

BRAIN TEASER

There are two little boys who both have the same blood parents, yet they are not brothers, why?

The answer will be in next month's Newsletter. Obviously no one knew the answer to last month's Brain Teaser as I received no emails (there were two correct answers):

1. Start by filling the 3 Litre jug. Pour the contents into the 5 Litre jug. Re fill the 3 Litre jug. Top up the 5 Litre jug to capacity. This leaves 1 Litre of water in the 3 Litre jug. Empty the 5 Litre jug. Pour the contents of the 3 Litre jug into the 5 Litre jug. Re fill the 3 Litre jug and pour the contents into the 5 Litre jug, making 4 Litres in the 5 Litre jug.
2. Start by filling the 5 Litre jug. Pour the contents into the 3 Litre jug until it is full. This leaves 2 Litres in the 5 Litre jug. Empty the 3 Litre jug. Pour the contents of the 5 Litre jug into the 3 Litre jug. Re fill the 5 Litre jug and pour the contents into the 3 Litre jug until it is full. This leaves 4 Litres in the 5 Litre jug.

HAVE A LAUGH

On average, a panda feeds for approximately 12 hours per day. This is the same as an adult at home under quarantine, which is why we call it a "Pandemic".

Fred went into Tom's second-hand shop looking for an antique. As he was going through the door he noticed a cat drinking milk out of an old porcelain saucer, which he knew to be worth a lot of money. Noting no other antiques, he thought that if he said anything about the saucer, Tom would want a lot of money for it, so he said, "Hey Tom, how much do you want for the cat?"

Tom said, "Give me \$50.00 and he's yours." Fred paid up, tucked the cat under his arm and was about to go when he said to Tom, "I may as well take his favourite saucer." Tom said, "No way, mate! Without that saucer, I wouldn't have sold 150 cats this month!"

And finally, the last of "Do you love words?"

- Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- Broken pencils are pointless.
- What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.
- I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.
- Velcro—what a rip off!

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SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MISSIVE

It's spring and my garden is alive with the Japonica, Wisteria and Wattle in full flower. With the weather warming up and the Covid 19 pandemic infection rate in NSW falling things are a little brighter than they were during the last three months. However, it is still not clear what the Government policy will be after September so we are stuck in the Social Distancing mode for the time being.

Despite this we have managed to organise some social activities such as Walking, Old Codgers, President's Coffee Club, Bicycling and of course Ross Beattie's fine presentation via Zoom last month.

At the Committee Meeting on 15 September we will consider adding to the current activities and we will plan a potential General Meeting via Zoom for the month of October. This will require some planning and Ross is a key member for this as he holds the current Zoom licence.

Apart from the Committee members, any suggestions you may have would be welcome. To submit these Email me at landor@optushome.com.au or contact me or any other Committee member by phone.

This week I will arrange a meeting with the Functions Manager at the North Ryde RSL Club to ascertain whether the Club is prepared to hold our booking for the Christmas Party in December. Russel Gough, our new Committee member as the Outings Organiser, will accompany me to this meeting.

Our meeting with the Minister of the Church (where we hold our General Meetings) was held in August but we are unable to commence live General Meetings in the church hall due to the risk associated with infection. The Church would have to shut down if an infection occurred as a result of a meeting in their hall.

It was very sad to hear that Keith Butler passed away on 3 September. He was our oldest member and Ray Palmer has passed on the Club condolences to his family members.

We 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: perhaps a picnic at the Parramatta Lake Park in October?

This September 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. My best wishes to you all and keep well.

