



MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this Newsletter is for Probud members only

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 7th March

General Meeting
Gladesville Sporties Club - 10:00

Followed by our 47th AGM

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
Sunroom 10:00 am

Monday 6th March

Golf
Jim: 0412 090 400

Tuesday 7th March

Wine Appreciation
"Cabernets"
Dan Murphy Lane Cove
Richard Jones:

Friday 10th March

Exotic Lunch
Masala Kitchen, The Canopy
Lane Cove - Page 7
Dean Letcher: 0439 736 006

Saturday 11th March

Music Group
KPO - Page 4
Graham Holland - 0416 232 507

Wednesday 15th March

Scenic Lunch
Bondi Beach Icebergs CLUB
Page 7
Dean Letcher: 0439 736 006

Friday 17th March

Book Club
"The Shepherd's Hut" - Tim Winton
The Heritage - 2:00 pm
Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834

Tuesday 21st February

Movies
TBA
Sandy Mower - 0478 630 620

Friday 24th March

Art Group
"The Bald Archies"
Page 2
Peter Kelly - 0411 696 583

From the President

I am coming to the end of my year as the president of this club. I hope that I brought some variety and stimulus to the members.

Probud is a club for all its members and that means providing fun, diversion and stimulus for 100 people with many different interests and levels of activity. Probud was begun originally for Rotarian men retiring at age 65 expecting a gold watch and a life expectancy ending at 75. Probud's job now is to increase friendship, social life and fun for men and women from 65 to 95+ [hello Pat Cox]. So a lot of different interests and abilities need coverage.

That's why I have been keen to promote new tastes [ethnic lunches], new vistas [scenic lunches], new interests [art, wine, music] as well as extending old favourites [golf, dog walking, now gardening]. Not all of these appeal to everyone. That's good! Choose one or none, that's the Probud idea. We exist just as much for those who want nothing more than a monthly cuppa and a chat as for those on a bus to wintry Tasmania. We are, in fact, very democratic in our programme. I trust that it offers more and more choices during the future years while accommodating those who are content with fewer.

Hunters Hill is a privileged and peaceful place – which is unusual in a troubled world. That does not stop us from caring about those less settled. In 1939 the UK PM Chamberlain referred to "a quarrel in a country far away between people of whom we know nothing". He was referring to Hitler threatening to invade Czechoslovakia. The "people" were the Europeans who gave us classical music, Romantic art, opera and literature and if he knew nothing of them it was willful blindness. Certainly in 1939 it was true for Australia that Czechoslovakia was a far away country. But not so today. Ukraine is with us on TV and the internet daily. It is difficult to avoid knowing a lot about it and arguably to our benefit to know more than Chamberlain cared. His failure to act decisively led on to World War II where Australia was suddenly declared to be at war for reasons no one really understood. Some members still mourn their losses.

Let us hope that greater attention to dangerous situations leads to earlier attempts to resolve ugly problems and life continues happily in the garden suburb with views of the water and the gum trees.

As for Probud, The careful hands of David Lorsch are about to be on the steering wheel and a prudent foot on the speed pedal. Self-driving is not yet here.

Good travelling!

Dean

Nominees for the 2023/24 Management Committee

President	David Lorsch
Vice President	Margaret Timbs
Secretary	Margaret Bowman
Treasurer	Jim Likidis
Activities Convenor	Bob Way
Speakers Officer	Deborah Lohman
Membership Officer	Kevin Manie
Welfare Officer	Josephine McBride
Newsletter/Communications	Mike Allum
Immediate Past President	Dean Letcher

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 4th April

General Meeting
 Gladesville Sporties - 10:00
 Speaker: Kevin Fitzpatrick
 "Shackleton's Escape"

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
 Sunroom 10:00 am

Tuesday 4th April

Wine Appreciation
 TBA
 Richard Jones

Friday 14th April

Exotic Lunch
 TBA
 Dean Letcher: 0439 736 006

Tuesday 18th April

Movies
 TBA
 Sandy Mower

Wednesday 19th April

Scenic Dining
 TBA
 Dean Letcher: 0439 736 006

Friday 21st April

Book Club
 TBA
 Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834

Friday 28th April

Art Group
 TBA
 Peter Kelly: 0411 696 583

Sunday 27th April

Margaret Ollie Trip
 Jill Regnis: 0467 322 244



On February 24th a group of 12 Probians who are interested in architecture and of course art, met at front entrance to the Art Gallery of NSW. From there we had a short stroll down a pathway to the new and stunning North Building of the Art Gallery, which according to the website is the Sydney Modern. And modern it is....huge expanses of glass "walls", every interior wall at an angle, which means each space in Gallery is angled to take advantage of light. In the forecourt, one is greeted by 3 huge blue sculptures, modern of course, confronting and thought provoking. We were greeted by a knowledgeable young woman who explained these sculptures, answered questions and

kindly took our photo.



