



NORTH RYDE COMBINED PROBUS CLUB INC.

PO Box 530 Epping NSW 1710

<http://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/northrydecombined>

NOV
2025

Print pages 1 to 4 for the Meeting

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Thursday 20 November General Meeting 10.00am North Ryde RSL
Sunday 23 to Saturday 29: King Is./Yarra Ranges/Mornington Pen. Tour
Monday 24 Book Club 10.00am Marble Bar, North Ryde RSL
Friday 28 Coffee Corner 10.00am at Café Sotto

DECEMBER

Friday 12 Management Committee Meeting 10.00am North Ryde RSL
Wednesday 17 Pretty Woman the Musical: Theatre Royal, Sydney
Thursday 18 Christmas Party

SILVER JUBILEE

Ian Duffield

This November marks 25 years since our club was founded during a meeting at Macquarie Shopping Centre Community Hall on 16 November, 2000. At that meeting 60 foundation members were presented with their membership badges by the then President of the North Ryde Rotary Club.

It is noteworthy that of those who received their badges on that day in November 2000, three remain members of our club: Beatrice Ho, Yvonne Green, and June Stewart. Our hearty congratulations to each of them and our thanks for their respective valuable contributions over the years.

This is an appropriate time for us to reflect on the valuable contribution which Probus makes to the lives of its members, providing a wide range of activities which facilitate meaningful engagement with others, healthy exercise and mind enhancement.

It is also appropriate that we express our thanks to our committee members, past and present, whose selfless dedication to their tasks has provided, and continues to provide, the activities which make Probus what it is.

As in previous years, we will celebrate our club's birthday with cup cakes and Lesley's trivia quiz.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: 3 Lorraine West, 5 Phillip Howes, 14 George Hodgekiss, 15 Robert Dixon, 16 Diana Taylor, 17 Pamela Harper.

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES: 17 Elizabeth & Russell McQueen.

FINANCIAL REPORT

David Wright, Judy Williams

Summary of Receipts and Payments Period 1 January 2025 to 31 October 2025

Club funds brought forward from 01/01/2025

Total Club Receipts

Less Total Club Expenses

Available Club Funds

Plus Funds held for Outings (net)

Cash at Bank 31/10/2025

Members may make payments by cash, cheque or internet bank transfer. When paying by cheque, it should be made out to "North Ryde Combined Probus Club". If paying by internet bank transfer, see the banking information below.

ONLINE BANKING INFORMATION

Here are the key bank transfer fields to use when doing an online money transfer ...

The *Payee Name*:

The *Payee BSB*:

The *Payee Account*:

Payment Amount:

Description: **Your Surname, Initial and the 3 digit Booking Code**

Then, please contact the event organizer by email or text message to advise you have paid for that event.

MEMBERSHIP

Diane Sinclair

There are currently 114 members. Visitors are most welcome to attend meetings and participate in our functions, subject to members receiving priority if a function has limited capacity. If you have a friend who you think may be interested in joining our Club, please bring them along. If you are unable to come to a meeting, please let Diane Sinclair know.

All members are reminded to please wear their membership badges to General Meetings.

New Member: A big welcome to John Blanch!

GUEST SPEAKER

Gillian Dockrill

Due to our Probus Birthday celebration, there will be no guest speaker this month.

WELFARE

Elizabeth McQueen

If you are ill or know of one of our members who is ill, please contact Elizabeth and advise the details.

WEBSITE

Di Ash

Visit our website for information about our Club. The web address is at the top of Page 1 of the newsletter - press on this link on the downloaded Newsletter file or just Google North Ryde Combined Probus Club.

COFFEE CORNER Café Sotto, 30 Argyle Ave, Ryde

Ann Buckley

Friday 28 November 10.00am: Come and join us for a coffee and chat at Sotto.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday 18 December 11:30am to 3:00pm

Booking Code 085

Our Christmas lunch this year will be turkey and ham, or turkey and chicken, with roast vegetables. Dessert will be Christmas pudding and custard or apple pie and ice cream. Wine, beer and soft drink will be provided by our Probus Club. Table lists are up on the wall so please add your name and any dietary requirements. Music will be provided by Joey D. If you would like to donate a prize we are asking for consumables this year such as wine, chocolates, biscuits etc. The cost is \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members. **Payment must be made by the November meeting - TODAY.** Contact: Ronnie Hamilton 0402 029 889.

