

Something to

# CROWABOUT



e-Magazine of the  
**Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club Inc.**

Incorporating  
**WAGGA WAGGA SENIOR CITIZENS' COMPUTER CLUB**

*Member of ASCCA (Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association)*

**Issue 51**

**Published Quarterly**

**Jan-Mar 2022**

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to above address -

**Cooee**  
The History of a Call





## Editor's Notes

Dear club members,  
 Our first edition of this modest little club magazine appeared back in 2009 and here we are at the beginning of 2022. The last couple of years have sorely tested our resolve as the ongoing pandemic has caused numerous changes and cancellations of club activities. One such activity is computer tuition. With a total of four tutors at the start we have finished with just one (myself). Now in my eighties and facing health concerns for both my wife and self I have reluctantly decided I will no longer be available in that role. Fortunately Geoff is still running his iPad class which has attracted strong interest.  
 Best regards, **Barry**  
 Editor, Crowabout



## Presidents Message

Hi Fellow Seniors,  
 Here we are almost ready to start 2022 Seniors Events, with limited restrictions with regards to Covid-19 and its variants. I hope that all members had a happy Christmas and look forward to having a healthy and prosperous 2022.

This year the Club will get all its usual activities going as well as at least one new event. The new event proposed is a walking club, where members gather and go for a walk around the City, with maybe a stop for a drink, morning tea or see something of interest.

Barry has stated that he will not be teaching Computers in 2022 but will, for a while, continue producing our magazine "Something to CROWABOUT". On Behalf of the Senior Citizens Club, I would like to thank Barry for all the effort he has put in for many years teaching club members how to use and operate a computer.

The club is planning to have some bus trips this year, even though the format of such bus trips will be different to previous years.

I hope to see many familiar faces at the Seniors Community Centre as we carry on our various events. So have fun and look after each other.

President Jim

## Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club Inc.

Membership (\$5.00 per year) to over 50's  
**Club activities 2021 (During Covid-19 restrictions)**

iPad classes Monday 10.30 am to 11.30

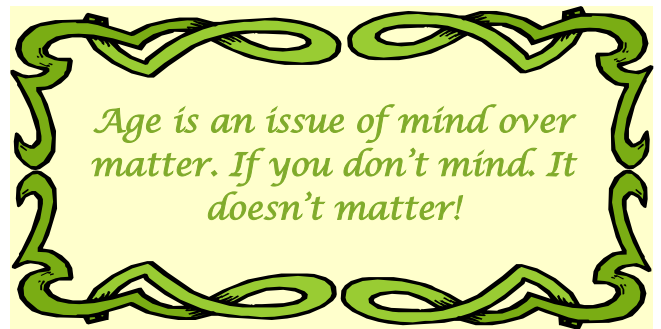
Carpet Bowls Friday 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm

Craft Thursday 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm

Line-dancing Thursday 9.30 am to 11.30 am

Cards Thursday 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm

Monthly General Meeting First Monday of Month 1.30 pm



## Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club Inc Committee 2022

President	Jim Weeden	69331394
Vice President	Wendy Job	
Treasurer	Jo Jovanovic	69228536
Assistant Treasurer	Marlene Bowen	
Secretary	Robyn Weeden	69331394
Assistant Secretary		

Additional Committee: Velma Spears, Dudley Downey, Chris Thomas, Lenore Keppie, Ellen Downey.



Find us on Facebook or visit our web site at...  
<http://seniorcitizen8.wix.com/ww-senior-citizens>

## Reminder

General Club Meeting is held on the **1st Monday** of Month.

# Seniors Christmas Party 2021

Seniors  
in Focus



Some of the happy faces at our Christmas Party. We were fortunate that some of the restrictions imposed because of the pandemic were eased at this time.



# Seniors Christmas Party 2021



# End of Year 2021 Activities



The last linedancing class for 2021 was celebrated in style (above and below left ) while for his last iPad class for the year teacher Geoff introduced the class to something different (below right).



