



Probud Club of Pittwater

Newsletter – April 2019

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Vice-President's Message

Gentlemen,

In the absence of our new President, John Porter – who is on holiday this month – it falls to me, as newly-appointed vice-president, to chair the April meeting.

I would like to add my thanks to those of John Harston, in regard to the work carried out by the previous committee, and the great dedication that was evident. There is no doubt in my mind that the new committee will do its utmost to continue in the same way.

There are some extremely interesting topics coming up in our five-minute and one-hour talks this year, plus some events that should have great appeal to the membership.

I find it a great privilege to have been asked to fill the vice-president role this year, and look forward to mixing with such a great group of people that comprises our membership.

.... Paul Mascall

March Speaker's Corner

Ken Plumb – "Aboriginal Art of the Kimberley"

Club member, Ken Plumb, talked about the Aboriginal art of the Kimberley. One of the most difficult conundrums for the experts is the Bradshaw rock art. The unique Gwion Gwion rock art was first seen by Western eyes in 1891 by Joseph Bradshaw. Bradshaw had been granted a million acres of pastoral land in 1890, and in the following year went up to explore the rugged Roe River area when he stumbled upon the art – later estimated to be possibly tens of thousands of years old.

Earlier, in 1838, George Grey had discovered more traditional Aboriginal rock art, which became known as the Wandjina style – the other commonly known form of Kimberley rock art. Until relatively recently, few people knew more about Bradshaw Art than Grahame Walsh, who documented and studied the art for 30 years. He came to the conclusion that Gwion Gwion (as Bradshaw art is known) may have been painted prior to the last Ice Age and, controversially, was painted by people who were not Indigenous.

The Gwion art is divided into 4 eras - "Tassel" era, "Sash" era, "Elegant action" figures and "Clothes peg" figures but part of the problem is dating the paintings since they have become part of the rock.

No-one knows their exact age, as the lack of organic matter in the paintings has ruled out radiocarbon dating. Now, however, researchers are using several new methods to date the art.

In comparison little has been investigated, explored or recorded about Wandjina rock art carvings. Wandjinas are only found in the Kimberley region (north-eastern Western Australia), nowhere else in Australia. The Wandjina are cloud and rain spirits from Australian Aboriginal mythology. Some of the artwork in the Kimberley region of Western Australia dates back approximately 4,000 years ago. The Wandjina paintings have common colours of black, red and yellow on a white background. Most Wandjina sites are located under rock overhangs, which have served to protect the art from moisture and wind.



“Wandjina (coloured) overlie older Bradshaws”

One of the places Ken visited was Swift Bay. Swift Bay is landscaped by heavily fractured sandstone providing an abundance of rock shelters. On the walls of these shelters are examples of both Wandjina and Gwion Gwion style rock art.

So who was responsible for the Bradshaw, which many people have said is more sophisticated than Wandjina? Walsh concluded the Bradshaw Art was painted by non-indigenous people. Ken is of the opinion that he is wrong.

.... Warwick Dalzell

April 2019 Speaker

Graham Selleck “The Sultan of Brunei”

Our speaker Graham Selleck, 53 years ago was appointed by Qantas to manage the travel needs of the former Sultan of Brunei **Omar Ali Saifuddien**, as well as his sons and daughters. for a period of 2 years.

At the time the Sultan was regarded the richest man in the world.

Graham’s role included escorting this Muslim Monarch to and through countries around the globe and facing the challenges of cultural differences along the way.

Graham’s association with the Royal family embraced being a guest at a Royal wedding and attending the Coronation of the Crown Prince, now the notorious current Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah who has been on the throne for 51 years.



April 2019 '5-Minute Speaker'

David Taylor "Letters to the Editor"

Letters to the Editor
Good personal therapy plus a platform from which to contribute to positive change .

David Taylor talks about the rules which have helped him improve his publication rate in "Letters to the Editor " newspaper columns.



David has had much success in getting his message/opinions into the press and he will share his tips with actual and practical examples of his triumphs.

May 2019 Speaker

Gunter Schaule "Electricity Crossroads"



Gunter has an Electrical Engineering Degree from Germany and a MBA from Canada. He was employed in setting up the cyber network of undersea cables and satellites with Teleglobe Canada and OTC Australia.

Gunter was a delegate to the Internet Planning Committee in Geneva (a section of the UN) for Canada and then for Australia. He was also an international telecommunications expatriate on deployment to South America and Europe.

Gunter will speak on the discovery and early use of electricity. The various generators, their costs, future supply and demand and electricity storage.

May 2019 '5-Minute Speaker'

Geoff Richards "Ngorogoro Crater, Tanzania"

Know all about the Ngorogoro Crater in Tanzania? If not, club member Geoff Richards will complete your education.

