

PROBUS NEWSLETTER

Information in this
newsletter is for
Probus members only

What's Happening

Not a lot to report in terms of the club situation in this edition.

The position regarding our return to the Hunters Hill Club is still unclear. Jim and Dean are still awaiting feedback from the club, not expected until after the next Board meeting.

The committee has been meeting regularly with a couple of meetings via ZOOM, an online video-conferencing application. At one stage it was considered holding a general meeting using this medium. However, several technical issues were encountered with just nine "attendees", hence the proposal to attempt a meeting with 70 plus members was abandoned.

The latest meeting was last Thursday at the Hunters Hill Hotel. It is fair to say, the major topic has been trying to determine when we hold our next meeting. As the situation appears to be easing with regard to gatherings, I'm sure we are all keen to get back to face to face meetings and normality. To this end, the committee is considering a meeting at the beginning of August. Details are still to be finalised, including the location, and the specifics will be published in the next full Newsletter, hopefully, the first week of July.

The monthly coffee morning last week at the Huntley's Café was well attended by 13 members enjoying some sunshine, fresh air and good company. It has been suggested by several members that the "event" should be held weekly. This isn't seen as a problem as it is an informal get together, providing social distancing is maintained as it was last week. Regrettably, the photo was "unpublishable".

The committee supports the activity and has ratified it as an "official" Probus activity. So, coffee Thursdays now every week.

See you there.

Mike

Member News

Nancy Hattersley underwent major back surgery on July 18th in North Shore Private Hospital. Her daughter Cathy, advised that the operation went well and she was in ICU that night.

Ashlyn spoke with Nancy yesterday and reports she is now back in the ward. She is likely to remain in hospital for 10 to 14 days. The surgeon said that the operation was successful. Although she is in much discomfort she is in good spirits and chatty. No visitors or calls at the moment.

She thanks everyone for their good wishes and support.

Gordon's Kitchen - 2

The story behind the recipe..

Gordon had volunteered to work in the pharmacy at the Sydney Olympics and I worked in the main stadium. We had a connection with the American Diving Team and the families of some of the team members had booked to stay a long way out of Sydney. This proved to be impractical and, as we had a number of the family members staying at our home in Gladesville, they decided to come in early in the morning and all have breakfast together.

I had to leave for the bus at 4.30 am and Gordon was only a little later so a number of neighbours came in and helped with breakfast. One morning the Americans cooked Dutch Baby and left this recipe for us. A lovely time was had by all.

A special night was put on at Banjo Paterson Restaurant. It was in fact Kathy Freeman's glorious night when she won gold in the 400m. There was a combined cheering Aussies and Americans who shouted for joy when she pulled this off

After the Olympics were over the American competitors didn't return home for a about 5 days but mostly, the families had gone back. We took our house guest, competition diver Troy Dumas, sight seeing and it was only then that we learned that our house guest Troy's uncle was, in fact, deputy administrator of NASA.

Patricia Sanson

Gordon's Kitchen - 2 (cont'd)

Dutch Baby

1 Cup Flour	1.5 Tablespoons brown sugar
3 large eggs	½ Teaspoon Cinnamon
1 cup whole or low-fat milk	¼ Teaspoon Nutmeg
1 teaspoon vanilla	1.5 Tablespoons buttgr or margarine
1 Pinch of salt	

Serves 2-4

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

In a cast iron skillet or suitable heatproof frying pan (approximately 10-12 inches in diameter by 2 inches height), place butter or margarine in the pan and place in oven to melt butter.

In an electric blender or mixer, pour milk and vanilla.

Add salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and brown sugar to this mixture.

Turn blender on to ¾ speed and crack each egg (one-at-a-time) into liquid mixture. Blend for one minute.

Continue blending and add flour one teaspoon-at-a-time allowing time for mixture to aerate. After flour is mixed, continue blending for one minute.

Remove skillet from oven and swirl pan to ensure coating of butter covers nearly the whole pan. Add batter mixture to hot skillet and swirl so that butter rises to the top.