**SCOOTIN'**: Leading the way with some boot-scotting is Nora Barzen.

**ABOVE**: Teacher Robyn Weeden puts dancers through their paces.

**BELOW**: Jean Jenkins gets into the swing of things.

**BOOT-SCOOTING** for seniors is a fun and energetic class held at the Senior Citizens Centre every week with a large group of friendly dancers involved. The line-dancing classes are held every Thursday from 10.30am to 11.30am and are a great way to exercise in a fun and friendly environment. All participants are aged above 50 and enjoy trying a variety of dances to country music songs while enjoying a laugh together. Beginners are welcome to attend with a special beginners class held at 10am each week.

Looking back to 2009



# Charlie

By Barry G Williams

“Hello Charlie”, I said, “I suppose you want a cup of tea?” Charlie cocked his head to one side and looked quizzically at me as if to say, “you bonehead, what do you think I’ve been waiting for all this time”

Charlie is a funny old bird. Or to be exact, a cockatoo, a Sulphur Crested Cockatoo that is.

For over forty years now we had shared breakfast together before I would head off to work.

Now, things had changed. I had retired five years before and the previous year events caused an even greater change to our early morning ritual.



A heart attack and consequent major surgery left me very weak for a time.

As a result I could no longer bring Charlie and his cage inside of an evening where he would remain overnight.

Once inside Charlie had the run of the kitchen, either sitting on top of his cage or climbing up to sit on the back of one of the kitchen chairs. From these vantage points Charlie maintained his position as a member of the household.

Usually whatever the family had for a meal he thought he had a right to share. When his hunger was satisfied he would then call out “cup of tea”. This phrase was repeated over and over until someone held a partly filled cup of tea up to

his beak, allowing him to greedily guzzle his fill.

After supper Charlie would be confined to his cage for the night until morning when I would let him out to share breakfast with me. Then, before I left for work I would carry Charlie and his cage down to the back yard where he was released into a large flight aviary.



Charlie came to us all those years ago as a young hand reared bird not long out of the nest. Indeed for the first couple of months we continued to hand feed him out of a spoon.

During the first few years with his new family he had a playmate called Bubbles. Bubbles was a small black dog and on occasions the pair of them would indulge in a game of tug-of-war with an old scrap of cloth around the kitchen floor.

Over the years Charlie has escaped twice from his aviary. The first time he actually ended up at our children’s school.

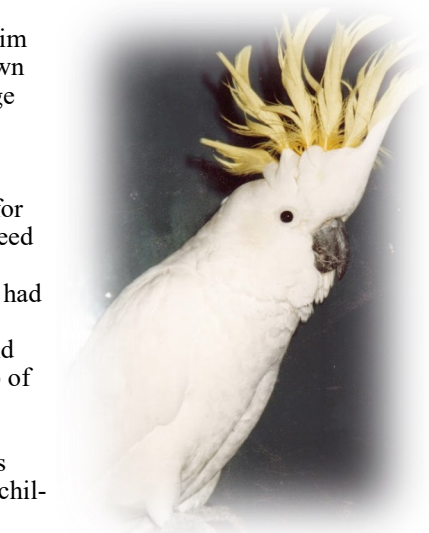
The school’s handyman found him and not knowing who he belonged to took him home and put him in with his hens. We put an advertisement in the lost and found column of the newspaper and were reunited.

Some years later he escaped again and we thought we had lost him for good. I started walking around the neighborhood and was overjoyed to hear him talking in one of the street trees. There was a group of children watching him and as he was too high up in the tree I asked them to keep an eye on him while I quickly ran home to get a ladder. Struggling back with the ladder I finally placed it in position and placed my foot on the bottom rung. No soon did I do so than Charlie decided that it was time to come down and he landed at my feet.

On both occasions I only had myself to blame for not closing the aviary door properly.

