



## MOCCO'S MUSINGS

Musings – a period of reflections  
or thought



Greetings All,

We are fast approaching Christmas and the New Year and early in 2025 we have our Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers. It is pleasing to note that many committee members have indicated a willingness to continue in their present roles.

However, some will be retiring. At this stage we need nominations for Vice President, Treasurer and Tours and Outings Coordinator. It is vital for the continuing success of our club that these positions are filled. Please give this request serious consideration.

VP Mike Hartnell will soon be sending out a comprehensive survey to all members relating to all facets of the operation of our club. We look forward to a good response.

Well done to Past President Ros Thompson for organising a morning tea and tour at Gleneagon Village which has resulted in a \$500 donation to our club.

Our annual Christmas lunch at Monash Country Club will be the last social event of the year.

Monash Golf Club, named after John Monash, a famous Australian General of World War 1, has an interesting history. Sydney's Jewish community were avid golfers but in the aftermath of World War 2 the situation changed and Jewish golfers were banned from joining many Sydney golf clubs. So in 1947 land was acquired above Narrabeen and Sydney's Jewish community constructed their own golf course and club house. Today anyone can join this prestigious club. It is open to all although until recently pork was not on the menu. I don't know what our social organiser, Marg Lovett, will be dishing up at our Christmas luncheon but I'm sure it will be delicious.

Cheers  
President Peter

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## **Thought for the month.**

"All progress commences outside the comfort zone."

**Manly Leagues Club gymnasium**

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**President Peter Moxham and new club member Kimberley Marshall**



**COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024/2025**

President	Peter Moxham
Past President	Ros Thompson
Vice President	Mike Hartnell
Secretary	Alison Soutter
Assist Secretary	Liz Pawsey
Treasurer	Colin Fordred
Assist Treasurer	Mike Staniland
Entertainment	Warwick Brady
Guest Speakers	Cherry Robinson
Membership	Tony Lovett
Newsletter	Jenny Jones
Social	Marg Lovett
Tours/Outings	Margaret Ayre
Welfare	Robyn Wood

To send a message, comment or suggestion to the committee, please email our club email address:

[Combinedbelroseprobus@gmail.com](mailto:Combinedbelroseprobus@gmail.com)

or use the suggestion box on the book exchange table:

**CLUB SUB COMMITTEES 2024/2025**

Audio Visual	Terry Stewart
Honorary Auditor	Chris Wood
Book Exchange	Judy Morton
Cinema Group	Rosemary Daly
Hospitality	Di Pill
Photographer	Peter Loveday
Reception	Warren Needs
Walking Group	Helen and Dennis Miles
Website Admin.	Ross Swadling
Welfare	Robyn Wood
Wine Apprec,	Mike Staniland
Wrap with Love	Margaret Hobson

**CLUB CONTACTS**

President: Peter Moxham 0417 299 283

Secretary: Alison Soutter 0400 525 700

Treasurer: Colin Fordred 0411 757 156

Newsletter: Jenny Jones 0405 310 537

Club Website:

<http://www.belroseprobus.org.au/>



## **DECEMBER 2024**

5 December – Tours  
Banana Cabana Primate Sanctuary

12 December – General Meeting

16 December – Entertainment  
Christmas Celebration

16 December – Entertainment  
Christmas Songbook

19 December – Social  
Xmas Lunch, Monash Country Club

## **JANUARY 2025**

9 January – General Meeting

23 January – Committee Meeting

## **FEBRUARY 2025**

6 February - Tours  
Sydney General Post Office

13 February – General Meeting

27 February – Committee Meeting

28 February - Walk

## **MARCH 2025**

6 March – Tours  
Sydney Water Purified Recycled Water  
Discovery Centre

13 March – General Meeting (AGM)

27 March – Committee Meeting

28 March – Walk

## **BOOKING CLUB ACTIVITIES AND PAYMENT**

### **TO BOOK CLUB ACTIVITIES**

- Please register online via our club website  
<http://www.belroseprobus.org.au>
- or
- During meetings at the back of the hall, Warwick Brady (entertainment), Marg Lovett (social) and Margaret Ayre (outings) will be happy to take your details for club events.

