



Out in the shed with Ted.

Ted McEvoy

Space Shuttle

Click [HERE](#) for some excellent photos taken on the last space walk around the space station. When you get the link open, press your F11 key for full screen images – amazing.....

Veterans Entitlements.

Thousands of veterans from the Vietnam War through to East Timor and Iraq will have to wait an extra eight years for an entitlement which helps their spouses look after them.

The changes, buried in the detail of the first Labor Budget, have emerged in the Parliament with the Opposition describing them as the start of a move to switch veterans' entitlements to welfare payments. You can read more [HERE](#)

SCAMS.

The ACCC maintains an excellent web site called “**SCAMwatch**” which you can access [HERE](#). It provides information to consumers and small businesses about how to recognise, avoid and report scams. Scams that are reported to SCAMwatch will be analysed by the ACCC.



Many scams originate overseas or take place over the internet, making them very difficult to track down and prosecute. If you lose money to a scam, it is unlikely that you will be able to recover your loss. Only way to beat the scammers is to 'get up early'.

Solid state drives.

For many years, I've expected solid state drives (SSD's) to take over the computer hard drive market, but they just keep making the mechanical magnetic drives smaller, faster, cheaper, more reliable, and with higher capacity. Solid state drives are available now, they are popping up in MP3 players, video cameras, organisers and in some laptops but they still cost more than

traditional magnetic hard drives. Toshiba projects a solid state drive boom in about three years and you'll soon start to see them everywhere. Remember, you heard it here first folks....

Reality is only an illusion that occurs due to a lack of alcohol.

PBS Safety Net.

The Government's PBS safety net is designed to help you and your family with the cost of medicines. In this case, a family consists of:

- A couple living together, married or not, with or without dependant children.
- A single person with dependant children.

A dependant child is one under 16 years of age or a full time student under 25 whom you support.

It works like this:-

In any calendar year, if you are a holder of a concession card that entitles you to \$5.00 PBS prescriptions, then once you have bought 58 PBS prescriptions (at a total cost of \$290), then all further prescriptions are free. If you do not have the magic card, then once you have spent \$1,141.80 on PBS prescriptions, then all your further prescriptions are free.

Unless you keep a record, you could reach these thresholds during the calendar year and not know it and miss out on your entitlement to free medicines. It is definitely worth while keeping check of how much you spend at the local pharmacy. If you want more info on this you can get it [HERE](#).

An older, white haired man walked into a jewellery store one Friday evening with a beautiful young girl at his side. He told the jeweller he was looking for a special ring for his girlfriend. The jeweller looked through his stock and brought out a \$5,000 ring. The old man said, "No, I'd like to see something more special." At that statement, the jeweller went to his special stock and brought another ring over. "Here's a stunning ring at only \$40,000" the jeweller said. The young lady's eyes sparkled and her whole body trembled with excitement. The old man seeing this said, "We'll take it." The jeweller asked how payment would be made and the old man stated, "by cheque. I know you need to make sure my cheque is good, so I'll write it now and you can call the bank Monday to verify the funds and I'll pick the ring up Monday afternoon," he said. Monday morning, the jeweller phoned the old man. "There's no money in that account." "I know," said the old man, "But let me tell you about my weekend!"

The different faces of friendship.

Friendship among Women:

A woman didn't come home one night. The next morning she told her husband that she had slept over at a friend's house. The man called his wife's 10 best friends. None of them knew anything about it

Friendship among Men:

A man didn't come home one night. The next morning he told his wife that he had slept over at a friend's house. The woman called her husband's 10 best friends. Eight confirmed that he had slept over, and two said he was still there.

Travel tips.

If you're in receipt of any type of Service Pension and you're considering going overseas for a while, you must let DVA know before you go. They will send you a letter detailing your accepted medical conditions and an authority for any medical treatment you might need while overseas. You'll find them OK to deal with as long as you're up-front. It is also a good idea to get a letter from your GP, detailing all the Happy Pills you take – just in case you run into an over zealous customs officer somewhere.

Another handy travel hint is to scan all your travel docs (eg passport, tickets, etc, etc), email a copy to yourself to an address that you can access overseas, and then print a copy and keep it separate from the originals when you travel. If worse comes to worse, and someone nicks all your gear, you can always go to an internet café and print out a copy.



Retired

I've often been asked, 'What do you do now that you're retired?' Well...I'm fortunate to have a few good friends who have chemical engineering backgrounds, and one of the things we enjoy most is turning beer, wine and the odd Bundy and Coke into urine. And, we're pretty damn good at it too!!

Precedent, perhaps??.

Ron Johnston, an ex-Aust Army and a member of the VVAA Redcliffe Qld, but now living in the UK, sent us the following.

“Here's a synopsis of a British war veterans case, handed down in the UK High Court on the 29th July 2005, for military related PTSD compensation and as



reported in the London Daily Mail on July 30th, by Adam Powell.

A British soldier whose life was 'destroyed' because the Ministry of Defence failed to treat his psychological trauma, has won £620,000 compensation....



A former colour sergeant in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, aged 46 years, served five tours of duty in Northern Ireland where he had taken part in covert intelligence work and witnessed atrocities. He was awarded the British Empire Medal for distinguished service. During his final tour he developed PTSD which was ignored by the Army despite other soldiers telling their superiors he needed treatment.....

The High Court heard that Mr New would have retrieved a brilliant army career if he had been treated properly by military psychiatrists after a fifth tour of Northern Ireland.....

As a result he suffered a breakdown, lost his marriage, cannot hold down a job and suffers flashbacks, panic attacks, headaches and has a paranoid fear of strangers...

Mr New's solicitor, Richard Scorer, said the decision recognises for the first time the devastating effects of PTSD and hidden suffering of many former service-men and women.....

The High Court, Mr Justice Owen, said 46 year old Mr New is a shadow of his former self and ruled the Army should pay the agreed damages for breaching its duty of care....

Undecided damages were also awarded to ex-soldier Melvyn West 35, who was left traumatised in Ulster when a comrade was shot in the head by a high-velocity round. A third veteran - who cannot be named won five-figure damages for symptoms of PTSD which received insufficient attention after his return from Bosnia in 1994.

After the ruling Mr New's solicitor said he has 300 further cases pending.

You are not drunk if you can lie on the floor without holding on.

Quick tip.

Ever wanted to add a simple, black border above or below a paragraph in your Microsoft Word document (like this) without having to go through all that mouse clicking using the Format | Border And Shading menu or the toolbar. Well here's how. Position the pointer at the beginning of the line where you want your border to occur. Press the hyphen key [-] three times and then press [Enter]. Then position the pointer at the start of the blank line at the end of the paragraph and press the hyphen key [-] three time again, then press ENTER. Voilà Try it!!

While this method doesn't give you the same options to create a custom line as you would have with the toolbar or menus, you are not limited to a simple black line. You can vary the shape and thickness of the border by substituting any one of the following keys for the hyphen:

- Underline []: produces a bold black line
- Equals sign [=]: produces a double-line border
- Asterisk [*]: produces a dotted border
- Tilde [~]: produces a wavy border
- Number symbol [#]: produces a thick, solid black border with a thin line above and below it.

The definition of Windows, it is a:-

- 32-bit extension and graphical shell to a
- 16-bit patch to an 8-bit operating system originally coded for a
- 4-bit micro-processor written by a
- 2-bit company that couldn't stand
- one bit of competition.