



PROBUS CLUB NEUTRAL BAY

www.probusneutralbay.org

Newsletter

MAY

2025

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President

Mike Walker

Vice President

Ted Kraegen AO

Imm. Past Pres

Reg Richardson AO

Secretary/

Public Officer

Ian Ashbrook AM

Treasurer

David Bruce-Steer

OTHER MEMBERS

John Beckhaus

Ross Bruwel

Ian Doig

Kevin Fitzpatrick

John Metcalf

Barry Stone

Peter Turner

Enda Bannan

Nick Baines

Yiu Lam Kwan

CLUB ROLES

Archivist

Kevin Fitzpatrick

Bowls

Peter Cornish

2.50 Club

Brian Thomas

Croquet

Rob Wright

Cycling

Bob Pearce

Golf

Murray Mair

Hon Auditor

David Lloyd

Hospitality

Enda Bannan

Lost Soles Strollers

Brian Thomas

Meetings

Enda Bannan

Membership

Peter Turner

Minutes Secretary

John Beckhaus

Movies

David Bruce-Steer

Music, Art

Reg Richardson AO

Newsletter

Yiu Lam Kwan

Ted Kraegen AO

Pickleball

Murray Mair

Postman

Paul Shea

Sailing

Ross Bruwel

Speakers

Barry Stone

Tennis

Peter Turner

Tours, Outings

Ian Doig

Website

David Bruce-Steer

Welfare

Kevin Fitzpatrick



Hello fellow Probus members, I will not be joining you at the May meeting as I will be on a preplanned holiday to the west. Kwan has very kindly volunteered to cover for me, I am indeed fortunate to have a number of high calibre committee members as support.

Thirteen members joined Brian and Ros on their first \$2.50 outing to Parramatta, traveling by River Cat to visit Elizabeth Farm the home of John Macarthur and his wife Elizabeth. Elizabeth Farm incorporates the oldest

surviving homestead in Australia. Brian arranged for our group to have a volunteer to give us a history of the tumultuous times of the Macarthurs. We had excellent value for our \$2.50 utilizing the River Cat on a glass smooth Parramatta River, the new light rail and home on the heavy rail. We all enjoyed a great pub lunch. Why not consider joining Brian and Ros next time?

A great evening was had at the home of Reg and Sally Richardson to view their extensive art and sculpture collection. I heard a number of comments about the Sting Ray on the bed and the child's car in the acrylic box as well as the breadth of Reg's collection. It was great to see so many members with wives and partners in attendance. As well, we enjoyed the warm hospitality of the hosts, and of course the sumptuous catering. A vote of thanks to Graeme Adam for his great organization and his amusing thank you speech to Sally and Reg.

A lot of planning goes into our Guest Speakers for our meetings which are a high standard. It would be great to see larger numbers attend. As we now no longer collect the \$4.00 meeting contribution at the welcome desk, I noted some members walked straight in bypassing the desk. It is important that we keep a record of attendance. Enda is on a steep learning curve putting faces to names, so any assistance you can give him would be appreciated.

Mike Walker

President

Important Changes to the Recording of Apologies at General Meetings

Please note that there will no longer be calls from the floor for apologies at General Meetings. Instead, please inform the Welcome Desk of any apologies on checking in. These will be recorded and then read out by the Chair towards the end of the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 May 2025, 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 DIARY

Tue 27 May 2025 Lost Soles Strollers, Barangaroo to The Rocks and Circular Quay

Fri 30 May **Chew and Chat** The Oaks - see p2

Tue 24 June 2025 Archibald, Art Gallery of NSW

Tue 22 July 2025 Winter Feast, Sydney Rowing Club, Abbotsford

PERSONAL CORNER

This month's Personal Corner will be given by **Peter Sheehan**. Peter's most recent employment was with McConnell Dowell as Environmental Manager. He holds qualifications in environmental science, environmental education and agriculture.

Peter and Sue live in Gordon and his hobbies include tennis, golf and travelling.

ANNUAL SUB IS NOW DUE

Please pay \$85 by credit card or cash (exact amount) at meeting, or by electronic fund transfer. Please include your name for reference.

