

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



NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 21 - ISSUE 203 – MAY, 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**

TUESDAY, 18 MAY, 2021 - GENERAL MEETING

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT – MAY, 2021

I am delighted to be working with Aldo Cantori our new Vice President and John Wilkes our new Activities Coordinator. They will bring a fresh approach to the already strong and dedicated committee in 2021.

While several members left our club during the last 12 months, we are experiencing a steady growth in new members with quite a large number of people attending our General Meetings as a guest and prospective member. I would like to reinforce our commitment to the introduction of electronic technology that will continue to grow during the coming year.

Part of that technology is the introduction of 'Floktu' for registering to attend activities. Our treasurer is working with 'Floktu' in an effort to allow members to pay for the activities through that website. More on that as it happens. All of us have to realise that with the club turning over nearly one million dollars last year we cannot continue paying with cash or cheques and receiving a hand written receipt from a receipt book. Our payment system is moving into the 21 century. As our club continues to grow, we will in 2021, endeavour to introduce new club activities and new content in the newsletter. Bye for now and stay safe.

JOHN PERRY, PRESIDENT

COMMITTEE – 2021/2022

<p>PRESIDENT - John Perry</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT- Aldo Cantori</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 – John Wilkes</p> <p>GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR VACANT</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>

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership fees are now due. Please pay by **30 JUNE**. Current members have a reduced membership of **\$20** for the 2021 year only. Please pay direct into the Probus account and use your family name as the reference or pay the Treasurer, Anne Lockwood, at the General Meeting. Should you not pay by this date you will be considered unfinancial and required to pay a full joining fee and membership if you wish to rejoin.

It would be appreciated if you contact the Secretary, John Lucas, if you are not renewing your membership.

LUNCH FOLLOWING GENERAL MEETING

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

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

This month there appears to have been fewer of our members with serious health issues. Other members are recovering and are starting to return to their activities.

If you know of any of our Members who are not well and would like a Cheerio please contact Anne Gover by phone or email

Enjoy our pleasant autumn weather and the beautiful coloured foliage. Take care and stay safe.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our 4 new members who were inducted at the March General Meeting: Dennis and Pip Lovely, Vyvette Tudor and Simon King. We hope to see you at the many fun activities the Club has to offer.

ATTENDANCE

Please advise our Membership Officer, Glenys Pye, if you are unable to attend any particular General meeting.

An apology **DOES NOT** reduce the number of meetings required to achieve a 50% attendance record. Please advise our secretary, John Lucas, in writing/email if you require Leave of Absence for one or more General Meetings.

Please note: A Leave of Absence request must be received by the Management Committee prior to its meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month. When approved, it reduces your maximum required attendance for the year. It is a constitutional requirement that all members maintain a minimum ratio of 50% attendance. In simple terms if you apologize for, or fail to attend 7 meetings each year your membership will be terminated.

MEET AND GREET GROUP

Established at the March Committee meeting under the management of former VP Barry Haywood. The intention of this group is to welcome new members at our General Meetings and introduce them to conveners and members with 'like activity interests' during the morning tea/coffee. Helpers required, so please speak with Barry Haywood

SPECIAL EVENTS

CRAZY WHIST - FRIDAY, 14 MAY, 2021 - 7.00 pm FOR A 7.30 pm START

Cherrybrook Community Centre – Redgum Room

Crazy Whist is back! There are still some vacancies for this fun event so if you are interested in joining in the entertainment please register using the Floktu address and pay \$10 pp into the Club's account:

SAPPS DINNER – TUESDAY, 25 MAY, 2021

The next **SAPPS dinner** will be at **JAGS RESTAURANT** (in the AVEO building) 28 Norbrik Drive, Bella Vista.

Time: 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm start.

Cost: \$44.00 BYO

\$2.50 corkage - *payable on the night*

Italian menu: Calamari, garlic and cheese pizza, garden salad, fettucine, veal with mushroom and bacon sauce and vegetables.

Please register at the floktu address. Payment of \$44pp is into the Club's bank account Please use your family name as the reference and **pay by 18 May**.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY - TUESDAY, 27 July 2021

Waterview Restaurant 199 Bay Road, Berowra Waters

Please register at the floktu address Payment of \$55pp is into the Club's bank account.
Please use your family name as the reference.

