



MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this
Newsletter is for
Probud members only

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 2nd May

General Meeting

Gladesville Sporties - 10:00

Speaker: Rae Rees

“Sydney’s Sub Attack”

Tuesday 6th June

Wine Appreciation

Dan Murphy’s Lane Cove

“Wines of Italy”

Richard Jones

Thursdays

Coffee Morning

Sunroom 10:00 am

Friday 9th June

Exotic Lunch

See Page 2

Dean Letcher: 0439 736 006

Friday 16th June

Book Club

“French Braid” by Anne Tyler

Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834

Tuesday 20th June

Movies

TBA

Sandy Mower 0478 630 620

Wednesday 21st June

Scenic Dining

See Page 2

Dean Letcher: 0439 736 006

Thursday 22nd June

President’s Lunch

See Page 3

Bob Way 0406 754 099

Friday 30th June

Art Group

Art Gallery on Darling

Peter Kelly: 0411 696 583

From the President

May started with groups of our Club friends on tours. One group flew to the northern coast of NSW late in April and toured back by coach. I understand there were a few variations to the expected itinerary, which some later described as a “figment of imagination”. However, all returned safely with a few stories to tell about a generally successful tour.

Another group toured from 7th to 13th May from Sydney to Bright in Victoria by indirect routes in each direction to maximise variations in scenery and attractions along the way. The colourful leaves of deciduous trees in many locations were a highlight of the trip; also, the extensive early snow drifts lying on Mount Hotham. All were in contrast to the clear blue skies we enjoyed while away from coastal rain showers on departure and on return.

The only downside of that trip was that several travellers found they had COVID after they got home. I hope that travellers from each journey will write more complete summaries of the trips for members to enjoy in the Newsletter. Thank you very much, Jill Regnis, for organising both tours.

I am very pleased to tell you that on 2 May, the Management Committee approved the appointment of a Subcommittee to plan and arrange celebrations in 2026 for the 50th anniversary of the Club’s foundation as the first probud Club in Australia.

Thank you very much Ashlyn Allum, Carole Clancy-O’Hehir, Charles Kent, David Crouch and Sandy Mower for accepting nomination to the Subcommittee. Terms of Reference for the Subcommittee were also approved. The Terms are intended to allow the Subcommittee discretion in what they might propose for approval by members for the celebrations. The Terms also allow the Subcommittee to co-opt other Club members if needed to help it achieve its objectives.

Please agree willingly if approached to help because this is a major project for our Club for the next few years. We budgeted significant monies to provide for celebrations and it is very important that we all work to ensure that the celebrations succeed in providing fun for members and good publicity for the Club. I look forward to reporting to you on the Subcommittee’s proposals within the next few months because it is now becoming urgent to confirm arrangements.

Bob Way had a hectic few days finalising arrangements that he foreshadowed to you at the May General Meeting for the President’s Lunch on 22nd June 2023 at “The Apprentice Restaurant” in Ultimo. Thank you, Bob.

Those of us who dined there previously found the menu excellent, the service good and the value for money exceptional. It will be worth the trouble of taxi-sharing or other transport sharing arrangements for those less-mobile members who cannot travel by public bus.

Please bring cash for table group payments for soft or alcoholic drinks. I look forward to welcoming you and your visitors to the lunch.

David

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 4th July

General Meeting
 Gladesville Sporties - 10:00
 Speaker: TBA

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
 Sunroom 10:00 am

Friday 14th July

Exotic Lunch
 TBA
 Dean Letcher 0439 736 006

Tuesday 18th July

Movies
 TBA
 Sandy Mower 0478 630 620

Wednesday 19th July

Scenic Lunch
 TBA
 Dean Letcher 0439 736 006

Friday 21st July

Book Club
 Book TBA
 Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834

Tues - Wed 25th/26th July

Yulefest
 Southern Highlands
 Barbara Banner 0405 427 259

Friday 28th July

Art Group TBA
 Peter Kelly 0411 696 583

Dean's Lunches

May Scenic Lunch

A bright wintery day but an azure sky and clear Harbour view from the upper deck of the famed Woolwich Pier Hotel greeted the twelve Probusians on Wednesday 17th May for a scenic and gastronomic lunch.

