



# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this Newsletter is for Probos members only

### FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April

General Meeting  
10:00

Speaker: Danika Armytage  
"Life Stories"  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### Thursdays

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

#### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

##### Golf

Jim Macready  
TBA  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April

Exotic Lunch  
Shavarsh  
"Kadmus"  
See Page 2  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Book Club  
Juliet Bishop  
The Heritage  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Movies  
Sandy Bredemeyer  
TBA  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Golf  
Jim Macready  
TBA  
\*\*\*\*\*

### From the President

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations continued in March when we enjoyed a wonderful Formal Lunch with our long-serving local Member, Anthony Roberts, who was our host for the day.

Our Anniversary Sub-Committee had approached Anthony Roberts quite some time ago re the possibility of holding our 50<sup>th</sup> Celebratory Lunch in the Strangers Restaurant at our State Parliament House. As a result, not only was he our Host for the day, but had worked in concert with our Sub-Committee over quite a period of time, thus ensuring that the venue looked wonderful, and also, that the organisation went like clockwork.

We also received help and support from Probos South Pacific Limited and their Executive Team. Thus, Michael Ransom, Chairman, PSPL, reminded us of the continuing important place that Probos provides for "our more mature citizens".

Jerome Laxale, MP, Member for Bennelong, also reminded us of the fact that Probos is inclusive, is non-political and is a welcoming group for people of our vintage and from all walks of life.

Barbara Enright spoke as the President of Hunters Hill Rotary Club. As you aware, Barbara is also a member of our Probos Club. It was indeed, Hunters Hill Rotary Club, who recognised the value of the Probos Movement in the United Kingdom, and set up the beginnings of Hunters Hill Probos on 3 February 1976 – and as they say, "the rest is History". Barbara is very focused re communication between our local Rotary and Probos Clubs and trusts we will continue to share interests and community events.

I would also like to share with you, another formal affair – Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of NSW, hosted Afternoon Tea at Government House on the afternoon of Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026.

I was invited, as your President, to attend Afternoon Tea to celebrate the Golden Anniversary of Probos Australia. The guest list was restricted to 100 visitors, they being the President of their respective Probos Club. Following Her Excellency's congratulatory speech, we were treated to drinks and Afternoon Tea and entertained with music provided by three members of the Australian Navy. Probos Presidents came from country and city Probos Clubs and Silvana from PSPL and her photographers were there and ensured we had a chance to speak to our Governor – all on a sunny afternoon.

So, again, Thank You to the Anniversary Sub-Committee and to our Probos Members for your work and enthusiasm,

*Josephine*

### VALE Frances Jane Williams

With much sadness we report that Fran Williams passed away peacefully at the Mater hospital on 29 March. Fran was a seven-year member of our Club and was recognised for her love of art and travel.

Born in England Fran was raised on a farm then sent off to boarding school. Fran led an adventuresome life working for airlines as an air hostess then taking a job as a purser on a cruise ship which led to her becoming the entertainment officer on numerous ships. This was the source of wonderful stories which she so brilliantly related to us all.

In the early eighties she arrived and settled in Australia. Her creative side was evident as she enrolled in art courses and being awarded a diploma in a chef course at TAFE. Travel was always her aim and she answered the call to the sea with cruises to interesting places, but this time as a passenger, and sailing in Greece and Croatia

Fran lived a very full and colourful life and devoted herself to her beautiful family; her son, daughter-in-law and two lovely granddaughters.

She will be missed but not forgotten.