FOR YOUR DIARY – no bookings being taken yet.

30 November 2021 - Christmas Function. Details TBA.

GUEST SPEAKER - *Coordinator Position Vacant*

MAY GUEST SPEAKER

Unfortunately our guest speaker Johanna Wilcox has had to cancel on short notice.
Fortunately, Bob Carr has agreed to step in and speak about Climate Change. The host for this will be Graeme Brangwin.



TLC
The Lunch Club

Our next lunch will be at Vanilla Cream Cafe
233 Annangrove Road, Annangrove

On **Thursday, 10 June 2021** at **11.30 am for 12.00 pm**

Our lunch will be consisting of:

A free choice from 17 items on the lunch menu ranging from Pumpkin Soup (\$11.95),
Chicken Schnitzel, Caesar Salad (\$16.95); Cottage Pie with Mushy Peas (\$14.95);
Chicken Breast Burger (\$15.95), Fish and Chips (\$19.95), Country Platter or
Vegetarian Platter (\$22).

Cost is per menu item to be paid directly to the Café.

Café is **BYO with \$2 corkage** plus non-alcoholic drinks and coffee and desserts available for purchase.

Registration must be made by **Flocktu**
with a deposit of \$10 (refundable at the restaurant) paid by direct debit to the Club's bank
account to complete registration.

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

Final date for booking: 5 June, 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	Open
BOOK READING GROUP	Barbara Primrose	Kerri Pratt	24 MAY, 28 JUNE
BOWLS GROUP	Robert Cochrane		28 MAY, 11 JUNE
CARAVANS AND CABINS	POSITION VACANT		25-29 OCTOBER
CRAFT GROUP	Carole Rock	Ruth Cocks	3 JUNE
FISHING GROUP	Bob Tubman		11 MAY, 8 JUNE
GARDENING GROUP	Harry Koller		27 MAY
GENEALOGY GROUP	John Wilkes		12 MAY 9 JUNE
GOLF GROUP	POSITION VACANT		
LADIES COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP	Anne Gover		28 MAY 25 JUNE
MOVIE GROUP	Ellen Heyes	Sue Donnelly	11 MAY 8 JUNE
SAPPS DINING OUT	John Michell		25 MAY
TAI CHI GROUP	John Lucas		Every Monday until 31 May
TENNIS GROUP	Harry Koller		Every Wednesday
THE LUNCH CLUB (TLC)	Anne Perry		13 MAY 10 JUNE
THEATRE PARTIES	Margaret Butfield	Carol Kelly	Various
WALKING GROUP	Aldo and Karon Cantori		21 MAY 18 JUNE
WINE AND CHEESE GROUP	Julie Savage		CANCELLED for JUNE

BOOK READING GROUP – MONDAY, 24 MAY, 2021 AT 2.00 pm-4.00 pm

The book reading group will meet at a new cafe venue to see if it suits them: "Cafe Botanica" at Swane's Nursery, 490 Galston Road, Dural.

They will be discussing 'The Thursday Murder Club' by Richard Osman. Group members will be advised of further details by email.

We are a small but enthusiastic group, and other Club members are always welcome to join us. For information, please contact Barbara Primrose.

BOWLS GROUP – FRIDAYS, 28 MAY and 11 JUNE, 2021 - 9.00 AM

The next games will be 28 May and 11 June. Please have your names in by 9.00 am at the Castle Hill Bowling Club. New bowlers are always welcome and free coaching and bowls are available for you to try the game first.

CARAVANS AND CABINS – 25-29 OCTOBER 2021

The Group's next week away will be in comfortable Cabin accommodation at The Blackheath Tourist Park, Prince Edward Street, Blackheath from Monday, 25 to Friday, 29 October.

Blackheath is the centre of the Blue Mountains Rhododendron Festival at this time of the year and will offer some magnificent scenery and colour. An easy 90 minute drive from Castle Hill at the top end of the Blue Mountains, Blackheath and surrounding townships provides easy access to outstanding mountain scenery, popular walks, scenic drives, good eating establishments and places of interest.

