



MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Information in this
Newsletter is for
Probud members only

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 4th August

General Meeting
10:00
Speaker: Peter Thorpe
AI for Seniors

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
Sunroom 10:00

Wednesday 5th August

Wine Appreciation
Heritage 15:00
John Timmins
See Page 6

Monday 10th August

Golf
TBA

Tuesday 11th August

Riverboat Postman
Lex Lees
See Page 4

Friday 14th August

Scenic Lunch
Royal Sydney Yacht Club
Shavarsh
See Page 3

Tuesday 18th August

Movies
Sandy Mower
TBA

Friday 21st August

Book Club
Juliet Bishop

Monday 24nd August

Golf
TBA

From the President

Dear Probud Members,

In spite of the mid-winter temperatures, the Month of July seems to have passed very quickly. Our gardens have needed attention – pruning, weeding and planting bulbs. My large Magnolia Tree is currently putting on a great display of blossoms.

A number of Members enjoyed following Shavarsh to July's Exotic Lunch at the Thai Restaurant, "La-ong" in Drummoyne. We were made to feel welcome by the staff, and their service and pre-arranged menu was enjoyed by all. Shavarsh continues to find interesting Restaurants each month at which we can gather and enjoy the company and conversations of fellow members. Can I recommend, that, if at all possible, do come along. Shavarsh goes to a lot of trouble to seek out interesting and varied venues and then works on achieving an acceptable deal with the Restaurant. He deserves our support for his work.

The second organised activity was our visit to The Archibald Exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW, and organised by Lex Lees. This year displayed a collection of fifty-nine portraits of people whose stories have captured the imagination and ambition of artists. Following our guided tour, several of our group enjoyed a light lunch at the Gallery Café and took time to discuss our ideas on the amazing exhibition.

I am not sure of how many Members are aware of an informal arrangement for Morning Coffee, every Thursday, at 10am, at "The Sunroom", next to the Hunters Hill Congregational Church, 20a Alexandra Street, Hunters Hill. Parking is available in nearby streets, or take a pleasant walk, and, the coffee is good!

Members donations to the recent Winter Food Collection for our local Community Centre was very generously supported by Members. And a special Thank You to Robert and Denise Drew who shipped it around to the Community Centre. I recently received a letter from Branka Ivkovic, of Sydney Community Services, expressing their thanks for your contributions.

And I am not sure if you are all aware of a non-Probud Activity in August – the night of Tuesday 11 August, **Census Night!** This brought back memories to me of being employed to deliver and collect the Census Forms from within a given area. It was good walking exercise as well as a local geography lesson, needed to find some of the hidden by-ways in Hunters Hill.

And, on the evening of Friday 24 July, we gathered at the Hunters Hill Town Hall, where we were the guests of our Mayor, Zac Miles. We were honoured with a Mayoral Reception at 6pm, to celebrate the 50th year of Probud in Australia, and in particular, the 50th Anniversary of Hunters Hill Probud Club, we being the first Probud Club in Australia. We were celebrated in grand style by our Mayor, the music played, wine flowed, with endless platters of Hors d'oeuvres which were served by cheerful Council staff members. And also, I must mention the work of Carole Clancy-O'Hehir and her small band of workers, who arranged many superb vases of fresh flowers in our Probud colours of Blue and Yellow, it was all very special, do check the photos.

All who attended, agreed it was a grand occasion.

Josephine

From the July Meeting



Judy and Neville joined the 15 year club



Ashlyn and Mike made it to the 10 year club

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 1st September

General Meeting
10:00
Speaker: TBA
TBA

Thursdays

Coffee Morning
Sunroom 10:00

Wednesday 2nd Sept
Royal Botanic Gardens
See Page 4

Monday 7th September

Golf
TBA

Friday 11th September

Exotic Lunch
Shavarsh TBA

Tuesday 15th September

Movies
Sandy Mower
TBA

Friday 18st September

Book Club
Juliet Bishop

Monday 21st September

Golf
TBA

Zig Zag Railway
TBA

Mayoral Reception



Some 60 members and guests including representatives other local Probus clubs, attended the Mayoral Reception Friday 24th July.

