

# 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

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**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

### Guest Speaker

Clive Small, one of NSW's most successful Detectives and was in charge of the "Ivan Milat Case". Clive will give his account of "The Dark Side" talking about Mark Standen the 3<sup>rd</sup> person in charge of NSW Crime Dept.

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### Walking Group

See page 2

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**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

### Sausage Sizzle

Peter Kelly / Jim Likidis  
Abbotsford Quarantine Station  
50 Spring St, Abbotsford 12 noon  
Cost \$20 More at Tuesday's meeting

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**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September**

### Book Club

Hunters Hill Museum - 14:00  
Book for the month is "The Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde  
Afternoon Tea - Richard Jones

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**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

### Opal Outing - Reserve Bank Tour

Meet outside bank, 65 Martin Place  
9:45am

Names to Barbara Gardner at Tuesday's meeting.

Minimum of 10 required

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## Archibald Prize Outing

Twelve of our members went along to view the Archibald finalists this year; not as many as usual, but a chance for those who went to get a more intimate sense of what the artists were trying to portray in their various styles and choices of subject.

The Archibald provides a snapshot of Australian life, thanks to the requirement that sitters be notable in a field such as sport, the arts, media and politics. This combination of portraiture and fame ensures that the Archibald Prize is consistently the Art Gallery of NSW's most popular exhibition.

The winner this year is Tony Costa's portrait of Lindy Lee, contemporary artist and Zen Buddhist. Once again, Anh Do was a finalist, with his portrait of the war artist George Gittoes, entitled *Art and War*. Other interesting finalists were Mrs Singh by Tsering Hannaford and Mariam Veiszadeh by Angus McDonald, in the style of *Girl With a Pearl Earring*. The 2019 People's Choice was *Tjuparntarri - women's business* by David Darcy.



Lindy Lee



Art and War



Mrs Singh



Mariam Veiszadeh



Tjuparntarri Women's Business

**Archibald Prize (cont)**

What a wonderful surprise!

Here we were at the Sydney Art Gallery and when our guide introduced himself to the group I couldn't believe it.

How could I ever forget someone that I had met the day his mother bought him home from the hospital as a newborn baby.

My family lived right next-door and although I was seven at the time it wasn't long before Mark and I used to climb over our adjoining paling fence to play together.

It is 50 years since our paths last crossed but it only seemed like yesterday.


It's just not fair that he has kept all his hair!



*Peter Kelly*

**Book Club**

*"Sarah's Key"*  
by Tatiana de Rosnay



Another heart rending story around Jewish persecution and the holocaust.

Genocide is part of the human condition and infrequently provides opportunities for any survivors to tell of the horrors. Nazi inhumanity however is well documented and so is a fertile source for books and films about their horrendous crimes against humanity. Many poignant stories have emerged eg "The Diary of Anne Frank".


Sarah's Key is in a similar but not identical vein (it is fiction). The key was to the lock of the cupboard where Sarah hid her brother from the French police with a promise that she would return and rescue him. The family was taken to the winter velodrome, thence to camps and finally to Auschwitz.

Sarah escaped and was rescued by a kindly French family who nurtured her to young adulthood. The house with the cupboard was rented and a parallel story exists between an investigative journalist uncovering the horror of the house, its later occupants, the key and her own dysfunctional marriage.

It raises the ghosts and sadness of the past.

*Richard Jones*

**Walking Group**




Unfortunately the walking group has not been quite as successful as the organisers might have hoped. Both Rick Collins and Margaret Conley set out with great expectations but the number of participants have been disappointing.

However, rather than call a cease to all activity they have decided to approach other Probus groups in the area to see if there is enough interest out there to come along and join our intrepid team.

Watch this space.

**He's Done it Again**



Our very own "Super Athlete" Adrian Nieuwenhuizen has recently completed his 29th City to surf

He reports that his time was a very swift 2 hours 6 minutes, 4 min more than last year, but not bad!

