



MOCCO'S MUSINGS

Musings – a period of reflections
or thought



Greetings All,

It's been a busy few weeks as we prepare for our Annual General Meeting. Our secretary, Alison has been working hard making sure the proceedings go smoothly.

Our yearly end of term get together lunch was held at the Forest Hotel with over 30 attendees present, comprising the committee and our all important sub committee and their partners. We were allocated a private area, known as the Stag Room. It was a very enjoyable couple of hours.

Last Tuesday Vice President Mike and I attended a Probus Northern Beaches meeting. The various probus clubs send delegates to report on recent activities and guest speakers. On the agenda was an item concerning the lack of members willing to volunteer for committee positions. So our own club is not alone with this problem. Recently a probus club in the Narrabeen area had to fold due to its inability to fill committee positions.

On the subject of volunteers, we are losing three valued committee members at our AGM, Margaret Ayre, Marg Lovett and Colin Fordred. All are retiring. All three have made major contributions to the success of our club in recent years.

Well, this is my final report for the newsletter. I have enjoyed considering subjects on which to write. It was not a difficult task as we have so many various activities to report on. However I might miss our editor, Jenny Jones prompting me to hurry up and send her my message at the end of each month!

I hope you found some of the “thoughts of the month” interesting.

In closing I wish the incoming committee all the very best for the year ahead.

Thought for the Month

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”

Cheers
President Peter

Some photos taken at the recent end of year lunch for committee members



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/>

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

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



MARCH 2025

3 March – Picnic/Coffee Morning
St Ives Showground

6 March – Tours
Purified Recycled Water Discovery
Centre

11 March – Book Club Meeting

12 March – Mahjong Group

13 March – General Meeting
(AGM)

13 March – Cards and Games
Group (after general meeting and
AGM)

26 March – Mahjong Group

27 March – Committee Meeting

27 March – Entertainment
Wharf Revue

28 March – Walk
Darling Harbour to Anzac Bridge



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 CLUB

Cherry Robinson (0438 186 584)

The Book Club has had a good start with two meetings and an interesting discussion after the first book we read which was a collection of short stories, probably a style we will not read often.

This month's book is The Book Binders of Jericho by Pip Williams, who previously wrote The Dictionary of Lost Words.

As we have sufficient members for this group, if any other members are interested another book club group can be commenced. Please contact me if you are interested.

Cherry Robinson
Book Club Coordinator

Mobile: 0438 186 584

Email:

cherryrobinson259@gmail.com

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

BREAKFAST/COFFEE MORNINGS FOR BOTH LADIES AND MEN

Ros Thompson) (0416 086 766)

Di Pill. (0403 003 639)

Dear Probus Members

MARCH PICNIC

Please note change of date for picnic is now Wednesday 5th March

Location: St Ives Showground

Time: 10:00am

At: Black Knight Café

A great opportunity for new members to meet people.

Please bring your own chair. If you prefer you can bring your own coffee and morning tea.

BREAKFAST/COFFEE MORNINGS

Location For Ladies

Date: Monday 7th April

At: Acacia Eatery,
Glenrose Shopping Cnt.
Time: 9:30 am

Please RSVP by Friday 4th April.

Contact:

Di Pill 0403 003 639
Ros Thompson 0416 086 766

Location for Men.

Date: Monday 7 April

At: Imbue Café,
Cnr Yindella Street and Pound Ave,
Davidson.
Time: 9.30am

Please RSVP: by Friday 4th April.

Contact:

Di Pill 0403 003 639
Ros Thompson 0416 086 766

Looking forward to seeing you at these events.

Ros and Di

CINEMA/MOVIES

Rosemary Daly (0403 238 341)

CONCLAVE – it's quite a movie.

Suggested by our member Rosemary Daly, a group of Probians saw Conclave on the 11th February, down at Warriewood. Fictitiously, it highlighted the challenges and infighting that took place within the Vatican as a new Pope was being selected. The story brought out the intrigue of egos, desires for power and humbleness of interplay conducted in the centuries old establishment, that heads up the worldwide Catholic Church. The film was beautifully shot with much subtle colouring and scenes in the opulent rooms, within and around the Vatican. Character development was strong and we felt for the problems that the various characters endured.

Could it be true in concept, probably yes ? One only has to look at the similar challenges within large and small corporations and even right down to the family level. Egos, the drive for power and humbleness, also thrive in all these levels. Why would it be different within the Vatican. My only slight disappointment was I felt there could have been a deeper feeling of fear or uncertainty. At the times of high challenge and unexpectedness, I felt it was a little flat.

And of course, did I like it. Yes, I did. I look forward to the next Probus movie outing.

