

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF
CASTLE HILL INC.



NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 21 - ISSUE 199 – JANUARY 2021

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:
THE SECRETARY, P.O. BOX 193, CASTLE HILL 1765
Email: enquiries@probuscastlehill.org.au
Website Address: www.castlehillprobus.org.au

No GENERAL MEETING in January 2021

Next Meeting

TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY, 2021 - GENERAL MEETING

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

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT – JANUARY 2021

I hope that members have had an enjoyable Christmas and a memorable start to the New Year. We have unfortunately been saddened by the passing of Eric Pye, a foundation member and second President of the Club. A remembrance is included in this newsletter.

The life and times of a Probud President during Covid-19 has not been the easy task that many members think it has been. Again COVID has raised its ugly head and has thrown all activities back into the melting pot with severe restrictions being reimposed for Greater Sydney which all members are aware of. Worst of all, our on again, off again, on again **Breakfast in the Park, is now off again**. Even if restrictions are lifted by 19 January it is too much to expect our refreshment ladies to reschedule once again. Rest assured we will have Breakfast in the Park as soon as we are able.

It is becoming more and more evident that members are NOT reading the newsletter and/or the emails that are being sent out. I have received a larger number than expected of questions regarding times and dates of events. All events are advertised well in advance of

the due date in either the newsletter or an individual email. I urge all members to read the details because it is all there. I have also received emails from members complaining that events are fully subscribed. There is one major factor controlling this, COVID-19. We can only have as many attendees as the regulations permit. Once COVID regulations have been relaxed numbers to events will be increased. I also suggest that if you wish to register for an event, don't leave it until the day before, GET IN EARLY.

COVID -19 Restrictions

I urge all members to download the **Service NSW App** onto your phones so that you can easily check into a venue using the Service NSW COVID-19 Safe Check-in and also look up the latest restrictions. Once you have used the Service NSW check in it will automatically fill in your details when you check in elsewhere.

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/service-nsw-mobile-app>

This App is great for checking the latest restrictions, hot spots and keeping you informed.

Remember it is now mandatory to wear a mask indoors.

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.

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 wishes to stand down from this role. Nominations are therefore called for this position. Please contact the Club Secretary, John Lucas, if interested in nominating.

Under the club's constitution the following long term serving committee members need approval to continue in their positions for the next twelve months. They are John Michell, Colin Yates, Glenys Pye and Elizabeth Lessells.

This will be done at the Annual General Meeting in March 2021.

John Perry, President

LUNCH at BISTRO WEST PENNANT HILLS

Thank you to all those members who attended lunch at the Bistro WPH following our December General Meeting. Unfortunately, it was a most disappointing experience for a variety of reasons and numerous complaints were made on the day. I wrote to the Board of Directors and Club Management as well as Catering Management to express our frustration at the service on the day. I received an email back from the WPH Sports Club Administration Manager who thanked us for our feedback and apologised for our disappointing experience. She stated that the Club has worked closely with the Bistro team to put measures in place to work more efficiently and hopes that our Club will give them another chance. The Committee discussed this issue at our meeting in January and voted to give the Bistro WPH one more opportunity. Following the next live General Meeting lunch will be at the Bistro WPH.

Lyn Wilkes

WELFARE

Our Probus Club is one which cares for its' members particularly those who are unwell. If you know of anyone who is sick or needing physical or moral support, could you please let me know, Anne Gover.

We were all saddened by the news that our Foundation Member and first Vice President, Eric Pye, has passed away. Eric has been a very active member of Probus and we are all thankful for the work he has done. Our thoughts are with Sheena at this very sad time.

Unfortunately we are facing further restrictions with Covid-19. Hopefully this will only be for a short time. It is again a time to stay connected with our friends. Until then stay safe and well.

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 John Michell and pay into the Club's Bank Account by **9 February**.

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>



TLC

The Lunch Club

Our February lunch will be held at
Mungarie House (The Local Shed)
16 Bellcast Road, Rouse Hill

11 February, 2021 at 12pm for 12.30pm

Ample parking at restaurant

We will be dining outside, however if the weather will be hot on the day, we will gather inside with air conditioning.

We will be served The Cocktail Menu starting with an Antipasto Platter to share. This will be followed by ample servings of: Chicken Skewers with Satay Sauce; Beef Sliders; Homemade Sausage Rolls; Homemade Mini Meat Pies; Salt & Pepper Squid; Chicken Salad; and a Pear and Halloumi Salad (consisting of caramelised pear, grilled Haloumi, roasted almonds, rocket and pomegranate olive oil)

Cost is \$39 pp - bar service but no BYO

Please contact Anne Perry if you would like to register for this event.

Payment by direct debit to the Club's bank account to secure your seat

Please ensure you include code TLC, Mungarie and your Surname on the deposit.

Final date for payment 5 February 2021

Further information contact Anne Perry, coordinator

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		8 JANUARY 22 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		Cancelled
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
TAI CHI GROUP	John Lucas		1 FEB-22MARCH
TENNIS GROUP	Harry Koller		Cancelled
THE LUNCH CLUB (TLC)	Anne Perry		11 FEBRUARY
THEATRE PARTIES	Margaret Butfield	Carol Kelly	TBA June
WALKING GROUP	Aldo and Karon Cantori		19 FEBRUARY
WINE AND CHEESE GROUP	Julie Savage		Postponed

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

The Book Reading Group will hold its next meeting on 25 January, 2021, at Barbara Primrose's house. We will each describe a book, or books, we have read during the holidays. We will also be putting together our reading list for 2021. Members will be advised of further details by email.

