



Pittwater Mens Probus
Amicus et Dignus

Newsletter

Email: probus@pittwater.org.au

October 2016

Website: www.probus.pittwater.org.au

Presidents Message

It looks like a busy time for Pittwater Mens Probus in the last couple of months of 2016.

John Harston has organised a couple of interesting outings of which the visit to the Sydney Bus Museum on November 3 is my favourite. Take a look at their website. It looks great.

We have Member Barrie Unsworth to thank for that as the Museum is normally only open on weekends, but as the Museum owes its existence to Barry's help as Premier and since, we have been allowed a special mid-week visit.

Also in November is the ever popular BBQ in Winnererremy Bay Park, Mona Vale (aka Flying Fox). Let's see a few new faces at that. Always a good fun evening.

Then, a highlight, Christmas Lunch at Mona Vale Golf Club on December 20. Gordon assures us that the food will be as enjoyable as last year.

And a special request. If you see anyone having trouble finding people to sit with, please ask them to join you. Probus is about fellowship and we don't want anybody, particularly new Members, feeling left out.

Planning for next year is underway. We will repeat our successful Trivia night in February and John is looking at organising a 2/3 day trip to the big Temora Airshow that is held every two years, the next being late 2017.

I am pleased to report that Pittwater Mens Probus is alive and well!

Bill Sherman

October Speaker

Our speaker in October is Deborah Wallace APM, former Detective Superintendent Commander, Gangs Squad. Deborah will speak about her work in disrupting drug gangs in Cabramatta and Blacktown during her more than 30 years in the police force. In 2011, Deborah was awarded the Australian Police Medal in the Australian Honours List.

Golf

The team had an excellent day. 8 players and the results were:

1. David Varley 20 Stableford Points
2. Bill Sherman 19 Stableford Points
3. Allan Smith 18 Stableford Points

Next game Friday October 14th 10 00am Palm Beach Golf Club. All welcome.

www.probus.pittwater.org.au

Speaker's Corner

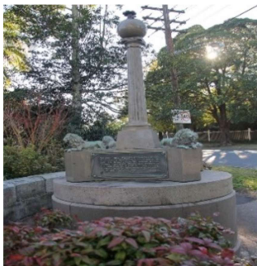
Jo Harris talked about the history of early wireless in Australia, including the first direct contact between Great Britain and Australia. She paid tribute to three men who were intimately concerned with the development of wireless broadcasting in Australia.

First was Guglielmo Marconi born on 25 April 1874 in Bologna, Italy. He is credited as the inventor of wireless. In 1896 he and his mother, who came from the Jameson Whiskey family in Ireland, travelled to England to further his experiments and obtain patronage for them as there was no interest in Italy. This was the start of the huge Marconi radio company, one of Britain's largest companies. From Cornwall in 1901 he sent the first radio signals across the Atlantic.

Next was Ernest (later Sir Ernest) Fisk, born on 8 August 1886 in Middlesex, England. In 1905 he joined the Marconi company and became a wireless operator. In 1910 he visited Australia to demonstrate Marconi's ships' wireless. In 1913 he became a director of a newly formed company, partly owned by Marconi called Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd and in 1916 he was managing director and later chairman of the company. While living at Wahroonga, he became the first Ku-ring-gai wireless operator.

Last but not least was William Morris Hughes who was born in Pimlico, London, on 25 September 1862. An only child, his mother died when he was seven. He entered the New South Wales Parliament in 1894 and the Federal Parliament in 1901, representing the Australian Labor Party. He became Prime Minister in 1915. but was expelled from the Labor Party for his stance on conscription in 1916 and in 1917 then led a coalition of non-Labor parties, remaining Prime Minister until 1923.

On 22 September 1918, wireless messages from Prime Minister Billy Hughes and Minister of the Navy Joseph Cook, then in London, were transmitted from the 200kW Marconi station MUU in Carnarvon, Wales on 14300m (21kHz) and received at the experimental receiving station at Fisk's Sydney home, 'Lucania'. Ernest Fisk was by this time the managing director of Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd, and the station was constructed at his house by AWA technicians for the occasion.



In 1935, the Fisk Memorial was raised by the local community to commemorate the event and the 90th anniversary celebrations were conducted by the Wahroonga Historical Radio Association, the Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club and the Ku-ring-gai Historical Radio Society in 2008.

The monument as it is today

Future Speakers

November Club member Gordon Kinlay will talk about his two favorite architects, Antonio Gaudi who designed the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona and Frank Gehry the Canadian architect who designed the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and the intriguing Dr Chan Chak Wing of the University of Technology in Sydney.

December December each year is "Presidents Pick". 2016 President Bill Sherman will talk about the many blends of whisky from around the world. To top off the talk, Bill will have a range of samples to taste. Certainly an enjoyable way to end the year!

