

SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP

NEWS April 2020

Life in our new world
Our first Virtual Club Meeting will be held Friday April 24

See details below



It was decided at our committee meeting Friday 17, to have a trial run "Virtual Club Meeting" with all members invited to join.

Date is set for Friday 24

David's invitation for you to participate reads:

Hi all

At our ZOOM committee meeting on Friday evening it was decided that we would have a meeting on Friday 24 at 7.30pm

Before you attend the meeting please make sure that your mic and video are working OK.

If you are having problems checking your Mic and Video please talk to:

Richard 0405 707 789
 or David 0414 982 010.

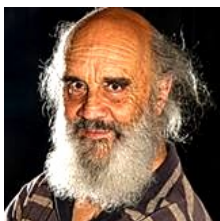
On Friday I will.

1. Send an email with a link which you must click on and down load a small ZOOM program

2. The email will be sent out some time between 7 and 7.15pm on Friday

See you all then

Stay Happy and Healthy
 David



THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN

We have entered the virtual world more rapidly than any of us expected.

Few would have casually said '*I need to socially distance myself from friends.*'

We are now required by law to do it.

The freedom we've taken for granted would now endanger the health and wellbeing of those around us...and our own!

The virtual world we've talked about is the world we live in for the immediate future as we adapt to isolation and an imposed opportunity to reflect on aspects of life previously overlooked.

It is happening across our entire planet regardless of social, cultural, ethnic or age differences, and blurs traditional thresholds for health and life expectancy.

Many have suffered in the past:

Perhaps a moment to reflect on those events.

<u>TOLL</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>
36 million	2005-2012	HIV/AIDS
1 million	1968	Influenza
2 million	1956-1958	Asian Influenza
20 -50 million	1918	Flu Pandemic
800,000+	1910-1911	Cholera Pandemic
75 – 200 million	1346-1353	Bubonic Plague
25 million	541-542	Bubonic Plague

We are fortunate to have instant communication with the entire global society and technology to help minimise the consequences of the current pandemic.

Frank

Hello all

I am lying here in bed and the days go so slowly.

What extraordinary times we are living in. I have always been a loner and thought the isolation would be easy. I have some sympathy for those who have a full social life normally and are now cut off from their world indefinitely. The disabled and the elderly are really doing it tough. Old age can be a very lonely place.



My doctor has me on medication to keep the black dog at bay but a new complication seems to be a significant drop in blood pressure, so when I collapsed on the floor Lynette insisted on an ambulance. Four days in hospital so far while they work out what to do. I'm on so many pills now I'm like the belled cat. I would probably rattle if I tried to creep up on the birds. Not many birds in this place though I am lucky enough to have a window bed. One kookaburra, one Wattlebird and one White headed pigeon is the tally so far.

I hope you are all coping well with the new reality and I think of you all. Gail has been a treasure and rock in the troubled waters, sending an occasional email which I really appreciate. My ward at the hospital is in lockdown so no visitors. Lynette can get as far as the front door with necessary changes of clothes etc. but I expect it is all a bit much for her-she has her own problems.

I have my iPad so am able to do a bit of writing but unfortunately the guest Wi-Fi here is not working which is very limiting.
Anyway keep well

Nearly the end of day 5 and no progress. It's pretty quiet at the moment, two ladies managed to escape so only two inmates here at the moment. I think they'll wait until we are asleep before they bring in two replacement prisoners with as much noise as it is possible to make.

Whoops I spoke too soon they just brought in some old bloke looks like about 100 in the shade. Anyway let me tell you about the other one. I get a twinge of conscience sometimes about being an antisocial old bastard but I suspect you'd understand this time. He would have to be the most foul mouthed barbarian I have ever come across. Incoming long phone calls nearly all day long from his telecom work-mates answered with a loud howler so everyone in the ward could hear his rants where every second word was an expletive - I kid you not.

The other night a senior nurse took the phone off him. Several times I was on the point of telling him off. The long suffering nurses do not get paid enough to put up with that. Fortunately he is blind in the left eye so he couldn't see me and attempt to engage me in conversation and every time I had to pass his bed I studiously looked the other way. He had his problems of course. He could never find the buzzer so he'd call out verbally in vain. Several times I pressed my buzzer but they were delayed and slow to respond. "The poor mans bowels and bladder gave up the battle and let go together. They had to use the crane to lift him up and clean up. Kind of poetic justice I think.

You are probably wondering why I am rabbiting on like this? I've got nothing else to do! Still can't get Wi-Fi here but living in hope some kind soul will remember to turn it on. I intend to email you from here but the way things look it may have to wait till I'm home.

On a personal note they can't work out what's wrong. ECGs, Doppler scans X-rays and interminable blood pressure tests, experimental removal of medications, nothing explains why my blood pressure is seriously low. On a positive note I've regained my appetite but I've had enough. If I can find a way to bribe my jailers to look the other way I might even escape this padded cell. Anyway I'll give your ears a break for now.