In addition to Blackheath, the towns of Leura, Katoomba, Wentworth Falls and Mount Victoria will help to keep our ladies entertained with some excellent shopping and maybe high tea at the Hydro Majestic if time permits to round out our stay.

If you are not already a member of our Club's Cabin and Caravan tour group then get involved, we have some great trips planned. Contact Alan Jones.

CRAFT GROUP – THURSDAY, 3 JUNE, 2021

The craft group meets once a month on the first Thursday at one of our members' home and for details phone Carole Rock.

New members are most welcome.

FISHING GROUP – TUESDAY, 11 MAY and 8 JUNE, 2021

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

Our May fishing trip to Booker Bay, Brisbane Water is planned for Tuesday, 11 May followed with a light lunch at the Gosford Sailing Club.

A fishing lunch will be held at the Mooney Mooney Club on Tuesday, 8 June 2021 where we can choose from an extensive menu.

We always look forward to and welcome new participants. Contact Bob Tubman.

GARDENING GROUP –THURSDAY, 27 MAY, 2021

Our visit to the Secret Garden on 29 April was delightful and informative. To enable planning for the remainder of 2021, Margaret prepared the Garden Group Activity calendar below, which will be expanded with more details later.

May 27 - Thursday	Meeting at Koller's home. We will do a recall of our many Garden group activities during the last 5 years
June/July	Garden Group Winter Break as it will be too cold and no one wants to show plants and flowers.
August 26 - Thursday	For this date we are looking to Members' suggestions and a Convenor
September 30 - Thursday	Boongala Gardens, Annangrove
October 21 - Thursday	Kentridge Gardens, Kenthurst (the previous date was changed due to conflict with Probus Caravan trip)
November 25 - Thursday	Christmas Lunch at Koller's home

Contact Harry and Margaret Koller.

GENEALOGY GROUP – WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY 2021

The next event is at the **Hills District Historical Society** Balcombe Heights on **12 May** and our guide is Pam Wilson. Meet in the car park near the Masonic homes building at 1.00 pm (arrival 12:50 pm). Members wishing to attend will need to **register ASAP** with the Convenor, John Wilkes, as numbers are limited. There is a surcharge of **\$5 per head** for the walk which is to be paid on the day. A donation to the Museum would very much be appreciated.

State Archives "Dating your Photographs" - Guest speaker: Fiona Sullivan. Meeting on **Wednesday, 9 June** at the Crestwood Community Centre, Baulkham Hills from 1.00 pm. The State Archives people have a presentation about what to look for and how to date photos.

Our **Program Coordinator, Anne Lockwood, is stepping down from the role effective 31 May** and we thank Anne for 3 years of coordinating extremely varied and interesting activities for our group.

Need to know more about family history and how to build your 'family tree' . . .

Contact John Wilkes, Convenor - Administration.

GOLF GROUP

This group is currently in need of a leader to organise the next golf event. Please contact John Wilkes if you are a golfer interested in taking this group forward.

There are a regular number of 6 to 9 golfers who enjoy playing either 9 or 18 holes.

LADIES COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP – FRIDAY, 28 MAY, 2021

Our first meeting was a great success with 20 ladies attending and a further 9 on a waiting list. There are 18 confirmed starters for the Friday, May 28 gathering at the Wills Café, ARV - Castle Hill. New friendships established and conversations aplenty within our time at the café from 10.00 am to 11.30 am. The venue provides table service and members can pay individually at the counter on departure. Contact: Anne Gover

MOVIE GROUP –TUESDAY, 11 MAY, 2021

The movie group saw "The Father" this month. It is a deeply moving film about an elderly man who is struggling with dementia and his daughter who is also struggling managing how best to care for him. Reactions to the movie were mixed with some people thoroughly enjoying and others finding it too sad. All agreed that it was very realistic and the acting was superb. Anthony Hopkins won the Oscar for best actor. After the movie, all members enjoyed a lovely lunch and chat at Cosmo Cafe.

The Movie Group meet on the **second Tuesday of each month** at Event Cinemas Castle Hill. Contact Ellen Heyes if you would like to join us for the May movie.

TAI CHI FOR SENIORS – MONDAYS, 29 MARCH TO 31 MAY, 2021

Tai Chi is a gentle form of martial arts which aims to improve balance and flexibility. The class is designed to suit older people (60 to 100 year olds) and is conducted by a trained instructor. There are currently 4 vacancies which need to be filled urgently.

