



# Newsletter

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Greetings and A Very Happy New Year Members, Ladies and Visitors



Christmas certainly came, as predicted; but, so much for the predictions of El Niño, with the opposite occurring and we see again the resulting weather related devastation that has occurred in many parts of Australia. In previous Newsletters, I have hoped that you personally have not been too affected by some of the dreadful events unfolding in the world at large. I can only reiterate that I hope that this applies equally to these weather events in Australia. Again, so much for predictions.

We had an excellent turnout for the Christmas Lunch at the Manly Golf Club, with perfect weather, great company and, of course, outstanding organisation. A big thank you to Graeme and Kwan for its success. Equally, our High Tea/BBQ at Ball's Head, despite having to defer a week due to weather, was a great success (even though a few had to drop out) and again many thanks to Graeme and his team of helpers for pulling this together.

This, of course, brings me to asking the question again, would you like your committee to organise perhaps another lunch or two through the year? Or, how about a roughly bimonthly informal lunch at venues such as the hotels, clubs or the Balmoral Boathouse, for example. What I have in mind is strictly informal. We meet, order from the standard menu, pay as you go; but, enjoy this with your Probus friends? If you don't speak up, we'll never know.

And, finally, the 2024 Committee. If you haven't been on the Committee before, we urgently need your help. And you will enjoy our Club so much better if you have your say in what we do. So please come forward. We need a treasurer, speakers coordinator, outings share with Graeme and, of course, a new VP. Please give me a call or email if you'd like to discuss.

I hope that you can make it to our next General Meeting on February 13th.

Cheers, Ian

Ian Ashbrook, President

- COMMITTEE**  
**President**  
Ian Ashbrook AM  
**Vice President**  
Reg Richardson AO  
**Imm. Past Pres**  
Yiu Lam Kwan  
**Secretary**  
Brian Thomas  
**Treasurer**  
Barry Friere  
**Committee**  
Graeme Adam  
John Beckhaus  
David Bruce-Steer  
Ross Bruwel  
Kevin Fitzpatrick  
Ted Kraegen AO  
John Metcalf  
Tony Michaels  
Barry Stone  
Peter Turner  
Michael Walker

- OTHER ROLES**  
**Archivist**  
Kevin Fitzpatrick  
**Bowls**  
Peter Cornish  
**Cashier**  
Philip Brook  
John Hirst  
**Cycling May.**  
Bob Pearce  
**Golf**  
Murray Mair  
**Hon Auditor**  
David Lloyd  
**Hospitality**  
Michael Walker  
**Lost Soles Strollers**  
Stewart Horwood  
**Meetings**  
Michael Walker  
**Membership**  
Peter Turner  
**Minute Secretary**  
John Beckhaus  
**Movies**  
David Bruce-Steer  
**Music, Art**  
John Brooks  
Gerald Christmas  
**Newsletter**  
Ted Kraegen  
Yiu Lam Kwan  
**Postman**  
David Bruce-Steer  
**Sailing**  
Ross Bruwel  
**Speakers**  
Barry Stone  
**Tennis**  
Peter Turner  
**Tours, Outings**  
Graeme Adam  
Tony Michaels  
**Website**  
David Bruce-Steer  
**Welfare**  
Kevin Fitzpatrick

## NEXT MEETING

This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th February from 10.30am in the Norths Leagues Club Auditorium.

## Club Activities for Diary

- Mon 18th Mar** Lost Soles Stroll  
**Tue 19th Mar** Sydney Cricket Ground Tour  
**Wed 10th Apr** Jazz 'n' Lunch Artarmon

## Personal Corner

### Mark Millar

Born and educated in the UK, Mark's global career in Supply Chain and Logistics involved many countries including Hong Kong where he has lived for the last 20 years.

Mark and his wife Maureen plan to retire to Cremorne.

## Wanted

Probus members who would like to join the 2024 Committee and take on one of these interesting volunteer roles

- \*Treasurer
- \*Outings Coordinator
- \*Speakers Coordinator

Join up with a lively bunch who meet each month to make plans that make Probus Neutral Bay the great club it is.

Please contact Ian at [ianashbrook@gmail.com](mailto:ianashbrook@gmail.com)

## Christmas Lunch Manly Golf Club



The ladies displayed an air of summery elegance, the fellas were smartly turned out and everybody was in festive spirit for our Christmas Lunch. Some 112 enjoyed great food and wine, with the club providing the usual friendly table service. Three members were presented by Carolyn Ashbrook with bottles of Piper-Heidsieck (incidentally the Official Champagne of the Australian Tennis Open), fortunate to have occupied a seat with a red sticker underneath!

