



# newsletter

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



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Ross Bruwel

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James Ritchie

Barry Stone

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### OTHER ROLES

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#### Minute Secretary

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#### Movies

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#### Music, Art

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Gerald Christmas

#### Newsletter

Peter Dee

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#### Sailing

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#### Speakers

Barry Stone

#### Tennis

David Harris

#### Tours, Outings

Tony Bowra

Bob Pearce

#### Website

James Ritchie

#### Welfare

Peter Cornish



### Dear fellow members, partners & visitors,

Welcome to the October meeting.

This month I was fortunate to be included in the outing to Parliament House. Felicity Wilson, the Legislative Member for North Shore welcomed us to a sandwich lunch in the Speaker's Dining Room in the historic building which has been home to the NSW Parliament since 1856. Unfortunately, we weren't able to have a guided tour of the whole building but we saw enough to admire some of the restoration of the old buildings and view the new 12 storey 1974 addition behind the *Fountain Court*.

The Premier, Gladys Berejiklian, joined us after lunch, knowing that some of us were from her constituency of Willoughby. She asked what was Probus and what did we do. I told her that Probus, an offshoot of Rotary, was a group of retired "Professional and Business men & women" who meet for social and intellectual stimulation. I'm not sure she understood.

We then were taken to "Question time" in the Legislative Chamber or the *bear pit* as it's known - and now we know why. The Speaker Ms Shelley Hancock, who was elected on 3 May 2011, has a difficult job. It seems there are no rules, members stand & the Speaker selects one of them to ask a question. The target then has five minutes to answer. The question is usually ignored and the answer is delivered as a political point against the other side. Members of the Chamber continue to talk amongst themselves, make interjections, jeer and laugh at private jokes. The Speaker warns members and after three strikes they are told to leave the chamber or the Sergeant at Arms will escort them out. That happened twice while we were there, but nobody seemed too concerned and the babble continued. The Premier seemed good at obfuscating and grandstanding, talking down any issues raised by the opposition, facing the public gallery and cameras rather than the Speaker. Luke Foley did the same but didn't score any hits. Ryan Park, the shadow Treasurer asked some good questions but they weren't answered. Dominic Perrottet was the other main Government speaker. Most of the questions were *Dorothy Dixers* so were easily answered, usually with an oblique reference to Labour's failures in the past.

After about an hour and a half, the Speaker called a halt & everyone walked out. It seems that Question time is a waste of time unless there is major issue which the politicians cannot dodge. Obviously this is not where the actual business of government is carried out. As Felicity Wilson observed at lunch, it's all about making political points and what is going to appear in the evening news.

**Peter Davenport, President**



At Parliament House

## OCTOBER MEETING

This month's meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9th October** in the Auditorium at North Sydney Leagues Club, Abbot St Cammeray.

- 10:00 - 10:20 general business
- 10:20 - 10:30 personal corner
- 10:30 - 11:00 morning tea
- 11:00 - 11:55 guest speaker
- 11:55 wrap-up
- 12:00 - optional lunch and snooker

## GUEST SPEAKER

### ANTOINETTE HOPKINS – Celebrant Hatch, Match and Despatch

Amongst other topics Antoinette covers the changes in modern day Marriage. You may be surprised whom you can now marry and where you can marry.

Antoinette explains that she offers baby naming ceremonies, the non-religious equivalent of a christening.

With a touch of humour but on a more serious note, Antoinette speaks about getting ready for our despatch, what documents your family will need and what you can do to make this journey one that you would favour.

Amongst other occupations Antoinette was once referred to as a Registered Civil Marriage Celebrant but must now call herself an 'Authorised Marriage Celebrant'. As a result of this pastime Antoinette has so many anecdotes and sketches she now talks to Probus groups on a regular basis.

## NEW MEMBERS

### Lloyd BENNETT

Career: Industrial chemist

Last position: Manager Pacific Resources

Interests: Sailing, Golf

John & Marie live in Mosman

### Ronald James BOYS

Career: Shopping centre, Office

Development; Last position:

Development Manager; Interests: Family, travel, sailing; Ron & Robyn live in Northwood

### John Phillip (Brian) MELLOY

Career: Construction

Last position: Director, Architecture co.

Interests: Painting, Bowls

John & Jean live in Kirribilli

## PERSONAL CORNER

### Norbert KELVIN

Career: Chemical Engineer, Solicitor,

church organist Last position: Sole

Practitioner Interests: Coaching,

grandchildren, golf, travel, wine,

handyman Norbert lives in Lavender Bay

## OUTINGS

### LA PEROUSE MUSEUM Tour

Wednesday 21st November 2018

La Perouse Museum is located on Kamay Botany Bay National Park's northern headland. The museum is housed within the historic Cable Station building, once Australia's only link to the rest of the world. The La Perouse Monument is located nearby. Almost 2,000 items across several rooms of exhibits document the 1787-1788 expedition of French explorer the Comte de Lapérouse. Items include the complete *Atlas of the Voyage of La Perouse*.

