

# 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

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**Tuesday 2nd January - Guest Speaker**

Tim Graham

Renewal Co-Ordinator Sydney Opera House

Tim will be speaking about the  
major renovations to the Opera House.

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**Friday 19th January**

**Café Club**

Carmen's \$20 Lunch - 13:00

Barnwell Park Golf Club,

551 Lyons Road West, Five Dock,

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### BOOK CLUB

There will be no meeting of the Book Club  
in January. The first meeting will be Friday,  
16th February – no set book  
but bring along your comments of a book  
you read over the break for general  
discussion.

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### NEW ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR 2018

Please ensure that you print off a copy  
from the E. Newsletter or collect your copy  
from the 'sign in table' at the next meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018.

We are hoping that you find the program of  
interest to you and that you will make a  
note of the dates of outings you wish to  
attend.

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### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Your annual membership subscription of  
\$45 is now due from the 1st January.

Please pay your subscription direct to  
Judith Butt

## We Visit Palm Beach for the Twilight Seafood BBQ

Forty members of the Mixed and Ladies clubs took the trip to beautiful Palm Beach with On-Course Tours on Thursday 30 November for the Twilight Seafood BBQ.

We first called at the Sydney Fish Market at Pyrmont, where John, our driver, picked up the fresh produce that he and the ladies from On Course would turn into a delicious meal when we reached our destination. We also had a chance to stretch our legs and grab a cup of coffee before we reached our next stop on the way, the famous Manly Beach.

Manly is always a joy to visit in summer, with beach lovers and surfers giving it its special character, and we took it all in with a cuppa on the beach front, under the famous Norfolk Island Pines

John then took us on a tour of the northern beaches on the way to Palm Beach, playground of the rich and famous. When we arrived, the On Course ladies were hard at work laying out the bread and salads, and they and John presented us with a delightful meal of oysters, prawns and grilled salmon, accompanied by red and white wine. Taking advantage of Daylight Saving, we had plenty of time to enjoy our meal and have a wander around before the sun started to set, then a leisurely trip back home.



Judith, Peter, Pat and Barbara  
at Manly

Waiting expectantly



Enjoying our Seafood dinner at Palm  
Beach



Sunset at Palm Beach



Time to go



## WHAT'S COMING UP

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### HERON ISLAND

**18<sup>TH</sup> – 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2018**

Travelers booked for this lovely trip will receive an email closer to D-Day with all the flight details, pick up time etc.

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### 42<sup>ND</sup> BIRTHDAY LUNCH NORTH RYDE GOLF CLUB

Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

\$55 per head.

The format will be slightly different this year with your 2 courses being served alternately. Drinks will still be included.

Names and money (in an envelope please) with details written on front at January meeting.

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### Book Club

Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> 14:00

Hunters Hill Museum

Afternoon Tea - Deidre Walker

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### 6<sup>th</sup> February - Guest Speaker

Ret'd Chief Inspector Gary Raymond  
APM OAM

#### "Life on the Front Line"

Gary recounts some of his many experiences working in the Police Force, the Police Rescue Squad and CID. His post-retirement activities are as impressive as his "working" career

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## Xmas Lunch

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December saw 72 of our members attended the annual Xmas lunch at the Hunters Hill Club. The club was decorated in traditional festive spirit and looked a picture.

As usual, the food was excellent and served by a dedicated staff. The colour coding of the place cards, I'm sure made life a lot easier for the staff and avoided oft heard comment, "t's not mine, I ordered the .....", Great teamwork between our ace organising team, Jill & Mike and the Kitchen staff.

During proceedings our President, Garth, passed the microphone to Ian Adair, Membership Officer, to make a presentation to 3 long serving members who have each clocked up 15 years of membership, Jill and Mike Regnis and Greg Griffiths. Well done to the three of you.

As usual Nancy Hattersley made herself busy taking the official photos, and I suspect some not so official ones.

I would be remiss not to thank, on behalf of all attendees, our President Garth and Activities Director Jill Regnis, ably supported by Mike for the success of yet another grand event. Our compliments must also go to the caterers and staff of the Club for making it an attractive venue and enjoyable meal.



Jean & Caye



Vincie, Les & Pat



Mike, Joan, Peter, Jill & Judith





Table 1



Table 2



Table 3



Table 4



Table 5



Table 6



Table 7



Table 8





Table 9



15 years of membership presentation



Probus power



A "red carpet" shot



Lucky door prize winners: Gwen, Gary, Mike,  
Carol, Bob and Anne



A Probian Collective

## Wendell's Column

We will all have celebrated Sydney's New Year's Eve in our own way – some by watching the fireworks (one more time!) as they ward off evil spirits, some by forgetting all about it and just going to bed. Other countries have special customs and various dates for ringing in another year.

