

October 2007
Volume 4, Issue 9



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Thought for today:

Have you ever lent someone a \$20 note and never seen that person again? It was probably worth it!

October Meeting

Our speaker for the October meeting was Mr. Duncan Packer from the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The service shared a past with the Presbyterian Church as its founder was Reverend John Flynn, a minister of that church. However the origin of the idea for the service was not that of John Flynn but a friend of his who died in the war.

Nevertheless Flynn, a Victorian by birth started the Aerial Medical Service in Conclurry, Queensland in 1928 using an open de Havilland DH 50 and a pedal radio bought with monies from a bequest by a Mr. McKay, the inventor of the Sunshine harvester.

From those inauspicious beginnings the Royal Flying Doctor Service currently has 27 bases across Australia that deal with regional and rural emergencies throughout Australia.

These days the Flying Doctor Service is progressively upgrading its planes and each costs \$6 million and requires a further \$6 million to fit them out. When an emergency arises, the first ten minutes are spent placing essential equipment in the plane before it takes off.

The Australian government provides limited assistance to the Service that had running costs of \$132 million last year so it continues to raise funds from the general population.



November Meeting

Our November meeting is on Monday, **5 November, 2007** at 2 p.m. and our speaker will be Natalie Thomas, a Maroondah Councillor.

This will be our last meeting for 2007 at the R.S.L. as our Christmas Lunch will be held on the first Monday of December - details set out on page 2.

January Meeting

Our January meeting, our first for 2008 will be on Monday, **7 January, 2008** and will be a barbecue at Lilydale Lake. Further details to come.

Insurance Claims

Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.

I thought my window was down but I found out it was up when I put my head through it.

The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.

In an attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.

I had been driving for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.

An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished.

I told police I was not injured, but on removing my hat found that I had a fractured skull.

I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.

To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front I struck the pedestrian.

Christmas Lunch

All members are invited to come along to Christmas Lunch:

Venue:	Tokar Estate,
Address:	6 Maddens Lane, Coldstream.
Date:	Monday, 3 December, 2007
Time:	12.30 p.m.
Cost:	\$30 per person
Inclusions:	Lunch covers a two-course meal with a glass of wine plus tea and coffee
Bookings:	At our November meeting
Payment:	At our November meeting or by cheque to our Treasurer, Eileen McGregor.
Car Pooling:	Those who cannot get to the venue or who would prefer not to drive can ring the President on 9879 0622 or speak to him at the November meeting about the arrangements for car pooling.

Walking Group

The walking group walks on the first and third Thursday of each month. PLEASE NOTE: The November walks will start at 9.30 a.m. HOWEVER from December onwards, throughout the hotter months, the walks will commence at 9 a.m.

On **Thursday 1 November**, we will meet in the carpark of the sports complex at the corner of Reynolds and Springvale Roads (enter from Reynolds Road), Donvale. We will walk through to Beasleys Nursery for refreshments before commencing our return walk.

There will be no walk on Thursday 15 November, as most of our regular walkers will be going to the COBA lunch.

On **Thursday 29 November** we will meet in the carpark off Mt Dandenong Road, Ringwood East - entrance just before the Service Station - to walk at Ringwood Lake and take refreshments at East Ringwood shopping centre before returning.

Dinner Group

The dinner group and the lunch group events alternate each month. They also alternate between the second Wednesday and second Thursday of each month. Our next dinner will be:

Venue:	Di Vari
Address:	735 Mountain Highway, Bayswater
Date:	Wednesday, 21 November
Time:	7.00 p.m.
Bookings:	Contact Rita Thomas or Rae Feeney (9876 1577).

Note: this licence is fully licenced or BYO wine and beer (\$3 corkage).

MAROONDAH-RINGWOOD BRANCH

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Photos and/or jokes for the Newsletter can be sent by email to Helen Classon at hmac4@optusnet.com.au

Lunch Group

The lunch group dined at Whats a Names cafe at Brentford Square on Wednesday 11 October. Eight members attended and all enjoyed items selected from the light lunch menu at this light and open restaurant.

Coffee Club

The coffee Club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month.

The next meeting is on **22 November** at the coffee shop in Myer Eastland at 2 pm and there's no need to book - just come along for a cuppa and a chat.

COBA Lunch

We will again travel in by train, which will be

- leaving Croydon at 10:48 a.m.
- leaving Ringwood East at 10:52 a.m.
- leaving Ringwood at 10:55 a.m.

and

- arrive at Southern Cross at 11:40 a.m.

Coming Up...

The committee decided it would be a good idea to have a lunch before the Christmas/New Year break as it would otherwise be a long time between drinks for members. As usual everyone is welcome. Early details are as follows:

Venue: Red Gum Cafe
 Address: Cnr. Victoria Road and Maroondah Highway
 Lilydale
 Date: Wednesday, 19 December, 2007

Further details will be available with the next newsletter/meeting or speak to Rae Feeney.

Thought for this month...

Never forget you are unique, like everyone else.

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that gave the gentleman perfect hearing.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I changed my will three times!"