Cockatoos can be very destructive and are regarded as pests by some. They are also very personable and friendly when tamed making them marvelous pets. Their long life span and ability to mimic human speech is another reason why they are popular. One thing I cannot bare to see is these beautiful and intelligent creatures confined to cages that are patently too small for them.

Charlie no longer comes inside but we still share a biscuit and a swig of tea for breakfast. Since first starting to write my memories of Charlie even more years have passed but we still keep each other company.



# Cooee: the history of a call

Most Australians know the word 'cooee' but it is difficult to pin down the origins of the call. 'Cooee' has a rich and intriguing history in music, language, war, commerce and nationalism. Sydney historian Richard White shares facts and theories about the rise and fall of this sound of the bush, to the accompaniment of a showcase of 'coo-ee' songs.

There is qualified consensus that the word was used by indigenous people prior to European settlement. It was recorded in a notebook by one of the first fleet in 1789, and notated in music by Baudin in 1801. By the 1820s, it was part of colonial speech, widespread in New Zealand too.



Then in the 1840s it began to be called out loud in London by visiting colonists, and its nationalistic association with Australia began. A growing number of 'coo-ee' songs followed, along with its appearance in literature.

Federation seized on a word that symbolically encompassed the whole of Australia, and its popularity rose to the point where there were calls for three cheers to

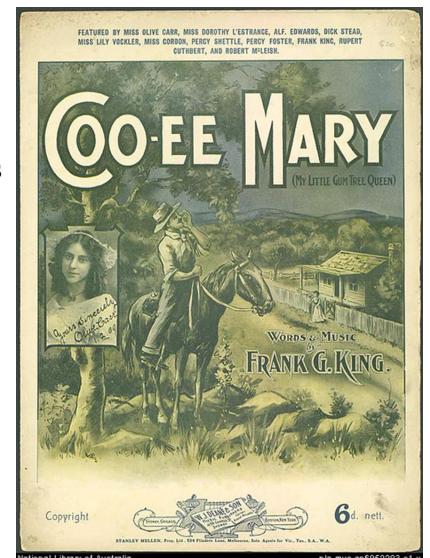
be replaced with three 'coo-ees'. In the First World War, the number of coo-ee songs swelled as it joined the chorus of recruitment numbers and ballads reminding troops of home.

In the decades that followed, 'coo-ee' became something of an echo of its former self. Its place in everyday language declined, and it's not clear whether coming generations will give voice to the word. However some exceptions can be heard, suggesting it's a call close to the hearts of many in their relationship with family and land.

Songs performed by Louisa Hunter-Bradley, soprano and Dean Sky-Lucas, piano.  
History consultant: Richard White, Department of History, University of Sydney

To listen to a 55 minute podcast about the history of the Cooee call click/tap on the link below.

[Download Audio - 09112008](#)



## *Paying the right price*

Nixivan had invited his friends to supper and was cooking a succulent piece of meat for them. Suddenly, he realised that he had run out of salt.

So Nixivan called to his son.

'Go to the village and buy some salt, but pay a fair price for it: neither too much nor too little.'

His son was surprised.

'I can understand why I shouldn't pay too much for it, Father, but if I can bargain them down, why not save a bit of money?'

'That would be the sensible thing to do in a big city, but it could destroy small village like ours.'

When Nixivan's guests, who had overheard their conversation, wanted to know why they should not buy salt more cheaply if they could, Nixivan replied:

'The only reason a man would sell salt more cheaply than usual would be because he was desperate for money. And anyone who took advantage of that situation would be showing a lack of respect for the sweat and struggle of the man who laboured to produce it.'

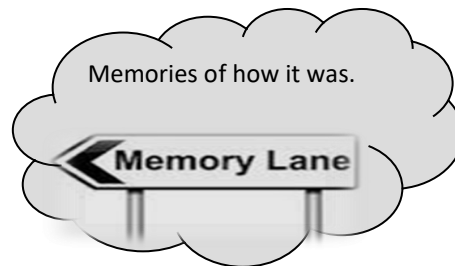
'But such a small thing couldn't possibly destroy a village.'

