

**COMBINED PROBUS CLUB
OF CASTLE HILL INC.**



NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 20 ** ISSUE 198

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

THE SECRETARY, P.O. BOX 193, CASTLE HILL 1765

Email: enquiries@probuscastlehill.org.au

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8 DECEMBER, 2020 - GENERAL MEETING

TO BE HELD BOTH BY LIVE MEETING IN THE HALL AND BY ZOOM

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT – DECEMBER 2020

It was an honor to have chaired the Committee Meeting in place of John Perry our valued President who is having a well-earned break with his wife Anne up North. We have passed through a difficult period running our Club whilst coping with various restrictions and rules placed on us by the Government. I commend coordinators and executive members for their dedication and well planned outings to keep the Club alive. Now is the time to plan for 2021 ensuring that our Club is the active source for retirees. I urge members to phone or email others in the Club so that we continue to keep up communication.

Barry Haywood, Vice President

2021-2022 Committee

The Committee wishes to advise members that as it has not served a full year due to Covid-19 the majority of members have indicated that they are prepared to serve again for the year 2021/2022. The Club's Constitution allows for this to occur. Anne Perry, the Guest Speaker Coordinator, has indicated that she does not wish to stand in this position next year. We thank Anne for her dedicated work in coordinating this role under difficult circumstances. Nominations are therefore called for this position. Please contact John Lucas, the Secretary, if interested.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT – DECEMBER 2020

GENERAL MEETING

The December General Meeting will be partly 'live' and partly 'Zoom'. Hopefully we will be able to hold live meetings again in 2021.

You should by now have received an invitation to attend the 'Live/Zoom' December General Meeting.

Please contact Anne Lockwood if you did not receive the email with registration details.

REQUIREMENTS TO BE OBSERVED IF ATTENDING THE LIVE GENERAL MEETING ON 8 DECEMBER, 2020

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

These requirements will be supplemented by housekeeping at the beginning of the meeting

- Use common sense
- The use of face masks is encouraged – surgical masks or homemade masks.
- You will not be able to enter the hall unless you have registered online via the invitation emailed to all members.
- The doors will not open until 9.30am
- The sign in desk will be adjacent to the entry doors to the main foyer
- Use the hand sanitiser on the table
- Take an antiseptic wipe from inside the Hall to wipe your chair and place the used wipe in the bin provided
- Once in the hall make your way directly to a seat
- There will be no mingling once inside the foyer or the hall
- Observe social distancing at all times
- There will be no activity tables in the hall on this occasion and there will be no money collected
- Morning tea directions will be given with housekeeping
- Once the meeting has closed anti-bacterial wipes will be supplied and we request that you wipe your chair down before it is put away
- Wait for instructions on when to leave the Hall
- Do not linger in the hall or the foyer after the meeting

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR FULL COOPERATION TO ENSURE ALL RUNS SMOOTHLY FOR EVERYONE

I would like to see the full allowable compliment of 100 members at this meeting so if you haven't registered fire up your computers and register now. Alternately organise your attendance by Zoom.

If you do not register prior to the meeting, unfortunately you will not be admitted, due to COVID-19 restrictions. You will still be required to sign in at the desk for the General meeting.

LUNCH FOLLOWING GENERAL MEETING

We will be having lunch after the meeting at the **West Pennant Hills Sports Club** which has now reopened with new caterers. They have a set space for us, but you **MUST** indicate your attendance when you sign in at the General Meeting.

The Committee is doing what it can to provide activities during this period, at all times obeying COVID guidelines. Attendances have been exceptionally pleasing so I hope activities in December will generate interest that will continue into 2021.

JOHN PERRY, PRESIDENT

CORONAVIRUS PRECAUTIONS

- You are advised to stay at home if you feel unwell or have flu-like symptoms or if you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus.
- Always abide by social distancing guidelines.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitiser.

For the latest update on COVID restrictions just google [NSW COVID 19 Virus hotspots](#) or click onto the link below and check what **you can and can't do under the restrictions**.
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates>

WELFARE

Although this year has been a difficult year for us we are now starting to be a little less concerned and are returning to our activities.

