

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 5th June - Guest Speaker

Patrick Dodd

An accomplished speaker and a volunteer
at the State Library of NSW

Subject: "History and Collections"

Tues/Wed 12/13th June

Cartier Exhibition - Canberra

Overnight coach trip

Friday 15th June

Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00

The Pulitzer Prize winning

"Gilead" by Marilynne Robinson

Afternoon Tea - Kay Holt

Sunday 24th June

Heritage Tour - Goat Island

Meet at Harbour Master's Steps, Circular
Quay 10:15am for ferry ride to island for
tour finishing at 1:15pm. Back to Quay/
Rocks for lunch \$32 pp + lunch at own
cost.

Bookings and or payment June meeting

Monday 25th June

Town Hall Concert - 2pm

"Duelling Pianos"

Simon Tedeschi and Bernard Walz

Friday 29th June

Café Club

Woolwich Pier Hotel

2 Gale Street, Woolwich

Senior's special \$19

Contact Ellen McKeown

0404 004 117

A Visit to the Sydney Jewish Museum

Members of our club went to the enlarged Sydney Jewish Museum on Tuesday 23rd April. It is a remarkable visual record of the horrific campaign of the Nazis in World War 2 to wipe Jews from the face of Europe and their determination to survive.

The exhibition includes anti-Jewish newspapers, letters to Jewish employees terminating their employment, letters from people in Nazi death camps to their loved ones, families broken up because of 'interracial' marriage forbidden by the Nazis, removal of Jews to death camps in cattle trucks and the destruction of Jewish shops, businesses and synagogues throughout Germany and Austria on *Kristallnacht* (Night of Glass), 9 and 10 November 1938, while the Nazis did nothing.

We met Paul Drexler, who told us of being seized in what is now Slovakia with his parents in 1942, when he was 4. They were moved from camp to camp, and he and his mother were separated from his father. They later found out that his father was shot by the Nazis in northern Germany in 1945, 3 days before the official surrender.



After the war, Paul and his mother came to Australia, where he was able to go to school and become an Australian. His mother died at the age of 97. Paul said that the fact he was too young to understand what was happening helped him to survive.

Town Hall Concert

On Monday 30th April, a group of 20 or so members went to the Town Hall to attend a concert given by Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Georgina Wilkinson. David Parsons played the magnificent Grand Organ prior to the concert proper.



TEDDY TAHU RHODES

Teddy has thrilled both Australian and international audiences for many years since his debut in 1998 with Opera Australia in "La Cenerentola".

Best known in Australia for his performances in South Pacific" and "The King and I" he has performed internationally in many roles across Europe and in New York.

His co-star at this concert was Georgina Wilkinson, a rising opera and musical theatre star. She was the youngest ever recipient of the "Opera Scholar of the Year" award.

They were ably accompanied by Bernard Walz conducting "The Good Old Days Concerts Orchestra".

Jill Regnis reported that the doll aria from the 'Tales of Hoffman', was a standout with Georgia Wilkinson being carried on and off stage by Teddy Tahu Rhodes as she was the floppy doll. It received a wonderful reception from an enthusiastic audience.

The show tunes from Rogers and Hammerstein as well as folk tunes from the British Isles and favourites from several operas put together a varied and marvellously entertaining concert. Teddy sang 'My Boy Bill' from Carousel as if he really meant it!



GEORGINA
WILKINSON

WHAT'S COMING UP

1st Friday of the Month

Ladies Club Movie Day

9:20am from Valentia Street wharf or meet at the Dendy at the Quay in time for the first movie.

Contact Marilyn Giddens for further details on 9817 4413

Tuesday 3rd July - Guest Speaker

Graham Simms

Subject: Arthur Stace "The Eternity Man"

Graham will recount the story of the person behind the mysterious appearance around the streets of Sydney of the word "eternity"

Wednesday July 4th

OPAL Outing

Leaving Drummoyne Oval, Bayswater Street, Drummoyne 10:04am

M50 bus to Coogee leaving 10:04am or hop on at Park Street opposite

Woolworths at 10:23am

Coogee Bay Hotel lunch approx. cost \$30, less for entrée size.