'In the beginning, there was only a small amount of injustice abroad in the world, but everyone who came afterwards added their portion, always thinking that it was only very small and unimportant, and look where we have ended up today.'

# A Walk Down Memory Lane!

Do you remember when....

Here are a few gentle reminders of how it was when we were young.



## Life in the glorious fifties

I don't know about you, but I like to remember life in the fifties sometimes. A time when everything moved at a slower pace and we didn't rush around eating fast food all the time, as so many of us appear to do now. In fact true 'fast food' hadn't been invented yet, apart from a couple of 'old school' exceptions as you'll see below!

When I was in my late teens, I remember that olive oil was something kept in the medicine cabinet for the relief of blocked ear canals. My mother considered it 'much too oily' to use in cooking – she did all her's with home-made beef dripping or lard. She wouldn't have dreamt of adding spices to a meal, they were something slightly weird they used in the middle east to embalm dead bodies, not to eat!

Bananas and oranges were fruit that was bought, at considerable expense, for consumption at Christmas time, as was chicken. And turkey wasn't seen in our household at all, even during the festive season, only rich people, most of them in America, ate turkey. Sunday roast during the rest of the year, (there was always a roast on Sundays), usually contained either beef, lamb or occasionally pork and included any three combinations of potatoes, peas, carrots and cabbage – Mum wouldn't dream of serving up a meal with four vegetables in it, it was always meat and three veg.

The only crisps available in those days, (sometimes known as 'chips' here in Australia), were made by Smith's and they came in only one flavour, what we would now know as 'plain'. They also contained, inside the pack, a little sachet of salt so that you could add your own, to taste, or leave it out altogether. Crisps were about the only 'fast food' available in the fifties, apart from the ubiquitous fish and chips, which had to be wrapped in old newspaper or else it wouldn't taste right.

As for having a savoury meal served with rice! Well, whoever heard of such a silly thing; rice was something you cooked with milk and sugar to serve as pudding after the meal. By the way, you'll notice the final dish was called 'pudding', nobody had thought of the word 'dessert' in those days.

Microwaves, mini ovens, toasters, liquidizers and food processors had either not been invented yet, except in science fiction, or were much too expensive for the ordinary household, as were electric irons, electric kettles and dish-washing machines. Even a refrigerator was something not found in many homes. I remember my mother kept food fresh by storing it in a small wooden cabinet with wire mesh on all four sides, over which she draped a damp towel so that it cooled the air inside by the simple use of evaporation.

Milk was purchased from the dairy up the road. The milkman, who also owned the business, had the milk delivered to him in large milk-churns and he then ladled it, by hand, into bottles which he capped with special cardboard discs. If Mum ever ran out of milk, (normally delivered to our doorstep every day), she could send me up to his place with sixpence in my hand, and he would fill a bottle for me, on the spot! Leaving the bottle to stand for a while resulted in the top third turning to glorious cream that my mother could skim off for separate use, if she wished.

No one would have recognised seaweed as a food, nor would they know what you meant if you mentioned 'kebab', 'chicken korma', 'egg foo yung', 'sushi' or 'barbecue'. Add to these, such concepts as 'boil-in-the-bag' or 'oven chips' or 'croissants', and you have some idea of the simple lives we used to live in the fifties.

I wonder sometimes if we are any better off today, with all the technology, things pre-prepared and even pre-cooked for us. But we seem to have little or no knowledge of the basics of living, which stood us in good stead just after the war.



