



July 2025

NEWSLETTER

No: 4/2025

Meeting held 4th Tuesday of each month – 10.00am for 10.30am start

Castle Hill Bowling Club, Castle Street, Castle Hill

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Members

We will be presenting our new Constitution to members at this month's meeting with our recommendations for its approval. We will also be presenting the amended Standing Resolutions for their approval, subject to an amendment to be moved at the meeting.

Following recent changes made by Probus South Pacific Ltd ("PSPL") regarding members' emergency contact details where it is stated "*this person should not be a member of the club*", there will be a need for some members to amend their previous instructions. We will contact them individually. These instructions will then remain, alleviating the need for annual declarations.

At this month's committee meeting it was decided to discontinue the practice of the birthday baskets as it was becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable gifts within our price range. We will of course continue to celebrate members' birthdays at our monthly meetings.

In a return to a previous tradition where we enjoyed a Christmas morning tea supplied by members, we have moved the November meeting to the Harvey Lowe Pavilion.

I am pleased that we will induct two new members this month and we have two more visitors who have expressed an interest in joining our club. If you have any friends who you think would enjoy the activities, as well as the Fun Friendship and Fellowship of this club, please invite them along to a meeting.

I am looking forward to this week's Christmas in July lunch and note that it is sold out! The Bus Train and Ferry trip to the Chinese Gardens, and lunch at The Little Snail, was very popular.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 22nd, in the meantime keep warm and busy with our various activities.

Stuart Hutton
President

CALENDARS

July

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<div>1</div> <div>Coffee & Chat</div> <div>Table of Knowledge</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Book Club 2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Garden Chat</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Bowls</div>	<div>5</div>
<div>6</div>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Committee Meeting</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Bus Train & Ferry</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Book Club 1</div> <div>Genealogy Group Fairfield Museum</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Newsletter Deadline</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Theatre – The play that goes wrong – 2pm</div>
<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Craft</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Games</div> <div>Christmas in July - Camden Valley Inn</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Bowls</div>	<div>19</div>
<div>20</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Travel Discussion</div>	<div>22</div> <div>General Meeting</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Dinner</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Wine Appreciation</div> <div>Walking</div>	<div>26</div>
<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Theatre – CATS 1pm</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Lunch</div>		

August

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Bowls 1	2
3	Genealogy 4	Coffee & Chat Table of Knowledge 5	Book Club No 2 6	Garden Chat 7	8	9
10	11	Activity Meeting Committee Meeting 12	Bus Train & Ferry 13	Book Club No 1 14	Bowls Newsletter Deadline 15	16
17	Travel Discussion 18	Craft Dinner 19	Games 20	21	22	23
24	25	General Meeting 26	27	Lunch 28	Walking 29	30
31						

September

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Genealogy	2 Coffee & Chat Table of Knowledge	3 Book Club No 2	4 Garden Chat	5 Bowls	6
7	8	9 Committee Meeting	10 Bus, Train & Ferry	11 Book Club No 1	12 Deadline for Newsletter	13
14	15 Travel Discussion Road Trip Oberon – Mudgee 15th - 19th	16 Craft Dinner	17 Games	18	19 Bowls Road Trip Oberon – Mudgee 15th - 19th	20
21	22	23 General Meeting	24	25 Lunch	26 Wine Appreciation Walking	27
28	29	30				

INDUCTIONS

We welcomed our new member to the Club at our June meeting.

Welcome to Dave Clark, we hope you enjoy the fellowship, form many friendships and have fun.



BIRTHDAY WISHES

Happy birthday to all our members who have a birthday in July!



