

## Probus Neutral Bay Guest Speakers – Tues. 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022

**SKYE LECKIE OAM and Hon. MICHAEL YABSLEY**



### **“THE LIFE and TIMES of SKYE LECKIE”**

Because you’re a bloke, and you live on the wrong side of the Harbour, you may not have heard of Syke Leckie. However, if you have a partner, it’s 110% sure she has. So, two things you must do .....

- **Show her this Flyer**
- **Invite her to this special Guest Speaker presentation**

You will probably know that Skye Leckie was the wife of David Leckie - referred to as a true media baron following his terms as Managing Director of Channel 9 and Chief Executive Officer of Channel 7 West Media. He passed away in July, 2021 and was posthumously made a Member of the Order of Australia.

Skye, however, has an incredible and fascinating life and career of her own....

- Skye is described as Sydney’s society queen. Eastern suburbs blue blood. A livewire, salty-tongued party girl, farmer’s daughter, fundraiser, mother, and... Friend of a Prime Minister, who stated that she put the word “Party” into the “Liberal Party”.
- She is well-known for her relentless charity fundraising – referred to as a “charity queen”, hounding Sydney society for contributions.
- Both hosting – and presence at - incredibly lavish parties, primarily in the Eastern Suburbs.
- She appeared in SBS's Series 2 “*Filthy Rich and Homeless*”, - 10 days attempting to survive on the streets. [I watched a trailer ..... enthralling]
- Reportedly worth \$30M+.
- Received the Order of Australia in 2017

...and there’s a lot more, as you’re about to find out.

**Their Presentation...** Former politician Michael Yabsley is a very close and longstanding friend of Skye. I understand that, via a technique similar to Q & A, all will be revealed through a series of highlights and anecdotes about Skye’s life.

**Fellas, this is not one just for the ladies..... I have been advised that you will be spellbound.**

Please see Page 2

**SKYE PLAYFAIR LECKIE OAM**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 9 May 1959  
**EDUCATION:** Ascham School, Edgecliff NSW  
Frensham School, Mittagong NSW [Tennis Capt.; Netball Capt.; Prefect.]  
**FAMILY:** Married 1995 – two children: Harry (25) & Ben (22)  
**ADDRESS [current]** ‘Mulberry Farm’ - Robertson NSW  
**RECREATION & CLUBS:** Royal Sydney Golf Club, Rose Bay NSW  
Hyde Park Club, Sydney  
Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club, Point Piper

**FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES:**

- The Sydney Children’s Hospital
- Deputy Chairman, Foundation Board, Randwick
- Committee Member of the Gold Dinner (13 Years)
- Chairman Gold Dinner (3 Years)
- Several other fund raising committees for events within the Hospital.
- Melbourne Cup Lunch for the Chris O’Brien Cancer Centre
- Governor and Patron, Taronga Zoo.

**RAISED UNTOLD MILLIONS FOR:**

- Cancer
- Sydney Children’s Hospital
- Sydney Theatre Company
- Taronga Zoo
- Guide Dogs

**WORK CAREER:**

1978-1980	David Jones	PR Department
1981-1982	Australian Vogue	as fashion assistant to Nancy Pilcher
1983-1985	Lee Patterson and Assoc.	a medium sized PR company, as a consultant.
	Australian Opera Co.	PR Manager.
1986	Andrew Gibbons real Estate	]
	Australian Opera Co.	] Combined Public Relations
	Stuart Membrey – fashion designer	]
1987-1995	David Jones Australia	National Group Public Relations Manager.
2001	Gazal Corp.	Relaunching Loveable lingerie brand

**HON. MICHAEL YABSLEY**

**DATE of BIRTH:** 30 June 1956 [Lismore]  
**EDUCATION:** East Lismore Primary; St Johns College-Woodlawn [head prefect]; ANU  
**STANDARDS ATTAINED:** Batchelor of Arts – Double Major in Political Science.  
**FAMILY:** Married 1983 [separated]. Two adult children: Edward(34) Alexandra(28)  
**ADDRESS [current]** Kings Cross; co-owner “Wombat Hollow” – Southern Highlands NSW  
**CAREER:**

1984-1994	Member NSW Parliament.....
1984-1988	Represented seat of Bligh
1988-1994	Represented seat of Vacluse Minister in the Greiner Government: Corrective Services; State Services; Tourism. Parliamentary Secretary to Premier John Fahey
1994	Resigned from Parliament and established the national bi-partisan corporate advisory business CorPol, now operating as GRACosway. Treasurer of the NSW Liberal Party
2008-2010	Hon. Federal Treasurer of the Liberal Party.

**Subsequently .....** Michael is a commentator on politics and public affairs through various print and electronic media outlets and has recently established the Potts Point Forum and Southern Highlands Forum. He is chair of the Foundation of the National Art School.

**2021** Wrote “Dark Money” and is working to bring about fundamental reform in political fundraising and election funding.