That is about 10min better than 10 years ago.

By my reckoning, at that rate he'll complete the course in under 2 hours in 10 years time

**Barbara's Thought for the Month**

The content of your character is your choice. Day by day, what you do is who you become.

*Author: Heraclitus -the philosopher and author - died 475BC*

**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	-	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**

Never learn anything new. It might conflict with your preconceived beliefs

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad

Plan to be spontaneous, tomorrow

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head, a beer gut and still think they are sexy.

**FOR YOR DIARY**

**Tuesday 1st October**

**Guest Speaker**

Andrew Tink

50th Anniversary "Man on the Moon"

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**Wednesday 9th October**

**Norman Lindsay Gallery / High Tea at the Carrington**

\$110 pp incl Morning tea, admission, guided tour, lunch coffee and bus transportation

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**Thursday 24th October**

**Opal Outing**

Ferry to Manly for Lunch Wharf 3 at 11:20 arriving 12:00

See inside for more  
Ann Juster

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**Monday 4th November**

**Good Old Days Concert**

Proms Concert

11:00am Sydney Town Hall  
Barbara Banner - cost \$45

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**Tuesday 12th November**

**General Meeting**

Delayed due to Melbourne Cup

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**Friday 15th November**

**Book Club**

TBA

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**Tuesday 19th November**

**Flower Power - Mona Vale**

TBA Bambi Michael

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**Wednesday 27th November**

**Sea Food BBQ**

Barbara Banner

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**Tuesday 10th December**

**Xmas Lunch**

Hunters Hill Club

**Sydney Living Museums**

Carol Pelham introduced Ray McIntock, who spoke about the properties under the care of Sydney Living Museums.



Sydney Living Museums is a subsidiary of the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales, a statutory authority of the Government of New South Wales. The sites under the care of SLM are The Mint, Elizabeth Bay House, Vaucluse House, Elizabeth Farm, Meroogal, the Justice and Police Museum at Circular Quay, Hyde Park Barracks, Susannah Place, The Rocks, Rouse Hill House and Farm, Museum of Sydney and Rose Seidler House.

The Mint, housed in the former Rum Hospital in Macquarie Street, was opened as a branch of the Royal Mint in 1854. It was moved to Canberra in 1926 and the premises are now the home of the Historic Houses Trust and Sydney Living Museums. It also houses the Caroline Simpson Library, which specialises in house and garden design and interior furnishings.

One of the lesser known properties is Meroogal, in Nowra. Built in 1885, this timber house with its 'Gothic' trimmings has passed through four generations of women from the same family. Ray recommends it as part of an Opal excursion.



Rose Seidler House may be considered a surprising choice for the Sydney Living Museums stable. When completed in 1950, it was 'the most talked about house in Sydney.' Its radical design helped establish Ray Seidler's Australian and later international reputation. It is still regarded as a Sydney icon.



Another possibly less well-known property is Susannah Place in Gloucester Street, The Rocks. It is of Victorian Georgian design and consists of a former corner store and four two up/two down workers' cottages. It had domestic tenants until 1990 and is now a museum of early life in Sydney, dating back to the early 1800s.

Hyde Park Barracks



**Probus Club of  
Hunters Hill**

**PO BOX 1041  
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110**



**September Birthdays**

<b>Judith Dewsnap</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Tony Saunders</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Pat Cox</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Judith Dunstan</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Bob Mostyn</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Mike Regnis</b>	<b>25</b>

**SPARE A MINUTE**

**Minutes of the 484<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
Hunters Hill Probus Club at the  
Hunters Hill Club on  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August at 9:30am**