*THIS ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN BY BRIAN LEE*

*Brian Lee was born in Bristol, in 1935. After leaving school, he studied Graphics at the West of England College of Art and before entering the world of packaging, publicity and advertising, with various companies in England, New Zealand and Australia. In 1969 he started his own business as a graphic designer, illustrator, photographer and copy writer, producing work for a wide variety of National and International Companies, until he and his wife Jacqui moved to Australia in 1987. He retired in 1996 and now passes his time writing short stories, taking photographs, and painting.*



# Members' Contributions

At our age, you've gotta laugh,

**1981 & 2005 - Two Interesting Years**

**Interesting Year 1981**

1. Prince Charles got married.
2. Liverpool crowned soccer Champions of Europe .
3. Australia lost the Ashes.
4. **The Pope died.**

**Interesting Year 2005**

1. Prince Charles got married.
2. Liverpool crowned soccer Champions of Europe .
3. Australia lost the Ashes.
4. **The Pope died.**

**Lesson to be learned:**

The next time Charles gets married; someone should warn the Pope.

*Contributed by Barry Williams*

**Goodbye Mom!**

A young man was walking through a supermarket to pick up a few things when he noticed an old



lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he ignored her and continued on. Finally he went to the checkout line, but she got in front of him. "Pardon me," she said, "I'm sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It's just that you look just like my son, who just died recently." "I'm very sorry," replied the young man, "is there anything I can do for you?" "Yes," she said, "As I'm leaving, can you say 'Good bye, Mother!' ? It would make me feel so much better." "Sure," answered the young man. As the old woman was leaving, he called out, "Goodbye, Mother!" As he stepped up to the checkout counter, he saw that his total was \$127.50. "How can that be?" he asked, "I only purchased a few things!" "Your mother said that you would pay for her," said the clerk.

*Contributed by Bruce McAlister*

**THE WEDDING (DON'T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS)**

At a wedding ceremony the pastor asked 'if anyone had anything to say concerning the union of the bride and groom. It was their time to stand up and talk, or forever hold their peace'.

The moment of utter silence was broken by a young beautiful woman carrying a child. She stood up and started walking slowly towards the pastor.



Everything quickly turned to chaos.

The bride threw the bouquet and burst out crying.

Then slowly the groom's mother fainted.

The Best men started giving each other looks and wondering how best to help save the situation.

The pastor asked the woman, "Can you tell us, why you came forward

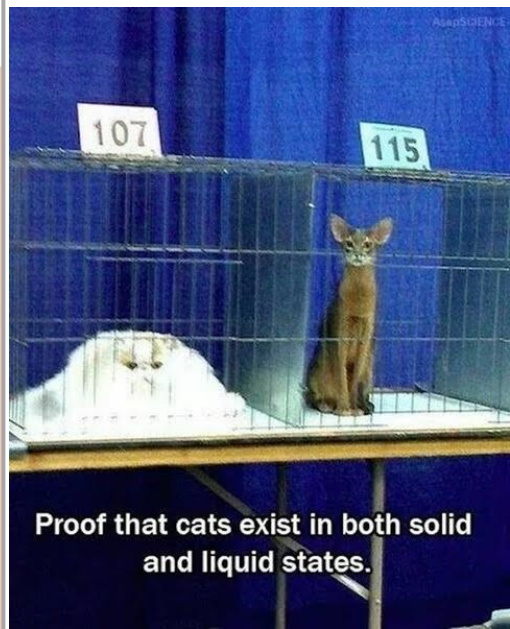
"What do you have to say?"

There was absolute silence in the church.

The woman replied, "We can't hear in the back."

*Submitted by Yvonne Homer*

**The Cycle Of Fear**



**Paddy says to Mick, "I'm getting circumcised tomorrow." Mick says, "I had that done when I was a few days old .Paddy asks, "Does it hurt?" Mick says, " Well I couldn't walk for about a year."**

*Submitted by Les Homer*



## When your search results can get you in trouble

When you start to type a search query into Google, it will try to be nice and automatically fill it in for you. The problem with that is that you might find a topic more interesting than what you were initially searching for in the first place. Then you click on it and realise after a few wasted hours on the net you didn't even achieve what you initially set out to do.

If you type in the word "senior" you can also see that the directions that you can take are varied.

