

PROBUS NEWSLETTER

Information in this newsletter is for Probus members only

DIARY

GENERAL MEETINGS

9:30 am at The Hunters Hill Club
12 Madeline St Hunters Hill

Thursday

Dinner at the Hunters Hill Club

6pm in the week of the General

Meeting

Tuesday 3rd April - Guest Speaker

Monty Dwyer

Former Channel 9 Today Show host and ABC Weatherman turned freelance journalist, author, videographer, singer/songwriter.

Friday March 20th April Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00

"The Book Thief"

Afternoon Tea - Margaret Timbs

Tuesday 24th April

Sydney Jewish Museum

\$30 pp including lunch. We will travel by ferry or bus to Circular Quay arriving 9:55 in time to have coffee before boarding the 389 bus to close to the Museum.

Cost is \$30pp. Includes a talk from Holocaust survivor, tour of the Museum followed by 2 course lunch. Need to pay at the meeting. Correct money in envelope showing outing, name and cost.

Friday 27th April

Café Club - 1pm Fratelli & Co

110 Majors Bay Road near Wellbank

Street Many Pizzas and Pasta meals

Call Ellen McKeown 0404 004 117 for information

Monday, 30th April

Sydney Town Hall Concert

Teddy Tahu Rhodes & Georgia Wilkinson. Please collect tickets from Jill at morning tea. We will meet inside the main entrance to the Town Hall at 10:45. for those who wish we will have lunch across the road from the QVB after the concert

A Complete Misnomer

How can a beautiful speck on a map at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef be called Heron Island when in fact it is a cay not an Island and there is an absence of herons on it but an abundance of egret birds???

It mattered not to 22 bleary eyed members stumbling onto our bus on Sunday February 18th at 5.30 am to the airport, flying to Rockhampton then walking up the gangplank of a luxury ferry for a 2 hour trip to Heron Island in search of turtles.

What an ideal haven. Huge pisonia trees provide shelter and nesting sites for up to 50,000 breeding pairs of black noddie terns, 50% of their chicks do not survive. Muttonbird parents serenade each other all night in their burrows and over 120,000 birds frequent the Marine Park including young wedge tailed shearwaters, eastern reef egrets, buff banded rails, they kept running under our feet, silver eyes, migrating birds and a breeding pair of sea eagles.

Early morning and late afternoon walks delighted us with adult green and loggerhead sea turtles (5 out of 6 species visit here) slowly hauling themselves up the beach to lay up to 150 eggs returning every 2 weeks to lay more. After 55 days, young hatchlings pop out from nests in the sand to commence a frantic rush to the water trying to avoid the rocky obstacles, seagulls and egrets eating them. If they are successful making it through this gauntlet, they face sharks lying in wait further out in the ocean!! Only one in a thousand survive - not good odds. The successful females return in 30 years to the same beach to build nests and lay their eggs. Male turtles never come back to land.

In addition to manta rays, reef sharks and an assortment of beautiful tropical fish for those snorkelling, reef walks, stargazing, lectures and a visit to the impressive Research Station filled in our days. We also consumed plentiful yummy food, had fine wine throughout our stay and needless to say, had plenty of laughs.

We left wanting more. We ferried back to Gladstone, Australia's largest export port of commodities such as coal, alumina, oil and gas from the Bowen and Cooper Basins. We then travelled on to the Rockhampton, the beef capital of Australia. It is a very impressive town with magnificent heritage buildings alongside the flood prone Fitzroy River. We visited the open air non-denominational St. Christopher's Chapel, built by US Army engineers in 1943 to service many of the 70,000 US soldiers during WW11. Some 30,000 US troops and 10,000 Singapore troops still participate in military exercises in Rockhampton with our forces each year.

From our comfortable base in Yeppoon we visited the impressive and unique war memorial walk at charming Emu Park then had an impressive and interesting guided tour of a commercial crocodile farm. The afternoon ended with time to wander around the lovely 1869 Rockhampton Botanical Gardens.

An enjoyable laughter filled farewell dinner signalled the end of a memorable and exciting trip.

Greg Griffiths



ED: My thanks to Greg for his article and to Gordon Sanson for his 160 odd photos he sent me from which to select

WHAT'S COMING UP

Tuesday 1st May - Guest Speaker

Don Eyb.

Mounted Police Commissioner rtd.
The oldest Mounted Police Force in the world, founded 1825.

Their history, preparation and duties. The Australian Mounted Police have appeared at major events all over the world. They were also privileged to appear at the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012 with horses from the Queens Household Cavalry.