Geoff will describe the unparalleled beauty of one of the world's most unchanged wildlife sanctuaries.

The area is part of the Serengeti ecosystem and, to the northwest, adjoins the Serengeti National Park and is contiguous with the southern Serengeti plains.



Pittwater Community thanks Probus

During this dry hot summer, we in Pittwater, as in other parts of the State, have all experienced an acute lack of rain. However, there has been short bursts of rain at critical times thanks to the Pittwater Probus BBQ Team.

It is recognised throughout the Pittwater community that when Pittwater Probus organised 3 BBQs this summer, the peninsula received good rainfall. If it were not for the Pittwater Probus BBQ Team there would not have been any rain at all this summer.

The entire Pittwater community is unreservedly grateful to the Pittwater Probus BBQ Team for the rain it has received on these occasions and will call on Pittwater Probus BBQ in the future when rain is needed.

Well done Pittwater Probus BBQ Team!



Club Fees Due



The new Pittwater Probus Club financial year started on the 1st March 2019. Your committee has agreed to keep the fees the same as last year, that is \$40.00.

If you haven't done so, please make your payment of fees to Treasurer David Varley at the April meeting or as soon as possible. Prompt payment will be very much appreciated.

Keeping Control

A former Qantas International Captain and close friend often mentioned his deep trust in Boeing aeroplanes, quoting "If it ain't Boeing, I ain't Going".

Most Probus club members have travelled extensively during their careers and more lately on overseas holidays. Many of these flights have been in the classic Boeing 747s, and no doubt will continue to do so. Arriving safely and without incident.

It came as a surprise when we read about the new model Boeing 737 Max 8 apparently having a critical software fault which possibly caused the crash of two brand new planes killing all on board. It assumed that these new planes and their upgraded software would have been rigorously tested before the planes were released for commercial operation. No doubt they were, but nevertheless, pilots flying on real routes with live passengers, have encountered a lack of flight control. A terrifying experience.



Boeing's initial reaction to the two crashes was a little hesitant but after prompting by the USA President, the company has been more receptive to react to these disasters, at the same time wanting to minimise its legal liability. This was evident in a recent full-page letter in the international press assuring that they are responding to the situation and putting safety of crew and passengers at the top of the list.

There is no doubt that Boeing will resolve this software problem and this amazing new generation 737 Max 8 will fly again. However, in this remarkable technological era, such a fundamental issue of a pilot not being readily able to turn off the software is concerning.

.... Ron Seldon

Overheard in Ivan's Barber Shop

The Barber commented to her customer whilst cutting his hair, that he was starting to show some grey hair. The customer quickly responded blaming his wife, who was patiently sitting nearby, saying "I didn't have any when I got married!"

Strange Tale of the S.S. Warrimoo

The passenger steamer SS Warrimoo was quietly knifing its way through the waters of the mid Pacific on its way to Vancouver to Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and bought Captain John DS Phillips the result. The Warrimoo's position was LAT 0°31'N and LONG 179°31'W. The date was 31st December 1899. "Know what that means?" First Mate Payton broke in "We're only a few miles from the intersection of the Equator and the International Date Line".