**FOR YOUR DIARY**

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

General Meeting  
10:00  
Speaker: Tim Delcha  
"Fall prevention"

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**Thursdays**

Coffee Morning  
Sunroom 10:00

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

Exotic Lunch  
Shavarsh  
TBA

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**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Golf  
Jim Macready  
TBA

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

Book Club  
Juliet Bishop

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**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

Movies  
Sandy Bredemeyer  
TBA

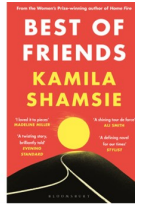
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**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Golf  
Jim Macready  
TBA

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**Book Club**



Kamila Shamsie holds dual British-Pakistani citizenship, having been born in 1973 into a literary family in Karachi and educated at Karachi Grammar School. She moved to England in 2007. Her first novel was published in 1998 while she was an exchange student in The United States, and *Best of Friends* is her ninth and latest.

This novel explores a lifelong friendship and how it shifts and changes over time. It opens in 1988, the year in which the dictator Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq was killed in a mysterious plane crash and replaced amid an atmosphere of hope by the democratically elected Benazir Bhutto. We are introduced to two inseparable and ambitious fourteen year old pupils at a grammar school in Karachi. Maryam is the spoiled granddaughter of a wealthy industrialist, while Zahra's more modest family circumstances mean that guarding her wholesome reputation is key to her future prospects. Social inexperience and sexual curiosity lead them into a terrifying incident whose aftermath has a profound effect on both their lives.

When we meet them again in London during the time of Covid, we find them highly successful in their vastly different chosen careers, but with their friendship on a knife's edge. Betrayals and moral failings are no longer forgivable.

As a panel we were extremely divided, although there was no dispute that the writing was beautifully executed. The unfamiliar Pakistani names made it a bit difficult to follow who was who among the minor characters. It was sometimes hard to swallow attitudes that perhaps reflected other-cultural norms. Consequently a few of us gave up on the book very early on, yet those who persevered mostly found it rewarding.

So it was with some relief that we welcomed Juliet's news that our next read is *The Unquiet Grave*, a murder mystery set in Ireland by the popular bestseller Dervla McTiernan.

**Bob Way**

**April Exotic Lunch**

**'KADMUS'**

105 Thomson Street, Drummoyne - corner of Lyons Road  
1:00pm Friday 10th April, 2026

Please take note that with the restaurant owner, I have selected Entrées ('COLD & WARM') & a mains to be shared by all. It will be \$50 each.

For sharing to work, we need minimum 20, so, I booked for 20, I hope it will be more as this was much enjoyed venue, popularly requested to me to organise an 'Exotic' lunch again at this Restaurant.

For me to confirm the number of the attendees, and go ahead order, I will need the payments in cash at our next meeting on the 7th of April.

The restaurant is licence, but BYO for wine only. \$4 per glass.

Parking: Many free Street parking back of the restaurant of Lyons Rd. Carpooling is recommended.

**Shavarsh**

## President's Report to the 2026 Annual General Meeting

This time last year, Charles Kent was elected as President of this Probus Club, and with 2026 being our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, members voted that this elected President would remain in Office through to March 2027, to lead us through the Anniversary Year celebrations. Sadly, serious health issues became apparent and Charles tendered his resignation as President last September. Following this devastating news, I was surprised to be approached and asked to consider accepting the role of President. Thus, I chaired my first meeting in August.

Ian Beasley was elected as Secretary at 2025 AGM. However due to a former commitment he had to delay his presence and we thank Margaret Bowmen for continuing in the position in the interim. Ian has thrown himself wholeheartedly into this position and is an asset to our Management Committee.

I thank our Treasurer, Marilyn Johnson, who has had a busy year due to extra Activities relating to our 50<sup>th</sup> Year celebrations. Our Accounts have been audited by our Honorary Auditor, Jim Macready. *In his opinion, the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2025 and the Balance Sheet at 31 December, 2025 fairly represent the financial position of the Club at 31 December, 2025 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.*

Kevin Manie, Membership Officer, reports today that we currently have 95 Members and two new members will be inducted today. Kevin maintains a Register of members and their attendance as well as making sure we all sign in at the Front Door on arrival for meetings. This year Kevin also took on the position of Chair of the Anniversary Committee. We thank him for his dedication and work.