Wednesday 16th May

Biennale Exhibition Cockatoo Island
\$2.50 outing plus lunch or pack a picnic.
We plan to catch the V.S ferry at 11:09 to cross to Cockatoo Island in time for a **FREE** guided tour of the exhibition, about 45 mins. Then we can purchase lunch from the many food outlets before returning home. Bookings at morning tea - nothing to pay.

Tues/Wed 12/13th June

(Replacing proposed Newcastle tour)

Cartier Exhibition - Canberra

Overnight coach trip with "On Course Tours" - brochures available today. Staying at Rydges, Capital Hill - \$405 pp/ts +\$70 s/s.

Bookings today and next month

Sunday 24th June

Heritage Tour - Goat Island

\$32 pp - details next month

Monday 23rd June

Town Hall Concert

Simon Tedeschi and Bernard Walz - twin pianos. Jill will book for 2pm and needs numbers today.

Heron Island Pictorial



PROBUS Club of Hunters Hill and District Inc
Minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting held at Hunters Hill Club
on Tuesday, 6 March 2018 at 10.05AM.

Opening

President Garth Juster opened the meeting.

Apologies

As listed in the Club's Attendance Records

Minutes

The president advised the meeting that the minutes of the AGM held in March 2017 had been reviewed.

Business arising from last year's AGM. Nil.

Correspondence re AGM Nil.

President's Report.

The president presented his report (a copy of which is attached and forms part of these minutes). The president expressed his thanks to all those who had contributed to the running of the Club during the year.

Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's report for the year ending 31 December 2017 was tabled.

Election of Office Bearers.

Garth Juster advised that Greg Griffiths will be the Returning Officer, he not being a candidate for office.

The candidates for all positions being no more than the required number, Greg Griffiths declared them duly elected and invited them to come forward to be acknowledged by the Membership.

- **President** – Margaret Conley
- **Vice President** – Mike Allum,
- **Secretary** – Margaret Timbs
- **Treasurer** – Judith Butt,
- **Activities** – Jill Regnis,
- **Membership** – Gordon Sanson,
- **Welfare** – Peter Kelly,
- **Committee member** – Ashlyn Allum,
- **Speakers** – Carol Pelham,
- **Immediate Past President** – Garth Juster

Honorary Auditor

The Returning Officer advised that Charles Kent will be the Honorary Auditor for a further term.

Outgoing President Garth Juster thanked the Management Committee and all members for their support. He then invested newly-elected President, Margaret Conley, with the Chain of Office and wished her every success for the forthcoming year.

Margaret Conley thanked members for their support for her appointment as President and said she looked forward to working with the Management Committee during the coming year.

Your New President



Your New Management Committee



President's Report to the AGM

Membership

Membership continues to remain at 100 with 60% female & 40% male.

During the last 12 months the attendance at the monthly meetings averages 78% but, including apologies, we regularly achieve 90%+ of our members who have made some contact with the Club every month. I think that's a remarkable result.

Vincie Wahlquist was inducted as our fifth life member.

One concerning aspect of our membership is getting members to come forward for committee service. Over the last few years the makeup of most of members committing to some voluntary service has remained with the same people. Every organisation needs fresh ideas to remain interesting & relevant and this comes from fresh minds in positions of influence. I would recommend the future committees continue to address the problem.

Thank you Ian Adair for all the good work on membership that you have done.

Finance

We started the year in a very strong position with in excess of \$7,300. However during the year we had to replace the audio system which substantially reduced our surplus.

We always aim to keep about 1 year's worth of membership subscription in our account, to cover any unexpected expenses, so it is pleasing to report that this amount is in our bank account so we leave the club to face a new Probus year in a strong financial position.

Thank you Judith Butt for always being there and for looking after the books in such an efficient way.

Activities

2017/18 has been another busy year chock full with activities for people to attend. In fact, with our monthly meeting, organised activities, Café Club we average 3 probus activities each month. The highlights of the year, for me, were the trip to Kangaroo Island, visiting Heron Island and the Seafood BBQ was outstanding. There were too many to mention now but all were so enjoyable.

Thank you Jill Regnis, you always give your all to make sure everything goes as it should.

Guest Speakers

Again, this past year we have been entertained by a wide range of interesting Guest Speakers. From a talk about Space Men, the Sydney Heritage fleet, our backyards to Sir Arthur Rutledge, a Politician and don't forget Big Chief Little Wolf. Wow! What a wide range of topics, hopefully it catered to all our members.