Rhonda BEACH

Helen BENNETT

Alan BOLT

Janine CROAN

Carmen FRASCA

Bess GRIFFITH

Joan HAY

Lynne HUTTON

Lyn IVANOV

Carol KNOL

Phyllis LOPEZ

Helen LOWE

Clarrie PALMER-BURTON

Carmel SIMPSON

Di WALMSLEY

As the President mentioned in his message, we will be discontinuing the Birthday Baskets. There are still a few items left and they will be in a basket on the stage so if birthday members would like to collect one at the morning tea break, then please do so while they last.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Our next Meeting will be on **Tuesday 22nd July, 2025** at Castle Hill Bowls Club, with arrival from 10.00am for a **10.30am** start.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for this month's meeting will need to go to **Kerrie Pollard** whose details are:
Email: secretarykgpc@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

Submissions for the Newsletter next month - please forward via email to **Janet Bennett** on or preferably before **5.00pm Friday 8th August, 2025**

HOSPITALITY

MORNING TEA ROSTER		WELCOME HOSTS ROSTER
July	Helen Lowe Dee Bower Gaile Glynn Jillian Collins	Di Coghlan David Waters

Volunteers, could you please arrive by **9.45 am** to set up. Thank you.

Carol Leaver

POSTAL ADDRESS

Members, for your information our postal address is PO Box 3193, Rouse Hill NSW 2155

SUGGESTION BOX

A reminder that a Suggestion Box is located near the sign-in area at each monthly meeting. Your suggestions are welcome and will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

25th NOVEMBER - CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA

As mentioned in the President's message, this year, the Committee has decided to have our Christmas Morning Tea of old.

It will be held on the 25th November at the Harvey Lowe Pavillion in the Arts precinct of the Castle Hill Showground.



It will commence at the normal time of 10.00am for a 10.30am start. There is plenty of parking available around the Pavillion.

We will conduct a short meeting as we normally do, and then celebrate Xmas

together as this will be our last meeting for the year.

We will be providing tea and coffee but as we used to, we would like to cater it ourselves. The past couple of years we have paid for our morning tea, but this year we ask that members bring a small plate of fare to share, whether it be savoury or sweet, for everyone to enjoy.

Over the next few months, I will have lists for savoury and sweet donations on a table as you enter the hall for the meeting. If you could please register your name on the lists it will make for a much more enjoyable morning.

Looking forward to a fun and enjoyable meeting.

Regards
Janet Bennett

GUEST SPEAKERS



Preet Chouchan who works at Service NSW joined us in June.

Her role as the Savings Finder Specialist is to assist and support customers with saving money by applying for current rebates and vouchers.

Preet informed us of some initiatives and programs available through both Governmental and non-Governmental agencies.

Many members booked an appointment with her at Service NSW Castle Hill.

July 2025

Joining us this month is Jim Hayes. Jim is an author of 34 books of Australian history, humour and verse. He is 2GB's Australiana broadcaster.

For our meeting, Jim's presentation is titled 'Perhaps I'm Sentimental'. It is an entertaining PowerPoint presentation of history, humour, poetry, opinions and observations from Jim's book of personal memoirs. Jim's talk is full of nostalgia and humour for the Baby Boomers.

August 2025

Our August speaker, Martha Jabour OAM, established the Homicide Victims Support Group Australia in 1993 to care for families and friends of homicide victims. The HVSG has provided life-changing counselling and support to over 2,000 members.

Using her experience across grief, trauma and crisis management in 2013 Martha established her vision for a world-first trauma recovery facility. She inspired politicians, companies and community members to fundraise and Blacktown Council provided the land for Grace's Place which opened in 2023.

In April 2024, Grace's Place provided care for overseas families of the victims of the Sydney shopping centre attack, including accommodation, counselling and funeral assistance.

Ann Woodward
Guest Speaker Convenor

EVENTS

QUESTIONNAIRE

Attached to this month's Newsletter email is a questionnaire. If you would be kind enough to take the time to print it out and complete those sections of particular interest to you, it would provide a valuable insight into what activities are of interest to our members and be of assistance in offering the most appropriate activities and events for your enjoyment going forward. If you would please bring your completed form to the next meeting and either place it in the folder which will be at the sign-in desk, or hand to me at the activities table. Thanks in advance.

SELF-DRIVE ROAD TRIP – OBERON & MUDGEES

Monday 15th – Friday 19th September

This trip is now fully booked.
Those who are on the wait list will be notified should a place become available



VALLEY HEIGHTS RAIL MUSEUM & NORMAN LINDSAY GALLERY & MUSEUM



On this trip we'll be heading to the Blue Mountains to visit the Valley Heights Rail Museum. After an enjoyable morning tea on arrival, we'll explore the oldest roundhouse in NSW, learn about



the history of the railroad in the Blue Mountains, and enjoy a 20-minute ride on either the 1890's Sydney Steam Tramcar or 1890's country branch line steam train. You'll also have the opportunity to view the incredible collection of artefacts and memorabilia on display. After a 2 course lunch at The Orient Hotel in Springwood we'll spend the afternoon exploring the amazing Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum.