MEETINGS

August

As part of the Club's efforts to provide ways of "keeping in touch" during the Covid-19 our illustrious Secretary Ross hosted a virtual meeting via ZOOM and provided a very interesting talk on "The Hapi Isles" complete with photos and personal insights into the Naval coming and goings to the north of Australia during WW2. He has known a number of seamen of different ranks who served our Country during that period of crisis and in 2017 went to the Solomon Islands to better understand the conditions encountered during the six-month Guadalcanal Campaign of 1942-43. He was fortuitously invited to attend ceremonies commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Savo Island (9 August 1942) where he met some of the official dignitaries and (more importantly) battle historians, a survivor from HMAS *Australia* and two descendants of seamen who died on HMAS *Canberra*. He was able to discuss with them what survivors held as the true, as opposed to official, account of the Battle of Savo Island, and learnt a lot about several of the other major sea and land battles in the Solomon Islands and South Pacific.

Ross rightly assumed many of those watching the ZOOM talk had little knowledge of the geography and people of the area drawn into this Pacific War. He commenced his talk describing the tectonic plate movement that formed the mountainous line of islands and deep seabed trenches we now call the Solomon Islands.

This string of islands threatened to provide a land-bridge from Japan through Southern China to New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. Naval dominance of harbours and sea lanes was imperative for supply to the invading Japanese. Hence Australian and American warships combined in different battle groups under different commands to stop the Japanese advance and eventually push them back.

He described the major naval forces related to the Guadalcanal Campaign, the ships and their commanders, with some insight into their capabilities and personalities. He included some interesting stories about the heroic acts of the various ships and their crew, both official and unofficial, in particular the actions and fate of HMAS *Canberra*. He also acknowledged to



So God called another angel and sent her to earth for a time.



When the angel returned, she went to God and said, "Yes, it's true. The earth is in decline; 95 per cent of retirees are misbehaving, but 5 per cent are being good..."

God was not pleased.



So He decided to e-mail the 5 per cent who were good, because he wanted to encourage them, and give them a little something to help them keep going.

Do you know what the e-mail said?



No? Okay, I was just wondering, because I didn't get one either.

THE HOLY EMAIL



One day God was looking down at earth and saw all of the rascally retirees' behaviour that was going on...



So He called His angels and sent one to earth for a time.



When the angel returned, he told God, "Yes, it is bad on earth; 95 per cent of retirees are misbehaving and only 5 per cent are not".

God thought for a moment and said, "Maybe I had better send down a second angel to get another opinion".

hospitable nature of the Islanders, and touched on some of the issues they face: social, medical and the impact of climate change.

To this reporter (not the Newsletter Editor), as a post war child, Ross described a world very different from today—or is it???

We very sincerely thank Ross for sharing his experiences and knowledge of our nearby neighbour—the Solomon Islands or as the title of the talk states "The HAPI Isles", which are the words on car number-plates on Guadalcanal

September

Thanks to our club member Bill Thomson for stepping up to do a Zoom Presentation on Monday, 14 September about "Fire, Fumes & Healthy Home Heating". He will talk about the history of our mastery of fire and how it has leveraged our species rise to become the top predator; look at our reverence for wood burning fires and our innate attraction to its emissions, even though we now know that inhaling those emissions can have adverse health consequences. He will review the various types of home heating methods and appliances and cover the health issues and costs associated with using each type.



Bill started as an R&D paint chemist, worked in a variety of industries, as a metallurgist, a process engineer, and a surfactants chemist. Later he drifted into biochemistry and food science while looking after the ingredient's division of Associated British Foods. He retired after a 12-year stint as a research consultant in the fields of cereal chemistry and enzymes systems. He is now a student of air pollution and health, as a member of the Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand.

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

First of all I wish to say that our oldest non-active member Keith Butler passed away on Thursday, 3 September, aged 97 years. Keith had a fall at home on the previous Sunday and fractured his pelvis and was hospitalised, but sadly, passed away on the Thursday.

I have made contact with the following non-active members and all say they are coping with our new life as we know it: John Cox, Arthur Goswell, Owen Harrison, Brian Howard, John Salmon, Tony Malin, Ron Macintosh, John Webb, Wal Williams, Paul Woodward and John Steele-Smith. Ian Campbell is very bored, being in lock-down, but otherwise OK, Dick Nicholson had a short stay in hospital, but is now home.

