



Pittwater Mens Probus
Amicus et Dignus

Newsletter

Email: probus@pittwater.org.au

September 2017

Website: www.probus.pittwater.org.au

President's Message

As with many members of Pittwater Probus it is at this time of the year we reflect on how business and the economy is going and contemplate the returns on our investments as we enter the current financial reporting period. We read the papers in search of good news and listen to commentators like Alan Kohler on the ABC, and try to understand his charts!

It appears that the outlook for Australian business is positive, but retail is down. No doubt we all have opinions on how the Australian economy is faring.



During my working life I was fortunate to extensively travel and work around Australia and witnessed various levels of 'bustle' in each State at different times. To me a good sign that a city was doing well was the amount of trucks on the road. This meant that goods were being manufactured and being transported to markets.

Also another measure of the local economy was the pace of people in the CBD. If everyone was hurrying to be somewhere, I also believed this was a good sign. If people were sluggish, this was not so good. I remember being in Melbourne many times in the eighties and for awhile the place was so quiet it was like the city had shut down. It was a time when Victoria was reported to be in bad shape. Fortunately, Melbourne did recover and continues to maintain a vibrant economy.

So if I am driving through the industrial areas of Western Sydney, I don't mind too much being caught behind a convoy of large trucks, because I hope they are working hard for my meagre share dividends! Trusting all our members receive good results from this reporting period.

Cheers,
Ron Seldon

Probus Golf

Weatherwise a lovely day for playing golf. 8 players took to the course. The results were:

1. Gordon Stokes 24 Points
2. Graham Morley 22 Points
3. Bill Sherman 21 Points

Next game, Friday September 15, 2017 at Palm Beach Golf

Course. Hit off 10 00am. Followed by lunch at Club Palm Beach. All welcome.



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Speaker's Corner

Bryan Pritchard was born in SW London in 1936, the year Hitler's troops marched into the Rhineland in direct contravention of the Treaty of Versailles. Bryan had no inkling of the significance of that event but as a direct result of Britain's failure to challenge Hitler, the Second World started in 1939. A year later the London Blitz began. Gas masks were issued and sirens warned of the approach of enemy planes. People would hide under stairs and later in Anderson shelters built specifically for the purpose.



The heavy and frequent bombing attacks on London and other cities was known as the 'Blitz'. (The Blitz was Nazi Germany's sustained aerial bombing campaign against Britain in World War Two. The raids killed 43,000 civilians and lasted for eight months, petering out when Hitler began to focus on his plans for Russian invasion in May 1941).

Night after night, from September 1940 until May 1941, German bombers attacked British cities, ports and industrial areas. London was bombed every day and night, bar one, for 11 weeks.

As a direct result of the bombing children, in particular, were evacuated from the big cities and in Bryan's case he was sent first to Littlehampton, nowadays home to superb sandy award-winning beaches, a bustling marina and harbour and stunning contemporary architecture, but during the war, the beaches were mined. A brief stay in Bournemouth followed and then it was off to Wales by bus. The hosts were coal miners and after a year at school he returned to London. The next problem was the arrival of the V2s. Launched from mobile units, each V2 rocket was 14 metres (46ft) high and carried a ton (900 kg) of explosives. Bryan remembers one landed in a nearby cemetery and the next-door neighbours ended up with a cross deposited in their garden. The war in Europe ended on 8 May. Known as VE Day, it was celebrated nationwide with street parties.

After the War Bryan had a job as a newspaper boy earning 2/6 per week. He successfully completed the 11+ exam and obtained a scholarship which took him to the local grammar school where he enjoyed playing cricket and rugby. On leaving school he wanted to be a customs officer or a newspaper reporter. There were jobs in banking and fortuitously he joined the Bank of NSW, earning the princely salary of 208 pounds a year. On his first day on the job he was told to check everything and reminded to call the chief cashier "Sir". Bryan progressed through the ranks, his career temporarily halted by a spell of National Service. He joined the Air Force and after a misunderstanding found that he could not train as an officer. He spent time training in Birmingham where his experience of Polish plots was somewhat negative. After that he returned to the bank's office in Barclay Square where he met celebrities like Diane Cilento, Judith Durham and Joan Sutherland. His vivid memory of Joan Sutherland was when she had her cloak stuck in a revolving door.

Happily, he came to Australia and as the saying goes, the rest is history!

New Member

Leon Cremer



Leon worked at the Shell Clyde Refinery in their laboratory whilst doing a chemistry course part time at Sydney Technical College. After leaving the oil industry, Leon worked in research, development and quality control laboratories in the gas, coal, food and marine industries.

He then started in the laboratory at Tooheys Standard Brewery near Central Station. After a while Leon moved into the Brewers Office. From there he took over the supervision and management of the sterile filling of bulk (draught) beer into casks, 2 million litres per week on a 'just-in-time' basis.

During this time Leon was involved in the start-up of a whole new filling and delivery complex at the Tooheys Auburn Brewery.

For leisure, Leon is a keen yachtsman starting in small skiffs, advancing to small yachts, then ocean racing yachts, finally on to 12 Metres. He has enjoyed the sport in the 4 corners of the world.

