

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

Sunday 5th May

Sydney Welsh Choir

Villa Maria Hall 14:00 - \$20
After the concert join the choir for a chat and light refreshments

Tuesday 7th May 2019

Guest Speaker

Mary Ann Napper

A return visit from this "Born to Fly" author. This time talking about "Megumi" her life between two cultures. Will include a short film clip and may be a Bonsai demonstration

Friday, 17th May

Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00
Book for the month is "The 19th Wife"
Written by David Ebershoff
Afternoon Tea -Judith Dewsnap

News Flash

A walking group is being proposed.
See Page 2

Congratulations



Les Osborne was born in England in 1919 and he came to Australia with his father (an ANZAC and Western front veteran) after WWI and his mother, a nurse, arriving in Sydney in December 1919.

Les left school at 14 and worked as an apprentice in an engineering company. In 1938 he joined the permanent RAAF and trained as a fitter armourer. During the war he worked as a bombing and gunnery instructor. He later volunteered to do a bomb disposal officer's course in Singapore. Fortunately he got on a plane back to Australia a few weeks before Singapore fell to the Japanese in 1942. During his war service he was stationed in Darwin, the islands off Papua New Guinea and later at RAAF headquarters where his used his armament skills extensively and successfully

which is why he survived this rather dangerous period of the war on Australia's doorstep. He ended the war with rank of Squadron Leader.

During 1942 he met Betty, a Corporal in the WAAF. They married in 1943. After war they moved to Newcastle where Les worked as a Manager for an engineering company. After 4 years in Newcastle they moved to Sydney and settled in Ryde where Les had accepted a position as Mill Manager with Harold Meggitt Pty Ltd, an oil seed manufacturing company. The factory was originally located in area around where the current Banjo Patterson restaurant is now in Gladesville. Les retired from Meggitt Ltd. in 1984.

After he retired from Meggitt Ltd, Les worked for the Eastwood Community Services as a handyman assisting elderly people and also assisted with Meals on Wheels for many years. In 1987 Les was being approached by businesses for advice and he saw this as an opportunity to start a consulting business advising companies in the design and construction of oil seed manufacturing factories. He was active in his consultancy business until 2008 when he decided to finally retire.

In 1962 Les joined the Hunters Hill Rotary Club and saw the formation of the present Probus Club of Hunters Hill. Les has been a member (and later a life member) of the Probus Club for over 30 years.

Les and Betty had 3 children: Geoffrey, Susan and Christopher. Les also has 4 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Les and Betty were active grandparents in their grandchildren's lives and activities.

Betty passed away in 2002 after a very happy, fulfilling marriage of 59 years. Les has travelled extensively in his 80s and early 90s on organised holidays in Outback Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and Singapore. Les has always had a "can do" attitude and an adventurous side to his life.

Now 100 years of age, Les still enjoys good health and can look back on a fulfilling, interesting and successful life.



Thanks to Les's Son

WHAT'S COMING UP

**Monday 17th June
Town Hall Concert**

A Lady, a Man and a Baby Grand
Featuring Marina Prior and
Bernard Walz
Meet 10:45 for 11:00 start
Cost - \$45 - names and money
to Barbara at the next meeting

**Tuesday 25th June
President's Lunch**

Concord Golf Club
12:00 for 12:30
2 course meal and drink on arrival
\$65 per head
Names, money and menu selections to Ann Day at next meeting
(see attached flyer)

**Sunday/Monday 28th/29th July.
'Christmas in July'**

Accommodation at Rydges Mt.
Panorama Resort Bathurst
3-course Christmas dinner at
Abercrombie House. There is a
\$20 non-refundable deposit
payable with booking as deposit
paid to hotel from our club funds.
See Ashlyn Allum for bookings.

Wednesday 14th August

Archibald Prize
Art Gallery of NSW 14:00
Cost \$20 includes Guide

TBC

Seafood BBQ
High Tea at the Carrington

VALE



Vale Alan James, a stalwart of the Club. Alan died peacefully, in his sleep, early last Saturday, 13th April. He will be sorely missed, because of the work he did for the Club in his myriad roles, most latterly on the membership statistics, but also, for those of us who were fortunate enough to know Alan and his wife, Glenys, they were good company to be with.

Alan joined the Club in 1998, and quickly became involved in a range of Management Committee activities – planning and overseeing outings, collecting and reconciling the money collected (which naturally led to his next role), Treasurer, and then in 2003 being elected as Club President.