CHEAP AND CHEERFUL

Tuesday 20 January 2026: Manly Art Gallery

We plan to view a free exhibition featuring the work of five artists exploring the garden as a theme. "Garden Variety" is the title of the exhibition. The gallery is located at the western end of Manly Cove, a short walk from Manly Wharf. Those wishing to, can then lunch at Fusion Point, a ten-minute walk from the gallery. *Organizer: Ian Duffield*

Wednesday 18 February 2026 11:30am: Lunch at The Little Snail, 3/50 Murray St, Pyrmont

Booking Code 086

Cost is \$48 members and \$53 non-members. Bookings are closed. Please note that all on the waiting list are able to attend. Payment is due by the January meeting. Note there will be no refunds after 11 February.

Organizer: Ronnie Hamilton

OUTINGS

Betty Reynolds

Tuesday 12 May 2026: Mt Tomah Gardens

Details to follow.

Please note there is no refund for cancellations made within 7 days of the Outings.

TOURS

Warren Bowden

For questions regarding all tours your contact is Warren.

Sunday 23 to Saturday 29 November: 7 days 6 nights King Island, Yarra Ranges & Mornington Peninsula.

Travellers have been sent an email with departure and other details. Meet at the Domestic Terminal at 8:30am as per instructions.

Tuesday 24 Feb to Sunday 1 March 2026: 6 days 5 nights South Coast & Southern Tablelands.

Booking Code 079

Sydney/Braidwood/Bermagui/Merimbula/Pambula/Bega/Canberra \$2,095 ppts, plus single supplement (SS) \$400 = \$2495. Deposit of \$400 is refundable less any tour expenses incurred up to 61 days prior to departure date.

Final payment \$1,695 or \$2,095 (SS) due 20 November 2025.

Friday 1 May to Wednesday 6 May 2026: 6 days 5 nights Lord Howe Island.

Booking Code 080

Return Sydney/Lord Howe Island Airfares \$4,199 ppts, plus single supplement (SS) \$800 = \$4,999. Deposit of \$999 is refundable less any tour expenses incurred up to 91 days prior to departure date. Final payment \$3,200 or \$4,000 (SS) due 15 January 2026. This is a small group tour of 13 only. Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Flight disruptions and cancellations to Lord Howe Island can occur due to weather conditions – your accommodation will charge up to 100% cancellation for any lost nights or additional nights required in such instances.

This tour is currently fully booked.

Sunday 18 to Friday 23 October 2026: 6 days 5 nights Sydney/Mudgee/Hill End/Gulgong/Mayfield Garden/Sydney.

Booking Code 081

Luxury return coach travel from Sydney; 5 nights' accommodation at Winning Post Motel, Mudgee. Daily breakfast & delicious evening meals & all lunches. Some morning teas. Cost \$1,970 ppts plus single supplement (SS) \$525 = \$2,495.

Deposit of \$100 payable ASAP to secure your seat.

Deposit is refundable less (\$50) tour expense incurred up to 60 days prior to departure. If cancelled 30-60 days before departure, incur full loss of deposit. If cancelled 1-29 days before departure, incur a cancellation fee of 50% pp. If cancelled within 24 hours of departure – no refund can be made; nor for any unused portions of the tour. Final payment \$1,870 or \$2,395 (SS) due 20 August 2026.

Saturday 15 May to Wednesday 2 June 2027: Viking Grand Tour of Europe River Cruise.

Booking Code 087

Fly Sydney-Prague-Budapest, river cruise to Amsterdam. 15 Day cruise, 4 countries, 12 guided tours.

From \$10,984 to \$25,895 PPTS (depending on choice of cabin and availability), plus \$7920 Single Supplement.

Deposit \$1200 plus copy of passport are required immediately to secure a cabin. Deposit breakdown conditions of \$1200 per person: \$1000 is paid to Viking; non-refundable but can convert to a cruise voucher before final payment for a \$100 fee. \$200 is paid to the travel agents MTA and is non-refundable. Final payment date to be advised.

THEATRES

Bob & Kay Dixon

Wednesday 17 December 1pm: Pretty Woman the Musical: Theatre Royal, 108 King St, Sydney

Bookings have closed and tickets will be distributed at the November meeting.

Hunters Hill Theatre, Club Ryde, 728 Victoria Rd, Ryde:

Programme for 2026 has been released and details of the shows are on a handout which can be collected from me at the meeting.

Saturday 21 March 2026 2pm: Exit Laughing

Booking Code 088

Members \$32, Visitors \$37. Payment must be made by the January meeting.

When the highlight of your life for the past 30 yrs has been your weekly bridge night with the girls, what do you do when one of your foursome inconveniently dies? Well, you borrow the ashes from the funeral home for one last card game - & the wildest, most exciting night of your lives! A RIP-roaring start to the 2026 season!

