

“No, he’s busy taking to Mummy and Daddy and the fireman,” came the answer.

Growing concerned the Boss heard what sounded like a helicopter through the earpiece of the phone. “What is the noise” the Boss asked. “A Hello-Copper, the search team just landed” whispered the boy.

Alarmed and frustrated, the Boss asked, “Why are they there?” Still whispering, the boy replied with a muffled giggle, “They’re looking for me!”

Have you ever wondered.....?

- Why you never see the headline in the local paper “Psychic Wins Lottery”?
- If money doesn’t grow on trees why do Banks have Branches?
- How important a person has to be before that person’s death is labelled ‘assassinated’ instead of ‘murdered’.
- Why is it that people say “slept like a baby” when babies wake up every three hours or so?
- If you’re driving at the speed of light what happens when you turn on the headlights?
- Why do they call a single Television unit a set?
- Why wrong numbers are never engaged?
- Why at airports they are called ‘Runways’ and not ‘Flyways’?
- If vegetarians eat only vegetables what do humanitarians eat?
- Why is it that when you transport something by truck it’s called a ‘shipment’ and when you transport something by ship it’s called a ‘cargo’?
- If you break a mirror and receive 7 years of bad luck could a good Lawyer get you off in five?

### BRAIN TEASER

**S**ay you have a 3 Litre jug and a 5 Litre jug, both with no other markings except for the full jug measure. You have no other containers. By using as much water as you like, pouring from one jug to the other and filling or emptying the jugs as often as you wish, how can you neatly measure and end up with 4 Litres in the 5 Litre jug.

Please send your solution to the Editor: [cbsshort@bigpond.com](mailto:cbsshort@bigpond.com). Correct answer next month.

And finally some more “Do you love words?”

- I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.
- Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.
- I didn’t like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

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## *Epping and District Probus Club Inc.*



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VP DAY



15 AUGUST

### AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

#### PRESIDENT’S MISSIVE

**W**e have been in lockdown for so long now that it seems like a permanent condition. I don’t know how you feel about this but I certainly am looking forward to a potential change for the better in the coming months.

To a certain extent we have been able to engage in some activities such as the President’s Coffee Club, the Old Codgers meetings and last week a walk organised by Colin Jones. We hope to continue these this month and we will be experimenting with a Zoom talk to be given by Ross Beattie.

At our mid-August Committee meeting this month we will consider the overall situation but at this stage, even with the expectation of a further relaxation of Social Distancing rules, it is likely that we will have to postpone most of our social gatherings and our monthly meeting again for this month.

This August edition of our Newsletter has been prepared by Col Short and will be distributed to members by Email. Leo Hart and Ray Palmer will print some copies and mail these to those members who do not have access to Email. As I have indicated previously I believe that we may be in a good position to hold our General Meeting and some of our normal activities (Picnic?) in September. To this end we will be meeting with the Minister of the Presbyterian Church this week to explore the conditions under which we may resume our monthly general meetings. My best wishes to you all and keep well.

#### SECRETARY’S REPORT

**T**he SARS-COV-2 continues to dog our physical activities, but we have had some. The Coffee Morning last Friday (31 July) at Carlingford Court, was good but attendance was down, probably due to a COVID-19 report at one shop there on 18 July (apparently only a minor incident).

The Wobblies cycled (twice) around Narrabeen Lagoon on 17 June before stopping for the compulsory coffee. On 21 August we intend to do a trip to Swansea to ride one of the many cycle-ways in that region, while non-cyclists have coffee and/or a social wander around the area, all meeting up afterwards for lunch (car-sharing involved).

Col Jones led a well-attended Ramble along Hunts Creek near North Rocks on 30 August, enjoyed by all. This is a great activity for members during this time of restrictions, but needs a Leader.

The Old Codgers held a physical get-together at Carlingford on 13 July, with three more Zooming in: the programme was also copied to a USB stick now being circulated to other members.

