



MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this Newsletter is for Probus members only

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 6th August

General Meeting

Speaker: Ian Burnet
Author, Historian, Voyager
"Tasman Maps"

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
Sunroom 10:00 am

Monday 5th August

Golf
Ashlyn

Wednesday 7th August

Wine Appreciation
The Heritage
Richard Jones
15:00
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Friday 9th August

Scenic Lunch
Shavarsh Bedrossian
Carmen's on the Park

Wednesday 14th August

Barbara's Wednesday
Outing
Page: 3
TBA

Friday 16th August

Book Club
Juliet Bishop
TBA

Monday 19th August

Golf
Jim Macready
TBA

Tuesday 20th August

Movies
Postponed to September

Friday 23rd August

Art Group
Gallery Lane Cove
Peter Kelly
11:00

From the President

Reflections on the President's Lunch July 2024. Before the event this year, there were some discernible grumblings, but despite this, the Lunch went ahead with great enjoyment. We all know the adage, you can't please all of the people all of the time.

Killara Golf Club is not an easy venue to locate from the Pacific Highway. A number of people got lost driving there, including me, but thankfully I had left home with plenty of time to spare so the impact was not disastrous.

The large room where our tables had been set up had an oldie worldly air and tables were comfortably spaced which gave ease of access for those members with assistance walkers etc. As people arrived they were asked to visit the Bar where they were each given a complimentary drink. Also they were given a ticket for the Lucky Door prize. The room was warm and conducive to dining and conviviality.

The meals were delicious, both the main course and the dessert. The presentation of food on plates was artistic. The young people who were waiting at tables were unobtrusive yet helpful as needed. The meal was concluded with tea or coffee and a truffle. I glanced around the room and observed camaraderie at each table.

One of the enjoyable parts of the day for me, was to note the Past Presidents attending the Lunch, eleven in all. We had a special photo taken and it will be sent with an article to TWT.

I would like to thank those involved in the organisation of the Lunch, namely Bob Day, Josephine McBride, Anne Day and Mike Allum, the trusty photographer.

Margaret Timbs

From the July Meeting

President Margaret inducts on Sue and Brian Watson to our Club..



Congratulations and welcome to you both

**FOR YOUR DIARY
FOR YOUR DIARY**

Tuesday 3rd September

General Meeting
Speaker: Eira Battaglia
"The Silver Buckle"

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
Sunroom 10:00 am

Monday 9th September

Golf
Jim Macready
TBA

Friday 13th September

Exotic Lunch
Pasta Restaurant' Five Dock
Shavarsh
TBA

Tuesday 17th September

Movies
Sandy Mower
TBA

Friday 20th September

Book Club
Juliet Bishop
TBA

Monday 23rd September

Golf
Jim Macready
TBA

Friday 27th September

Art Group
Peter Kelly
TBA

Art Group



On Friday 26th, 16 of members travelled to Circular Quay by ferry.

We then proceeded to wharf 2 and caught the fast ferry to Manly.

Arriving at the Art Gallery And Museum we were met by the curator Ben Rak.

He then led us on a one-hour tour of the Gallery. His knowledge of all the paintings and ceramics was absolutely unbelievable.

It is fair to say that we all had a great time.



We then proceeded to lunch at a restaurant near the wharf and eventually headed home via a coffee shop at the Quay.



On Friday 30th August 2024 we will meet at Gallery Lane Cove, 164 Longueville Rd., Lane Cove at 11.00am.

The exhibition will be "Departed" which involves eight artists.

I have arranged a guide at no cost and his tour will last an hour after which we can enjoy lunch at one of the many restaurants in the area.

Peter Kelly

Book Club

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus



"Lessons in Chemistry" is a highly acclaimed debut novel that American author Bonnie Garmus wrote at the age of sixty-four.

Back in the 1950s America when men were men and women were very definitely an underclass, Elizabeth Zott is a courageous groundbreaker. Despite constant belittling and abuse from male scientists, she pursues a single-minded ambition to become an expert in the chemistry of abiogenesis (the theory that life rose from simplistic, non-life forms). To follow this path, she has resolved to avoid marriage or children.

Another kind of chemistry, however, enters Zott's life when she falls in love with Calvin, a renowned research chemist who was brought up in the worst kind of Catholic orphanage. The two form a deep professional understanding which develops into love and full partnership. But shortly after their relationship is tragically ended, she is forced out of her scientific career by male and religious prejudice. This follows from the revelation that she is pregnant and unwed.

