

PROBUS NEWSLETTER

Information in this
Newsletter is for
Probus members only

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 2nd August

General Meeting
Gladesville Sporties Club - 09:30
Guest Speaker:
Snr Constable Shane Carne
"Local Policing"

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
Sunroom 10:00

Tuesday 9th August

Technical Outing
David Lorsch
See Page 4

Friday 12th August

Exotic Lunch
See Page 8
Dean Letcher

Saturday 13th August

Sydney Male Choir
Sydney Town Hall 14:00
Tickets \$45
Barbara Banner

Tuesday 16th August

Movies
TBA

Wednesday 17th August

Scenic Dining
See Page 8
Dean Letcher

Friday 19th August

Book Club
Hunters Hill Museum
14:00 pm
"Klara and the Sun"
by Kazuo Ishiguro
Margaret Timbs

Friday 26th August

Art Group
See Page 5
Margaret Timbs

From the President

Vale Bob Mostyn

Last Friday 15 Probians attended the funeral of Bob Mostyn, a popular member of the club who had lived a full 92 years. It was Bob who promoted the Thursday night dinners at the HH Club (the fitting site of his wake). Bob and his family have been generous supporters of HH heritage projects.

Hunters Hill Day

This Sunday 31st July is "Hunters Hill Day" on the anniversary of the day the state government gave up on trying to amalgamate Hunters Hill with other councils. There is a celebratory dinner at 6:00 pm that night at the HH Club doubtless to be addressed at length by the "Independence" advocates. There is still a strong sentiment in HH about the first Australian 'garden suburb' and the importance of continuing the peaceful existence of this special area.

2022 Quilt Show

Opening on Thursday 4 August and exhibiting Friday 5th to Sunday 7th the HH Quilters group are showing old and new examples of this craft which dates from before 3000 BCE. The show includes the enormous 1988 Bicentennial quilt of HH and many of its notable houses and landmarks. It was made by no fewer than 55 crafters [not including husbands]. There are also new quilts on a whole variety of subjects and in many styles.

2022 mini-Moocooboola Saturday 20th August

Moocooboola was one early name for HH [and it appears on the council's coat of arms approved by the College of Heralds in London!]. Most recently it is the name of a community festival day held on the Boronia Park oval. This year [with rare foresight] council predicted that rain would make the oval a quagmire so a 'mini Moocooboola' will be in the Town Hall. Probus is contributing so do watch out for our stall- maybe shared with other groups.

Probus Day Dinner

October 1st is Probus Day around the world and a dinner at HH Club is planned involving us, Rotary HH and hopefully HH Ladies Probus. More later but save the date - Thursdayth 6 October. This is a little after the actual Probus Day date because it falls on the Friday of the Labour Day long weekend. I recall it as Eight Hour Day following the cry of: "8 hours to work, 8 hours to play, 8 hours to sleep and 8 bob a day!"

Dean

Yulefest

Our trusty driver, Hans, picked 19 of us up right on time at the Hunters Hill Post Office on Sunday 17th July. Already on board were 6 independent other passengers joining the trip.

We left on time heading for Mt Tomah Gardens where morning tea was scheduled. The weather, from the inside of the coach, was great, clear blue sky and bright sunshine. However, on exiting the bus all of a sudden, the previously idyllic image quickly turned to reality. About 12 degrees with high winds bringing a windchill factor of somewhere around -300°.

Hans prepared morning tea for us at the gardens and gave us time to wander about.

Most however stayed close to the buildings and the heaters.

Some of the more intrepid ventured further into the gardens, foolishly.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 6th September

General Meeting
 Gladesville Sporties - 09:30
 Guest Speaker:
 Helen Olde & Dorothy Warwick
 "History of Linwood"

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
 Sunroom 10:00 am

Friday 9th September

Exotic Lunch
 TBA
 Dean Letcher

Wednesday 14th September

Sausage Sizzle
 TBA
 Barbara

Friday 16th September

Book Club
 TBA
 Margaret Timbs

Tuesday 20th September

Movies
 Sandy Mower
 TBA

Wednesday 21st September

Bowral Tulip Festival
 \$96 departs from HH Post Office
 Barbara

Wednesday 21st September

Scenic Dining
 TBA
 Dean Letcher

Friday 23rd September

Art Group
 TBA
 Margaret Timbs

Thursday 20th October

Ballina & the Margaret Olley Gallery
 See or call Jill Regnis
 9808 2482 or 0467 322 244