Regrettably there will be no General Meeting in August due to government guidelines but I still hope to present a full-length talk called “The Hapi Isles” via Zoom. Hoping you are keeping well.

### WELFARE REPORT (prepared by our Welfare Officer, Ray Palmer)

I have made contact with the following non-active members and all say they are coping with the isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic: Keith Butler, Ian Campbell, John Cox, Arthur Goswell, John Salmon, Tony Malin, Ron Macintosh, Dick Nicholson, John Webb, Wal Williams, Paul Woodward and John Steele-Smith.

I was not able to contact Don Marshall, who just has moved from Epping to Glenhaven and I have not yet been given any address or contact number. No contact with Owen Harrison following many calls. Laurie Fuller’s Nursing Home is in lock-down, but I understand he is Ok.

We have sad news also—Brian Howard’s wife, Barbara, passed away on 22 July. My wife and I had the privilege to attend her Celebration of Life, so it will be my joy to continue to speak to Malcolm occasionally.

And now to our active members: Doug Carruthers has been in hospital and our good wishes, for a good recovery, were sent to him; Bruce Cunningham is now home, following six weeks in hospital; Alf McDermott is continuing to have pain with his mouth problems and Philip Jones is receiving very good care at home and is enjoying the sunshine during lock-down.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Cycle Group

There were seven riders on Friday, 17 July 2020 for the ride around Narrabeen Lagoon. The meeting point was Billarong Playground car park on Wakehurst Parkway at 10.00 a.m. After completing two laps of the lagoon we had coffee and hot chips at the Lakeside café. Our ride was approximately 18 km and Russell was the group sprinter.

The next cycle ride will be on Friday, 21 August 2020, on a new route. The meeting place will be the car park on Gen Street in Belmont at 10.00 a.m. It takes approximately 1½ hours from Pennant Hills to Belmont via the Freeway and Doyalson.

We will be riding the Fernleigh Track (Belmont–Adamstown Rail Trail) starting and finishing in Belmont, 15 km each way. The route is fully tarred, passing through a tunnel, wetlands, woodlands, railway relics and old rail stations. Signage along the route explains the history of the old railway track. Coffee/lunch will be on Lake Macquarie foreshore in Belmont.

Please contact Steve Drury prior to the day, on phone 9872-7447 or mobile 0487-785-444, if you wish to participate. Note a loan cycle and helmet may be available if required.

### Ramble Report (prepared by Col Jones)

After meeting at our start point for our Ramble on Thursday, 30 July 2020, 12 members, partners and friends signed the official Covid-19 declaration/sign-in sheet and commenced Rambling—both the walking and talking type. Another member’s daughter and dog meet us on the path. At the end of the first section Jane and four others continued to ramble back to the starting point while the rest accepted the challenge of walking to the Balaka Falls and home without incident apart from some wet feet. A few socially distanced at our start/finish point for lunch and a drink.

At least three Ramblers so enjoyed the format of this activity they indicated their willingness to host similar events around their neighbourhood. So watch this space.

## HAVE A LAUGH

The Boss of a big Company need to call one of his employees about an urgent problem with one of the main computers. He dialled the employee’s home number and was greeted by a child’s whisper, “Hello?”

Felling put out by the inconvenience of having to talk to a youngster, the Boss asked, “Is your Daddy home?” “Yes”, whispered the small voice. “May I talk to him?” the Boss asked. To the surprise of the Boss, the small voice whispered, “No”.

Wanting to talk with an adult, the Boss asked, “Is your Mommy there?” “Yes” came the answer. “May I talk with her?” the Boss said. Again the boy whispered, “No”.

Knowing that it was not likely that a young child would be left at home alone, the Boss decided he would just leave a message with the person watching the boy. “Is there anyone there besides you?” the Boss asked. “Yes”, whispered the child, “A policeman”. Wondering what a Cop would be doing at his employee’s home, the Boss asked, “May I speak with the policeman?”