

PROBUS NEWSLETTER

Information in this newsletter is for Probus members only

DIARY

GENERAL MEETINGS

9:30 am, first Tuesday of the month

The Hunters Hill Club

12 Madeline St Hunters Hill

Thursday

Dinner at the Hunters Hill Club

6pm in the week of the Meeting

Tuesday 2nd October

Guest Speaker - Trevor Dean

Subject "The Aquatic Airman"

Trevor has been around aviation most of his life as a pilot and founder of the Australian Aviation Museum, where for 22 years he was a director and curator.

This story is about the formation and history of Trans Oceanic Airways, the first regular airline service to Lord Howe Island and the amazing adventures of founder Bryan Monkton, a unique Australian aviator sadly overlooked in the maritime aviation history of Australia. He was also an artist.

Cheapie Movies – EVENT Cinemas - \$7

Cinebuzz member (otherwise \$8)

10.30 am - Seniors Mondays

1st October - Casablanca

Meet either at Top Ryde or Macquarie Event Cinema at 10.15 am to purchase tickets for a 10.30 start.

Perhaps enjoy lunch or coffee afterwards.

Wednesday 17th October, 2018 –

Bus trip to Blackheath Rhododendron Festival

Cost \$30 – BYO lunch

9am from the HH Club carpark. .

FULLY BOOKED

Friday 19th October

Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00

The book for the month is "Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth" the autobiography of Chris Hadfield, the first Canadian in space.

Afternoon tea - Deirdre Walker

Tuesday 30th October

Port Hacking luncheon cruise

FULLY BOOKED

The Probus Memorial Bell

or

(Remembering Albert Baz)

At each meeting of the club our President sits behind a table on which is displayed various pieces of Probus memorabilia, including a brass bell. The bell's purpose is evident when it is struck, with the sound echoing around the room, so we may be brought to order in the (unlikely) event of our becoming rowdy, or to bring us back to our seats after morning tea to listen to our guest speaker of the day. The bell has been a part of each meeting for much of the past decade. We know this because the bell carries a small and simple plaque, inscribed "In memory of Albert Baz - 2009".



So, who was Albert Baz, and what is the story of the bell?

Albert was a member of our club for most of the 1990's and up to early 2009. He was a keen attendee at meetings, and when his health allowed he enjoyed the occasional day-outing. He was an undemonstrative and quiet kind of fellow, but quick to warm to others. He clearly enjoyed the "fun and friendship" that is a mark of Probus, but in our club he found something else, perhaps of more importance – the companionship of others, including that of his dear friend, Arthur, husband of the lady everyone knows, Pat Cox.

Arthur and Albert loved to sit in the front row, directly under the gaze of the President and others at the official table. From that advantageous position Arthur could be sure that his many, very witty, interjections would be heard. The result was to see Albert, most of the audience, and even the President of the time being reduced to helpless laughter. Then, as the meetings went on it was not unknown for both Albert and Arthur to fall gently asleep, their presence only being noted by the occasional squeak from Albert's hearing aid. I know all this from personal experience as when, during my Presidential term, I copped the occasional Arthur Cox barb, which always reminded me to stop needless pontificating. And at times I would also be reminded that what I was saying couldn't be too important, what with the audience in direct eye-line being sound asleep!

The Probus club and its members were very important to Albert, and his affection for others was returned in spades. He died in 2009. At his memorial service the many club members who were present had the pleasure of meeting Albert's grown children and other close relatives. It was then that we learned of Albert's wish, fully endorsed by his family, that the sum of \$500 be made available to our club from his estate.

At first the Management Committee was concerned about the propriety of the club accepting such a gift. But, thankfully, all agreed that if it was Albert's wish, then we should accept. We informed the family, and in doing so, said we wanted to ensure the bulk of the money went to something of a permanent nature – to honour Albert. So it was that the idea of a memorial bell came about. And knowing Albert, he would have loved the idea of the bell being struck from time to time, to wake him from his slumbers.