We then dispersed, went our own ways and met up again later for lunch in the South Building. One of the most unusual aspects of this new building is not entirely new and that is the underground space known as the Tank, which has been re-purposed as a different kind of gallery space which is currently exhibiting works titled "The End of Imagination". One enters this space via a well lit, crisp modern circular staircase, into almost total darkness. Clever lighting moves from one large piece of sculpture to the next, bringing about a surreal atmosphere.

There are few 90 degree angles in this building (except, of course where wall meets floor). The views outside of parts of Sydney are there but there is so much interior design to be absorbed that they are eclipsed by the simple, yet beautiful architecture. The Gallery was fairly crowded, most noticeably by many school students.

I must mention the participatory artwork installation titled Archive of Mind by the Korean artist, Kimsooja. Visitors are invited to choose from 4 different colours of clay, one only hand-sized piece of clay and take it to the huge table where you sit on a stool. In the middle of the table are hundreds of previously moulded balls and so it is suggested one empties one's mind of cluttered thoughts and contemplates whilst moulding their clay into a ball shape. When completed, one places their clay ball as close as they can reach to the centre of table. An interesting experience.

Large and small paintings hanging on walls, many pieces of sculpture interspersed, with a fascinating grouping of eclectic pieces forming a circle.

The consensus comments and thoughts from our group were - approval, wonderment, well worth visiting, will visit again.

Margaret Timbs

Margaret has resigned from her role as Art Group Convenor and has handed the baton on to Peter Kelly, see below.

The Art Group outing on Friday 24th March should be a very interesting and relaxing activity.

We will be going to the Bald Archies at the IBIS Hotel at 22 Shelly St., Barangaroo

One very easy way to get there, if it suits you, is to catch the 10.34 am ferry from Huntleys Point which will get you to Barangaroo at 10.53 am.

It is then a short stroll to the IBIS Hotel. We can then meet at the entrance of the hotel at go in to enjoy the exhibition.

Afterwards there are many restaurants to choose from nearby. After we have enjoyed a great meal we will only have a couple of minutes walk to catch the ferry home.

For those of you who choose another means of transport please meet up at the IBIS Hotel at 11.00 am

Peter Kelly

Probacchanalians (Wine Appreciation Group)



Our foray into sparkles started happily at “The Cellar” and concluded ecstatically as we worked through the arduous task of delineating a Champagne from a Prosecco, a difficult task you will admit, but our group was up for it and made some amazing comments which will make the worldwide fizzmakers sit up and listen (won’t they?)—another success for Probus!

Your convenor observed that cost was not the arbiter of enjoyment, but no fizzy failed the PUB test.

There follows the work agenda for the Probacchanalians -

Wine Appreciation Group aka Probacchanalians - Tasting Notes 7 February 2023

There are six country’s Sparkling Wine represented, there are three costing more than \$30 and three less than \$30

Arras 2013 grand vintage 2013 Australia Tasmania 12.5%

Heady and vinous, rich in perfume, deep in flavour, courses and pulses with chalkiness, saline minerality, tropical and stone fruits, loads of woody-exotic spice incredibly harmonious, decadent and ripples with fine bubbles. Fresh to finish. Very bright.

Boschendal Western Cape South Africa NV Chardonnay-pinot noir disgorged 2021 12.5%

Pale gold with a flourish of delicate bubbles and enticing lemon cream and almond Biscotti precedes a soft explosion of zesty lemon and orange peel that finishes with appealing length and freshness. A well rounded creamy mouth-feel with detectable minerality, good balance and a seamless finish.