Hastings Pawsey



On Tuesday 25th February 11 people from Probus attended the Movie "Maria" at Warriewood cinema & 10 stayed afterwards for a chat over coffee & toasted sandwiches to discuss the film.

Although there were mixed reviews, (it was slow in parts), most enjoyed the movie, including the music, even for those who were not opera aficionados.

The movie portrays the final days of famed American/Greek opera singer Maria Callas until her death in 1977 aged 53. By then her wonderful soprano voice has gone & she hasn't performed in years & has retreated to live in Paris in an opulent "gothic" apartment with her two loyal staff, Ferruccio, her butler, & Bruna, her housekeeper & 2 small poodles. She suffers melancholy, depression & frequent hallucinations & becomes reliant on a mixture of pills. She also pines for the lost true love of her life, Aristotle Onassis. When a film crew come to make a bio of her life the film intersperses black & white footage of her past including her impoverished & difficult childhood.

Angelina Jolie is mesmerising & plays the role of Maria superbly.

Rosemary Daly

ENTERTAINMENT

Warwick Brady (0418 793 684)

Hi Everyone,

Well we have been to the first two shows for 2025 - both were enjoyable.

Firstly Petula Clark the best of British a great show on the worst day weatherwise for many months. The weather was so bad the last three numbers had to be abandoned when a blackout hit the theatre. Apart from this the show was very enjoyable.

The Second Show was "Vayne's World"- Spiegelesque a fun show when Wayne Scott Kermond and his team had the audience eating out of their hands. Really a great show enjoyed by all

WHARF REVUE

Next up is the final production of "Wharf Revue" with the original cast. Both shows on **Thursday 27th March at 7.30pm** and the **Matinee on Wednesday 2nd April at 2.00pm** are full. It is a special chance to see this wonderful cast. Please make sure you collect your tickets from Warwick Brady. Remember how good these productions are

BILLY ELLIOTT – THE MUSICAL

We have the privilege of seeing a really wonderful show **BILLY ELLIOTT - THE MUSICAL** at Glen Street on **Saturday 26th April at 7.30pm**. Sydney Youth Musical Theatre will be performing this wonderful production. This is a

spectacular show described as "Best Musical of the Decade" by Time Magazine, and we have excellent seats **Tickets are \$55.00** and we have 50 seats reserved already. If you are really interested please advise Warwick Brady on 0418793684 as soon as possible.

SHORT AND SWEET

From the Producers of "Spiegelesque"- Short and Sweet bridges the gap from Frank Sinatra to Robbie Williams and everything in between. A wonderful Sunday Soiree. **Sunday Afternoon 18th May at 1.00pm. Ticket Price \$40.00.** Bookings are open, make your booking at soon as possible.

THE ROBERTSON BROTHERS 1960'S VARIETY SHOW

The Robertson Brothers are returning with a Variety TV Show to pay tribute to the musical giants of the 1960's namely The Beatles, Del Shannon, the Beach Boys, the Hollies, the Bee Gees, and the Everley Brothers. Simon Brook McLachlan (from the original Australian cast of the Jersey Boys) is also included. What a spectacular show. **Price for this show is \$76.95.** The show is on **Wednesday 28th May at 7.00pm.** Please make your booking as soon as possible.

Hope you really enjoy one or all of these shows.

Warwick Brady
Entertainment Officer
Mobile: 0418 793 684
Email: warwickandlorna@yahoo.com

GUEST SPEAKERS

Cherry Robinson (0438 186 584)

FEBRUARY

Our speaker in February was Andrew Gill, a Northern Beaches lawyer whose subject was Elder Abuse.

Unfortunately this is a subject we should all be aware of, for ourselves and friends. It is a frightening statistic that 1 in 6 may experience it from our family, carers or others we consult particularly on legal or financial matters.

His talk created numerous questions and discussion later.

MARCH

Due to the A.G.M. in March there will be no speaker.



Andrew Gill – February Guest Speaker

Cherry Robinson
Guest Speaker Coordinator
Mobile: 0438 186 584
Email: cherryrobinson259@gmail.com

MAHJONG, CARDS AND GAMES GROUPS

Mike Hartnell (0419 717 382)

The Mahjong group and Cards and Games group are under way!

After our February General Meeting 10 of us had lunch then met to enjoy some Mahjong and some Rummikub and Sequence.

Capably and patiently guided by Cherry Robinson, six of us, some beginners and some new to the game, enjoyed Mahjong until about 3pm. Four more played Rummikub and Sequence. What a good group!

MAHJONG



For the Mahjong group we have arranged for a lovely lady, Estelle, to give us some introductory lessons.

We will meet at the Forest Kirk Church hall in Fitzpatrick St, Frenchs Forest at 10 o'clock on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. We start on March 12, then March 26, then April 9th.

Please let me know if you will be coming.