Leon, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

Dual Citizen ?

Are you a dual citizen and have concerns about your future career? Do not worry, there is an alternative that is free of political intrigue.

Section 44(i) of the Constitution of the Pittwater Probus Club welcomes dual citizens as members. So before heading off to Canberra in trepidation of what tribulations may befall you, remember being a member of Pittwater Probus you are free within the club from investigation into any dual citizenship you or your forebears may possess.

Current members, when seeking to recruit new members, please advise them that dual citizenship is welcome in Pittwater Probus.



Golf Tour in 2018



Our delayed Golf Tour is now being planned for early 2018. We propose to stay at Dormie House nestled in the beautiful hills of the Southern Highlands, near Moss Vale.

There will be, of course, golf for the dedicated plus other non-golf activities for those with other interests.

Visit to the Maritime Museum



Replica of HM Endeavour

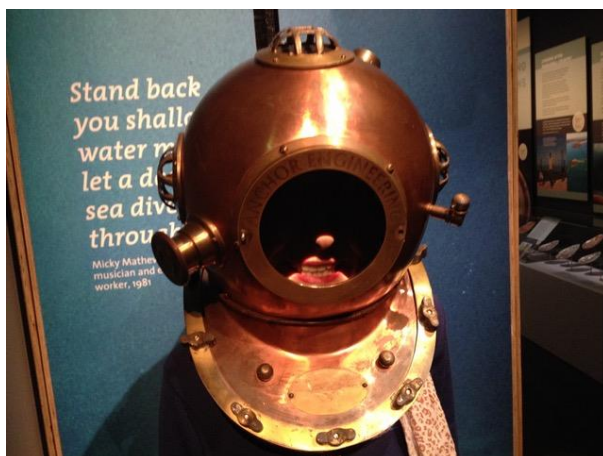
Early in August a number of Pittwater Probus members were treated to an excellent tour of the Sydney Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour. Our special guide was Noel Phelan. (Noel was a recent speaker on the Japanese submarine attack on Sydney Harbour.) During the visit we lunched at Yots Café.

We explored the three main vessels in the Museum ship collection, the HM Bark *Endeavour* Replica, the destroyer HMAS *Vampire*, and the submarine HMAS *Onslow*.

In addition we toured the Pompeii exhibition within the museum.



Battle stations on HMAS Vampire



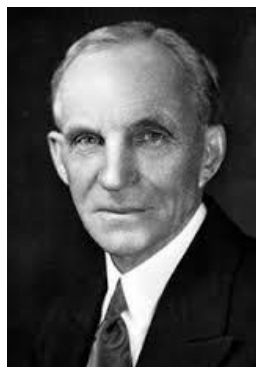
Diver Robyn Harston



When in Pompeii, you have to look the part

September Speaker

Kim Russell



Henry Ford

New Club Member, Kim Russell will talk about Henry Ford, his life and work up to the introduction of the V8 in 1932.

Henry Ford has arguably affected more lives than any other single person and the company he established is the only early main stream vehicle manufacturer still operating in its own right.

Make sure you do not miss this insight into the early days of the automobile industry.

September - 5 Minute Speaker

Gordon Kinlay – 5 Minutes In?

Do you try the Travel Quiz in the Sun-Herald each Sunday? If you do, you no doubt do better than me.

Here is a chance to test your travel knowledge with Member Gordon Kinlay's own special style travel quiz. Gordon will show a number of slides from different global locations. Will you be able to identify the setting and the country?



Speakers' Program

**October
2017**

Battle of the Coral Sea

Retired Lieutenant Colonel Peter Sweeney RFD will talk about the Battle of the Coral Sea. It was 75 years in May this year that American warships aided by Australia turned the Pacific War around by preventing the Japanese from invading Port Moresby in this historic battle off the coast of Queensland.



Lunch Anyone?



After the Probus monthly meeting, why not stay and have lunch? Join fellow members to reflect on the day's meeting and other matters of standing!

In addition, by doing so, you are supporting our hosts, Mona Vale Golf Club who kindly allow us to meet each month free of charge.

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5 Minute Speakers

October 2017	Bruce Farrar Dreaming of balmy sunny days in Northern Queensland. Let Club Secretary Bruce Farrar take us away from our cold southern winter by telling us of his recent trip up north.	
November 2017	John Harston 	Electric cars are very much in the news these days. The foremost electric car maker is Tesla. Member John Harston will show a short video on Tesla.

Functions & Activities Program

Date	Day	Activity	Location	Comments
19 th September 2017	Tuesday	Past Presidents Lunch	Quays Marina, Church Point	Lunch at the Marina Café
18 th October 2017	Wednesday 5 00 pm	Spring BBQ	Flying Fox Park, Winnererremy Bay, Mona Vale	Do not miss this special Probus get-together.
19 th December 2017	Tuesday	Annual Christmas Lunch	Mona Vale Golf Club	Partners very welcome.
February 2018	TBA	Trivia Night	Mona Vale Golf Club	Partners very welcome
February 2016	TBA	Boating	Pittwater	Partners very welcome

Editor's Desk

How Green is Your Backyard?