THERE ARE STILL SEATS AVAILABLE ON THE BUS FOR THIS TRIP

When: Thursday 16th October

Cost: \$117.00

PAYMENT DUE BEFORE FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Come along and join us for an enjoyable end of year Christmas lunch in the relaxed surrounds of the Castle Hill Country Club. There is ample parking available on site.

When: Wednesday 10th December

Where: Castle Hill Country Club,
7 Spurway Drive,
NORWEST

Cost: \$74.00 per person

Cocktail on Arrival
2 Course Meal
Tea and Coffee
Drinks can be purchased
at own expense



Monica Drew – Events Convenor

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

Hi there members!

Isn't it wonderful to have so many activities that we can be a part of! Also, the trips that Monica Drew organises.

When you speak to the Activity Leaders, please thank them for their time and efforts to have the activities available for us.

If you have any questions or feedback for me or the team, please let us know as we are willing to assist you.

I will continue to interview our Activity Leaders so that you get to see what we have on offer for you to enjoy.

Please see the table below showing the Activity attendance as at 10th July. We have an average of 13 members per activity.

Activities	Meetings	Attendees	Average
Book No. 1	3	22	7
Book No. 2	3	19	6
Bowls	4	52	13
Bus Train & Ferry	3	46	15
Coffee and Chat	4	72	18
Craft	2	15	8
Dinner	1	25	25
Garden Chat	4	62	16
Genealogy	2	12	6
Lunch	2	38	19
Movies	3	25	8
Special events	1	20	20
Table of Knowledge	4	63	16
Theatre	1	12	12
Travel Discussion	2	31	16
Walking	1	17	17
Wine Appreciation	1	24	24
Computer Training	0	0	-
Games	1	4	4
Total	42	559	13

Please make sure that you check out the Activities table at our General Meetings.

Bruce Pollard
Activity Convenor

COMPUTER TRAINING



Manfred Kneitel
Computer Training Leader

Note: Computer Training is held as required at 65 Gilbert Road, Castle Hill.

CRAFT



Eight ladies had a lovely morning last month whilst enjoying the hospitality of Ruth Caunt.

They endeavoured to carry on with their craft activities, in between all the chatter.

Thank you, Ruth.

Denise Ward
Craft Leader



Note: The Craft group meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday.

GAMES



Good Morning

Those of you who aren't going to Christmas in July, Games will be held next Wednesday 16th July at the Baulkham Hills Sports Club at 10:30am.

Would you be able to let me know if you are coming by Monday evening please.

Kind regards

Denise Ward
Games Leader

Note: The Games group meets monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at Baulkham Hills Sports Club



**GENEALOGY GROUP - FAIRFIELD CITY MUSEUM
THURSDAY 10 JULY, 2025**

Members of the Genealogy group and a visitor, had a great day at the Fairfield City Museum on 10 July. It was a VERY cold day but we started with a lovely hot cup of tea or coffee and scones, jam and cream.



It started with a visit to the local School Classroom, where we reminisced about our school days



Followed by a visit to the local corner store where we recalled many popular groceries that were available. Check out the items that are still available and labels not changed.



Walking around the village, we visited the heritage buildings while passing the old milk cans

The local Garage - note the Truck and the Petrol Pumps



*and
workshop.
Note the Wheels
off the carts*

*To finish our guided tour we were taken back in history
with a visit to the "Dunny" along with some relevant
tales.*

*Oops!!! David, watch out for the Red Back on the Toilet
Seat!!*



*Narelle .. are you ok or
is it too overwhelming
for you!!*



*Following our fantastic
adventure back in time, we had
a lovely lunch and chat at the
Smithfield RSL.*

*Thankyou
everyone for a great day*

Ann Miles

**Peter O'Brien
Genealogy Leader**

Note: The Genealogy group meets monthly on the 1st Monday at Castle Hill RSL Club.