### **PAYMENT**

Preferred method of payment is EFT. **VERY IMPORTANT — Please ensure that you include your surname and event name in the description section of your EFT payment or (if you cannot do this) send an email to the event organiser with a copy to the treasurer to notify them of your payment. Print the “transaction receipt” and give one copy of it to the event organiser and another to Treasurer Colin Fordred.**

Our club bank details are:

**Combined Probus Club of Belrose**  
**BSB: 032123**  
**Account No: 325864**

If you need to pay in cash please place in an envelope for each event with your name on the front and give it to the event organiser. Separate payments in separate envelopes please.

**Preferably no cheques or cash please.**

## BOOK EXCHANGE

Judy Morton (0412 235 400)



Please, no more than one book per member to be brought to the table and to be taken back if no one has taken it by the end of the meeting. PLEASE NO MAGAZINES, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICS (OR SIMILAR).

Jigsaw puzzles may also be exchanged.

On the table there is also a "suggestion box". Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

### **Judy Morton**

Mobile: 0427 235 400

Email: [judy.morton@hotmail.com](mailto:judy.morton@hotmail.com)



## CINEMA/MOVIE GROUP

Rosemary Daly (0403 238 341)



On Wednesday 20th November seven Probus members attended Warriewood cinema to see the movie "Lee" and to chat over a coffee afterwards.

The movie is a powerful biopic of war photojournalist Lee Miller, played superbly by Kate Winslett. It starts with an interview being given to a young man in 1977 & flashes back to her life between 1938-1945.

She begins work as a fashion photographer for Vogue, London, but after World War 2 begins she pushes hard to get to the war zones, a nearly impossible feat for a woman, but she finally achieves her aim to photograph and give a true depiction of the horrors of war from the battles and terrible resulting injuries, to the final absolutely shocking atrocities of the nazi death camps.

The film captures not only the devastating things she witnessed but also the high emotional toll they took on her. Her personality throughout is hard driven and often

impulsive and she copes through chain smoking and with alcohol, but also with the ongoing alliance of a photographer, David Scherman, from New York "Life" magazine who travels with her.

"Vogue", London found her photos too graphically shocking to publish but "Vogue", New York, did so to prove the truth.

Everyone was very glad to have seen the movie.

### **Rosemary Daly**

Mobile: 0403 238 341

Email: [rosedaly14@icloud.com](mailto:rosedaly14@icloud.com)

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

Warwick Brady (0418 793 684)

### **THE AUSTRALIAN TENORS**

We were entertained by The Australian Tenors on Sunday 27th October, five of the best voices brought us romance excitement and humour, the spirit of beautiful authentic tenor voices and a beautiful soprano. A very enjoyable Sunday Afternoon. All our members enjoyed this show.

### **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Finally for the Year 2024 we are looking forward to a double presentation on **Monday 16th December**. The Morning Show is Charlie Check a winner of the Ace Best Male Vocal Performer supported by a four-piece Jazz Quartet

For Christmas the theatre will be offering Morning Tea after the show **Tickets are only \$30.00 each**. We have 30 Tickets ordered and any other tickets should be ordered immediately.

### **CHRISTMAS SONG BOOK**

Afterwards in the **evening of 16<sup>th</sup> December commencing at 7.30pm** get ready to jingle all the way with the one and only DAMI IM with her first Christmas Song Book. Fans of both DAMI and the Holiday Season have a chance to see her live with her band performing a special lineup of tunes with a Christmas Spirit. **Tickets are only \$69.00 each and payments are now required.**

### **2025**

Glen Street Theatre have also advised us that the **Wharf Revue** is coming again **from the 26th March 2025** and also the very popular the **Robertson Brothers 60's Variety TV Show from the 26th May 2025**. I will be asking Members to make their orders **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHEN FURTHER INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED**.

