



# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this  
Newsletter is for  
Proboscis members only

## FOR YOUR DIARY

### Tuesday 1st August

General Meeting  
Gladesville Sporties 10:00 am  
Katie Little "Jeannie Little—My Mum"  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Proboscis members

Dan Murphy's  
Lane Cove  
Australian White Varietals  
Richard Jones: 0411 285 185  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Thursdays

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

### Friday 4th August

Sydney Museum  
50th Birthday of the Opera House  
Bob Way 0406 754 099  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Friday 11th August

Exotic Lunch  
Sushi Maru  
Lane Cove  
Dean 0439 736 006  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Tuesday 15th August

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

### Wednesday 16th August

Scenic Lunch  
Seaside Club  
Watson's Bay Hotel  
Dean 0439 736 006  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Wednesday 16th August

Tina Turner  
Matinee & Evening  
Bob Way 0406 754 099  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Friday 18th August

Book Club  
"9/11 and the Art of Happiness"  
by Simon Kennedy  
Juliet Bishop - 0431 627 834  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Friday 25th August

Art Group  
TBA  
Peter Kelly 0411 696 583  
\*\*\*\*\*

## From the President

As I reported to the July General Meeting, unfortunately Deborah Lohman resigned as Guest Speakers Officer late in June because of health problems. I thanked Deborah for the good job she did, with a variety of guest speakers organised until the end of this year.

I am happy to report that Jenny Thomson agreed to take over the role with immediate effect and the Management Committee confirmed her appointment. Thank you, Jenny. Jenny will confirm arrangements made by Deborah with guest speakers for the rest of this year. I look forward to Jenny's choice of speakers in 2024.

Co-incidentally, after Mike Regnis wrote in the July Newsletter about the need for a Club Archivist to properly organise and store the Club's records for future use, it was necessary for me to move the boxes containing the Club's older records from a Hunters Hill Council storeroom to our Club's storage locker in the basement of Henley Community Centre. Although the basement appears secure and dry, conditions are not ideal for access or preservation. Now is a good time for an aspiring archivist to take up Mike's challenge to preserve the Club's archives in an accessible and durable form, particularly if it could be done by the Club's 50th Anniversary in 2026.

Also co-incidentally, I am reminded of the close relationship between Proboscis and Rotary by two coming events.

Firstly, Hunters Hill Rotary Club seeks our support by attendance at its fund-raising dinner for Dementia Alzheimer's Research on Wednesday 2nd August from 6:30 pm at Hunters Hill Club. Maggie Beer AO and Professor Ralph Martins AO will be guest speakers and musical entertainment will also be provided. Cost \$120 pp. Book at [www.trybooking.com/CIUTT](http://www.trybooking.com/CIUTT). Phone Barbara Enright 0409 041 219 for enquiries or special dietary requirements.

Secondly, Hunters Hill Rotary Club again proposes a joint celebration with our Club of Proboscis Week with a dinner and entertainment, this year on Wednesday 11th October. I had preliminary discussions recently with the Rotary Club President, Charles Amos, to agree on details that will suit the preferences of members of both Clubs. Please reserve the date and watch for announcement of arrangements after they are agreed and made.

David

## Vale—Jim Likidis



As you would now be aware, Jim passed away late on Friday evening after suffering an illness for couple of months. He was surrounded by his adult family.

He joined Proboscis on February 2019 and quickly became involved in club activities, to the point where he was appointed Vice President in late September the same year. Due to Covid, he was one of a very small number of Presidents that served two terms.

While Immediate Past President, he took on the Treasurer's role and introduced several positive changes to the way the finances were managed, including the handling of member payments.

Away from Proboscis he was heavily involved in junior soccer, coaching several teams over the years. Like his roles in Proboscis, he had a passion for getting involved.

Ashlyn and I regarded him and Fay as close personal friends. He will be sadly missed.