BSB 082 302 A/C No. 28869 5672

FROM THE SOIREE AT THE RICHARDSONS, TUE 15 APRIL 2025



It was a very special date on our events calendar when an estimated 80 Probus Neutral Bay guests enjoyed a tour of our Immediate Past President Richardson's impressive art and sculpture collection. The experience was enhanced by the serving of excellent refreshments. President Michael and wife Judy thoughtfully brought along stunning arrangement of Australian native flowers. On behalf of all present, MC Graeme made the floral presentation to Sally Richardson as a gesture of our appreciation, and thanked Reg and Sally for their generosity. **Graeme Adam**

Report on 2:50 Club Outing Sydney to Parramatta Friday 11 April 2025



Our Senior's Opal Card is a great asset. I think we made good use of it on 11th April, travelling by ferry, light rail and regular train. The outing included a gentle walk, a brief visit to Hambledon House and a longer visit to Elizabeth Farm, where we learnt about the life and times of John and Elizabeth MacArthur. A visit to Parramatta Square and a hearty lunch at the Commercial Hotel before hopping on the train back home. **Brian Thomas**

DETAILS OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Lost Soles Strollers Barangaroo to The Rocks & Circular Quay Tuesday 27 May 2025

We meet at the entrance of Barangaroo metro station at 10 am on Tuesday 27th May. On the way we enjoy the gardens of Barangaroo, visit the finger wharves of Walsh Bay, walk under the bridge and go back in time exploring The Rocks. To conclude, lunch together and then home. Hope you can come. Contact **Brian Thomas** if you are able to join us. SMS **0412 161 566** or email brian.b.w.thomas@gmail.com

Chew and Chat The Oaks, Neutral Bay Friday 30 June 2025

Come and join us in this treasured tradition! We gather at the Oaks Hotel Neutral Bay for an informal meal and chat. It was started by Jim Holloway. We meet on the 5th Friday of the month, so 4 times a year, at 12:00. One of the members will share a little of their journey. Contact **Kevin Fitzpatrick 0416 151 195**

Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes 2025 Tuesday 24 June 2025

Come and join us to enjoy a wonderful guided tour with expert in-depth commentaries!

Date: Tuesday 24 June 2025.

Duration of the tour is approximately one hour.

Meet at entrance to the Art Gallery at 9:45 am for a 10:00 am start.

How: sign on with **John Metcalf** at General Meetings or email John at johnmetcalf157@gmail.com

Cost is \$27.00 per person (unchanged from last year) **Coffee/Lunch to follow**, at own expense. Suggest Art Gallery Cafe



Winter Feast Sydney Rowing Club, Abbotsford Tuesday 22 July 2025

This favourite annual event offers a great opportunity to meet old and new members and relax in a social environment. Easy access by road and by ferry. A great 3-course meal plus coffee. Put the date in your diary. Further details to follow. Contact: **John Metcalf**, email johnmetcalf157@gmail.com

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.

Pickleball We are now playing every Thursday at Willis Park, Eastern Valley Way, Castle Cove from 9:30 am until 11 am. We are always looking for more players. So if you have not tested your pickleball skills, please give it a go. No prior playing experience required. Contact **Murray Mair** on **0419 488 609**



Tennis All members and their friends are welcome on the first Tuesday of each month at Willis Park on Eastern Valley Way (Chatswood) from 10am to 12pm. Tennis is followed by coffee and a social chat at the café. Please contact **Peter Turner** on **0428 611 456**

Golf Murray Mair welcomes all members to play; generally play on 4th Friday of each month at a local course. 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 Please note that sailing will be in recess for the next few months. Contact **Ross Bruwel** on **0421 817 106**

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.

13 May 2025 Guest Speaker **STEVE LIEBMANN OAM** "The Ramblings of an Ageing Broadcast Journalist"



Our Guest Speaker: Steve Liebmann OAM. Born in Cooma in 1944 he attended Monaro High School. He became a journalist in Cooma on Radio 2XL while still at that school. This was the start of an outstanding career which earned him several journalistic awards, including the "News Presenter of the Year" from the Aust. Commercial Radio Industry and the Penguin Award for Special Recognition for Contribution to News. In 2023 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for his contribution to broadcasting

On a personal basis, Steve has lived in Mosman since 1979, though recently moved he still lives in the area. He confesses to still being a news junkie. He loves playing tennis and still plays in a serious breakfast competition 3-4 times per week in Naremburn.

His Presentation: Steve Liebmann has honoured us by accepting our invitation. He will draw on his life via 'the Ramblings of an Ageing Broadcast Journalist'.

10 June 2025 Guest Speaker - *our own* **STEPHEN YEOMANS** The Wonderful World of Metals