



Pittwater Mens Probus
Amicus et Dignus

Newsletter

Email: probus@pittwater.org.au

February 2017

Website: www.probus.pittwater.org.au

Presidents Message

Personally, I am sick to death of politics, and American politics in particular, but, since this is Trivia week, I thought you might like these quotations from some (dead) US and UK Politicians.

See if you can pick the source and decide who should heed them today.

Who said:

1. If you treat people right they will treat you right – 90% of the time
2. Politics is supposed to be the 2nd oldest profession. I have come to realise it bears a close resemblance to the 1st
3. Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt
4. When the Eagles are silent the parrots begin to jabber.

The last in particular could, perhaps, be applied to some of our own Polies?

Bill Sherman

Answers on Page 3.

Golf

The team had 8 starters on a very hot day.

The results were:

1. Geoff Richards with 24 Stableford Points.
2. Bill Sherman, Gordon Stokes and John Owens each with 21 Stableford Points.

Next game Friday February 17th at 10 00 am at Palm Beach Golf Club. Lunch after at Club Palm Beach.

All welcome.



Speaker's Corner

Our monthly speaker was Les Moseley, a retired principal and former president of the Art Gallery Society of NSW. His talk was purely personal and not in any official capacity.

His subject was the Archibald Prize. The Archibald Prize is regarded as the most important portraiture prize in Australia and was first awarded in 1921 after the receipt of a bequest from J. F. Archibald, the editor of The Bulletin who died in 1919. Archibald's interest in art led him in his later years to serve as a trustee for the Art Gallery of NSW, keen to promote the work of younger artists and writers.

In 1900, he commissioned Melbourne portrait artist John Longstaff to paint a portrait of poet Henry Lawson for 50 guineas. Apparently, he was so pleased with this portrait that he left money in his will for an annual portrait prize.

The Archibald Prize is awarded to the best portrait, 'preferentially of some man or woman distinguished in art, letters, science or politics', painted by any artist resident in Australasia' and of course it has been the subject of much controversy down the years and several court cases. The most famous was in 1943 when William Dobell's winning painting of Joshua Smith was challenged because of claims it was a caricature rather than a portrait.

This open competition is judged by the trustees of the Art Gallery of NSW. The judges of the Archibald Prize will spend less than 20 seconds on average examining each of the paintings entered in the portrait prize. The 11 trustees of the Art Gallery of NSW, who judge the \$100,000 prize, gather for "roughly three or four hours" to choose the finalists in the Archibald Prize exhibition. The 11 trustees of the gallery are not expected to be art experts.

For the first ten years the prize was shared by W.B. McInnes and the aforesaid John Longstaff. The prize has attracted many of the luminaries of the Australian art world, Brett Whiteley, Clifton Pugh, William Dobell (who also painted Margaret Olley), John Olsen, to mention a few. (Whiteley's was a self-portrait).

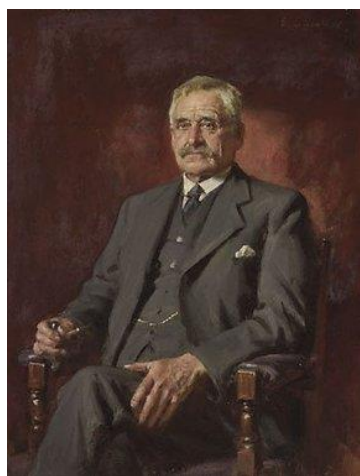
Clifton Pugh was the winner in 1972 with a portrait of E.G. Whitlam. Whitlam, after his dismissal, refused to sit for a portrait for ex PMs' gallery, so the Pugh portrait hangs there instead.



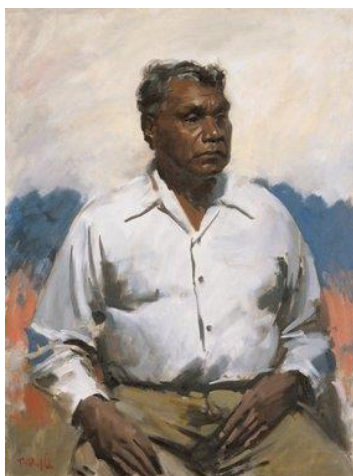
In addition to the Archibald is 'The Packing Room Prize' of \$1,500, first handed out in 1991, awarded to the best entry in the Archibald Prize as judged by the gallery staff who receive, unpack and hang the entries. The other category is the People's Choice Award in which votes from the viewing public are collected to find a winner.

The 2016 winner was a painting of Barry by Louise Hearman. The Packers Price went to Betina Fauvel-Ogden's painting of George Calombaris. The People's Choice Award went to Deng by Nick Stathopoulos.