After his presidential term Alan remained active on Management Committee activities, and with his wonderfully meticulous brain being applied to the issue, leading to the development of a comprehensive program of membership statistics. Even when, because of family reasons, Alan and Glenys moved to Canberra in 2006, the statistical flow continued.

Over the years since then a succession of Membership Officers of our Club have liaised with Alan to ensure the quarterly flow of information continued, refined as circumstances changed.

In 2010 Alan was made a Life Member – for his outstanding contribution to the Probus Club of Hunters Hill.

Alan will be sadly missed.

Mike Regnis

Walking Club



How does this sound? A Hunters Hill Probus Club 8K walk

Circular Quay – Botanical Gardens – Mrs. Macquarie's Chair – Domain – Art Gallery – Hyde Park then return to Quay via the gardens.

This is the first walk for the revitalized Hunters Hill Probus Club walkers group, to be held on Thursday 9 May.

We catch the 9.24 ferry from the Valentia St. Woolwich Wharf arriving at Circular Quay at 9.47. Maybe buy a takeaway coffee at the coffee shop opposite the Dendy Theatre. Walk around the Opera House then follow the harbourside path fronting the Botanical Gardens to arrive at Mrs. Macquarie's Chair. Follow the same harbour path to the Art Gallery. Maybe walk through Hyde Park then return to the Art Gallery. Then walk into the Botanical Gardens and walk through the gardens going back past the Opera House to wharf 5 to catch the 2.45 ferry back to Woolwich arriving at 3.09pm. If time before the ferry arrives takeaway coffee can be purchased opposite wharf 5.

For those who may wish to do a shorter walk or spend more time within the Botanical gardens there are earlier ferries leaving wharf 5 at Circular Quay at 12.45 and 13.45.

Members are welcome to bring walking friends. Rick Collins and Margaret Conley are contact members for this walk and would be pleased to hear from prospective "walkers".

Rick Collins

Vienna Nights



On Monday 15th April 7 members went to the Town Hall to attend Good Old Days Concerts featuring Bernard Walz conducting the orchestra and two fabulous stars – tenor Daniel Belle and soprano Georgia Wilkinson.

Australian Tenor Daniel Belle has performed around the world with the "Ten Tenors". He performed a tribute to Vienna's famous son Richard Tauber (Your are my Hearts Delight) ("Because").

Georgia Wilkinson bought the house down in her appearance with Teddy Tahu Rhodes at The Good Old Days concert in 2018 and returned to stop the show again with her personality and incredible soprano voice.

We were mesmerised by Daniel and Georgia's rendition of the beautiful music from Strauss, Franz Lehar, Mozart etc.

Barbara Banner

Book Club



A meeting of the Probus book club was held on Friday 12th in the usual museum venue to discuss "Rebecca" by Daphne du Maurier.

The discussion was lively as we to'd and fro'd about Rebecca, who was we had to admit, a less than desirable character—but she wasn't the only undesirable as much havoc was wreaked in the gloomy confines and surrounds of "Manderley".

There was mention of writers with French names as this can lead to trouble with iambic hexameters and anapestic tetrameters.

But fun was had by all, we had a delicious afternoon tea, before being locked in for the night.

Richard Jones

.....
 "iambic hexameters" - In poetry refers to a type of meter. It is a line of verse consisting of 12 syllables. The line may have thirteen syllables if the thirteenth and last syllable of the line is unaccented.

"anapestic tetrameter" - a poetic meter that has four anapestic metrical feet per line. Each foot has two unstressed syllables followed by a stressed syllable.

Hope that helps Ed:

Meet New Members



Ross Dive



Kathy O'Sullivan



Julie Gahan

Your New Management Committee



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

President	-	Mike Allum	0417 596 300
Vice President	-	TBA	
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	-	Gordon Sanson	0433 238 004
Committee	-	Garth Juster	9817 5434
Book Club Convenor	-	Joan Gai	
Newsletter Editor	-	Mike Allum	0417 596 300
		(email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)	
Honorary Auditor	-	Bruce Luscombe	

Barbara's Thought for the Month

It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life is that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.

Author: Ralph Emerson

Editor's Musings

Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

Some people cause happiness wherever they go. Others, whenever they go.

Worrying works! 90% of the things I worry about never happen.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill**

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



May Birthdays

Kay Holt	8
Nina Stockreiter	11
John Watt	14
John Saalfeld	15
Christine Coulter	21
James Judge	26
Judith Butt	27

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 480th Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 2nd April at 9:30am

Susi Prescott - "Where Hummingbirds Dance"

Carol Pelham introduced Susi Prescott, who told us about her life with the children of the slums of Arequipa, the second largest city in Peru.