Freixenet Prosecco Veneto region of Northern Italy 11%

The grape variety Glera is synonymous with Northern Italy. A delicate delight for the palate. Fresh and fruity with aroma of flowers citrus and apple

Quartz Reef New Zealand Central Otago– blanc de blanc chardonnay disgorged 2020 12.5%

Refreshing citrus notes with an irresistible aroma of a patisserie. Tantalising lime and chamomile with precise acidity that dances on the palate. Fine persistent mousse will capture and engage the senses. Satin through silky textures touch the palate first with a mushrooming and gently forceful mousse. The autolysis suggests flavours of sour-dough bread and crackers, while a floral mineral layer adds complexity and depth

Bollinger Champagne France NV Special Cuvee 12.6%

Known for its dry and assertive style. The high proportion of Pinot Noir helps create a full-bodied toasty character with pear, brioche and praline aromatics followed by apricot, semolina cake and tropical fruit flavour

Henkell Trocken Wiesbaden Germany 11.5%

Light yellow with green reflections, a finely beaded lingering mousse with a fresh, fruity bouquet with gentle notes of green apple, banana and citrus fruit and sour, medium body, lingering finish

Richard Jones

Movies



There was a very mixed review of “The Whale”, however all agreed the acting was brilliant.

This was borne out by Brendan Fraser winning best actor award.

I loved it.

There will not be a movie outing in March as most of our regulars will be away.

Sandy

Book Club



The Shepherd's Hut by Tim Winton

Was Jaxie a sociopath?(no), was he a murderer?(no), but he was a flawed character due to paternal abuse, escaping the dysfunctional family home and heading for the desert, thus reminding Bob (who found depth to the narrative) of his childhood in the WA bush.

Alison, Jenny and Juliet found it a very disturbing, depressing and violent narrative, although both Marg arets gave it a qualified "thumbs up", easy to read in spite of the language with clean and concise characterisation of people who had done it hard, MC even found the language morphing into music!

Whilst Juliet described a true Aussie character book, suspenseful and occasionally violent, Vincie ultimately conceded that it changed from being awful to better on the second read although "not worth reading". Our young lad Jaxie is rough, uneducated and brutally bashed by his sadistic alcoholic father, who also bashes the boy's mother who has cancer.

He is apprenticed to his father, a butcher, learning a skill which will save his life as his adventures unfold.

Mother dies, and dad gets flattened under the Hilux when the jack collapses. Perhaps believing that he will be accused of murdering his father, Jaxie departs hastily for the bush and desert of Western Australia and a survival saga.

His professed goal is to meet up with Lee, his cousin, with whom he thinks he is in love.

He is more or less self sufficient in the harsh outback having a significant arsenal of weapons with ammunition to boot.

He meets a disgraced priest on the run and they share the shepherd's hut and the cooking. Fintan is a philosopher. There are a few secrets in the relationship and then Jaxie stumbles upon an underground hydroponic pot farm.

Things get fraught and shots are fired. Jaxie never gets to see Lee, perhaps he is a loser.

The whole deal is an exercise in the vernacular and the filthy language is forgiven. OK I did enjoy it!

Richard Jones

Music Group



At least seven Probian's attended the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra's concert gala: "**Heroes of Hollywood**" on Sunday, 19th February.

It was almost a full house, justifying the need to book ahead.

The conductor, Nicholas Milton apologised profusely for the half an hour late start. However, when it got started, it went very well, beginning with Star Wars themes and ending with Pirates of the Caribbean with well known themes in between,. The brass had a wonderful time, but everybody played extremely well. It's a very good orchestra.

The next concert is by an orchestra of equal standing, the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra (KPO) on Saturday, March 11th at 7 pm also at the Concourse in Chatswood. The earliest item on the program was composed in 1868 and the latest in 2020.

The program is:

- * Greig, Piano concerto in A Minor, soloist, Kathryn Selby.
- * Angus Davidson, The Laws Of Motion.
- * Martinu, Ode to Lidice. (Written in 1943, one year after the Germans executed the male population and razed the village.)
- * Tchaikovsky. Symphony No. 6 – the Pathetique.

I suggest booking for this concert as well, by February 23rd, 20% of the stalls were already booked. Tickets are \$55 full price, \$45 concession. Book via the KPO website: www.kpo.org.au or the Concourse site: www.theconcourse.com.au.

