



# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this  
Newsletter is for  
Proboscis members only

## FOR YOUR DIARY

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

General Meeting

Gladesville Sporties - 10:00

Speaker: Duncan Challen  
"South Africa to Western Sydney  
via Beijing"  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Thursdays**

Coffee Morning  
Sunroom 10:00 am  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

Exotic Lunch  
Rice Vermicelli King  
2/6 Progress Ave, Eastwood  
Dean Letcher 0439 736 006  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

Movies  
TBA  
Sandy Mower 0478 630 620  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Scenic Lunch  
"The Fenwick" Balmain  
Rescheduled from June  
Dean Letcher 0439 736 006  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Book Club  
"The Maid" by Nina Prose  
Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Tues - Wed 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> July**

Yulefest  
Southern Highlands  
Barbara Banner 0405 427 259  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

Art Group  
"Gallery Lane Cove",  
164 Longueville Rd. Lane Cove  
at 11 am.  
Margaret Timms  
0411 696 583

## From the President

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 55 Proboscis members, partners and guests enjoyed the President's Lunch at The Apprentice Restaurant, part of Sydney TAFE in Ultimo. We occupied most of the restaurant's capacity and we were the only group there for lunch, which was convenient for our few speeches.

Table settings were attractive, including small floral vases on each table. The student waiters were all very proficient taking and providing drink orders and serving the meals. The food was well prepared and attractively presented.

On the first occasion that Club members met after the 2023 King's Birthday honours were announced, members congratulated Richard Jones on his award as a Member of the Order of Australia for service to medical science.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I presented new Club names badges showing "Life member" below the name to each of the four Life members of the Club who attended - Pat Cox, Vincie Wahlquist, Ian Adair and Mike Regnis - so that their Life Members status is more apparent to members of the Club. Each of them related something about their most memorable or significant event during their term as President.

I then mentioned a few of the things that are significant to me in being President: the honour of serving in a respected role; facilitating use of my experience to contribute to Club management and activities; increasing my connection with members; and increasing my knowledge of Club history and tradition.

Some experienced Club members commented that the 2023 President's Lunch reached the standard expected for such events. For that, I thank Bob Way for making most of the arrangements; Margaret Timms for arranging the seating and Rod Stewart for taking photographs. And I thank all who attended for showing their support for the Club.

Several months ago the Management Committee agreed to change the name and nature of the activity that had been called "Technical Tours" to "A Day Out" because of the difficulty of finding suitable venues for technical tours. Broadly, the intention is to organise a day outing within convenient distance of Hunters Hill, preferably using public transport and gold Opal cards, to places of interest to members, on the second Tuesday of each second month. This activity operated a few years ago and was very popular when it was called an "Opal Day". A volunteer is sought to organise and lead this reinstated activity.

I wish "Happy Yulefest" to our 10 members going to celebrate this event late in July at Berida Hotel at Bowral.

Please remember to bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries, etc to the July meeting for the winter charity collection. A couple of volunteer drivers are required to take donated goods to the Community Centre in Gladesville Road, Hunters Hill after the meeting.

*David*

## FOR YOUR DIARY

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

General Meeting

Gladesville Sporties 10:00 am

Katie Little "Jeannie Little—My Mum

\*\*\*\*\*

**Probacchanalians**

Dan Murphy's

Lane Cove

Australian White Varietals

Richard Jones: 0411 285 185

\*\*\*\*

**Thursdays**

Coffee Morning

Sunroom 10:00 am

\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August**

Exotic Lunch TBA

Dean 0439 736 006

\*\*\*\*\*

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Movies

TBA

Sandy Mower 0478 630 620

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Scenic Lunch TBA

Dean 0439 736 006

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Tina Turner

Bob Way 0406 754 099

\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August**

Book Club

TBA

Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834

\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August**

Art Group

TBA

Peter Kelly 0411 696 583

\*\*\*\*\*

**A message from Jill Regnis**

"for the travellers on the Proud Mary  
20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October,  
Please pay the final amount by mid  
July, 2023.

See detail On

"Terms and Conditions."

