



Probud Club of Pittwater

Newsletter – October 2019

Email: probud@pittwater.org.au

Website: www.probud.pittwater.org.au

Vice-President's Message

Gentlemen,

In the absence, once more, of our President John Porter, it is again my privilege to chair the October meeting.

In thinking about this month's newsletter, it occurred to me that we, the members of Pittwater Probud Club, have a great deal to be grateful for. That undoubtedly applies to the entire Probud network.

One of the things that I find impressive is the absence of competition between clubs. In fact, the opposite seems to be the case, with cooperation being a major benefit. This is demonstrated at the Information Days that Probud South Pacific organises – events at which club representatives get together to compare notes on how their club is proceeding. Having attended one of these a few months ago, I found it very impressive and useful.



Another useful event is the facility of the Cluster Meetings, where representatives from clubs in the same area (e.g. Northern Beaches) meet and compare notes on outings they have enjoyed, speakers that they have invited, and how their membership is progressing.

It is clear that we are blessed by our membership – the camaraderie, participation on our committee and in

various organisational roles. Members are encouraged to explore joining in these activities – additional help will always be most welcome.

In the future, highly enjoyable events like the recent Mudgee trip, and the visit to the Anzac Memorial beckon!

.... Paul Mascall

Turn of Phrase

During the September meeting, members will recall Newsletter Editor, Warwick Dalzell, gave his report in Gaelic, "*An mhi seo nil aon rue le tuairisciu agam*"

Gaelic itself came from a language spoken by people called the Gaels, who came from North Eastern Ulster (a northern province in Ireland) down to the islands of Caledonia and the north-western coastlands of Ireland in the fifth century.

August Speaker's Corner

Gordon Anderson "My Living with Aircraft"



Gordon Anderson was born in New Zealand but spent most of his life in Australia as well as PNG and the Solomon Islands. He talked about working with aircraft and, in particular helicopters as a maintenance engineer and pilot. Gordon had a series of photographs illustrating some of the aircraft he worked on, like a giant helicopter - the Mi-26, popularly known as Halo, (the world's largest helicopter in production). It is a twin-turbine heavy-lift helicopter designed

and produced by Russian Mil Moscow Helicopter Plant.

Gordon spent some time in Papua New Guinea and among the things he witnessed were people stealing gold (he had photos to prove it). Currently, gold is stolen on a massive scale in PNG Mines. ... For example – 20 million ounces were mined from the giant Porgera Gold Mine and bullions shipped off-shore by helicopter to Mt Hagen and by private jet to Perth almost every few days over the last two and a half decades.



He gained his early attraction for aircraft when he joined the ATC and had a glass model of a plane. He mentioned how Qantas Catalina flying boats crews would fly the near impossible 32 hours non-stop from Perth to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), known as the Double Sunrise service.

Victim of a Tail Rotor Strike

Was there one landing too hard in a Whirlybird Bell 47 in Duffy's Forest?



Cattle roundup can be tricky.



**One of Gordon's favourite planes:
The Lockheed Lightning**

.... Warwick Dalzell

October 2019 Speaker

Peter Nash *"China – Then and Now"*



Club member, Peter Nash, will talk about the introduction of Quality Assurance into China in the 1990s and his part in helping establish a new approach to quality manufacturing.

The first quality assurance facility in China was established by Moody International in a joint venture with the China I/E Inspection Co-operation

in 1991/92 in the city of Xi'an and from that time many Q A organisations have transformed manufacturing in that country.

Peter will recall his times visiting regional locations in China to carry out quality inspections.

October 2019 '5-Minute Speaker'

Trevor Stephens *"Maltese Falcon"*

Club enthusiast of all things big and wonderful, Trevor Stephens will tell us about super yacht the "Maltese Falcon".

The Maltese Falcon is a full rigged ship using DynaRig technology, which was built by Perini Navi in Tuzla, Istanbul, and commissioned by her first owner, Tom Perkins. It is one of the world's most complex and largest sailing yachts at 88 meters.



If you want to charter the Maltese Falcon it will only cost you 480,000 Euros per week.

November 2019 Speaker

Merv Rosen *"History of the Sydney Ferries"*



Merv Rosen returns to the Probus lectern. This time to talk about the history of Sydney Ferries.

Sydney's ferry system has been the harbour lifeblood since the 1800s and now has more than 15 million individual passenger journeys each year.

Enjoy a 'reminiscence' trip on an old Sydney ferry as best described by Merv.

November 5 Minute Speaker

Bryan Inch “Christmas Must Wait”

Club Secretary and former Qantas Captain, Bryan Inch, will talk about an unexpected diversion he had to make from New York to Washington in 2002 and why Christmas Must Wait. To hear the full story make sure you attend the November Probus Meeting.