A fond recollection from Mike Regnis

WHAT'S COMING UP

Cheapie Movies – EVENT Cinemas
 \$7 Cinebuzz member (otherwise \$8)
 10.30 am - Seniors Mondays
 15th October - The Graduate
 29th October - Vertigo
 13th November – North by Northwest
 26th November – Roman Holiday

Advance Notice - Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 12th December
 Here at the HHC – 12 for 12.30pm

Next Year

25th February March 2019

Probus Group Cruise
 8 days / 7 nights
 Southern Barrier Reef Discovery Cruise
 Onboard P & O Pacific Explorer
 Ports of call, Mooloolaba, Gladstone, Moreton Island. As this cruise is in Australian Waters, no passport is required. You only need to pack/unpack once for the whole voyage (bliss!)
 Payment for this cruise is direct to the travel agent but we are co-ordinating booking forms as it is a Probus event.
 Contact Tony Saunders - 9817 1432 for more information or a booking form.

Wed 27th March – Sun 31st March 2019

New Trip

Melbourne Flower and Garden Show
 5 days/4 nights
 Pick up brochures and booking forms today
 Deposit due 16th November

Staying Successful

We are all fortunate to be members of this club that has been active and successful for more than 40 years. We have given life to the motto of fellowship, friendship and fun, and have made new friends through volunteering, friendships that we treasure.

Many members may not realise that 25 volunteers, that is 25% of our total membership, are needed to keep our Club running smoothly, (management committee, tea committee, activities, speakers, newsletter, raffles etc. etc.). We have been blessed over many years by both the quality and number of volunteers who have stepped forward to make our Club the success that it is, however we shouldn't have to rely on those who volunteer on a continuing basis.

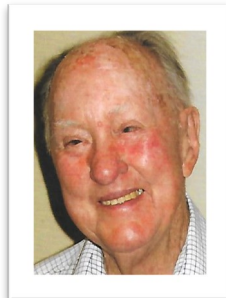
For the Club to remain relevant into the future, we need members to continue to step forward into volunteer roles, the lifeblood of any club depends on a regeneration through renewal – new people and new ideas.

Members bring to the Club a wide and diverse range of skills, abilities, interests, backgrounds and commitments. So, if you are one of those members who have the interest and time to volunteer to support those who can't, then please speak to one of your committee members.

You will be very warmly welcomed.

Margaret Conley
 for the Management Committee

Vale



We were saddened again this month to learn of the death of Graham Percival.

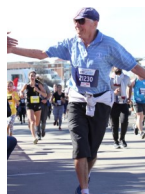
Graham joined the Hunters Hill Probus Club in 2000 and over the years contributed in many areas - **Activities**, he organized the first outing we went on in 2003, the always popular **BBQ's**, the **Tea Committee** and any other area where there was a job to be done.

He will be sadly missed.

Graham's funeral was held at All Saints Church on Monday 24th September, 2018

Our thoughts and prayers go to Carolyn and their family.

Member News



For those of you who couldn't identify **Adrian Nieuwenhuizen** in the photo we published last month, I've found one of Adrian acknowledging the applause of his cheer squad at the finish line.

Adrian pointed out to me that by the time between completing the run and his photo being published, he would have turned 80!

The recognition that **Gordon Sanson** received recently was "Pharmaceutical Society of Australia – Life Fellow", not Life Member.

Bob Mostyn celebrated his birthday on September the 18th not the 8th. I inadvertently aged him in error.



Word has it that a couple of weeks ago in sleepy Huntley's Cove the peace and quiet was shattered with the sounds of much merrymaking, singing and over the top rap music as one of our noted and much loved members celebrated a 90th birthday.

Nothing more will be said.

