

# ARPP

Association of Retired Primary Principals

## *Newsletter November 2011*

Now that the folly of the Melbourne Cup has passed it is appropriate to “pen” another newsletter.

### ***Luncheon at Woy Woy***

This was another successful luncheon outside Sydney with some 34 members attending. There were a few new members and this is encouraging as the ARP tries to broaden the membership. Next year another attempt will be made to hold a luncheon around the Port Macquarie area.

### ***Life Members' Luncheon***

This was held at NSWPPA State Conference and was attended by about 50 ARP members and friends. It is always a very social occasion and I am led to believe that this one was no different when they adjourned to the downstairs bar.

Congratulations to the following who received awards from the NSWPPA:

### ***Life Membership***

Warren Poole	Denistone East Public School
Tim Edward	Bangalow Public School
Sue Aitkin	Blairmount Public School
Kerry Sweeney	St Andrews Public School
John Willing	Bletchington Public School
Angie Evans	Scotts Head Public School
Neil McLean	Tuncurry Public School

### ***Professional Awards:***

Phyllis Fredericks	Hurstville South Public School
Grant McCallum	Valentine Public School

### ***History of the NSWPPA***

Our President has put a lot of effort into drawing together and documenting the history of this Association. A section on “The Eighties” is now posted on our website with an extra contributor being Jim Rutherford who was the Secretary of the Convention Committee from 81 to 85.

History of “The Nineties” is now being collected which saw many changes in Public Education and the structure of the NSWPPA.

## ***Christmas Luncheon***

This will be held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December at the usual venue of Ryde/Eastwood Leagues Club. There is always a good roll up of members so don't miss out this year. More details will reach you soon.

## ***Tools of the Handy Man***

I came across this article in the Old Lions "GG" newsletter which is the newsletter of the Old Boys from North Sydney Technical High School which of course was closed by the DET many years ago (hello Old Lions!). Some of you might have already come across this journal and I believe the article originally came courtesy of the ABC's "Australia All Over".

**Drill Press:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer can across the room denting the freshly painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**Wire Wheel:** Cleans paint off old bolts and then flicks them somewhere under your workbench with the speed of light! Also removes fingerprints and hard earned calluses from fingers at about the same time it takes to say "Oh sh-t!"

**Angle Grinder:** Portable cutting tool used to make things too short.

**Pliers:** Used to round off bolt heads. They can be used for making blood blisters.

**Belt Sander:** An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor "touch up" jobs into major refinishing projects.

**Hacksaw:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija Board principle – it transforms human energy into a crooked unpredictable motion and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**Vice Grips:** Can generally be used as tension pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**Oxyacetylene Torch:** Used almost entirely for lighting flammable objects in your shed or garage. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you wanted to remove the bearing race.

**Table Saw:** A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

**Hydraulic Floor Jack:** Used for lowering the car to the ground (after you have installed new brake shoes) and trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**Band Saw:** A large stationary power saw primarily used to cut perfectly good aluminium or plywood sheet into smaller pieces that fit more easily into the waste bin- especially when you realised you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**Two-Tonne Engine Hoist:** A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect before lifting the engine out of the car. Also very useful for bending carport ceiling beams to give them unattractive shapes and sometimes almost completely pulling the whole structure down!

**Phillips Head Screwdriver:** Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old style paper and tin oil cans and splashing oil on your freshly washed shirt. Also as the name implies, works perfectly to strip out the grooves in Phillips head screws.

**Straight Blade Screwdriver:** A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms. Perfect for putting deep scratches in fine, smooth polished timber.

**Pry Bar:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50c part.

**Hose Cutter:** Used to make hoses too short.

**Hammer:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent to the object you intend to hit.

**Son of a Bitch Tool:** Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the shed while yelling "son of a bitch" at the top of your lungs, just as your wife or any impressionable children walk through the door. It is also, most often, the very next tool that you will need.

That's the list but I fail to see any humour in that article! My apologies to any of our wonderful female members who might not have visited the work shed or garage.

### ***Late News***

Tom Croker, our event organiser, is now sending out the Christmas Luncheon invitation.....a great deal for members.

John McMillan, our President, has taken up the cudgels to support a better deal for Public Education under Federal funding guidelines currently under review. He is also sending out an email to you all about this issue.

If you would like to see some photos of the Life Members function, go to [www.nswppa.org.au](http://www.nswppa.org.au) , scroll to the bottom and click on the ARPP link. Click on Gallery and click on gallery 9. While you are there, have a look at all the other information that is there. Brian Powyer has done a magnificent job with our web site, which includes photos, Newsletters and Historical Records.

**Ken Pares**  
**Publicity Officer**