



THE 'MEAD

Northmead & District Probus Newsletter

Our Next Meeting

TBA

9.30am for 10:00am

**NBC Sports Club
166 Windsor Road
Northmead NSW**

Volume 1 Issue 8

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Caring for You

Are you OK? We are all about caring for each other. If you know a member of our Club who needs a hug, let our wonderful Welfare Officer [Jan](#) know 0428 080 848



Be Kind. Take Care.
That's **our** Probus.

The 3Fs of Fellowship

The best attribute of being a Probus member lies in our creed - the 3Fs (with a twist). Our Northmead & District Club is dedicated to **Fun**, **Friendship** and ... **Food** (read that as conversation at lunch, dinner, walking, making, playing or just a 4pm wine).



A Word from Barbara

Hi 'Meaders

What an amazing inaugural AGM we had. We addressed the *elephant in the room* - COVID-19. Members voted to suspend our April and May meetings along with a number of events. The committee will continue to meet online and, through these conversations, will decide when to re-convene. You will be notified by email or through the post.

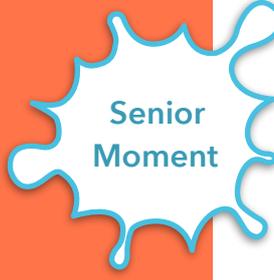
The AGM showcased how far we have come as a Club. Janet Swinnerton was elected as our new Secretary. What an asset she will be - a wonderful example of a member stepping up when needed. We will retain current membership quota and fees. We are financially stable. Year-to-date reports from Committee of Management were given. We have an enthusiastic core group of volunteer team leaders who bring you our quality activities.

Importantly, I would like to thank Malcolm Western, our Foundation Secretary, both personally and on behalf of our Northmead & District Probus Club. He performed his role superbly, with a minimum of fuss, giving maximum results. He made my job so much easier!

A Word of Advice: I am currently self-isolating to stay well so that I can continue to visit my darling husband of 56 years in the high level dementia unit at Northmead.

This virus is affecting us all. Families can not visit from overseas, holidays are cancelled, and just going shopping has become a nightmare. The best advice is to focus on wellness - wash hands often, continue to enact social distance and importantly, love your family. See you back at our meetings when we get the all clear.

Email your Senior Moment to Newsletter Editor



Due to our soft closure as a Probus Club, we have had to postpone our April Guest Speaker David Gordon, a volunteer for TAD - an organisation that changes the lives of people living with a disability by providing personalised technology, equipment and services.

Hopefully, when we are back in the NBC for our next physical get together, we will be able to invite David as a Guest Speaker once more.

Here are a few smiles for you from some of our members who have been active at our different 'Meaders Clubs (more on page 7).

Sometimes Senior Moments are not about getting old... older. Sometimes it happens when you are barely out of your nappies or...well...it does happen.

Over fifty years ago, promotions for changing from glass to transparent plastic - a technology that was purported for having had many advantages - became popular. Plastic was described as tough, lightweight, easily moulded, low cost. A drop and bounce phenomenon.

Back in the day, the Sunilk Shampoo commercials featured a young woman dropping a bottle of said shampoo. It would BOUNCE! This was exciting news for me! I bought a half dozen plastic Sunilk Shampoo bottles (promotional half price) and placed them in the bathroom in a high cupboard. Standing on a chair and, with my husband watching, I thought I would give him a shock surprise. I would accidentally drop the shampoo and smile as it bounced along the bathroom floor. Instead, what he saw was my horrified look as soon as I let go of the shampoo. It smashed and splashed onto the timber floor.

Recollection came instantly. As soon as I let go of my plastic bottle, I knew it was glass! My antics had badly backfired as I watched the ensuing explosion of glass and splattered shampoo. Not funny at the time, but the memory lingers.

As the song goes ...

~ Anonymous 'Meader



Every walk in Winston Hills has been a surprise. So much wondrous bushland!

Our fortnightly WeWalks challenges members to do rather dramatic things.



