

PROBUS 2025 July BULLETIN NUMBER 254

Charlestown Central Combined Probus Club Inc No 56700



Meeting Date: Wednesday 23 July 2025
Meeting Time: 10.30 am
Location: Windale Gateshead Bowling Club
All mail to PO BOX 331, Kotara, NSW, 2289
E-mail: Charlestowncombinedprobus56700@gmail.com

Office Bearers 2025/2026

President	Jan Crebert	0413 334 966
Vice President	Kevin Dunne	0413 084 964
Secretary	Elaine Holdom	0413 608 001
Assistant Secretary	Donna Owen	0408 090 746
Treasurer	Mike Mulcahy	0416 175 043
Assistant Treasurer	Irene Lojszczyk	0412 923 584
Public Officer	Owen Scott	0428 266 328
Social Committee	Jan le Brun	0412 099 306
Social Committee	Melinda Bonadio	0402 448 286
Social Committee	Marilyn Stone	0402 236 744
Membership Officer	Edwina Humphreys	0417 659 353
Bulletin Editor	Jan Butcher	0412 531 229
Assistant Bulletin Editors	Judi Cooper, Allen Davies	0417 410 886
Historian	Michael Bonadio	0411 135 860
Welfare Officer	Daphne Patsan	0407 511 141
Guest Speakers	Judi Cooper	0417 410 886
Walking Group	Norma Sellers	0438 449 163
Hospitality	Rikki Dunne	0411 099 113
Lucky Door Prizes	Jenny and Paul Finch	0429 467 753
Hosts	Jenny Finch, Betty Roberts	

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 27 August 2025

10:30am Windale Gateshead Bowling Club

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***Disclaimer:** The opinions so expressed or comments by contributors to this bulletin are not necessarily the view of the club, its committee, its members, or the editor.*

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT PROBUS JULY 2025

I hadn't realised how quickly a month slips past until I find myself in the unenviable position of preparing a president's report every 4 weeks! And then to realise that we are closer to Christmas 2025 than we are Christmas 2024 really makes you think about time slipping away so quickly. That sounds a bit morbid...what I really mean is that I think our lives have become so full of fabulous things to do, that suddenly its Friday again! We at CCPC certainly have plenty of options to keep us busy, throw in exercise classes, golf, bowls, mahjong, bridge, Book clubs...and travel just to name a few, and there's plenty of opportunity for a very full life. But maybe we need to spend a bit of time just taking life easy and not filling it with so much activity ...perhaps that would slow the world down a bit.

We've had several members travelling to fabulous places, I know there are some stories to be told there. Don't you love 6 degrees of separation stories? At book club this morning, Annette was telling us about her recent French River cruise, and how she met some lovely people from Newcastle...none other than Mr & Mrs Eastwood!

Once again walking group has been curtailed by the rain, and I'm not sure how many made it to the Aberdeen highland games. I've been planning to go for many years and seem to have to cancel every year for one reason or another. Perhaps someone who did go could give us a little report next meeting. And of course, we will have the trip to Sydney state library & Hyde Park Barracks to look forward to in August.

Rikki has been working hard preparing for our birthday lunch, so I hope we see lots of you there. That's it from me, off to pack for a whirlwind trip to Tuncurry...not exactly the excitement of European adventures, but we'll do our best to enjoy a change of scenery!

Cheers

Jan Crebert



TREASURER MIKE'S REPORT

<u>CLOSING BALANCES AS AT 7th July 2025</u>			
Cheque Account with Newcastle Permanent		\$11,092.62	
Term Deposit with Newcastle Permanent		\$4,000.00	
Less Unpresented Cheques		\$0.00	
<u>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS AS AT 7th July 2025</u>		\$15,092.62	\$15,092.62
<u>Included in Bank Balance 7/7/25 Pre Paid Functions</u>			
Morpeth Cruise-- E2504 (Deposit \$1000.00 Paid)		\$975.00	
Sydney Christmas Cruise-- E 2505		\$3,865.00	
Birthday Lunch-- E2506		\$2,275.00	
Greek Dinner-- E2507		\$1,170.00	\$8,285.00
<u>ACTUAL MEMBER FUNDS AS AT 7th July 2025</u>		\$8,285.00	\$6,807.62
			\$15,092.62

Please pay for club functions by Direct Debit.

BSB: 650 000

Account: 559855202 Charlestown Central Combined Probus

Please email Mike Mulcahy to notify him you have made a deposit.

Email Link: vicmike@bigpond.com

*Direct deposits for fees etc can also be made at your Bank.