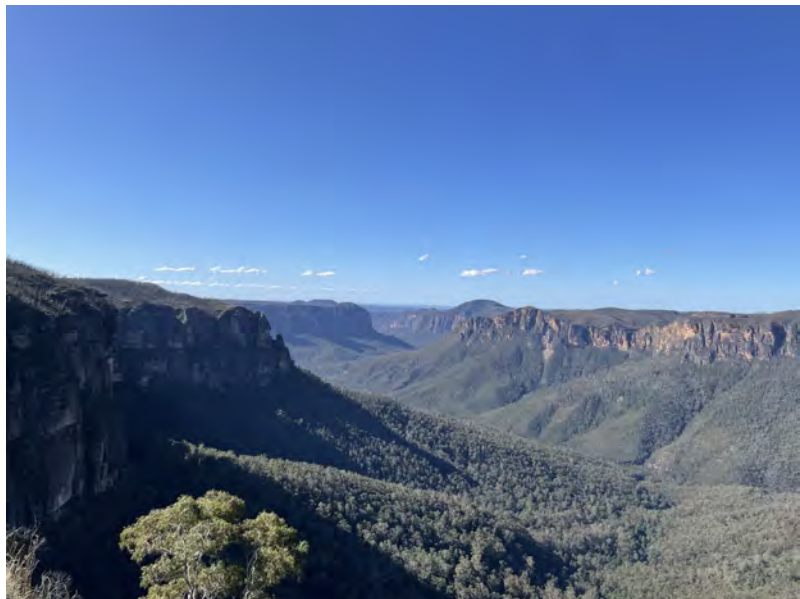
November
King Island

Trip cancelled
 See Page 10

Yulefest (cont)



After morning tea we set off for Govett's Leap. As you can see it was a beautiful, sunny winter's day, but, dressed appropriately for arctic conditions we survived the "photo" opportunity. Spectacular scenery.



Lunch and warmth in the Gardeners Hotel, Blackheath followed. Several sampled the glühwein with the general comment "should have been a bit warmer".



Yulefest (cont)

A brief stop at the souvenir outlet connected to the Hydro Majestic served as a salve to the fact that we weren't permitted to stop and look at the historic and renovated hostelry.



From there it was off to our accommodation at the Carrington in Katoomba. Plenty of time for a long "HOT" shower, a change of clothes and maybe a wee tot of something prior to our dinner.

In the grand restaurant we enjoyed the traditional Christmas fare with all the appropriate trimmings.



A pianist was on hand to add to the atmosphere by playing a selection of carols and festive songs. During his break, he pointed out the song sheet subtly positioned by our napkins with the words, rather the chorus line of a song we had to sing (unaccompanied by piano)

It was that or no desert.

Time for a quick nightcap then off to bed. Our photographer was on hand to see the last two to leave the cocktail bar.



Abbot, Costello and Friends

Yulefest (cont)

After breakfast on another bright but cold morning Hans took us to the Three sisters and Jamison Valley viewing area. Always a spectacular view and a great photo opportunity.

A short break shopping in the souvenir outlet, and much to the delight of the ladies present, we were off to Leura for some serious retail therapy.

I overheard one group of males discussing which pub they would adjourn to but the hour of the day came into play and they retired for the next, what seemed like hours, drinking multiple cappuccinos, lattes and americanos until it was time to meet back at the coach and head off for lunch.



Following lunch, served at the Alexandra Hotel Leura, we set off for our last stop of the trip, The Norman Lindsay Gallery and Studio at Faulconbridge.

A guide provided the commentary in the studio which made the visit well worthwhile.



The only thing left to do now was to retire to our coach and trusty driver, Hans, for the easy journey back to Hunters Hill.

Another successful trip arranged by Barbara, our Activities Coordinator.

Mike

Technical Outing

Tuesday August 9th Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith, lunch at Wallacia Hotel, 1590 Mulgoa Road, Wallacia and then to the Western Sydney International Airport Experience Centre, 100 Eaton Road, Luddenham.

I initially proposed that this Outing only visit the Experience Centre, but inspection showed that it would occupy less than 1 hour on site and the Centre could not accommodate our group in the morning. Therefore, I included the Museum of Fire and lunch at Wallacia because they are reasonably convenient and add value to the travel time from Hunters Hill, which is about an hour each way via the M4.

The Museum of Fire contains an extensive display of fire engines, from Colonial to modern models, miscellaneous fire-fighting equipment and related information. The Museum is housed in the former Penrith Power Station. Entry to the Museum costs \$15 per adult, \$11 Seniors Card holder or pensioner, payable at the Museum shop at the entrance.



