseas trip although I noticed he had posted out most of the receipts for membership before he left. If you have sent your membership (\$50) to Peter recently, he will attend to your receipt as soon as he returns. Heather Causley has been doing some school work but will be not be mobile next week after an ankle operation.... We wish you a speedy recovery, Heather.

As for yours truly, I travelled all the way to Lismore, NSW! I did get a chance to call in on Tim Edwards at Bangalow Public School.....isn't it nice to drop in and see a Principal dealing with all those day to day problems! Strangely enough, retired Principal Graeme Dixon (ex Forster) had dropped in just an hour before. Graeme had been an acting CEO for part of this year and was heading further north to assist in a Special Ed. situation, so he is still busy with some DET work. No doubt many more retired Principals will be able talk about their travels etc. when we get together for our luncheon in Sydney on Tuesday 19th July.

It was nice to hear from Terry Lee (Hunter Region) recently. He emailed me for some more information about the R.P.A. and will be joining us for the luncheon in July.

Late News.

Just heard Brian Debus has returned to the DET after retiring. He has been appointed Principal of Menindee P. S. (no, he says he does not need a mental check!). I did know he was applying as he was holidaying at Hallidays Point recently when he called into Principal, Gerry Hobbs, to get some application forms. Also Colin Labrie will be back in the country this week and will get out information to all on the next luncheon on the 19th July.

Leadership.

I have been talking to Warren Marks whom you would all know through his active work with the NSWPPA and DET and who has recently taken over the Executive Officer role of the Leadership Collective for the NSWPPA. I asked him to contribute to this newsletter and his contribution follows:

Dear Colleagues,

Recently we've been discussing the role that we might be able to play as retired principals in helping out younger and/or newly appointed principals. We all probably remember that in the early days of being a principal, how fortunate it was for us, if we had the opportunity to discuss an issue of concern with a wiser, more experienced colleague (who had probably been through a similar issue). Well, now that we are forming ourselves into a retired principals' association, maybe we can offer to help and support others.

It has been suggested that we could act as volunteer mentors/ support principals for those principals who might need an ear to listen or someone to chat with about some sensitive or difficult issue. Maybe you could give this idea some thought. You may care to become involved by nominating to be part of a "retired principals' mentor service" database. In Term 3 we will send out by email or post our next newsletter that will have a reply section for those people willing to register their names as mentor/support principals. In this way we can possibly contribute to the leadership development of newer principals in the public education system. It won't matter where in the state you are, your involvement and support of younger colleagues will be greatly appreciated.
Warren Marks.

For Your Information:

The Luncheon as mentioned is on Tuesday 19th July. Meet at the Covent Garden Hotel, Haymarket at 12:00pm for lunch at 1:00pm at the East Ocean Restaurant next door. All retired Principals are welcome. If staying overnight, the Carlton Crest is just up the road and has a special rate for PPA members or affiliated members.

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