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PROBUS CLUB NEUTRAL BAY

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Newsletter

July 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Paris Olympics are imminent and our minds may go back to the "best Olympic Games ever" in Sydney 2000. Some of our members were active in these games as volunteers and Sally and I were there when Cathy Freeman wore her striking skin tight suit to win the 400 metres. That sporting memory will always stay in our minds. Our most recent life member Neville Vogues was there in 2000 with his wife Stella, not as athletes as you may

expect, but as volunteers.

I have only ever met one Olympian and that was Murray Rose, Gold Medallist swimmer who was best friend of my cousin. He lived in California and when he came to Australia he used to swim in our pool as it was cleaner than Balmoral Beach at the time.

Some of our Probus members look fit enough for entry into the Veteran's games, showing some good form in pickleball which unfortunately is not yet an Olympic sport but surely will be for the 2032 Games in Brisbane. To this sport could be added a couple of new events: raw onion eating and finding a platypus in the Brisbane River.

I have always liked Greco Roman wrestling at the Olympics but because I was neither Greek nor Italian I wasn't eligible. I have always specialised in spectating.

Some of our members attended the funeral of Leonard Burtenshaw recently and it was, according to attendees, a wonderful celebration of his life.

An area of some concern at our club is that we still don't have a Vice President in office. It would be terrific if someone could put their hand up for the job. It is not an arduous role so could you please think about it.

On the arts front, 23 of our members and friends attended the Archibald Exhibition which is the major fundraiser for the AGNSW but the quality of the artworks hung, in my view as an art lover, is usually highly variable. However the Gallery itself is always worth a visit.

Don't forget the Winter Feast in July at the Abbottsford Rowing Club. It's one of our favoured and well attended social gatherings and always a great occasion, full of fun, friendship and frivolity and the price is reasonable. You can get the ferry and make a real day of it.

Stay upright not uptight. Best wishes to all.

Reg *Reg Richardson*

NEXT MEETING

This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 July from 10.30am in the Norths Leagues Club Auditorium

10.30 - 10.50 General business

10.50 - 11:00 Personal Corner

11.00 - 11:20 Morning Tea

11.20 - 12:20 Guest Speaker

12.20 - Questions and Wrap Up

Club Activities for Your Diary

Mon 15 July The Lost Soles Strollers Tue 23 July Winter Feast Fri 2nd August 2:50 Club - Woy Woy Wed 18 September ANSTO, Lucas Heights Good News! The Nov Blue Mtns & Zig-Zag Railway tour is now our exclusive tour!

Personal Corner

The next personal corner will be given by Chris Gingell. Chris had a career with Deloitte in Business Development and Marketing as Global Acc Manager, working with local and international law firms. He holds a BA (Hons) and Master of Management. Chris and Monique live in Neutral Bay.

Welcome to New Member

A very warm welcome to David Beattie. He is a retired solicitor and resides in Mosman. David lists his hobby as walking the dog, and he loves AFL, tennis and cricket.

Last Call for Annual Sub Payment

Pay \$65 preferably by online bank transfer. Include your name for reference. BSB 082 302 A/C No. 28869 5672

Report on Visit to the Archibald Exhibition, Tue 25 June, 2024

A group comprising 23 members, partners and one visitor enjoyed a guided tour of the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman 2024 Prizes exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW. We were fortunate to have Les, a very experienced guide, to take us on our tour. His in-depth knowledge of both the artists and their subjects made the tour a very informative and memorable experience. Following the one hour guided tour most went and enjoyed coffee and light refreshments at the Level 1 Gallery Cafe.

John Metcalf



VALE Dr Leonard Burtenshaw OAM

Our dear friend, and long time member of our Probus Club, died on 4 June this year aged 92.

Len was a renowned musician, having been organist at St Stephens Church Sydney for over a decade, Head of Music at Sydney Conservatorium, and conductor of several orchestras, including the ABC, South Australian Symphony and the Royal Academy of Music, London. Academic postings included universities in Sydney, Canada and USA.

Len also found time to own his boat and sail with the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron. Many of us enjoyed many hours with him on Sydney waters. He was a dear friend, and is greatly missed. **James Ritchie**

DETAILS OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Lost Soles Strollers - Old Balmoral Tram Line and Rawson Park - Monday 15 July 2024

Meet at 10.00am corner of Cross St, and Bradley's Head Rd, second after the roundabout opposite the Buena Vista hotel. This stroll takes us through Rawson park to see the Scotland /Australia bicentennial cairn and aviator Keth Anderson's grave. We cross Middle Head Rd and follow the route of the old tramline from Mosman to Balmoral including through an impressive cutting. Stroll along the Esplanade then bus it to Mosman Pub for lunch. About 3+km, mostly downhill/level. Expressions of interest please to Stewart at stewh444@tpg.com.au. On the right is a photo from the last stroll, taken in front of the Sze Yup Temple Gate.