## June Meeting Gallery



David inducting Margaret Stuart into the club

Barbara Banner responding to her 10 years of membership recognition



Peter Kelly receiving his 10 years of membership recognition



Robyn Hogan responding to her 10 years of membership recognition



## President's Lunch Gallery

### *Presentation of New Life Members Badges to the Four Life Members in Attendance and Their Responses*



*Pat Cox responding in true style as always*



*Ian pointing out an error in an earlier Newsletter*



*I assume Vincie was allowed to say something but our erstwhile photographer missed it*



*Mike saying a "few" words probably about "archiving" see page 5*



President's Gallery (cont)



My thanks to Rod Stewart for the photos. I understasnd the event was a success and enjoyed by all.

Ed:

## Archives, Artificial Intelligence and a Clever Grand-Daughter

Dedicated readers of this newsletter might recall that I had a short essay, *A Load of Old Rubbish?*, published in the February edition. Amidst my often rubbishy old writing there still remained, I hope, some valuable remembrances of past and present members and their contributions to the proud history of our Probus club. There was also a concluding statement that I want to now re-emphasise. It went along these lines:-

“We need to think through and enunciate a policy which will ensure that, no matter the medium, all records are collected, protected, and then conserved in a format suitable for the age and in a location which is directly under the control of our club. This is a task which requires our collective input, management committee and general membership alike.”

The records – the archives – of the club are a valuable resource and they do need to be retained and protected. But as to the other two elements of my title to this follow-up essay? Let me explain.

I have been enthralled by the exponential growth in the development of artificial intelligence, its applicability to so many human endeavours, and to the often hysterical publicity which surrounds its rapid growth. There are claims and counter-claims as to the benefits of AI. It is either world-changing and of immense potential benefit to humankind, or it is a Frankenstein’s monster which will prove uncontrollable. Sometimes, I wonder, if one’s attitude depends on which media outlet or scientific publication one subscribes to or which sensational newspaper story has been last published.

One of the artificial intelligence systems that has seemingly sprung from nowhere (it was launched only in November last year) is *ChatGPT*, described as per an article – “Machine Learning” in April’s *The Monthly* magazine – “- - as an AI-powered chatbox that uses deep-learning algorithms to generate responses to natural-language prompts. Trained on a massive database of materials, it can instantly synthesise original content into a form of answers to specific questions, essays on particular subjects, literary parodies, scripts, et cetera - - .”

“Ah!” I thought. “I wonder if *ChatGPT* can help in developing an archives policy (or strategy, if that is the better word for it) for the club?” Before I took the matter any further I did some more reading. Universities are expressing alarm at the potential for students to have their essays written by AI, with the result (once again quoting from the essay in *The Monthly*) “- - a development so potentially ruinous to current modes of academic practice that it will make the trade in ‘contract cheating’ look as old-fashioned as crib notes on the palm of your hand”. Who better, then, to consult than one of our grand-daughters, now at university? After all, we all know that advice on anything scientific, technological or practical is best sought from our grandchildren. The conversation went something like this –

“M—, have you heard of *ChatGPT*?

Yes, Grandad. Of course. The Uni. told all of us, at the beginning of the year, that it wouldn’t be in our long-term interest to use it to write any essays. We wouldn’t learn from it, nor would we be able to turn it into anything useful in our careers.

But if I asked you to use it to help me? Perhaps to write an essay?

Yes Grandad. What do you want?”

So, there it was. It was up to me to pose the right question(s), and perhaps the resulting reply might provide something useful in the quest to preserve our club’s archives. My question, after some thought:-

*Write an essay to describe the most effective means of safely recording and retaining archives such that they can be readily accessed for current and historical purposes (the archives are a mix, with some currently stored on paper and the rest being held in digital formats.*

The next time I saw M. I gave her the question, neatly typed on a sheet of paper (if I was “with it” I would have, more than likely, sent it by one of any number of electronic means). Within what seemed like one second flat she whipped out her phone, did a dance with her thumbs and then showed me that she had the question correctly entered. On receiving my affirmation she again did that magical thumb-dancing, waited at least a good ten seconds, and then turned the phone to me and said: “There it is Grand-dad.” And on seeing my incomprehension she added “But don’t worry about trying to read it now. I’ll email it to you.” Which she duly did. And so ended M’s part in this quest.