Once again thanks for all your support during 2024 and I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

### **Warwick Brady**

**Entertainment Officer**

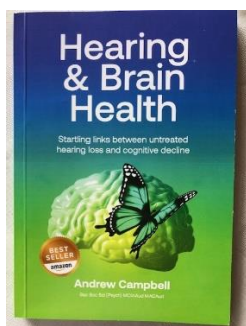
Mobile: 0418 793 684

Email: [warwickandlorna@yahoo.com](mailto:warwickandlorna@yahoo.com)

## GUEST SPEAKERS

Cherry Robinson (0438 186 584)

## NOVEMBER



Andrew Campbell, our November speaker certainly gave us an insight into the field of audiology and of how reduced hearing affects so much of what we do and increases our chances of dementia partly through being socially isolated.

He emphasised the importance of visiting an independent audiologist, rather than part of a group, as they will have access to a greater range of hearing aids to suit each individual. He very generously gave us each a book called Hearing and Brain Health.



Guest Speaker Andrew Campbell and Mike Gibbs who gave the vote of thanks

## DECEMBER

Katie Mae Little is our speaker and the title of her talk is Ummmmm “Oooah Darling, The One and Only Jeanne Little!!” I think she will be entertaining. She describes herself as a cheap imitation of her mother and apart from being an entertainer is a Councillor on Lane Cove Council.

## PROPOSED BOOK CLUB

I mentioned forming a book club at the last meeting and have had a small response, but more members would make it more effective and it is a wonderful way of meeting members with a similar interest.

There will be no more than 10 in a group and we will have access to Book Club kits from Northern Beaches Library. Meetings would be monthly at a venue determined by the group.

If you should be interested please contact me on 0438 186 584.

**Cherry Robinson**

**Guest Speaker Coordinator**

Mobile: 0438 186 584

Email: [cherryrobinson259@gmail.com](mailto:cherryrobinson259@gmail.com)

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## **Letter to the Editor**

I was very impressed with Andrew’s presentation at our last meeting. Thank you, Cherry, for locating a very interesting speaker on Hearing and Brain Health.

I would like to elaborate a little further as to the availability of concessional hearing services through Hearing Australia. Hearing Australia work in conjunction with Australian Government Hearing Services.

Should you come under any of the following categories, it may be of benefit to contact either Hearing Australia or Australian Government Hearing Services:-

- Pensioner Concession Card Holders
- D.V.A. Gold Repatriation Health Card
- Recipients of Sickness Allowance from Centrelink
- Members of Australian Defence Forces.

(Note: A Commonwealth Services Health Card does not provide eligibility for the hearing services programme.)

By contacting either of these agencies, and you are eligible, hearing devices, such as hearing aids and/or cochlear implants, may entitle you to obtain these devices, free of charge, and/or, purchase at a reduced rate. All audiologists at Hearing Australia, are fully qualified in their field and do not work on commissions and the like.

On a personal note, before I was informed about Hearing Australia, I had spent up to \$12,000 on three different sets of hearing aids, all were not suitable for my condition.

Over the past 7 years, I have been with Hearing Australia for my one hearing aid, and Cochlear Australia for my

cochlear. I have not been asked to contribute to any financial payment towards these devices.

Should you wish to speak with me on a confidential basis to find out more, let me know at one of our next meetings.

**Phil Allan.**

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**SOCIAL**

Margaret Lovett (0414 872 189)



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**XMAS LUNCH**  
**MONASH COUNTRY CLUB**

Xmas is Coming !

MONASH COUNTRY CLUB is the place to be on 19th December!!! Price is \$85 per person.

The venue is beautiful, and staff are looking forward to our visit.

We are very fortunate this year to have a very special surprise guest entertainer who is very well known to two families of our Probus Group! EXCITING!!!

Lunch will commence at 12md and there will be seating arrangements in place. The format will be like other functions with a welcome drink and canapes followed by a two course meal with alternate drop and finishing with a dessert and coffee and tea. Drinks will be at your own expense. Dietary requirements to be noted on booking.

Please make bookings and payment online if possible. ASAP

Look forward to seeing a bumper crowd at the last function of the year.

Don't forget the Xmas Bling !!!

Cheers,

**Marg Lovett**

**Social Coordinator**

Mobile: 0414 872 189

Email: [margaret@lovett.com.au](mailto:margaret@lovett.com.au)

**MORNING TEA**  
**ST IVES SHOWGROUND**  
**31 OCOBER**

On the morning of 31st October a small circle of chairs started to form on the grass under the shade of some beautiful trees. Gradually this circle widened as more Probians arrived until there were 30 of us. Coffee and pastries from The Black Knight Cafe were enjoyed along with stimulating conversations and repartee. it was a carefree morning.