Another March concert is on Sunday 26th March at 2.30 pm at St Alban's Church Hall, 3 Pembroke St, Epping. It's called "Carnivale"-Family Concert, Conductor-Joanna Drimatis. Tickets are \$25 and includes afternoon tea! Booking is not needed. The program includes: Dvorak- Carnival Overture, Rimsky- Korsakov-Dance of the Tumblers and Strauss-Radetsky March. Full details on their web site: www.thebeecroftorchestr.net.au.

Graham Holland

47th Birthday Lunch

Concord Golf Club was the setting for our 47th birthday celebrations on Wednesday 15th of February. We have been lucky to have had a number of fabulous events at this venue in the past and this one was up to the same previous high standard and enjoyed by 59 of our members.

The setting is superb, although somewhat frustrating for those golfers amongst us in that we couldn't get our there and enjoy the fairways and greens. The view from the dining room a great, certainly enhanced by the beautiful weather served up for us on the day.

Barbara Banner and her team of helpers decorated the tables and the windows your President and Past President were both seen inflating balloons both manually and mechanically.



The feedback from our members indicated the food was excellent, the club staff equally so, the setting and ambiance wonderful and the lunch a total success.



Dean commenting on numerous event occurring in February 1976. Richard and Jim adding their recollections



47th Birthday Lunch (cont)



This was Barbara's last "event" after 4 years on the Committee in the role of Activities Co-ordinator and Ashlyn took the opportunity to thank Barbara, on behalf of the membership, for all her hard work and effort during this time.

Photo Gallery from the February Meeting



Sandy Mower and Dawn Saunders receiving their 10 year service certificate. Tony, being absent from the meeting will receive his at the March meeting.

Joe Stockreiter receiving Nina's 10 year certificate in error. This will be corrected at the March meeting when he returns it in favour of Nina..

Dean's Lunches

Exotic Lunch

Encore! ["Again!"] I hear you shout. "The Little Snail" at Ultimo was again a very popular venue for true French dining when 14 Probi-ans gathered February 10th.

For only \$45 lunch was an entrée of terrine, crepes or escargots then kangaroo filet, veal or seafood forced down with profiteroles, chokky mousse or glaces...fantastique! We all enjoyed the welcoming staff, no French arrogance,] and excellent cuisine francaise

Our next Exotic will be close to home but far away. POSH was always said to denote **Port Side Out, Starboard Home**, meaning that the English travellers to India were on the shady side of the ship all the way to the Raj. Now persons are saying that is not the correct derivation at all. Whatever, memsahibs and sahibs are all welcome at Masala Kitchen at the Canopy, Lane Cove at noon, Friday 10th March, for an Indian feast. Hindu vegetarian or carnivore, you will love the variety and richness of the offerings. Cool inside and balmy outside, lots of Not-hot dishes as well as a rousing Rogan Josh or Goan fish curry.

Parking below in the council [Coles/Aldi] carpark, easy bus routes, fully licensed so what more does a fakir want? Be there for a salute to the subcontinent!

Scenic Lunch

If you get into a row at this place you may get your feet wet. Not because a bouncer will toss you in the harbour but at Sydney Rowers Club, Abbotsford that's what they do. Row not row. Sixteen Probi-ans made up a crew of two eights on February 22nd to enjoy everything from burrata to barra, chips to calamari and wicked just desserts. But the view, as ever, was the real reason, 180 degrees harbor and bush. Good eating and good looking.

Our next Scenic lunch will be our second safari to darkest Bondi Beach. Icebergs CLUB, not the exorbitant, gloomy restaurant, is in Notts Avenue off Campbell Parade, right above the beautiful rolling surf of Bondi's world famous beach. A fabulous view, helped by excellent offerings from Roast Mushrooms to Lobster Rolls, to Barra, Bream and great Alternative Salads for the Hippies at Heart (if they can remember).

Noon on Wednesday 15th March, bus if you must on the great 333 or surprisingly easy street parking.

This is million dollar vista stuff at its best – good if sunny, even better if there is a gale.

A grand venue. Sign up for both, some limits apply to numbers.

Dean

"Jill Regnis Tours" Update

BRIGHT AUTUMN TOUR – 7th-13th MAY, 2023 - \$2,055 PPTS plus \$355 S/S

I'm still taking bookings. If you have not travelled with 'ON COURSE TOURS' before I will need a form to be filled in including your home address (for pick-up), and details of next of kin and relationship to you.