Suzi was a French teacher in Sydney, with a comfortable life. This life was shattered in 2006 with the break-up of her thirty-year marriage. She decided to run away as fast and as far as she could and went to Nepal for three months, teaching English in orphanage schools. In 2007 she travelled to Rwanda, once again teaching in poor schools. Later that year she went to Peru with friends, intending to stay a year, but has been going back ever since.



Suzi has become a 'godmother' to the 250 children at Elohim, a school in the desert slums of Arequipa. The government of Peru provides little money towards schools, and most of the support comes from Suzi, from the sale of her books. Students are given uniforms, which they love, and hot meals for breakfast and lunch. The children have cooking and sewing classes and an electrical workshop has been set up. A library has been established with the assistance of a Rotary Club in the USA.

Ninety percent of the people are illiterate and don't see the point of their children getting an education; eighty percent of the women are single mothers and can't contribute to running the school. Drunkenness and violence are part of

everyday life for the children.

Peruvians love to dance and there are parades and street dances every week, with the children taking part. Although they're poor, the people like to dress formally and wear colourful outfits when dancing. In the time that she's been going to Peru Suzi has been kidnapped, had her apartment robbed and been pickpocketed several times. When she first went there, she thought she knew what the Peruvian people needed. She's learned not to be judgmental but to accept the people as they are.

Suzi's book "Where the Humming Birds Dance" was very popular with members and all proceeds go towards running the school.

Ed:

An extract from feedback from Margaret Timbs two days after her presentation.

"I had a short chat with her whilst there and she told me to tell you she sold \$550 worth of her book to our Probus members. She was quite over the moon. She said she will put the money towards 'her' library in the school in the purchase of books and cushions. She will send you a photo to show us when this is done."

Before the commencement of the meeting today, Margaret Conley, the Past President, presented the Chain of Office to the new President, Mike Allum

OPENING

The meeting was opened with the singing of the National Anthem. The President, Mike Allum, then thanked Margaret Conley, Jill and Mike Regnis and Judith Butt for their contributions to the Club.

The president informed members that we needed to finish the meeting today promptly at 11.30am because the HHC was hosting another function. The president then welcomed the following visitors to the meeting: Ross Dive, Julie Gahan, Helen Bayliss, Rose Zlomaczuk, Fay Likidis, Adrian Battastessa, and Robyn Beckhaus.

CORRESPONDENCE

Margaret Timbs (standing in for Carolyn Jolly) informed

OUT: Nil

IN: Letter from Hunters Hill Historical Society outlining required information from the Probus Club, re the premises where the Book Club currently holds its monthly meetings.

Letter from the Mayor of HH Council in reply to a letter from the Past President of HH Probus Club, outlining future information required from our Club so that we will be included under Interest Clubs and Groups in the 2020 Seniors Program.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Judith Butt (standing in for Judith Dunstan) presented report.

C/B bal as at 1 March 2019	\$4,993.46
Total Receipts	\$ 859.50
Total Expenses	\$ 787.38
C/B bal as at 31 March 2019	\$5,065.58

WELFARE

Ashlyn Allum informed that Wendell Watt had a fall and cracked her knee and that John Watt is stable. Pat Cox had a turn and fall, but managed to be present at meeting.

ACTIVITIES

Barbara Banner presented her report and reminded Members about the Suggestion Box and asked for new ideas please.

Ashlyn informed that currently there are not sufficient people booked for Christmas in July at Abercrombie House so implored Members to give it more thought.

MEMBERSHIP

Gordon Sanson informed there had been one resignation, so there is one vacancy for a new member.

The President, Mike Allum, welcomed three new Members, Julie Gahan, Katherine O'Sullivan, and Ross Dive. Mike explained that their name badges had not yet arrived from supplier, but they would be presented at the next meeting.

BOOK CLUB

Richard Jones informed that he is pleased to announce that Joan Gai has taken on the role as convener of the Book Club. The president thanked Joan for taking on this role.

RAFFLE

Jim Judge informed Members that 320 tickets were sold. He reported that the Probus Club has a limit of \$75 to be spent on raffle prizes each month and that next meeting, the major prize will be a \$35 voucher for the HHC. The HHC voucher will then continue to be a prize every second month. Other prizes will be wine etc.

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