



ARP NEWSLETTER MAY 2010

KIRRIBILLI LUNCH OUTING 22 April 2010

On the 22 April 39 members attended our first lunch outing for the year at Kirribilli Club, Kirribilli North Sydney.

This change of venue from City Tattersals Club, due to a room booking clash of dates, proved to be a great option as the day proved to be most enjoyable.

The venue, recently relocated, presented as a very modern and comfortable club with glorious views of the harbour and city landscape. Its proximity to rail and bus connections also proved to be a bonus.

Our day commenced with a presentation by Warren Marks who gave a very informative update of his research of would be retirees and findings from current retirees. Warren is to be congratulated on his efforts to have the first 'Transition to Retirement ' Inservice Course organised by the DET.

Phil Campbell, EdPlan (First Capital) gave us a very timely and well connected presentation of the current economic trends and their implications for future and current retirees.

We are most appreciative of Phil who continues to be our major sponsor enabling us to provide such presentations and subsidised events.

Our luncheon selected from a two course menu was well received, especially as the regular cost of \$38.00 was reduced to just \$25.00, courtesy of ARPP support, and supplemented with beverages, again sponsored by Association.

Many members adjourned to the bar with its delightful harbour views to recall many stories pre and post retirement no doubt tinged with an element of sadness at no longer being part of the NSWDET!!!

The venue has much to offer and given the response could well see us returning for another enjoyable outing.

Our thanks go to the friendly and cooperative staff for their welcome and support during the day.

Tom Croker
ARPP Events Organiser

Hunter Valley – 5^h May

A group of dedicated Retired Principals, twenty one in all, journeyed into the great winery area of the Hunter Valley on Wednesday May 5th. All travelled up under their own steam and most were booked into the Hunter Valley Motel, Cessnock. It was great to see so many partners come along to enjoy the Hunter Valley as well. A bus was organised and picked everyone up at 1:00pm to take us out to McWilliams winery.

Retired Principal, Brian Collins, who works at the winery, was our host and after ordering our lunch, Brian took us on a brief tour of the winery while lunch was being prepared. The lunch itself was delicious and the wine tasting even better. The Mount Pleasant brand and also the Barwang wines delighted the palate although I am not good at stating which wine had the taste of ripe plum and cigar smoke or fruity flavours and a rounded finish. They all tasted ok to me!

President John thanked Brian for his hospitality and reminded Brian that his ability to make a point at the NSWPPA State Council in the past had carried over to his marketing ability at McWilliams.

Pepper Tree

The group was then transported to the Pepper Tree winery where more wines were tasted and purchased. The volume of conversation seemed to increase as the afternoon wore on. At one stage Lloyd Hogg was interrupted by a phone call and came back to announce he had been asked to supervise the NAPLAN tests at his old school (the dispute was still going on then). He was delighted to reply he was at a winery in the Hunter and there were many other Retired Principals there and therefore he would decline the offer as he expected would all the others. The bus was able to drop us back at our Motels to freshen up and then pick us up again at 6:30pm to take us to tea at a beautifully renovated pub in Cessnock.

Billy Peardon's Pub

This renovated pub had a new Bistro that offered good food at a reasonable price, draught beer and a selection of wines (a small drink subsidy was provided by the RPA). Amazingly this pub also had pokies, a TAB and Keno. Some people gained extra financial support as a group put a dollar each in Keno and won over \$200!!

Golf

Although the bus dropped everyone back to the Motels at 10:00pm there were few starters for the golf the next morning with hit off at 8:30am. John Marrin won the front 9 holes at the Oakes Golf Course and Ken Pares won the back 9. The two winners shouted themselves a lovely Chinese lunch at the club house before heading back home.

Hunter Valley Gossip

*It was great to see new member Ken Follett and his wife Chris turn up for the event and we even got his \$50 membership before he started buying wines.

*Was the bus always waiting for John Salt to turn up?

*Which new member was seen taking dollar bets off other punters at the TAB that night?

*Did Lloyd Hogg tell Louise that he won on Keno?

*Was that Jan Whyte and her husband we saw at the dinner table that night?

* Why was Warren Marks busy taking notes all the time? Is it part of a new PHD he is doing on Retired Principals and Wineries?

*Who snuck off to the pub when we went back to the Motel to freshen up?

* Thank you Margaret for coming along and having some control over President Johnthe speeches were shorter!

*John Marrin and Ken Pares were winners at the golf but did anyone notice they were the only two playing? And they had the hide to ask where the trophies were!!

Thanks

Thanks must go to Event Organiser, Tom Croker, Host, Brian Collins, Secretary, Colin Labrie and President John McMillan for ensuring the Hunter trip went ahead and the good time everyone had. Don't miss the next one!

Next Luncheon

Our next luncheon in Sydney will be on Thursday, 3rd June. More details soon.

Fees Due

Just a reminder from our treasurer, Graham Hayton, that fees will be due in June and you might consider paying them when you come to the next luncheon. No doubt a fees reminder will be sent out in June.

Ken Pares