Hourigan's Quarry Wetland



SSSSHHHHH!

At Studio 57, members are focussed on their creations - embroidery for our Secretary, quilting for our Mookies Convenor, and knitting for the hosts, Sherel and Syd Jakes. These creatives are serious about their creative craft. SHHHH!



Events & Excursions

DRAMA Music LUNCHEONS Tours ACTIVE GAMES & OTHER FUN EVENTS!
THE EVENTS TEAM has put together a range of events for you to enjoy.

Events & Excursions with an **EVENT CODE** (#number) must be paid through Probus Northmead & District Bank Account. Bank details **BSB 112 879 A/C 470889027**
 Cite Name of Event and Event Number - always! Call Treasurer Lyn Curby on 0432 679 751 if you have any issues. Details on **WEBSITE**

EVENT	DATE	TIME	COST
The Riverside Theatre			
#210 We Will Rock You!	August 1	2pm	\$44
#213 The Wharf Revue	October 10	2pm	\$61
Sydney Theatre Company			
#209 The Picture of Dorian Gray	July 21	7.30pm	\$48
The Lyric Theatre			
#212 Secret Garden	September 22	1pm	\$69.90
Excursions/ Tours			
Brislington Museum POSTPONED	April 7th	10.45am	\$3 (pay at event)
Wendy's Secret Garden POSTPONED	April 30	11am	no charge
#501 Wings over Illawarra CANCELLED	May 1(overnight)		\$440 pp
#208 Archibald Prize POSTPONED	May 28	10.45am	\$20
#502 Mudgee Tour	September 10-11		\$450 pp
Food			
Picnic at Fagan Park Dural	May 14	12pm	BYO Everything
Norman Lindsay Gallery & Lunch	June 18	11.30am	
'Meaders 1st Birthday Party	July 2	TBA	
Active Games			
#301 10-Pin Bowls & Dinner CANCELLED	April 23	4pm	\$35
#302 Barefoot Bowls	August 21	11am	\$10

Need more information? Call **ANY of the Events Team** if you are interested in attending any of these events. They will answer your questions (eg where to meet; issues with payment, if any; how to get to event...)

'Meaders Clubs

Walkie Talkies Governor Philip Walk (Parramatta)
Convenor [Patrick Vallely](#) 0403161515
Next MeetUp April 22 Starting Point Call Pat

Mookies Discussion Walk in the Woods **CANCELLED**
Convenor [Debra Sheath](#) 0421998434
Next MeetUp April 6 **CANCELLED**
April 27 **CANCELLED**

Mahjong Club
Convenor [Jan Field](#) 0428080848
Next MeetUp Every Monday 1-3pm **POSTPONED**

Studio 57 Club
Convenor [Sherel Jakes](#) 0413853393
Next Meetup April 21 10am @ Sherel's place

WeWalk Club
Convenor [Robyn](#) 0419463783 / [Liz](#) 0431771884
Next MeetUps March 31 @ NBC 7.30am
April 14 & 28 @ Balcombe Heights Dog Park

Lunch Club
Convenor [Sue Osborne](#) 0405777994
Next MeetUp April 22 Novotel Parramatta Noon **CANCELLED**

Fleurs Club
Convenor [Sandra Joy](#)
Next MeetUp April 15 Mayfield Gardens Oberon
7.00am @ NBC. **CANCELLED**

Our Clubs are growing... each club meets on a **regular** basis (weekly, fortnightly, monthly).

Each Club has a **core group of members**. If you are interested in joining a particular Club, **phone** or **email** the particular convenor. She/he will be happy to chat to you about what the Club does, and about the nextMeetUp.

Club Convenors will contact the group members concerning any changes of time or venue.

NOT a member of one of these Clubs. You are welcome to come to a once off MeetUp to check out the Club before you commit.

Clubs are all about you.

As a member of our 'Meaders Probus we encourage you to be pro-active.

Feel free to share ideas for new Clubs.



WeWalk Club

It took us 45 minutes to find our way to the playground, Susie!