**OPENING**

Following the National Anthem, the President Mike Allum asked that all mobile phones be turned off and then welcomed visitors Lesley Pike, Helen Bayless, Joanne Weeks and Kerry Tuck.  
President Mike then presented 20-year pins to Deidre Walker and Ross McBride (who then proceeded to encourage all members to read the Newsletter). There was some confusion as to the awarding of pins to Mearle Denton and Lorraine Kongats which Mike would look into. Mike then inducted Fran Williams as a new member.  
Mike then spoke to the members regarding the proposed \$5 booking fee for Club excursions/lunches/dinners etc. He thanked all members for their input and he would be recommending to the Management Committee that the booking Fee be abandoned and that they prepare a case for an increase of the Membership subscription.  
In passing Mike mentioned that during their trip to Abercrombie House, one of our members, Rod Stewart, found that he had been to school

**Club Finances**

At last month's meeting I indicated that I would be recommending to the Management Committee that we abandon our plan to introduce a \$5 dollar booking fee for "significant" events, such as a major outing, a dinner or lunch. The motivation behind the idea was to increase the Club's income and address the shortfall between our revenue and expenditure.

There were a number of issues raised with me after we floated the idea, not the least being that a minority of members would be subsidising the majority based on our current participation rates in our major activities. Further, the amount of additional revenue raised, given the number of activities for which a booking fee were likely to be charged would not make a significant difference to our income. It was also pointed out that in the interests of fairness, all members should contribute to the financial wellbeing of the Club, a concept any fair-minded person would find hard to disagree with.

I duly asked the Committee to reconsider the decision which we collectively did and the idea has been withdrawn.

However, we still have the initial issue of the need to raise our revenue in a fair and equitable manner.

Late last year, when this issue was first raised, we looked at ways in which our expenditure could be reduced. To compound the problem, we had to absorb an increase in the capitation fees PSPL charges us. Our discretionary costs, those over which we have some control include; the Newsletter, morning tea supplies, stationary and photocopying, raffle prizes and postage. With my Newsletter hat on I agreed to reduce the costs by 25% to \$1000 by cutting the number of copies we have printed. Apart from the hire of the Club for our meetings, this is the second largest single component of costs. We also reduced our costs for the supply of the "Active Retiree" magazine after we noted a lessening in the pick-up rate at our meetings.

This year's Budget shows income of \$7,450 based on the current membership fee of \$50 with Expenditure at \$7,175. This would yield an operating surplus of \$275. Little margin for error.

Our aim is to have the equivalent of one year's subscription fees in the bank as a surplus to cover contingences like fixed cost increases and, if needed, equipment replacement or upgrade.

*Mike Allum*

with the owner 55 years ago. Small world.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

A copy of the condensed Minutes are contained in the Newsletter was accepted.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

A number of nominations have been received for Life Membership. The matter will be referred to Management Committee today.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Carolyn Jolly reported the following correspondence  
Incoming: Letter of thanks from Sydney Community Aid regarding our contribution to Winter Food Appeal..  
Outgoing: Letters regarding Public Liability Insurance to HH Council and HH Club.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Judith Dunstan reported a negative balance - \$249.04. President Mike Allum then explained our financial position in more detail to the members including the fact that our fees would need to be increased.

**WELFARE**

Ashlyn Allum welcomed Barbara Gardner back after her shoulder operation. She is much better. She also advised that Betty Judge has been in hospital and they were unable to attend the Abercrombie House visit. However she is thrilled at all the phone calls, cards, etc. from everyone.

Margaret and David Bowen were also unable to attend the tour; however David is out of hospital this afternoon and will be back next month. Greg Griffith is also welcomed back and is much better as is Wendell Watt.

**ACTIVITIES**

Barbara Banner presented the list of Activities until early next year.

**WALKING GROUP**

Rick Collins advised next walking tour this coming Thursday with details in the Newsletter.

**THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER**

Bob Mostyn took the numbers

**BOOK CLUB**

Richard Jones confirmed Book Club is on 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of month at 2pm. This month is yet another Holocaust story!! Serious or Sad.

**Members**

76 present, 6 apologies, 4 visitors

**RAFFLE**

Jim Judge sold 281 raffle tickets this month

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