

Newsletter

Apr
2022

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members, Partners and Guests



The postponed annual BBQ/High Tea took place on 15 March at Balls Head. In many ways it marked a watershed moment – a renewal, a relaunch, and a reclamation of freedom after a prolonged lockdown. We were blessed with a hiatus of fine weather which Graeme Adam was seemingly able to arrange. There was much uplifting of spirits, fine banter, and a good dose of bonhomie. There were praises for the fine wines too. A huge thanks to organisers, chefs and stewards, and of course, to the participants.

I cannot thank enough the organisers who kept our members involved at a time when regular meetings and outings were in abeyance. The monthly events of cycling, tennis, walking (strolling), 2.50 club, bridge, bowls, golf, movie enjoyment etc have helped in no small way to keep the Club 'alive' through a very dark period. Also, there were the innovative tech talks by David Bruce-Steer (also the Zoom master), and the ever popular quizzes by Peter Turner.

We welcome with great anticipation a new regular activity – croquet – to commence in May, kindly organised by Rob Wright.

A March highlight was a visit to St Andrews/Gawura school and Cathedral. We are grateful to Gawura Principal John Ralph who outlined the Campus program that is transforming the lives of indigenous children. Having a group granted access to Gawura is a real privilege and not easy to secure. We were also grateful to Ross Cobb for outlining the history of (and playing) the Cathedral organ for us during our tour (pictures below).

The numbers for the late April 3-day Hunter Valley Tour have been finalised. The tour of HMAS Waterhen will take place on Tues 24 May, and a guided tour of the State Theatre is planned for Tues 21 June. Further information and sign-on sheets will be at the April Meeting. And look out for the next big event - July Winter Feast.

Speaker for our April meeting is (Senator) Stephen Loosley who served in the Australian Parliament during the Hawke and Keating Governments (1990-1995). I am certain this will be a most interesting talk.

Yiu Lam Kwan, President

St Andrews Gawura Campus plus Cathedral Tour



"High Tea" Barbecue at Balls Head



Annual Subscription

Your annual subscription of \$50 is now due. You can pay by cash or cheque at the meeting but preferably by online bank transfer: include your name for reference. **BSB 082 302 a/c no: 28869 5672; Probus Club of Neutral Bay.**

NEXT MEETING

This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th April from **10.30am** in the **Norths Leagues Club Auditorium, Abbot St Cammeray. Club Entry from 9.45am.**

- 10.30 - 10.50 General business
- 10.50 - 11:00 Personal Corner
- 11.00 - 11:50 Guest Speaker
- 11.50 - Questions and Wrap Up

Personal Corner

Tony Michaels

Cremorne resident for 20 years
18 years member Artarmon Rotary Club
Past Business at Norwest Business Park
Continuing today as semi-retired director of a public listed company

New Members



"New members **Tony Michaels, Reg Richardson and Terry le Roux** (l to r) warmly welcomed to their first meeting. We will enjoy their company, and for the club's future, it's great to have them with us."

Club Activities for Diary

26th-28th April Hunter Valley Tour

Fri 22nd April Lost Soles Clifton Gardens

Thurs 5th May 2.50 Club Point Claire

Tues 24th May Tour of HMAS Waterhen, Waverton, the Royal Australian Navy's lead establishment for Mine Warfare.


Tues 21st June Tour of State Theatre (details later).

Fri 15th July Archibald Prize Tour

Tues 26th July Winter Feast

Sailing with Ross



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- COMMITTEE**
President
Yiu Lam Kwan
Vice President
Ian Ashbrook
Imm. Past Pres
Roger Freney
Secretary
Brian Thomas
Treasurer
Barry Friere
Committee
Graeme Adam
David Bruce-Steer
John Beckhaus
Ross Bruwel
Peter Davenport
Kevin Fitzpatrick
Ted Kraegen
John Metcalf
Barry Stone
Peter Turner
Michael Walker
OTHER ROLES
2Fifty Club
John Pike
Archivist
Kevin Fitzpatrick
Bowls
Peter Cornish
Cashier
Philip Brook
John Hirst
Cycling
Bob Pearce
Golf
Murray Mair
Hon Auditor
David Lloyd
Hospitality
Richard Hannaford
Lost Soles Strollers
Stewart Horwood
Meetings
Yiu Lam Kwan
Membership
Peter Turner
Minute Secretary
John Beckhaus
Movies
David Bruce-Steer
Music, Art
John Brooks
Gerald Christmas
Newsletter
Ted Kraegen
David Bruce-Steer
Postman
David Bruce-Steer
Sailing
Ross Bruwel
Speakers
Barry Stone
Tennis
Peter Turner
Tours, Outings
Graeme Adam
Website
David Bruce-Steer
Welfare
Kevin Fitzpatrick

Hunter Valley in the Autumn 3 day (2 nights) Tour 26th-28th April.