Zott had no good relationship with either her father or mother, but she has become an expert and devoted cook through applying her knowledge of chemistry and the scientific method to her experiments in the kitchen. Having lost her job in research she is without any income to support herself, her daughter and her dog, so she is easily hoodwinked into hosting a TV cooking show. But she isn't going to smile and read the cue cards. She defies the management and sponsors to ad-lib her way into a role that suits her, treating the creation of a stew or a dessert as a grand experiment to be undertaken with utmost seriousness. Think molecular gastronomy in an era when canned soup reigned supreme. Her audience of women loves being treated as intelligent. Eventually, Zott's public success paves the way for her to return to her true vocation.

In addition to a serious look at the frustrations of a generation of women, Garmus adds plenty of lighthearted fun. There's a mystery involving Calvin's family and a look at the politics and dysfunction of the local television station. There's a broad rejection of religiosity, a love affair with rowing, an unconventional approach to parenthood and Zott's deep connection to her dog, Six-Thirty.

This was a novel with plenty of food for thought (boom boom!) and our panel discussion was a lively one. All eleven of us enjoyed the book and its messages, finding it well written and easy to follow. We found ourselves discussing feminism and its limited progress to date, trust, atheism, religious faith and institutions, parenthood, rape, animal intelligence, and of course abiogenesis.

What a fine way to spend an hour and then enjoy an afternoon tea.

Bob Way

The current book we are reading is "The Survivor's" by Jane Harper which many may have read before as it was first published in 2020. Jane Harper is now a celebrated Australian author(ess). We will meet to discuss this book on 16th August in the Mary McKillip room in The Heritage, as usual at 2 pm. If anyone is interested in putting forward their name to join the Probus Book Club please ring me on 0431 627 834..

Juliet Bishop

Barbara's Outings

Just a reminder to you all The Good Old Days Concert 16th September, 2024, Sydney Town Hall 11am is still open.

If you wish to go you will need to let Barbara know and pay at the next meeting. Tickets allocated from 12th August.

Just an early heads up the next concert is 28th October Barbara will be taking names at the next meeting.



Also the "Wednesday" outing for August is to the Secret Garden and Nursery Community Hub, Richmond.

The Secret Garden is a not-for-profit Community Hub on 15 acres at the Western Sydney University. Hawkesbury.

The focus of the Secret Garden is to provide a space that draws community groups, organisations, and individuals together. You can enjoy our peaceful rambling gardens, browse through their massive selection of plants for sale or just say hi to the resident chickens, guinea pigs, ducks and goats.

Barbara will talk about both of these outings at Tuesday's meeting..

Barbara Banner

Probus Music



There's not a lot on in August, but I have chosen two concerts for your pleasure. I particularly commend to you the concert featuring the Sydney Symphony Fellows.

I went to the Fellows concert last year and was delighted and impressed by the fascinating diversity of the program.

This year's program is equally diverse. All the players are conservatory graduates, often with further study, and have (obviously) a very high level of technical skill.

Tuesday August 13, 7.30 pm.

THE LANE COVE MUSIC CLUB presents:

Lurline Quartet -Strings to the Heart.

At the Lane Cove Mowbray Anglican Church, Rosenthal Avenue, Lane Cove, (opposite the Canopy car park entrance) \$30.

Sunday August 18, 3.00 – 4.30 pm.

WYVERN MUSIC FORESTVILLE presents:

Echoes Across the Atlantic

With the Sydney Symphony Orchestra Fellows 2024.

SERGEI PROKOFIEV (1891-1953)

Quintet in G minor, Op.39 (1924)

ALEX WILDER (1907–1980)

Suite for Horn and Improvisatory Percussion

GEORGE ANTHEIL (1900–1959)

Symphony for Five Instruments (second version)

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH (1906–1975)

Piano Quintet, Op.57 (1941)

**At the OLCG Catholic Church,
9 Currie Rd, Forestville.**

Full \$30, Concession \$20. Buy at the door (and get a free bottle of water!)

For over 21 years the Sydney Symphony have been dedicated to developing the next generation of professional orchestral musicians through holistic learning and a hands-on approach.

The year-long program lays the groundwork through intense preparation and training, including masterclasses with globally renowned artists, dedicated mentorship from the Sydney Symphony's musicians, and the opportunity to explore a range of diverse musical styles in chamber and orchestral performances, including mainstage and regional programs.

The SSO supports the Fellows with further development of technical skills, insights into career management and audition preparation – helping them to develop sustainable and rewarding careers.