Our Mayor, Zac Miles, kicked off the proceedings welcoming everybody and offered his congratulations to the club on for its achievement of 50 years. Josephine responded thanking Zac for sponsoring the event and for his staff who helped with its organisation. Local Rotary member, Neville Hodgson, then gave us an insight into the events prior to and including the effort that resulted in the formation of our club back in 1976.

Zac then called Carole Cancy O-Heir to the stage thanking her for her key role in the organisation of the event.

A tree to commemorate our 50th is to be planted in the newly opened Fig Tree Park later this year and Zac presented Pat Cox, being the longest serving member present with a ceremonial plaque to be installed when the tree is planted.



Pat, the 50th Committee and Zac handing over the plaque.



And finally, our musical entertainment for the evening ably arranged by Grahan Holland.

Our thanks and appreciation to you all.

Mike

July Exotic Lunch

Everyone loves Thai food, and this one didn't disappoint us. It was a typical feast of Thai dishes, what was disappointing was our number, only 12 of us attending which is a great concern to me, I wasn't impressed!

We had mixed warm entrées, followed by main courses, BBQ chicken, prawn, deep fried Bara, Masaman Curry (my favourite), salads, etc. etc. all are specialties of the house served with customary noodles and rice, accompanied with traditional dips and salsas. It was 'Share All' most enjoyable affair. BYO, but no charge.

Included was another specialty of the house, sweet 'Banana Samosa' as dessert. But just before that we had a door prize, a special chopping board stamped 'HHR Men's Shed', designed for 'FOGO', it is to facilitate collecting 'Food Waste'. And the winner was; Robyn Hogan. She says she is using it and loving it.

The service was impeccable and was flowing without big breaks; multiple dishes finding their spot on the table.

The manageress, Ms Boom, and her team looked after all of our needs, courteously and without fuss or delay.

I'd like to thank all that conveyed their approval of the venue and their enjoyment of the selected dishes.



Our next Lunch is a 'Scenic' luncheon, 14th August, the second Friday of the month, at 1:00 pm ,

It will be at 'ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON CLUB', 33 Peel Street. Kirribilli

As Tony Saunders will not be renewing his membership he kindly suggested that we take one last opportunity to have Scenic lunch at his club as his guests. It is a classy venue with spectacular views. To enter the club, one needs an ID, such as a Driving Licence.

We will be able to select, order our meals and pay at the counter. Typical to clubs, they have a good extensive menu, plus daily specials! Obviously - No BYO.

The Club has free parking; at the 'Boom Gate' entry. You need to call the desk and say that you are a guest of Tony Saunders. However, it is a bit limited, so it is advisable to arrive a bit early to get a spot, then go to the club, get a drink & chat, enjoy the views while waiting for all to arrive. One may also find free street parking.

As always, "car pooling" is strongly recommended.

The Archibald Entries 2026

Our group of 18 enthusiastic members had a glorious sunny Winter day on July 14th to head into the AGNSW.

Our appreciation of the wide variety of entries was really enhanced by having an interesting and knowledgeable guide, and we were able to appreciate the background story to both the artists and their subjects.

We saw the winners of the Wynne, Sulman and Archibald competitions, and learnt about a variety of different Archibald entries.

Our tour finished just before 12.00, at which time we were well and truly ready for coffee.



REMINDER

Tuesday 11th August: Riverboat Postman - \$62

If you haven't already done so, don't forget to put your name down and pay \$62pp for this fun day out. Enjoy a relaxing cruise on the Hawkesbury in comfortable indoor seating, watching the postman deliver his packages to all of the local communities. Included are morning tea/ coffee and a delicious Ploughman's lunch.

