

PROBUS NEWSLETTER

Information in this newsletter is for Probus members only

DIARY

Friday 17th July

Book Club
Town Hall

“Brooklyn” by Colm Toibin
Morning Tea: Richard Jones

Thursday 6th August

Villa Maria Hall
3 Mary St, Hunters Hill
09:30

Speaker

Tony Saunders
Canada’s Black Friday in 1959

Each Thursday

Weekly Coffee Huntleys Cafe
Huntleys Cove 10:00 am
Now Weekly

Monday 7th September

Sausage Sizzle
Abbotsford Quarantine Reserve
Abbotsford

Wednesday 16th September

MacArthur Region Tour
Barbara Banner

Wednesday 23rd September

RAN Museum
Ashlyn Allum

See the table on Page 3 for activities for the remainder of the year

From the President

At last, there is some light ahead and with the Covid19 restrictions relaxed to a large degree, we can look forward to getting our lives back to normality.

From our monthly call around to the members, we asked for your opinion as to the level of interest from you in holding a face to face members meeting in August and the response was overwhelmingly in favour of doing so.

To this end I am thrilled to announce that we will be holding a member meeting on Thursday 6th August to be held at the church hall at Villa Maria, the venue at which we held our past few meetings before the restrictions were imposed.

In doing so, we will need to observe the distancing rules in place etc. but more on this as we get closer to the date.

Below is an update of what has been happening since my last report to you on Club business.

Premises.

The HH club has finally got back to us advising that we could hold a meeting at the club under the current Covid19 restrictions of up to 65 people with the condition that we must not mingle with other members during the meeting. They advised that the conditions of future use of the club for meetings will be based on the conditions agreed at our face to face meeting we held with them back in early March.

Some of the conditions they requested were to start our meetings at 9am instead of 9.30am and an increase rental fee from \$100 to \$250. We wrote back requesting a number of terms including changes to the above.

Our next step is to ask for another face to face meeting to resolve these issues and reach a firm agreement going forward. Dean Letcher is following up on this and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Probus Management Committee .

Carolyn Jolly recently resigned from the management committee for personal reasons. However, It is with great pleasure that I can announce that she has decided to withdraw her resignation and continue to serve as our club Secretary for the remainder of her term. Both I and the committee are delighted to welcome her back on board.

I also want to welcome David Lorschy to the PMC. David brings a wealth of experience gained over many years being part of the Probus Normanhurst club and its management committee for a long time . I look forward to working with David during my tenure as President.

Government Grant.

As I have previously advised , we did apply for a grant from the Government and I am happy to advise that we have now received this, an amount of \$3,000. We now need to determine how we spend it. We have formed a small task force, namely Mike Allum, Ian Adair and me and we are meeting next Tuesday to discuss this matter.

Recruitment Process.

We are in the process of finalising a new recruitment process for guests and new members to the club. This will be explained to all members at our next members meeting in August. My thanks go to Kevin Manie and David Lorschy for their great work in putting this together and for the input of the other members on the committee.

From the President (cont)

New Club Website.

For a while now the committee has been discussing the development of a club Website. Our own tailored website is one way to lift the profile of the club in the eyes of potential new members interested in joining. We can show what the club is about, what we do, how we do things, what activities we organise, speakers we have, newsletters, history of the club etc.

For our existing members, there are the benefits as stated above as well as providing a centralised photo gallery and record of events and places that we have had and been, enabling you to upload any photos you like to your computer.

The development of the website was approved at our last committee meeting, subject to the sign-off of an agreement with the developer. We expect to have this running by September this year.

I would like to close my article by asking what you think of what we have come up with regarding our Club's mission statement.

**“To foster Friendship, Fellowship and Fun.
Our Strength is our Members.”**

I hope you like it.

Looking forward to seeing you all on 6 August.

Jim

Garth's Travels - Polar Bears

The polar bear is a magnificent animal. A mature male will weigh up to 700kgs and when standing on its hind legs can be up to 3m high. The polar bear is at the top of the food chain, so has no natural enemies and hence has no fear. This makes him very dangerous.