Graham Holland



Probacchanalians - A Teaser

For those established and potential members of our friendly lovers of good wine, I list for your perusal the wines that I shall present at our next get together at 3pm Wednesday 7th August at "The Heritage"

Not an easy task I hear you say, for whilst Argentina makes and exports excellent wines, Chile competes with Australia in the International markets and Brazilian has so far an unachievable complement.!!

These are the wines for our tasting

1. Casilero del Diablo Reserva Privada Cabernet Sauvignon D.O.Valle del Maipo
2. Casilero del Diablo Reserva Shiraz
3. Santa Carolina Estellar- Carmenere (grape variety) Valle Central
4. Zuccardiq Malbec Valle de Uco Mendoza
5. El Esteco Malbec blend 4 areas Mendoza
6. Textual Malbec 60% /Caladoc 40% Santa Julia Mendoza

1 2 and 3 are Chilean, 4 5 and 6 are Argentinian

Richard Jones

Experiences of the Kokoda Trail - Lukasz Sempka

In 2014 *"Kokoda: In the Footsteps of the Brave"* was screened on TVS (W. University campus channel) on February 22, 24, and 27 following seven "disadvantaged" teenage boys as they trekked the infamous Kokoda Trail, led by the Hon. Charlie Lynn MLC.

The documentary showed their grueling trek of 128 km through the formidable terrain of the Papua New Guinea jungle of mud, treacherous inclines and deep valleys. Some suffered diarrhoea; one trekker became severely ill and was evacuated. But they were given the opportunity to witness the site of the historic battles fought and learn mental resilience, perseverance and mateship by example of the young diggers who achieved victory against overwhelming odds 72 years ago. *Never forget and never ever give up.* The seven boys completed what is normally a 10-day trek in just 6 days, sometimes battling 16 hours a day through the jungle.

The trekkers learnt about the soldiers who battled in horrendous conditions. It rained for days; the weary men endured the jungle, the mountains and the swamp, and were racked by malaria and dysentery. Much of the air-dropped thousands of pounds of food, clothing, bedding and ammunition rounds was lost, damaged, or stolen or simply not picked up through lack of native carriers. The natives were indeed 'Fuzzy-Wuzzy Angels' – but there were not enough of them due to poor pay perhaps, or being underfed or under-appreciated. Some deserted when exposed to the fighting. The Japanese suffered too. Starving and coming upon abandoned rations (corned beef, milk, jam) they would overindulge with the result of stomach pains and diarrhea. This caused delays, which allowed the Australians to slip away.

Finally came the day of 2nd November 1942 when the Japanese were forced to retreat and Kokoda was recaptured. The following day the Australian flag was raised. After seven months of combat it was all over. November 3rd is now commemorated as "Kokoda Day". The defenders won a hard fought battle that was often in the balance. In doing so, they created a legend.

The Kokoda Leadership Project was launched in October 2013 for senior students from schools in the wider Penrith area. The goal of The Project was, and is, to empower boys for the trials of the HSC and for their transition into the next phase of adult life. Other participants to walk the Trail were 'Panthers on the Prowl', Penrith NRL Panthers players, and various business houses which provided opportunities for intensive mentoring. The trek was the brainchild of former Panthers forward Brad Waugh who now heads Panthers on the Prowl; his aim is to give something vitally important back to young people and families within Penrith and surrounding areas.



Since its launch in 2002 Panthers on the Prowl has made a significant impact on the community. As well as the important individual gain by boys turning their school lives around after a rough start, it has brought about mutually beneficial outcomes for communities and agencies working together. The project is supported by local businesses, the Commonwealth Bank, and the NSW Government; its programs are evaluated by the University of Western Sydney.

The 2014 trek was led by The Hon Charlie Lynn OL OAM Director & Trek Leader, who had founded Adventure Kokoda. Charlie, who is thus called, led 101 treks across the Kokoda Trail from 1991-2023. During this time he became a leading advocate for the Trail to achieve its potential as a world-class pilgrimage to benefit young Australians and also economically benefit its traditional landowners.

In 2015 Charlie was inducted as an Officer of the Logohu by the PNG government in their New Year's Honours list *'for service to the bilateral relations between Papua New Guinea and Australia and especially in the development of the Kokoda Trail and its honoured place in the history of both nations over the past 25 years'*.

He was awarded an Order of Australia in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours List *'for services to the NSW Parliament and the people of New South Wales'*.

In his retirement Charlie continues to mentor *Adventure Kokoda* trek leaders and advocates for a Military Heritage Master Plan for the benefit of future generations of young Australians.

Margaret Bowman

President's Lunch



A Rare Photo of 12 Club Presidents



President's Lunch (cont)



At the lunch in her honour, Margaret took an interesting approach to her view as to the important values she associates with the role of President.