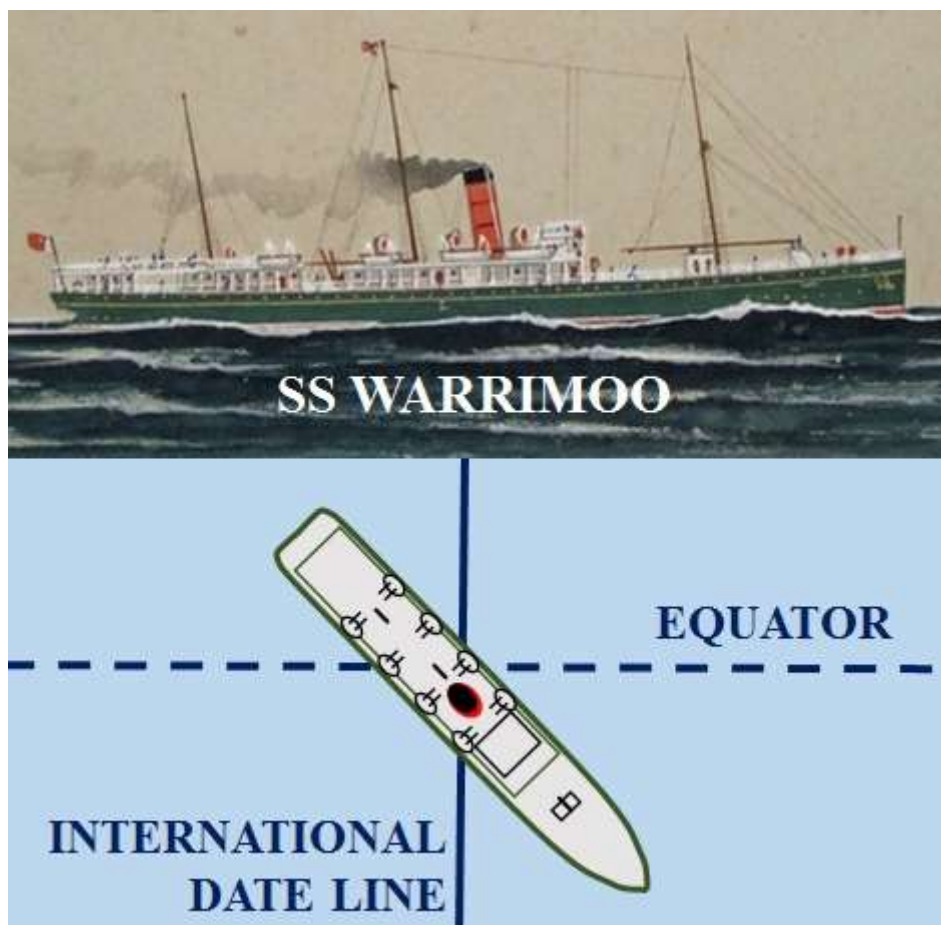
Captain Phillips was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigational freak of a lifetime. He called his navigators to the bridge to check and double check the ship's position. He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he adjusted the engine speed. The calm weather and clear night worked in his favour.

At midnight the SS Warrimoo lay on the Equator at exactly the point where it crossed the International Date Line. The consequences of this bizarre position were many:

- The forward part (bow) of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere and in the Summer.
- The stern was in the Northern Hemisphere and in the middle of winter.
- The date in the aft part of the ship was the 31st December 1899 whilst the forward part the date was 1st January 1900.

The ship was therefore not only in two different days, but two different months, two different years, two different seasons.

But most astonishing, it occupied two different centuries – all at the same time.



New Member

Barry Edmonds



A native Novocastrian, Barry commenced working life at BHP Newcastle, transferring to their Sydney office to complete his Economics degree. Barry spent a total 10 years with BHP before moving on to a start-up computer company where he again spent 10 years.

Following BHP, Barry joined the Bramble's Group, as Financial Controller of their Security Armoured Division. Moving within Brambles he was appointed General Manager of their two helicopter companies, one based at Hobart covering mainland operations and the other based in Perth, servicing offshore oil rigs, a very interesting experience indeed.

An opportunity arose allowing Barry to transfer to Financial Controller and Company Secretary of Bell & Howell Australia. The company made a decision to divest their audio-visual division, and with a partner, Barry made a successful bid to purchase the division as B & H Australia Pty Ltd some 25 years ago. The company still continues with Barry as Chairman, although now only taking up only 6 or 8 days per month. The company specialises in providing integrated audio-visual services to Businesses, Education and Government in Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia, with an offshoot in Auckland.

Barry, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

Probus Golf

Considering the previous days heavy rain, we had a surprisingly good turn up on Friday 15th with 8 players. The former President, now able to focus on his golf rather than Probus matters, improved on each hole, and completed an impressive round to win the March trophy.

After a long break, Peter Walsh returned a steady round to be a close second.

Winner... John Harston - Monthly Trophy and 2 golf balls (18 stableford points)

Runner up... Peter Walsh - 1 golf ball (17 stableford points)

***Don't forget Probus Northern Districts Golf Day at Castle Hill Country
Club Tuesday, 3rd September 2019***

Please supply me with your Golf Link details etc if you would like to participate, or if you require further information.

Probus Golf Holiday?

When next visiting South Africa how about this trying this hole at Legends Golf Course?

A helicopter takes you to the top of the mountain. The hole is played off the top of the cliff and the ball takes 30 seconds before it lands. The green is huge but so far only one person has been able to par this 19th hole.



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Long way down: A golfer looks down to the green at Legend Golf Resort in South Africa



© Legend Lodges.Caters News

Hole lot of fun: Golfers must try and drive the ball 391 yards from atop Hanglip Mountain to an Africa-shaped green below them

Come along next Friday 12th April for 10 45 am hit off at Palm Beach Golf Course (Note later time) followed by lunch at Club Palmy

Healthy walk, good view and good company guaranteed

.. Graham Morley, Golf Convener

Give the Gift of a Nest Egg

Spending a small fortune on Easter eggs for the grandkids again? Why not do something different this year? Ditch the usual chocolate tradition in favour of the kind of egg that could last a lifetime: a nest egg.