Now for the AI input. The *ChatGPT* essay runs to two and a bit pages of A4 paper. I don’t think it introduces anything startlingly new or innovative, and hardly needs a detailed analysis here. What the essay does provide, though, are the bones upon which a set of principles might be formulated. To my mind these can be stated as:-

- \* **Collection and collation** with the minimum of undue effort across all mediums;
- \* **Protection and preservation** of the records, in all formats suitable to the time;
- \* **Accessibility**, now and into the future.

These principles will, hopefully, remain valid as the years pass and as new technologies are developed – as witness the fact that *ChatGPT* is already being claimed as superseded by versions 2 and 3, let alone the rush to build on its success by *META* and others. I would also hope to see the three principles adopted for inclusion in the club’s Policy Register.

Most, if not all of the club’s records, up to about 2015, 6 were in a paper format – minute books, notice papers, correspondence, newsletters and photographs. Since then there has been an accelerating switch to digital and/or electronic records-keeping, even though some paper records are inevitably generated (letters in and out, etc.).

My understanding is that with the President, David Lorsch, obviously having an overseeing role the current generators of records within the club are:-

### Archives, Artificial Intelligence and a Clever Grand-Daughter (cont)

- \* Minutes of meetings, and correspondence – Secretary, Margaret Bowman;
- \* Financial reports, statements and similar – Treasurer, Jim Likidis;
- \* Editorial, newsletters' content – Editor, Mike Allum;
- \* Membership records – Membership Officer, Kevin Manie;
- \* Welfare reports and records – Welfare Officer, Josephine McBride;
- \* Activities and travel reports and records – A number of participants, depending upon the form of activity or travel;
- \* Speakers – Speakers' Officer, Deborah Lohman.

The levels of records' generation and retention do vary as, too, do their formats. It is fair to say, then, that keeping to just the first of the principles – collection and collation – is difficult. This is notwithstanding the fact that all those involved are meticulous in the back-up of their material. Still, despite the differing formats all sources of information need to be centralized by virtue of the second of my three principles.

So, my suggestion as to how these challenges, and the third principle may be better addressed is for the club to seek from within its membership a willing soul (not me!) to take on the dedicated role of **Archivist**. She, or he, need not be part of the Management Committee. Indeed, I can see strong argument why she/he may be better placed outside the Committee to ensure continuity, unencumbered by a myriad of other responsibilities; this without denying a particularly enthusiastic club member the right to perform as Archivist while also standing for election to the Committee (Note: The Position Descriptions for Management Committee members, adopted in 2019, requires the Secretary to "maintain Probus Hunters Hill Archives", this in addition to eleven other responsibilities! – to my mind an almost impossible task). The club Archivist would, ideally, be kept in the information loop through liaison with the President. The *ChatGPT* material will provide the groundwork for the Archivist. And she/he might draw comfort from the claim that this manifestation of AI is, and I quote: "– - - superior because it is more human-like".

In my earlier essay I commended Mike Allum and Jim Likidis for putting together a super-space metal cabinet to hold all the records. I also noted that there were four boxes of records, currently stored by Hunters Hill Council, which needed to be recovered if a centralisation of the archives could be achieved. We should still pursue this. But, as I inferred above, the growth of, and change in AI may see the means of archiving change beyond our recognition. What a challenge for our, yet to be recruited, club Archivist. What an opportunity!

Do you want to take up the challenge? Do you want the opportunity to help shape our archival development?

**Mike Regnis**

### Probacchanalians



On 6 June at "The Cellar" Lane Cove, the Probacchanalians (Wine Appreciation Group), enjoyed a tour of Italy's famous wine regions, tiptoeing through the varietals ( of which there are more than 300 in Italy) and taking the Autostrada through the more than 20 wine regions.

We were ably assisted by Patrick, Dan Murphy's local expert, who confessed to being an Italian wine tragic! (good for us though).