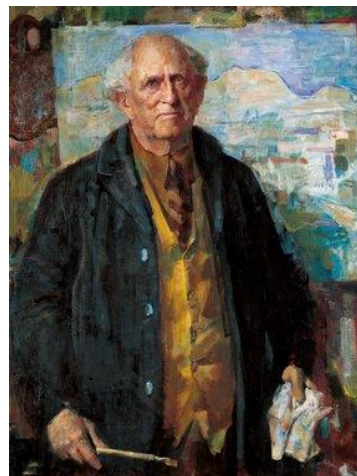
Some Favourite Archibald Prize Winners



1935 "AB (Banjo) Paterson"
Artist: John Longstaff



1956 "Mr. Albert Namatjira"
Artist: William Dargie



1968 "Lloyd Rees"
Artist: William Pidgeon

Future Speakers

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| <p>February 2017</p> | <div data-bbox="365 1061 758 1335" data-label="Image"> A photograph of a nuclear power plant with two large, white, cylindrical cooling towers and a central containment dome. The sky is blue with some clouds. </div> <p>Martin Thomas has agreed to talk to us about nuclear power and where it could fit into Australia's energy needs. Martin has toured the world with Ziggy Switkowski looking at nuclear plants and has spoken widely on this topic.</p> |
| <p>March 2017</p> | <p>Noel Phelan, a volunteer guide at the Sydney Maritime Museum, has agreed to talk about the Japanese submarines that invaded Sydney Harbour in 1942.</p> <div data-bbox="948 1361 1337 1680" data-label="Image"> A black and white photograph showing a large, dark, cylindrical object (a submarine) being hoisted by a crane on a ship's deck. The ship is on the water. </div> |

Answers to the Presidents Quiz

1. Is Roosevelt. 2. Reagan. 3. Lincoln. 4. Churchill.

Attention All Probus Members!

Positions Vacant

A number of positions on the Pittwater Probus Club Committee are vacant and are required to be filled urgently. These include Committee Members and Assistants.

Current vacancies:

- Assistant Secretary (1 Position)
- Welfare Officer and Assistant (2 Positions)
- Activities Officer and Assistant (2 Positions)
- Assistant Speakers Officer (1 Position)

Requirements: Approximately 2 hours of your time per month.

Remuneration: Your contribution to Pittwater Probus Club and the appreciation of your fellow members.

Bonus: Enjoy the camaraderie of the Executive Committee.

Timing: All of these positions to commence at the 2017 Annual General Meeting.

***Please apply now to Secretary Bruce Farrar on
bd.farrar@optusnet.com.au or call on 9971 2042.***

Please note. Your agreement with the Club when you signed your Joining Application Form is to commit to:

“being available to serve on the committee when required”.

New Member



Peter Nissen

Our newest member inducted into the club during the January meeting is Peter Nissen. Peter started his working career in an Advertising Agency.

From there he went into the Commonwealth Bank and started in High Street banking and after some time was seconded into the newly formed Bank Card scheme to sell to Retailers - a hard sell at the time (1970's). During the next several years Peter moved onto two other Merchant Banks.

Peter, on meeting an old friend in the street in Chatswood, who asked him to come and work in the Exhibition Industry as a Sales Manager, to which Peter ended up taking over the Company. The business had over 100 shows during this time and was a leader in the industry. Peter's son took over the Business last September and Peter has retired.

Swimming, walking and golf are some of Peter's interests. Peter and his wife live in Mona Vale and have 2 children and 7 grandchildren.

Peter, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

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Now that's a hard question!



Trivia Night

February 14 at Mona Vale Golf Club Arrive 6 pm

Cost \$32 per head which includes dinner (main, dessert and coffee)

After dinner, teams will answer 40 questions

Two warm up rounds – places around the world and famous comments- plus five rounds of Trivia – Australia, Geography, Things Creative, People, History and Odds and Sods

Forward payment ASAP to Bill Sherman (cheque payable to Pittwater Probus) at PO Box 700, Mona Vale 2103.

