



## Newsletter – April 2018

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### President's Message



I am writing this note to you well in advance of the April Probus meeting as I leave on holiday from Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> to Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Vice-President John Porter will also be away at the Commonwealth Games, so Ron Seldon will be in the chair again just when he was looking forward a rest from duties after his last 12 months in office!

It is getting dark in the mornings now but you may be pleased to know that Daylight Saving ends on Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at 2.00am. It is for this reason that our autumn BBQ at Flying Fox Park has been set for Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 2018 starting at 5.00pm. This will give members plenty of daylight in which to enjoy the sausage sizzle and meet with old friends.

In addition to the BBQ, a golfing break in the Southern Highlands has been organised by Bill Sherman for 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> March. The hotels and golf courses are of the top order for the enjoyment of members. I am sorry to be missing it.

I trust that you will enjoy a happy and safe Easter break with your family and friends. I look forward to seeing you at the May club meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

John Harston

### Probus Golf

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup>, 9 keen golfers hit off in pleasant conditions at Palm Beach Golf Club. The successful golfers were: 1<sup>st</sup> Brian Kennedy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Sherman, 3<sup>rd</sup> Allan Smith

After an enjoyable lunch, the team had an informal meeting at which it was agreed to establish a "local rule" that a player will be entitled to a 150mm (6 inches) preferred lie "through the green" to assist in making a clean shot. In addition, a stableford



handicap system to cater for a wide range of golfing abilities. Finally, the awarding of a golf ball{s} to successful golfers through a minimal donation by each player.

Next game, Friday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Palm Beach Golf Course. Hit off 10 00am. Followed by lunch at Club Palm Beach.

## March Speaker's Corner

### ***Deborah Wallace "A Life in Crime"***

Our March Speaker was Detective Superintendent Deborah Wallace, commander of the 200-strong Criminal Groups Squad in Western Sydney. A Paramatta girl born and bred and a staunch supporter of the Eels, she is unmarried but has a male partner and is mother to a much-loved family of dogs.

Deborah began her 35 year long career with the police force in the 1970s when there were very few women cops in the force. She answered an advertisement and found herself one of 4 females among 90 men. The training sergeant decided to weed out a few and made them all undergo a 10 kilometre run. Deborah survived this and soon found herself on Friday night duty policing one of the toughest pubs in the Blacktown-Mt Druitt area. She arrived with her male Sergeant to quell a riot of 40 blokes. The sudden appearance of a woman on the scene had a dramatic affect on the rioters. One of the leaders shouted along the lines of "Hey fellas the policeman is a sheila, just watch your language." The indomitable Deborah was rostered on every Friday night after that.



Deborah came to the notice of head office after taking part in the re-enactment of the infamous Anita Cobby murder of 1986. In the 1990s she was head, first of the Asian and then the Middle Eastern organised crime squads. Deborah explained that there are three main groups of people involved in these violent criminal gangs. The most sophisticated are the Asian gangs originally from Vietnam who specialise in selling crystal meth imported from China. They generally keep under the radar. By contrast the Middle Eastern gangs are mainly very loud showy Lebanese. The Bikie gangs consist of many ethnic groups.

Deborah had a lot of success in getting the Vietnamese kids off the street in Cabramatta. Many of these kids are now doctors and lawyers. She attacked Lebanese gangs and the bikies by raiding their clubs, seizing their weapons and illegal alcohol, using consorting laws to stop mass motor cycle runs, using the tax laws to seize money made from selling drugs and deporting criminals who were not Australian citizens (including Kiwi criminals). One of her major successes has been putting most of the notorious Auburn Lebanese gang "Brothers for Life" behind bars.

## "Lake Mona Vale"



Club members arriving at Mona Vale Golf Club for the March Meeting were welcomed with the majestic sight of the golf course under water. The result of 113 mm of rain overnight.

## April 2018 Speaker

### **Jay Claren “The Bombing of Hamburg”**

Probus Club member, Jay (Jurgen) Claren, who was born in Kiel, Germany (just south of the Danish border) in 1938 was raised in Hamburg, Germany.

Jay will talk about his boyhood in Nazi Germany during World War II and in particular the bombing of Hamburg. Jay will give us his side to the story of WWII, in particular as a boy enduring the destruction of the city of Hamburg by the Allies in Nazi Germany.



## April 2018 ‘5 Minute’ Speaker

### **Graham Morley “Solomon Islands”**



Club Member Graham Morley will talk about his experiences in the Solomon Islands improving the quality of Secondary Education.

