

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

Event Movie Mondays

3rd December

Singin' in the Rain

10th December

It's a Wonderful Life

17th December

Miracle on 34th Street

10:30 start at Event Top Ryde, Macquarie

\$7 for members

Tuesday 4th December

Guest Speaker - Patrick Dodd, NSW State
Library, "John Macarthur - Visionary or
Villain"

Wednesday 12th December

CHRISTMAS LUNCH HUNTERS HILL CLUB

12:00 for 12:30

Last day to book and pay

Friday 14th December

Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00

Afternoon Tea - Unknown

Book Club Xmas Party will be at Ottimo
Italian Kitchen 4/35 Alexandra Street
Hunters Hill on Friday 21 December at 12
noon.

Proposed Changes to our Standing Resolutions

As discussed at the November meeting, we will be voting on the above at the December 4th meeting. I thought it appropriate to include a copy of the recent message from our president to serve as a reminder of the recommendations.

Mike

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Since notice was given to you in October about the proposed changes to the Standing Resolutions, I have received some suggestions about ways in which the wording could be simplified. I believe these suggestions from three of our members improve the document, which is attached for your information. **None of these editorial suggestions change the intent of the October communication, and the four resolutions have been re-copied for your information.**

Your Management Committee **recommend** the following amendments to our Standing Resolutions:

1. that the maximum number of members be 110, an increase of up to 10 members
2. that member subscriptions be \$50 per year, an increase of \$5
3. that the subscription for non-active members be \$25 per year, an increase of \$15
4. that the procedure for inviting membership applicants into the Club be updated.

and that these changes be reflected in the Standing Resolutions for the Probus Club of Hunters Hill.

Each of the resolutions will be dealt with separately at our December 4th, 2018 meeting. Discussion on the four resolutions and the draft Standing Resolutions will take place at our November meeting.

Margaret Conley
President, Probus Club of Hunters Hill
For the Management Committee

"On behalf of the Committee, I wish all our members and loyal readers all the very best for Xmas and a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. Also, my personal thanks to the numerous contributors to the Newsletter over the past year."

Mike





WHAT'S COMING UP



Tuesday 15th January Opal Outing - NSW Art Gallery

Art from "The Hermitage"
Details at meeting 4th Dec

Monday 4th February 2019

Good Old Days Concert
Sydney Town Hall 14:00
Collect your tickers from Jill 4 Dec
\$45 per person

Keep the Date

43rd Birthday Dinner
Tuesday 12th February 5:30pm start
\$60 per head
Details at meeting 4th Dec

25th February March 2019

Probus Group Cruise
8 days / 7 nights
Southern Barrier Reef Discovery Cruise
Onboard P & O Pacific Explorer
Ports of call, Mooloolaba, Gladstone, Moreton Island. As this cruise is in Australian Waters, no passport is required. You only need to pack/unpack once for the whole voyage (bliss!)
Payment for this cruise is direct to the travel agent but we are co-ordinating booking forms as it is a Probus event.
Contact Tony Saunders - 9817 1432 for more information or a booking form.

Wed 27th March – Sun 31st March 2019

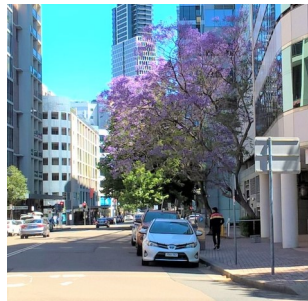
Melbourne Flower and Garden Show
5 days/4 nights
Deposit \$200 and booking forms
Dec 4th or by Friday 7th.
Full payment by Friday 11th January

Jacaranda Cruise to Parramatta

Ellen McKeown organized a cruise to Parramatta to see the jacaranda displays on Friday 23 November. It was a windy day, but with Opal cards in hand, we joined the Rivercat along the route to Parramatta ferry wharf. Some of us started from Circular Quay, while others joined at Huntleys Point and Sydney Olympic Park. The water was choppy in the harbour but became smooth as we moved up the Parramatta River. This route is obviously popular, because the vessel was just about full all the way.



The Rivercat made good time up to Meadowbank, then had to slow down as the river narrowed, bordered by mangroves. We arrived in time for lunch at the Port Bar, right next to the wharf. This is an excellent restaurant, with a first-class menu and helpful staff.



Owing to the low tide in the afternoon, by which time the wind had subsided, we couldn't return from Parramatta wharf, so we went by bus to Sydney Olympic Park where we rejoined the Rivercat. Jacarandas? We didn't see any on the way, but there was a nice tree in the Parramatta CBD where we boarded the bus (see picture), so we can call the trip a great success.

