



NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 19 ** ISSUE 185

TUESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER, 2019 – GENERAL MEETING

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

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

Website Address: www.castlehillprobus.org.au

Monthly Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10 am

Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Centre,

31 Shepherds Lane, Cherrybrook – off Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT – NOVEMBER 2019



October proved to be a very busy month for our Club with many varied and adventurous excursions on offer. The day tour to Mount Tomah and Mount Wilson enabled many of our members to experience the beauty of the Blue Mountains in Spring. The week away tour to Yamba and the Grafton Jacaranda Festival was also very popular with many of our members.

As the year draws to a close it is time to start thinking about our succession planning for next year. Many of our committee members and activity convenors have been in their roles for a number of years and have indicated that they will be stepping down at the next Annual General Meeting. It is therefore time to think about what you can do to assist in the running of our club. All the Roles and Responsibilities are located on our website if you would like to know what each role involves or you can speak directly to those already involved in positions. The Committee this year has spent an enormous amount of time fine tuning our policies and processes so future committees will have a smooth transition and have easy access to information. Our website address is:

<https://probuscastlehill.org.au>

I have attached a nomination form at the end of the newsletter if you are considering nominating for a position.

We have had an invitation extended to our Club members from Beecroft Men's Probus Club to come along to their Forums which are held every three months and Chaired by Geoff Ashton, former Chairman of Leighton Holdings, Australian Super and Superannuation Trust of Australia. A few of our committee members attended the forums throughout this year and found them to be extremely informative. Topics for next year include Estate Planning, Technology, the State of the Economy and Downsizing. If you are interested in attending please see the flyer on the noticeboard or contact me for further details.

I've also included a link to Probus South Pacific outlining the Travel Insurance that the Club offers. It is worth investigating but remember to check the fine print closely for pre-existing conditions. Tony Folland has brochures available at the International Travel desk.

<https://www.probusouthpacific.org>

With NSW facing one of the worst droughts on record many of you have been asking how we can help those affected. One of the best ways you can support regional communities is to Buy Regional this Christmas. Use the link below for some really great ways of supporting these communities.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/regional-nsw/buy-regional-this-christmas/>

I would also like to remind members to be very aware of scam emails and phone calls. A reminder never to give out account details or send money if you have not initiated the transaction. Check the *From* section in an email for the sender's name and email address and even then if the contents of the email seem odd, phone the person the email is supposedly from to check its validity. Scammers are very sophisticated these days and can use technology to easily deceive the most observant of us.

LYN WILKES, PRESIDENT

CLUB FACILITIES FOR YOU TO USE AND ENJOY

Book Exchange – A 'Borrow and Return' exchange arrangement at no cost.

Notice Board – Showing recent photographs of Club activities. Also Member's 'FOR SALE' items.

Suggestion Box – Located along the front of the stage. (Please identify yourself on your suggestion)

Tradesman/Professional Directory – Business Cards of your recommendations held by Noelle Long.

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.

To all our Probus friends who are unwell at the moment, we send our best wishes.

Hope you are enjoying all our activities. Maybe try a new activity and make some more friends.

At our last meeting I was pleased to welcome and introduce two new members, Celia and Val.

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, Pat Catanach, in writing/email if you require **LEAVE OF ABSENCE** for one or more General Monthly Meetings.

PLEASE NOTE: A **LEAVE OF ABSENCE** request must be received by the Management Committee prior to their meeting on 1st Tuesday of the month. When approved, it reduces your maximum required attendance level for the year. It is a constitutional requirement that all members maintain a minimum ratio of 50% attendance. In simple terms if you apologise for, or fail to attend 7 meetings each year your membership will be terminated.

COMMITTEE – 2019/2020

<p>PRESIDENT - Lyn Wilkes</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT - John Perry</p> <p>SECRETARY - Pat Catanach</p> <p>TREASURER - Anne Lockwood</p> <p>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - Tony Folland</p> <p>(FOUNDATION PRESIDENT: Robert Stack)</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP OFFICER – Glenys Pye</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL TOURS and CRUISES Tony Folland</p> <p>PROPERTY OFFICER – Ralph Gosling</p> <p>OUTINGS and DAY TOURS – Elizabeth Lessells</p> <p>WEEK AWAY TOURS – Colin Yates</p> <p>ACTIVITIES OFFICER – David Lewis</p> <p>GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR - Anne Perry</p> <p>REFRESHMENTS OFFICER – Helen Rose</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>