CARDS AND GAMES

The Cards and Games group will be able to play at Forest Hotel after our Thursday General Meetings. If you would like to join us after the AGM on March 13 we'll be at it again.

Scrabble and cards will also be on offer if we get enough starters.

Please let me know if you are coming and what you would like to play, so I can ensure we have enough tables. Look forward to seeing you there.

Mike Hartnell

Mobile: 0419 717 382

Email: mikes@interpeace.com

SOCIAL

Megan Hartnell (0402 102 055)

This will be my last report. The swansong was Silk Dining on 27th February which was attended by 31 people.

Thank you all for your continued support over the last few years.

I can attest that this role will be very ably handled by Megan, and I am certain she will have support from you all.

Regards
Marg Lovett

Firstly, I'd like to thank Margaret Lovett for the wonderful job she has done as social coordinator for the last few years. Hers will be very big shoes to fill but, with her expert mentoring, we can muddle along together.

LIMANI'S RESTAURANT

Our next outing will be at Limani's restaurant on Narrabeen Lake on **Wednesday, 23 April at 12:30 pm.** Our lunch will include a main and dessert with a glass of wine, champagne or soft drink for \$40.

Please make your food and drink choices with Tony Lovett at the March or April meeting as I will be overseas until 16th April. Beautiful venue, great food, come along and enjoy!

DEE WHY RSL LUNCH

We have a booking at the Aqua restaurant at Dee Why RSL for **Thursday, May 22nd at 12:30 pm.** There is plenty of parking with very easy access. The food is good and reasonably priced and we can order when we arrive.

Looking forward to sharing these lunches with Probus friends and hoping to get to know some new members at the same time.

Megan Hartnell

Mobile: 0402102055

Email: megt11@bigpond.com

TOURS AND OUTINGS

Margaret Ayre (0423 302 069)

Thank you to all members that have supported me over the past 3 years on the Outings and Tours. From all the feedback I have received it appears that most of you all had an enjoyable time.

I've had lots of pleasure out of researching the different places of interest, for you to visit

It's now time for me to stand down and allow someone else to take over. Unless someone is willing to fill the position there will be no further outings or tours. So please give it some thought.

SYDNEY GPO

The visit to the GPO on February 6th was fantastic. Thank you to all who attended.

We had a great day out. I've had fantastic feedback from members saying how much they enjoyed the outing.

Leisa and Vickie were delightful tour guides who told us so much about the GPO, highlighting the rich history and architecture of the building

Our tour went overtime, Leisa was only too happy to answer all our questions

We all came away having learned at least one good piece of advice: Learn to look up and see the beauty of the buildings in our city. A thank you letter was sent.

PURIFIED RECYCLED WATER DISCOVERY CENTRE

Thursday 6th March 2025 at 1.30pm.
240 Quakers Road, Quakers Hill

The next outing is to the Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre 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.

No charge for this outing.

For those wanting to have lunch before the tour, I suggest we meet at 12 noon for lunch. Quakers Inn prides itself on the highest quality food & beverage, value for money & always ensuring the best possible service for each of its customers.

Quakers Inn 7, Nirimba Drive, Quakers Hill. The reviews were very good.

MACHU PICCHU AND THE GOLDEN EMPIES OF PERU EXHIBITION AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

This outing is planned for 1st May 2025 tour at 11.45am followed by lunch if you wish to participate. It's up to you to purchase your own tickets online at \$33.50 concession.

Please see newsletter.

HAWKESBURY WINTER YULEFEST

19-20 July 2025

We have 20 rooms reserved and deposits paid. This is a 2-day tour over a weekend.

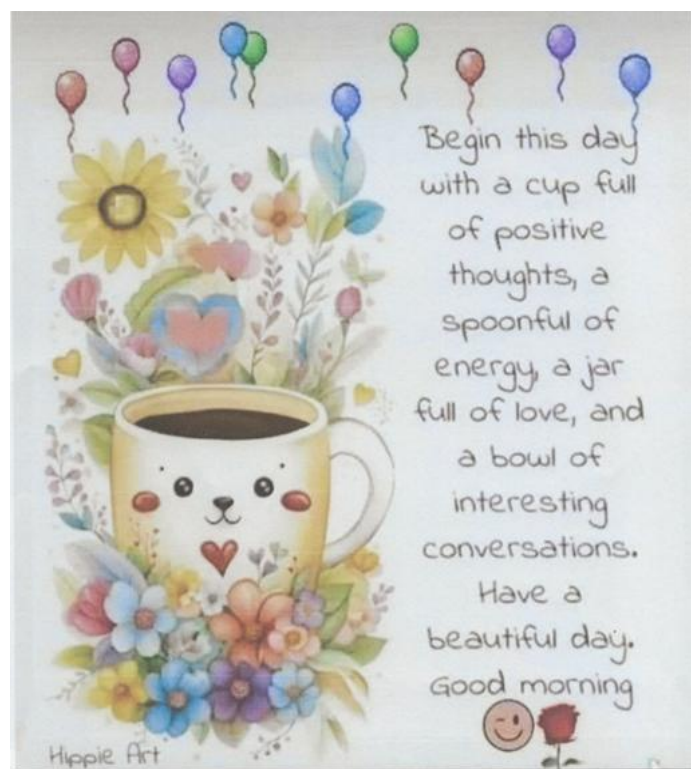
Final balance due by 19th June 2025 amount owing Twin \$515.00. pp Single \$670.00.pp

