

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

Monday 4th November

Good Old Days Concert

Proms Concert
 11:00am Sydney Town Hall
 NSW Police Band plus special guests. Bringing the Proms experience closer to home.

Tuesday 12th November

Delayed due Melbourne Cup

Guest Speaker

Greg van der Struik
 The history of the trombone, the Opera Australia Orchestra and his career as Principal Trombone

Friday, 15th November

Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00
 Book for the month is "The Happiest Refugee" by Anh Do
 Afternoon Tea - Margaret Timbs

Tuesday 19th November

Flower Power - Mona Vale

277 MONA VALE RD., TERRY HILLS.
 Enjoy a wide range of plants, flowers, gifts. The Vines café is open for morning tea and lunch.
 Please advise Bambi if you are available to "carpool" on the day

Wednesday 27th November

Sea Food BBQ

Pick-up 3pm Hunters Hill PO
 Afternoon tea at Balmoral, dinner at Clontarf Reserve.
 Return approx 8:30pm
 Barbara Banner - \$88 pp

A Day in the Blue Mountains

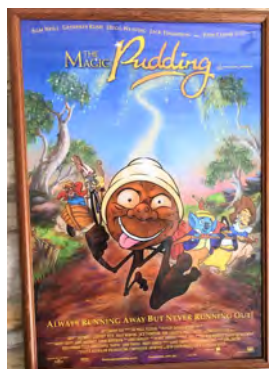
Overcoats were out again as we waited at the Post Office for our bus on Wednesday. Our *On Course* bus driver Patrick assured us we would need those at our first stop, Norman Lindsay gallery and museum. And we did, but after a cup of tea in the sunny courtyard the wind lost its enthusiasm and left us with a clear and sunny day, perfect mountain weather.

The gallery holds a selection of Lindsay's trademark curvaceous drawings and paintings of nude women and satyrs, plus drawings of cats, models of ships and the evergreen characters of *The Magic Pudding*. We enjoyed a guided tour of the studio and the etchings room and learned that the thousands of reproductions of his etchings were undertaken by Norman's wife and model Rose. Norman was not strong enough to work the press!

Visiting the Carrington for High Tea was a treat. Many of us had not visited the Hotel since its refurbishment. Sadly, the Paragon café is no more, but there is lots Blue Mountains memorabilia to see at the Carrington.

Passing glorious azaleas and trees covered in new leaves, we confirmed that the Three Sisters are still there, looking wonderful on such a clear blue day. And our final stop was to help the local economy at Leura.

A big thank you to Barbara Banner for organising such a lovely and enjoyable day.



FOR YOR DIARY

Tuesday 3rd December
General Meeting
 Guest Speaker
 Richard Dodd

Tuesday 10th December
Xmas Lunch
 Hunters Hill Club
 Anne & Garth Juster

Friday 20th December
Book Club
 Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00
 Book TBA

Wednesday 19th February
Birthday Lunch - TBA
 details being worked out as I type

More events being planned for
 2020

A Day in the Blue Mountains cont....



Opal trip to Manly

12 enthusiastic Probian's met at Circular Quay to catch the 11.30am ferry to Manly.

Sydney was at its best with a warm, sunny and clear sky day. The ferry ride was smooth and as usual, wonderful views across the harbour. On disembarking we had a pleasant stroll across to the surf beach to our chosen restaurant, White Water.

Everyone enjoyed the service, the food (particularly the 25% discount) and drink. The conversation was stimulating with a lot of laughs.

The day was certainly a success particularly for some of the ladies who enjoyed shopping on the Corso (Jill found a lovely pair of shoes and Ann found a suitable wetsuit top for Aquarobics).

The ferry ride home was equally enjoyable – overall a very successful Opal day.

Garth Juster

Book Club



Review of "The Nowhere Child" By Christian White

The story is about a 2 year old child stolen from the State of Kentucky 26 years ago and found and identified via the magic of DNA to be living happily in Melbourne with no knowledge of her past identity. All this in the first 14 pages!

The rest of the book is spent explaining how it all happened.

The book was the winner of the Victorian Premier's Award and whilst one person thought it a "well planned and satisfying book", another queried the quality of the competing books.

To quote "the absent Richard" - "a mother who may believe that the devil is in her child and the plot thickens. You will find it's all "Grist for the Mill". Spooky places, murder, torture "of mice and rattle snakes". Of a crazy religious cult who would destroy a child during exorcism, thus providing the motivation for events..

So we start in Kentucky and end in Melbourne.

Joan Gai (Richard Jones on leave)

Sausage Sizzle Abbotsford Quarantine Reserve

Our second attempt at the Sausage sizzle was a great success. Attended by some 34 members we enjoyed sausages, bread, and array of salads, wines and soft drinks and dessert. All accompanied by good weather.

Our team of master chefs, Jim, Peter and Tony were superb and worked under trying circumstances with unreliable and uneven temperatures on the hotplates. Nevertheless they won through on the day.

Thanks go to Barbara Banner, with assistance from Peter Kelly for organising the event and all those who supplied the variety of salads, drink, cutlery, crockery, tables and chairs and anything else to make the day the success that it was.



