



1st September 2023

PRESIDENT PAULINE'S PONDERINGS

Our next Dinner Meeting is at the Hong Kong Inn this coming Tuesday evening – the 5th September.

September is *Basic Education & Literacy Month* and our meeting Chairperson will lead us through an exploration of some of what that has meant to some members and a bit more besides.

Start collecting your footy gear for our Pie Night at the Hong Kong Inn on Tuesday 19th September. Don Kelly will be our MC and he will be seeking confirmed bookings in the near future. *Perhaps a good night to bring along a footy buddy guest.*

<u>Saturday 16th September</u> we will the *Celebrate Spring* Drouin Market re-launch. Volunteers for various roles will be sought soon.



5th Tuesday Social Dinner



A most pleasant get-together at the Drouin Secondary Restaurant for thirty members & partners was highlighted by great food and a presentation by Ian Haughton on '*Reflections on Teaching – 1022018 Reports for Duty*'.

And first, we learnt that there were four former teachers in the room...Judy Symons was on staff briefly some years ago, along with Tim Wills and Sharryn Marshall. A number of former students including one from the High School's first intake...Colin Gardner, and many parents and grandparents of students. And even a former School Council President.

When Ian finished his Diploma of Education in 1974 he was dispatched east of Melbourne to the rural town of Anketell, or so he thought. The locals preferred to call it Drouin. *Feel free to ask him about a stormy night in 1969.*

Ian started employment on the generous sum of \$197.28 per fortnight. "I had wanted to teach Mathematics and had "specialised" in maths in Dip Ed. Teaching science in those days was very difficult and the resources seemed pretty ordinary. Past president Rob Collins, who many of our long-time residents and members will remember, was the Science Co-ordinator and he was a great help to me." Ian recountered that in that first year he would often say "There was only one good reason to stay in teaching. And that was to save some other poor buggar from being a first year out teacher." But time and greater skill, and the move into more maths teaching made him appreciate his vocation far more.

"Working with the students was probably the best part of teaching. Despite there being some 'challenging individuals' (about 2 per class) it was the "good" co-operative students that made it worthwhile." He then shared some highlights.

From 1989 to 1995 he worked as a "curriculum consultant" based in Warragul School Support Centre with a speciality in Maths Education. His new boss was his old boss – Rob Collins. Due to funding cutbacks by the then Kennett Government, Ian lost that role but he took the opportunity to make a monumental decision to leave the Education Department after he was offered an ongoing position at Holden in Dandenong.

Some things he said he did learn from teaching (or maybe from just getting older):

- Organisational and time management skills;
- Communication and people skills;
- Willingness to take Initiative; and
- When things get tough do something you really wouldn't do now (like organising an excursion or a school camp).

Ian closed with some anecdotes of times teaching and subsequent encounters with former students. Well done Jan.





Rotary Club of Drouin BULLETIN 7





THE GARDEN & HOME EXPO – 14th/15th October

Kevin seeks drivers and '*cabin crew*' on the people-mover tractors for between 8 and 12 shifts. Two tractors for two days = 4x4 hour shifts per day <u>or</u> 2x3 hour + 2x2 hour shifts, with sufficientnumber of volunteers. *Please give Kevin a call – 0408 457 505 - to discuss the options*.

BOOKINGS and APOLOGIES

Members are reminded that they need to make contact with William Wong 0418 391 586 <u>not later than 11.00 AM</u> on the Tuesday of our meeting if you are not going to attend, or if you will have a guest. *You will be charged if no apology has been received.*



And from one of lan's Math's tests:

3. Find x. E 4 cm Here it is