Churchill, Manitoba is a small Canadian community (population about 800) and is on the mouth of the Churchill River which runs into the western part of Hudson Bay. There is a large peninsula poking out into the bay. In the months of August - October the winds from the Arctic Circle blow ice floes into Hudson Bay and some of these collect at the Churchill peninsula. This causes the sea in this area to be the first to freeze. Over millennia the polar bears now know this and hence they collect around Churchill at this time because they can then get out onto the ice and capture seals, one of their favourite foods.

We flew from Edmonton to Churchill - just over 1,000 kms and spent 3 days in and around Churchill observing polar bears.

A tourist company has constructed a "tundra buggy". This is very similar to a normal road bus but has very large all terrain tyres so it can drive through the snow, ice and slush. The buggy also has an outside viewing platform. Of course these are heated as the temperatures can get well below freezing. These tundra buggies allow tourists to get up very close to the bears.

Because the tundra buggies are frequent visitors to the bears' environment, some bears pay little attention to the buggies but others can become very inquisitive. One such bear stood up and leant on to the side of our bus and looked at the passengers (I guess thinking which one would be the most tasty for dinner) and then proceeded to rock the bus. A bit scary but what an experience.



We were at times surrounded by up to 10 bears and the younger ones, particularly the males, would wrestle each other in the snow, just like young children.

Over the years visiting Churchill to see the bears has become popular. So much so that a tundra motel has now been constructed and this looks very much like containers on wheels but they are fitted out with beds, dining areas, etc. and tourists can now hire these and spend a few days out and among the bears.

One unusual occurrence was when we decided to visit an Indian trading in the town. As we walked across a very wide road we couldn't help noticing Australian flags flying. Apparently so many Australians visit Churchill that the owners of the trading post fly the flags. By the way, I purchased some "genuine North American Indian moccasins".

That was over 35 years ago and I still wear these moccasins around our house in winter.

Garth

Future Activities

Now that the Covid19 situation appears to be easing, it's time we looked at our remaining activities for the year and refresh your memories as to what was planned.,

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| AUGUST | Monday 3 rd | "Good Old Days" Concert Barbara Banner Cancelled |
| | Thursday 6th August - 09:30 | General Meeting - Villa Maria Hall |
| | Thursday 13 th | 2.5 hr Nepean Belle Cruise with lunch — Ashlyn Allum Cancelled |
| | Each Thursday | Morning Coffee – 10.00 am Huntleys Café, Huntleys Cove |
| | Friday 21 st | Book Club |
| | | |
| SEPTEMBER | Tuesday 1 st | General Meeting |
| | Monday 7 th | Sausage Sizzle - 12 noon - Abbotsford Reserve |
| | Wednesday 16 th | Tour Macarthur Region Historical Tour – Barbara Banner |
| | Each Thursday | Morning Coffee – 10.00 am Huntleys Café, Huntleys Cove |
| | Friday 18 th | Book Club |
| | Wednesday 23 rd | Opal Outing – Royal Australian Navy Museum – Ashlyn Allum |
| | | |
| OCTOBER | Tuesday 6 th | General Meeting |
| | Monday 12 th | Opal Day – HARS Aviation Tour Albion Park & lunch - Barbara Banner |
| | Wed 14 th – Fri 16 th | 3 Day Tour Mudgee – Barbara Banner |
| | Each Thursday | Morning Coffee – 10.00 am Huntleys Café, Huntleys Cove |
| | Friday 23 rd | Book Club |
| | | |
| NOVEMBER | Monday 2 nd | "Good Old Days" Concert – Barbara Banner |
| | Tuesday 10 th | General Meeting - Delayed Due to Melbourne Cup |
| | Each Thursday | Morning Coffee – 10.00 am Huntleys Café, Huntleys Cove |
| | Friday 20 th | Book Club |
| | Wednesday 25 th | Seafood BBQ Simon Taylor - Ashlyn Allum |
| | | |
| DECEMBER | Tuesday 1 st | General Meeting |
| | Tuesday 15 th | Christmas Lunch – Hunters Hill Club - details TBA |
| | Each Thursday | Morning Coffee – 10.00 am Huntleys Café, Huntleys Cove |
| | Friday 18 th | Book Club |
| | Friday 25 th | Christmas Day |

The Sausage Sizzle Monday 7th September is still on. Just a reminder, as in previous years, we will need your assistance in providing food, chairs, tools/utensils etc. More information at the August meeting.