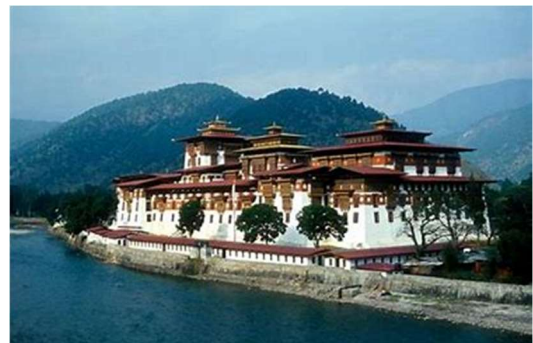
This work was funded by the Australian Government and the World Bank, in collaboration with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Education.

## May 2018 Speaker

### **Ken Plumb “Bhutan”**

The guest talk will be by club member Ken Plumb who will speak about the little known and visited country of Bhutan, snuggled in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains.

Ken spent some time in this faraway and hidden place and will illustrate his talk with an excellent photographic collection of the beautiful scenery and much slower pace of the life and culture of the people.



## May 2018 ‘5 Minute’ Speaker

### **Colin Sutton “Medical Devices”**



Colin will talk about the making of implantable medical devices covering a range of cardiac appliances which include pacemakers, defibrillators and left ventricular assistance.



## Pittwater BBQ



The Gods were not kind to us when the weather took a turn for the worse, leading to the last-minute cancellation of the Probus Autumn BBQ.

Because daylight saving has ended and if we had a BBQ now we would be cooking in the dark or by candle light which would not be very safe. Sadly, we will have to wait until October when daylight saving comes back before we can have the next BBQ. Nevertheless, it will be worth the wait.

## A Top Trip to the Southern Highlands

Seven couples from Pittwater Probus took to the Southern Highlands on 26 March for a three-day golf and social break. The stay was centred on Peppers Craigieburn in Bowral which is very nice. Nothing was too much trouble for the staff and the ambience is really pleasant. The public rooms all look out over Craigieburn's own nine-hole golf course. The Group dined there on the Monday night partaking in a four-course fixed menu meal of hors oeuvres, gnocchi, lamb back strap and torte. Very tempting.



The golfers went to Bowral Golf Club on Monday afternoon for a few holes and played a full 18 at Highlands (Mittagong) on the Tuesday. The golfing deal included course fees and either carts or drinks after the game.

Four carts set off at Highlands. Bill Sherman, David Varley and Gordon Stokes played together with Bruce Farrar watching and driving one cart. The other group was Brian Kennedy and wife Barbara with Graham Morgan and partner Ros James.

Meanwhile Barbara Varley, Toni Stokes and Deidre Farrar were playing nine holes at Craigieburn before heading off to join Gill Sherman and Mary Marshall at Berkelouw's book barn for coffee and on to a look around Berrima and a wine tasting at Centennial Wines.

Tuesday night's dinner was meant to be at a nice Italian Restaurant in Mittagong, called Esco Pazzo. Unfortunately, they tried very hard to ruin the whole trip and seriously embarrassed Organiser Bill Sherman. Whatever you do don't go there!

Perhaps the best part of Craigieburn is their buffet breakfast. It is taken in the dining room looking out over the golf course. Lovely choice of cooked (much of it in big silver tureens) and cold dishes with the usual fruits, cereal and toast. And the weather was perfect.



**You need a drink after a hard day's golf!**

## Member Long Service Recognition



2017 Club President Ron Seldon presenting  
Bill Marshall with his Certificate

Long serving club member, Bill Marshall was presented with a certificate commemorating Bill's 20 years of dedicated membership, the last 3 years as Welfare Officer.

Other club members acknowledged for their long service membership are Cyril Webb 33 years, Colin Friezer 26 years and Gordon Crow 23 years.

## New Members Target for 2018

At the March Probud Executive Meeting, Geoff Sheppard moved a motion, which was seconded and carried, that the club set a target of 12 new members in 2018 and each following year. We had a great year in 2017 with 16 new members, so we should be able to beat our target of 12.

However, this requires all members to seek potential candidates and introduce them to the club. They are always welcome to visit our meetings as a guest to see for themselves. Now our member ceiling has been raised to 100, the sky is the limit!

## Lunch Anyone?

On 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Probus members are going to lunch at the Pittwater Training Restaurant at the Brookvale TAFE College. The cost is \$25 per head. Wine additional.