The departure point adjacent to Hawkesbury River Station is easily accessible either by train or car (see the July newsletter for specific details). Payment can be made by bank transfer (preferred) or by credit card at our August 4th meeting (that's if our CC machine has been fixed by then). (*Fixed - Ed*)

Wednesday 2nd September: Guided stroll of the Royal Botanic Gardens \$14

Enjoy a Springtime stroll through our beautiful harbourside gardens, led by one of their enthusiastic volunteers. We will meet at Woolloomooloo gates (located at the top of the gardens on Mrs Macquarie's Rd just past the AGNSW) for a 10.30am tour, and finish at the middle/lower gardens at 12noon in time for a casual café lunch for those who are interested (at own cost).

We need a minimum of 10 people for this activity to go ahead, and the small payment needs to be made by our next meeting on **August 4th** please.

If anyone needs further information, or wants to contact me (Lex) for any reason before an activity, I am easily accessible by phone: **0402 975 030**
or email: **lex.lees@iinet.net.au**

Lex Lees

Vale Charles Kent

Charles joined our club in 1/12/2015 along with his wife Annette.

When Annette became ill a few years later they both opted to become “non-active”.

Following Annette’s passing, Charles” rejoined” as an active member and in March 2024 he nominated for, and was elected, Vice President.

He became President in 2025; his appointment was for a 2-year period to ensure continuity across the Club’s fiftieth anniversary celebrations. He also chaired the 50th Anniversary sub-committee set up to identify a range of celebratory activities planned for 2026.

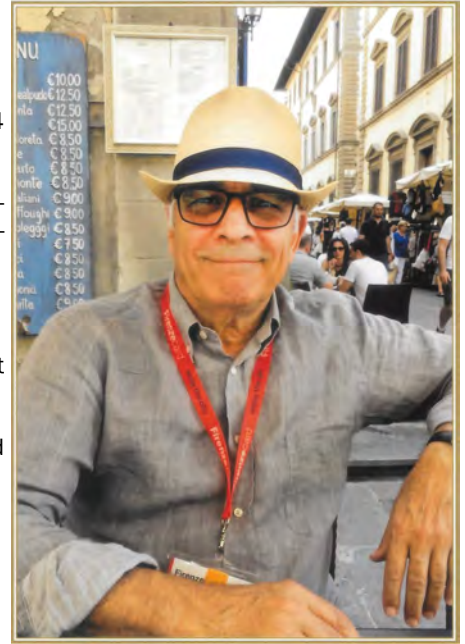
Sadly, he succumbed to declining health again and resigned his club membership.

Although very unwell he attended our 50th celebrations at the NSW State Parliament House.

Charles was a very likeable and friendly member; he loved to chat and have a laugh and a joke.

He passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family and held the hands of his three sons.

He will be remembered as a true Probarian and a proud Hunters Hill resident.



Book Club



Alice, an ambitious journalist, receives a tip about the secret location of Margaret, a former celebrity heiress who vanished decades earlier after a huge scandal. Alice travels to a secluded island location in Georgia, hoping to secure the opportunity to write Margaret’s biography, which would be a career-defining assignment. She finds that Margaret, however, has also invited Hayden, a Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer, to compete for the same project. Margaret will only select one of them after she is fully acquainted with their modus operandi and trustworthiness. Both journalists must live on the island for a month under strict conditions, including a non-disclosure agreement (NDA).

Why has Margaret devised this peculiar scheme, and how will the two handle the competition while at the same time falling in love with one another? These are the principal hooks that keep the story-line engrossing even though some of the moments of passion may descend into soft porn. Margaret’s own family history as she tells it has some tragic instances of misunderstanding, betrayal, death, love and sacrifice that are often quite at odds with the interpretations that were peddled by the press at the time. Alice and Hayden independently discover that she is not bring entirely truthful, but the NDAs make it hard for them to realise just how they being played.