Similarly, the Macarthur Region Historical Tour is still on. If you are interested can you call or email Barbara Banner, 9427 0102 - bannerbarbara@gmail.com, for details. The 3 day Mudgee outing is on. We need a minimum of 10 rooms for the group rate to apply, details from Barbara. Full payment and names are due to OnCourse by September 14th.

Barbara

Book Club - An Update

The Book Club has a new Convenor. Joan Gai has handed over the reins to Margaret Timbs.

Our collective thanks go to Joan for her able "convenorship" since May 2019.

Ed

**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill**

**PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110**



July Birthdays

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Gus Green | 5 |
| John Johnson | 6 |
| Ross McBride | 7 |
| Chris Schofield | 8 |
| Richard Jones | 9 |
| Judy Davey | 12 |
| Kevin Manie | 23 |
| Margaret Conley | 23 |
| Lydia Bayer | 29 |
| Carol Pelham | 31 |

I just read a book on marriage that says treat your wife like you treated her on the first date.

So after dinner tonight I'm dropping her off at her parents' house.

Welfare Report

Yet another month has passed without us being able to meet up at a Probus meeting but the situation is easing and we will have one on August 6th.

With a couple of casual coffee mornings at Huntley's Cove café many of us have been able to catch up and have chat. Now that it's going to be a regular weekly event, complete with the necessary social distancing, it is definitely a happy way to see each other. I recommend it.

In my role as Welfare Officer, I sometimes find it difficult to find out if any of our members are unwell. Typically, those not well tend not to advertise the fact and I only get to hear of those suffering, by word of mouth

Two members that I know are currently in hospital are Nancy Hattersley and Beverly Grace.

Nancy has had major back surgery and I speak to her quite often. At this time she only has her family visiting her but hopefully she'll soon be in a position to have other visitors.

Beverley sadly suffered a stroke on Monday 29th June. It was a huge shock to Lew as he told me she had been well and this was most unexpected. Beverly is in RNS hospital and doing well considering what's happened.

I wish both Nancy & Beverly a quick recovery together with any other members that are unwell and I hope to see them back with us soon.

I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone again but am unable to attend the meeting on August 5th as I have an ongoing commitment on Thursdays.

In the meantime, I wish you all the best,

Keep well, keep safe, look after one another and be HAPPY

Ashlyn.

Barbara's Thought for the Month

"The soul is dyed the colour of it's thoughts. Think only on those things that are in line with your principles and can bear the light of day. The content of your character is your choice. Day by day what you do is who you become."

Author: Heraclirus 535-475 BC.

Editor's Musings

After 100 years lying on the sea bed, Irish divers were amazed to find that the Titanic's swimming pool was still full.

O'Shaughnessy's Law: Murphy was an optimist.

If you don't pay your exorcist . . . you can get repossessed.

Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

And a bonus one,

My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee it cleans the toilet.

**PROBUS CLUB OF HUNTERS HILL
AND DISTRICT
PO BOX 1041 HUNTERS HILL 2110**

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------|
| President | - | Jim Likidis | 0412 090 400 |
| Vice President | - | Dean Letcher | 9816 5357 |
| Immediate Past President | - | Mike Allum | 0417 596 300 |
| Secretary | - | Carolyn Jolly | 9437 6229 |
| Treasurer | - | Josephine McBride | 9817 5632 |
| Activities Convenor | - | Barbara Banner | 9427 0102 |
| Speakers | - | Carol Pelham | 9808 5020 |
| Welfare Officer | - | Ashlyn Allum | 9816 3269 |
| Membership Officer | - | Kevin Manie | 0412 349 270 |
| Book Club Convenor | - | Margaret Timbs | 9816 2374 |
| Newsletter Editor | - | Mike Allum | 0417 596 300 |
| (email: mike.allum@bigpond.com) | | | |
| Honorary Auditor | - | Anthony Alexandrou | |