BOWLS



We had fifteen members bowling, joined by another three members practising.

Just look at that beautiful blue sky. Just look at the non-strenuous exercise the players are enjoying. Just consider the fresh air they are taking in.



Along with this is the fun and fellowship enjoyed by all.

We meet every first and third Friday of each month, January excepted.

Come along and give it a go.



We have Hazel, a qualified coach, on hand to explain the game and to guide you through the action.



**Joe Turner
Hazel Turner
Bowls Leaders**

Note: The Bowls group meets monthly on 1st and 3rd Fridays at Castle Hill Bowling Club



WINE APPRECIATION



The next Wine Appreciation will be held on 25th July, a Christmas in July occasion.

Carol Leaver C1
Carolyn Smalls C2
Wine Appreciation Leaders

Note: Wine Appreciation is held bi-monthly at 65 Gilbert Road, Castle Hill

BUS, TRAIN & FERRY 🚌 🚗 🚂 🚆 🚢



The BTF group of 13 members visited the Chinese Garden of Friendship on Wednesday 9 July on a warm sunny morning.

After meeting at the Grand Concourse in Central Station and having a quick cup of hot coffee, we boarded the L1 Light Rail to the Exhibition Centre. After a short 5 minute walk later we arrived at the Chinese Garden of Friendship.

Opened in 1988 the garden is a symbol of friendship between the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou & Sydney.

The garden was quite breathtakingly beautiful & peaceful with winding paths, forests of bamboo & Himalayan cedars with hidden sculptures, traditional carvings, koi pond, waterfalls, limestone rocks & graceful weeping willows.

A lovely morning to spend in the sunshine!





Afterwards we reboarded the Light Rail getting off at Pyrmont Bay station and a short walk to The Little Snail Restaurant for a delicious 3 course lunch.



Please join us for more exciting adventures with the BTF group!

Janet Dempsey
Tilly Chetty
Bus, Train & Ferry Leaders

Note: Bus, Train & Ferry outings are held monthly on the 2nd Wednesday.

DINNER GROUP



On Tuesday 17th June, 20 members of the Dinner Group dined at the West Pennant Hills Sports Club, 103 New Line Road, West Pennant Hills.

Despite the smaller-than-usual attendance, everyone seemed to enjoy the evening.



Most people thought the food was delicious so we will certainly go back there again.

The next dinner is booked at an Italian restaurant - Georges Pizzeria, 1 Circa Boulevard, Bella Vista @ 6.30pm on **Wednesday 23rd July**. The dinner is a week later than usual, to avoid clashing with the Probus Christmas in July function.

Details have been emailed to the Dinner Group and so far 26 diners have booked, but we would love to see more. We will be taking bookings until Monday 21st July.

Stuart & Lynne Hutton
Graham & Monica Drew
Dinner Leaders

Note: Dinners are held monthly, usually alternating between 3rd Tues and Wed and between restaurants and hotels/clubs.



GARDEN CHAT

Our July meeting, as usual, was a fun and informative meeting. Margaret started the meeting with a quote "After women, flowers are the most, lovely things God has given the world."

A "yard" has a couple of meanings but pertinent to our Club, it means, an area of land surrounded by a fence.

July is a month for us to weed. You can plant annuals now and even plant tomato plants in a pot ready for the salad season. They are so expensive at the moment so good to get in early. July is also a time to feed orchids.

Experiment with flower containers. Anything can be used as a talking piece. Margaret's examples were large oil tins, suitcases etc where ever your imagination can take you.



Margaret showed the group the array of secateurs she uses for pruning from tiny to a battery, operated device. Watch your fingers with that one.

Margaret made the point also, that, all tools should be cleaned when pruning especially with roses. You should clean your tools in methylated spirits after each bush so you do not spread disease from one bush to another.

Margaret finished the meeting with a poem:

Sun Kissed Blooms by Manan Sheel

Sun kissed blooms, a gentle breeze
Whispering secrets through the trees
Natures palette, colours bright
A peaceful haven, pure delight
In this space, serenity I find
A tranquil garden, peace of mind.

Margaret would also like all members to wear a flower or something green to the next meeting. It can be fresh or artificial.