Mike

**FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

General Meeting  
 Gladesville Sporties - 10:00  
 Speaker: Cindy Davies  
 Award Winning Novelist  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Thursdays**

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

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

Exotic Lunch  
 TBA  
 Dean Letcher 0439 736 006  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

Riverboat Postman  
 Brooklyn Wharf  
 Bob Way 0406 754 09  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

Book Club  
 Juliet Bishop 0431 627 834  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Monday 18<sup>h</sup> September**

"Good Old Days Concert  
 Town Hall  
 Barbara Banner 0405 427 259  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Tuesday 19<sup>h</sup> September**

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

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

Scenic Lunch  
 TBA  
 Dean Letcher 0439 736 006  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

Art Group  
 Margaret Timms 0411 696 583

**King's Honour for Richard Jones OAM**

Our member Richard Jones has been made a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of his pioneering work in rehabilitation of people with amputations, severe spinal injuries and stroke disabilities. He was Associate Professor at the University of New South Wales, director of rehab medicine, clinical director of Spinal Injuries and founder of the post-Polio clinic at Prince Henry/Prince of Wales hospitals.

More directly, Richard looked around at all these young men in wheelchairs with nothing to do and made dramatic advances in sport and recreation for disabled people. He believed a social and competitive life was essential for their wellbeing, happiness and longevity, he gave it all he had and has earned the gratitude of thousands for what he did. As a doctor he devised programs which led the world and at an individual level he devoted years producing amazing results. The comedian Adam Hills "The Other Leg" was born with one leg so vestigial that the accepted process was amputation, but Richard persuaded otherwise and worked on that leg from when Adam was a baby for years. And no wonder that Adam has told the world that he now walks only because of Richard Jones.

Richard became team doctor for Paralympics teams, paying his own way and raising funds for the athletes. In 1976 somehow Qantas was persuaded to provide an entire plane for the 1976 Toronto Paralympics Australian Paralympian team but when landing for refueling en route the airport required all the team to disembark. Until Richard drew himself up to full height ....the team of paraplegics stayed on the plane all the way to Toronto.

Apart from his work directly for the disabled athletes, Richard sent a message to the whole community about the value and ability of all such patients.

Richard retired from those roles in 2001 revered as a pioneer in rehabilitation medicine in New South Wales by his professional colleagues and now honoured by the whole community.

Richard continues in Probus with his loves of fine wines, his fine wife Mikki and his vintage Rolls Royce.



*Dean Letcher*

## Dean's Lunches

### July Exotic Lunch Report

On 14<sup>th</sup> July we did not celebrate Bastille Day with frogs legs and deep fried Brie but with Biang Biang Noodles and other not too spicy northern Chinese dishes at "Rice Vermicelli King" at Eastwood.

Not much rice but king-size helpings especially with several members lost in transit and the others having a poor command of Mandarin. Good value, great doggy bags and **very exotic**.

**August Exotic** lunch will be at noon on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August at "Sushi Maru" Japanese Restaurant, 123 Longueville Road, Lane Cove [just a few steps north of the Plaza].

Bus or easy parking at the free council ["Coles"] carpark. This is a 'sushi train' restaurant where the dishes travel around, you pick what you like and then pay according to the colour of the saucer bearing the dish. Salmon, avocado, prawn, oocy all wrapped in delicious special sushi rice or savoury parcels. No hot surprises. Or you can order separate main dishes – yakitori, teriyaki or noodle soup – all delicious and affordable. Not licensed. Konichi wa!

### July Scenic Lunch Report

On 19 July a **RECORD 17 MEMBERS** on a perfect sunny day arrived at "The Fenwick" - this heritage sandstone eatery at the end of Balmain peninsula.

Fabulous view to Barangaroo, excellent food [the slow-cooked lamb shoulder for two fed five]. Much opulence marred only by the management renegeing on its agreement and refusing to split bills. The hautier the cuisine the haughtier the staff. Anyway the 17 enjoyed a great Harbour occasion (postponed from June).



**August Scenic** lunch will be at noon on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August at the Seaside Club, Watsons Bay Hotel, (inside if inclement) with a classic view to the Bridge from absolute waterfront.

Order and pay separately for fish and chips, renowned seafood pie, smoked trout salad forced down with tiramisu or whatever the doctor ordered (not).

This is an Opal outing – ferry to Circular Quay then the F9 ferry to Watsons Bay [ 11.15 or 11.45 – 23 minutes of meditation] and back the same or car with possible but problematic parking.