Keep well.
G.

Me again!

Did I tell you I don't want to get old?. The two Centenarians opposite would be enough to turn you off the condition. Frail, skin and bone. One irascible old bugger constantly argues with the staff - "you are not going to put that needle into me!" "I don't want to walk . I want to sleep" "I'm not eating that" "No I won't " and words to that effect over and over and without exception doctor, nurse, physio, they end up walking away in frustration.

The nurse tried to re-bandage his legs ; skin and bone and purple like his arms and feet all swollen. Kept saying it was all normal, no problem. His blood sugar was hopeless and the nurse tried to tell him he was a critical diabetic - what do nurses know anyway. The other old bloke was frail skin and bone and similarly uncooperative but not so strident in his denials. **Who'd want to be a nurse?**

Still problems with the internet. Finally got onto the Internet provider on the phone and after two long calls they decided they had to get a technician to fix it. I'll likely be in a pine box before it works I fear and apparently it has been out of commission for a month according to one of my fellow prisoners. I think I'll turn this email into a book.

Saw the heart doctor this morning. I had an ECG at his clinic a couple of months ago and he couldn't find any record of it. My doctor waited weeks to get a report from him. Something amiss in his office obviously. So far he didn't have any bright ideas apart from trying a different medication. I really just want to abscond. I'll still be here tomorrow at least I'm afraid.

G

Another seeming-less endless day. By my reckoning day seven. Long night too. Another day without Internet. I do have one of my favourite books by Biologist and behavioural scientist Professor Nathan Lents. Such an easy read and entertaining too in its way. A perfect foil for my other book 'Works of Philosopher Lawyer and Orator Cicero of Ancient Rome.' Can be a bit tedious at times but has some interesting insights 'Against tyranny', 'Human cooperation', 'On duty', 'On old age'. His essay on death and the after-life though is heavily slanted by religion. And when I get tired of reading I sit staring out the window at the non-existent birds and listening to ABC Classics, or ABC Jazz. I could have a shave if I could remember to ask Lynette to send my shaver. Perhaps I shall grow a beard. Then again maybe not. Dad tried that once. It looked like the rats had found a good source of nesting materials.

I thought Old Grumpy across the way might have been mellowing a bit with a young nurse who got under his guard but I was wrong. Several angry responses to the Senior nurse in the middle of the night, won't eat or drink, let her take his blood pressure, she told him if his blood sugar got any lower he would be in a coma. He accused her of running a concentration camp. Just as intransigent this morning. I think he is waiting to see what's on the "other side". The Barbarian next door has mellowed though. Far fewer phone calls from his mates and I never heard him use bad language once in 24 hours! Maybe someone said something to him. Big strapping Physiotherapist though had his number. Wouldn't take no for an answer. Last night the Barbarian seemed to be playing a game with himself. Trying to see how long and loud he could fart without shitting himself! I'd much rather listen to Mozart or Rachmaninov. I'd better stop before my language becomes intemperate. If you are still reading this trivia you must be as bored as I am. I can't chat up the nurses they are far too busy. I'd like to tell you about the band and group of dancing girls they sent in to entertain us but you probably wouldn't believe me. I don't know why. You know Truth is very important to me. Cicero would say there is no higher goal than to be completely truthful.

Just got the good news. The heart doctor will send me home if I promise not to fall over. I said I'll be very careful. Now the waiting game whilst they decide when and do all the inevitable paperwork so I'll stop here and send this from home. Something for you to waste time reading- Well it's only fair. I used up enough battery on the iPad writing it!

Regards Geo

The Haircut

Blessed are those that can give without remembering and take without forgetting.
 One day a florist went to a barber for a haircut.
 After the cut, he asked about his bill, and the barber replied, 'I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week.'

The florist was pleased and left the shop.

When the barber went to open his shop the next morning, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.
 Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week.'

The cop was happy and left the shop.

The next morning when the barber went to open up, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.
 The cop was happy and left the shop.
 The next morning when the barber went to open up, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.

Then a Congressman came in for a haircut, and when he went to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.'

The Congressman was very happy and left the shop.

The next morning, when the barber went to open up, there were a dozen Congressmen lined up waiting for a free haircut.

And that, my friends, illustrates the fundamental difference between the citizens of our country and the politicians who run it.

As Ronald Reagan said: "Both politicians and diapers need to be changed often and for the same reason."



Bomaderry Bowling Club
Worth Going Out
Of Your Way For

Just bought a book from IKEA



A friend in America shares this today

Must admit I am a little twitchy at the moment over this side of the water

Here's a very appropriate analogy:

**"The curve is flattening;
 we can start lifting
 restrictions now" = "The
 parachute has slowed
 our rate of descent; we
 can take it off now."**

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We are about to try

Virtual Meetings

until allowed to

assemble in person at the club

Ring David if interested