And now to our active members: Doug Carruthers is now home, following hospitalisation, but will continue under care of Doctors, Alf McDermott is not very well with continuing mouth issues, while Philip Jones is feeling OK at present.

DAY OUTINGS

The Committee has decided that the picnic, traditionally held in September, will be postponed until October this year, due to the severity of the COVID-19 restrictions. At present no more than 20 people are allowed to gather outside in a public space. We are hoping that, by October, this restriction will be eased to some extent. Please keep Tuesday, 20 October free in the hope that we can hold our picnic on this day. An update of the picnic arrangements will appear in the October Newsletter.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Club will continue with the activities held in August, keeping in mind the need to follow the coronavirus restrictions. These are as follows:

- Friday, 11 September at 10.00 a.m., the Coffee Club at Carlingford Court, with social distancing.
- Monday, 21 September at 2.00 p.m., via Zoom, the Old Codgers will listen to a presentation of fine music selected by John Peters.

Ramble

On Thursday, 24 September Deirdre and Brian Haywood will run the September ramble as agreed earlier. It is intended that Ramblers meet at 35 Cheltenham Road, to leave about 10 a.m. The intention will be to go over Cheltenham bridge turn left up Sutherland Road, then right down Kethel Road to the bottom where it joins Malton Road.

We shall then turn right and take the bush track along Byles Creek to the picnic area at the bottom of Day Road. From there we will continue until we meet the Great North Walk at Devlin's Creek, turn right along the GNW following Devlin's Creek till we reach the end of Sutherland Road at the M2.

We will then come back up Sutherland Road to Cheltenham Station and those Ramblers still standing are welcome to have a picnic lunch at their place, 35 Cheltenham Road.

If there are any who wish to cut the ramble short they can come back up Day Road from the picnic area. All subject to good weather and no flooding in the creeks!

Cycle Group

There were nine regular male riders on Friday, 21 August 2020 for the Inaugural Fernleigh Track (Belmont–Adamstown Rail Trail) ride, starting and finishing in Gen Street, Belmont, 15 km each way. The route passed through wetlands, woodlands, railway relics, old rail stations and even a tunnel. Signage along the route explained the history of the old railway track. Wal was the sprinter on this occasion.

We were joined by seven ladies, one of whom swelled our rider numbers to 10, three walked part of the Track spotting wild flowers and a further three went for coffee at Caves Beach.

The whole group met for a light alfresco lunch at the Common Circus café in Belmont, on Lake Macquarie foreshore. While there was a wind blowing across the lake, the skies were blue and the company congenial, making for a very enjoyable day.

The next cycle ride will be on Friday, 25 September 2020, meeting at Mill Park Street, Rhodes at 10.00 a.m. The route will be through Meadowbank along the cycleway to Parramatta Wharf. Returning via Silverwater Bridge, the Armoury, the Wetlands and back to Mill Park for lunch. The route is approximately 26 km.

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.

PROBLEM SOLVING (contributed by Ed Thurston)

A number of Club members have experienced a problem with the Time & Day stamp on their cordless phone. When they switched to NBN they discovered that the Time & Day stamp on their cordless phone went haywire. This is really frustrating when you are out of town & want to recall messages. Fortunately, there is a solution but the sequence is critical.

Check your modem/router to ensure that you have put in the current date. While you are checking your router's settings be sure, from a security point of view, that it is not on the default setting which allows public access to your router and it is password protected.

The main problem with the switch to NBN is the caller ID function. It is critical to first set your Caller ID to Manual, using the phone's handset & then reset Time & Day stamp.

If you want both Caller ID & Time/Day stamp, you may need to contact your Internet provider, as many have turned off the caller ID feature.

Notes: The above works perfectly well through my Ethernet splitter configuration (my Panasonic base station is in a different room to my router). The above works perfectly well through my Cisco SPA112 port adapter.