That Bottle of Wine!

For all those married, were married, wish you were married, or wish you weren't married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine!

Wayne was driving home from one of his business trips in Northern Queensland when he saw an old swagman walking on the side of the road.

As the trip was a long and quiet one, he stopped the car and asked the swaggie if he would like a ride.

With a silent nod of thanks, the old man got into the car. Resuming the journey, the old man just sat silently, looking intently at everything he saw, studying every little detail, until he noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Wayne.

'What's in the bag?' asked the swaggie.

Wayne looked down at the brown bag and said, ...'It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my wife.'

The swaggie was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of a well-travelled man, said:

'Good trade...'

(With apologies to our wives.)

Christmas Luncheon

With just under 3 months to Christmas now is a good a time to start preparing for our Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 17th December 2019.

Please check with your better half and advise the Committee of your intention to join in this annual joyous occasion with fellow club members. Cost is \$50.00 per head. Payment is now due at the October 2019 Probus meeting.



Washed Out!

The weather gods were not kind to us again. Our planned relaxing day cruising around the beautiful waters of Pittwater followed by lunch at Club Palm Beach had to be cancelled due to the heavy downpours on the day.

Although this was disappointing, the good news was that Sydney received long awaited rain which was very welcome.



Do not worry, a new date will be set and once more the blue waters of Pittwater will beckon us.

BBQ

Blue skies are the order of the day for Wednesday 13th November 2019 for that's the day of the next Pittwater Probus BBQ.

Make sure you join in the fun at the Spring BBQ at Flying Fox Park, Winnererremy Bay, Mona Vale. Commencing at 5 00 pm. Partners most welcome.

\$5.00 per head to cover food costs. Bring your own refreshments.



Probus Photo Page



Our website now has a page to view photographs of interest to our members. Photos can be downloaded for your personal use.

probus.pittwater.org.au/photo-gallery/

Members photo contributions are welcome by sending them to Michael Mannington at
probus@pittwater.org.au

Sign of the Times!

It appears that political battlegrounds have been progressively established in two separate arenas. The result is that in both cases, the current role of government is being usurped by the Executive, rather than maintained in the House. The first is in Britain where Prime Minister, Boris Johnson alone, is endeavouring to determine the Brexit outcome for the United Kingdom.



For each new twist and turn of the debate, the outcome for Brexit becomes more complex. Furthermore, from what we see on the news, the much noted civilised and dignified English approach to everything appears to have deteriorated both in Parliament and out on the street. Is Britain moving into uncharted waters?

However, there has been some push-back on the Executive Government regarding the authority of the Parliament, being firmly asserted by the British Supreme Court.

The second front, you guessed it, is in the USA. Here we have a political divide of another form but equally as fierce. The first step to impeach the current President has been taken by his political rivals, only to be treated as an act of treason in response.

Nevertheless, Donald Trump maintains his usual conduct in the White House with both friend and foe.

The fact that such an arrogated take-over of power by these leaders appears to have taken precedence over that of the day to day processes and responsibilities of parliament in the running of these nations.



Is this a case that western civilisation, as we once knew it, is changing where the political executives are calling the shots rather than the parliament at large?

At least in Australia, the backbench will not hesitate to let Cabinet know if they are “getting too big for their boots” (most of the time)!

Interesting times!

.... Ron Seldon

Probus Golf

Golf at Palm Beach

The winner on Friday 13 was John Harston, Trophy and 2 golf balls. Gordon Stokes – runner-up, 1 golf ball.

Northern Districts Probus Golf Day

The Probus Northern Districts Golf Day was enjoyed in perfect weather conditions at Castle Hill Country Club on 3rd September. We had 4 players representing our Club, Gordon Stokes, Don Tinyou, Bill Sherman and myself.

In spite of some traffic difficulties we managed to find the course and hit off on time.

Glenhaven Probus Club did a magnificent job in organising the event and ensuring that all went smoothly. As the course was under-going extensive major construction work

we were thankful for the volunteers who guided us to the next tee, as most holes had been shortened and were played out of sequence.

Our team did well in a novelty event which was to not lose an orange ball which each player had to use in turn off the tee for the duration of the hole.

On the first hole we were faced with a shot over a wide stretch of water and on the last hole again a stretch of water guarded the green.

Nevertheless, we survived both without losing the orange ball and each player was rewarded with a golf ball for their effort.

Perhaps with future success we might be able to have the event at Mona Vale Golf Club?



"WHY CAN'T YOU JUST TAKE A PENALTY SHOT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE?!"

Come along next Friday 11th October and enjoy Spring at Palm Beach Golf Course.

Hit off time at 10 am followed by lunch at Club Palmy.

Get out of the house, and enjoy fresh air, healthy exercise.