Tuesday 24th July

President's Lunch

Lane Cove Country Club River Road, Lane Cove. Pre lunch drink, yummy buffet 2-course lunch

\$60 - bookings and payment June and July meetings

Sun/Thurs 23rd/27th September

Simon Taylor Bus Tour

Dubbo and Siding Springs

See Jill for brochure and expressions of interest

Tuesday 30th October

Port Hacking luncheon cruise

3 hour cruise including morning tea and 2-course lunch.

Departs 9:30am returns 4:30pm

\$77 pp. Jill to provide more detail

Next Year

25th February March 2019

Probus Group Cruise

8 days / 7 nights

Southern Barrier Reef Discovery Cruise

Onboard P & O Pacific Explorer

Contact Tony Saunders on 9817-1432

April Café Club

The Café Club event in April was held on the 25th at the Kokoda Café in Concord West.

Details of the gathering are scant but I understand it was well patronised by around 20 or our members who thoroughly enjoyed the lovely meals.

The only photographic record to hand is published below.



Book Club



Brideshead Revisited proved a great read. Kay, who had read it a third time was unwell, but forwarded her endorsement that she had got more out of it with each read, and found Evelyn Waugh's writing exemplary.

There is a great sense of being a voyeur in Brideshead, looking in on a small part of British society which is out-of-bounds to most of us, and is, at the same time, admired yet satirised by Waugh. Our view is through the eyes of Charles Ryder, middle class, not aristocratic, who is befriended by the lost soul, Sebastian trapped in an immaturity symbolised by this ever-present teddy bear. Ryder is bewitched by the beauty of Brideshead estate, and the characters within.

There was general agreement in the group that there was only one really likeable character in the book, Cordelia the youngest daughter, and that Lady Marchmain had much to answer for. She was obsessed with Catholicism and a search for a 'state of grace', to the exclusion of her relationship with her children, and apparently her former husband, who like Sebastian had developed an appetite for alcohol.

Having read about people who contributed little to life, were obsessed with their appearance and possessions, including a diamond encrusted tortoise, and were afforded by their privilege the opportunity to make a career of collecting match boxes, the group found a need to reflect that these people represented a microcosm of British Society, and those who had passed through study at Oxford. Much good came out of both the famed university, and the upper classes of Britain in the years covered in the book.

Next month's book is the 2005 Pulitzer prize winning book "Gilead" by Marilynne Robinson.

From the Editor's Desk

- As Wendell has been holidaying in Victoria her usual very entertaining column will not appear in this edition.
- A reminder from Vincie that at the July meeting (3rd) we will have a collection for the "Christmas in July Appeal" for Hunters Hill Ryde Community Aid. Gifts of non-perishable food or personal products, toothpaste, shampoo etc will be gratefully received and distributed to the needy.
- If you are unable to attend a meeting please call Gordon on 0433 238 004 to register your absence

Biennale at Cockatoo Island

A group of Hunters Hill Probus art lovers ventured over to Cockatoo Island on 16 May to view the 21st Biennale of Sydney. Every two years the Harbour Trust welcomes Australia's largest visual arts event, showcasing innovative and thought-provoking works from around the world.

The venue allowed us to combine a day out in perfect weather on one of the jewels of Sydney Harbour with a chance to view contemporary art from around the world.



The stand-out piece had to be Ai Weiwei's piece, *Law of The Journey*, a 60-metre inflatable boat filled with more than 200 over-sized figures, made from the same rubber used to make the vessels that carry refugees from Turkey to Greece.



Another favourite was a dark labyrinth within shipping containers with curved mirrors, giving a kind of Luna Park effect.



Judith presiding over lunch



Joan and Catherine being "chauffeured"

Thanks to Peter Kelly, who organised the visit, and the staff of Cockatoo Island who helped transport our members around the island.

Barbara's Thought for the Month

"The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out"

T. B. Macaulay

Editor's Musings

Make anything idiot proof and someone will make a better idiot.

I tried sniffing Coke once, but the ice cubes got stuck in my nose.

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

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	98163269
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



June Birthdays

Margaret Bowman	1
Lew Grace	3
Lyn Benson	6
Lorraine Kongats	6
Valerie Thomas	18
Terry Yew	18
Josephine McBride	20
Joan Gai	24

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 469th Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 1st May, 2018 at 9:30

The New South Wales Mounted Police

Gordon Sanson introduced Don Eyb, whose 44-year career in the NSW Mounted Police took him from constable to Mounted Police Commissioner.