Place skillet pan back in oven and let rise like a soufflé for 20-30 minutes until lightly browned on the edges and in the centre of the Dutch Baby.

Remove from the oven and let the Dutch Baby collapse for one to two minutes.

Cut into appropriate slices and serve with anything you enjoy, (e.g., butter and syrup, fruit, meat, etc.)

Gordon Sanson

Hunters Hill Theatre

The Hunters Hill Theatre began life in 1930 as the Hunters Hill Play Reading Club; shortly afterwards the name was changed to the Hunters Hill Play Reading and Dramatic Club. Its first performance took place at the Hunters Hill Congregational Church in the same year.

By the early 1940s Hunters Hill Town Hall was its established home, although performances were given at other venues, including Ryde and Parramatta Town Halls and around Hunters Hill. In 1938 *A Cavalcade of Australian History*, which included local people in various roles was held to mark the sesquicentenary of the First Fleet landing. During the war years, it was difficult to find male performers, so women took the roles.

In 1974 the name was changed to the Hunters Hill Dramatic Club, and the search for a permanent home went on. In 1978 agreement was reached to use the St John's church hall in Margaret Street. A further, and last name change was made in 1991, to the Hunters Hill Theatre Inc.

The St John's hall burnt down in 1993 and after much discussion and disagreement, a decision was made to try to acquire the St John's Church building. This was completed in September 1994, but not without some heartache. The old committee stood down and another was formed. A program of season subscriptions was established, and the theatre began selling out all twelve performances of almost every play.

Sadly, the theatre's life at St John's Church came to an end at the end of 2016 when the Anglican Church sold the building for private use and the Hunters Hill Town Hall has once again become its home. Unfortunately, like many local institutions, the theatre has had to close for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic.

Based on a talk given by Lynn Trainor, past president of the Hunters Hill Theatre and of course past president of the Hunters Hill Proboscis Club, to the Hunters Hill Historical society in April 2016. reprinted with the permission of the Hunters Hill Historic Society.

Garth's Travels – A Romantic Tale

Ann and I met late in life on a blind date organized by a mutual friend. We hit it off right from the start and were soon meeting regularly.

As our relationship was moving fast and getting very serious we decided to put ourselves through a series of tests. Test (1) to have a holiday together Test (2) to not see each other for one month, Test (3) to live together for one month. If at the end of this we were still talking, we would get married.

Test 1 – Holiday

One day Garth phoned Ann,

Garth: Have you heard of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo?

Ann: Yes.

Garth: Would you like to go?

Ann: Why are they coming to Sydney.

Garth: No we will go to Edinburgh,

Ann: (after 10 seconds of thought) I'd love to!

So off we go and enjoyed a month in Scotland. After seeing the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, we then rented a "Buck & Ben" (old Scottish farmhouse) on the shores of Loch Lomond. We visited the island of Iona (where kings of Ireland & Scotland are buried & the oldest Nunnery in Britain), spent a day at a "Keeley" (Scottish fair) and visited many Scottish castles. We had a great time.

Test 2 – Spend a month apart

Garth had already organized a trip for himself to Kamchatka, (a Russian peninsular immediately North of Japan). However, Garth cheated a little by organizing for Ann to receive a daily letter from him while he was away.

Test 3 – Live together for one month.

At the end of the time we were still talking so we decided to get married!

We got married at Berida Manor, Bowral. We organized for all of our families and friends from around Australia to come and spend a weekend with us at Berida Manor and as a PS to the invitation we mentioned "By the way we will be married while you are there".

We were married in the gardens surrounded by these family and friends.

We then had a honeymoon in Vanuatu.

That was all just over 21 years ago so the rest is history!

Kinda brings a tear to your eye doesn't it? Ed.

Lockdown Humour

When parents start to crack during lockdown



If you want to save money at Xmas, now's the perfect time to tell the kids that Santa didn't make it through the pandemic