Join the Group for Good Company, Good Views and perhaps Good Golf.

Make it a lucky day, you may find that golf ball you lost last time!

.... Graham Morley, Golf Convener

New Members

Paul Breslin



Peter was born in Lane Cove Sydney in 1933. His father was a doctor as are two of his brothers and another brother was a dentist. Peter decided on Pharmacy.

Peter has had a long career in the profession, owning his own pharmacy business in Lane Cove for 10 years in the 1960s and 1970s. He then worked as a hospital pharmacist at Concord Hospital and eventually had a position in the Sydney office of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In retirement from that position in 1998, Peter worked as a relieving pharmacist in many towns in NSW including Broken Hill, Lightning Ridge, Ballina, Dubbo, Kempsey, Merimbula and suburban Sydney. This has proved to be a busy and pleasant "retirement". Currently Peter does an occasional weekend day in Woy Woy. He suspects that he may be the oldest registered working pharmacist in Australia!

Last year Peter moved to the Northern Beaches after the death of his wife and was a member of Probus in Lane Cove but is now looking forward to being a member of Pittwater Probus.

Paul, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

Alan Bolton



Alan was born in Manly and grew up in Seaforth and attended Balgowlah Boys High completing his HSC in 1967. Alan was a competitive swimmer, water polo player and surf life saver at North Steyne. Later joining the Jet Boat at Shelley Beach which was a great thrill every time he went out patrolling Manly to Queenscliff.

From a young age Alan was interested in electronics and cars, owning two cars before he had his licence which led him to a career in the Automotive industry. Alan did a cadetship with Repco reaching National Sales Manager before buying his own retail business. Alan owned Mona Vale Auto Parts for 23 years which later became Autobarn. Alan then went onto work for Autobarn as State Manager.

Alan is married to Kristine and spent the first 12 months travelling the world. They have two children and 5 grandchildren.

Alan was a member of the Terrey Hills (Hillbillies) Rotary Club for all his business career and President in 1988. Alan and Kristine were very involved in the Polio Plus Campaign, which as we all know was a very successful program.

Alan, welcome to Pittwater Probus.

Minutes of Pittwater Probus Inc.

Meeting	10 th September. Commenced at 10 00 am. Meeting opened by President John Porter. 45 members and 2 guests present, 14 apologies.
Inductions	2 Inductions: Alan Bolton and Peter Breslin.
Minutes	Minutes of the August 2019 meeting were published in the September Newsletter. Taken as read. Mvd. Gordon Stokes, 2 nd Geoff Sheppard, carried.
Correspondence	Michael Mannington regarding Pittwater Probus upcoming 40 year anniversary.
Treasurer's Report	Presented by David Varley. Balance at 1/8/2019, \$4,634.64 Receipts: Subs. \$120.00. Morning Tea \$173.20. Direct Deposit \$80.00, Badge \$20.00. Total \$393.20. Payments: Morning Teas \$120.00, Admin. \$13.99, Badges \$35.00. Capitation Fee \$63.00, Replacement Cheque (\$79.75). Total \$152.24. Balance at 31/8/2019, \$4,875.60. Mvd. John Harston, 2 nd Paul Mascall, carried.
Birthdays	Ron Owers, Michael Mannington, Paul Mascall, Wes Harder, Gordon Stokes, Jay Claren.
Welfare & New Members Report	Geoff Sheppard reported good to see Wes Harder back and that Peter Squires is OK.
Activities	Presented by John Harston. War Memorial visit was well enjoyed. Pittwater Cruise 17 th September 11 am. BBQ Flying Fox Park 13 th Oct. 5 00 pm.
Functions	Christmas Lunch 17 th December. Trivia night planned for February 2020.
Newsletter	Warwick Dalzell spoke in Gaelic "Nothing to report this month".
Golf	Graham Morley advised that the Northern District Probus golf day was a great success. David Varley won the August trophy and Gordon Stokes runner-up. Next game at Palm Beach Friday September 13 th at 10 00 am.
Investment Group	Presented by John Harston. Discussion on psychology of investing. All members are welcome to join the Group.
General Business	Nil.
Speakers	Wes Harder has organised the following speakers: October Peter Nash – China then and now. Trevor Stephens – Maltese Falcon
5 Minute Speaker	Wes Harder gave an interesting talk on the Sydney building stone, Trachyte.
Speaker	After coffee, Gordon Anderson gave an informative talk about his career as an aviation engineer.
Next Meeting	8 th October 2019. Commencing at 10 00 am. Meeting Closed at 12 00 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 0437 274 074	Assistant Editor	Ron Seldon 9918 0677
Golf Convener	Graham Morley 0407 217 248	Registrar	Trevor Stephens 9918 2138