Technical Outing (cont)

Wallacia Hotel bistro offers the usual range of pub food at reasonable prices and is located approximately between Penrith and the Experience Centre.

The Western Sydney International Airport Experience Centre is located on a low hill on the north-western side of the airport site. Most of the site can be seen from the Centre, including the completed runway formation about 3.5 km long and the early stages of terminal building construction. The Centre houses interactive displays about the Airport. An illustrated presentation about the Airport has been booked for our group. There is no charge for entry to the Centre or for the presentation.

It is proposed that Outing participants car-pool to drive to and from the venues at the following times:

- * Leave Hunters Hill and environs about 9 am.
- * Inspect Museum of Fire 10:30 to 11:30 am.
- * Drive to Wallacia Hotel for lunch, 12 noon to 1 pm.
- * Drive to Experience Centre and view presentation 1:30 pm to 2 pm.
- * Depart for home or other destinations after presentation and viewing the airport site.

I can provide drivers with directions, if needed, to the Museum and between the Museum, the Hotel and the Experience Centre.

If you would like to come, please add your name to the list and advise if you are prepared to drive during morning tea at the General Meeting on 2nd August, or by using contact details below.

David Lorsch, Leader, Technical Outings.

Ph. 0428 247 708 or email lorschd@bigpond.net.au

Art Group

The date: Friday 26th August, the venue: The Art Gallery on Darling, 307 Darling St. Balmain. Meet at 11:00 am. The exhibition is by Annvie Hilderbrand showing ceramics and porcelain. Also at the back of this gallery are a number of other artworks by local artists.

There are many eating places in the vicinity where we will have coffee, a bight to eat, or both, after viewing the Art.

Parking is not easy in Balmain so the option of travelling by bus might be the easiest. Any bus along Victoria Road will stop just past Darling Street. However, it does mean walking along Darling Street quite a way to the Gallery, on the corner of Darling St. and Church St.

Please let me know of your attendance during the morning tea break at the August 2nd meeting

Margaret Timbs: 0438 063 620

Club Publicity Promotion

On the 20th. July we launched our Club's publicity promotion for new members.

This was a multi level promotion consisting of the following:

- * TWT advertisement
- * TWT article
- * 700 pamphlets mail drop
- * Advertising in 7 "chat sites" showing the same advertisement as the one appearing in TWT and an article about the club.

How successful this campaign will be, will not be known for at least 2-3 weeks. I expect we will know more then or based on the number of visitors attending our next meeting.

The good news is we did get a response from 2 people, husband and wife, recently retired enquiring about how to join the club and I expect to see them at the next meeting.

Whatever happens as to the number of new members this campaign will bring to the club, the publicity generated is good for the club and I feel certain more people have now heard of Probus Hunters Hill.

To manage this campaign however, required a bit of work.

To this end I would like to thank Deborah Lohman and Dean Letcher for the wonderful articles they wrote and to all the volunteers that delivered the 700 pamphlets, namely:

Bronwyn Ellens, Kathy O'Sullivan, Margaret Bowman, the Allums, David Lorsch, and Margaret Conley, Barbara Enright, Bob Way, Kevin Manie and Fran Williams, Robyn Hogan, Norbert Snashall.

Thank you all for all your help.

Jim

Long Service Awards

Due to our President Dean, contracting Covid-19, or whatever number we are up to now, VP David Lorschy had the pleasure of making some Long Service awards.

First out of the blocks was John Saalfeld celebrating 10 years, joining in June, 2012



Judith Love followed having completed 15 years membership, having joined way back in June 2007.



They were followed by Jill & Mike Regnis, both hitting the 20 year milestone, joining in July 2002.

Probacchanalians

Dan Murphy's tasting room in Lane Cove was the venue of the ground breaking, inaugural Probus Wine Appreciation group meeting, henceforth known as the Probacchanalians.

A group of seven, 6 members and one invitee, guest) met for this momentous occasion. The proceedings commenced with a welcoming introduction from Richard Jones, our Sommelier, and a summary description of the intended format. Very little discussion ensued as we were all intent on getting down to business and whatever Richard suggested was fine by us.

In short, we were to be presented with 6 locally, Australian, produced examples of Shiraz wines from not only different vineyards but varying regions. We would then be asked for our comments on the wines, appearance, nose and palette, all words of a technical nature gleaned from an assortment of wine tasting handbooks from round the globe.