An oldie but a goodie – like every Probusian.

## Probus Music



August brings symphony concerts, chamber music and choral music. A number of the concerts include premieres, or recent works by Australian composers and include a concerto for synthesiser and orchestra. I also include information about an online resource, which lists what's on, including things that are sometimes hard to find in other ways.

There are two concerts on August 8<sup>th</sup>, spoilt for choice! However, one of the concerts is available on live stream by the Australian Digital Concert Hall (ADCH) which I wrote about in the last newsletter.

### August 8<sup>th</sup> - 7.30 pm

#### **Lane Cove Music Club presents: AIRS AND DANCES:**

Song and dance with harp, flute and voice.

Vera Lee, harp and baritone Philip Murray, flute will play works from the medieval to the modern eras, by composers Purcell, Mozart, Brumby, Piazzolla and more.

Lane Cove Mowbray Anglican Church 19 Rosenthal Ave, Lane Cove (behind the Post Office and opposite The Canopy) \$30.

### August 8<sup>th</sup>-7.00 pm

#### **AUSTRALIAN ROMANTIC & CLASSICAL ORCHESTRA** presents:

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847) – Overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream, Op.61

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) – Symphony No.8 in F major, Op.93

Felix Mendelssohn – 'Scottish' Symphony No.3 in A minor, Op.56

At the Concourse, Chatswood. \$70 - \$75. Also live streamed by the ADCH.

### August 12<sup>th</sup>-7.00 pm and August 13<sup>th</sup> -2.00 pm

#### **WILLOUGHBY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** presents: **Last Night of the Poms Proms.**

Including the usual Pomp and Circumstance March and Jerusalem : sing along!!

At the Concourse, Chatswood. \$52.

### August 13<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm

#### **CORO INNOMINATA** presents:

Made in Sydney: music that (much like the choir itself) is in some way Made in Sydney. Sing local!!\

Mosman Art Gallery, \$35.

### August 20<sup>th</sup>-3.30 pm

#### **THE METROPOLITAN ORCHESTRA** presents:

Lalor- Mima Concerto Overture

Shannon - Strange Roses for Synthesiser and Orchestra WORLD PREMIERE.

Dvorak- Symphony No 9 - from the New World.

At the Marrickville Town Hall. \$38.

### August 22<sup>nd</sup>-8.00 pm

#### **THE SYDNEY MOZART SOCIETY** presents:

Frank Celata and Friends playing:

Mozart - Quintet for horn and strings in E-flat major K407

Schubert - Octet in F major D.803

At the Concourse, Chatswood.\$52 - \$58.

### August 27<sup>th</sup>- 4.00 pm

#### **WYVERN MUSIC FORESTVILLE** presents:

Sydney Symphony Orchestra Fellows for 2023 with pianist Alexander Yau playing music by Elliott Carter, Jacques Casterede, Bohuslav Martinu and Robert Schumann.

At Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 9 Currie Rd Forestville. \$20.

A very useful source for finding out what's on throughout Australia is the website of **ClassikON: [www.classikon.com](http://www.classikon.com)**. It shares classical and new music performed in unique spaces by independent musicians in Australia. You can subscribe to the newsletter or look at the list of what's on on the website. Like the Australian digital concert hall, it's another effort by enthusiasts!

And finally, I know you don't need convincing that older people can be creative, but here are two good examples. Ralph Vaughan Williams wrote his Eighth Symphony, which will be performed by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra on August 11, at 84 and his Ninth Symphony at the age of 85. And the American Elliott Carter (see above) was still composing at 100!

*Graham Holland*



## South Africa to Western Sydney via Beijing

Duncan Challen whose expertise in international trade, industry and investment, leading organisations across ten international markets. was eminently qualified to speak to the Club. However, his accent was on his own personal development, accumulating experiences in the three countries that had richly coloured his life.

Duncan was born in South Africa in the time of conflict and early on learnt what to do if there happened to be a bomb. As an adult he worked as a game ranger and witnessed poaching of wildlife (illegal hunting) and theft which was rife. While safari is an amazing experience, it's a hard life for rangers: the night before there must be a reconnaissance of where lions and elephants would be for the tourists to see; next morning it's up at 4.30, a full day, plus a night drive for them to see nocturnal creatures; and your job isn't done until the last guest leaves, it's late and hyenas and jackals begin their howling and yelping.