Thank you to those who attended. We look forward to a further similar event.

**Di Pill**

**Ros Thompson**







## TOURS AND OUTINGS

Margaret Ayre (0423 302 069)

Dear Members,

Our next outing to **Banana Cabana** on December 5th has been confirmed.

The outing to the **Sydney GPO** on February 6th 2025 has been confirmed. There is a limit of 30 people.

Cost \$20.00 pp for a conducted tour.

The visit to the **Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre** tour on Thursday 6th March 2025 has yet to be confirmed.

The outing to **Hawkesbury Winter Yulefest** has been confirmed, July 19th, 2025, with On Course Coach Tours. This is a weekend outing.

The Hawkesbury Crowne Plaza have reserved 25 rooms for us, so first in best dressed. This is a one off for the resort, we will be going to the new airport on the Saturday and the Windsor area on the Sunday.

Please see newsletter for further details of all the above.

Thank you to all the members that have supported me during the year, because without your participation the outings wouldn't happen.

Wishing one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year.

**Margaret Ayre**  
**Outings/Tours Coordinator**  
Mobile: 0423 302 069  
Email: [margayre1@gmail.com](mailto:margayre1@gmail.com)

## BANANA CABANA PRIMATE SANCTUARY

10 Coppabella Road Middle Dural  
NSW

Thursday December 5th, 2024, At  
10.30am.



This is a 3 hour tour of the sanctuary including High Tea

For 40 years Banana Cabana has been home to many monkeys retiring from Fauna Parks, Circus's, Research Facilities and private ownership.

We hope visitors to our Sanctuary will understand our residents may not be overly active, or looking quite as good as they did in their younger years, but they have done their bit in their former careers to educate and entertain us and can now sit back and enjoy retirement in a tranquil and peaceful environment.

At Banana Cabana we do not breed or trade animals, nor do we purposely seek to acquire monkeys of a different species to enhance our collection. Our monkeys stay with us for the rest of their lives, and we commit to providing the ultimate for each of them as an individual.

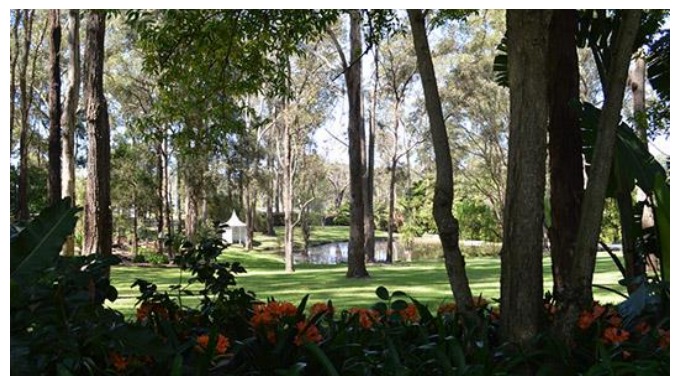
In consideration of our monkeys, we limit the days and times our Sanctuary accepts guests, and every guest is always accompanied by a qualified keeper.

Your support in visiting our Sanctuary is truly, sincerely, appreciated, and enables us to continue to care for our beautiful residents.

Visitors experience a fully escorted keeper tour and personal introduction to each of our residents. Keepers provide guests with information about each monkey's unique history, the natural history and current conservation status of the species and the extraordinary ethnoornithological connection between human and non-human primates.

Visitors can hand feed some of the monkeys through the wire and are invited after the tour to relax with complementary light refreshments (tea/coffee/soft drinks/biscuits/scones etc.) overlooking the Sanctuary and gardens.

Limited to 30-40 people. This will be a car share day. Cost of \$60.00pp.



## Sydney GPO Martin Place Sydney



Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Discover the rich history of the former Sydney General Post Office building with our resident guide on the GPO Heritage Tour.**

The Sydney General Post Office (GPO) was constructed in two stages, beginning in 1866 and designed under the guidance of colonial architect James Barnet. It was regarded as a building which would come to symbolise Sydney in the same way the Houses of Parliament in Westminster represent London and the Eiffel Tower, Paris.