We were to be presented with 3 wines at a time, given a summary of the wine tasting notes of each wine, not necessarily in the order presented and invited to taste. Due reverence was given to the process, look, sniff, sample and spit before we were asked for our comments. It was noticed by your reporter however the the occurrence of the fourth step in the sequence was not observed quite as often as would be expected in such an austere group.

Having analysed the samples, rated and commented accordingly we moved on the the next three wines and the process was repeated.

It was interesting to note that a slight "relaxation" in the process was a little more evident during the second round.

The whole evening was conducted in a relaxed, convivial atmosphere in splendid surroundings. Richard kept us all in order avoiding any unseemly rowdiness and John, a wine expert from Dan Murphy's was on hand to add to any discussion relating to the wines on display.

Our thanks go to Richard for organising the event and venue, selecting the wines and conducting the proceedings. We look forward to the next one.

Richard has provided the following feedback of a more technical nature.

Mike

What a great evening at Dan Murphy's Special Tasting Room (sincere thanks to John and Walter)

Mike has succinctly reported on the event (sorry to those absentees due to Covid etc) but just to add a touch of the profound and with acknowledgement to Leunig, may I provide the following--

Regions and Cellaring

These days wines are being produced from all sorts of unlikely and improbable places. Modern life is certainly creating some fascinating surprises.

- Most of the truly great wines have been produced from the pantry which is a cool climate region.
- The shed is a warmer region but consistently produces some wonderful vintages.
- The fridge produces mainly white wines and the quality is mostly OK.
- A high altitude region is the top of the bookshelf and perfectly magnificent wines can be found there.
- The letter box also produces the odd excellent bottle.
- Very drinkable wines have been produced from under the front seat of the car

And Keats the ever observant poet wrote of the Probacchanalians--

"And as I sat, over the light blue hills
There came a noise of revellers: the rills
Into the wide stream of purple hue--
Twas Bacchus and his crew!
The earnest trumpet spake, and silver thrills
From kissing cymbals made a merry din--
Twas Bacchus and his kin!
Like a moving vintage down they came,
Crown'd with green leaves, and faces all on flame;
All madly dancing through the pleasant valley.

Our next meeting may encompass "Cabernet Sauvignons of the world"

In Vino Veritas

Richard

Exotic Lunch

On Friday 8th July 14 Probians had a fine exotic Parisian luncheon in advance of the French National Day. The Little Snail offered a 3 course lunch for a fixed \$42 – think escargots, kangaroo and a sinful mousse chocolat. The Little Snail had to be experienced to be believed. All of the twenty members who attended absolutely raved about how great the whole experience was.

Voted best ever Exotic

The next Exotic lunch is 12:00 noon Friday 12th August at the New Shanghai, 273 Liverpool Road Ashfield 97977284.

Do not be misled or shanghai'd into all the other nearby restaurants with confusing 'shanghai'-derivative names. This cuisine is more robust than Cantonese but less chili-hot than the northern fare with an emphasis on dumplings from the classic Xiao Long Bao (steamed pork in a lethally boiling hot soup inside the dumplings) pronounced 'Shaow Long Baow', to truffled parcels.

Every soup or other dish is a main course in itself whether pork belly broiled or boiled, tofu with spicy wombok, rainbow beefthe choice is huge and you really cannot go wrong.

Close to Ashfield railway station or bus but best parking advised is in the Ashfield Mall council carpark opposite the restaurant

Peter Kelly/Dean

Scenic Lunch

The venue for the July Scenic lunch was the Bondi Icebergs CLUB where paupers lunch with a billion dollar view. Perched 50 feet above a boiling surf and with a rare sunny blue day Probians enjoyed club specials of Lobster Spring Rolls (acclaimed)], Boston Mussels [more applause] or BBQ Pork Belly Salad (applause muffled by munching).

We also applauded the few hardy board riders in the crashing surf and the lap-swimmers in their budgies braving the waves in the rockpool.

August's Scenic lunch is just around the corner, at the Woolwich Pier Hotel, Wednesday 17th August at 12:00 noon. Dean's table is in the upstairs balcony, lift available, order at table, individual payments (confirmed by Tamara).

There is a fine view of the Harbour to Cockatoo Island and up east to the Bridge and Vaucluse. Note that the usual specials are only from 6:00 pm but if you are a Wagyu and Shiraz person this is for you. Alternatives of fish, roast chicken and more will accompany a fine outlook. A classic from 1885 onwards, the Woolwich is grand dining on the grand peninsula.