Margaret Pelleri
Garden Chat Leader

Note: Garden Chat is held monthly on the 1st Thursday at House of Herbs & Roses, Dural.

COFFEE & CHAT



It was very wet, windy and cold on Tuesday, July 1, for our Coffee n Chat held at Vanilla Cream. 21 ladies attended, and by all the chatter that was going on everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves.

Our next Coffee n Chat will be at The Victoria Avenue Cafe which is located just outside Harvey Norman, on the first floor in The Home Hub, Victoria Ave, Castle Hill.



Elizabeth Byrum
Coffee & Chat Leader

Note: Coffee & Chat is held monthly on the 1st Tuesday at The Grove Café, Kenthurst.

TABLE OF KNOWLEDGE



Another good roll-up to the Table of Knowledge in July. We are continually breaking new ground as we wrestle with those important issues known only to those attending. Should we invite a few world leaders to our discussions?



If you would like to be part of this August group, please contact me or see me at the next meeting.

Max Woodward
Table of Knowledge Leader

Note: Table of Knowledge is held monthly on the 1st Tuesday at Beanmeister Café, Castle Hill

LUNCH



LUNCH GROUP GATHERING AT LYNWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, PITT TOWN



Eighteen friendly members of the Lunch Group met at the Lynwood Country Club in Pitt Town on Thursday 26 June for lunch.

We had a lovely time chatting amongst each other and enjoying the variety of tasty meals.

We try and choose different venues for our lunches each month, so if you would like to come along and try somewhere different, you are very welcome to join in with us.



If you have a favourite restaurant or café, let us know and we will try it out. We are always looking for suggestions of different places to meet.

We welcome new members, so come along and join our group. Our lunch for July, will be a Chinese Banquet, see below.

Thank you for your support of the Lunch Group.

PROBUS LUNCH GROUP
MUIRFIELD GOLF CLUB – NORTH ROCKS



You are invited to join in the
Chinese Banquet Lunch
to be held at the
Muirfield Golf Club
58 Barclay Road, NORTH ROCKS
On
Thursday, 31 July, 2025
Commencing at 12 noon.



The banquet has a wide variety of dishes Entrée, Mains and Dessert
for \$35 per person.



If you would like to attend the Banquet, please reply to Ann or Ruth by 28 July

Come along and join our friendly group
Everyone is most welcome to attend
Ann 0413 237847 Ruth 0434 577708



Ann Miles

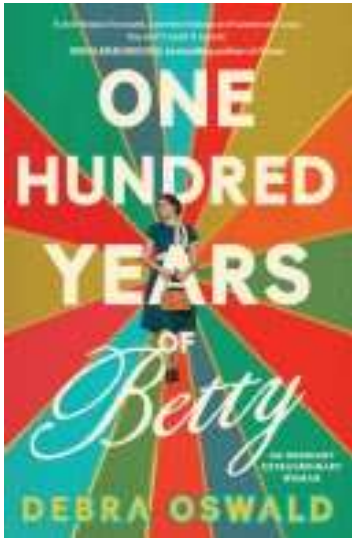
Ruth Caunt
Lunch Leaders

Note: Lunches are held monthly on the last Thursday.

BOOK CLUB # 1

Book Club No.1 held their meeting today at the Castle Hill bowling club.

We had all our members except one at this meeting for a discussion on 100 years of Betty. By Debra Oswald.



Lots of different thoughts on this book but most found it an enjoyable read.

So much in this story of one woman living through a century of massive change.

The average marking 7 to 8 out of 10.

It really was a book with a lot in it.

For our August meeting we are reading a children's book of our own choice.

We do one every year and find it something we all enjoy.