With her permission I have included the essence of her address as an Acrostic.

- P** A pleasure, pride and perseverance.
- R** Reassurance, with relationships and activities for continuity of Club.
- E** Emotional, experience sharing journey with members.
- S** Sincerity of interactions with all.
- I** Innovative, to fulfil interests of members and their social needs.
- D** Determination. Large doses required at times to ensure members understand what revolves around presidency.
- E** Explicit. Clear instructions and expectations of members. A 2 way street.
- N** Niche. We are a niche group, being the figurehead as President, guiding always.
- T** Tenacity and thoughtfulness. The role is all encompassing, sometimes needing to walk in another's shoes.



That reminds me, we need to get a shorter lectern.

Mike

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

PO BOX 1041
HUNTERS HILL NSW 2110



August Birthdays

Julie Gahan	6
Robyn Hogan	6
Bronwyn Ellens	21
Jack Vegas	29
Mike Allum	29

Editors Musings - Ageing

- * We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Parliament
- * I don't want to achieve immortality through my work...I want to achieve it through not dying.
- * It's not that I'm afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens.
- * When I was a boy, I had a disease that required me to eat dirt three times a day in order to survive... It's a good thing my older brother told me about it.
- * I've learned that life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

Barbara's Thought for the Month

"You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have."

Author: Unknown

A Bit More From the July Meeting

Mike receiving his Life Membership Certificate.



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

Committee

President	Margaret Timbs	0438 063 620
Vice President	Charles Kent	0410 345 040
Secretary	Anne Day	0405 281 672
Treasurer	Marilyn Johnson	0427 668 182
Activities Convenor	Bob Way	0406 754 099
Speakers	Jenny Thompson	0484 676 124
Welfare Officer	Josephine McBride	0488 532 755
Membership Officer	Kevin Manie	0412 349 270
Past President	David Lorsch	0428 247 708
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	Shavarsh Bedrossian	0402 217 141
Movies	Sandy Mower	0478 630 620
Golf	Jim Macready	0411 216 480
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)

Winter Yulefest on the Nepean

On a cold and windy Wednesday morning 50 members and a some fellow Probian guests boarded our Coach for an outing on 'The Nepean Belle'.

Our first stop was for morning tea at Nurraginy Reserve where we had time to explore the Chang Lai Yuan Chinese Gardens, featuring a Stunning gateway, stone bridge, pavilion and waterfall gazebo.

We then embarked on our cruise on the paddle wheeler 'The Nepean Belle' travelling Upstream from Penrith through the Nepean Gorge. Our cruise included a delicious Winter Yulefest Lunch featuring a festive winter menu, Christmas decorations, carols playing and a Visit from Frosty.

Our afternoon continued with a visit to Penrith's Regional Gallery and The Lewers Bequest. The original house on the property dates back to 1901, with its owners, Margo and Gerald Lewer's dream of it being a site of art presentation and appreciation. In 1980 after their deaths their daughter entrusted the site to Penrith City Council, which then opened as the Regional Gallery in 1981.

Our amazing driver Peter, drove us through the 2000 Olympic Regatta site before our journey home to Gladesville Sporties. A thoroughly wonderful day was had by all.

Many thanks to Ashlyn for her hard work in getting this up and running whilst I was away.



and the lasting image of Yulefest



Barbara Banner

Activities 2024

August

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 Coffee - Sunroom	2	3	4
5 Golf Ashllyn	6 Meeting 10:00 am Speaker Ian Burnet	7 Probacchanalians The Heritage 15:00	8 Coffee - Sunroom	9 Scenic Lunch Shavarsh Carmen's on the Park	10	11
12	13	14 Barbara's Wednesday Outing See Page: 3	15 Coffee - Sunroom	16 Book Club Juliet Bishop TBA	17	18
19 Golf TBA	20 Movies Sandy Mower	21	22 Coffee - Sunroom	23 Art Group Peter Kelly TBA	24	25
26	27	28	29 Coffee - Sunroom	30	31	

September

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3 Meeting 10:00 am	4	5 Coffee - Sunroom	6	7	8
9 Golf TBA	10	11 Barbara's Wednesday Outing TBA	12 Coffee - Sunroom	13 Scenic Lunch Shavarsh TBA	14	15
16 Good Old Days Concert See Page:3	17 Movies Sandy Mower	18	19 Coffee - Sunroom	20 Book Club Juliet Bishop TBA	21	22
23 Golf	24	25	26 Coffee - Sunroom	27 Art Group Peter Kelly	28	29
30	31					