Future dates for Hunters Hill Theatre are –

Saturday 13 June 2026 2pm **Chapter Two**

Saturday 22 August 2026 2pm **Black Coffee** (Agatha Christie)

Saturday 14 November 2026 2pm **Don't Dress for Dinner**

Booking Code 089

Wednesday 23 September 2026: 1pm My Fair Lady: Sydney Opera House, Joan Sutherland Theatre

Members \$127, Visitors \$132 (This is a significant saving on single ticket purchases)

Booking sheet is now open and bookings will close on 30 November. Seats are selling fast so we need to book asap.

If you are not able to be at the November meeting you can contact me to be added to the booking.

Payment must be made by 30 November.

(Running time is approximately 3 hours, with a 20-minute interval.)

Please note there is no refund for theatre tickets.

WALKS

Ian Duffield & Margaret Feltham

December Walk with Ian:

Our walk on Thursday, 4 December will be from Chowder Bay to Balmoral Beach. We will meet at 9.20am at Circular Quay, wharf 4, where we will catch the 9.30am ferry to South Mosman Wharf. We will then catch the 111 bus to Chowder Bay, where our walk commences.

We will follow the newly constructed walk beside the harbour to Middle Head. The views from numerous vantage points along the route are surpassed only by the panorama at Middle Head, where there are numerous reminders of defence measures implemented over the years. After leaving Middle Head, we will walk to Balmoral for lunch. There are several waterside picnic tables and various cafes which will be the subject of some research before the day. After lunch, we will catch a bus either to Taronga Zoo Wharf or directly back to the city.

This bush walk follows an essentially level, well-formed track with a lot of steel steps down to Balmoral.

Walkers should wear sturdy shoes and take a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, wet weather gear, water, a snack for morning tea and a picnic lunch (if applicable). It is essential that walkers take with them any medications which they may need on the walk.

December WOW Walk with Margaret:

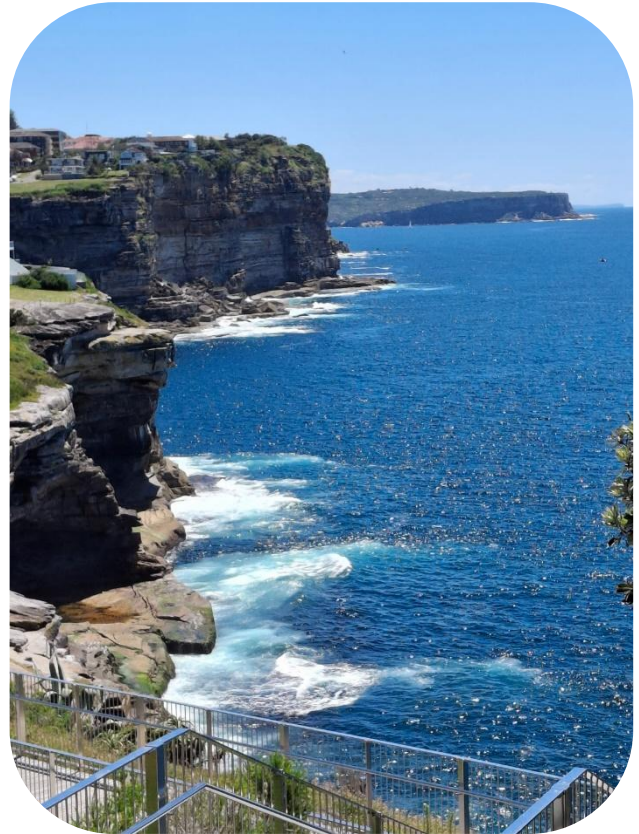
Our walk on Thursday, 11 December will have the theme of "Getting into the mood for Christmas". We will meet at Circular Quay Wharf 5 at 9:30am to take the light rail to Martin Place. After morning tea at the Fullerton Hotel, we will explore Martin Place's Santa Hut, Christmas tree and decorations. Then onto Strand Arcade, Pitt Street Mall, QVB Christmas tree and St. Andrew's Cathedral. Victoria's Basement in QVB may have some Christmas shopping you may like to check out. Bring hat, water and sunscreen.

Let me know if you intend to join us for the Christmas Walk

20-year pin for Fay Palmer



Walkers from The Gap to Diamond Bay tolunch!



WOW Walkers amongst Jacaranda trees at Milsons' Point



Checking out Golden Guitars on way to
Grafton Jacaranda Festival



Jacaranda festival trippers revelling indoors and out