And the hotel greeted them with a fine array of fish, fowl and beast. Looking out on Cockatoo Island one occasionally wondered how many square meals the convicts got on their chilly outpost but we eagerly turned our thoughts away to mains and sumptuous desserts.



June Scenic Lunch

Not far from the Woolwich Pier but somewhat upmarket is "The Fenwick" (pronounced "fennick") right on the waters edge at East Balmain.

This is fine dining and fine pricing. Entrees (vitello tonnato, eggplant parmi with 4 cheeses, tartare of snapper etc) are \$30 but two of those will be entirely filling while the main courses range from \$34 to \$64 or a lamb shoulder and veg at \$110 [but it will satisfy 3 or 4]. So, expensive it is but a grand view and a lovely old sandstone ex-customs house and a very elegant atmosphere.

Travel by ferry to Balmain East , bus along Darling Street to the end or drive and find a spot [not too bad really]. Wednesday 21 June at 12 noon is the date so save the money and save the date.

May Exotic Lunch

A happy group attended the May Exotic Lunch at the OC Thai Gladesville for a banquet of truly exotic food. Not everyone was enthralled or enThaily pleased but you have to buy it to try it. It was a worthy experiment and everyone got a good Bangkok for their buck.

June Exotic Lunch

Medusa was a Greek witch-goddess who entangled everything in her luxurious but treacherous snake tresses but this one is a well-regarded restaurant in Sydney CBD offering all the traditional Greek dishes ...and this time with very little entanglement.



Medusa offers you a lunchtime banquet for only \$38! Including taramosalata, lamb roast , beans - the lot!

Do not miss this one. 12 noon Friday 9 June Medusa 2 Market Street [corner of Kent St]. Bus to Town Hall and walk down Market, parking at QVB.

Tina and the President



Tina Turner - RIP

The Tina Turner Musical recently opened its run at the Theatre Royal. We have been able to lock in up to 40 good seats at the very special price of \$99.50. The date: Wednesday 16 August.

Some of us find matinees more convenient, while others prefer an evening performance. We can offer a choice. There are two performances on the given date, and we have secured up to 20 tickets at each. To qualify for the huge discount we must sell at least 10 tickets per performance.

Featuring iconic songs including "Simply the Best", "What's Love Got to Do with It", and "Proud Mary", this is a story of joy, passion and resilience. Tina Turner didn't just break the rules, she rewrote them and now we can experience her triumphant story live on stage.

Please text me on 0406 754 099 or email robtway@yahoo.com.au to ask any questions or make a booking, nominating the session you wish to attend.

Full payment is required by 16 June, and no refunds will be given after 28 June. Payment by EFT is preferred to Probus Club of Hunters Hill, BSB 062 182, A/c 00902310, reference "Tina T" followed by your surname.

President's Lunch

This year's "President's Lunch" is to be held on 22nd June at "The Apprentice", the training restaurant for TAFE, at 695 - 731 Harris Street, Ultimo. The lunch commences at **12:00 sharp**. The Club price for a three course meal (alternate drops, no choice except for dietary requirements) will be \$42 p.p.

Water and tea or coffee are included in the meal. Since the restaurant will issue only one bill per table and nor split it, please bring along some cash to pay for any fruit juices, alcoholic or soft drinks you may order.

The Apprentice has no parking facilities. For the able-bodied this will present no real difficulty. The very frequent 501 bus which runs along Victoria Road between Parramatta and Central Station stops within 30 metres of the restaurant in Harris Street Ultimo (cnr Mary Ann Street). The Market City Car park at Haymarket is about 8-10 minutes' walk. There are no steps to negotiate at the restaurant.

If you have not yet made your booking, please let me know on the above contact details. If you want to pay by EFT, use the same account details with the reference "Pres. L" followed by your surname. All payments must be made at the latest at the GM on 6 June.