Thank You again for all your support

Margaret Ayre
Outings/Tours Coordinator

Mobile: 0423 302 069

Email: margayre1@gmail.com



**Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre tour
Thursday 6th March 2025**



Thursday 6th 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

For those wanting to have lunch before the tour, I suggest we meet at 12 noon for lunch.

Quakers Inn prides itself on the highest quality food and beverage, value for money and always ensuring the best possible service for each of its customers.

Quakers Inn 7 Nirimba Drive, Quakers Hill. The reviews were very good.

No charge for this outing.

MACHU PICCHU AND THE GOLDEN EMPIRES OF PERU EXHIBITION



Uncover the mysteries of ancient Peru

Explore the rich heritage of some of the world's most captivating civilisations at the Australian Museum's Machu Picchu and the Golden Empires of Peru exhibition. Using a combination of state-of-the-art projections, video and priceless artefacts, this immersive experience offers an unparalleled glimpse into the opulent history of the Andean people.

Come face to face with over 130 ancient artefacts including exquisite jewellery, funerary objects from royal tombs and one of the most impressive gold collections to tour the globe. These priceless treasures illuminate the artistic brilliance and cultural sophistication of ancient Peru, offering fascinating insights into the daily lives, spiritual beliefs and extraordinary achievements of these ancient civilisations.

Marvel at the wonders of legendary Machu Picchu, the pinnacle of Inca engineering. You'll unravel the mysteries of how ancient Peruvian societies flourished in harmony with the challenging environment and learn why their innovations continue to inspire awe today.

A small side area showcases erotic ceramic artefacts that illustrate the Andean fascination with natural life cycles, birth and death. Take home the magic of ancient Peru with the souvenir book for Machu Picchu and the Golden Empires of Peru. Featuring breathtaking photography and in-depth narrative about the artefacts on display, it's the perfect keepsake to relive your journey through the legendary empires of ancient Peru.

Don't miss out on your chance to see these stunning exhibits first-hand. Exclusive to the Australian Museum, 1 William Street, Sydney. the exhibition is in Australia for a limited time only.

The outing is planned for 1st May 2025 at 11. 45am.anyone that is interested must purchase their own tickets on line.at a cost of \$33.50 pp concession. Followed by lunch at your own expense.

Please register on line for a show of interest.

Les Bassett one of our members is a volunteer at the museum and is willing to take a limit of 10 people around for a free conducted tour of the main museum, not the Machu Picchu exhibition

WALKING GROUP

Helen Miles (0407 078 963)

Our March walk is on **Friday 28th** and is Darling Harbour to the Anzac Bridge, led by Helen. Meet at the Glenrose bus stop at 9.05am for the 9.14am City Bus (271) to the Queen Victoria Building. We will walk down to Darling Harbour for coffee at the cafe at the Maritime Museum then walk around the Harbour foreshore to the Anzac Bridge, enjoying glorious views and some amazing units, with the option of having lunch in the area.

There are bus and light rail options back to the City for those not wishing to walk back. This walk is predominantly flat after downhill to Darling Harbour but the return route to the bus home has uphill sections.

Helen Miles

Walks Coordinator

Mobile: 0407 078 963

Email: milesawile@bigpond.com

WRAP WITH LOVE

Margaret Hobson (0416 090 140)

Many thanks to the Probus members who produced completed wraps and to those who produced squares to be sewn into wraps. The yarn received was most welcome.

Our total wraps now stands at 1600 which is a fantastic effort.

Each wrap contains 28 squares so....
1600 wraps each with 28 squares = a total of 44,800 squares

Shown below are some of our latest wraps.

Margaret Hobson

Wrap With Love Coordinator

Mobile: 0416 090 140

Email: mhobson@iimetro.com.au





March Birthdays



4th Jean Scott

6th Barry Lowe

7th Merle Fox

10th Barry Hackshall

20th Chris Bowman

20th Kathleen Chesterton

21st Lesley Walker

22nd John Worboys

23rd Geoff Huntington

26th Megan Hartnell

28th Pam Lowe

31st Mike Hartnell