On September 1, 1874, the first stage of the GPO was opened, and Sydney was mesmerised by the first major building development in Sydney. In 1891, the clock tower was finally completed, and the bells rang out across Sydney for the first time.

Delve into the vibrant history and culture of Sydney's former GPO and let our resident tour guide bring you on a journey through time on the GPO Heritage Tour, to discover the stories, tales and legends of the city's iconic Grand Dame.

### **Meeting Point**

The Fullerton Hotel Sydney – Concierge

### **Timing**

Tuesday through Saturday at 11:45AM

The tour duration is 90 minutes. The tour takes approximately 2,327 steps to complete.

Please note that the Heritage Tours do not include access to the GPO Clock Tower.

Cost \$20.00pp

Margaret Ayre

Outings/Tours Coordinator

margayre1@gmail.com

Ph; 0423 302 069

There is a limit of 15 persons per tour. Followed by lunch PAYG.

Please don't be put off by the number of steps - when we did the Cricket Ground tour we walked about the same number of steps and you are not aware at the time of how many you have done.

## Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre tour Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025



Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

The Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre is located next to the Quakers Hill Water Resource Recovery Facility (previously known as Wastewater Treatment Plant). Here, wastewater is tertiary treated before it is returned to the environment or enters the Discovery Centre.

The Discovery Centre opens to the community for tours in 2024.

### **What to wear and bring**

**You must wear sturdy, fully enclosed, flat soled shoes** (no open toes shoes such as sandals, thongs, ballet flats, or heels). Long pants are preferred.

Safety glasses will be provided for a section of the tour, if you have your own you may wish to bring them.

Please bring a bottle of water with you. You can refill this on site.

### **How to get there**

Address: 240 Quakers Road, Quakers Hill

Continue straight to Gate 1 'Welcome to the Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre'.

Press and hold the intercom button located on the right side of the road and a Community Education Officer will open the gate.

Enter through the gate and park in the first car park on the right, opposite the Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre.

Margaret Ayre

Outings/Tours Coordinator

margayre1@gmail.com

Ph; 0423 302 069

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This outing will be confirmed later in the year.

# OnCourse

TOURS AND TRAVEL



## HAWKESBURY WINTER YULEFEST



19<sup>TH</sup> – 20<sup>TH</sup> July 2025

2 DAY TOUR

Experience the charm of the Hawkesbury region and join us for a magical Yulefest weekend at the Hawkesbury Crowne Plaza. Immerse yourself in the spirit of the season with festive décor, full traditional and seafood Buffet Dinner, 3 hour beverage package and lively entertainment, including a visit from Santa himself!

Our first day will see us travelling southwest to embark on a journey of discovery at the Western Sydney International Experience Centre, showcasing the exciting developments and endless possibilities. We will have a clear view of the future airfield and be able to watch the airport come to life.



Gain valuable insights into Australia's first smart airport and its impacts on the region, where immersive and interactive displays take visitors on a journey to learn about the Airport. Have access to project information, digital engagement and learning opportunities.

Following our tour we will enjoy lunch in Camden before a visit to the Camden Museum. Housed in a charming heritage building, the museum features a diverse collection of artifacts, photographs, and documents that highlight the region's Aboriginal heritage, colonial past, and agricultural development.

11 Tepko Road, Terrey Hills

PO BOX 188 TERREY HILLS NSW 2084 | FAX: 02 9986 2455 | PH: 02 9986 2400  
www.oncoursetours.com | ABN 65 002 335 686 2TA: 004591

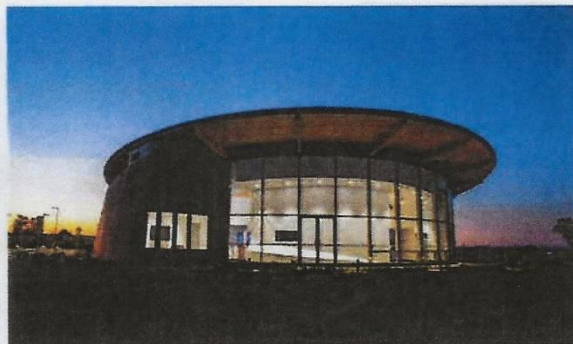
Prepare to discover the rich history of this fertile region as our Heritage Guide, Judith Dunn OAM joins the coach in the morning. As we travel to Ebenezer, Judith will share intriguing stories about the early settlers and the remarkable development of the area. Our adventure includes a visit to Australia's oldest church, established in 1809, where we will delve into its fascinating history and significance. This is a unique opportunity to connect with the past and gain a deeper appreciation for the heritage of the Hawkesbury district!