Winter Feast - Tuesday 23 July 2024

Tue 23rd July Winter Feast - Watergrill Restaurant, Sydney Rowing Club, Abbotsford This favourite annual event offers a great opportunity to meet old and new members and relax in a social environment. A great 3-course meal plus coffee. Drinks PAYG. Cost: \$65 pp. Go ahead and book your tables (10 per table) and advise John Metcalf of your table companions. Sign on at General Meetings. **Last sign-on and payment: Monday 15th July.** Contact: **John Metcalf**



2:50 Club Woy Woy By The Sea Friday 2nd August 2024

Fri 2nd August 2:50 Club - **Woy Woy by The Sea** Meet at 09:10 at Wynyard Station to catch 9:35 train (change at Hornsby) to Woy Woy. We will try to occupy the central carriage upstairs as a group. Plan for a lunch at Fisherman's Wharf and to make our return journey by 2:30pm.. Sign on at General Meetings. Contact: **Tony Michaels**

Sign on to Upcoming Coach Tours at the General Meetings! For details check your emails. Contact - Ian Doig

Wed 18 September: Day tour to ANSTO at Lucas Heights. Needs minimum of 30 to make it our exclusive tour.

Wed Nov 20 - Fri Nov 22: Three-day Blue Mountain and Zig-Zag Railway tour. This will be our exclusive tour, but we have room for a few more!

OTHER REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Neutral Bay Probus Beginners Croquet Group Mon 1 to 3pm Chatswood Croquet Club. New players welcome! Please contact **Rob Wright** on **0416 161 863**

Pickleball Great fun and fellowship experiences by all Pickleball players in May. New skills learned and energy levels tested. More of the same on Thursdays 11th and 25th July. We are all new to the game, so give it a go! Cost \$10 pp includes paddles and balls. Members and friends welcome. Contact **Hugh Seccombe** on 0411 644 886 or email hugh.seccombe@hotmail.com

Roll Up Lawn Bowls *We need some new, younger members!* We are a social bowling group that is associated with North Sydney Bowling Club, part of the Greens at North Sydney, and the Greens look after us well. We meet every Wednesday for a 10am start and play for an hour or so before we adjourn to the bar where we socialise and solve the nation's troubles. Once or twice a year we stay on for a social lunch. So, the main aim is social, but we have a healthy, competitive attitude to the game. If you do not own bowls, there are still sets available that the Greens may let us have. Parking at 10am at the Greens is not a problem. Call **Peter Cornish** on **0421 012 538** or **02-99098994** for more details.

Tennis Venue is Willis Park Eastern Valley Way Castle Cove courts. From 10 am to 12 pm on the first Tuesday of the month. Tennis is followed by coffee and a social chat. All members are welcome. Please contact **Peter Turner** on **0428 611 456** for details.

Golf Golf play is on every 4th Friday at Warringah Golf Course for 9 holes beginning at 10am. More players welcome. Please contact **Murray** on **0419 488 609**.

Cycling We have a very active, regular cycling group led by **Bob Pearce** on **0400 291 373**. Normally Monday rides start at 10 am and Saturday rides start at 7.30 am from Milsons Point Railway Station or from Observatory Hill at 7.35am. **Extra Riders Welcome!**

Sailing Ahoy! Sailing is currently in recess. Next Sailing in August. Stay tuned for further information. Ross Bruwel

Movie Enjoyment At the Orpheum, Cremorne on the 4th Monday of the month. Contact David Bruce-Steer on 0455 655 451.

Bridge Contact John Pike for details of online bridge on 0403 007 273. Typically a game lasts for about 1.5 hours, at 4pm each Thursday.

July Guest Speaker Hans Kunnen A Remarkable Story to Tell - "I Survived 9/11"



Hans Kunnen was born in Scotland to Dutch parents and migrated with his family from England to Australia over 50 years ago. He holds a B.Ec. and an M.Ec. Hans taught at the University of New England in the early 1980s and was a tutor in Robb College. In 1984 he joined the State Bank NSW. Hans was also chief economist at Colonial First State, and later, at St George Bank. Hans attends Glenhaven Anglican church in Sydney and has been involved in mentoring refugees. On September 11, 2001, a series of coordinated terrorist strikes in the US killed almost 3000 people and changed the world forever. He was at the World Trade Centre in New York when the planes struck, and felt the terror as the towers collapsed. His story, however, is not only about how close he was to the action, or how he described the flames, the smoke, the hurtling bodies. It is also about how he talks about the kindness of a stranger – the hope amidst the chaos of what was the most traumatic day of his life.

August Guest Speaker: Oliver Greeves "Horatio Nelson: Myths, Legends & Awkward Facts"