From Nebbiolo in the north to Etna Rosso in the south, we foot crushed the beautiful juices from the little bursts of flavour, ultimately savouring the divine wine from sun and earth (? terroir).

Etna Rosso seemed to accrue accolades perhaps in part due to the volcanic soil which imparted its personality and Chianti charmed us with recall of those raffia covered bottles hanging from the walls or dripping with wax as we savoured our "chicken in the basket" in our favourite restaurant ( with dim lights and cigarette smoke).

All in all, a lot of fun!

The Wines:

Dolcetto di Diana D'Alba Sori Del Riccio 2020  
 Amira Nero D'Avola Sicillia DOC 2019  
 Etna Rosso Pietra Dolce 2020  
 Monte Puciano d'Abruzzo Perno 2020  
 Chianti classico Santa Margherita 2019  
 Macarini Langhe Nebbiolo Lasarin 2021

Our next get together should be on 1<sup>st</sup> August and will include the diverse white wine varietals of Australia (and query nearby friends)

In vino veritas

**Richard Jones**



## Dean's Lunches

June Exotic

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June a 16 strong phalanx of Probusians like Spartans of old decided to find out the answer to a classical question: "What does a Grecian urn?" We didn't find out except that it became clear at the "Medusa" tavern that Grecians ate very well indeed. Tzatziki, taramosalata and other tongue-twisters were followed by crispy calamari and then the Trojan horse of slow-cooked roast lamb. Yum as the Thracians used to say. A modish city restaurant and very genuine Greek fare enjoyed by all.

July Exotic

This is truly truly exotic. On Friday 14 July at 12 noon it is the Eastwood "Rice Vermicelli King" at 2/6 Progress Avenue. This is a street where the only progress has been in the proliferation of Chinese regional restaurants and at this one I found little rice, no vermicelli and no sign of the King. It is great north-western Xi'an Chinese with a big emphasis on big flat noodles and big flavours. Not spicy unless you want it. Biang Biang Noodles, Black Fungus and Onion Salad, Pork and Chive Dumplings in Hot Sour Soup but also Sweet and Sour Pork, Cumin Lamb and Kung Pao Chicken. We will order an assortment and share them - cost about \$25 per person. Go to Eastwood, park in the multistorey council carpark or above Woolworths, walk to the roundabout and look for the RICE VERMICELLI KING sign only 30 metres away and you are there. A true exotic experience.

June / July Scenic

The scenic lunch site was all arranged, the direct view of the Bridge and Barangaroo was at its clear wintry sunny best but at very short notice "The Fenwick" restaurant was closed on our day for an "unexpected emergency renovation" Dark thoughts of the lavatories exploding or a drug baron gazumping our booking! Whatever the reason, there was a last-minute switch to the ever-likeable Sydney Rowers Club where the view and much calamari and affogato soothed the soul.

BUT ALL IS NOT LOST BECAUSE "The Fenwick" at East Balmain is now available for our July Scenic Lunch at 12 noon Wednesday 19 July. See last month's newsletter for more info but parking is possible, or take a bus [441,442] to the East Balmain ferry wharf [Parramatta River ferry] and there it is - a grand sandstone building with super view at the waterfront. Generous entrees \$30 feed two and mains \$34-\$64 but well worth it. Sign up at morning tea. Places are restricted - no walk-ins.

**ALSO**

Members may recall that a raffle was run at the combined Probus-Rotary dinner in October last year.

Various local businesses were approached for raffle prizes and they responded generously.

Beautician Natasha happily agreed to give a facial and cosmetics as a prize and was thanked in advance, acknowledged at the event and seemed keen for the publicity. Until....the winner asked for the promised facial.

Natasha made vague excuses, refused contact and later left the Hunters Hill area entirely.

Our member had purchased the ticket, expected the prize and got nothing. UNTIL a new beautician Tatiana of "Flawless" in the little cottage at the corner of Ryde and Gladesville Roads was shocked at the situation and readily agreed to restore our member's prize and provide the facial. Another happy Probus ending!