Don began his talk with a film of the Mounted Police Edinburgh Tattoo display, which was brought to the Sydney Football Stadium in February 2010. The film showed the level of performance riders and horses are expected to achieve.

Don joined the mounted police unit at Redfern in 1961. The New South Wales Mounted Police was established in 1825 by Governor Brisbane. In 1907, it moved from the Sydney Showground to its present home in Bourke St Redfern. It is the oldest continuous mounted police unit in the world.

The Mounted Police Unit was formed to support general duties police. When police forces in other countries at the time needed help to cover large areas, they could call on help from army cavalry. This was not available in New South Wales. It proved effective, particularly in dealing with bushrangers.

Today, there are 36 mounted police based at Redfern. Applicants can apply to join after spending 12 months at a Local Area Command. If accepted, they will spend an average of six years in the unit. It has a greater percentage of female constables than any other state.



To be considered for selection, horses must be 16 hands (5'4") at the withers, bay or dark brown in colour and be geldings, be of good temperament and sound health. They are aged about four years when they come in and have a working life of about 14 years. The unit includes some ex-race horses.

We can all remember when the Mounted Police were a common sight around the city and inner suburbs. Today, eighty percent of the unit's duties consists of public order and crowd control. The other twenty percent is ceremonial duties, appearances at festivals and special events and searches. They may be sent anywhere in New South Wales.

The bond between horse and rider becomes very strong, as is the case with police dogs and their handlers. Once this bond is formed, the horse will go into any situation, provided it has other horses with it.

In May 2012 a detachment of New South Wales Mounted Police took part in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pageant at Windsor Castle, together with the Household Cavalry. Don told us the unit wanted to show off the horses' repertoire, including the side passage (walking sideways). They were told it wouldn't be possible because the Household Cavalry horses couldn't do it. They offered to teach them and succeeded in two days. The Queen sent her thanks for 'teaching my horses to walk sideways.'

OPENING

Following the opening of the meeting with the National Anthem, The President, Margaret Conley, welcomed our visitors, Chris Coulter, David Ward, Richard Jones and Jean Clinch. The president invited members to wish one of our life members, Les Osborne, present today, a belated happy 99th birthday. The president invited members to avail themselves of a free wallet size Medical Card from the back table. Members were reminded of the next \$2.50 day on 16 May, details in the newsletter. They were also asked to speak with the President if they have an idea for a future \$2.50 outing.

CORRESPONDENCE

OUT: 2018 Forms to Probus South Pacific Limited including cheque for payment of Capitation Fees & Magazine Subscriptions, and Annual Update Forms. Email to HH Ladies Probus with attached Office Bearers of HH Probus for 2018.

IN: Letter from ADT Merchandise with

enclosed cheque for Ian Adair. Application for membership from Christine Coulter. Letter to President from Bob and Judith Love, requesting to be non-active members. Letter to President from Alan and Glenys James.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Judith Butt presented her report for April 2018

C/b bal 1 April 2018	\$6,252.85
Total receipts	\$2 309.00
Total Expenses	\$2,658.43
C/b bal 30 April 2018	\$5,903.42

WELFARE REPORT

Peter Kelly presented his report and invited Jill Regnis to report how Mike is feeling and she told us he is a little worse since last night and breathless. Jill thanked the members for their concern.

ACTIVITIES

Jill Regnis spoke to an Activities Report. Tony Saunders spoke re 2019 Cruise. Ross McBride spoke re Great Ocean Road trip in November 2018.

MEMBERSHIP

Gordon Sanson informed members that Club now has full membership and reminded members to please sign in before each meeting.

BOOK CLUB

Annette Kent informed members that last month's book, "The Book Thief", generated much discussion. "Brideshead Revisited" is the book for May.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Bob Mostyn asked if any members would like Seville oranges from his trees, suitable only for jam making. Ellen McKeown, Café Club convener, reminded members wishing to attend next luncheon, to please write their name on list provided. The President reminded members that our next meeting will be 5th June 2018.

RAFFLE

Jim Judge informed 325 tickets.

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