I would like, on behalf of all of us, to thank our Committee for all the work that they have put in to keeping our Club running and giving us all something to look forward to each month.

Thank you too to the Activity Convenors who have been able to keep some of our activities running.

Lastly, but not least, thank you to the members who kindly keep me informed of anyone who they think might like a Cheerio. Contact Anne Gover by phone or email. I hope you all have a happy Christmas and a New Year of good times with family and friends.

ATTENDANCE

Notification of absence is not required during COVID-19 restrictions due to our live/Zoom meeting.

DECEMBER GUEST SPEAKER

This month's speaker is the Honorable Bob Carr and his topic is The American Civil War. The session will be hosted by John Lucas.

SAPPS DINNER

The next SAPPS Dinner will be at **Il Lago Italian Restaurant, Lakeside Norwest** on **Tuesday, 23 February 2021** 6.00pm for 6.30pm start. The dinner will include a 3 course meal for \$60 and is BYO.

This function is limited at present to 30 members so if interested please complete your registration with the details that will follow in a separate email.

FOR YOUR DIARY

27 July 2021 - Christmas in July at the Waterfront Restaurant

COMMITTEE – 2020/2021

<p>PRESIDENT - John Perry</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT- Barry Haywood</p> <p>SECRETARY - John Lucas</p> <p>TREASURER - Anne Lockwood</p> <p>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - Lyn Wilkes</p> <p>(FOUNDATION PRESIDENT: Robert Stack)</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP OFFICER - Glenys Pye</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL TOURS and CRUISES Bob Tubman</p> <p>PROPERTY – Michael Hofman</p> <p>OUTINGS and DAY TOURS - Elizabeth Lessells</p> <p>WEEK AWAY TOURS - Colin Yates</p> <p>ACTIVITIES OFFICER – Barry Haywood</p> <p>GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR - Anne Perry</p> <p>REFRESHMENTS OFFICER – Judy Pitcher</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENTS and PUBLIC OFFICER John Michell</p>
<p>NON COMMITTEE:</p> <p>NEWSLETTER EDITOR – Annette Watson</p> <p>WEBSITE EDITOR - Alan Watson</p>	<p>NON COMMITTEE:</p> <p>PHOTOGRAPHER/HISTORIAN - Ron Canfield</p> <p>WELFARE OFFICER – Anne Gover</p>

ACTIVITY GROUPS

These groups are established for your enjoyment. It's a great way to meet new people and make new friends. Our Convenors are always very willing and happy to welcome new members. So do try to get involved when the restrictions are lifted.

BOOK EXCHANGE	Roger Atack	Ross Long	Cancelled
BOOK READING GROUP	Barbara Primrose	Kerri Pratt	25 JANUARY
BOWLS GROUP	Robert Cochrane		11 DECEMBER 8 JANUARY
CARAVANS AND CABINS	POSITION VACANT		8-12 MARCH
CRAFT GROUP	Carole Rock	Ruth Cocks	FEBRUARY
FISHING GROUP	Bob Tubman		12 JANUARY
GARDENING GROUP	Harry Koller		
GENEALOGY GROUP	John Wilkes		10 FEBRUARY
GOLF GROUP	Brian Easton		FEBRUARY
MOVIE GROUP	Ellen Heyes	Sue Donnelly	9 FEBRUARY
SAPPS DINING OUT	John Michell		23 FEBRUARY
TENNIS GROUP	Harry Koller		Cancelled
THE LUNCH CLUB (TLC)	Anne Perry		10/11 DECEMBER
THEATRE PARTIES	Margaret Butfield	Carol Kelly	TBA
WALKING GROUP	Aldo and Karon Cantori		19 FEBRUARY
WINE AND CHEESE GROUP	Julie Savage		5 FEBRUARY

BOOK READING GROUP – MONDAY, 25 JANUARY, 2021 AT 2.00—4.00 PM

Barbara Primrose advises that the next Book Reading Group meeting is on Monday, 25 January 2021 at 2.00pm. This group is small but enthusiastic and would welcome new members. Contact Barbara by phone or email.