If you are planning to come alone, without wife or partner, don't worry we'll organise a team for you. Enquiries: Bill Sherman 9997 5532

2017 Functions & Activities Program

| Month | Day | Activity | Location | Comments |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| March 2017 | 23 rd Thursday | Boating on Pittwater | Pittwater | Enjoy a magic day on Pittwater |
| March 2017 | 5 00 pm 29 th Wednesday | Ever popular Probus BBQ | Flying Fox Park, Winnererremy Bay, Mona Vale | \$5 per head Bring your own refreshments |
| April 2017 | 13 th Thursday | Visit to the Motor Museum, Gosford | Manns Road, Gosford | Also visit the picturesque Mt Penang Gardens |
| June 2017 | 2 nd Friday | Pittwater ferry trip to Ettalong | Broken Bay | Lunch at Ettalong RSL Club |
| October 2017 | 12 Noon 3 rd Tuesday | Join the Pittwater Probus Executive Committee for lunch | Church Point Restaurant | |
| October 2017 | TBA | Past Presidents' Lunch | | |
| November 2017 | TBA | Travel to Temora and witness the exciting Air Show. | Temora, South Coast | Partners very welcome |
| December 2017 | 19 th Tuesday | Annual Christmas Lunch | | Partners very welcome |

5 Minute Speakers

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| February Meeting | Club member Roman Zwolenski will talk about sailing in the Bahamas. |
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Editor's Corner

Irish Jokes

The Irish were among the first settlers in Australia and have contributed substantially to the development of contemporary Australia. Around 6 million Australians (and an estimated 70 million people worldwide) are commonly believed to have some Irish ancestry.



Coincidentally at the same time as they arrived so did the Irish joke. There is sometimes a debate to discuss whether Irish jokes made by Englishmen were racist or not but Irish jokes have recently been reclaimed by Irish people themselves and reversed.

They say an Englishman laughs three times at a joke. The first time when everybody gets it, the second a week later when he thinks he gets it, the third time a month later when somebody explains it to him.



So what is the origin of the Irish joke?

In England they tell jokes about the Irish, but in Ireland they tell jokes about the Kerryman. If you go to Kerry, however, they tell jokes about people who live in one particular road. And if you go to that road, they tell jokes about the people who live at number 46. At

number 46 - you won't be surprised to hear - they tell jokes about their dad, who can reliably be called the source of all Irish jokes.

A man walked into a Dublin bar and saw a friend sitting with an empty glass. 'Paddy can I buy you another', he asked, to which Paddy replied – 'now what would I be wanting with another empty glass?'"

Conservative Home reports that a councillor in Medway Kent was ordered to pay compensation on racist grounds to an Irish-born union official for telling this joke. Allowing for context, surely a piece of nonsense.



So where does it all end?

Of course not all jokes are about the Irish.

An Englishman, roused by a Scot's scorn of his race, protested that he was born an Englishman and hoped to die an Englishman.

"Man," scoffed the Scot, "hiv ye nae ambeetion?"

Did you know the Irish invented the bagpipes as a joke?

The Scots haven't got it yet.

Minutes of Pittwater Probus Inc.

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| Meeting | 10 th January 2017 Meeting opened by President Bill Sherman. 31 members present, 11 apologies. |
| Inductions | Peter Nissen was inducted. |
| Minutes | Minutes of the December 2016 meeting were published in the Newsletter, Mvd. Bruce Farrar, 2 nd John Harston, carried. |
| Birthdays | David Bennett, Peter Nissen, Ivan Patrick, Trevor Stephens. No anniversaries. |
| Correspondence | PSLP Cluster Group minutes 12 th December 2016. All Probus Clubs on the Peninsular to meet on occasions to discuss membership problems. President Bill Sherman has volunteered to be our Representative. |
| Treasurer's Report | Presented by David Varley Balance at 1/12/2016 \$6,646.71 Receipts: Christmas Lunch \$45.00, Morning Teas \$105.50, Total \$150.50 Payments: Morning Teas \$120.00, Christmas Lunch \$2,971.6, Admin. \$109.35, BBQ \$70.40, Badges \$37.91, Total \$3,309.26 Balance at 31/12/2016 \$3,487.95 Mvd. David Varley, 2 nd Bruce Farrar, carried |
| Welfare Report | No member problems. |
| Activities | John Harston has organised Trivia Night 14 th February, 6 pm, \$32 P/P. 21 st February visit to Northern Beaches Hospital, 23 rd March Member's boat outing on Pittwater, 29 th March BBQ at Flying Fox Reserve. |
| Speakers | Brian Kennedy has organised for February , Martin Thomas, Nuclear Energy. March , Noel Phelan, Japanese subs in Sydney Harbour. |
| IT Report | Michael Mannington explained the problems with the introduction of NBN Broadband Network to the Peninsular households. |
| Golf | 10 00 am Friday 13 th January Palm Beach Golf Club. |
| General Business | Bruce Farrar asked for members to volunteer for assistant positions on the future committees of Pittwater Probus. There were no volunteers. |
| Speaker | Les Moseley gave his personal thoughts on the history and results of the Archibald Prize.. |
| Next Meeting | 14 th February 2016 Meeting Closed at 11.55 am. Signed as a correct record. |

Office Bearers for 2016

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 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 |