



The Ashfield Probud Club Incorporated

(No. 56273 Inc. 9894130)



December 2024 **Bulletin** Vol. 41 No.288

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Yes, it's December and so close to Christmas, the conclusion of another year and we sometimes wonder where has the year gone? **Please note no general meeting in December as Wednesday 11th December is the date for the Christmas luncheon and Ashfield Probud Club also plans to celebrate 40 years since the commencement of the Club.** – So much has happened over those years - change in how the Club operates, change in the people who make the Club what it is today, the making of what it will be in the future. With the approach of Christmas there comes a lot of activity for some in various ways. Christmas time can bring mixed feelings to different people. Tinges of sadness along with smiles and happiness - the delight in seeing and hearing other's excitement and enjoyment (especially children). Maybe our Christmas celebrations and decorations of Christmas trees, glitter of tinsel, baubles, angels, Santas, stars etc. could be tempered with wishes for joy, peace, patience, love, kindness, gentleness – may this be yours this Christmas.

COACH TRIP TO KARIONG (MOUNT PENANG GARDENS) AND JAPANESE GARDENS on Wednesday 27th

21 Probians & SIX members of Club Ashfield Social Club gathered at 8.30am for the coach to take us on a day of discovery of two different gardens. Although with temperatures of 34 degrees, one could only be proud of our intrepid members as they braved the elements and took a stroll in both gardens. We particularly enjoyed the bush and the unusual flowering trees & shrubs at Kariong and the sculptured layout of the Japanese gardens, although not quite at their best. Amazed at how knowledgeable some were on names of plants etc. We felt welcomed at both Cafés with tables set out and reserved for us. All in all, a good day out and thanks to Club Ashfield for making the day possible with their lovely \$1,500.00 donation.

November Walk

Having access to walkways along the banks of Sydney Harbour makes for very pleasant walking – lovely trees and open green spaces, much activity on and around the harbour on both sides being enjoyed by many. Although the anticipated harbour ferry ride to Barangaroo (due to maintenance work) was replaced by Light Rail rides, it was still a very pleasant outing culminating in an enjoyable lunch. Many thanks to Jane who had done a reconnaissance to ensure we had a reservation for lunch and able to pay individually for our meals (not always available).

Our November speaker was Deborah Lennis. It was interesting to learn that Deborah thought her family were half European half Māori, not First Nation, until her early teenage years. (Due to discrimination issues). Deborah is a proud D'harawal woman, a local Elder, and the Cultural Advisor at Inner West Council, as well as secretary for Local Government Aboriginal Network. Deborah has strong views and influence when it comes to where our local council's policies and strategies for the future are headed regarding recognition of First Nation people and their history. Many people from an earlier generation may not always view current changes as positive, nevertheless, it is important to understand change in our community is real, it is happening. I understand that Deborah was a controversial speaker, and had hoped she would speak more on Aboriginal history in the area. (See left books on the tables at the meeting for history). So, to partially quote President Lincoln "...you can't please all of the people all of the time". Lyn

COMING EVENTS

With so many other happenings over the Christmas-New Year period some of our usual activities will be held over until February when regular community happenings in general resume. **Please note any changes to the regular activities and your previously published calendar.**

WALKING GROUP: There are no walks in December and January due to the hot weather. Best wishes for Christmas & New Year to all her Walkers from Jane.

JANUARY OUTING: Tuesday, 28th: Police and Justice Museum, corner Albert and Phillip Streets, Sydney. (One fairly short block from Circular Quay.) We will meet in the Museum, inside on account of the probable hot weather. Opens at 10:00 so we can meet at 10:10 approx. Free, but needs tickets, which will be handed out at the time. Lunch at Gateway, on the other side of Customs House.

LUNCHEON CLUB: The Luncheon Club has now retired for the year but will be back in full swing in February 2025. Iris wishes all her 'clientele' a very Happy Christmas and looks forward to seeing you in 2025.

DECEMBER: Wednesday, 11th: 11.30am for 12noon. THE TIME HAS COME!! Christmas Luncheon and 40th Anniversary Celebration at Club Ashfield. 2 Course Luncheon with Coffee & Cake. WHOOEE!!

Great raffle prizes to win plus prizes for best Christmas attire so lots of lovely bright red and green please!

In the Anniversary segment a highlight will be a presentation of a Certificate from PSPL for our 40 years by the President of Club Ashfield, Lorraine Freeman (who is Victorine Thomas's daughter – Victorine is a member of our Club but unable to attend these days). So a big welcome to Lorraine!

The honour of Cutting our stunning 40th Anniversary Cake goes to longest serving member John Coburn. John, a much loved & faithful member, joined in 1995 and served as President a number of times. Our Resident Scribe, Julie, is at it again, this time delivering a great Poem. Listen carefully! And one of Noel's many talents is on display with a Slide Show he has put together and not to be outdone, wife Lynne is going to ask you to exercise your brain!! A top way to end a bumper year for Ashfield Probus with lots of fun and friendships; before we start our own Christmas Celebration.

Happy Christmas to our 2 non-active members, Victorine Thomas and Bruce (and Judy) Kennelly.

500 CLUB: First Monday of the Month 10.00 am. Club Ashfield. **Note: usually first Monday except for Public Holidays. Next games: Mon. 9th December and 6th January** (or as arranged – ref. Secretary)

SCRABBLE: Next game Monday 24th February Last Monday of the Month 10.00am. Club Ashfield. **No game in December and January**

COFFEE CLUB: Happy Daze café. 24th February following Scrabble. **No gathering in December and January**

BOOK EXCHANGE: Books, DVDs, and Magazines- Bring one, take one at our General Meetings! (some great reading usually available) **Free. The book table is very popular – great to share our reading recommendations with each other.**

CINEMA & THEATRE GROUP Discussion: Tuesday 7th January 10.00am-12.00pm - in Executive Boardroom.

Movie: **HERETIC**, Thriller/Horror, Duration - 112m, Start Date -28 November. Description: Two young missionaries are forced to prove their faith when they knock on the wrong door, they are greeted by a diabolic Mr Reed. They become ensnared in his deadly game of cat and mouse. Cast: Hugh Grant

+++**RUMOURS**, Comedy/Horror, Duration - 104m, Start Date - 5 December. Description: Seven of the world's wealthiest democracies attending Annual G7 Summit where they attempt to draft a provisional statement regarding a global crisis. Leaders become spectacles of incompetence. Cast: Cate Blanchett, Charles Dance +++

GENERAL MEETING SPEAKER: January - Alan Lawrenson and his title is "Australia's Looming Energy Crisis."

2025 DATES: January Committee Meeting Monday 13th - 10.00am.

January General Meeting Monday 20th – 10.00am.

Our Club meets every 3rd Monday of the Month, 10.00am Club Ashfield, 1 -11 Charlotte Street, Ashfield.

Please consider becoming a member of Club Ashfield, the Club that supports us.