



PROBUS CLUB OF DOUBLE BAY INC.

NEWS BULLETIN: OCTOBER 2025

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President Gail Hill
Treasurer John Cooke
Secretary Lynn Sitsky
Mail: PO Box 272, Edgecliff, 2027

Meeting Place: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia
New Beach Road, Rushcutters Bay
Day: Third Monday each month except December
Time: 10.00am to 12 midday
Social Coffee meeting: 1st Monday of each month
10am Mia Café Edgecliff Centre
<http://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/doublebay>

NOTE: October Meeting starting time changed to 9 am

Signing in to CYC to commence at 8.30

Meeting 20 October

Guest Speaker: Marlene Matthews

Marlene Mathews is well known as a highly accomplished Australian sprinter from the 1950s and early 1960s. She is celebrated for her numerous world records and achievements, including multiple medals at the Olympics and Commonwealth Games.

After retiring from competitive racing, she continued to contribute to athletics as a coach and administrator, including serving as an Assistant Manager for the Australian Olympic team in Munich. She was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1979 and an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1999 and was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985.

Marlene was a leading figure in Australian women's sprinting during a period of intense competition, alongside other notable athletes like Marjorie Jackson, Betty Cuthbert, and Shirley Strickland.

Marlene set multiple world records in various sprint events, including the 440 yards and 400 metres in 1957, and the 100 yards and 220 yards in 1958.

Marlene won bronze medals in the 100m and 200m at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics and gold medals in the 100 yards and 220 yards at the 1958 British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Theatre

How to Plot a Hit, by Melanie Tate and starring Georgie Parker, at the Ensemble Theatre, October 1st at 11.00 am, \$85.

Fly Girl, Ensemble Theatre, November 20th at 11.00 am \$83.

FOR YOUR DIARY – SAVE THE DATE - DETAILS TO BE ADVISED

October Friday 24th Government House tour. Lunch in a cafe afterwards

November Friday 21st Riverboat Postman from Brooklyn. Includes morning tea & ploughman's lunch (gluten free available if ordered in advance).

December 1st Probus Club Christmas lunch at the Women's Club in Sydney.

Other activities

Sydney Croquet Club, the 2nd Sunday of the month. Contact Robyn.

Abbreviated Minutes of the General Meeting Held 15 September 2025

Opening: President Gail opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

Visitors: Lynette Garrick, Graham Wheatley, Gillian Wheatley, Beverley Ferguson

Apologies: Jan Ashton, Dasia Black, Gail Booth, David Bridger, Mandy Dodds, Robin Hutcheon, Boman Kalapesi, Vahbeez Kalapesi, Isabella Klompe, Judy Lee, Naomi Mendelson, Andy Palmer, Michele Palmer, Delia Selwood, Euphemia Sidell, Paul Webb, Robin Jenkins, Alf Smith, Andrew Nock

Inductees: Susan Horrobin was welcomed into the club by President Gail. She is a former teacher with a degree in sociology, and her interests are reading, tango, singing and philosophy.



Secretary: The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

Business arising: President Gail informed members that Probus South Pacific (our parent organisation) sent us their Recommended Constitution for Australian Probus Clubs and Recommended Standing Resolutions for Australia Probus Clubs for us to respond to. A Sub-Committee of Gail Hill, John Cooke, Doreen Cheong, Ken Packham and Lynn Sitsky met, and it was decided no change to our Constitution was necessary. The Standing Resolutions were reviewed and procedures relevant to our club inserted in the blank spaces provided. This was taken to the Management Committee and passed unanimously. These items will now be sent to all members to read, giving the required 21 days' notice, before a vote is to be taken at our October General Meeting. The Standing Resolutions are then lodged with NSW Fair Trading.

Correspondence: Probus South Pacific regularly send correspondence on the many benefits that are offered to Probus Clubs. It is suggested that if you are interested you can check their website.

Treasurer: John gave our bank balance as \$3,950; this includes theatre ticket money passing through. He expects a balance of around \$1,700 at the end of the financial year.

Membership: We now have 75 members and 8 on the waiting list.

Bulletin: Anne had nothing to report.

Welfare: Frances has sent cards to David Bridger and Robin Hutcheon. Jan Ashton is back in hospital and Boman Kalapesi is expected to be out of hospital very soon.

Entertainment: Christine Maroney stood in for Gail Booth who is away. The play How to Plot a Hit, will be at the Ensemble Theatre, 1st October at 11.00am. Fly Girl, a play about the first female commercial pilot in Australia is also on at the Ensemble Theatre, 20th November at 11.00 am. Tickets are \$83.

Outings: A tour of Government House will be on 24th October followed by lunch at Eastbank Restaurant at the Quay (menu supplied). The November event will be the Riverboat Postman, details at the next meeting. Ken announced that the Christmas Party will be at the Women's Club on 1st December. He and Nairn have been discussing themes etc.

Speakers: Carole has speakers well into 2026. Former athlete Marlene Matthews, aged 91, is our speaker for the October meeting.

Guest Speaker: Max Hitchens. How to Develop a Memory Like an Elephant

Max is an author of 35 books. A poet, pilot, pianist, publican, memory magician, Melbourne Cup raconteur, and in the world's hospitality industry is known as the Hospitality Doctor. He has memorised over a century of Melbourne Cup results and history, showcasing his exceptional memory skills. He spoke to us on his insights into training memory and its importance across different stages of life. From 10-18 it is important for learning, then in the middle years for working life and in ageing as a bulwark against dementia. Max likes to share his skills in an entertaining way demonstrating showing is better than telling. He took us through ways of remembering by association and repetition and showed some 'magic' tricks with numbers. To overcome fear of public speaking, or glossophobia, one way is to tell a story of your own followed by making a point and to do this throughout a speech. He ended with a verse of poetry called 'The Old Violin'.

President Gail thanked Max and the meeting ended at 12.00 pm



Our President Gail Hill starring in A Current Affair

PROBUS MEETINGS 2026

January 19; February 16; March 16; April 20; May 18; June 15; July 20; August 17; September 21; October 19; November 16