In Italy you eat pork and lentils to signify the richness of life and money. In Naples, you throw unwanted items out of windows at midnight to symbolize letting go of old things to prepare for new ones.

Germans call New Year's Eve "Silvester," in honour of Pope Sylvester I, who died on December 31, 335. According to the legend, non-believers who were around him choked on fish bones. However, there is no need to avoid fish that night because, since another superstition considers carp to be lucky, it is therefore a typical Silvester dish. Keeping a carp scale in your wallet guarantees that it will be filled with cash all year.

In Peru, put coins in your shoes to encourage wealth and prosperity.

In Mexico, after a late dinner, at midnight eat twelve grapes, one at each chime of the midnight bell. And if you wear new red underwear into the new year, you will have luck in love.

In Japan, as midnight approaches, the bells in Buddhist temples ring 108 times to signify the 108 earthly desires being dispelled. Eat buckwheat noodles to wish for a life as long as the noodles.

The Jewish New Year is celebrated in September. God opens the book of life for ten days starting with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, when Jews try to atone for any wrongdoing and forgive others. A ram's horn trumpet, the shofar, is blown at the beginning and end of the ten days.

The Chinese New Year, celebrated in late January or early February is a time to honour deities as well as ancestors. Houses must be thoroughly cleaned in order to sweep away any ill-fortune and to make way for incoming good luck, after which you can relax with feasting, fireworks, dragon dances and the lighting of paper lanterns to symbolize hope and – again, to make doubly certain – good luck.

The Balinese New Year in March is marked by a twelve-hour period dedicated to silence and meditation.

In Thailand, the Buddhist New Year is called Songkran, meaning transformation or change. It is celebrated in April for three days by a water festival. Pouring water represents purification and the washing away of one's sins and bad luck. This is a great occasion for young people to throw water at each other without getting into trouble.

However you celebrated, may 2018 bring you lots of good luck and plenty of cash in your wallet – or plenty of money in your Mastercard.

## And Finally from Lunch



With some of the excellent Club staff

## Book Club News

The Book Club, which farewelled its champion for over ten years Wendell Watts, celebrated a great year of reading at Ottimo on the 8th December. All eleven members attended. It was a great success; pity we did not have someone with the presence of mind of Nancy to take a photograph.

The lunch really was fun, and a testament to the enthusiasm of some of our older members, John, Wendell, Kay, Joan and Judith.

The Probus Book Club will continue to meet on the third Friday of the month. The first meeting will be 16th February at the Museum, Hunters Hill Town Hall. Deidre Walker will be doing afternoon tea, and managing the roster for the upcoming year, and there will be a 'free choice' book review of something encountered over the Xmas period.

## Barbara's Thought for the Month

**HEAVEN** is where –

The Police are British, the chefs are Italian, the mechanics German, the lovers French and it's all organised by the Swiss.

**HELL** is where –

The Police are German, the chefs British, the mechanics French, the lovers Swiss, and it's all organised by the Italian.

## Editor's Musings

Criminal Lawyer is a redundancy.

The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're going to steal the neighbour's newspaper, that's the time to do it.

Why do psychics have to ask you for your name.

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

President - Garth Juster	9817 5434
Vice President - Margaret Conley	9817 0123
Immediate Past President - Peter Kelly	0411696583
Secretary - Ann Juster	9817 5434
Treasurer - Judith Butt	9879 3228
Activities Director - Jill Regnis	9808 2482
Speakers - Carol Pelham	9808 5020
Welfare Officer - Barbara Gardner	9816 4639
Membership Officer - Ian Adair	0407018071
(email: <a href="mailto:ian.r.adair@hotmail.com">ian.r.adair@hotmail.com</a> )	
Honorary Auditor - Charles Kent	9816 3485
Book Club - Wendell Watt	9433 8028
Newsletter Editor - Mike Allum	9816 3269
(email: <a href="mailto:mike.allum@bigpond.com">mike.allum@bigpond.com</a> )	



## Probus Club of Hunters Hill

PO BOX 1041  
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



### January Birthdays

<b>Jill Regnis</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Margaret Timbs</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Darryl Tutton</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Ian Adair</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Barbara Jago</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Bill Patterson</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Judith Love</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Josef Stockreiter</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Gary Traill</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Dawn Stratford</b>	<b>29</b>

### SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 464th Meeting of  
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the  
Hunters Hill Club on

Tuesday 5th December, 2017 at 9:30

### OPENING

Following the opening of the meeting with the National Anthem, the President Garth Juster welcomed our 5 visitors, Olena Holubinskyj, Louise Burney, Robyn Hogan, Kathy O'Sullivan and Liliana Pezzutti.