Thanks Ellen.

A Welcoming Smile at the Door

When Pat Cox became President for the first time a visitor complained he would not come back because of the lack of welcome by members. She took it on herself from then on to make a personal welcome each meeting.

This has continued as it is a very popular innovation, and Pat together with Greg Griffiths (or in recent months the vice-President) have opted to greet visitors and settle them in on arrival.

This custom continues today.

Barbara's Thought for the Month

"Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back. Regret is an appalling waste of energy, you can't build on it, it's only good for wallowing in."

Author: Katherine Mansfield

Editor's Musings

For Sale: Parachute. Only used once, never opened, small stain.

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

Wendell's Column



As Christmas approaches, it brings back many memories. Always it means blue hydrangeas, blue Star of Bethlehem (a better name than agapanthus) red Christmas Bush, and heat. When we were both very young, my brother and I raided the bush with an axe, cut down a likely looking casuarina tree and dragged it back home through the streets. It sat very nicely in a bucket and with all the handmade decorations was the very best Christmas tree you could ever have imagined. There was the time when I still believed in Santa, the myth at least if not the man. On Christmas Eve I would hang up a pillowslip on the back of a chair at the end of my bed, and leave out a glass of lemonade and a slice of Christmas cake for Santa. And lo! In the morning, the glass would be empty, the cake eaten, and my pillowslip loaded with gifts. I loved the red net stocking, with a fringed baton hanging out from the top and inside a medley of small interesting things ending in a packet of lollies poked into the toe. Then there were all the special wrapped gifts. One that I still put out every year is a nativity set made of flat plywood shapes stuck on with pictures of Mary, Joseph, the three wise men and a couple of animals, all on stands, and a small crib in which I put a tiny celluloid doll.

At Heathcote where we raised our own family, Santa used to make an appearance on Christmas Eve. He would be driven through the streets in an open-top car, ringing a bell and handing out bags of lollies to the children. We would wait to hear the bell, then the little ones would rush outside, call 'Merry Christmas' and collect their treat.

Carols have always played a big part at that time of year. My parents, brother and I used to go to St Andrew's Cathedral on Christmas morning for the carol service. All the much-loved songs echoed around the arches of the beautiful church. Carols also, years later, on TV on Christmas night, sung at King's College, Cambridge. And at Heathcote on Christmas Eve, when a truck with carol singers would drive up our street and park nearby. We would gather around and sing carols together. True magic. Carols always bring back to me that magic, of mystery and miracle, of new life and hope.

Happy Christmas everyone!

Book Club



The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery

The monthly meeting went very well, and most enjoyed this intriguing, well written book, about a precocious young girl, Paloma, trying to come to terms with the meaning of life. The story revolves around the lives of the five families in an elegant Paris apartment, the mystery surrounding the life of the Concierge Renee, the new Japanese tenant Mr Kakuro Ozu, and Renee's dear friend who transforms her from a frump into an 'elegant' woman in such a way that the tenants no longer recognise her.

Some were annoyed by Paloma's precociousness, but mainly were charmed by her, and admired her intelligence.

In spite of the unexpected ending this was a feel good story about lives, relationships, and the changes that can be wrought by the vision of a stranger.

As I had read the book before, and had not had time to re-read it, I watched the wonderful French movie, simply called 'Hedgehog', which is very true to the book, though Paloma's diary is replaced by a camera through which she records life and lives of those in the apartments. I cannot recommend the movie highly enough. It is available on Apple TV.

Next meeting Friday 14 December Museum at Town Hall 2pm
Free choice book.

Annette Kent



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

President - Margaret Conley	9817 0123
Immediate Past President - Garth Juster	9817 5434
Vice President - Mike Allum	9816 3269
Secretary - Margaret Timbs	9816 2374
Treasurer - Judith Butt	9879 3228
Activities Director - Jill Regnis	9808 2482
(outings only)	0467322244
Speakers - Carol Pelham	9808 5020
Welfare Officer - Peter Kelly	0411696583
Membership Officer - Gordon Sanson	0433238004
Ashlyn Allum - Committee	9816 3269
Book Club - Annette Kent	9816 3485
Newsletter Editor - Mike Allum	9816 3269
(email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)	
Honorary Auditor - Charles Kent	9816 3485