Thank you Carol Pelham for the thought and actions you put towards giving interesting and varied speakers.

Achievements

Looking back the main Achievements that the Committee has made this year are:

- Introduced a new Honour Board for Life Members
- Had current Honour Boards installed on permanent display at The Hunters Hill Club
- Had three articles published in the TWT local newspaper
- Purchase of a new audio system

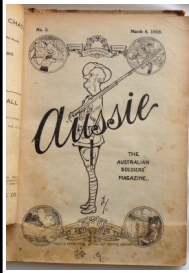
I'm not sure if you are aware that to keep the club running smoothly requires 22, or almost 25%, of our members to volunteer in some capacity, such as, being on the committee, organising morning tea, running the raffle and so on and so on.. I'm not going to mention who each of these people are, but just to publicly thank each of you for your contribution. Without you the club would not be the success that it is.

I would also like to particularly take this opportunity to thank all Committee Members. I have been supported by a wonderful Committee. I can say that I cannot recall one angry word spoken in our meetings, in fact there has been lots of laughter and fun. And finally a big thank to **you** all our members. Thank you for your support and thank you for giving me the chance to experience being your President. I have enjoyed the ride.

I take this opportunity to wish the incoming President and Committee a happy, joyous & successful year ahead.

Garth Juster

Wendell's Column



This Anzac Day month, members may be interested to read pieces from *Aussie*, a 1918 journal, a 'paper of the battlefield, wholly written, illustrated and printed in the field by members of the AIF.' The aim was 'to reflect the good humour and spirit of camaraderie of the AIF.' My copy, 100 years old, shows its age; the paper is brittle and yellow, but the ironic words still reflect the youth and optimism of the diggers in World War I.

Definition of COMMUNIQUE: An amusing game played by two or more people with paper and pencil in which the other side is always losing and your own side is always winning.

DIGGERS: The word came to France when the sandgroppers gave up digging on the goldfields of Western Australia and carried on with it on the battlefields of France and Flanders. And that's the straight griffin. 'Digger' came from the good old golden West – and so did I. My oath!

REST: A mythical period between being relieved and relieving in the trenches, which is usually spent in walking away from the line and returning back in poor weather and at short notice.

WIND UP: An aerated condition of mind due to apprehension as to what may happen next, in some cases amounting to an incurable disease closely allied to 'cold feet'.

AN OLD SOLDIER'S ADVICE: Should you report sick, be careful to tell the MO that you do not want to leave the battalion. Usually this will get you evacuated.

A giraffe with a sore throat may be an object for sympathy, but I'd sooner have his trouble than be a centipede with trench feet.

THE COUNTERSIGN

When God knocked off one night said He:
'This world's a rotten failure.'

Lor lumme, though, He'd let 'em see –
Next day He made Australia.

And when you reach the Golden Gates,
No tale will there avail yer,
Unless your records indicate:

'SQUARE DINKUM AUSTRALIA.'

And this, just after the armistice in November 1918:

We picture that reunion 'neath a sunny Austral sky,
Our hearts beat quicker at the thought of that time drawing nigh;

We see the smiles of welcome, nature smiling welcome too.
Hurrah! for good old Aussie, we are coming Home to you!

Barbara's Thoughts for the Month

"I can complain because a rose bush has thorns or I can rejoice because a thorn bush has a rose, it's all up to me."

Unknown

Editor's Musings

Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We have yet to meet.

How many of you believe in telekinesis? Raise my hand.

Spit Roast

In March each year, our club has its outdoor lunch. This year, on Wednesday the 21st, instead of a barbecue, we had a catered roast beef lunch with salads and pavlova to follow. Thirty-seven members and friends came along to the Quarantine Reserve at Abbotsford.

After a period of fine weather, it chose to rain the previous day and night, raising doubts about our enjoyment of the event. But it held off, and the sun began to come out during the day.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the day in one of our favourite places. I would like to thank everyone who helped serve the lunch and generally make the day a success.



Ed:

Thanks to Ian Adair for the article and the Bruce and Nancy Hattersley for the pictorial content.