For this exciting tour, we will be staying at the beautiful 4-star Estate Tuscany, set in 26 acres of beautiful countryside in the heart of Pokolbin. The tour includes a visit to the grand Hunter Valley Gardens with its autumnal colours, a full day guided tour of the famous Widden and Godolphin studs, a fine dining experience at the famous Mill Restaurant, a private wine and cheese tasting at the Tamburlaine Organic Winery, and we will end on a high note with lunch at the historic Wollombi Tavern. Numbers now finalised. **Full details in Flyer**

Tour of HMAS Waterhen. Tuesday 24th May.

Join us for this unique tour of Royal Australian Navy's lead establishment for Mine Warfare, and Mine Countermeasure Equipment, based at Waverton. Highlights will be going aboard a Minehunter Vessel and a Landing Craft while a Navy member briefs guests.



WHEN: Tuesday 24th May starting at 8.45am at Norths, back at Norths early afternoon. For security reasons, access is **only** by group transport from Norths. Members will need a form of photo ID (if possible, exceptions can be made) and be **Covid vaccinated** or have a valid exemption.

HOW: Please register with **Graeme Adam** at outings@probusneutralbay.org. Sign-on sheet at general meeting.

COST: \$25pp for transport - no charge for actual tour. Lunch in canteen is for you to choose and pay for yourself. **More information in flyer to come.**

Other Ongoing Activities.



(New Activity) Neutral Bay Probus Croquet Group. Mondays 1pm to 3PM Chatswood Croquet Club. Free coaching and tuition for Neutral Bay Probus members in stroke techniques and in tactics of the game. Requirements to play croquet – no bending, just an ability to swing a mallet with reasonable eye-hand co-ordination – plus regular attendance. Map re location of Chatswood Croquet club and parking will be given to attendees To register your interest either SMS **Rob Wright** on **0416 161 863** or add name(s) to sign-on sheet at the April general meeting

Roll Up Lawn Bowls every Wed morning at 10 am at Norths Greens, St Leonards (near North Sydney Oval). Call **Peter Cornish** on **0421 012 538** for more details. All regular players and beginners are welcome to play and socialise.

Tennis at Middle Cove courts for fully vaccinated players. From 10 am to 12 pm on the first and third Tuesday of the month, followed by coffee and a social chat. All members are welcome. Please contact **Peter Turner** **0428 611 456** or **Ted Kraegen** **0421 385 824** for details.

Golf Murray Mair welcomes all members to play, generally on Fridays on a local course. Please contact **Murray** on **0419 488 609** for details.

Cycling We have a very active, regular cycling group led by **Bob Pearce** on **0400 291 373**. A good many members enjoy the rides. Normally Monday rides start at 10 am and Saturday rides start at 7.30 am from Milsons Point Railway Station.

Sailing Ahoy! For a great day on a comfortable cruising yacht, the “Renada”, please contact **Captain Ross Bruwel** on **0421 817 106** for information or to book a place. The next sailing cruise is **Tuesday 19 April**. Pick up at Middle Harbour Yacht Club at 10.30 am.

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

Bridge. Please contact **John Pike** for details on 0403 007 273. Typically a game lasts for about 1.5hours, at 4pm each Thursday

Lost Soles Strollers. Clifton Gardens Friday 22nd April. Meet at the 100 bus stop near the corner of Thompson Street and Bradleys Head Road by 10.15am. We walk to the park and beach with gorgeous views, and there is a resident seal family sometimes nearby. There is a choice of lunch venues. After nosing around the Defence Department complex we hop on a 111 bus to Mosman shops. A few steps to negotiate but always with handrails. Bring Opal card, sunscreen, water. Advise attendance to **Stewart Horwood** at stewh444@tpg.com.au or **9439 9609**.

2:50 Club Point Claire Brisbane Water Thursday 5th May. Train Central Platform 7 departs at 10.45 CAR 4 (or Hornsby train departs 11.23.) Get off at Tascott (or stay on for POINT CLAIRE). From Tascott a 20 minute stroll past parks to the Fare Cravin' restaurant Point Claire for lunch, then bus to Gosford station and return. **John Pike** **0403 007 273**

April Guest Speaker

STEPHEN LOOSLEY AM – Former Australian Senator

“A New Reality” or The Times in which We Live.”



Stephen Loosley was a Senator in the Australian Parliament from 1990 – 1995, serving in the Hawke and Keating governments. He chaired the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade and the Senate Regulations Committee. He acquired an impressive network of international and local politicians and diplomats, many with whom he still keeps in touch. After obtaining a law degree in 1997 he held several senior positions, specialising particularly in international and trade law, and acted as a strategic advisor and counsellor. He is a published author, and has been a media book reviewer and regular commentator on Australian and US politics.