Private and confidential for Probus use only

Not to be used for any other purpose

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PROBUS CHRISTMAS PARTY
TUESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER, 2019 at 12 NOON
CROPLEY HOUSE – VICTORIA ROOM
84 WATKINS ROAD, BAULKHAM HILLS
NO FURTHER BOOKINGS WILL BE TAKEN

GUEST SPEAKERS

MONTH	PRESENTER/ORGANISATION	THEME	HOST
19 NOVEMBER	Bronwyn Brown	Ronald McDonald House	Wendy Robinson
10 DECEMBER	Kerima-Gae Topp, Manager of Topp Tours	Weird and Wonderful Australia	Anne Perry
18 FEBRUARY	Louisa Hope	Lindt Café Survivor	Leo Keegan

PROBUS MEETING JANUARY 2020 - At this time there is no confirmed date for the January meeting and I may not be able to book a speaker. In the event that there **IS** a meeting in January, could members who would be prepared to share a 10 minute presentation/visual, contact Anne Perry via email. This would also be useful information in the unlikely event of a guest speaker being unable to attend in the future.

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.

BOOK EXCHANGE	Roger Atack/Ross Long
BOOK READING GROUP	Barbara Primrose/Kerri Pratt
BOWLS GROUP	Robert Cochrane
CARAVANS AND CABINS	POSITION VACANT
CRAFT GROUP	Carole Rock/Ruth Cocks
FISHING GROUP	Bob Tubman
GARDENING GROUP	Harry Koller
GENEALOGY GROUP	John Wilkes
GOLF GROUP	Bob Osborne
MOVIE GROUP	Jan Quinn/Vyvyvan Orley
SAPPS DINING OUT	John Michell
TENNIS GROUP	Harry Koller
THEATRE PARTIES	Marie Woodward
WALKING GROUP	POSITION VACANT

BOOK READING GROUP – MONDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 2019 2.00-3.30 PM



The Book Reading Group meets at the Cosy Nook Cafe, Shop 1, Ward Place, Round Corner, Dural, at 2.00pm on the fourth Monday of each month.

In October we discussed 'Past Tense' by Lee Child. Despite the author's success as a world-leading thriller writer, this book did not impress our members. Most of us found the hero, Jack Reacher, arrogant, the plots and dialogue often boring, and disliked the extreme violence. Comments were 'an airport novel', 'a quick read', a popular 'guy' book. We rated this book 5 out of 10. (This represents the average of our individual ratings).

On 25 November we will discuss 'The Ruin' by Dervla McTiernan. This will be our last meeting in 2019, so members are asked to suggest books for us to read in 2020.

We are a small but enthusiastic group, and other Club members are always welcome to join us.

BOWLS GROUP – FRIDAYS, 22 NOVEMBER AND 13 DECEMBER, 2019 AT 9.00AM

The next social bowls will be on 22 November and 13 December. Please have names in by 9.00 am at Castle Hill Bowling Club.

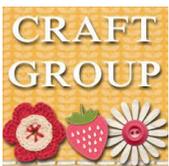


New bowlers are always welcome and free coaching and bowls are available for you to try the game first.

CARAVANS AND CABINS

We are still looking for a Cabins and Caravans Convenor and if you would like to take on this enjoyable role please contact any member of the Committee. It would be great if someone would volunteer to run the next excursion, say around March/April 2020, avoiding Easter of course. That's a different role to the convenor.

CRAFT GROUP – EVERY THURSDAY - 1.30-3.30 PM



From next year, starting in February, the Craft Group will meet at someone's home on the 1st Thursday of the month. Anyone wishing to join them should contact Carole Rock by phone or email to ascertain the location and timing.

We do not meet during the School Holidays. New members are always welcome.

FISHING GROUP – TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER, 2019 – BEROWRA CREEK

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

Five members hired a punt at Brooklyn on Tuesday, 8 October, caught bream, taylor and flathead then had a light lunch and beer at the Mooney Mooney Club.



On Tuesday, 12 November, we are planning to hire a punt at Palm Beach and try our luck in Pittwater.

Our Christmas lunch is planned to be held at the Mooney Mooney Club on the Hawkesbury River on Tuesday, 3 December 2019. All members, wives, partners and guests are welcome to join us.

We always look forward to and welcome new participants.

GARDENING GROUP – FRIDAY, 6 DECEMBER, 2019



Our last Garden Group Meeting at Sonja Cameron's Planters Patch Nursery on 25 October was very successful, informative and pleasant, enjoyed by 25 of our Garden Group.

