

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 December

General Meeting
Guest Speaker
Richard Snashall

In the last 20 years Richard has travelled to many countries, filming, recording and making unique films for television and the web, as well as producing stories for ABC radio and ABC online.

Tuesday 10th December

Xmas Lunch

Hunters Hill Club
12:00 for 12:30

Champagne on arrival

\$60 pp last chance to pay

See Garth or Ann

Friday 13th December

Book Club

Christmas Celebrations
Ottimos Restaurant.

4/35 Alexandra St, Hunters Hill
12 o'clock.

(I suspect the only reading will be the menu and wine list)

Seafood BBQ

On a pleasant, not too hot, afternoon 44 members and friends including several ladies from the Hunters Hill Ladies club boarded an OnCourse bus and set off for our Seafood BBQ at Clontarf Reserve.

Our driver, Glenn, set up afternoon tea at Balmoral beach then took us on a scenic drive, stopping at Arabanoo Lookout at Dobroyd Head, named in honour of Arabanoo, the first Aboriginal man to live among European settlers. Here, we enjoyed the views of Sydney's North Head, Manly and the lower Northern Beaches.

We arrived at Clontarf Reserve where Glenn's team had set up nibbles and an entrée of oysters and prawns. Unfortunately, a miscount had occurred and the prawns supply was depleted rather quickly. Some might not care but as one who dislikes oysters I looked like missing out altogether had it not been the generosity of Ashlyn and some friends from the Ladies club who took pity on me and shared their "rations".

Main course was barbecued salmon and an assortment of salads, followed by a cheese-cake for dessert. Also on hand was red and white wine and soft drinks.

The weather remained good but as the evening wore on it was clear some were realising they had not planned well and were feeling the effects of the cool breeze.

Overall, an enjoyable experience, good weather and great company. What more could you ask for, other than some prawns.

Another fine activity and our collective thanks to Barbara Banner for arranging it.



It is once again time, on behalf of the Committee, to wish all our members the very best for Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

To the numerous contributors to the Newsletter over the past 12 months, my personal thanks for making the job a little easier.

Mike



FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 1st January
New Year's Day

Tuesday 7th January
General Meeting
Guest Speaker
TBA

Friday 17th January
Book Club
Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00

Sunday 26th January
Australia Day

Monday 17th February
Town Hall Concert
"Bravo Broadway"
\$45 - Names and money to
Barbara Banner at December
meeting to secure best seats
Meet on Town Hall steps 10:45

Wednesday 19th February
44th Birthday Lunch
"Ambassador" Restaurant
Ryde TAFE
250 Blaxland Road, Ryde
3 course meal including drinks
\$45 per person
Names and money to Ashlyn at
December meeting

More events being planned for
2020

Flower Power - Warriewood

Six intrepid Probian's met on a hot and bushfire smoky day at Flower Power for lunch.

The nursery is huge, with thousands of plants of every variety, nicely displayed over a large area. A lovely gift shop is adjacent to this nursery. This shop has all sorts of merchandise to choose from – pots of all shapes, colours and sizes - indoor plants – Xmas gifts, etc. This Flower Power is well worth a visit, particularly with Xmas approaching and gifts being required.

After browsing the nursery and gift shop we then met up in the café. A good selection of food is available, with wine and coffee also available. Lunch was enjoyable with plenty of lively conversation and laughs.

Thanks to Bambi Michael for organising this outing.

Garth Juster



Book Club



The Happiest Refugee" By Anh Do

All agreed that it was ultimately a happy story of a nice man. How did he remember every detail of his "adventure"? Perhaps he "ad-libbed" a little, was a suggestion. Some maintained that the mother was the real heroine and others were surprised at the somewhat unlikely reconciliation with his father. Some thought the new rapport was too good to be true.

This does throw a new complexion on boat people. Australia became involved in what some may consider was an immoral war in Vietnam. Those people had endured centuries of colonisation—from the north, from Europe and eventually in a struggle against communism. When the "coalition of the willing" failed, there was retribution against those who supported the US and its allies.