## Balls Head BBQ and High Tea



A week after the site was washed out, some 60 members and partners turned out for our annual al fresco event on the 23rd January. We enjoyed each other's company and the beautiful weather at a quintessentially Aussie BBQ, topped up with treats brought from home. Coordinator **Graeme Adam** is grateful for the smooth teamwork of Messrs **Ashbrook, Turner, Sildever, Kwan, Thomas and Verman.**



## DETAILS OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### The Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) Tour and Lunch Tuesday 19th March

The **SCG Guided Walking Tour** is a fascinating journey behind the scenes of the SCG and its Museum. Hear entertaining stories of players, spectators and events and view treasured memorabilia. Later optional lunch at Watsons Pub in the Entertainment Quarter next door.

**WHEN & WHERE:** Tues 19th March 9.45am. Meet at SCG Gate A, Driver Avenue, Moore Park.

**TRANSPORT:** By train or bus, connecting in CBD with light rail to the Stadium. Car parking in Entertainment Quarter, off Errol Flynn Boulevard (allow 10 minutes to park and walk.)

**BRING** Hats, sunscreen, rain attire, walking shoes.

**HOW:** Sign on with **Graeme Adam** at [outings@probusneutralbay.org](mailto:outings@probusneutralbay.org)

**COST:** \$22 (tour only). Please pay no later than 5th March by Bank Transfer BSB:082 302 A/c. no: 28869 5672. NAB Neutral Bay. Name: Probus Club of Neutral Bay. Include your name and the words "SCG Tour" when making EFT payment .



### Lost Soles Strollers. Monday 18th March. Details in March Newsletter

Lost Soles will re-commence on Monday 18 March after the Summer recess. This year will see repeats of some of our past strolls so that we stay in our immediate area and avoid time being spent on public transport. To express interest, kindly email **Stewart Horwood** at [stewh444@tpg.com.au](mailto:stewh444@tpg.com.au).

### Jazz 'n' Lunch in the Pub – Wednesday 10th April

Great music put on by **Sydney Jazz Club** with good pub food from a varied menu. Get your feet tapping to some of your favourites from the post-war era. Dancing optional.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 10th April, from 11.30am. After this time, the good tables will be gone.

Please note: Advance table reservations are not permitted (but you may arrive early and hold seats). **WHERE:** **Freeway Hotel**, 115 Reserve Road Artarmon. To access hotel car park, turn right into Dickson Av, off Reserve Rd, then left into Hesky Lane. Check Transport Info Line website for buses. **HOW:** Please sign-on with **Graeme Adam** at general meetings or to Graeme at

[outings@probusneutralbay.org](mailto:outings@probusneutralbay.org) \$15.00 per person, **pay club secretary at the door, cash only – ATM available.** Order and pay for your lunch and drinks at the bar, credit card or cash. **Last sign-on by Wednesday 7th April.** Numbers limited as is a private function.



## OTHER REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

**Neutral Bay Probus Beginners Croquet Group.** Mon 1 to 3pm Chatswood Croquet Club. Contact **Rob Wright** on **0416 161 863**

**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.** 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. Will recommence on Tue 5th March. Please contact **Peter Turner** **0428 611 456** 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**. 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!** 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. Pick up at Middle Harbour Yacht Club at 10.30 am. **Next Sailing date Tuesday 27h February.**

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

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

**Neutral Bay Probus Pickle Ball** A new initiative for 2024 suggested by **Hugh Seccombe**. Watch this space.

### February Guest Speaker

**Paul Kearney**

**Rock Historian Extraordinaire**

#### *"History of Rock n Roll - 1950s"*

After a varied career as a chef and in the IT and service industries, **Paul Kearney** states now that he is happily "semi-retired". Amongst other things, Paul currently presents a series of video & lectures on the History of Rock & Roll on various Cruise ships, both here and overseas.

Paul has put together a series of popular shows on the "History of Rock & Roll" beginning in the 1950's. He will share stories about how rock & roll music first started in that era. He is going to tell a brief history of the artists and play the whole original video clips of the artists singing their popular songs. They will surely bring back fond memories of our past.



**March Speaker**

**Noel Phelan**

**National Maritime Museum**

**"The Golden Age of Steam"**