Many thanks to Tatiana pictured here with her gift certificate



## 1942 Mini Sub Attack on Sydney Harbour

*Ray Rees ex RAN and a popular previous Speaker at our club, returned to give a fascinating presentation on the 1942 minisub attack on Sydney Harbour.*

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On a clear night of 31<sup>st</sup> May 192 three two-man Japanese midget submarines launched from their “mother” submarines off Sydney and headed to attack vessels in the Sydney Harbour leaving the “mothers” to wait off the Heads. They were battery powered 25m long, had a rudder and travelled at periscope depth; they carried fast travelling torpedoes with a range of 20 kms.

Before dawn on 29<sup>th</sup> May a Japanese float plane had performed a final reconnaissance flight over the Harbour in order to map the locations of major vessels and the anti-submarine net.

The float plane was spotted but no alarm raised until about 5 am when the Richmond Air Base launched Wirraway fighter planes in search – by then it vanished and no special defence measures were taken.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May there were warnings from New Zealand of planes flying low over the harbour, but who would believe they were reconnaissance aircraft? No action taken.

The target of the attack was the heavy cruise USS Chicago. Three major vessels were present in the harbour, USS Chicago, HMAS Canberra and the light cruiser HMAS Adelaide. A converted ferry, HMAS Kuttabul, was alongside at Garden Island where she served as a temporary barracks for sailors transferring between ships.

To protect the harbour an anti-submarine boom net was stretched between Watsons Bay and Georges Head, however it was not completed with the large gaps remaining.

The first midget submarine, on entering the harbour, became entangled in the net. It was spotted by a Maritime Services Board watchman at 8:15 pm. He rowed out toward it and determined it was a minisub. He reported it to the nearest patrol boat and efforts were made to contact the Sydney Naval Headquarters but they did not receive the report until much later at 9:52 pm.

Patrol boats HMAS Yarroma and Lolita were dispatched – Lolita sent one depth charge set at 100 metres. As the depth in the harbour was only 80 feet, the depth charge did not activate and harmlessly sat on the harbour bottom. While Lolita was preparing the launch another depth charge, the crewman on the trapped midget sub activated a “scuttling” charge destroying the sub and killing both crew members.

The deafening noise of the explosion woke sleeping residents of Mosman before the wailing sirens did. So began a wild night of panic and terror on Sydney Harbour. Terrified families took cover under tables and beds, others streamed onto the streets and were escorted to shelters. Some watched the show of the deadly “fireworks” from their verandahs.

In the meantime the officer in charge of the Harbour, Rear Admiral Gerard Muirhead-Gould RAN was hosting a dinner party off shore with one of the main guests being the US Navy Captain Howard Bode of the USS Chicago. Both were oblivious of the explosions on the harbour and disbelieved the phone calls about a submarine in the harbour.

Muirhead-Gould eventually boarded Lolita and berated its Captain “what are you playing at, dropping depth charges and reporting subs in the harbour”. Similar reports surfaced after Bode arrived back on the Chicago. There were some reports questioning the sobriety of both individuals.



Partly submerged HMAS Kuttabul



### 1942 Mini Sub Attack on Sydney Harbour (cont)

The second sub passed through the net. It was spotted by the crew of Chicago which opened fire, both shells skimming off the surface. The sub's first torpedo went under the stern of the Chicago and destroyed Kuttubul with the loss of 21 lives and injuries to 10 others. Its second torpedo failed to detonate, skidded along the shoreline burying itself under Garden Island.

The sub then left the Harbour but failed to rendezvous with its "mother". Years later, in 2006, it was chanced upon by amateur scuba divers on the seabed near Bungan Head, Sydney's northern beaches.

The third sub entered the harbour and Chicago attempted to ram it, firing depth charges. It was also attacked by RAN auxiliary vessels, intensifying the danger in the sub. The captain shot his fellow officer and then himself.

All six submariners lost their lives in the attack. The two submarines lost in the harbour were raised and both crew's bodies were cremated at the Eastern Suburbs Crematorium with full naval honours. Their ashes were repatriated to Japan.

A composite of the two submarines was put on display and toured around Australia to raise money for sailor's charities. It is now installed at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

A service is held every year at the Kuttubul Memorial on Garden Island and attended by representatives from the Japanese Consul.