The Pittwater Training Restaurant offers a memorable dining experience where students work together to provide modern Australian cuisine and professional service. The freshest Australian produce is used to create innovative and sophisticated dishes, matched with some of Australia's finest wines.



The restaurant gives hospitality and culinary students the opportunity to cook contemporary dishes, serve fine wines and manage real-life dining situations in a professional restaurant.

If you are interested in joining this function please see Gordon Stokes.

## For the Sake of Art

### ***EARLY NOTICE OF ACTIVITY***

**Date:** May 29<sup>th</sup> 2018  
**Time:** 10.30am at Gallery  
**Place:** Art Gallery of NSW  
**Activity:** Gallery visit including Archibald Prize and Lady & the Unicorn Tapestries from France



**Cost:** Free entry to Gallery. Fee for Tapestries

**Getting there:** B1 or L90 bus to Wynyard  
Then walk through Domain to the Art Gallery or walk up to QVB and take 441 bus to the Gallery.

Option to drive and park in Domain Car park

**Lunch:** Newly refurbished Gallery Café on the lowest level. Snacks and coffee.

## Probus Club Fees

Just a gentle reminder that your annual Probus Club Membership Fees for 2018 are due. If you have already paid, thank you. The Committee has agreed to keep them the same as last year at \$40 per member.

Please make your payment to Treasurer David Varley at the March Meeting. Prompt payment will be very much appreciated.





## New Member

### ***Fred Murray-Walker***



Fred completed an Economics Degree in 1965, first joining an accounting firm then later the marketing division of NCR. After about 8 months, Fred moved to Tooth & Co on the marketing team and later was put in charge of their Wines and Spirits Division.

After several more moves, Fred bought a small liquor store in Cremorne, followed by another in Mosman. Over the next 25 years, Fred bought and sold another 4 and owned and operated 3 at any one time. Several other liquor storeowners and Fred set up the Porters group of independent liquor stores which is still operating today. Fred was also on the Board of the NSW Liquor Stores Association. Fred later joined IGA and was able to build the business to the point where it was very profitable and sold it in 2006.

Since retiring, Fred has visited the Antarctic finding and visiting the Lancaster bomber in which his father was killed in 1944. Fred and his wife, Lynne, sailed with their son on his yacht around the islands of Croatia and later Fred sailed with his son from Gibraltar to the Caribbean and later from Noumea back to Pittwater.

Fred and Lynne joined a volunteer 4WD group that undertakes annual surveys of plants and wildlife in the Great Victoria Desert which is north of the Nullarbor and is Australia's largest desert. They visited Maralinga and Emu where the atom bombs were detonated, crossed from Mintabe to Cook on foot with camels carrying all their needs. That trek was about 500ks and took 30 days.

Fred, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

## Palliative Care Workshop

An invitation to Pittwater Probus members to attend a Palliative Care Advance Planning Workshop.

With Advance Care Planning you can make your own directives. You decide who will make choices about your care if you no longer have the capacity to speak.

In a free workshop Kelly Arthurs, Clinical Nurse Consultant, will lead you through the process and answer your questions. The Hammond Care sponsorship will include morning tea and the NSW Government Advance Care Planning booklet. Join the group at 10am to noon Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the Cora Adcock Palliative Care Clinic Mona Vale Hospital.

RSVP by 13<sup>th</sup> April to [fonbpc@hammond.com.au](mailto:fonbpc@hammond.com.au) or call Sue or Colleen on 1800 427 255 Option 3, in working hours.

## Editor's Desk

### ***Video Didn't Kill The Radio Star .... Mikaela Dery***

It seems that the time of death has been called prematurely on radio. The podcast has revived the art of spoken word with compelling and creative stories freely available at the touch of a button.

A podcast is a radio program that you can download for free, so you can listen to them anytime.

#### ***Types of Podcasts***

Topics range from economics, to history, politics, pop-culture, music and more. Whatever your interest, there's certainly a podcast for you. In fact, there are probably several.

Some podcasts are similar to traditional radio shows, with the host interviewing guests about their career or life. Others, including the infamous *Serial* take their structure from serialised radio programs, featuring in-depth investigations over a number of episodes.



But some podcasts are a genre all of their own. A widely acclaimed podcast, *Freakonomics* uses economic principles to examine modern life. Meanwhile, *Pod Save America* is hosted by a team of Barack Obama's top aides, and while they discuss politics, the format feels more like being a fly on the wall.

#### ***Here to Help***

Podcasts serve a variety of functions. In addition to entertainment, they can be a valuable educational tool.