Easter can be a terrific opportunity to introduce your grandchildren to the joys of saving.

Often an early experience with saving will help them build the skills they need to be financially resourceful in life.

When you're saving for something it always helps to have an end goal in mind. So start by talking to them about what they might like to save for and how much it might cost.

Starting early

Felicity Cooper, a financial planner and founder of Cooper Wealth Management, recommends making sure they have some "skin in the game" can help the saving message to sink in.

While you might give them a little financial kick-start at Easter to get the ball rolling, any further contributions to their savings goal could be connected to their own savings.

For instance, you could agree that if they manage to save up to a particular amount you will match their savings.

"One of the biggest hindrances I see is that unless children actually understand the value of money coming in, it's hard to understand the value of money going out," Cooper says.

"For example, they are not having to understand how many hours their parents worked to get the \$140 they are spending.

"If it is all about the spending, they are only getting one side of the equation."

The exercise is a chance to contribute to their financial education in other ways. For instance, you could show them how putting their money somewhere with a higher interest rate or leaving it for a longer period of time can help their savings to accumulate faster.

Go online

Using online savings calculators are a great tool to demonstrate the power of compound interest. You can then help them to look for a children's savings account with a good interest rate and not too many restrictions. The best ones will have no account-keeping fees or transaction fees and they will help educate kids on financial matters too.

Opening a savings account is a great way to get children into a very early habit of putting some of whatever money they earn or receive into savings.

.... Christine Long, Probus South Pacific Ltd

Minutes of Pittwater Probus Inc.

Meeting	12 th March. Commenced at 10 00 am. Meeting opened by President John Harston. 45 members present and 6 guests, 9 apologies.
Inductions	Barry Edmonds was inducted into the Club.
AGM	The General Meeting was suspended for the 38 th Annual General Meeting chaired by David Taylor. After the AGM and in the absence of 2019 President John Porter, 2019 Vice-President Paul Mascall resumed the General Meeting.
Minutes	Minutes of the February 2019 meeting were published in the March Newsletter, Mvd. Geoff Sheppard, 2 nd John Harston, carried.
Correspondence	Nil.
Treasurer's Report	Presented by David Varley. Balance at 1/2/2019, \$3,537.08 Receipts: Subs. \$40.00, Trivia \$1,050.00, Morning Tea \$195.20. Total \$1,285.20 Payments: Morning Teas \$120.00, Trivia \$1,050.00, Admin. \$2.96, Badges \$35.00. Total \$1,207.96. Balance at 28/2/2019, \$3,614.32. Mvd. John Owens, 2 nd Bryan Pritchard, carried.
Birthdays	Bryan Inch, Barry Faulkner, Bill Marshall, Roman Zwolenski, Brian Johnstone, Bill Sivyer.
Welfare & New Members Report	Geoff Sheppard reported that Cyril Webb was not well. No report on Peter Squires. Gunter Schaule has filled in an application to join the club.
Activities	John Harston advised the BBQ is on Wednesday 13 th March 2019. Details of other activities to be advised at the next general meeting.
Functions	Nil.
Newsletter	Nil.
Golf	Michael Moss won the February Trophy with Bill Sherman runner-up. Next game at Palm Beach Friday March 15 th at 10 00 am.
Investment Group	Arthur Napper advised the Investment Group is planning a new hypothetical portfolio for 2019. All members are welcome to join the Group.
General Business	Nil.
Speakers	Wes Harder has organised the following speakers: April Graham Selleck – Sultan of Brunei, David Taylor – Letters to the Editor. May Gunter Schaule – Electricity.
5 Minute Speaker	Gordon Stokes outlined the story of his eldest son's winery in Deloraine, Tasmania, followed by a wine tasting.
Speaker	After coffee, Ken Plumb gave a very well researched talk on the 3 eras of aboriginal art in Australia.
Next Meeting	9 th April 2019. Commencing at 10 00 am. Meeting Closed at 12 10 pm. Signed as a correct record.

Office Bearers for 2019

President	John Porter 9997 3019	Activities Officer	John Harston 9940 0446
Vice President	Paul Mascall 0415 920 287	Functions Organiser	
Secretary	Bryan Inch 0423 379 194	Speaker Organiser	Wes Harder 9997 3303
Treasurer	David Varley 9918 7154	Newsletter Editor	Warwick Dalzell 9997 4518
Welfare Officer	Geoff Sheppard 9918 7646	Registrar	Trevor Stephens 9918 2138
Golf Convener	Graham Morley 0407 217 248		