Hence the boat people. The desperate escape by Anh and his family is heart-rending, the loss of family overboard, dehydration, starvation and pirates (twice). Anh's father didn't recover from the trauma and was estranged from his family.

The story revolves around Anh, his uncles, known by numbers (1 to 9), his wonderful mother, his siblings, the "Love of his life" and his flawed father from whom he was separated, but later reconciled after a fashion. There is a long journey of enormous effort, various travails and increasing successes until Anh recounts his prodigious career.

So, he is a successful comedian, but underlying his bravado one may suspect a little insecurity and anxiety. However the prose is dotted with humour and clever one liners and is engaging to the reader

Richard Jones

Electronic Payments Come to Hunters Hill Probus	Standing Resolutions
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Following a number of requests from members to introduce payments made to the club by way of using a credit card, it is with great pleasure we announce that commencing 1st January next year this facility will be in place.

Payment for membership subscriptions and activities will be possible by using a credit card simply by tapping or inserting the credit card in an EFTPOS mobile device.

The benefits of this change are many for both members and the Club. For the members, ease of payment, not having to use cash and taking advantage of the free travel insurance offered in paying by credit card for trips such as a cruise organised as a club function is a great benefit.

For the club, we all know of the time consumed to take payments by cash and cheque by a number of dedicated people performing this task. Using an electronic payment device will make this so much quicker and will not require the number of people the current system demands.

Obviously, for such benefits to be realised, members will be encouraged to take advantage and use their credit card.

Hopefully, after January 1st, payment by cash or cheque will be the exception rather than the rule.

Your Management Committee is confident that members will be extremely happy to adopt this initiative and support it.

Our thanks to Jim Likidis for organising this facility.

A reminder that at the December 3rd meeting we will be voting on two changes to the above. They are:

Proposal 1

It is recommended that two items from the Standing Resolutions be placed on the policy register, namely clauses 8 and 9, being -

- i. Name Badges; and*
- ii. Intending Members and Visitors' Protocol.*

These two items are essentially management process matters.

In addition , the Management Committee recommends a change in clause 8, *Name Badges* which will have the effect of no longer fining people who forget to wear their badge. This provision has been part of the Club's operation for many years, and numbers of members have argued for its removal.

Proposal 2

- i. Increase annual subscriptions to \$80 a year for each member.*

The rationale behind this proposal has been highlighted in both the October and November Newsletters.

Your management committee recommends acceptance of both proposals.

Mike Allum



Membership Survey

The recent survey elicited 44 replies, a great response from a membership of 100.

The meeting format rated well with suggestions made to make them more fun prior to the speaker. Speakers rate well with 33 responses rating 8-10. Activities overall rated well with some rating better than others and several suggestions were put forward. Of the activities put up for members consideration, only the Coffee group came up reasonably popular.

The committee will be discussing the results with a view to making changes where appropriate, to better meet members wishes.

Barbara's Thought for the Month

Rich is not who has more, rich is who needs less.

Author: Unknown

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

President	-	Mike Allum	0417 596 300
Vice President	-	Jim Likidis	0412 090 400
Immediate Past President	-	Margaret Conley	9817 0123
Secretary	-	Carolyn Jolly	9437 6229
Treasurer	-	Judith Dunstan	9460 7164
Activities Convenor	-	Barbara Banner	9427 0102
Speakers	-	Carol Pelham	9808 5020
Welfare Officer	-	Ashlyn Allum	9816 3269
Membership Officer	-	Peter Kelly	0411 696 583
Committee	-	Garth Juster	9817 5434
Book Club Convenor	-	Joan Gai	9817 1301
Newsletter Editor	-	Mike Allum	0417 596 300
		(email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)	
Honorary Auditor	-	Bruce Luscombe	

Editor's Musings

Politicians and diapers have one thing in common. They should both be changed regularly, and for the same reason.

Maybe oxygen is slowly killing you and It just takes 75-100 years to fully work.

Do you realize that in about 30 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around covered in tattoos?