News programs provide valuable, candid commentary on current affairs. Others examine historical events, literature, film and more. *How Stuff Works*, for example, is a heavily researched podcast which unpacks obscure and fascinating topics, from horoscopes to accents.

#### ***How to download them***

There are a number of ways you can listen to podcasts for free.

If you own an Apple device, the podcast app comes already installed. Simply open it and tap the magnifying glass icon to search for the podcast that you want to listen to, or tap the star icon to see a selection of popular shows. Then, tap subscribe to automatically receive new episodes.

Android users can download the Stitcher app from Google Play. Once you find a podcast, tap the plus sign to add it to your favourites list.

Most podcasts also post episodes on their website and some have transcripts online if you prefer.

..... *Probus Active Retirees*



# Minutes of Pittwater Probus Inc.

<b>Meeting</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2018 Meeting opened by President Ron Seldon. 51 members present and 9 guests.
<b>Inductions</b>	Fred Murray-Walker was inducted into the club.
<b>Certificates</b>	Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Cyril Webb member for 34 years, Colin Friezer member for 26 years, Gordon Crow member for 23 years, Bill Marshall member for 20 years.
<b>AGM</b>	The General Meeting was suspended for the 37 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting conducted by David Taylor. The General Meeting was resumed by John Harston the 2018 President.
<b>Minutes</b>	Minutes of the February 2018 meeting were published in the Newsletter, Mvd. Bruce Farrar, 2 <sup>nd</sup> John Owens, carried.
<b>Correspondence</b>	Rotary Bowel Cancer kits available for \$15 from all local Chemists from 1 <sup>st</sup> May to 31 <sup>st</sup> May. Note on Combined Golf meeting in November.
<b>Birthdays</b>	Bill Marshall, Roman Zwolenski.
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	Presented by David Varley Balance at 1/2/2018 \$3,514.86 Receipts: Southern Highlands subs \$2,786.00, Trivia Night \$714.00, Morning Teas \$124.40. Total \$3,624.40. Payments: Morning Teas \$120.00, Trivia Night \$638.00, Christmas Lunch Prizes \$101.00, Admin. \$146.49, Southern Highlands tour \$2,787.50. Total \$3,792.99. Balance at 28/2/2018 \$3,346.27. Mvd. David Varley, 2 <sup>nd</sup> B. Pritchard, carried.
<b>Welfare Report</b>	Warwick Dalzell has made excellent progress over the last week.
<b>Speakers</b>	Wes Harder has organised the following speakers: <b>April</b> Jay Claren – Growing up in Hamburg after WWII. <b>May</b> Ken Plumb – Butan. <b>June</b> Richard Friar – Surfing life after nearly drowning. <b>April Short Talk</b> Graham Morley – Education in Samoa.
<b>Functions</b>	November Combined Probus Club Golf Tournament at Pymble Golf Club. Brookvale TAFE College Lunch 13 <sup>th</sup> June.
<b>Activities</b>	Golf tour Southern Highlands 26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2018. BBQ 21 <sup>th</sup> March, Flying Fox Reserve \$5 P/P. Premier's Concert 5 <sup>th</sup> April.
<b>Golf</b>	Geoff Richards won the Trophy. Play at Palm Beach 13 <sup>th</sup> February at 10 00 am.
<b>General Business</b>	Questionnaire to be published on internet site each month to establish general direction members would like the committee to operate in, with the formulation of their ideas. John Harston President and John Porter Vice President will be absent from the next committee and general meeting. Ron Seldon will officiate.
<b>5 Minute Talk Speaker</b>	Because of the AGM, there was no 5 Minute Speaker. Following the coffee break, Deborah Wallace talked about her Life in Crime.
<b>Next Meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2018. Commencing at 10 00 am. Meeting Closed at 12 05 pm. Signed as a correct record.

## Office Bearers for 2018

Meetings commence at 10 00am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

<b>President</b>	John Harston 9940 0446	<b>Major Events Organiser</b>	Bill Sherman 9997 5532
<b>Vice President</b>	John Porter 9970 7230	<b>Functions Organiser</b>	Gordon Stokes 9999 2073
<b>Secretary</b>	Bruce Farrar 9971 2042	<b>Speaker Organiser</b>	Wes Harder 9997 3303
<b>Treasurer</b>	David Varley 9918 7154	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Warwick Dalzell 9997 4518
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Geoff Sheppard 9918 7646	<b>Registrar</b>	Trevor Stephens 9918 21 38
<b>Activities Officer</b>	John Harston 9940 0446		