The president congratulated all members on the amount of the non-perishable food that had been donated for the Council collection.

The first edition of the newsletter in colour was also now available and the president congratulated Mike Allum on his good work in producing such a high quality newsletter.

The president also pointed out the new audio system that has been purchased. The old system was beyond its economic life and had given problems at several previous meetings.

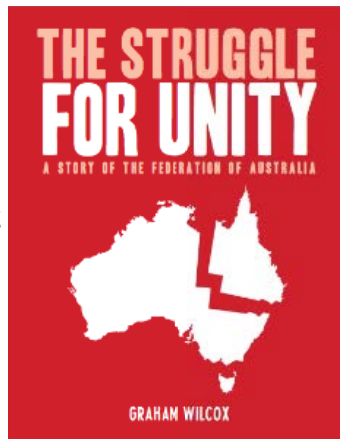
At present the Management Committee is planning the 2018/19 committee. The meeting was urged to think about each member's involvement in being

## The Long Road to Federation

Dean Letcher introduced Graham Wilcox, who has written a biography on his great-grandfather, Sir Arthur Rutledge, who played an important part in the creation of the Australian Federation. The book is called *The Struggle for Unity: A Story of the Federation of Australia*.

Arthur Rutledge was born in 1843 in Penrith, the son of James Rutledge, a school teacher, and his wife Lucy. He was ordained a Wesleyan minister in 1865, and was sent to Queensland. He found being moved around by the church too demanding on his family, left the ministry, and was admitted to the Queensland Bar in 1878. Shortly afterwards, he entered the Queensland parliament. He was knighted in August 1902, and left parliament in 1904.

Rutledge's political drive came from his desire to see all the British colonies on the Australian continent as one country. The idea of federating the six Australian colonies began in the 1850s, and a serious movement for Federation arose in the late 1880s, a time when there was increasing nationalism amongst Australians, the great majority of whom were native-born. There was also the need to counter the activities of the Germans and French in New Guinea and the New Hebrides and to control migration. It would also mean that Australia would have no land borders with any other country. Rutledge believed the forced use of Pacific Island labourers (kanakas) on the sugar cane plantations in North Queensland and the push for separation in the north could prevent Queensland



joining in federation and put it at a trading disadvantage. New South Wales was concerned that the economic advantage it held by being the strongest colony could be lost. In his bid to win over the north, Rutledge won the seat of Kennedy in 1883, and was one of the representatives of Queensland at the

National Australasian Convention held in Sydney in 1891. The convention drafted the Australian Constitution aboard the Queensland Government Steam Yacht *Lucinda* on the Hawkesbury River. In late 1889, Sir Henry Parkes had begun the push, and following an informal conference in Melbourne in 1890, all the Australian colonies and New Zealand sent delegates to the convention in Sydney. Between April and September 1899, New South Wales,

Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania voted Yes in referenda to create an Australian Constitution. Western Australia joined the Federation after a Yes vote on 31 July 1900. The Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act was passed by the British Parliament in the same year and Lord Hope-toun was appointed Governor-General of Australia.

Immediately the Commonwealth of Australia was created, legislation was introduced to prevent non-Europeans from entering the country. Ironically, the use of Pacific Islanders on Queensland cane farms was seen to contravene the Act, and by 1904 the practice had ceased.

on the committee. There are available brief role descriptions that can be made readily available to any interested member. In particular Jill Regnis has advised that next year will be her last year and it has been suggested that an "apprentice" for Jill should be appointed to learn and then take over Activities.

### CORRESPONDENCE

**IN:** there was no relevant correspondence

**OUT:** Letters were sent to 3 local primary schools offering \$40 gift vouchers to their top English student.

### TREASURERS REPORT

Judith Butt presented the treasury report for November 2017

C/b bal 1 November 2017	\$ 6,963
Total receipts	\$ 5,446
Total payments	\$ 295
C/b bal 30 November 2017	\$12,113

The Treasurer pointed out that this large amount included monies held for the upcoming Heron Island trip.

### WELFARE REPORT

Barbara presented her report and her "Thought for the Month", slightly different this month.

### BOOK CLUB

Wendell Watt advised the current situation of the book club and announced that she was resigning at year end and Annette Kent would be her replacement. Also that Vincie Wahlquist's letterbox would be the new collection point for books unable to be returned at the meeting.

### ACTIVITIES

Jill Regnis tabled an Activities Report to the general meeting which is attached.

### MEMBERSHIP

There were 73 members present and 16 apologies including 2 members on leave of absence.

### OTHER BUSINESS

Bob Mostyn sold 266 raffle tickets.

The president pointed out the wonderful Christmas morning tea that Barbara Jago and her team had prepared and thanked them for their efforts.

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