Jenny Thompson books Guest Speakers for our Monthly meetings – Jenny does amazing research and each month she books another interesting speaker, who comes with an interesting topic. Many conversations take place over Lunch about the topic of the day.

If Barbara Jago, our Welfare Officer, hears that a Member is not well or needs a little help, she immediately checks to see if help is required, or sends a card to say, "we care". Her thoughtfulness is appreciated.

In the name of Fun, Fellowship & Friendship, I refer to:

Activity Organisers who are the soul of a Probus Club – they are responsible for the interaction amongst members. This year: an Overseas Trip, an Interstate Trip, Christmas in July at Mudgee, a day trip to Kurri Kurri to view the town tourist attraction of Murals on many buildings, a guided tour of Sydney Hospital... etc

Activity Organisers: research Activities, the accessibility, the cost, the possible interest, etc, ranging from Functions, Gallery Visits, Guided Tours, Away Coach Tours, Day Bus Trips, etc

*Informal Activities* include: Thursday Morning 10am Coffee at the Sunroom Coffee Shop in Hunters Hill, Thursday night Dinner at HH Hotel/Judith Butt, Exotic Lunch/Shavarsh, Probus Book Club/Juliet Bishop, Walking Group, Golf Group/ Jim Macready, Movies/Sandy Mower, Music/ Graham Holland

In my opinion, the Activity Co-ordinator position is very important, and I appeal to the Membership to consider becoming active by stepping up to organise formal activities – help and guidance will be given.

We have begun our year of Celebration with a wonderful Morning Tea, and we have more celebrating to do!

Margaret Timbs remains on the Management Committee in her Role as Past President. With her long time Membership and experience as President, she is able to share her wealth of knowledge and experience of Probus and for this, we are very grateful.

Present day expectation of immediate communication is just another aspect in our daily lives.

You require a message sent out asap to membership

You enjoy our Newsletter

You want an article printed in the Newsletter

Photos from the Club Barbecue

An updated list of Membership

But how does that occur?

Within our Probus Club it is Mike Allum at his computer .....

Or the Honour Boards need to be moved - it is Mike Allum with a couple of helpers .....

Team work and good will make the wheels keep turning within our Probus. Thank you, Mike, for all you do for us.

**Josephine McBride**  
**President**

## Probus Music - April 2026



None of the orchestras are playing this month, I guess they're rehearsing for the next concerts some of which will be in May. But there's a diverse offering below. Do not be misled by the "amateur" in the concert by the Amateur Chamber Music Society. I know from experience that the standard of playing will be high and their programs are always interesting. And you can't get a concert much cheaper than \$15/10 can you!

### Wednesday April 1, 12.00 noon.

**LIVE AT LUNCH** presents:

*Gershwin. Porter and more*

Simon Tedeschi, George Washingmachine and Jane Rutter

The trio journey through the golden age of American song, embracing the brilliance of George Gershwin, Cole Porter, and their contemporaries – music where classical artistry meets the wit, rhythm, and heart of jazz. Elegant, spontaneous, and full of life, this performance celebrates the timeless joy of melody and magic found in every note.

At the Concourse, Chatswood. Full \$54, Concession \$47.

### Sunday April 12, 3.00 pm and 5.00 pm.

**HAYES STREET STUDIOS** presents:

*Konstantin Shamray piano*

Works of Bach and Shostakovich, plus a new Australian work.

At Hayes Street Studios, 11 Hayes Street Neutral Bay. As it only seats 24, booking is essential. [www.hayesstreetstudio.com](http://www.hayesstreetstudio.com). Full \$45, Concession \$35.

### Sunday April 12, 3.00 pm.

**THE AMATEUR CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY** presents:

*A celebration of women composers.*

From sweeping drama to playful charm, this program has something for everyone. Rebecca Clarke's *Dumka* takes us on a journey from haunting reflection to fiery dance. Madeleine Dring's Trio sparkles with wit and irresistible energy, full of lively musical conversation. Clara Schumann offers a moment of heartfelt intimacy with her tender Romantic song, while Pauline Viardot's *Madrid* brings a burst of Spanish flair and theatrical excitement. We finish with a true gem – Fanny Mendelssohn's Piano Trio, a passionate and powerful masterpiece overflowing with lyrical beauty and drama.