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

President - Margaret Conley	9817 0123
Vice President - Mike Allum	9816 3269
Immediate Past President - Garth Juster	9817 5434
Secretary - Margaret Timbs	9816 2374
Treasurer - Judith Butt	9879 3228
Activities Director - Jill Regnis	9808 2482
Speakers - Carol Pelham	9808 5020
Welfare Officer - Peter Kelly	0411696583
Membership Officer - Gordon Sanson	0433238004
Ashlyn Allum - Committee	98163269
Honorary Auditor - Charles Kent	9816 3485
Book Club - Annette Kent	9816 3485
Newsletter Editor - Mike Allum	9816 3269
(email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)	

Probus Club of Hunters Hill

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



April Birthdays

Neville Davey	6
Rod Stewart	7
Dellane Stewart	12
Nanette Barbour	13
Les Osborne	16
Beverly Grace	19
Alan James	25
Ann Juster	25
Sandy Mower	27

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 467th Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 6th, 2018 at 9:30

OPENING

Following the opening of the meeting with the National Anthem, the President Garth Juster welcomed our 2 visitors, Chris Coulter and David Lorsch.

The president reminded the meeting that today we will also be holding the AGM. Because of this, the format for today's meeting will be different in that we will hold our normal General Meeting, followed immediately by the AGM and then finally morning tea.

CORRESPONDENCE

OUT: - Nil
IN - Nil

TREASURERS REPORT

Judith Butt presented the treasury report for February 2018

C/b bal 1 February 2018	\$4,775
Total receipts	\$4,815
Total payments	\$2,537
C/b bal 28 February 2018	\$7,053

Book Club



The book club met to discuss Ian McEwan's 'Atonement'. Every one enjoyed it, so this made for a great afternoon of shared opinion. The conclusion was that he is a master of plot, characterisation, and the English language. We all enjoyed his deviousness and ability to surprise.

We plan to view the movie, which is very true to the book, at the cinema at John and Wendell's retirement village, probably on the 27th April at usual book club time. Memorable from the movie was the fabulous green evening dress worn by Keira Knightly. It was interesting to discover how closely it resembled McEwan's description.

The pivotal character in the book is 13 year old Briony, played mesmerisingly by twelve year old Saoirse Ronan who ten years later has received accolades for her role in the recent movie 'Lady Bird'.

The next book club meeting at the Museum at Hunters Hill Town Hall, is at 2pm on 20th April. We will be discussing 'The Book Thief', by Markus Zusak. Margaret Timbs will be providing afternoon tea.

Annette Kent

Word Games

As a fan of cryptic crosswords, consequently a lover of anagrams, I was fascinated when this passed my desk via an email.

All I can say is, someone out there must be "deadly" at Scrabble.

PRESBYTERIAN = BEST IN PRAYER

ASTRONOMER = MOON STARER

DESPERATION = A ROPE ENDS IT

THE EYES = THEY SEE

THE MORSE CODE = HERE COME DOTS

DORMITORY = DIRTY ROOM

SLOT MACHINES = CASH LOST IN ME

ANIMOSITY = IS NO AMITY

ELECTION RESULTS = LIES LETS RECOUNT

SNOOZE ALARMS = ALAS NO MORE Z's

A DECIMAL POINT = I'M A DOT IN PLACE

THE EARTHQUAKES = THAT QUEER SHAKE

ELEVEN PLUS TWO = TWELVE PLUS ONE

And the grand finale

MOTHER-IN-LAW = WOMAN HITLER

One Last Thing

A final comment in a very busy April edition, I'm seeking your input on a thought I've had over the last few months.

I think a newsletter is a very useful medium for keeping members in touch with what is going on in the Club. Not everybody can attend every meeting hence may miss out on a particularly interesting speaker. Many may not be able to participate in all the outings that Jill and Mike organise or travel away on the more major activities.

But I believe there's more to it. The newsletter has the potential to be a platform for sharing information about what individual members do, celebrations they may have coming up, what are they involved in on a personal level outside the Probus club.

If any of you have any views that you wish to share on the topic, or in fact, anything you would like to see included in the newsletter please let me know, at the meetings, by phone or my email address on page 5.

Thank you.

Mike

WELFARE REPORT

Barbara presented her report and "Thought for the Month". Pat Cox moved a vote of thanks to Barbara Gardner for the wonderful contribution she has made to Welfare over the past 4 years.

ACTIVITIES

Jill Regnis tabled an Activities Report.

Ian Adair outlined the details of the BBQ/Spit Roast lunch to be held at the Quarantine Reserve, Abbotsford Point.

Tony Saunders spoke about a cruise on the "Pacific Explorer" in February 2019. Booking forms and other relevant information is available from Tony.

Ross McBride gave an outline about the trip he is organising to the Great Ocean Road.

MEMBERSHIP

There were 65 members present and 29 apologies including several members on leave of absence.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jim Judge sold 229 raffle tickets.

**A FULL COPY OF THE MINUTES MAY BE
OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY**