

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 March 2019

Annual General Meeting

No Guest Speaker

Wednesday 13 March

OPAL trip to Kiama

Suggested trip arrangements - 506 bus leaving outside Hunters Hill Hotel at 8.33am to **Town Hall Railway Station**.

From platform 4 at 9.24am catch the train to Kiama, arriving at 11.39am. If possible, sit in the second carriage from the front. Return Journey: The train leaves Kiama at 13.55pm, arrives Town Hall Station platform 4 at 16.05 in good time to catch the 506 at 16.24.

Don't forget your Opal card

For those who would like to join at **Central Station**, catch the train at 9.27am, likely platform 25 (please check the platform number as this can change). Additionally, for those who would like to stay longer in Kiama, the next train is at 14.55. It is an hourly service.

Margaret Conley - 0407 931 945

Friday 15th March

Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00

Book for the month is "*Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*" written by Amy Chua.

Afternoon Tea - Margaret Timbs

Wed 27th March - Sun 31st March

Melbourne Flower and Garden Show

5 days/4 nights see Jill for further information)

43rd Birthday Dinner

A break with tradition this year meant some 64 of us celebrated our birthday with a dinner in the evening. The venue was the Hunters Hill Club and as usual the staff turned on a great evening, great food, good service and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Margaret Conley gave a welcome speech and introduced our special guest, Carole Clancy-O'Herir, the Ladies Probus Club President. She in turn gave a short speech in reply and thanked Margaret for the invitation.

A raffle was organised with the prizes being donated by Cockatoo Island, an overnight camping experience, and Ironwood Coffee Company Restaurant in Woolwich, a \$150 voucher. Richard Jones won the cockatoo Island prize and Gary Trail won the Ironwood voucher.



Table 1



Table 2



Table 3



Table 4

WHAT'S COMING UP

Monday 15th April

Town Hall Concert

VIENNA NIGHTS

This concert features Tenor Daniel Belle and Soprano Georgia Wilkinson singing our favourites from Strauss, Franz Lehar, Mozart etc.

11:00 - be there by 10:45

Fully subscribed

See Barbara Banner for further information

Wednesday 24th April

Opal Outing - State Library Tour

Patrick Dodd Conducting -

9.45 for a coffee before the tour which departs sharp at 10.15 am.

Carol Pelham has taken 22 names so far. She will be running a waiting list and will add more names even though the cut-off is 20 persons. There can be many changes between now and then.

See Carol Pelham for any further details.

Sunday/Monday 28th/29th July.

'Christmas in July'

Brochure was sent out with February Newsletter - taking early bookings for fabulous overnighter to Bathurst

Accommodation at Rydges Mt. Panorama Resort - 3-course Christmas dinner at

Abercrombie House. There is a \$20 non-refundable deposit

payable with booking as we have already paid a deposit on the hotel from our club funds.

Ashlyn Allum will be taking further bookings.

43rd Birthday Dinner (cont)



Table 5



Table 6



Table 7



Table 8



Jill and her team of helpers, together with the Hunters Hill Club staff, again organised a splendid evening with table decorations and place cards aimed at helping the staff with the efficient serving of meals.

A special vote of thanks is due to Jill in particular, for all her hard work over several years in ensuring we members have enjoyed many multi-day trips, short trips, dinners, outings and events. All of these activities take a high degree of organisation, planning, attention to detail, long suffering and patience both with us as members and the providers.

Over the last 12 months Jill has also had to focus on supporting Mike during his ongoing health problems.

Congratulations Jill.

Club Volunteers

We've often talked or written about the number of Club members that don't have "official" positions on the Management committee but who nevertheless carry out important functions to help the Club run smoothly and effectively, particularly on meeting days.

In no particular order we thought we would give mention to the many of you that fit into this category, to recognise you and to thank you for your ongoing efforts. Apologies to anyone I have missed.

Tea Committee:

John Johnson, Dawn Saunders, John Malone, Catherine Higgs

Welcoming Team:

Greg Griffiths, Pat Cox

Audio Operator:

Adrian Nieuwenhuizen

Visitors Welcome:

Vincie Wahlquist (Name Tag)

Raffle:

Jim Judge, Judy Davey (stand in as required, Bob Mostyn)

Speaker Introduction:

Various members to introduce Speakers as required

Membership Records:

Alan James

Auditor;

Until recently Charles Kent,

Wendell Watt

Ex Book Club convenor and until recently a regular Newsletter contributor with "Wendell's Column"

Ian Adair – assists guest speakers with computers, etc. plus writes a report for the Newsletter. Ian happily assists with any other jobs which need doing.

David Brown – printed place cards for 4 lunches last year.

Nancy and Bruce Hattersley – have until recently been official photographers for events

Mike Regnis – was missing in action for about first 6 months of year but thereafter has assisted Jill with taking money for Activities.

Good Old Days Concert

On Monday 4th about 14 of us met at the Sydney Town Hall to enjoy the concert featuring David Hobson and Claire Lyon. Bernard Walz conducted the orchestra and accompanied both artists on piano.

On arrival at the Town Hall and while we were finding our seats before the concert started, David Parsons performed on the massive Town Hall grand organ. When installed in 1890, it was the largest in the world.



The concert proper commenced with the orchestra playing the theme from 'Chariots of Fire'. There followed favourites from La Boheme with 'Mimi' and Rodolfo's voices blending beautifully. musical comedy, folk songs and a Victorian era song 'Come into the Garden Maud'. All had a place in this balanced concert.



David Hobson showed what a versatile artist he is with an impersonation of 'Dave Allen' which was immediately recognisable and enjoyed.



To finish off, David Parsons played again for the last number, a real favourite, Jerusalem, which we were encouraged to join in.

After the concert a few of us had a coffee in the Queen Victoria building before returning home.

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."

Author: T. B. Macaulay

Editor's Musings

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight, live longer than the men who mention it.

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	0417596300
(email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)	
Honorary Auditor - Vacant	

**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill**

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



March Birthdays

Vincie Wahlquist	1
Mary Yew	8
Mollie Bainton	13
Dean Letcher	31

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 478th Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 5th February at 9:30am

Top Cop's Life in Crime

Deirdre Page welcomed back Superintendent Deb Wallace of the NSW Police Force to give us an update on her activities in the State Crime Command. Deb has just celebrated 36 years in the police force, including 14 years at Cabramatta Local Area Command.



Deb joined State Crime Command in 2003 and is now Commander, State Crime Command Gangs Squad, covering Asian, Middle Eastern and outlaw motorcycle gangs. She has a staff of 280 and has lectured to police in the USA and Europe on criminal gangs.

The SCC now concentrates on outlaw motor cycle gangs (OMCGs). There are about 20 OMCGs throughout Australia, with Sydney having about 50% of the total membership. To better understand what makes these gangs tick, she spoke to younger police, who pointed out some characteristics. Members like to intimidate, move in packs and are capable of extreme violence. They gather in club houses, which they call 'church' on Friday nights. No women are present. They like to go on runs, wearing their club 'patches'; they are involved in tattoo parlours, the security industry (pub bouncers) and illegal drugs and weapon importing.

It was decided to declare all-out war on OMCGs.

The police used the Restricted Premises Act and the Consorting Act to close club houses and arrest members found in the company of convicted criminals. Laws were passed to stop them being involved in tattoo parlours and as bouncers; colours could not be worn in public premises. Police also linked up with Border Force, Centrelink and the ATO.

But the major factor in bringing down the OMCGs was the formation of Task Force Raptor in March 2009, following a brawl in

the domestic terminal at Sydney Airport between the Hells Angels and Comanchero gangs, in which one person was killed. It has resulted in large numbers of arrests as well as confiscation of drugs and weapons coming into the country. Runs have been banned and bikes constantly inspected for failure to comply with registration requirements.

Deb Wallace believes the only answer to the 'party drug' problem is a strong education program. She says pill testing gives people a false sense of security and may also be used as the thin end of the wedge to have these drugs decriminalised or even legalised.

OPENING

Following the opening of the meeting with the National Anthem, The President, Margaret Conley, welcomed the following visitors to the meeting: Ross Dive and Fran Williams.

The president then presented badges to the following new members: Jim Likidis, who thanked the committee for accepting him for membership and said he will assist the club in any way he can – and Kevin Manie, who thanked Mike and Ashlyn Allum for encouraging him to join. He also informed us that during his working life he had had contact with Probus and when in the USA had received fellowship from Lyons.

OPENING COMMENTS

The president informed that more than half of our Members have already paid their 2019 membership fees and asked if those who haven't yet paid, could please see Judith at morning tea.

The president reminded members that at the last meeting, we had our annual call for nominations for the Management Committee. Nomination forms are available from our Secretary, Margaret Timbs, and any member is welcome to nominate.

Thus far our Secretary has received the following nominations:

President:	Mike Allum
Secretary:	Carolyn Jolly
Treasurer:	Judith Dunstan
Activities coordinator:	Barbara Banner
Welfare:	Ashlyn Allum
Membership:	Gordon Sanson
Speakers:	Carol Pelham
Committee:	Garth Juster

The only position for which we do not yet have a nomination is vice-president and we are hoping to attract someone with energy and enthusiasm, perhaps even a newer member. If not filled it may occur during the year.

Our AGM will be on the 5th March and you will have received notice of the AGM with your Newsletter. Mike Regnis has agreed to be the Returning Officer for our AGM.

CORRESPONDENCE

OUT: An invitation sent by email to the President of HH Ladies Probus, inviting her to the HH Probus Club Birthday dinner.

IN: Email from Carole Clancy-O'Hehir, President of HH Ladies Probus, accepting the invitation to our Birthday dinner on 12 February 2019.

ACTIVITIES

Bookings for the next Concert 'Vienna Nights' on Monday 15 April 2019 at 11am will be taken by

Barbara Banner – the tickets are \$45. Daniel Belle and Georgia Wilkinson are the singers accompanied by Bernard Walz conducting the orchestra.

Opal Outing. Wednesday 13 March 2019. Kiama by train. Advance Notice. Opal outing to State Library. Wednesday 24 April 2019. Christmas in July. Sunday 28 and Monday 29 July 2019. Total cost is \$440 PP. A \$20 non-refundable deposit is required as our Club has already paid a \$500 non-refundable deposit.

MEMBERSHIP

Gordon Sanson absent, so no report.

BOOK CLUB

Information is in the Newsletter.

MEN'S GROUP

Neville Davey informed members that the first and last event is on 12 March 2019.

RAFFLE

Three prizes today. Jim Judge said 317 tickets were sold today.

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