**Margaret Bowman**

*My thanks to Margaret for compiling this report Ed:*



It's that time again folks. Our Hardship Collection day for Hunters Hill Community Aid is at the July 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

As usual, we have some suggestions of items for us to donate:-

- Longlife milk (Full Cream and Light) in one Litre cartons
- Vegemite
- 2 minute noodles
- Tins of Spam or other meals, casseroles etc, in tins
- Packets of instant potato and instant peas
- Packets of cereals
- Packets of pasta meals
- Shampoo, soap, toilet paper toothpaste

Thank you.

*On behalf of Vincie*

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

##### Committee

President	David Lorsch	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: <a href="mailto:mike.allum@bigpond.com">mike.allum@bigpond.com</a> )		

##### 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	<a href="mailto:ramjones@bigpond.net.au">ramjones@bigpond.net.au</a>
Honorary Auditor	James Macready (member)	

**WEBSITE: [www.huntershillprobus.org](http://www.huntershillprobus.org)**

## Probus Music



On June 20<sup>th</sup> at least 8 Probus members enjoyed a concert at the Lane Cove Music Club featuring Nick Russoniello playing at least three saxophones (not simultaneously), supported by a violinist, a cellist and a pianist. We also saw a Charlie Chaplin film.

See Photo below **Ed:**

Coming up very soon is a concert by the **Beecroft Orchestra** on Sunday, July 2 at 2:30 pm, at Cheltenham girls high school's new Performance Hall. The Promenade, Cheltenham. Program details were in last month's newsletter. See: [www.thebeecroftorchestra.net.au](http://www.thebeecroftorchestra.net.au).

### Also in July.

The Roseville music club presents **Brass Passports** on Saturday, 22 July, 2 pm to 3:50 pm. At St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, 28 Lord Street, Roseville. Cost: \$40, \$30 concession. See: [www.rosevillemusicclub.com.au](http://www.rosevillemusicclub.com.au).

On Sunday July 23 at 2.30 pm, the Mosman music club presents the **jazz duo of Kevin Hunt on piano and Jacques Emery on double bass** at the Sacred Heart church hall, 23 Cardinal Street, Mosman (on the corner of Military Road). See: [www.mosmanconcertseries.org.au](http://www.mosmanconcertseries.org.au).

The Willoughby Symphony Orchestra performs on Saturday, 29 July, 7 pm to 9:30 pm and on Sunday, 30 July, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, at The Concourse. The program includes: **Korngold: violin, concerto, in G. Major, Op., 35** and **Berlioz: Symphonie fantastique, op. 14**. See: [www.willoughbysymphony.com.au](http://www.willoughbysymphony.com.au).

Allow me to promote **Stringybark Jazz**, the big band I play in, performing in Chatswood Plaza on Saturday 22 July from 1.30 pm (weather permitting).

### About Music Clubs

Music Clubs are community organisations run by volunteers to provide good music for the club's members and the community at large and to provide performance opportunities for classical musicians. They have been around for some time, 75 years in the case of the Lane Cove Music Club. Many performers began their career at the clubs and many have gone on to high achievements in Australia and overseas. Here is a list of local clubs, check their websites for upcoming concerts for 2023.

Wyvern Music Forestville, [www.wyvern.fmca.org.au](http://www.wyvern.fmca.org.au).

Lane Cove Music, [www.lanecovemusic.org.au](http://www.lanecovemusic.org.au).

Mosman Concert Series, [www.mosmanconcertseries.org.au](http://www.mosmanconcertseries.org.au).

Roseville Music Club, [www.rosevillemusicclub.com.au](http://www.rosevillemusicclub.com.au).

**Don't feel like going out? Too cold, too wet - can't be bothered? Never fear, good music can be delivered to your computer.**

During the Covid pandemic, two enterprising Melbourne musicians set up the Melbourne Digital Concert Hall. They promoted concerts by professional musicians, performed like a concert so you can see and hear the performance on your computer at a modest charge and at a much better quality than Youtube! It was a success and is now the **Australian Digital Concert Hall** with concerts from all over Australia presented regularly.