At the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre, 16-18 Fitzroy Street Kirribilli (close to McMahon's Point station). Full \$15 Concession \$10.

Also see the websites of the Killara Music Club: [www.killaramusicclub.com.au](http://www.killaramusicclub.com.au) and The Sydney Mozart Society: [www.sydneymozartsociety.com.au](http://www.sydneymozartsociety.com.au).

## AND THERE'S JAZZ

### AT THE FREEWAY HOTEL, ARTARMON

Every Saturday from 2 pm to 5 pm, great swinging and dancing music from bands such as Jeff Power and his band and Al Davy and the Groovers. On Wednesday 18 April from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm there's trad jazz with the Liquorice Allsorts.

*Graham Holland*

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

PO BOX 1041



**Barbara's Thought for the Month**

"When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everyone will respect you."

*Lao Tzu*

**From the March Meeting**

Meet new inductees Lex and Stephen Lees.

A warm welcome to you both.



**April**

Neville Davey	6
Rod Stewart	7
Dellane Stewart	12
Sandie Bredemeyer	19
David Crouch	22
Ann Juster	25
Ian Beasley	26
Elizabeth Hamilton	27
Sandy Mower	27

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

**Committee**

President	Josephine McBride	0488 532 755
Vice President	Dellane Stewart	0405 557 345
Secretary	Ian Beasley	0418 407 409
Treasurer	Marilyn Johnson	0427 668 182
Activities Convenor	TBA	TBA
Speakers	Jenny Thompson	0484 676 1241
Membership Officer	Kevin Manie	0412 349 270
General	Sandie Bredemeyer	0417 210 038
Past President	Margaret Timbs	0438 063 620
Newsletter Ed / Comms	Mike Allum (email: mike.allum@bigpond.com)	0417 596 300

**Useful Contacts**

Welfare	Barabara Jago	0418 119 632
Book Club	Juliet Bishop	0431 627 834
Exotic & Scenic Lunches	Shavarsh Bedrossian	0402 217 141
Movies	Sandy Mower	0478 630 620
Golf	Jim Macready	0411 216 480
Music	Graham Holland	0416 232 507
Wine Appreciation	John Timmins	0412 944 722
Honorary Auditor	TBA	

**Editors Musings - General**

- \* After 100 years lying on the sea bed, Irish divers were amazed to find that the Titanic's swimming pool was still full.
- \* O'Shaughnessy's Law: Murphy was an optimist.
- \* If you don't pay your exorcist . . . you can get repossessed.
- \* Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- \* What this country needs are more unemployed politicians

## Activities

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Coffee - Sunroom	3	4
5	6	7 <b>General Meeting</b> 10:00 Speaker Danika Armytage	8	9 Coffee - Sunroom	10 Exotic Lunch Shavarsh TBA	11
12	13 Golf Jim Macready	14	15	16 Coffee - Sunroom	17 Book Club Juliet Bishop The Heritage	18
19	20	21 Movies Sandy Mower TBA	22	23 Coffee - Sunroom	24	25
26	27 Golf Jim Macready	28	29	30 Coffee - Sunroom		

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 <b>General Meeting</b> 10:00 Speaker: Tim Delcha	6	7 Coffee - Sunroom	8 Exotic Lunch Shavarsh TBA	9
10	11 Golf Jim Macready	12	13	14 Coffee - Sunroom	15 Book Club Juliet Bishop The Heritage	16
17	18	19 Movies Sandy Mower TBA	20	21 Coffee - Sunroom	22	23
24	25 Golf Jim Macready	26	27	28 Coffee - Sunroom	29	30
31						