Edwina Humphreys, Membership Officer- Report

The June meeting was attended by 87 members and 2 visitors; 31 apologies were received with 2 members not advising of their intentions. With the induction of Barry Barton at the June meeting our membership currently totals 120, 74 females and 46 males. We have interest from another 7 prospective members; maximum numbers could be achieved before long. **A reminder - please contact me either by email: e.humphreys@bigpond.com or by telephone/text on 0417 659 353 with any alteration to your address, emergency contact etc. Thank you,**

Edwina

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Wed 23 July - Birthday Lunch. No guest speaker

Wed 27 Aug- Lyn Van Homrigh , Unit Commander from Newcastle Marine Rescue



**COORDINATOR GUEST
SPEAKERS- Judi**

Daphne- WELFARE



July Birthday wishes to Donna Owen, Lyn Burke and of course Charlestown Central Combined Probus Club.

Congratulations to Lesley and Gary Robinson on their **Wedding Anniversary** this month.

July's Birthstone is a ruby. The flower is a Larkspur symbolising levity and lightness.

To all our members and their loved ones who are not very well at this time, we would like to wish you a speedy recovery. To any other members who may have suffered a bereavement, our deepest sympathy and our thoughts are with you, keep well and safe.

Please contact me by email or phone if I can be of assistance. **Happy Birthdays and Happy Anniversary to all those celebrating in July.**



Next Time?

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Your Social Committee have been working behind the scenes to organise events for you. They are giving you plenty of notice so you can plan ahead. These are all the events for Dining Out and Activities already planned for 2025. Please note TAFE dinners still to be notified of available dates. The calendar on the back of each monthly Bulletin will refer to the events in the short term. Please check for new additions since last Bulletin

Activities Overview & Dining Out 2025 – July to December Events,

Thursday 21 August 2025 Visit to Sydney Museum, Hyde Park Barracks Train 7.21 from Interchange, 7.27 from Broadmeadow, 7.34 from Cardiff and 7.45 from Fassifern. Train to Epping, then Metro to Martin Place. A short walk to STATE LIBRARY for morning tea break in the coffee shop and a look around the exhibits in the library. Then a short walk to HYDE PARK BARRACKS with a self-guided tour. LUNCH in HYDE PARK CAFÉ (optional). Leader Mel Bonadio 0402 448 286

Monday 15 September 2025- “Sin in the city”. Kings Cross tour. Cost \$130

Learn about infamous figures like Abe Saffron, the razor gang battles, sex, drugs and rock and roll, things that defined The Cross in its heyday. Movement will be on foot (only about 1 km and easy) and coach.

Cost is \$130 includes morning tea, 2 course lunch with a beverage, a captivating presentation at the iconic Kings Cross Hotel and guided tour. Booking through Aldinga- On Course.

Friday 7 November 2025- Nova Cruise from Newcastle to Historical Morpeth. Cost \$100 which covers morning tea, sourdough, fudge and wine tasting plus entry into Morpeth Museum. We will have 1 ½ hours to wander around Morpeth and grab a bite. A long day- 8 hours. (NB. The boat only holds 40 people.) Total cost \$100, but 25% must have been paid by 23 June Meeting. \$25.

Monday 17 November 2025 - Cochlear Implant Centre. Sydney with Aldinga Tours. Cost \$100. Includes Tour, Lunch and Kokoda memorial. Booking through Aldinga.

Friday 28th November Greek Dinner- \$80 pp. \$30 deposit paid by 16 July Balance \$50 due by 5th November

Wednesday 10 December 2025 Sydney Harbour Christmas Cruise. Event Details - include Morning tea, Cruise Buffet lunch & luxury coach touring. Cost \$125 pp Depts. 8am from W.G. Bowling Club. Returns approx. 6pm. Names & Deposit \$50 must have been paid by 1 June to ensure booking.

2026

March Getaway to Port Macquarie- Dates 2-6 March for four nights. Book now – Our Reference # 469273. **Break Wall Caravan Park Port Macquarie NSW**

Additional Notes: For detailed information on each event, please check the calendar included on the back. Booking sheets for these events will be provided at the meeting. We encourage you to join us and stay informed on these gatherings.

CCC PROBUS 23rd BIRTHDAY LUNCH

23rd July 2025

MENU -

Bread roll and Butter
Roast Chicken
Roast Beef
(alternate drops)
with Baked Vegetables and Gravy
Fruit Salad and Ice Cream
Pudding and Brandy custard
(alternate drops)

The \$25 will include -

MORNING TEA (coffee/tea and Birthday Cake)

LUCKY TICKET

LUNCH

DRINK VOUCHER up to the Value of \$7.50



Remembering: JULY MEETING AND BIRTHDAY LUNCH 2024





Probus
SOUTH PACIFIC

Earlier this year, Probus South Pacific distributed a survey to subscribers of its *Active Retirees* magazine, which includes both current members and potential members. Nearly 6,000 responses were received, offering insight into how Probus can evolve to meet the changing needs of retirees. This is a summary of survey results.

Club-Level Feedback: Many respondents commented on the status of their own clubs. While many members expressed satisfaction, others identified challenges, including: - A need for more activity groups - Difficulty recruiting younger members - Clubs being perceived as unwelcoming or “cliquey” - Resistance to change by long-standing committees. Concerns were raised that some clubs may not survive unless they attract younger retirees, who are often more inclined to join newer clubs.