Sonja (the owner and host) is extremely knowledgeable about the Nursery Businesses throughout Australia. She kept her talk at a level which was clear to understand by all of us. Sonja also displayed a number of nice plants for sale, and many of us bought some favourites.

Our next Garden Group Meeting will be held at **The Kollers' house on Friday, 6 December starting about 10 am**, and will constitute our **Garden Group Christmas lunch**. More details will be communicated as we get closer to the date.

GENEALOGY GROUP – WEDNESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 2019

A small group of Gene members together with six (6) guests enjoyed the talk provided by Emily Hanna from the State Archives (Kingswood) on "Asylum and Hospital Records". Emily opened the doors on how and where to search records for information on family members prior to 1909 in the care of asylums and hospitals.



OUR GENEALOGY CHRISTMAS LUNCH – WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER, 2019

Bookings held for 24 members attending the lunch and closed 31 October.

Venue: Trevi Lakeside (Italian) Restaurant, Norwest.

Lunch from 12:00 am (noon) - a 3 course meal + wine/beer on arrival.

Limited parking to 2 hours near the restaurant.

2020 GENEALOGY EVENTS CALENDAR for release at the Club's December General Meeting. A special thanks to Anne Lockwood who is seeking out guest speakers and excursions of interest.

Family history and building your family tree made simply. Become a Gene Group member and enjoy the Genealogy meetings and event excursions.

John Wilkes, Convenor - Administration.

GOLF GROUP – MONDAY, 9 DECEMBER, 2019 AT 8.00 AM



As only two people remained registered for the October game at Muirfield, the game was cancelled. For Probus golf to survive, a greater interest and better attendance is urgently needed.

The December game will be at Windsor on Monday, 9 December, 2019. Please meet at the Pro Shop 15 minutes prior to hit off at 8.00 am. New members are always welcome.

MOVIE GROUP – 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

On the 12 November members of the Movie Group went and saw "Judy" starring Renee Zellweger. It was a poignant, well-acted film highlighting the life of Judy Garland.

The 12 November was final outing for the Movie Group for 2019.



The Group's first outing was on the 14 February 2012. Over the eight (8) years of the Movie Group members have seen 84 movies. These films are of many genres including mysteries, espionage, historic, war stories, musicals, murders, biographies, "girlie" movies, "blokes" movies and more!!!! We have travelled, through film, to all parts of the world.

Averaging the number of members attending the movies and averaging the numbers of people going to Cosmo Coffee for coffee and/or lunch after the movies a little over \$48,000 has been spent by our members.

As from January 2020 Ellen Heyes and Sue Donnelly will be organising the Movie Group.

The members of the Movie Group are a loyal, convivial group and hopefully will continue to attend and enjoy the movies.

Merry Christmas to all members of our Probus Club.

TENNIS GROUP – EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 5.00-7.00PM



Our Tennis Group will continue as normal on Wednesday evenings in Hastings Park Tennis Centre (starting at 5pm) even though many of our regulars are presently travelling or have other commitments.

Our Tennis Group Christmas Picnic will be held on Wednesday evening 27 November at Hastings Park, about 7:00 pm during our tennis activities. The cost of the picnic will be about \$5.00 per head, and non-playing partners will be welcome.

WALKING GROUP – FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER, 2019 – 9 AM

WYNYARD TO MCMAHONS POINT TO CIRCULAR QUAY

Johanna Cancian after many years of sterling efforts has decided to resign from the role of Convenor for this well established group. We thank Johanna for all her efforts and look forward to seeing her on future walks. **We are looking for a Walking Convenor, to take over in the New Year, and if you would like to take on this enjoyable role please contact any member of the Committee.**

Our November walk will be from Wynyard to McMahons Point, where we will catch the ferry back to Circular Quay for lunch at the Ship Inn. We will meet at cnr. George and Margaret Street at 9.30 am. It is an easy walk except for about 50 steps at the beginning and towards the end of the walk. We go over the Harbour bridge and then around the waterfront near Luna Park. Bring hat, water and morning tea. There are toilets at The Rocks and Milton's Point.



- Please bring medical card
- Bottle of water and sun hat are suggested
- Food and beverages at lunch are at own expense

Walk Leader is Glenys Pye.

WINE AND CHEESE GROUP MEETING

Following a review by the Committee, this new group will continue into the future. There are some changes which the Committee recommended we adopt to make this new activity a success going forward and particularly to ensure that newer members are fully included.