Barbara's Thought for the Month

For those going through hard times....The finest steel gets sent through the hottest furnace.

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

Monday is an awful way to spend 1/7th of your life.

Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.

The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims"

Why is the letter W, in English, called double U? Shouldn't it be called double V?

**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill**

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



November Birthdays

Peter Kelly	1
David Ward	8
Olena Holubinskyj	10
Rick Collins	11
Marie Do Rozario	16
Kathy O'Sullivan	16
Wendell Watt	21
Garth Juster	28
Barbara Banner	30

SPARE A MINUTE

Minutes of the 486th Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 1st October at 9:30am

The Honeysuckle Creek Story

Our guest speaker for the October meeting was Andrew Tink. After 19 years as a member of the NSW Legislative Assembly, Andrew stepped down in 2007 and took up writing, mostly biographies. The book, subject of his talk, was *Honeysuckle Creek: The Story of Tom Reid, A Little Dish and Neil Armstrong's First Step*.

Andrew knew Tom Reid, who'd been the station director of NASA's Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station during the Apollo 11 Mission, through his daughter Marg - they'd dated during the early 1970s. Although he didn't understand exactly what role Tom and his team at Honeysuckle had played in televising the live broadcast of Armstrong's first steps on the moon, Andrew knew it had been important and wanted to tell Tom's story. Andrew knew him well enough to understand that he would never have agreed to him writing about his NASA career. It wasn't until after Tom Reid's death in 2010 that he began to think about the possibility of a book about Honeysuckle Creek. Several of Reid's former colleagues, among them his deputy at the time, Mike Dinn, were able to talk to him. And Dinn got straight to the point: 'The Dish' implies that Parkes was the communication facility in Australia for Apollo 11. The truth is that Honeysuckle Creek was.



tracking station. It had no transmitter and so could not send commands or voice to the spacecraft. Even today, thinking about the movie makes Tink bristle: as he viewed the opening scenes of the 2000 film, he thought

"wrong person, wrong place" as he watched actor Sam Neill playing fictional character Cliff Buxton walk towards the Parkes radio telescope. Hooked by the realisation that it was a little dish outside Canberra that had brought the live television of Neil Armstrong's first step on the moon to a worldwide audience of 600 million viewers, he decided to write *Honeysuckle Creek*. The book reveals the pivotal role that the tracking station played in the first moon landing. Andrew Tink gives a gripping account of the role of its director Tom Reid and his colleagues in transmitting some of

the most-watched images in human history. Part biography and part history, the book makes a significant contribution to Australia's role in space exploration and reveals a story little known until now.

Christopher Columbus Kraft Jr, the director of flight operations for Apollo 11, acknowledged: 'The name *Honeysuckle Creek* and the excellence which is implied by that name will always be remembered and recorded in the annals of manned space flight'.

Parkes was and is a radio telescope - not a

OPENING

President Mike Allum welcomed 2 visitors - Leslie Pike and Robyn Beckhouse and then presented Lorraine Kongats with her 20 Year Service Certificate.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes accepted. Proposed by Jill Regnis and seconded by Lorraine Kongats.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Members Surveys have been distributed to all members via email and also in hard copy in Newsletter.

The financial "snapshot" has been published in the Newsletter with an explanation of our financial situation indicating that membership fees would have to be increased effective January 1st 2020.

The Management Committee would be adopting a new document called the Policy Register which has been designed to assist the Committee in Club management. Mike also advised that the topics of "Name Badges" and "Intending Member and Visitor Protocols" would be the subject of a pro-

posal to remove them from Standing Orders and transfer them to the new Policy Register.

CORRESPONDENCE

Carolyn Jolly reported one letter from PSPL regarding results of AGM and Election of Office Bearers.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In Judith Dunstan's absence, Mike Allum reported:
Cash Book balance 31 Aug of \$5 025.16, including committed payments for various functions of \$1,519.00.
Leaving a nett balance of \$3,506.16

WELFARE

Ashlyn Allum presented her report. She also advised that John Johnson had stepped down from leading the Tea Committee with Dawn Saunders taking his place. We are now in need of more volunteers please.

ACTIVITIES

Barbara Banner advised that the Sausage Sizzle would be on Wednesday October 16th. Carrington Hotel tour is on Wednesday, October 9th.
Opal Outing to Manly on October 24th.
Tickets for Proms Concert being mailed out to attendees.

Flower Power visit on Tuesday November 19th to be car-pooled. Please see Bambi Michael if you are attending.

Seafood Dinner November 27th Christmas Lunch at Hunters Hill Club on Tuesday, December 10th

Jill Regnis advised that tickets for a special viewing of RIDE LIKE A GIRL were available at Events theatres the following day if anyone was interested.

MEMBERSHIP

64 members present, 20 apologies, 2 visitors

BOOK CLUB

Richard Jones gave a brief rundown of last month's book PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY with mixed reviews from the group

WALKING GROUP

Richard Collins advised group has been put on hold due to lack of walkers.

RAFFLE

Jim Judge advised that 340 tickets were sold which was great due to a lower attendance.

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