Wendell's Column

We are very fortunate to have heard so many interesting speakers talk at our meetings. This year, among others, we have heard about the makeover for the Opera House, life on the front line of police and another on the mounted police, the Japanese attack on Sydney Harbour and one on the NSW State Library. Certainly a mixed smorgasbord and something for each of us. Carole Pelham has been the Speakers organizer on the committee for the past several years and finds her people in a variety of ways. First she must find those who have special stories to tell, and then persuade them to come to us. How does she do it? Through articles in magazines in doctors' waiting rooms, in which she looks out for likely people, researches them on the internet and then makes contact by phone or email. Judging by results, she must be very persuasive. She contacts other Probus clubs for recommendations, checks out speakers at the local library, and also finds them in the Active Retirees and Seniors magazines. Many thanks to a busy lady doing a very worthwhile job.

Ross and Josephine McBride recently returned from a 7 day/6 night trip to Longreach in Queensland on an odyssey to some of the most historic places in Australian history. They travelled on the "Spirit of the Outback", Queensland's iconic train, from Brisbane to Longreach and return. This was a twenty-six hour trip each way, complete with sleeping berths and wonderful meals, including wine and other drinks.

Whilst in Longreach they visited the Stockman's Hall of Fame, a museum which honours the pioneers of the Australian outback including the white and Aboriginal stockmen. They also visited the Qantas Founders Museum which has just acquired a Super Constellation aircraft to complement the 747 and 707 that they already have. Qantas is the third oldest airline in the world. It was founded in November 1920 in Winton as Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Limited and began international passenger flights in May 1935.

They also visited Winton whose other claim to fame is that Banjo Patterson wrote "Waltzing Matilda" here. Another day was spent visiting the little village of Ilfracombe where Dame Quentin Bryce was born.

Book Club



One of many things we all agreed on in our review of *Big Little Lies* was that 'in our day'mmmm, maybe showing our age here, we would have been mortified if our parents had turned up at school. This did not however prevent us from enjoying what turned out to be

a surprisingly complex and often amusing book.

Principally told through the voices of the three main characters the many themes resonated, especially in relation to rape, abuse, solo parenting and the difficulties of 'fitting in'. Lesser themes covered obsession with appearance, the challenge of managing the blended family, and the involvement of the parents in the dynamics of the school. We thought that this involvement was born of guilt since many of the characters were what today are referred to as 'helicopter' parents, self absorbed or career absorbed.

The book discloses the cliques that exist within the community of parents of a kindergarten class at a beach suburb north of Sydney. Central to the story is a death, accidental or otherwise, that has occurred at the school trivia night. Who the victim is underpins the suspense of the novel, but really plays second fiddle to the fascinating cast of characters, some eliciting empathy, others distaste. We agreed it was a compelling read, and as over fourteen million copies have been sold, we are obviously not alone in this view.

Deirdre was unable to attend but sent the recommendation of her most recent personal read, 'Prague Sonata' by Bradford Morrow, and we welcomed Richard Jones as a new member to the group.

The book for next month is "*Astronauts Guide to Life on Earth*" the autobiography of Chris Hadfield, the first Canadian in space.

Annette Kent

Barbara's Thought for the Month

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

Author: Leo Buscaglia

Editor's Musings

- If at first, you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you
- If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?
- Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?
- If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

**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 9816 3269
- (email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)
- Honorary Auditor - Charles Kent 9816 3485

**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill**

**PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110**



October Birthdays

Adrian Nieuwenhuizen	10
Anne Day	17
Marie Jackson	18
Barbara Gardner	23
Deirdre Walker	24
Diane Drew	28

SPARE A MINUTE

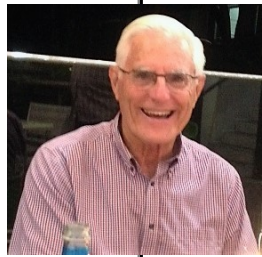
**Minutes of the 473rd Meeting of
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the
Hunters Hill Club on
Tuesday 4^h September 2018 at 9:30**