Duncan knew the turbulent history of his country well, from its beginnings in 1497 when Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama landed on the Natal coast. Da Gama was followed by the Dutch in 1652 who founded the Cape Colony, a trading route was created. Then the British seized the territory... the Zulu empire expanded, ferocious fighting.

The 1830's saw big hunting in Africa and massive trading in ivory with 30 - 40 rhinos shot a day! 1867 saw major diamond strike at the Kimberly, and gold was discovered at Johannesburg in 1886.

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century a bitter colonial war between the Afrikaners and the British was fought for three years over the mineral rich land disputes in the Transvaal.

From the Native Land Act, to Apartheid Government to segregation, imprisonment of Nelson Mandela in 1964, his release in 1990... And after all the upheavals, the Bloodless Revolution in 1994 - 10th May 1994 becoming a red-letter day of the ending of the hated regime of apartheid. A new democratically elected non-racial government under Nelson Mandela was sworn in.

\*\*\*\*\*

For Duncan it was seeing the world after the University. He went to the UK, Europe, the US and Australia whose transport infrastructure impressed him (compared to Sth Africa's "awful" public transport which he never used). Here, he settled in Melbourne and met his wife-to-be.



In 2014 he was off to China, Beijing, to manage sales and marketing businesses. Duncan spent 3 years creating new oil and gas retail businesses for Shell with Chinese Joint Ventures across China. He stayed in a town nearby, taking Chinese lessons one hour per week, challenging the difficult characters, and becoming proficient in a year.

He found Beijing striking in its strong capitalistic attitude, the city that never sleeps, with cars and bikes everywhere, and a policeman at every traffic light. High pollution. Also stark poverty, with workers sending all their earnings to families in regional and rural China, and only able to visit their families once a year.

\*\*\*\*\*

When Duncan returned from China, he was recruited by Mike Baird MP, then Premier of NSW to attract new investments for the State. A brief experience as Baird stepped down in 2019, but where he witnessed the inner workings of the government, which Baird restructured three times.

Next, a step into Bradfield, the new city planned by the NSW Government's Western Sydney Parkland Authority on a 114-hectare site adjoining the Western Sydney Airport, said to be "twenty-first century global city with a 24/7 economy" and a "world-class advanced manufacturing research facility". However the bureaucracy was too much and Duncan went north - of the airport to work on a \$5 billion Sydney Science Park.

Duncan described this as the "engine room of the Australian economy". A dazzling billions of dollars are being spent on Western Sydney, the whole area rezoned. 3,500 homes are presently being built, with a capacity to build 16,000 more. It is a post-modern, futuristic concept where science will address digital destruction, AI, augmented reality, quantum computing...sophisticated methods to diagnose your kidney functions, drones delivering drugs to your home, automated ambulances, and hospitals providing automatic triage...

\*\*\*\*\*

From the past of the eternal Africa to the fast-forward projectile to the future. One wonders if Duncan's heart would still be somewhere in the savannah land.

**Margaret Bowman**

### Bowral Yulefest

This was a historic occasion – the last of the many Probus tours masterfully organised by Jill Regnis. Thanks for your efforts over the years. Ten Hunters Hill members and 29 members of other clubs had a jolly two-day trip with On Course Tours.

The weather was perfect for our morning tea while watching the hang-gliders at Bald Head, and for the rest of the trip.

We had an excellent lunch in Moss Vale, but a disappointing visit to Ngununggula, the Southern Highlands' First Regional Art Gallery. The gallery and its café were fine, but the current exhibition most of us found repulsive. We also took in a wine-tasting at Centennial Vineyard.

The focus of the trip was a grand baked dinner and stay at the newly-refurbished Berida Hotel in Bowral. The hotel is beautifully restored, and the meal was delicious, albeit not exactly Christmassy. It was particularly meaningful for Ann and Garth Juster, who held their wedding reception in the same room 25 years ago.

The following day featured a trip to the old village of Berrima, and a tour of Camden, where the pace of growth, particularly in immense retirement villages, was astounding.