This can be done at morning tea at the March 7th meeting.

YULEFEST – SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS – BERIDA HOTEL 25th/26th JULY \$545, plus \$145 S/S

Same, as above

PROUD MARY – 6 DAY MURRAY RIVER, ADELAIDE FOOD/WINE 20th-26th OCTOBER, 2023 - \$3,395 PPTS., \$4.375 single

NOTE:

There will be a presentation from Lisa, representing PROUD MARY at SPORTIES' (small room) on Tuesday 18th April – well worth seeing! This will be 11 am – we can then have lunch with Lisa and ask any more questions etc. (No cost for the room hire).

Jill

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

Committee

President	Dean Letcher	9816 5357
Vice President	David Lorschy	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 Contacts

Book Club	Juliet Bishop	0431 627 834
Art Group	Peter Kelly	0411 696 583
Exotic & Scenic Lunches	Dean Letcher	9816 5357
Movies	Sandy Mower	0478 630 620
Golf	Jim Likidis	0412 090 400
Fishing	Peter Kelly	0411 696 583
Music	Graham Holland	0416 232 507
Wine Appreciation	Richard Jones	ramjones@bigpond.net.au
Honorary Auditor	Anthony Alexandrou	

WEBSITE: www.huntershillprobud.org

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

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



March Birthdays

Vincie Wahlquist	1
Robyn Beckhaus	1
Fay Likidis	6
John Ryan	9
Harrie Hall	11
Carole Clancy-O'Hehir	28
Dean Letcher	31

Editors Musings

- * If the universe is everything, and scientists say that the universe is expanding what is it expanding into?
- * If carrots are so good for the eyes, how come I see so many dead rabbits on the highway
- * If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
- * Why do people who know the least know it the loudest?
- * Why do they call it a TV set when you only get one?
- * If a stealth bomber crashes in a forest, will it make a sound?

Estate Succession Planning

At our February meeting we received a very helpful presentation by Paul Alice on Succession Planning.

Paul is a partner in Colquhoun & Colquhoun at Rozelle and practices mainly in, personal and business succession planning, liquidation, business law and contested estates. For personal clients he advises on **Wills**, including **Testamentary Trusts**, **Powers of Attorney** and **Guardianship Issues**.

He wryly likened lawyers to dentists, that nobody likes to go to them, however there are some who make out their Will when they marry, buy their first home and then forget about it. To avoid disputes it is therefore worth re-visiting the lawyer. If a Will has not been made, it will be up to the Government to decide how the assets will be distributed.

Paul gave a distinction between Power of Attorney, which is prescriptive to finances (eg solely to property) and the Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA), where one loses mental capacity and a nominative guardian makes decisions. There is interactivity between the EPA and the Will – who governs the Trust? Unexpected outcomes can happen and it is important to have an Estate plan.

He emphasized the importance of these matters **NOW** (who knows when death will come) and not die **intestate** ie without having made a will. If you die intestate your estate risks being left by the government to your closest relative. These may be your children; complicated with a blended family or no children and the estate passes to an unknown distant cousin.

He gave clear examples of challenges to the Will, testamentary trust, asset protection (tax effective for young people) divisive guardianship and Stat Dec. (don't put it in your Will).

When making a will you must name an Executor execute the Will. If you have a Trust you will also need a **Trustee** to manage it. Many have already arranged a **Power of Attorney** enabling the holder to carry out financial and other business for you, but this ceases on death and as your intellectual capacity wanes should be replaced by an **Enduring Power of Attorney** enabling the holder to handle all your business/financial and personal affairs including health and caring in an aged home facility. It advisable to arrange simultaneously, an **Advanced Care Directive** specifying what you do /don't want when incapacitated.

When making a will you should also consider the tax on superannuation if it is not paid to dependents and whether your Superannuation funds have up to date binding or not binding renewals on the beneficiaries. Your lawyer can advise on how to do it.



Deborah Lohman / Margaret Bowman

(Two reports of Paul's presentation passed my desk and I have taken the liberty of merging them, hopefully with no loss of content or meaning. I thank my two "rhyming" contributors. Ed)