Dean

Vale Bob Mostyn

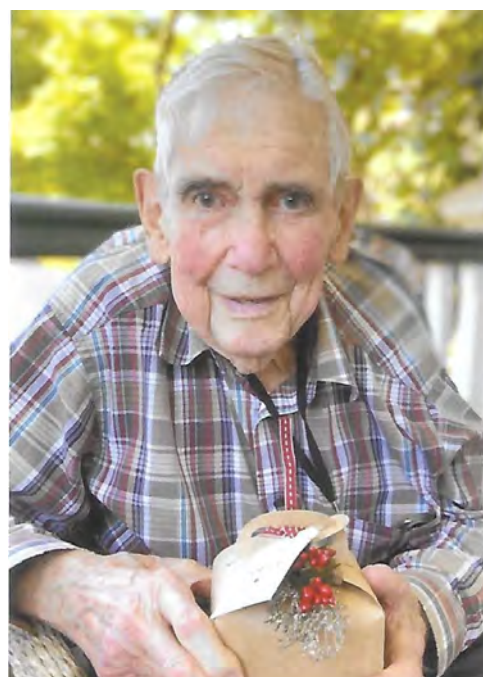
Bob Mostyn was a member of our Probus club for 18 years, Past President, wonderful supporter of the club and involved in so many of its activities. He grew up in Hunters Hill, loved the area, and in his adulthood and as his busy career allowed he enthusiastically supported a myriad number of local and other organisations.

He was a true philanthropist.

However, without in any way reducing his support of other groups, in his later years the two with which he was best known and most involved were our Probus club and the Hunters Hill Historical Society.

Bob was generous, almost to a fault. Who can forget his annual gift of magnificent trays of cherries from his Tasmanian farm which so nicely rounded out each Birthday Lunch? But perhaps less well known was his willingness to "top-up" the funding of important club functions. His philosophy was "How are you going? Let me know if I can help."

The club has lost an important, and loved, member.



Mike Regnis

Book Club



November Road
By Louis Berney

Oh come on now, we all know that John F. Kennedy was assassinated by a ratbag defector with a 23 year old Italian wartime rifle, firing off two shots in rapid succession to the moving target from a warehouse some distance and height away and that Jack Ruby shot Oswald, not to shut him up, but because he didn't like the guy and not because he (Ruby) worked for organised crime! Who could have thought otherwise?

Thus we have the germ of a novel with hints that organised crime knew more of the assassination than the Warren Commission.

We are told that the book does not contain gratuitous slaughter, I beg to differ—even a teenage lad of colour collided with a bullet to the brain for no other reason than that he was driving Barone (another nasty) about. Lost count of the characters removed in a variety of ways when perceived as knowing too much.

We were running out of characters when one, who seemed capable of redemption, linked up in a number of ways with a mother and her two daughters fleeing to Los Angeles from domestic violence.

The femme fatale in the mob probably delivered a final blow by an undisclosed means to our hero Frank who had rescued the fleeing family enroute to his intended destination, Vietnam. But things got tangled and Frank seemed to fall from the frying pan into the fire.

As Superman would say "Truth, Justice and the American Way"

Margaret and the Team did not think much of this "literature"

Richard Jones

Off to the Movies

On Tuesday eight of us went to Top Ryde to see Falling for Figaro. Everyone enjoyed it, particularly the music.

The scenery in Scotland was magnificent and the characters were funny and eccentric.

Only the Brits can carry off this type of comedy. Afterwards we had an Italian lunch where the majority opted for the lamb shanks.

I will be away in August so there will be no movie unless someone would like to organise one.

Sandy

Barbara's Thoughts for the Month

"To succeed in life you need two things: ignorance and confidence"

Mark Twain

"Try not to become a man of success but rather a man of value"

Albert Einstein

"Say you are well or all is well with you and you shall hear your words and make them trye"

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

How was Einstein able to conceive the "Theory of Relativity"? He said the one crucial thing that helped him was his ability to visualise "what it would be like to be riding on the end of a beam of light".