Probus Club of Hunters Hill

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



December Birthdays

Carolyn Jolly	2
Paula Patterson	2
Anne Carey	4
Gordon Sanson	4
Suzanne Fischer	9
Basil Macree	10
Beverley Brown	10
Dan O'Sullivan	10
Patricia Sanson	13
Noelene Macpherson	22

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 475rd Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 13th November at 9:30am

OPENING

Following the opening of the meeting with the National Anthem, the President, Margaret Conley, welcomed the following visitors to the meeting: Pamela Elder, Ross Dive, Kevin Manie, Kathy O'Sullivan, Bambi Michael, James Likidis, Fay Likidis and Robyn Beckhaus. The president then presented a new member badge to Christopher Schofield. The president informed that she would raise for discussion the Recommendations and the Standing Resolutions after the reports and before the raffle.

CORRESPONDENCE

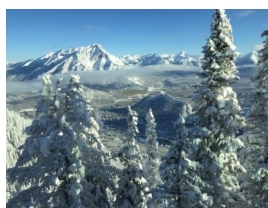
OUT: Letters sent to Principals of 5 local area Primary Schools inviting them to partake of our Probus Club's Literary Award for a Year 6 student.

IN: Replies from 3 Principals of local Primary Schools accepting the offer of Probus Club Literary Award.

Last Round Trip of the Season

What a magic trip though magnificent Canada!

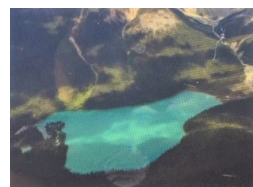
First a must do trip out to delightful Vancouver Island and the magnificent Butchart Gardens in their full glory. Drinks followed on the veranda of the historic Empress Hotel dominating the waterfront and the feel good friendly township.



ALL ABOARD!!
Sitting in the bubble seats of the impressive Rocky Mountaineer train with 790 passengers to view the wonders of the

Rocky Mountains. The scenery and wildlife on the way to Kamloops impressive, with sightings of 2 black bears and golden eagles and bald eagles feasting on the salmon run.

Our trip next day to Banff turned out to be brilliant. A record snow dump halted our train as we sat transfixed watching the trees transformed into a magic kingdom while we waited for the track to be cleared by rail gangs. The cavernous Hotel, swathed in snow, the next morning looked like a Hollywood movie.



As if this was not enough our arrival in Lake Louise was simply spectacular and breathtaking with the lake chang-

ing colour all day. A walk around the lake had a cheeky chipmunk welcoming us. Jasper opened up its wealth of wildlife including 10 Moose sightings, a herd of long horn sheep, 2 coyotes and Osprey nests, beaver ponds and black tail deer, delightful red squirrels, elk in abundance in their rutting season.

Next, a spectacular ride in the "Ice Explorer" on the Athabasca Glacier.



The charming town of Quesnel beckoned next with lovely lakes with loons and as many as 6 rivers traversed and the vivid picture like colour of the changing leaves turning the countryside into a photographic paradise.

Finally, Whistler, the snow skiing Olympic site, our last port of call, impressed with the number of locals lining up waving to us from their homes, a tradition over the years!

The huge number of young Australians working at the resorts, restaurants and shops was amazing. They are everywhere having a ball. A trip of a lifetime!



Greg Griffiths

TREASURER'S REPORT

Judith Butt presented report.

C/b bal 1 October 2018	\$7,049.79
Total Receipts	\$ 528.00
Total Expenses	\$4,601.20
C/b bal 31 October 2018	\$2,976.65

WELFARE

Ashlyn Allum, standing in for Peter Kelly, presented her report.

ACTIVITIES

Jill Regnis presented her report.

Jill advised that a trip to Melbourne for the 'Flower and Garden Show' has been arranged. It will be 5 days / 4 nights from Wednesday 27 March to Sunday 31 March 2019. Please pick up a brochure and booking form today. A deposit of \$200 is due by 14 December 2018.

MEN'S GROUP

Neville Davey informed that he is organizing

next year's activities.

MEMBERSHIP

Gordon Sanson supplied numbers – Attendance 80, 8 Absent, 14 Apologies, 4 non-active, Visitors 8.

RAFFLE

Jim Judge informed that 345 tickets were sold and reminded there would be no more meat prizes. 1st prize, Margaret Bowman, 2nd prize Lydia Bayer, 3rd prize Bob Mostyn.

OTHER

The president asked members to please bring donations of non-perishables and toiletries to the December meeting and these will be distributed to Hunters Hill Community Aid.

Lastly, the president reminded members once again to please bring the Standing Orders document to the December meeting.

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