Recently a friend mentioned that they were looking for a social website where he could meet some like-minded people and have a chat. He didn't know where to start so he typed "senior men" into Google...

...and almost knocked out of his chair by his wife who saw he was looking at dating sites. Once he recovered and explained what he was doing his wife was intrigued and asked him to look up "senior women" and was shocked to see...

That it resulted in a completely different type of website. Which begs the question do over 60s men and women look for entirely different things on the internet?

Wouldn't you rather search for "senior men" and find websites about the great things that over 60s do or their fantastic sense of style? We can dream. Though finding companionship is equally as important as finding a new hairstyle or the best way to trim your beard.

A great tip for searching the internet is to use quotation marks and the plus sign to be very specific about your search. Our friend from before was just looking to possibly make some new friends so he tried again using this method. That worked much better.

What was the strangest thing you found when searching for something normal? Have you ever tried to search your name? What comes up?

## A simple tip for saving your Internet Favorites

Of course you can simply "Add to Favorites" using the Favorites Icon if you find a website you may wish to revisit. However there is a simple, more organised way you can save these addresses and also keep them in categories with a simple explanation of the contents and the relevance to you and your interests.

Try creating a Word Document called My Internet Favorites; and when you go 'surfing' have this document open but minimised and readily available on the Task Bar. Each time you find an interesting site just click in the Address Box to highlight the address and press Control C to copy the address, then bring up your open Internet Favorites document and press Control V to paste the address in full.

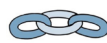
While most 'Home Pages' have manageable addresses, some of the pages within a website can have such long addresses they would take a huge effort to type correctly; and if just added to Favorites may not clearly prompt you on the reason you saved them. It is even a good idea to have several separate documents; for example, Genealogy Internet Favorites or Craft Internet Favorites

Using the Genealogy example you will end up with a document that looks like this:

[Shropshire Family History Society | Family History Federation](#) Shropshire Family History Society.

Keep exploring and 'surfing' in the knowledge you will easily be able to return to any site you have saved by simply placing your cursor over its address on your Internet Favorites Document and pressing Control + click.

## Internet Links 4U2 Try



[Just click on the links below!](#)

And you thought we had traffic issues in Australia, try driving in Ethiopia  
<http://www.chonday.com/Videos/carditerthiopi2>

*Lost in the Fifties .. Another Time, Another Place*  
<http://safeshare.tv/w/FEDEwZHZXu>

Funny song about aging  
<https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/... MbH4?rel=0>



Best Of Just For Laughs Gags - Crazy Car Pranks  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTm4JKIP... dded#at=16>

5 yr old piano prodigy Ryan Wang performs for 101 yr old.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urc-ynhM5Q8>

Please note: All links were functioning at time of publishing but may fail over time!



# The Crows Joke Page

© 2003 The Pennsylvania State University

**An elderly gent** was trying to set a password on his computer.

Windows: Please enter your new password  
User: cabbage  
Windows: Sorry, the password must be

more than eight characters. User: boiled cabbage.

Windows: Sorry, the password must contain one numerical character. User: 1 boiled cabbage.

Windows: Sorry, the password cannot have blank spaces. User: 50bloody cabbages. Windows: Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character. User: 50BLOODYboiledcabbages.

Windows: Sorry the password cannot use more than one upper case character consecutively.

User: 50BloodyBoiledCabbagesShovedWhereTheSunDon'tShineIfYouDon'tGiveMeAccessNow!

Windows: Sorry, the password cannot contain punctuation.

User: 50BloodyBoiledCabbagesShovedWhereTheSunDontShineIfYouDontGiveMeAccessNow

Windows: Sorry, that password is already in use.

**An elderly couple** went on a road trip to see their grandchildren. They stopped over at a restaurant for lunch.

Unfortunately the grandmother left her sunglasses there. It wasn't until they were back on the road on the highway that she realised they were missing.

They had to travel some distance before they could find a place to turn around. The grandad fussed and complained, but gradually quietened down as they neared the restaurant.

As the grandad got out of the car he said in a small voice: "Well I guess while I'm in there I might just as well get my hat".

**A woman** had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was startled to see an intruder there.

She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled: 'Stop! Acts 2:38!'

(Repent and be Baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins may be forgiven.)

The burglar stopped in his tracks.



The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you." "Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an Axe and Two 38s!"

## Apology Letter to Spouse

Hi Sweetheart,

I am sorry about getting into an argument about putting up the Christmas lights. I guess that sometimes I feel like you are pushing me too hard when you want something.

I realize that I was wrong and I am apologizing for being such a hard-headed guy.

All I want is for you to be happy and be able to enjoy the holiday season. Nothing brightens the Christmas spirit like Christmas lights! I took the time to hang the lights for you today; and now I will be off to the hockey rink.

Again, I am very sorry for the way I acted yesterday.

I'll be home Later.

Love you.



## Her response

Hi Honey,

Thank you for that heart-felt apology. I don't often get an apology from you, and I truly appreciate it. I, too, felt bad about the argument and wanted to apologize. I realize that I can sometimes be a little pushy. I will try to respect your feelings from now on.

Thank you for taking the time to hang the Christmas lights for me. It really means a lot.

In the spirit of giving, I washed your truck for you; and now I am off to the mall.

I love you too!



**Fifty one years ago**, Herman James, a northern mountain man, was drafted into the army.

On his first day in basic training, the Army issued him with a comb. That afternoon the Army barber sheared off all his hair.

On his second day, the Army issued Herman a toothbrush.

That afternoon the Army dentist yanked seven of his teeth.

On the third day, the Army issued him a jock strap. The Army has been looking for Herman for fifty one years.





**If you think women are the weaker sex, try pulling the blankets back to your side!**



You're never too old!



During those first few days of the pandemic.

**Handprints On The Wall**  
by Anonymous

One day as I was picking the toys up off the floor, I noticed a small hand print on the wall beside the door.

I knew that it was something that I'd seen most every day, but this time when I saw it there I wanted it to stay.

Then tears welled up inside my eyes, I knew it wouldn't last for every mother knows her children grow up way too fast.

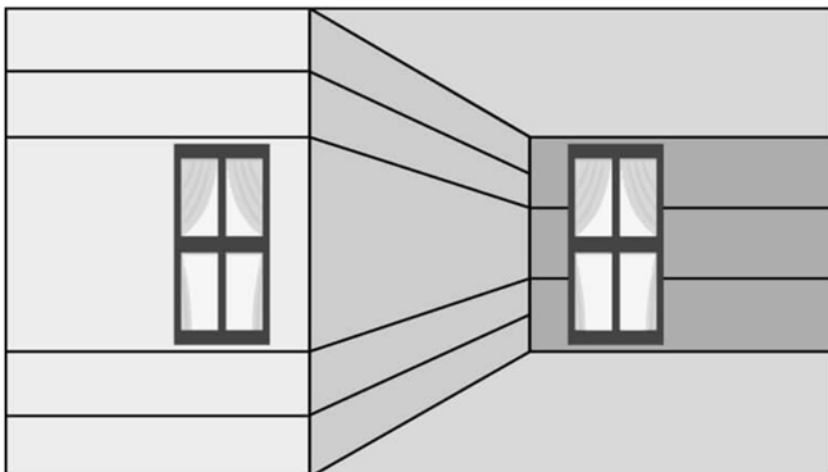
Just then I put my chores aside and held my children tight. I sang to them sweet lullabies and rocked into the night.

Sometimes we take for granted, all those things that seem so small. Like one of God's great treasures... A small handprint on the wall.



**All About Perspective**

Can you figure out which of these windows is bigger? Not only are they the exact same size, but their tops and bottoms are directly in line with each other. Talk about a new perspective!



Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?