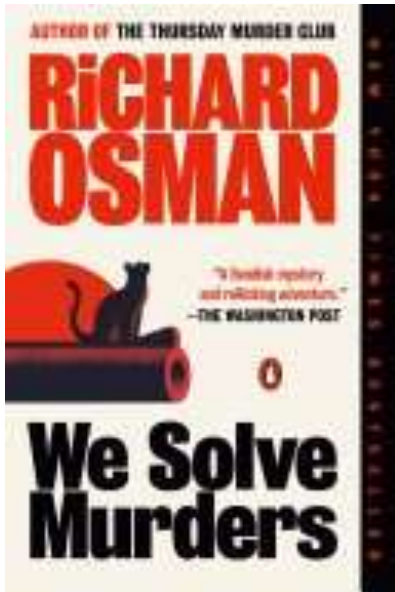
Keep on reading

Caz Gallagher 📖📖📖
Book Club No. 1 Leader

Note: Book Club No. 1 is held monthly on the 2nd Thursday.

BOOK CLUB # 2

We had a great attendance this month.



Reviews concerning Richard Osman's latest novel, *We Solve Murders*, were mixed - some readers enjoying the book and its introduction of new characters whilst others weren't so impressed with the multitude of characters and the "subplots" that interwove throughout the book.



Our next book is *The Venice Hotel* by Tess Wood.

If you have the first Wednesday of the month free and love reading come along to Castle Hill RSL at 10:00am and meet our friendly group of readers.

Narelle Wowk
Book Club No. 2 Leader

Note: Book Club No. 2 is held monthly at 10am on the 1st Wednesday at Castle Hill RSL Club

WALKING



Hi Everyone,



The walk in June took place on Friday the 27th, beginning at King George Park, just off Iron Cove Bridge and ending at Drummoyne Sailing Club.

The walk was described as easy just the same as the walk in May and turned out to be just that. The weather was great, a little cold to start but then beautiful. In total it turned out to be about 7 1/2 - 8 km and taking us about 2 1/2 - 3 1/2 hours with a coffee break at a lovely cafe along the foreshore.



We did this walk exactly 2 years ago and we had the same result, a beautiful day and great company.

Lunch was had at the Drummoyne Sailing Club overlooking the Parramatta River, nothing nicer.



The next scheduled walk will be on Friday the 25th of July.
Full details will be forwarded to everyone on the walking group list soon.

Should you want to do this walk or any other that we have done on your own, just let me know and I will forward the walks details to you.
Until then happy walking, and enjoy the photos from our day out.

This last Photo shows a new walk being opened soon, starting from the Cooks River at Dulwich Hill then following what looks like Hawthorne Canal back to Iron Cove, 6.3 kms in total.

We will do this walk sometime soon!

See you all at our next meeting on Tuesday the 22nd.



Yaras Wowk
Walking Leader

0414 894 961

The Walking group meets monthly on the last Friday.

TRAVEL DISCUSSION



The June 2025 Travel Discussion saw some 16 members meet up in a quiet back room at the Bull and Bush Hotel in Baulkham Hills for a fun travel discussion.

Heard about an interesting trip by one of our members to Malaysia and Sri Lanka and what was great and not so great on the trip.

Heard about the unfortunate collapse of an Australian online travel company called Traveldream, based in Melbourne. Unfortunately, a number of Australians were left stranded and out of pocket when their paid for holidays were cancelled. Traveldream was likely trading whilst insolvent according to ABC news.

Also heard an interesting story about an American couple who have just paid for 15 years on a cruise ship at a cheaper cost than they apparently pay to live in Hawaii.

Heard about some planned trips including the UK, and discussed things like Oyster cards.

Lots of travel trivia questions with edible prizes for the right answer. All in all, an enjoyable, fun morning.



Peter Brown
Travel Leader

Note: The Travel Discussion is held monthly at 10.00 am on the 3rd Monday at Bull & Bush Hotel, Baulkham Hills.



Tomorrow, (Saturday) we meet in the Western foyer of Sydney Opera House to experience two hours of total mayhem, combined with the absurdity of Monty Python type humour in

“The Play That Goes Wrong”.

Looking forward to this!



Later in the month we have a mid-week matinee; “CATS”, at Sydney’s Theatre Royal on Wednesday 30th July.

At our July General Meeting I will be taking registrations for a tour of The State Theatre (aka The Palace of Dreams) to be held on Thursday 28th August if we have sufficient numbers.

Payment immediate.

Tour commences 10 am, to be followed by lunch. Hoping to do in conjunction with our Lunch Group - Venue tba.

More information to follow.

Jan Jones - Theatre Group Coordinator