Classes are held on Monday morning at the Dural Memorial Hall, Dural commencing at 9.45am and lasting about one hour. To find out more or to enrol, please contact John Lucas.

TENNIS GROUP

Our Wednesday evening Tennis group at Hastings Park comprises players from 3 Probus groups, and although some of our regulars are now starting to travel again, we typically have enough players (9-12) to play on and fund 2 courts, with a possible 18 players if all or most turn up. New players always welcome. Contact: Harry Koller, Tennis Convenor

THEATRE GROUP

Live theatre is slowly coming back to life after a year of lockdowns. Theatre activities are:- **SYDNEY LYRIC Theatre** – at Pymont now playing 'HAMILTON'. Now CLOSED.

ENSEMBLE Theatre – at Kirribilli. 'THE WOMAN IN BLACK'. This is a classic ghost story. Thursday, 15 July 2021 at 11.00 am and thank you to those who have paid the deposit. Please pay the balance of \$58 before the June meeting. The price in the April newsletter was incorrect and should have been \$72.

New play 'KILLING KATIE' – **Confessions of a Book Club**. This play will be in **August** and expressions of interest will be taken in May and deposits in June.

CAPITAL Theatre – CBD, Sydney. '**COME FROM AWAY**'. Seats are booked for **Wednesday, 21 July 2021 for 1.00 pm session**. Please let me know if you want your name taken from the list or placed on a Reserve List. Cost per ticket \$122 with full payment **before the July** meeting. Contact Margaret Butfield

WALKING GROUP – FRIDAY, 21 MAY, 2021 – 9.45 AM

BARANGAROO AND COCKATOO ISLAND – 21 May 2021. Our May walk will start at Wynyard Station and will take us through the Barangaroo parklands and on to Circular Quay where we will catch the ferry to Cockatoo Island. We will then explore the island and have lunch at their café before catching the ferry back to Barangaroo. This is an easy paved and level walk along Sydney's foreshore. Toilet facilities are plentiful.

WALKING ACTIVITY DETAILS: The meeting point will be Napoleon Plaza (next to the Sussex Hotel) at 10am. From the Wynyard Station concourse, look for the signs to Barangaroo and walk through the pedestrian tunnel (called Wynyard Walk). After a 5 minute walk, the tunnel ends at Napoleon Plaza (we will meet here).

- Walk along the foreshore, through Barangaroo, under the bridge and on to Circular Quay (approx.1 hour).
- We will aim to catch the ferry (wharf 5) at about 11:30am. It will take 20 minutes to reach Cockatoo Island. Free time to explore the island and its historical workshops and foundries followed by lunch at the café near the ferry terminal.
- We plan to catch the 1.15pm ferry back to Barangaroo.

Your leaders for this walk will be Aldo and Karon Cantori. Register for this walk by contacting Aldo or Karon or by email or at the May general meeting.

Note: Volunteers are required to lead walks in June and July.

WINE AND CHEESE – JUNE - **activity cancelled this month as unfortunately we do not have a host.**

DAY TOURS

Make payments by DIRECT DEBIT to the club's bank account, please put your family name and tour as the reference.

Register through Floktu and pay by Direct Debit. (Preferred option)

Other payment options:

1. Electronic deposit into the account using family name and tour name.
2. Personally pay into the account at CTB using family name and tour name.
3. Post a cheque to PO Box 193 Castle Hill 1765

MAY 17 - Monday

Lake Macquarie – Dobell House

The coach will depart at 8.15 am. Suggest you are there at 8.00 am.

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 Hill.

Register at floktu.

JUNE 29 - Tuesday

Tour: Nan Tien Temple and Wollongong

Date: Tuesday, 29 June, 2021

Time: 7.45 am for an 8.00 am departure

Cost: \$65 (Please refer below to see what this covers.)

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 Hill.

Register at floktu. Please pay by 21 June.