New research published in *Science* magazine in January has calculated just how fast our carbon emissions are melting sea ice and contributing to global warming. The study from Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology in Germany is the first time human actions have been linked to the amount of sea ice that's thawing. On average, it says, a westerner's carbon emissions destroy 30 square metres of Arctic sea ice each year. It also indicates that without a dramatic reduction in carbon emissions, the Arctic will lose all of its ice in summer within the next 30 years and cause weather around the globe to become more extreme.

Professor Dirk Notz, the leader of the study, says: "The observed numbers are very simple. For each tonne of CO₂ that a person emits anywhere on this planet, three square metres of Arctic summer sea ice disappears."



The disappearing world - Arctic sea ice melt affects the future of polar bears

To put that into perspective, if you drive a small car 15,000 kilometres a year, that's 2.41 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions or 7.23 square metres of Arctic sea ice melt. A return flight from Sydney to Bali equates to 2.32 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions and 6.96 square metres of Arctic sea ice melt. For Victorians, a return flight to London emits 7.09 tonnes of carbon dioxide and destroys 21.27 square metres of sea ice.

It's not just Arctic sea ice that's disappearing either. Sea ice is at record low levels at both ends of the planet.

In February while Australia was in the grip of a record heatwave, the Antarctica quietly reached a milestone of its own, melting to its lowest recorded level. In July, a 1-trillion-tonne iceberg measuring twice the size of the ACT calved from the Larsen C shelf in Antarctica.

Where does Australia stand?

Australia has one of the world's highest emissions of carbon dioxide per capita, ranking tenth highest in a list that includes Qatar, Kuwait and the United States. It's also among the worst of developed countries for climate change action.

In the Climate Change Performance Index report released last December, Australia is listed fifth-worst, only coming ahead of Kazakhstan, South Korea, Japan and Saudi Arabia for carbon emissions.

Of the 58 countries assessed on their climate policies, emissions and deployment of renewable energy, the study found that Australia was "very poor performing" with a hostile relationship between federal and state climate policies. The report noted: "while the former were rather unambitious and uninspired, the latter managed to some extent to take independent action."



The world's soon to be first solar train at Byron Bay

While the Federal Government clings to coal energy and prevaricates on its Paris Agreement target to reduce carbon emissions by 2030, the states are quietly pushing ahead with clean energy climate action. South Australia will soon be home to the world's largest lithium ion battery thanks to a historic agreement signed in July between Elon Musk's Tesla company and the State Government.

It's also on track to meet its 50 per cent renewable target by 2025 and has a net zero emissions by 2050 goal, along with Victoria and New South Wales. Queensland has a 50% renewable target by 2030.

In December, the world's first solar-powered train will launch in Byron Bay, travelling the three kilometres each way from Byron Bay to North Beach, near Elements of Byron, a five-star resort with controlling interest in the not-for-profit train company.

More information visit www.worldlandtrust.org

Minutes of Pittwater Probus Inc.

Meeting	8 th August 2017 Meeting opened by President Ron Seldon. 42 members present and 5 guests attending.
Inductions	Leon Cremer was inducted.
Minutes	Minutes of the July 2017 meeting were published in the Newsletter, Mvd. Warwick Dalzell, 2 nd John Owens, carried.
Correspondence	Orchid Society Show at St Ives.
Birthdays	Gordon Kinlay, Michael Moss, Len Riordan, Peter Vinney.
Treasurer's Report	Presented by David Varley Balance at 1/7/2017 \$4,164.00 Receipts: Subscriptions \$80.00, Badge Fee \$20.00, Morning Teas \$96.00. Total \$196.00. Payments: Morning Teas \$120.00, Wine Purchase \$15.00, Printing \$12.00. Total \$147.00. Balance at 31/7/2017 \$4,213.00 Mvd. David Varley, 2 nd John Harston, carried
Welfare Report	Nil.
Speakers	Brian Kennedy has organised the following speakers: September Kim Russell - Vintage Ford Cars 1919-1930. Gordon Kinlay – World Travel Quiz. October Peter Sweeney - Coral Sea Battle. Bruce Farrar – Trip to Cape York.
Activities	John Harston gave notice of a tour of the Maritime Museum 10 th August. September Golf at Nelson Bay postponed.
Functions	Gordon Stokes noted 3 rd October Committee Meeting with wives at Church Point. Past President's Lunch 19 th September. Christmas Lunch 19 th December. 18 th October BBQ at Flying Fox Reserve.
Golf	David Varley won the golf competition. Golf next Friday 10 00 am at Palm Beach Golf Course.
General Business	Nil.
5 Minute Talk	Ken Plumb gave an in depth talk with slides on the geology of Iceland..
Speaker	Following the coffee break, Bryan Pritchard told us of his young years during the Blitz of London and his later years in the Air Force and his bank career.
Next Meeting	12 th September 2017. Commencing at 10 00 am. Meeting Closed at 12.10 pm. Signed as a correct record.

Office Bearers for 2017

Meetings commence at 10 00am on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

President	Ron Seldon 9918 0677	Speaker Organiser	Brian Kennedy 9918 0937
Vice President	John Harston 9940 0446	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	Allan Smith 9999 1334