Bob Way

Art Group



What a treat was in store for us today, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July, when 12 Members attended Gallery Lane Cove to view the exhibition titled "Objectified". This exhibition was curated by Blak Douglas and comprised works by indigenous artists from the Macquarie University Art Collection. We had the extra pleasure today of being guided by the Manager of the Gallery, Miguel Olmo, whose knowledge was extensive and enlightening.

The exhibition is divided into three gallery areas, the first one depicting works by artists from the western areas of Australia.

The second area showing objectified works, hence the title of the exhibition, painted by artists from the centre or heart of Australia.

The third area showing more contemporary works by artists from eastern Australia.

The works are a mix of paintings, carved wooden sculptures some of which are exquisite, a bark painting, a Basket Form using a hot glass technique, which was fragile looking but many of us thought beautiful. Also on display was a large basket of woven natural grasses by an unknown artist and an etching on rag paper, titled Spirit Baby.



When we had finished our guided tour, Miguel took us downstairs to show us the Creative Studios where art classes teaching many mediums are held. We walked through a still life class where we spoke to the artists and viewed their works and then went into a pottery class. All this was very much a bonus to our morning, thanks to the generosity of Miguel.

As usual after the Art Gallery mornings, a few members enjoyed lunch, where we continued our discussions.





**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
Bronwyn Ellens	21
Marea Ryan	27
Mike Allum	29
Jack Vegas	29

**Editors Musings**

- \* Why does Donald Duck wear a towel when he comes out of the shower, when he doesn't usually wear any pants?
- \* How do they get a deer to cross at that yellow road sign?
- \* Is experience what you get when you didn't get what you wanted?
- \* If the cops arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
- \* Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
- \* Is reading in the bathroom considered Multi-Tasking?

**Barbara's Thought for the Month**

"The worst thing you can possibly do is worry about what you could have done."

*Author: Lightenberg*



**The Maid**  
by  
**Nina Prose**

"The Maid" is the first novel by Canadian author Nita Prose. Diligent, erudite, faithful and extremely naïve Molly the hotel maid becomes the obvious suspect when her obnoxious guest is found dead in very suspicious circumstances.

Molly is a complex individual who for various reasons mainly relating to her upbringing keeps a very low profile and has no confidants. She tells us her tale, recounting her relationships with various hotel guests and employees, but always holding back little elements.

Even as she discovers who are her friends as they help her establish her apparent innocence, and who are those that used her unmercifully, we are never quite sure of what actually happened. In short the story reveals how easy it is to misread character, and to jump to conclusions about people who don't quite conform to expectations. The Lindy Chamberlain case comes to mind.

We had a very lively discussion, with an almost complete attendance. Everyone present enjoyed the book, and all agreed that it gave largely a believable account of what life might be like for a slightly neuro-divergent employee of a high class hotel. I see that a sequel, "The Mystery Guest" is about to be published.

*Bob Way*

**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	Jenny Thompson	0484 676 124
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](mailto: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	<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)**



Activities Calendar

### August 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 Meeting Katie Little "Jeannie Little My Mum" ***** Wine Club	2	3 Coffee - Sunroom	4 Sydney Museum Sydney Opera House 50 <sup>th</sup> Bob Way	5	6
7	8	9	10 Coffee - Sunroom	11 Exotic Lunch Sushi Maru Lane Cove	12	13
14	15 Movies TBA	16 Scenic Lunch Seaside Club Watsons Bay Hotel ***** Tina Turner	17 Coffee - Sunroom	18 Book Club	19	20
21	22	23	24 Coffee - Sunroom	25 Art Group TBA	26	27
28	29	30	31 Coffee - Sunroom			

### September 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5 Meeting Cindy Davies Award Winning Author	6	7 Coffee - Sunroom	8 Exotic Lunch TBA	9	10
11	12	13 Riverboat Postman Bob Way	14 Coffee - Sunroom	15 Book Club	16	17
18 <b>Good Old Days Concert</b> Town Hall Barbara Banner	19 Movies	20 Scenic Lunch TBA	21 Coffee - Sunroom	22 Art Group TBA	23	24
25	26	27	28 Coffee - Sunroom	29	30	