November book was "Career of Evil" by Robert Galbraith an interesting and challenging book rated 7.5 out of 10 by the group.

BOWLS GROUP – FRIDAYS, 11 DEC, 2020 AND 8 JANUARY, 2021- 9.00 AM

Robert Cochrane advises that Lawn Bowls are back on the Green. Social Bowls for Probus members is on 11 December at 9.00 am at Castle Hill Bowling Club. Free coaching and bowls for new members. Bowls for 2021 will recommence on 8 January 2021 and continue through 2021 on 2nd and 4th Fridays.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING – 8-12 MARCH, 2021

Plans are in process for a visit to Moss Vale Village Park from 8 March to 12 March 2021. Alan Jones has booked a number of cabins and sites with a number of members interested. Tours, Activities and Dining will be discussed with interested members in 2021.

CRAFT GROUP

Carole Rock reports that at this stage due to Covid-19 the Craft Group has remained inactive. There will be a meeting in February to plan for 2021.

FISHING GROUP – TUESDAY, 12 JANUARY, 2021

Bob Tubman advises that the Christmas Lunch at Mooney Mooney Club was on 1 December. There will be a planning meeting on 12 January 2021 at Castle Hill Country Club at 1.00pm. New members are welcomed to contact Bob Tubman by phone or email.

GARDENING GROUP

Harry and Margaret Keller organized a Garden Group Christmas Party in Fagan Park on 26 November with 30 confirmed attendees. The picnic was a brilliant success with photos available.

GENEALOGY GROUP – WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 2020

The Group is taking a break until February 2021. John Wilkes thanks Anne Lockwood, Jan Quinn, Alan Watson and Mike Hofman for their assistance in the year.

Genealogy looks forward to welcoming new members in 2021. Contact John Wilkes by phone or email.

GOLF GROUP

Brian Easton reports that due to difficulties with Golf Clubs, outings are suspended until next year. Brian welcomes new members in 2021. The group is looking forward to a productive 2021. Contact Brian by phone or email.

MOVIE GROUP

Activities are suspended due to restrictions in Cinemas until 9 February, 2021. Trusting there will be a better choice of movies and lessening of restrictions on cafe and restaurants then. Members interested in joining the movie group are invited to contact Ellen by phone or email.

TENNIS GROUP

A Tennis Christmas Picnic is arranged for Wednesday, 16 December at Cherrybrook Tennis Complex starting at 6.00pm. BYO drinks glasses and nibbles cost \$5.00. Register with Harry or Margaret by phone or email.

THEATRE GROUP - Live theatres are slowly coming back to life.

THE ENSEMBLE THEATRE

There are seven plays planned for this year. The first is KENNY by the Jacobson Brothers and starring Ben Wood. There are very limited single seats available at the moment. The price varies from \$68 - \$73 depending on the day of the performance.

MUSICALS

Bookings for HAMILTON have opened. Wednesday matinee ticket price is \$185. Would you please let Margaret know as soon as possible if you are interested in going with the group to Hamilton. The season runs from 17 March to 31 October

COME FROM AWAY

The season for Come From Away is June 2021 at the Capitol Theatre. Tickets are \$130. As theatres are booking limited numbers at the moment it is most important that you let Margaret know if you are interested in any of these shows as soon as possible.

Contact Margaret Butfield by phone or email.

WALKING GROUP

There will be no walk in December or January. Walks will resume on 19 February, 2021. **Your leaders will be:** Aldo and Karon Cantori. Contact by phone or email.

WINE AND CHEESE – FRIDAYS, 4 DECEMBER, 2020 AND 5 FEBRUARY, 2021

The next Wine and Cheese night is on Friday, 4 December at the home of Lyn and John Wilkes. Numbers are limited so register with Julie Savage by phone or email. This group is very active and looks forward to 2021.

DAY TOURS PICNIC

MARCH

On Course Tours have resumed their Day Tours after Covid-19. In response to popular demand our first Day Tour will be the Seafood BBQ. This year it will be held at Palm Beach. In these uncertain times, restrictions may change so watch for confirmation.