New Member



Phillip Schofield

Each and every member of Pittwater Probus has a rich life history full of stories of growing up, work careers and current day interests. As a new feature in the Newsletter, we propose to reflect on the life of our new members. Our first member to be featured is Phillip Schofield who was inducted during the September Probus meeting.

Phillip's interests are in art and science. He grew up in Newcastle where there were at the time few opportunities to pursue the arts, so he went into science and became a Professor of Biochemistry teaching medical students. As a sideline, Phillip dabbled in cartooning and was recruited by the National Times which then led to cartooning for the major national papers which he did for 30 years.

Upon retiring, Phillip returned to his love of the arts. He attained a specially created role of "Professor of Fine Arts" by the Department of Fine Arts at Newcastle University. Phillip now lives in Mona Vale.

Phillip, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

Functions & Activities Program

| Month | Day | Activity | Location | Comments |
|---------------|----------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| October 2016 | 31 st Monday | Garden Walk Through See notes below | Ku Ring Gai Wild Flower Garden | Travel by Car Plenty of parking |
| November 2016 | 2 nd Wednesday | Visit the Sydney Bus Museum See notes below | Cnr. Norton & William Streets Leichhardt | |
| November 2016 | 16 th Wednesday | Probus BBQ | Flying Fox Park, Mona Vale | Bring your own refreshments |
| December 2016 | 20 th Tuesday | Annual Christmas Lunch | Mona Vale Golf Club Cost \$40.00 per head | Partners very welcome |

Special Probus Events

Ku Ring Gai Wildflower Garden

Join fellow Probus members for a very pleasant guided tour of the picturesque grounds and enjoy a (BYO) picnic lunch. Plenty of parking in the grounds. You will not be disappointed. Partners are always welcome.

Sydney Bus Museum

Remember the double decker busses that made their way to Palm Beach before the L90's. Take a trip down memory lane and join fellow Probus members for a visit to the Sydney Bus Museum and relive what it was like travelling on a vintage bus. The museum is located at the 100 year old Leichhardt Tramshed. This is a unique outing and as always, partners are very welcome.

www.probus.pittwater.org.au



Canberra Trip

Probus Member John Harston and his wife Robyn took the opportunity to take grandson Henry on the Canberra trip. Highlights of the visit were the annual Floriade Festival and their spectacular flower displays. Following Floriade and with grandson in tow, a visit to Cockington Green Gardens and the miniature buildings and landscaped village complete with model trains is a must.





Member's Corner

A new feature of our monthly meetings is "Member's Corner" where a Probus Club Member gives a 5 minute talk on a subject of their choosing. The couple of talks we had to date have been have been not only been entertaining but provided an insight to the vast experience and interests of our members.

During the September meeting the Member's Corner presentation by David Taylor was about the Australian Health Practitioners Regulatory Agency. See further details below.

The Member's Corner talk for October will be by Geoff Richards on the Singapore Botanical Gardens. If you have ever visited these spectacular gardens, especially the orchid section, you will enjoy Geoff's presentation.

The speaker for November's Member's Corner will be Barrie Unsworth, who will give a politician's insight to the Trump-Clinton USA president elections. This will be very timely because the elections are on that day, USA time.

Australian Health Practitioners Regulatory Agency

During the September meeting, Pittwater Probus member David Taylor gave a 5 minute introduction to the **Australian Health Practitioners Regulatory Agency** of which David is a member of the Agency Management Board. An outline of David's talk is below which includes ways in which members of the public can interact with the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is the national organisation responsible for implementing the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme across Australia, in partnership with the National Boards.

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme aims to protect the public by ensuring that only suitably trained and qualified practitioners are registered. It also facilitates workforce mobility across Australia and the provision of rigorous assessment of overseas-trained practitioners.

Guided by a nationally consistent law, AHPRA and the National Boards work to regulate the health professions in the public interest. This includes registering practitioners who are suitably trained and qualified to provide safe healthcare, and investigating concerns about registered health practitioners.

Through access to the AHPRA website (www.ahpra.gov.au) members of the public can directly interact with the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in two ways:

1. Check that a practitioner is duly registered. The listing will detail qualifications, languages spoken and whether there are any restrictions on the scope of practice of the practitioner.
2. Voice any serious concerns about the care you or a loved one are receiving from a registered practitioner

There are 14 professions regulated by the Scheme: Medical; Nursing and Midwifery; Dental; Pharmacy; Psychology ; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice; Occupational Therapy; Optometry; Osteopathy; Chinese Medicine; Medical Radiation Practice; Physiotherapy; Chiropractic; Podiatry.

Editor's Corner

Retirement

Retirement just isn't what it used to be. And that's probably a good thing.

The Age Pension

In 1966, men were able to access the age pension at 65 and women at age 60. According to the 1966 census, there were around 11.5 million people living in Australia. Of that, 986,404 people (just over 8.5% of the total population) were aged 65 and over.