**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill**

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



December Birthdays

Carolyn Jolly	2
Paula Patterson	2
Gordon Sanson	4
Suzanne Fisher	9
Basil Macree	10
Patricia Sanson	13

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 487th Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 12th November at 9:30am

OPENING

President Mike Allum welcomed 1 visitor, Leslie Pike. Ian Adair was also presented with his 10-Year Service Pin with his thanks to the Club. Chris Schofield (in his role as President of the HH Historical Society) announced that Peter Kelly would be awarded the Services to Community Award by Federal Minister for North Sydney, Trent Zimmerman, at the North Sydney Leagues Club on November 26th. Ross McBride pointed out that the electronic board in the area was not illuminated. Point to be taken up with Club.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes accepted. Proposed by Lorraine Kongats and seconded by Ashlyn Allum.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Members Surveys. 36 (44 by the end of the meeting) received so far. Vice President Jim Likidis will give an overview at the next Meeting. Proposed membership fee increase to \$80 per annum. To be voted on at next Meeting. "Name Badges" and "Intending Mem-

Trombonist Extraordinaire

Garth introduced our November guest speaker, Greg Van Der Struik, who spoke about his career as a trombone player in the Opera Australia Orchestra. Greg's interest in music was awakened when he joined his school band. He began studying trombone at the Sydney Conservatorium High School, graduating as an Associate of the State Conservatorium of Music.



today. Because of this, he is often revered in the trombone world as an innovator and liberator of the instrument, expanding usage beyond traditional roles. It has continued to be a popular instrument up to the 20th century in orchestras, concert bands, marching bands, brass bands and jazz.

Prior to his appointment as Principal Trombone with Opera Australia, he undertook engagements with professional orchestras as well as holding principal positions with the ABC Sinfonia, the Australian Youth Orchestra and the Sydney Youth Orchestra.



The trombone (*tromba-one*, or large trumpet) is a member of the brass family and is noted for its telescoping slide mechanism which allows changes of pitch. The use of mutes alters the timbre of the sound.

The trombone has been used since the 18th century. Beethoven's Fifth is the earliest symphony which used trombones that is still played

As a soloist, Greg has released a number of CDs, developed to present an Australian contribution to international brass repertoire. As well as Australia, Greg has performed in Europe and Asia. He is a part time member of the Sydney Conservatorium's brass faculty, as well as teaching at Barker College and Toongabbie Christian College. His compositions have been performed in Australia and overseas at international festivals.

Greg entertained members by demonstrating the characteristics and versatility of the instrument.

ber and Visitor Protocols" to be removed from Standing Orders and transferred to new Policy Register to be voted on at next Meeting :

SECRETARY/PUBLIC OFFICER REPORT

Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Judith Dunstan reported cash balance as at end October \$7,885.90 less function commitments. Judith then explained our financial situation at present and the reason for the proposed increase in annual subscription.

WELFARE

Ashlyn Allum reported: Barbara Gardner is recovering from a serious foot operation and still has a long way to go before she is fully recovered. Nancy Hattersley is recovering from her back operation and is in rehabilitation She sends her best wishes. Jill & Mike Regnis, Pat Cox and Norbert Snashall are on a well-deserved R&R holiday down on the Sapphire Coast. Welcome back to Greg Griffiths after his long absence. Ashlyn then read a card from Rod Stewart thanking everyone for their kind wishes.

ACTIVITIES

Barbara Banner reported that the Flower Power Excursion on November 19th still needed more car-pooling help. Seats are still available for

Seafood BBQ on November 27th. Garth Juster is now taking money for the Christmas Lunch to be held on December 10th. Barbara also emphasized the need for names and money for the next Town Hall Concert on February 17th in order to obtain best seating. She will be collecting names/money at next Meeting. Ashlyn Allum is organising our Birthday Lunch on February 19th with venue to be announced soon and will be starting to take names at the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Peter Kelly reported 65 attendees at meeting, 20 apologies and 1 visitor.

BOOK CLUB

Richard Jones reported next meeting will be this Friday, November 15th and the book will be THE HAPPIEST REFUGEE by comedian and artist An Doh.

THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER

Bob Mostyn took numbers.

RAFFLE

Jim Judge advised 292 tickets sold which is good news due to low attendance.

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