Bob Way
Activities Officer

A Teaser for You



Amsterdam to Budapest River Cruising

Concentrate on this space then come and listen to Jim Likidis speak at our June 6th meeting.

Trip to Bright

Twelve intrepid travellers from Hunters Hill Probus joined by fourteen from Waverton Probus and eight independent adventurers to experience the Victorian high country and the area around Bright

Our introduction to cold weather started the first morning with temperatures of ten degrees while we huddled inside a cabin to enjoy our morning tea at Nepean Dam.

The coach was comfortable with good heating which made it possible to enjoy the crisp air at our various stops. We travelled along a number of country roads which enabled us to drive beside Lake Hume and stop beside the Phoenix Tree in Myrtleford with its incredible root system. None of us were tempted to go swimming when we reached Wagga Wagga don't know why???



The Phoenix Tree in Myrtleford



Autumn Leaves in Bright

The accommodation in Bright was enhanced by the roaring wood fire and scrumptious meals for dinner and breakfast. Bright lived up to expectations with an array of beautiful coloured autumn leaves. The previous week there had been a dumping of snow on Mt Buffalo and Mt Hotham and much of it remained on the mountain tops.

We had perfect weather for the entire trip which enabled us to enjoy a luxury picnic lunch on the lawns of the Mt Buffalo Chalet.



Mt Buffalo Chalet



When we visited Mt Hotham everyone was thoughtful and didn't throw any snowballs- but it was very tempting.

Did you know that Beechworth had substantial buildings which started as a Lunatic Asylum??They also have "The Castle" which was used in the iconic Australian Film.

We saw an array of wildlife including animals at the Zoo and Aviary in Wagga Wagga. At the Red Deer Stud at Eurobin the stags were getting ready for rutting season. The highlight of Cooma was seeing a kangaroo hopping down the main street and in Canberra a hare in the park.

We all arrived home safe and sound and a bit exhausted after our week of stimulating company, excellent food and interesting tours.

Thank you to Jill Regnis for making the adventure possible.

Margaret Olley Tour 27th April – 2nd May

In overview I have to say that this trip was not as written in the itinerary, perhaps due to the fact that it had been written for a tour which should have happened more than 2 years ago – as one lady put it “this is a document of fiction”.



Our motel in Ballina had been refurbished apart from the dining room so meals were elsewhere. Several of the highlights were missed as well.

Getting Ready for Breakfast

The Margaret Olley Art Gallery was wonderful, and enjoyed to the max. by all the visitors. As this is the 100th year since her birth there were special activities in place for our enjoyment and for children.



Margaret Olley House



Outlook from Margaret Olley's House

The scenery on the north coast was a sight for sore eyes with the deep green pastures and the flowing rivers and full dams. Margaret Olley and her family had lived in the area in her childhood, which is the reason for the Gallery site.

Margaret Olley Tour 27th April – 2nd May (cont)

Other highlights included the Maritime Museum in Ballina followed by the Evans Head Aviation Museum. A fascinating museum with an F.111 on display and a wonderful former pilot to give us a most interesting explanation of the F.111 and the B52's which he had flown. We learned of the history of the airfield and the training of 28,000 aircrew over a three year period commencing in 1939. It was the largest training ground in the Southern Hemisphere.



Our last two nights were spent in Forster. Beautiful weather had accompanied us everywhere.

Next day we had trip on the 'Amaroo', where we saw dolphins and sea birds. We were able to buy freshly shucked oysters at the oyster farm to add to our lunch at One Mile Beach



What could these two gents be plotting!!



A cruising sort of photo

We enjoyed the company of the other travellers, but were saddened to learn of Simon Taylor's serious health issues.

Book Club



Anxious People
by

Fredrik Backman

Covid took its toll on our esteemed reviewer Bob Way and a further number of our bibliophiles, but we who were left, soldiered on ably encouraged by our convenor Juliet.