Walk in the oldest town square at Windsor and hear stories of scandal and intrigue before a driving tour of the area to view pioneer buildings as we hear many more stories.

We will stop at St Matthews Church, known for its beautiful Georgian architecture and said to be one of the best works of Architect Francis Greenway. The church is renowned for its historic graveyard, where many early settlers and notable figures are buried and we will tour the most interesting graves in the cemetery.

Cost per person is \$615.00 twin share including all meals, admissions, guide and luxury transportation. Single supplement is \$155.00. Hawkesbury Crowne Plaza (Ph: 02 4577 4222).

*\*\*\* Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances \*\*\**



## WALKING GROUP

Helen Miles (0407 078 963) (9451 8777)

### NOVEMBER WALK



The next walk is on **Friday 29 November** at North Head which now has a new easy walk with plenty of incredible views.

This is a car sharing walk. The group will meet at the car park near the Bella Vista café at 9:15 for a 9:30 start with coffee in the café.

After the walk some members may like to go to lunch at Wakehurst Golf Club.

The walking group provides both exercise and a chance to get to know one another.

**Helen Miles**

**Walks Coordinator**

Mobile: 0407 078 963.

Phone: (02)9451 8777

Email: [milesawile@bigpond.com](mailto:milesawile@bigpond.com)



## WELFARE

Robyn Wood (0424 243 457)

19 November - Chris Wood had an appointment with his knee surgeon at NBH so we also visited Neville Marsh - snoring nicely! He has been a very sick man - over the worst now.

Margaret Hobson presented at the ER at NBH with a racing heart and the cardio team got her back to normal and about to go home.

Whilst we were visiting that was not all - David Walker gave the doctors at NBH a real problem - still doing lots of testing. Think Lesley should have a sleeping bag there. He still has his sense of humour and really not sure what is wrong with him.

Good job they have a floor at NBH almost taken up with Probus members. Is this a record ? !!

And these are only the only ones we know about.

**Robyn Wood**

**Welfare Officer**

Mobile: 0424 243 457

Email: [chriswood4@hotmail.com](mailto:chriswood4@hotmail.com)





**WRAP WITH LOVE**

Margaret Hobson (0416 090 140)

Wrap With Love was founded by Sonia Gidley King, OAM in 1992. Its first home was at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Rose Bay

In the next 30 years to 2022 618,810 wraps were made and distributed throughout the world.

Then in 2023 a further 29,560 wraps were distributed to the following countries:

Armenia	3,625
Australia	10,951
Ethiopia	250
Fiji	100
Philippines	2,430
Syria	6,062
Turkiye	3,761
Ukraine	2,032
Vanuatu	279
Zimbabwe	<u>70</u>
Total	<u>29,560</u>

The wraps distributed in Australia went to women’s refuges, nursing homes, organisations supporting refugees, bundles for new-born babies, organisations working with indigenous communities, and communities in need.

(Information taken from Wrap with Love Annual Bulletin 2024.)

**Margaret Hobson**  
**Wrap With Love Coordinator**  
Mobile: 0416 090 140  
Email: [mhobson@iimetro.com.au](mailto:mhobson@iimetro.com.au)

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*December Birthdays*

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- 1st Jenny West
  - 9th Warwick Brady
  - 11th Lyn Morris
  - 13th Jean Morrow
  - 14th Ivan Krajancic
  - 19th Judy Barnes
  - 19th Barbara Ellis
  - 19th Glenda Tinson
  - 20th Kathy Bennett
  - 24th Tony Somerville
  - 27th Pam Bennett
-