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

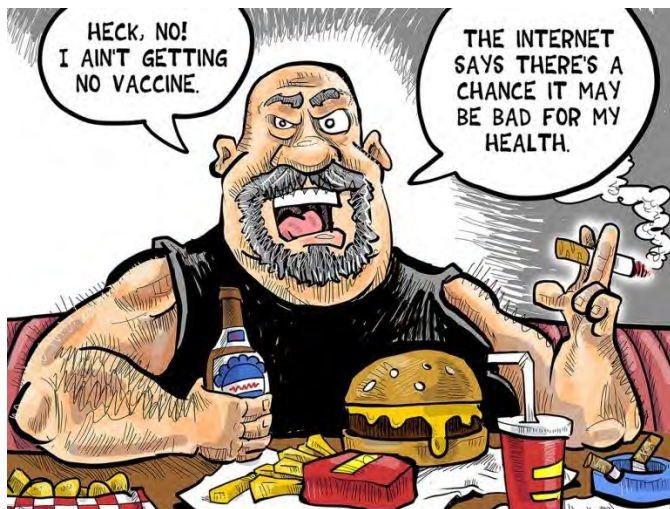
Committee

President	Dean Letcher	9816 5357
Vice President	David Lorschly	0428 247 708
Secretary	Margaret Bowman	0438 165 016
Treasurer	Jim Likidis	0412 090 400
Activities Convenor	Barbara Banner	0405 427 259
Speakers	Deborah Lohman	0404 865 621
Welfare Officer	Josephine McBride	9817 5632
Membership Officer	Kevin Manie	0412 349 270
Newsletter Ed / Comms	Mike Allum	0417 596 300
(email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)		

Useful Numbers

Book Club & Art Group	Margaret Timbs	0438063620
Exotic & Scenic Lunches	Dean Letcher	9816 5357
Movies	Sandy Mower	0478 630 620
Fishing	Peter Kelly	0411 696 583
Honorary Auditor	Anthony Alexandrou	

WEBSITE: www.huntershillprobus.org



**Probus Club of
Hunters Hill
& District Inc**

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



August Birthdays

Julie Gahan	6
Robyn Hogan	6
Jim Likidis	9
John Sorensen	14
Bronwyn Ellens	21
Marea Ryan	27
Mike Allum	29

*Aging gracefully is like the nice way
of saying you're slowly looking worse.*

Anecdotes from an Engineer

Due to unforeseen circumstances our scheduled speaker was unable to attend. Fortunately, Deborah had an alternate, emergency stand-in, in husband Henk.

Henk, born in Holland (under German occupation at the time), gave an engaging talk in tracing his path from working in a boat yard as a teenager, to being called to National Service to getting a degree in naval architecture and marine engineering.

He related an experience from his military service where he and others were “dropped” over the border into Switzerland and told to get back home unseen and with no money or resources. Luckily his father had access to a yacht so he rang his father and borrowed it and they sailed back home. When asked by his superiors they replied sorry, it’s a military secret”.

After a variety of jobs in air-conditioning, he ended up working for a Dutch company designing and servicing valves for oil and gas pipelines, travelling to Germany, the exotic Middle-East and the USA. Finally in his forties he migrated to Australia to continue his career.

He spent most of his career as a “troubleshooter” and as a result travelled extensively analysing problems, identifying solutions and applying them.

He talked of experiences in Bosnia, where he surrendered his passport on entering and was told he’d get it back when he’d fixed the problem. Tales of working in alcohol free Libya but as he worked with chemical engineers they bypassed that particular problem. Being air dropped on an oil rig in the US to find the problem was simply the operators not following documented procedures. Problems in Czechoslovakia with a pipeline that resulted in him kitted out with a wet-suit, oxygen and 40 meters of rope, crawling into the pipeline to trace, identify and fix the problem.

An interesting career, many stories and doubtless lots of memories.

After his talk, Henk showed images showing some of the scenes from his career.

He was thanked by David for his interesting talk.

Our grateful thanks to Henk for filling in at the last minute.

Mike

Deborah would welcome any volunteers to put their names down as “emergency” speakers in the event of any late cancellations.

If you are interested let Deborah know at the August meeting or on Mob: 0404 865 621

Ed

Editors Musings

- * You know how most packages say “Open here”. Well, what is the protocol if the package says, “Open somewhere else?”
- * Why is the letter W, in English, called double U? Shouldn't it be called double V?
- * If a stealth bomber crashes in the woods, does it make a sound?
- * Why do banks leave the door wide open but the pens chained to the counter?
- * Have you ever stopped to think.....and forgot to start again?

King Island

***King Island trip cancelled due to unsuitability of new dates.
Will try again next year.***

Jill Regnis advises that regrettably, she has had to cancel the planned trip to King Island. This is due to the need to change the original dates from early November to November 27th – 6th December.

Unfortunately, three of the couples are unable to go on those dates so she will try again for next year.

Jill Regnis