1 The group will meet on the **1ST FRIDAY** of the month, (not the 4th) from 7 pm to 9.30 pm.

2 It will meet for the months February through November - 10 meetings.

3 The next meeting will be on Friday, 7 February, (host to be announced) and the last on Friday, 6 November. This minimises clashes with other regular Probus activities and events.

4 Expressions of Interest for the February meeting, will take place at the November, December and potentially January General Meetings. It is important that you pay or agree with someone else to pay on your behalf, your \$5 per head at the EOI, so that the host does not have a shortfall of funds.

5 In future all meetings will request you bring your own glass, as well as your own drinks to the function.

6 To encourage 'social intercourse' between all attendees, we request the hosts provide three tables only, 1 for the bottles of wine, soft drinks etc. and 2 for the cheese, bread and biscuits. Seats not at the tables will be provided for those that wish to be seated, thus promoting a free circulation of members.

7 Allowing for the free space that less tables provides, this may mean we can accommodate more people at a particular venue BUT that is subject to the host's advice.

8 The Activity Convenor/Vice President will continue to manage the roster of hosts and act as the doorkeeper/greeter for the meetings, so that the hosts are not distracted from more important tasks.

I would like to thank the Committee for supporting this new group, also our first 3 sets of hosts, Sally Birchill, Kay and Peter Long; Aldo and Karon Cantori; Helen Rose and her helpers Carole Price, Pam Brown and Judy Rochford, for three excellent evenings and also Kevin Woods for providing our entertaining musical quiz at the inaugural meeting.

Of course, I would also like to thank the 62 club members who attended one or in some cases all three of the evenings and made them, with the hosts so enjoyable. We hope to see you at the next one?

David Lewis

THEATRE PARTIES

Payments **MUST** be made by the Finalised date. Cancellations advised prior to Finalised Date.



Event	Date	Price	Payment Due
BILLY ELLIOT	Wednesday, 20 November, 2019 Lyric Theatre 1 pm	\$80	Tickets ready for collection
SHREK THE MUSICAL	Thursday, 16 January, 2020 Lyric Theatre 1.00 pm	\$70	Finalise November
WAR HORSE	Thursday, 20 February, 2020 Lyric Theatre 7.30 pm	\$70	Finalise December
LA TRAVIATA	Tuesday, 14 April, 2020 Opera on the Harbour 7.30 pm	\$100	Finalise January
9-5	Wednesday, 27 May, 2020 Lyric Theatre 1.00 pm	\$70	Finalise March

War Horse Lyric - It was last here 6 years ago. Exceptionally well done. *There is no matinee this time round.* A short season. They are allowing group prices for an evening performance

Opera on the Harbour - We have 40 seats. If you think you may be interested, please register so that, if necessary, we can try to get more seats. No firm commitment until January.

TOURS AND OUTINGS

The Tour Desk will usually open from 9.30 am to take your bookings and collect your payments.
If you cannot attend a selected Outing please remove your name from our list.
There can be no refunds after the cut-off date for day trips unless a replacement can be secured.
TOUR DESK OPERATORS – ELIZABETH, TONY AND COLIN

DAY TOURS – ELIZABETH LESSELLS

THERE WILL BE NO DAY TOURS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

OUR ANNUAL BBQ BREAKFAST AT ROUSE HILL REGIONAL PARK

Entry from Worcester Road. – hosted by Helen Rose

Tuesday, 21 January, 2020 - Breakfast Time: **Commencing at 8 am for an 8.30 am start.**

Cost is \$5 for bacon, egg, tomato, bread, orange juice and champagne.

Please bring your own plates, cutlery and tablecloth. There is usually a very strong response to this outing.

There may be a problem re the availability of tables and chairs. If you have a set of a small, collapsible

table and chairs it may be very helpful to have them in the boot of your car just in case they are needed.

Helen Rose would appreciate the FINAL payment at the December General Meeting please.

BALMORAL BEACH AND CLONTARF SEAFOOD DINNER - TWILIGHT TOUR

Date: Monday, 2 March, 2020

Cost: \$93 Time: 2:00pm

**Meeting Place: Fred Catterson Reserve. Turn into Catterson Drive from Gilbert Road.
Turn right at the next intersection and follow the road to the huge carpark at the top of Hill.**

Our last Seafood BBQ was really enjoyed by all participating and this tour is in response to many requests to repeat the experience.

Departing after lunch, our afternoon begins with a rambling drive to the Sydney Fish markets on Blackwattle Bay. Our focus today is showcasing some of our beautiful waterways featuring bays and coves around Sydney Harbour. 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 – eskys and ice will be provided for individual purchases.