Lapérouse arrived in Botany Bay just a week after the First Fleet. His expedition was last seen in what is now national parkland before mysteriously vanishing. The fascinating exhibits in the La Perouse Museum also tell stories of the local area, including Aboriginal tales.

Cost is \$12 per person to cover the coach hire cost. Lunch is at a cafe nearby at your own expense. The coach carries a maximum 30 passengers so please add your name to the sign-on sheet early.

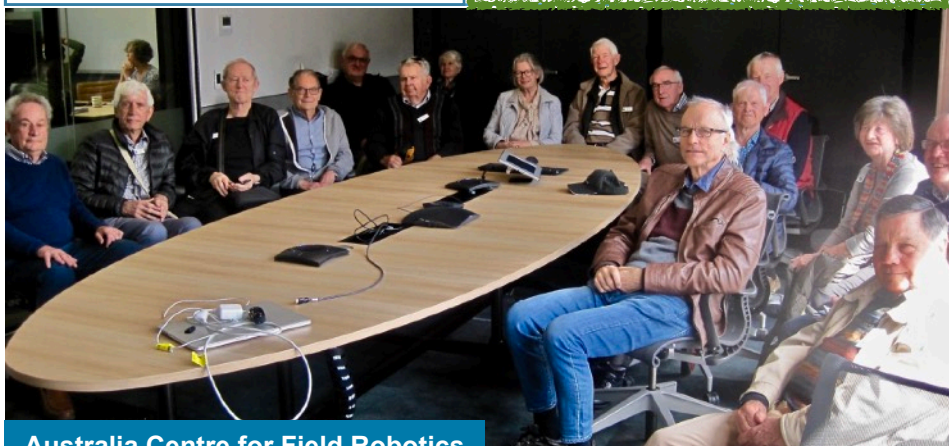
Bob Pearce 0400 291 373

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

CHRISTMAS LUNCH  
will be held at Manly Golf Club  
on Tuesday 11th December

## Nov PERSONAL CORNER

Colin THOMAS



Australia Centre for Field Robotics



At Parliament House

## SPECIAL INTERESTS

ART & MUSIC John Brooks 9908 2820

### CONSERVATORIUM of MUSIC

At 12:30pm on:

17 Oct Students sing SCM Chamber Choir

18 Oct Saxophone Orchestra

24 Oct Percussion Group.

25 Oct Big Band Jazz Group

Each Saturday "Rising Stars" of school age demonstrate their skills at 11, 2 & 3pm.

Saturday 1st Nov \$45 concession ticket to

Faure's *Requiem Mass* at the Con's

Vanbrugh Hall

S H ERVIN GALLERY From

12th October, see the Portia

Geach (depicted to the right)

Memorial Award for portraits

by women artists.

MOSMAN ART GALLERY:

Friday 12th October. Whilst

many of our members tour northeast Victoria this month, join the Highlights Tour of Mosman Art Prize entries between 2pm and 3.30pm; refreshments available afterwards.

### CYCLING

Stewart 9439 9609 Allan 9960 8830

Mondays, usually 10am start, routes & durations vary. Saturdays, around the wharves & Barangaroo, about 25km, starting Milsons Point at 7.30am, finishing around 10am. Contact Stewart or Allan.

GOLF Tony Travers 9439 4996

Play is scheduled each Monday from 8.30am at a variety of courses including Chatswood, Cammeray, Gordon, Lane Cove and Warringah.

### MOVIE ENJOYMENT

David Bruce-Steer 9419 7017

We meet at the Cremorne Orpheum usually on 4th Monday each month. Look out for a flyer in the week before.

### ROLL-UP LAWN BOWLS

Peter Cornish 9909 8994

Roll-up Lawn Bowls is usually held at North Sydney Bowling Club at St Leonards Park every Wednesday morning at 10am.

### SAILING

Ross Bruwel 0421 817 106

Ross advises that sailing is now in recess; he'll let us know in good time when *Renada* and her captain make themselves available for more sojourns on the harbour.

### TENNIS

David Harris 9488 5259

Tennis should be held at *Love n Deuce* at Talus St Naremburn on 15th October between 2 and 4pm. Sign the sheet at Tuesday's meeting or contact David.



## Nov GUEST SPEAKER

Ken MORONEY OA

The greatest influence in reducing crime and antisocial behaviour

**Payments:** Kindly pay for outings in advance of any deadline and online if possible. When paying online, please ensure that you quote your name & the relevant activity, albeit abbreviated, in the description to minimise any confusion. Note the following bank account details:  
BSB 082 057 a/c no: 28869 5672  
a/c name: Probus Club of Neutral Bay.

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