Following morning tea at Sublime Point with its panoramic views, we continue south to Berkeley for a tour of the amazing Nan Tien Buddhist Temple. Our guided tour will explain some of the principles of the religion as well as the shrines and pagoda that make up Nan Tien. Whether or not you choose to follow the path to enlightenment you will be impressed with the striking architecture and fine craftsmanship of the Temple built at a cost of over \$30 million from donations from the Buddhist community within Australia and Taiwan. Set on over 50 acres, the temple also boasts lovely gardens and accommodation for weekend workshops in Buddhist studies, Chinese language, Tai Chi, vegetarian cooking and many other courses.

Lunch will be a selection of healthy vegetarian foods. Choose from three dishes and rice. Based on traditional and modern recipes, all meals are prepared in the famous kitchen of Nan Tien Temple by the experienced chefs.

After lunch we will have the opportunity to try our hand at the flowing motions of Tai Chi. This Chinese martial art is practiced not only for its defense training, but also its health benefits and meditation.

Upon leaving the temple, we will have a brief tour of the Wollongong district and its beautiful beaches and harbour. Our return home will be via the Seacliff Bridge and Illawarra Coast Road.

Cost per person is \$65.00 which includes coach transport, morning tea, lunch, admission to temple and Tai Chi Lesson. Departs at 8.00 am and returns at approximately 5.30 pm.

For your Diary: No bookings being taken yet.

Friday 16 July – Norman Lindsay Gallery

Monday 23 August - Vivid

WEEK AWAY TOURS

RED CENTRE – 16 to 22 June 2021 – 7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS - Fully subscribed.

COFF'S HARBOUR - 31 August to-5 September 2021

OnCourse have opened up the tour to their clients.

OnCourse have agreed that they will pick us up at Castle Pines.

INTERNATIONAL TOURS

NORFOLK ISLAND- Monday, 31 May to Monday, 7 June, 2021 - Fully subscribed.

OTHER DESTINATIONS

As New Zealand has now opened their borders to Australian travellers, I am now seeking expressions of interest for participants of a nine day trip of the South Island for around \$3,050 or a 13 day trip of both Islands for around \$6100. Information regarding both trips has been circulated to all members for their consideration.

The Pacific Islands may open up later this year and present opportunities for other tours. If interested please contact Bob Tubman.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING - TUESDAY, 15 JUNE, 2021

COMBINED CASTLE HILL PROBUS CLUB CALENDAR 2021



May 2021

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1 May Day	2
3 Labour Day (QLD) TAI CHI	4 COMMITTEE MEETING	5 TENNIS GROUP	6 CRAFT GROUP	7 WINE AND CHEESE GROUP	8	9 Mother's Day
10 TAI CHI	11 FISHING GROUP MOVIE GROUP	12 TENNIS GROUP GENEALOGY	13 TLC LUNCH	14 BOWLS GROUP CRAZY WHIST	15	16
17 TAI CHI DAY TOUR DOBELL HOUSE	18 PROBUS GENERAL MEETING	19 TENNIS GROUP	20	21 WALKING GROUP	22	23
24 TAI CHI BOOK READING GROUP	25 SAPPS Dinner	26 TENNIS GROUP	27 GARDENING GROUP	28 LADIES COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP BOWLS	29	30
31 TAI CHI	NORFOLK ISLAND TOUR - Monday, 31 May to Monday, 7 June, 2021.					

COMBINED CASTLE HILL PROBUS CLUB CALENDAR 2021



June 2021

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 COMMITTEE MEETING	2 TENNIS GROUP	3 Mabo Day (Indigenous Australians) CRAFT GROUP	4 WINE and CHEESE CANCELLED	5 World Environment Day	6 Queensland Day (QLD)
7 Western Australia Day (WA)	8 FISHING GROUP MOVIE GROUP	9 TENNIS GROUP GENEALOGY	10 TLC LUNCH	11 BOWLS GROUP	12	13
14 Queen's Birthday	15 PROBUS GENERAL MEETING	16 TENNIS GROUP	17	18 WALKING GROUP	19	20 World Refugee Day
21	22	23 TENNIS GROUP	24	25 LADIES COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP BOWLS	26	27
28 BOOK READING GROUP	29 DAY TOUR NAN TIEN TEMPLE AND WOLLONGONG	30 TENNIS GROUP	RED CENTRE TOUR – Wednesday, 16 June to Tuesday, 22 June 2021.			