Now this month's book highlights many absurdities, but entertained us with some fascinating stories, frequently on a background of self harm—and what more idiotic thought bubble could one imagine than a single mum holding up a cashless bank with a “toy” gun to extract the rent money under threat of losing her apartment and children.

This all turned into a hostage event when in desperation our robber inserted themselves into an open day for an apartment in a Swedish town where the local gendarmerie father and son battled through interviews with smart alec attendees, producing one or two laughs from us. Eventually Constable Plod and his son Little Plod, engineer a happy ending and managed to keep those superior Stockholmers at arms length.

The folk attending the open day were a mixed bag and included a serial pest who wore a rabbit head and a bag of “blood” and generally complicated the whole affair, and most were just tyre kickers except the pregnant lesbian couple who were mostly as anxious as the rest of us!

Our inner circle of the opinionated, cast their views; Carol opined that it was alright but far fetched suggesting that it was a commentary on human nature with folk feeling sorry for each other; Peter agreed in part and found the police interviewees behaviourally challenging and noted the interesting relationship between father and son police officers - certainly with a smidgin of empathy towards the bank robber; Vincie clearly enjoyed the humour couched cunningly between the confusing stories and Juliet emphasized the characterizations occasionally finding them irritating but with scattered pearls of wisdom and empathy.

We discussed the questionnaire and in particular the author's declaration that we are all idiots (but some are better idiots than others: - reviewer).

We grappled with the thoughts of the cleverest idiots and perhaps concluded that this is the human condition—anyway who tries to rob a cashless bank for \$6000 rent money?

Richard Jones

My thanks to Richard for stepping up with this review: *Ed*

Barbara's Thought for the Month

“The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction both are transformed.”

Author: Carl Jung

Art Group



On an overcast Friday we Probians set out in a fleet of vehicles arriving at the S H Ervin Gallery a half an hour before opening time. Naturally this was to ensure we all got parking. On our way there was much discussion about the beautiful historic houses in the inner city.

At 11.00 we all entered the gallery to wander around and take in all the >art not selected to hang in the Wynne and Archibald exhibition.

After about an hour I was sitting down telephoning several ³no shows² to ensure they were ok when I noticed a man (not from our group) who seemed absolutely mesmerised by one painting. He looked like he was glued to the floor.

After I got off my phone I strolled over to see what was so fascinating.

Lo and behold the portrait was of a woman lounging back in a chair with her legs apart and no pants on. The man showed no sign of leaving! Naughty person!

I was so shocked that I hurried around and gathered our group of twenty members to head in for lunch. What followed was a great meal and enjoyable conversation. This included amusing and entertaining discussions with the café owner as we were ordering our food.

A great day was had by all.

Next month's Srt Group activity details follow.

ART GALLERY ON DARLING

307 Darling Street, Balmain NSW
Friday 30 June 2023 at 11.00 am

This is a small gallery featuring sculpture, art and ceramics. It is in the heart of Balmain village and has New art exhibitions each week.

Those members attending should meet at the entrance to the gallery at 11.30am. After visiting the gallery we will gather for lunch at "the COTTAGE" just a short walk from the gallery. You can eat outdoors under the beautiful trees or indoors if the weather is inclement. There are numerous other venues for those who wish to avoid the short walk.

Those wishing to join me at "the Cottage" are requested to let me know at our next meeting as I will need to book table(s).

Peter Kelly 0411 696 583

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

Committee

President	David Lorschy	0428 247 708
Vice President	Margaret Timbs	0438 063 620
Secretary	Margaret Bowman	0438 165 016
Treasurer	Jim Likidis	0412 090 400
Activities Convenor	Bob Way	0406 754 099
Speakers	Deborah Lohman	0404 865 621
Welfare Officer	Josephine McBride	9817 5632
Membership Officer	Kevin Manie	0412 349 270
Past President	Dean Letcher	9816 5632
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	James Macready	(member)

WEBSITE: www.huntershillprobus.org

Probus Music



In June and into July there are symphony and chamber music concerts.