A romance novel of this type is unusual fare for us and one or two lost patience with it. But the advertised “twist to beat them all” leads to a very satisfactory denouement that redeemed the book for most who read it to the end. The family dramas and the question of “what is truth? Your truth, my truth or the objective unadorned facts?” provided us with plenty of grist for an entertaining hour of discussion.

Next month’s selection is intriguing. It is simply called *James* and is a modern-day retelling of Mark Twain’s *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. It won the 2025 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for prolific American author Percival Everett.

Bob Way

Guest Speaker - Courtney Edwards



Seen as a break from “tradition” our speaker this month was Courtney Edwards, representing Coach Holidays and Tours, The organisation is a Silver Probus Partner and an organisation that we have used on a number of trips away in recent times.

She spoke with great enthusiasm about the company and its growth in recent times and their ongoing plans. She covered a vast range of tours they organise especially with Seniors in mind.

She kept us entertained and informed as she showed a number of destinations in the Coach Holidays portfolio.

As a bribe for paying attention, the first member to identify it correctly won a chocolate!

One tour destination of particular interest is to the Sapphire Coast, already on Ashlyn’s plans for a Club trip away next year.

Courtney concluded her presentation by provided a lovely hamper as a lucky number prize. Each member received a ticket and the lucky winner was Robyn Beckhaus.



Many of you may have seen Courtney and Ashlyn deep in conversation after the meeting ended. The result of the discussion resulted in Ashlyn obtaining several discounts and bonuses on future Coach and Holiday trips, our upcoming trip to Griffith being the first to yield these benefits to us.

A good negotiation, both parties smiling.

Mike

Wine Appreciation



John Timmins is looking forward to welcoming you to the August Wine appreciation meeting on Wednesday, 5th August at the Heritage.

He will serving six shiraz wines from six Australian areas to display the differing flavours of different regions.

Enjoy

PROBUS MUSIC AUGUST 2026



There are diverse offerings this month from a full symphony orchestra to a harp duo and from a Beethoven Symphony to Baroque winds. Last month some of us enjoyed the Pirates of Penzance. It wasn't difficult to get to the Eternity Playhouse in Darlinghurst and a jolly time was had by all! There is theatre as well and in particular there's **the Stringybark Jazz entertainment night**. I look forward to seeing more of you there than last year and on the dance floor!

Thursday August 6, 7.00 pm, Sunday August 9, 5.00 pm.

THE HAYES STREET STUDIO presents:

Portrait Parade

To be a composer described as 'modern' in one's time is a compliment. **Ruth Crawford Seeger**, against the gender bias of her time, emerged as a leader of ultra-modernist American composers in the early 1900s. Crawford's **Suite for Wind Quintet (1952)** was composed in the penultimate year of her life, a return to formal composition after embracing American folk music for the decades before. At the same time in Paris, **Francis Poulenc** was enjoying a wave of professional celebrity due to the success of his latest ballet with Diaghilev *Les Biches*. His **Sextet for Piano and Winds (1932)** is as entertaining as it comes, full of wit and sentimentality, and melodies that will have you wanting to sing along.

At the Hayes Street Studio, 11 Hayes Street Neutral Bay. Full \$45, Concession \$35. Booking strongly advised as it only seats about 30!

Tuesday August 11, 7.30 pm.

LANE COVE MUSIC presents:

Tales from Afar – a journey with the Australis Harp Duo: Verna Lee and Azumi Lehman

his unique combination allows us to explore everything from traditional music to brilliant transcriptions of orchestral works, from ancient eras to modern times.

At St Andrew's Uniting Church Hall, 47a Kenneth Street, Longueville.

Full \$30, cash only at the door.

Sunday August 16, 2.00 pm.

THE LANE COVE COMMUNITY BANDS present:

Almost Spring

Featuring the Cameraygal Wind Symphony, the Turrumburra Concert Band and the Karingal Concert Band.

At Cheltenham Girls High School, The Promenade, Cheltenham. Full \$15, concession \$10.

Sunday August 16, 2.00 pm.