We are a friendly, enthusiastic group, and we welcome Club members and prospective members to our meetings.

BOWLS GROUP – FRIDAYS, 8 AND 22 JANUARY 12 FEBRUARY, 2021 - 9.00 AM

The first Social bowls for 2021 will be 8 January, 2021. Please have names in by 9.00 am at Castle Hill Bowling Club. New bowlers are always welcome and free coaching and bowls are available for you to try the game first. The next games will be held on 22 January and 12 February.

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

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Eric Pye who was an active fisherman with our group for many years. Our condolences are with Sheena and her family.

The Probus Fishing Group endeavour to catch a variety of fish using our expertise and knowledge on the second Tuesday of each month.

A program for our 2021 activities is to be decided at a meeting to be held on Tuesday, 12 January, 2021 at the Castle Hill Country Club at 1pm. The venue may change due to Covid-19 requirements.

We always look forward to and welcome new participants.

GARDENING GROUP

As you know, our Christmas picnic in Fagan Park on 26 November 2020 was a great success, with 30 attendees (the maximum allowed under Covid19 rules). Due to worsening Covid-19 restrictions we do not plan any further Garden Group meetings or functions, until these restrictions are eased and made more firm by the NSW government.

GENEALOGY GROUP – WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 2020

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all Gene Group members and their families.

The Group recommences in 2021 on Wednesday, 10 February at the Charles McLaughlin Centre at Crestwood from 1.00 p.m. Please pre-register your attendance with the Convenor John Wilkes.

Stay safe and remain healthy.

GOLF GROUP

In anticipation, 2021 will turn out good for all of us. Regarding golf, I will approach all golfers within the next week, who previously played in our monthly games, and establish interest and preferences for the year 2021.

Please in the meantime, consider your availability going forward and I will talk to you. Our Golf arrangements were put in abeyance in 2020 both for Covid and health reasons. It would really be encouraging if we could re-establish ourselves. Notwithstanding the current new Covid cases, all golf members will be approached for their views.

No game for January will be planned. Twelve/eight players per game would best suit the golf outing.

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 email or phone.

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 20 JANUARY.** Payment details – 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 10:00am.
- Dress: Flat soled shoes, loose comfortable clothing.
- Register with John Lucas by email or phone

TENNIS GROUP

Our tennis Christmas picnic was held on 23 December and attended by 20 players and partners. We plan to resume normal weekly (unofficial) tennis play, starting Wednesday evening **6 January**, unless new government restrictions forbid it.

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

At the moment I am only taking expressions of interest in attending productions of HAMILTON after June 2021 and COME FROM AWAY in June 2021.

If you are interested in these productions please send me a text or email. I will add your name to the list for the production.

As you are probably aware conditions for live productions are often changing due to regulations for COVID.

If you are interested please contact Margaret Butfield by email or phone.

WALKING GROUP

There will be no walk in January. Walks will resume on **19 February 2021**.

Your leaders will be: Aldo and Karon Cantori.

We require volunteers to organise and lead a walk in 2021. Anyone prepared to do so, please contact Aldo or Karon by email or phone indicating your preferred month.

WINE AND CHEESE – FRIDAY, 5 FEBRUARY, 2021 is now Postponed due to COVID restrictions.

DAY TOURS

Covid is with us again. (It's like an uninvited, unwelcome guest at a party.) I want us all to stay safe so we will have to be flexible with what we do. Palm Beach is in a Covid hot spot and I don't know whether we can go there on the 1 March due to the Covid restrictions. On Course Tours have gone into their Christmas recess and won't be back until the new year. When Kerrie Dunn is available again I will explore the possibility, with her, of another destination for our seafood BBQ.

MARCH

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. Please pay by EFT to our treasurer, Anne Lockwood. Ensure that you use your family name in the transaction. Please register with Elizabeth Lessells.

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.

APRIL

Hopefully, we can go on the long awaited tour of the Sydney War Memorial on 19 April. 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.

PROPOSED UP COMING EVENTS:

- Nan Tien 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 – 7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS

Deposit \$600 payable by 16 FEB 2021 preferably into Club's Bank Account.

Please put your family name against the deposit. Balance payable by 1 JUNE 2021

COFFS HARBOUR (OPAL COVE) - SEP-OCT 2021 – 6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS

Coffs Harbour (Opal Cove) including the Grafton (Jacaranda Festival

On Course Quote \$1350 per person. Single Supplement \$365

Staying at Opal Cove. Guided tour of Grafton

More information to come.

INTERNATIONAL TOURS

NORFOLK ISLAND

A seven night tour has been arranged through Oxley Travel from **Monday 31 May to Monday 7 June 2021**. The price is \$2,609 per person twin share and \$3,159 for a single traveler. The price includes airfares from Sydney, daily breakfast and dinner, and island tours.

Expressions of interest are being sought from members with a **deposit of \$300** required by **22 January 2021** to be paid into the Club's Bank Account. Please put your family name as the reference.

For further information, interested members are urged to contact Bob Tubman by email or phone.

OTHER DESTINATIONS

As Covid-19 continues to restrict International travel, there is anticipation that New Zealand and the Pacific Islands will open up later this year and present opportunities for another tour.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2021