First up is the Mosman Symphony Orchestra at the Mosman Art Gallery on Friday June 2nd at 8 pm and Saturday June 3rd at 2:30 pm. The program includes:

- * SIBELIUS Finlandia
- * STRAUSS Blue Danube Waltz
- * STRAUSS Radetsky March
- * BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3 'Eroica'

Andrew Del Riccio, musical director
See: www.mosmanorchestra.org.au

The Lane Cove Music Club presents on June 20 at 7.30 pm: **Echoes of the Picture Palace**

Nick Russoniello and the Golden Age Quartet will re-create traditions of the silent film era with a live screening of Charlie Chaplin's *The Immigrant*, a silent film regarded as one of the best of its genre. Original music composed by Nick will animate the background to the film and the artists will be playing on 1920's instruments. Also screening is Australia's earliest film *Patineur Grottesque* (1896), accompanied by a freshly improvised piano solo.

A concert with a difference! ...

At the Lane Cove Mowbray Anglican Church 19 Rosenthal Ave, Lane Cove, NSW (next to the Canopy, 3 hours free parking.)
See: www.lanecovemusic.org.au.

The Beecroft Orchestra presents another creative concert entitled **"Recorders and More"** on Sunday July 20 at 2.30 pm.

- * Conductor-Joanna Drimatis
- * Soloist- Alicia Crossley on Recorder
- * Telemann- Selections from Suite in A minor for Recorder, Strings and Basso Continuo
- * Beethoven-Symphony No 7
- * Brahms-Hungarian Dance No 1-Guest Conductor Ben Perche
- * Telemann- Selections from Suite in A minor for Recorder, Strings and Basso Continuo
- * Lyle Chan: *Bilitis/Movement 2*
- * Christopher Gordon-Selections from "Ladies in Black Suite"

At the Cheltenham Girls High School new Performance Hall
The Promenade, Cheltenham.
See:www.thebeecroftorchestra.net.au.

Selby & Friends presents on July 9th, 2.15 pm a program entitled: **Iconic 'Fathers'**

In this special program, Kathy and her friends present three iconic, trailblazing composers whose influence exploded previous conceptions to pave an entirely new path forward. Haydn was a prolific piano trio composer who literally created our idea of the genre. Dvořák, the great Czech composer and father of nationalism in music, made it possible for composers who followed to revel in their mother tongue and express it through music. And the giant Viennese/American composer, Schoenberg, changed the face of music entirely with his revolutionary approach to harmony in music

[Joseph Haydn \(1732-1809\)](#)

Piano Trio in D-Major Hob XV:24

[Arnold Schoenberg \(1874 - 1951\)](#)

Verklärte Nacht for Piano Trio, Op. 4 (Transcription by Eduard Steuermann)

[Antonin Dvořák \(1841 - 1904\)](#)

Piano Trio No. 4 in E minor, Op.90 "Dumky"

At the Turramurra Uniting Church at 10 Turramurra Avenue Turramurra.
See:www.selbyandfriends.com.au.

Graham Holland

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

**PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110**



June Birthdays

Margaret Bowman	1
Lorraine Kongats	6
Lyn Benson	6
Robert Way	16
Josephine McBride	20
Helen Romandi	21

Editors Musings

- * Where in the nursery rhyme does it say humpty dumpty is an egg?
- * Why do they sterilize needles for lethal injections?
- * Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo?
- * Why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
- * Why is there an expiration date on my sour cream container?
- * What do you do when you see an endangered animal that eats only endangered plants?

Sinking and Salvage of Costa Concordia

Noel Phelan was introduced by David as a man who could speak on a great range of topics. He had taught science and maths, worked in IT in managerial positions, and served in Rotary as President. But one suspects his true interest lies in maritime - several years as volunteer guide in Maritime Museum, volunteer at the Naval Historical Society, Marine Rescue/Rural Fire Service, and crowning it all as a sailing captain of his sailing club.

Of his many sea stories, he chose to tell about Sinking and Salvage of Costa Concordia, a dream-class cruise ship, which sank on 13th January, 2012 - one hundred years after the Titanic and in similar circumstances.