And what a fabulous walk - cool morning walking in the woods around Model Farm Reserve and behind The Willows.



How lucky are we to live so close to all these amazing woodland walks.



FEBRUARY TWILIGHT PICNIC

With the breeze swishing around us, we sat under a shelter erected by our President's husband, Allan Towart, while gentle rain droplets cooled the evening air. The conversation swirled around from AFL, to the experience of recent jury duty, through to how politics has changed. Again, another relaxing evening.

MARCH TWILIGHT PICNIC CABER PARK



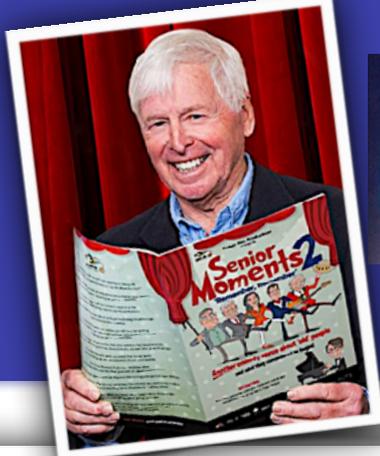
Although a couple of our 'Meaders had to leave early, those who stayed continued to laugh and chat... lovely also to have Jennifer and Lyndsay Peters join us as 'yet to be inducted' 'Meaders.

See you there around **NOON May 14.** (\$1 operates BBQ. Pay for Parking \$6).

Let's enjoy bushwalking trails, diverse gardens, and the historic Netherby Cottage.

38-48 Arcadia Rd Galston NSW 2159





RIVERSIDE

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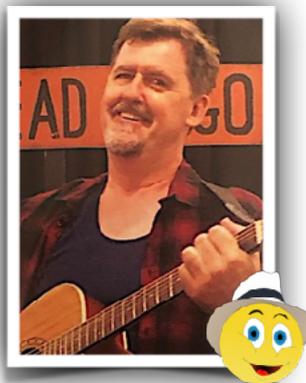
“An exhilarating exposé of our History from 1800s to early 20C. Was a walk down memory lane, especially the comments by the character posing as Governor Macquarie.”

~ Janet Swinnerton

“I loved the show – very funny and clever, particularly enjoyed the PM skit – Max Gillies as Bob Hawke is so accurate and funny - classic. I loved the Julia Gillard part too. That actress was so versatile and excellent. Pianist amazing, played some quite challenging pieces. My other favourite skit was the Australian song – repetitive tune and lyrics, going on for two bloody weeks! or so it seemed.”

~ Fiona Richards

“What’s a ‘Senior Moment’?”, you ask. Why it is a sign that Father Time is getting way too familiar with you! EG... when it takes longer to swallow your **pre-dinner pills** than eat your dinner; when you call ABC **Channel 2**; when getting a **snag** is NOTHING to do with your fishing line but a lineup at Bunnings.”



We, the audience, would like to give **NO THANKS** to David Callan for his ongoing - **ONGOING!** - rendition of *Pub with No Beer!* Well - OK - we laughed. A lot. Good Parody.



Kee and Jackson Exhibition

“An Exhibition showcasing a smorgasbord of colour in fashion design...talent talent talent from the collaboration of these women...set Australia on the fashion map.”

“Retired dressmaker was our guide...the passion in her voice matched her smile...”

“Jackson and Kee’s use of colour draws you into each alcove of their creative wearable artworks.”

~ Sandra Joy





We began our Walkie Talkies responsibly - socially distancing - our ferry to ourselves.



Walkie Talkies Chief Patrick kept us in order!



A squiz at the 'plug'... don't know what the plug is? Ask Liz Ryan - now an expert on dry docking.



Eleven adventurous and inquisitive Walkie Talkies, practising social distancing, enjoyed their exploration of the UNESCO listed World Heritage Wareamah (Dharug for Woman's Land) in the heart of Sydney Harbour. Key points include former convict penal establishment, industrial and reformatory school (Biloela) and naval ship dockyard, including a former training ship for boys (Vernon).