Leaving the Fish Markets we will travel through Neutral Bay and Mosman to Balmoral Beach where we will enjoy afternoon tea and the fabulous panorama of Middle Harbour. Continuing north we will cross the Spit Bridge and travel to

Clontarf Reserve, located on Middle Harbour, a beautiful location for our seafood dinner. While it is being prepared there will be some time for a walk along the shore or simply relax with a drink and watch the passing parade of amazing yachts and cruisers.

The cost is \$93.00 per person and includes afternoon tea, Seafood BBQ dinner with dessert and drinks. (Please note alternatives can be pre-arranged for those that don't like seafood- let me know when booking.) Departs 2.00 pm and returns approximately 8.45 pm. Money and numbers to be finalised at the **February** meeting.

In the pipeline:

April: Guided Tour of the War Memorial in Hyde Park.

May: A VIVID tour for Monday, 25 May has been booked.

WEEK AWAY TOURS – COLIN YATES

RED CENTRE ULURU, ALICE SPRING – WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE – TUESDAY, 23 JUNE 2020

Flights Sydney- Alice Springs QF790 - Depart 9.25am Arrive 12.15pm
Uluru -Sydney. VA1628 - Depart 1.50pm Arrive 5.20 pm

If you have FF points, please books the flights direct.

Payment - Deposit of \$600 by February 2020 meeting. Balance required by April 2020 meeting.

Cost Single \$3565 plus \$795 single supplement
Twin \$3565
Double \$7130

Numbers to date – 18

INTERNATIONAL TOURS – TONY FOLLAND

COOK ISLANDS TOUR – FRIDAY, 12 JUNE-FRIDAY, 19 JUNE, 2020

Numbers so far 4. New brochures for this tour will hopefully be available for the next General Meeting
Estimated cost per person \$3900 pp twin share. Bookings close November meeting

SOUTH AFRICA - JOHANNESBURG, KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, CAPETOWN AND VICTORIA FALLS - DEPARTS SYDNEY 28 APRIL 2020 AND RETURNS ON 15 MAY 2020

MAURITIUS – 30 AUGUST TO 9 SEPTEMBER, 2020

WELCOME TO MAURITIUS

Discover Mauritius one of the world’s best holiday destinations. Mauritius is rightly famed for its sapphire waters, powder white beaches and luxury resorts. There is so much more to Mauritius than the beach when it comes to attractions.

This tour is for 11 days/10 nights and departs Sunday, 30 August and returning on Wednesday, 9 September 2020.

TOUR COST

\$5569 pp Twin Share \$768.00 single supplement

Minimum 20 paying passengers. Number of names received so far 13. I have a limited number of brochures available at the International desk. I have a promotional video that could be shown at the October General Meeting.

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE NOVEMBER

Once again it is time for our Christmas toy collection in November. Please **DO NOT** wrap your gift as they need to be able to see what it is so it can be identified and allocated to the right age and gender. **NEW TOYS ONLY**

Please bring your gift to the November General Meeting.



NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER, 2019

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING FISHING GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY	4	5 NO CRAFT	6 GARDENING GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY	7
8	9 GOLF GROUP	10 PROBUS MEETING	11	12 NO CRAFT	13 BOWLS GROUP	14
15	16	17	18	19 NO CRAFT	20	21
22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY	27	28
29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SAT, 21 DECEMBER, 2019-MONDAY, 27 JANUARY, 2020			

THEATRE GROUP – SHREK THE MUSICAL, 16 JANUARY, 2020 THEATRE GROUP – WAR HORSE – 20 FEBRUARY, 2020
 THEATRE GROUP - LA TRAVIATA, 14 APRIL, 2020

WEEK AWAY TOURS - RED CENTRE ULURU, ALICE SPRING – WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE – TUESDAY, 23 JUNE 2020
 INTERNATIONAL TOURS – SOUTH AFRICA - 30 APRIL-17 MAY 2020
 MAURITIUS – 30 AUGUST TO 9 SEPTEMBER, 2020



PROBUS SOUTH PACIFIC LIMITED

ACTIVE RETIREES™ – Friendship, Fellowship and Fun

**NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF
OFFICE BEARERS**

Probus Club Name: Combined Probus Club Castle Hill

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Position

Name of Nominee (print name)

Signature of Nominee

Proposed by (print name).....

Signature

Seconded by (print name).....

Signature

COMPLETED FORMS TO BE RECEIVED BY SECRETARY BY:

Close of General Meeting Tuesday, 18 February, 2020