More than three-quarters of retirees at that time relied primarily on either the age pension or invalid pension, which paid a maximum standard rate of just \$13 a week (\$676 per year) for a single pensioner, and \$23.50 a week (\$1,222 per year) for a married couple.

Australia's population has now grown to 24 million, with around 3.5 million people (15%) aged 65 and over. Both men and women must now be 65 to qualify for the pension, although from 2017 the qualifying age will begin to increase until it reaches 67 in 2023.

From 30 June 2016, the age pension will pay a maximum rate (including supplements) of \$873.90 per fortnight (\$22,721.40 per year) for singles and \$1,317.40 (\$34,252.40 per year) for couples combined. Just over half of retirees aged 65 and older now rely on the age pension for their main income source.

Superannuation

Some retirees in 1966 were fortunate enough to access a superannuation pension, although membership was limited to certain companies and occupations rather than being universally available.

Most Australian employees are now covered by the superannuation guarantee provisions which commenced on 1 July 1992. Introduced at a rate of 3%, eligible workers receive 9.5% of their ordinary time earnings as a contribution to their superannuation fund.

According to the latest available figures (as at 2013/2014), the average superannuation balances for people aged between 60 to 64 years of age were \$292,500 for men and \$138,150 for women. Most people will find this isn't enough to sustain a comfortable lifestyle in retirement, and many retirees will need to supplement their income with a part-age pension.

Interestingly, self-managed super funds (SMSFs) had their foundations in 1966, with the sole-purpose test identified in *Scott v Federal Commissioner of Taxation* (No 2). It took several decades for the concept to really gain traction, but there are now almost 570,000 SMSFs controlling \$600 billion in assets.

Lifestyle

Probably the biggest change over the past 50 years has been our expectations about lifestyle in retirement. This is a response to increased life expectancies, improved health, and greater mobility

Retirement is more often considered a phase rather than a fixed date. It's more common to transition into retirement by gradually reducing work hours, or combining casual, part-time or contract work with increased leisure hours.

Minutes of Pittwater Probus Inc.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Meeting | 13 th September 2016 Meeting opened by President Bill Sherman. 35 members present, 7 apologies, 1 guest Craig Maitland. |
| Inductions | Phillip Schofield was inducted. |
| Minutes | Minutes of the August meeting were tabled, Mvd. Bruce Farrar, 2 nd Arthur Napper, carried. |
| Birthdays | Ron Seldon noted the following: Michael Mannington, John Rosier, Gordon Stokes, Phil Freeman. |
| Correspondence | No correspondence. |
| Treasurer's Report | Presented by David Varley Balance at 1/8/2016 \$3,850.98 Receipts: Morning Teas \$115.40, Less Cost of Speaker \$30.00, Members subs \$80.00, Total \$165.40 Payments: Morning Teas \$120.00, Admin. \$50.75, Total \$170.75 Balance at 31/8/2016 \$3,845.63 Mvd. David Varley, 2 nd Bryan Pritchard, carried |
| Functions | BBQ Flying Fox Reserve 16 th November; Christmas Lunch 19 th December. |
| Activities | 21 st to 23 rd September Floriade in Canberra, 31 st October walk through Kur-ing-gai Wildflower Garden. |
| Welfare Report | Bill Marshall reported that Gordon Crow and Cyril Webb have medical problems. |
| IT Report | No report. |
| Golf | Last golf tournament was won by Graham Morley. Golf at Palm Beach 16 th September at 10 00 am. |
| General Business | No General Business |
| Member's Corner | David Taylor gave a short talk on the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Board. |
| Speaker | Following the refreshment break, Jo Harris gave a well-documented talk on the History of Wireless in Australia. |
| Next Meeting | 11 th October 2016 Meeting Closed at 11.55 pm. Signed as a correct record. |

Office Bearers for 2016

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| President | Bill Sherman 9997 5532 | Speaker Organiser | Brian Kennedy 9918 0937 |
| Vice President | Ron Seldon 9918 0677 | Editor | Warwick Dalzell 9997 4518 |
| Secretary | Bruce Farrar 9971 2042 | Communications & IT Officer | Michael Mannington 9973 1624 |
| Treasurer | David Varley 9918 7154 | Registrar | Trevor Stephens 9918 21 38 |
| Assist. Treasurer | John Crawford 9979 6149 | Assist. Registrar | Graeme Proctor 9999 2281 |
| Welfare Officer | Bill Marshall 9999 5226 | Auditor | Arthur Napper 9999 0233 |
| Activities Officer | John Harston 9940 0446 | Public Officer | Bill Henderson 9997 5723 |
| Functions Organiser | Gordon Stokes 9999 2073 | Golf Convenor | Alan Smith 9999 1334 |