The concept is straightforward. You purchase a ticket to enjoy a high-quality livestreamed concert; ADCH passes on the full ticket price to the artists, with a modest booking fee keeping the cameras rolling. Each streaming ticket comes with 72 hour access, soon to be extended to one week, so you'll never miss a beat, even if you're busy on the night.



More information at:  
[w.australiandigitalconcerthall.com](http://w.australiandigitalconcerthall.com).

**Graham Holland**

## Probus Club of Hunters Hill & District Inc

PO BOX 1041  
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



### July Birthdays

Chris Schofield	8
Richard Jones	9
Judy Davey	12
Helen Earp	20
Sue Collins	21
Kevin Manie	23
Margaret Conley	23
Carol Pelham	31

### Editors Musings

- \* Why is it that to stop Windows, you have to click on "Start"?
- \* Why is it that in the US: If you take off all your clothes and walk down the street waving a machete and firing an Uzi, terrified citizens will phone the police and report: "There's a naked person outside!"
- \* Is reading in the bathroom considered Multi-Tasking?
- \* A person who plays the piano called a pianist. Why is a person who drives a racecar is not called a racist?

### Book Club



#### "French Braid"

by  
Anne Tyle

A book from a Pulitzer Prize winner came with a glowing review.

We were led to anticipate 'a funny, joyful, brilliantly perceptive journey deep into one Baltimore family's foibles'. How we were disappointed. Few of us could engage or sympathise with any of the too many individuals, some only introduced at the end of the book and most of them poorly developed.

The whole point of the novel was apparently to show that for a variety of very ordinary characters, small incidents early in life could be taken as a portent of things to come. But the lives portrayed were so dull that reading it was like watching grass grow. Even the set of discussion questions was at best mediocre.

Fortunately, we had a very good roll-up and a bottle of champagne to celebrate Richard's O.A.M. and Bob's birthday. So the afternoon was very far from wasted.

**Bob Way**

*Juliet advises that the book for discussion at the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting is "The Maid" by Nina Prose.*

### Barbara's Thought for the Month

"You live longer once you realise that any time spent being unhappy is wasted."

**Author: Ruth E. Renki**

### Art Group

Ten Probians attended the Art Gallery on Darling at Balmain. All had a great time with an interesting tour/presentation by a delightful young lady.



Following this we crossed the road to Dolce Napoli Italian Restaurant where we had a great meal while soaking up the sun.

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023 we will be visiting "Gallery Lane Cove", 164 Longueville Rd. Lane Cove at 11 am.

The exhibition is titled "Objectified" and has been curated by Blak Douglas who won the 2022 Archibald prize. The works are by Indigenous artists from the Macquarie University Art Collection, and include paintings, sculptures and cultural objects.

After viewing, we will partake of a meal at one of many of the eateries in Lane Cove.

Please put your name on the list at morning tea break at July Meeting.



**Margaret Timbs**  
0438 063 620  
for Peter Kelly



Activities Calendar
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## July 2023

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4 Meeting Duncan Challen South Africa to Western Sydney via	5	6 Coffee - Sunroom	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Coffee - Sunroom	14 Exotic Lunch Rice Vermicelli King Eastwood	15	16
17	18 Movies TBA	19 Scenic Lunch The Fenwick	20 Coffee - Sunroom	21 Book Club "The Maid" by Nina Prose	22	23
24	25 Highlands Yulefest	26 Highlands Yulefest	27 Coffee - Sunroom	28 Art Group "Gallery Lane Cove",	29	30
31						

## August 2023

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 Meeting Katie Little "Jennie Little My Mum ***** Wine Club	2	3 Coffee - Sunroom  Coffee - Sunroom	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Coffee - Sunroom	11 Exotic Lunch TBA	12	13
16	15 Movies TBA	16 Scenic Lunch The Fenwick (rescheduled) ***** Tina Turner Matinee & Night	17 Coffee - Sunroom	18 Book Club	19	20
22	22	23	24 Coffee - Sunroom	25 Art Group TBA	26	27
28	29	30	31 Coffee - Sunroom			