THE KILLARA MUSIC CLUB presents:

Consort 8 with countertenor Kim Chung

Bringing together an inspiring blend of Renaissance, Baroque and modern recorders, violas da gamba, lute, theorbo, voice and percussion, Consort 8 is the only ensemble of its kind in Sydney. With its rich palette of instruments, the ensemble creates vivid colours and sonorities that illuminate rarely heard repertoire – some never before performed in Sydney.

At the Killara Uniting Church. Full \$40.

Sunday August 16, 2.30 pm.

THE MOSMAN CONCERT SERIES presents:

The Nexus Saxophone Quartet

The dynamic and captivating Quartet performance will include works such as Battle of the Knights from Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet and highlights from Bernstein's iconic Westside Story.

At Sacred Heart Church Hall, 23 Cardinal Street Mosman. Full \$30. Concession \$25.

Saturday August 29, 7.30 pm, Sunday August 30, 2.30 pm

THE MOSMAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA presents:

The Land

Program: Vagner *the Eagle Flight*, Lizst *Piano concerto*, Beethoven *Symphony No 6*.

At the Mosman Art Gallery. Full \$35, Concession \$25.

Sunday August 30, 3.00 pm

THE KURINGAI PHILARHONIC ORCHESTRA presents:

Spirited Away

The theme is from 'Spirited Away', the animated film from 2001. The movie was a landmark in animated cinema with a story about a 10-yr old girl, Chihiro, who stumbles into a mystical spirit and worlds. Epic soundscapes and atmospheric and emotional composition in the 2022 action video game The Elden Ring (main Theme), weaves and blends orchestral grandeur with haunting melodies. And there are themes from "Star Wars", The Adagio from Spartacus and from The Lord of the Rings. At the Concourse Chatswood. Full \$60, Concession \$45.

SPECIAL EVENT!!!

Last year enthusiastic Probus members enjoyed a night of music and dancing to music from STRINGYBARK JAZZ at the Balgowlah RSL. It's on again on Saturday August 22 from 7.30 pm.

Food and drink available! See the flyer below, any question to the fourth trombone, Graham Holland 0416 232 507



Graham Holland

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

PO BOX 1041



August

Julie Gahan	6
Robyn Hogan	6
Don Bergomi	10
Barbara Beasley	19
Bronwyn Ellens	21
Mike Allum	29

Editors Musings - Aging

- * How young can you die of old age?
- * My mum always used to say "40 is the new 30". Lovely woman... banned from driving.
- * Middle age is when work is a lot less fun and fun a lot more work.
- * When I was young, I always felt like a male trapped in a females body. Then I was born
- * Middle age is when you're faced with two temptations and you choose the one that will get you home by nine o'clock.

Barbara's Thought for the Month

Kindness is more important than wisdom and the recognition of this is the beginning of wisdom

Author: Theodore Isaac Rubin

How Cool is This?

$$\frac{0}{1^{\circ}}$$

Hands up those that got one degree below zero

**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	Ashlyn Allum	0418964773
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
Day trip/Outings	Lex Lees	0402 975 030
Golf	Jim Macready	0411 216 480
Music	Graham Holland	0416 232 507
Wine Appreciation	John Timmins	0412 944 722
Formal Lunches	Anne Day	0405 281 672
Honorary Auditor	TBA	

WEBSITE: www.huntershillprobus.org

BANK: Acct No: 00902310

BSB: 062 182

Activities

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 General Meeting 10:00 Peter Thorpe "AI for Seniors"	5 Wine Appreciation Heritage 15:00	6 Coffee - Sunroom	7	8
9	10 Golf	11 Riverboat Postman	12	13 Coffee - Sunroom	14 Scenic Lunch Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron Shavarsh	15
16	17	18 Movies Sandy Mower TBA	19	20 Coffee - Sunroom	21 Book Club Juliet Bishop The Heritage	22
23	24 Golf	25	26	27 Coffee - Sunroom	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

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