OPENING

Following the opening of the meeting with the national anthem, the President, Margaret Conley, presented new member badges to Bronwyn Ellens and David Ward. The president then welcomed to the meeting the following visitors: Julie Gahan, Robyn Ellens, Mandy Stubbs, Bambi Michael, Rick Collins, and Jim Likidis. The president informed members that there were 3 suggestions in the suggestion box last month and thanked those who made suggestions. One was for monthly day trips, another to go to WA to see the wildflowers and a third for a local morning or afternoon tea. The committee will do its best to turn these suggestions into reality. The president informed members that it is time to update the personal profiles of members and to that affect, you will be contacted by a committee member. You will be asked about details such as address, mobile phone number, next of kin, and whether you might like to replace your current black and white photo with a coloured one. You are not required to do anything, but all full

Foundation for National Park's and Wildlife

The planned guest speaker, Julian Leatherdale, was unable to attend due to illness. Carol Pelham, therefore, invited, rather, cajoled our member Greg Griffiths to step in at very short notice and Greg made an entertaining and interesting speech from his considerable knowledge about the Foundation of National Parks and Wildlife.



Greg's association with FNPW began when the company he worked for, Kimberly-Clark, was approached to become a corporate donor. This led to Greg becoming a director, and later a governor of the Foundation.

FNPW is a not for profit non-governmental organisation whose purpose is to foster the protection of Australia's native plants, animals and cultural heritage through education and conservation projects. It acquires land through purchase, donations and bequests. This includes the Mungo National Park and the Daintree Rainforest, as well as fifty other national parks and nature reserves. It also funds threatened species recovery programs. Animals saved from extinction include the Lord Howe Island wood hen and the yellow-footed rock wallaby, as well as the reintroduction of the mallee fowl in areas where they previously existed.

The foundation was also responsible for setting up a no-go area for power boats and skis to protect fairy penguins in Sydney Harbour. Directors are expected to be involved in Foundation projects.

An important project is maintenance of wildlife corridors to allow animals to move around freely to breed, otherwise they're in danger of inbreeding.

FNPW runs the Backyard Buddies Program, which is designed to get children to encourage their parents to help in conservation of local wildlife by planting native plants to encourage foliage cover and food supply, particularly for smaller birds.



Ed: Congratulations Greg on a thoroughly entertaining presentation put together with little warning or time for preparation.

members will receive a call shortly from a Committee member. The president invited those members who would like to have an up-to-date membership list, to please see Gordon Sanson at morning tea. The president informed members that Vinci Wahlquist and Pat Cox joined this Probus Club 24 years ago today, and also wished Pat a happy birthday for tomorrow.

CORRESPONDENCE

IN: none.
OUT: The completed nomination form for Community Award to the Office of Trent Zimmerman MP.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Judith Butt presented her report.

C/B bal 1 August 2018	\$ 5,948.24
Total receipts	\$ 4,546.00
Total expenses	\$ 3,406.39
C/B bal 31 August 2018	\$ 7,087.85

WELFARE REPORT

Peter Kelly presented his report.

ACTIVITIES

Jill Regnis presented her report. Jill asked members to please sign their suggestions before putting them in the suggestion box.

MEMBERSHIP

Gordon Sanson. Nil to report.

OPAL EVENTS

Please see Ellen McKeown.

BOOK CLUB

Annette Kent wrote a short report in Newsletter.

MEN'S GROUP

Neville Davey, convener, asked Garth Juster to inform men of an outing arranged for the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 October, to the Naval Museum at Garden Island. There is a ferry from Circular Quay. The cuseum contains naval history and Australian history. Neville asked men to please think about more/new ideas for future.

OTHER

The president asked if there are any dancing class leaders in the Club? This elicited a good laugh.

Tony Saunders addressed the members re the Group Cruise which he is organizing on the 25 March to 4 April 2019.

RAFFLE

Jim Judge sold 310 tickets. Jim informed members that Judy Davey has suggested the Club offers a 3rd prize. The Management Committee will consider this as was indicated by a consensus from members.

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