Date: Monday, 1 March, 2021

Time: Meet 1:00 pm and return at approximately 8:45pm

Cost: \$95 per person

Please pay by EFT to our treasurer, Anne Lockwood. Ensure that you use your family name in the transaction. Please contact Elizabeth Lessell by phone or email me at to let me know that you are going and I will put your name on the list.

MEETING PLACE - Fred Caterson Reserve. Turn into Caterson Drive from Gilbert Road. Turn right at the next intersection and follow the road to the huge car park at the top of the hill.

Departing after lunch, our afternoon begins with a drive to the Sydney Fish markets on Blackwattle Bay. We will collect lots of fresh seafood for our twilight BBQ (including oysters, prawns, fish and smoked salmon) and there will be the opportunity to buy seafood to take home – eskies and ice will be provided for individual purchases.

The focus of the afternoon will be our tour of the sparkling Northern Beaches taking in some truly sublime views and also learning a little about their rich history with an enthusiastic local as a guide! We will commence with a drive to North Head to enjoy the stunning panorama over the harbor and the city.

Our afternoon tea will be on the beach at Manly where there is always lots of activity to keep us entertained! We will then commence our journey north exploring every little nook and cranny. We will travel through Queenscliff, Freshwater, Curl Curl, Dee Why, Long Reef, Collaroy, Narrabeen, Turimetta, Warriewood, Mona Vale, Bungan and Newport Beaches with spectacular views at every turn. We will continue past Bilgola, Avalon and Whale Beach before doing a loop around Palm

Beach and settling in for dinner. Our picnic area here is on the tranquil shore – in between Pittwater with the Golf Course as a backdrop and the ocean on the other side.

COST PER PERSON is \$95.00 which includes the tour, afternoon tea, and our 3 course BBQ dinner with nibbles and red or white wine or orange juice. Departs at 1.00 pm and returns at approximately 8.45pm.

(Please note alternatives can only be prearranged in advance, for those that don't like seafood).

APRIL

Hopefully, we can go on the long awaited tour of the Sydney War Memorial. This will depend if it is open to the public when we want to go and whether people are prepared to travel on public transport. This will have to be confirmed closer to the time. Currently, we have over 30 people booked.

PROPOSED UP COMING EVENTS:

- Nan Tein Buddhist Temple in Wollongong
- Sir William Dobell's home and studio museum on Lake Macquarie

WEEK AWAY TOURS

RED CENTRE 2021 – 16 to 22 JUNE 2021

Deposit \$600 payable by 16 FEB 2021 preferably into the Club's Bank Account. **Please put your family name against the deposit.**

Balance payable by 1 JUNE 2021

NEW TRIP - SEP-OCT 2021

Coffs Harbour (Opal Cove) including the Grafton (Jacaranda Festival). More details to follow.

INTERNATIONAL TOURS

NORFOLK ISLAND

Quotations were requested from On Course and Trade Travel for their tours for the March/April 2021 period.

On Course have three proposals for a 9 day/8 night tour at either the South Pacific Hotel or the Governor's Lodge for \$3185 pp twin share with a \$490 ss including 8 breakfasts and 8 dinners with listed tours.

Trade Travel offer a 8 day/7 night tour at the Governor's Lodge for \$2795 pp twin share with a \$545 ss including 7 breakfasts, 7 dinners and listed tours.

PROPOSED NEW ACTIVITY GROUP – TAI CHI for SENIORS

This is a new activity for 2021. The details below were outlined at the last general meeting.

- TAICHI is a gentle exercise for both women and men and aims to improve strength, mobility, flexibility and cardiovascular endurance.
- The course will be conducted by a qualified instructor and is specially designed for seniors.
- The initial course will run for 8 weeks on Mondays starting on 1 February to 22 March.
- The cost of the course is \$60 per person (providing the number reaches 20) and covers the instructor's fee and hall hire. **THE FEE MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE BY 1 JANUARY.** Please pay the Treasurer through the Club's bank account. Please put YOUR Surname in the reference field.
- Venue: Dural Memorial Hall, Dural.
- Time: 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Class starts at 10:00 am.
- Dress: Flat soled shoes, loose comfortable clothing.
- Register with John Lucas by email or phone

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY, 2021**