Broader Organisational Insights: Respondents recognised Probus as a valuable force in keeping older people active and socially connected. Suggestions for future success included: - Promoting Probus as the natural step after full-time work - Increasing social media presence - Offering more flexible meeting times - Emphasising Probus benefits beyond just fun and friendship

Perceptions and Expectations: - 75% believe Probus can continue to meet future retirees’ needs - Future members are expected to be wealthier, more tech-savvy, and seek more experiential activities - Probus must address perceptions of being “old-fashioned” and improve diversity

Actionable Recommendations: - Encourage cross-club cooperation and shared events - Appoint social media officers to club committees - Foster more welcoming club environments - Open dialogue with current members for ongoing feedback

Key Statistics: - 87% retired >5 years; 87% not in retirement villages - 42% Probus members <5 years; 69% heard of Probus by word of mouth - 88% say Probus meets their needs; 82% would recommend Probus - Clubs mostly range from 50–150 members - Main motivators: friendship and activities

Conclusion: Clubs are encouraged to reflect on whether they are welcoming, engaging, and attractive to younger retirees. With thoughtful action, Probus can grow and continue to thrive as a vibrant part of retired life in the community.

Yours in Probus friendship,

Michael Ransom
Chair Probus South Pacific



95% are retired
5% semi-retired



87% live outside
retirement villages



63% retired for 10+
years

Walking & Talk Group- Coordinator Norma



Friday 18 July 2025 at 9:30am- Lambton Walk- Meet at library in the park. Level Easy. Pub Lunch. Leader Sandra Silver.

Friday 1 August 2025 Sydney Harbour Bridge and Botanical Gardens Train to Sydney. Meet at Interchange 7:21am, Broadmeadow 7:27am or Fassifern 7:45am in 2nd carriage. Level moderate. Cafe lunch. Leader Jan LeBrun

Friday 15 August 2025 at 9:30am- Blackalls to Fassifern Walk. Meet at Blackalls Park at 9.30am. Level Easy. Club Lunch. Leader Jeanette Watkins

Friday 29 August 2025 at 9:30am- Teralba Walk. Meet at Land Care Depot, Cnr. Five Islands Rd and York St (Opposite CA Brown Aged Care). Level Easy Pub Lunch. Leader Norma Sellers



Thanks to Dianne B for photos from the Aberdeen Highland Games attended by Probus Members.



Charlestown Central Combined Probus

Calendar 2025 July- August 2025

Date/Time	Event	Amount	Contact	RSVP By
Friday 18 July 2025 9:30 am	Walk and Talk Group Lambton Walk Meet at Library in the park		Leader: Sandra Silver M: 0499 352 867	Lunch Pub Level Easy
Wednesday 23 July 2025 10.30am	General Monthly Meeting Windale Gateshead Bowling Club Birthday Lunch		Apology: Edwina Humphreys M: 0417 659 353	
Friday 1 August 2025 Train 7:21 am Int	Walk and Talk Group Sydney Harbour Bridge & Botanical Gardens (Int: 7:21, B:7:27, C:7:34, F 7:45 am)		Leader: Jan Le Brun	Lunch Café Level Moderate
Wednesday 6th August 2025 6pm	Dining Out The Cricketers Arms Hotel, 61 Bruce Street, Cooks Hill	Schnitzel \$18	Jan Le Brun	Signup list at Meeting
Friday 15 August 2025 9:30 am	Walk and Talk Group Blackalls to Fassifern. Meet at Blackalls Park		Leader: Jeanette Watkins	Lunch Club Level Easy
Thursday 21 August 2025 T: 7:21 Int	Visit to Sydney State Library & Hyde Park Barracks Train to Epping, Metro to Martin Place (Int: 7:21, B:7:27, C:7:34, F 7:45 am)		Leader: Mel Bonadio 0402 448 286	Lunch in Hyde Park café (optional).
Wednesday 27 August 2025 10.30am	General Monthly Meeting Windale Gateshead Bowling Club Speaker: Lyn Van Homrigh from Newcastle Marine Rescue		Apology: Edwina Humphreys M: 0417 659 353	
Friday 29 August 2025 9:30 am	Walk and Talk Group Teralba Meet at Land Care Depot Cnr. Five Islands Rd and York St Teralba		Leader: Norma Sellers	Lunch Pub Level Easy
Monday 15 September 2025	Sin in the City Kings Cross <i>On Course</i> booking	\$130	Includes Lunch and morning tea.	Lunch K. Cross. Hotel
Friday 7 November 2025	Nova Cruise Newcastle to Morpeth 8-hour duration 40 People only	\$100	Social Committee	23 Jun 2025 FULL
Friday 28 November 2025	Dining Out Greek Dinner	\$80		Deposit \$30 Due 16 July

Do You Have a Suggestion for a Probus Outing?

Please contact any of the Social Committee who would be pleased to hear from you!