Harry, our Probian Tour Leader, informed us that the island had the only remaining dry dock constructed by convicts (1857) as well as buildings and other relics relating to their incarceration. Cockatoo was the official dockyard of the Royal Australian Navy, being the main ship repairing facility in the Southwest Pacific during WW2. The Empress of Australia, the largest roll-on roll-off cargo ship in the world was constructed here.

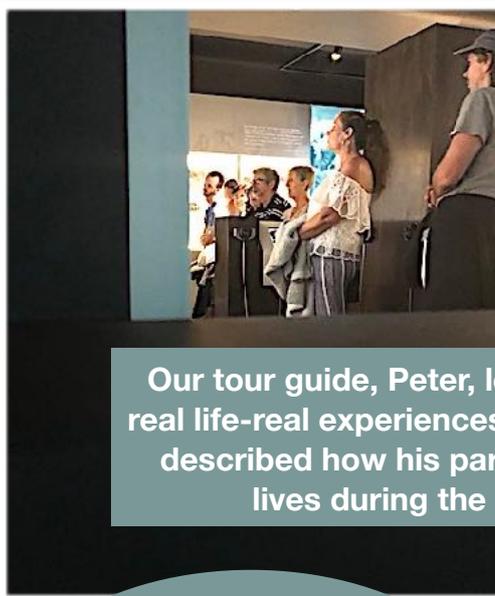
Activism and stewardship on this island included 21 trades and 21 unions to match with the 3000 workers. Men worked with some of the largest engineering equipment in the country. With little consideration given to safety, there was always the possibility of explosions. Asbestos dust was an unknown hazard that permeated the workshops and dockyards. The struggles over hours, wages, demarcation and safety were closely watched by the rest of the nation.

~ Patrick Vallely



**Wet weather
COULD NOT
stop us.**

We were off for a relaxed Sunday afternoon at the **Sydney Jewish Museum** in Darlinghurst.



Our tour guide, Peter, led us into his reality: real life-real experiences-real memories as he described how his parents managed their lives during the HOLOCAUST.

“Very thought provoking, sad, real. Unimaginable how something like this could occur. We have to be aware, as an Australian society today, that we need to see behind the demonising. Why do people do it?”

As Desmond Tutu clearly argued, ‘If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.’ ”

~ Patrick Vallely

“Listen to the tears of children... Look and listen as they walk towards dark flames so gigantic that the planet itself seemed in danger.”

~ Elie Wiesel

This glass sculpture filled to overflowing contains **1.5 million** drops of water. Each symbolises a child murdered in the Holocaust.



One of the many stories we heard... the Teddy Bear who fell out of the arms of



a wee Romani boy marching along the pathway at a concentration camp. As he stopped to pick up his teddy, he was hit on the head by an SS's rifle. He fell to the ground - dead. A political prisoner witnessed the scene and secretly picked up the teddy, eventually handing it to the Ravensbruck Museum.



Northmead & District Probus Committee of Management



BARBARA TOWART
President
0413 572 713
allanbarb@ozemail.com.au

JENNY DWYER
Events
0409 651 172
jennydee1851@gmail.com



LYN CURBY
Vice President
Treasurer
0432 679 751
biddy21@icloud.com

ROBYN NEWLAND
Events
0419 463 783
grnewlan@bigpond.net.au



JANET SWINNERTON
Secretary
Assistant Treasurer
0439843934
janetms8989@yahoo.com.au

LIZ RYAN
Guest Speaker Coordinator
Events
0431 771 884



KEN SINCLAIR
Membership Officer
0414 835 840
sicad@optusnet.com.au

PATRICK VALLELY
Tours Coordinator
Events
Membership Assistant
0403 161 515
vallelypk@hotmail.com



LINDA GIBSON-LANGFORD
Newsletter Editor
Events
Web Assistant
0417 892 309
lclglangford@gmail.com

Web Manager TBA

NOTE

Your Committee of Management is here to help you. You are VERY WELCOME to call any of us if you have an issue, an idea, need clarification.

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