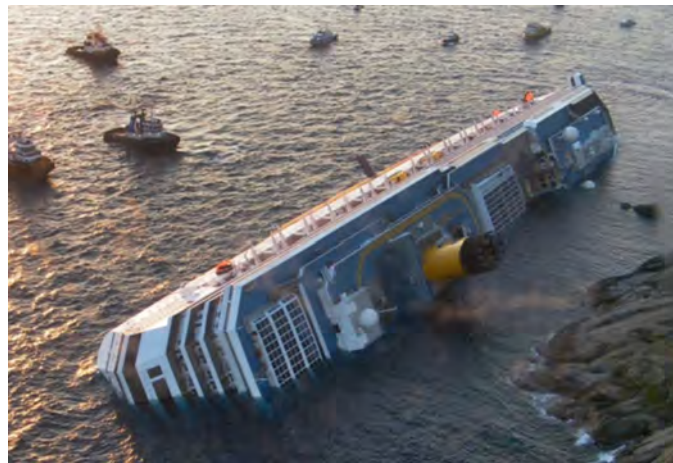
The Concordia cost \$900 million to build and was the latest and greatest (as was the Titanic) with all the luxury you can expect, 13 bars and 13 decks named after European countries.

Her crisis happened just 3 hours after starting her voyage: she had hit rocks. The captain Francesco Schettino went into deep shock and instructed the crew to direct passengers to their cabin, citing "a small electrical problem". A 53-metre gash developed on the Concordia's port side, five of her watertight compartments flooded, and with a "coup de grace" of a breeze she finally fell, tilting to the starboard. Confusion reigned on the bridge, resulting in conflicting orders.

On the bridge a command had been given for a sail-by salute past the island Giglio, using a wrong-size chart - no briefing had been given. They were in shallow water; the ship increased speed to 16 knots, and couldn't get around the rocks. The steering helmsman was Indonesian, didn't understand the commands to turn the ship, saying to the captain "make up your bloody mind" and stayed on the same course.

The ship hit. First law at sea - May Day signal-- was not sent. The general alarm sounded to go the muster station but was too late to alert the passengers. People had to climb down rope ladders as the crew hadn't been properly trained to launch the lifeboats.

The ship tilted, Schettino slid along the deck and got into a lifeboat. When ordered by the coastguard to return to the ship to supervise the evacuation, he refused.



32 people died and Schettino was charged with multiple counts of manslaughter: causing a maritime disaster, abandoning ship, and "lying to the authorities". He was convicted and sentenced to 16 years and 1 month in prison.

As to the fate of the Costa Concordia, she was pulled upright by cable, lowered onto an erected platform and then towed to the port of Genoa where she was scrapped for sale yards of other wrecks.

Noel Phelan impressed his audience with his insight and vast knowledge of the topic, complemented by evocative images, one most piteous being the magnificent Concordia lying on her side.

He was thanked by Harrie Hall, with "fantastic, brilliant presentation and you are most welcome here again".

Margaret Bowman

Activities Calendar

June 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Meeting "Sydney's Sub Attack" WAG Italian Wines	7	8 Coffee - Sunroom	9 Exotic Lunch TBA	10	11
12	13	14	15 Coffee - Sunroom	16 Book Club	17	18
19	20 Movies	21 Scenic Lunch TBA	22 President's Lunch See Page 3	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Coffee - Sunroom	30 Art Group		

The Apprentice", the training restaurant for TAFE at 695 - 731 Harris Street, Ultimo. 12:00 Sharp

July 2023

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4 Meeting	5	6 Coffee - Sunroom	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Coffee - Sunroom	14 Exotic Lunch TBA	15	16
17	18 Movies	19 Scenic Lunch TBA	20 Coffee - Sunroom	21 Book Club	22	23
24	25 Highlands Yulefest	26 Highlands Yulefest	27 Coffee - Sunroom	28 Art Group TBA	29	30
31						