



The Ashfield Probus Club Incorporated

(No. 56273 Inc. 9894130)



January 2025 **Bulletin** Vol. 41 No.289

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HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY JANUARY 26TH

Life is like a book and as another year has concluded, we turn over the page and move onto the next chapter or a new book. So it is with Ashfield Probus, we've met together at our meetings, on walks, outings, table games, coffee, cinema discussions, lunches, coach trips. Such a variety of activities in which friendships and acquaintances have grown – sounds a little familiar with the ideals of Probus. As a preview of the year ahead for Ashfield Probus what will the chapters of our year look like, what part will we each play in making our Club an interesting and enjoyable one? As the pages of our book will be blank at the beginning at the 41st edition, you are encouraged to be a participant as well as a reader in creating the new chapters for the next. There are many talents in the membership of Ashfield Probus which could make for an interesting, positive, and encouraging years for us to look forward to. Please consider how you can contribute. Nominations for our new Committee close at our February General Meeting.

The next chapter of our book/meeting will be on 20th January – hope you can join us.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

The Committee promised you a Grand Finale to end 2024 – and that's what happened!! We are such a lovely, friendly bunch ready to enjoy what's on offer – and there was plenty of that!

President Brian and Immediate Past President Gwen were ready to greet and meet our guests, John Coburn (Ashfield Probus Club president 2000, 2004, 2009) and Ms Lorraine Freeman, President of Ashfield Catholic Community Club. Meanwhile Marta capably marked off everyone to make sure we all arrived. Lynne as in the past, decorated the tables with her endless supply of red and green baubles, tinsel and our 40th Anniversary emblems which captured our Christmas mood – then Iris' lovely Yellow and Blue cake arrived, prominently displaying our "P" logo majestically sitting in centre spot. MC John kicked off the festivities with a welcome and an introduction ending with Grace. Noel presented his screen shots of many years of great outings and events bringing back happy memories to those long-time members as we struggled with Lynne's 'posers'. Afraid we didn't really excel there **– perhaps more success next time! Julie launched the Anniversary segment with her great poem detailing the progress from a 'men only' club to the present 'Men and Ladies' Club. We appreciated her delightful presentation. John Coburn at 96 did not disappoint as he gallantly cut the cake with a flourish and then went on to serenade us in a most delightful way, followed by Lorraine graciously presenting our well-deserved 40 Years continuous membership certificate to Brian. While all this was going on we were well catered for by Shetty and his pleasant staff with a very tasty meal.

Raffle and prizes ended the day with Annie, theatrically attired (what would you expect) winning the Gingerbread House, Robert and Marta winning 2nd and 3rd dress prizes and Alice, Marie, June, and John carrying off minor prizes. Iris' delectable Christmas hampers were won by Lionel, and Of course, no Ashfield Probus meeting would be complete without Carol's Joke! President Brian had the last word as he thanked Club Ashfield, the caterers, and wished us all a happy and safe Christmas and invited us to meet again in 2025 on Monday January 20th – Cecily. **Note: those who were most involved in Probus activities knew more members' names than others (Lynne).

COMING EVENTS

WALKING GROUP: There is no walk in January due to the hot weather...**however in February – Wednesday 12th** We will meet at 10.30am at Wharf 2 Circular Quay - to catch the 10.45am ferry to Watsons Bay. When we get off the ferry at Watson Bay, we will walk up to the Gap and enjoy the view and then walk out to Camp Cove Beach, walk along the Beach to Green Point Reserve and walk back to the wharf, approximately 1 hour walk .If anyone would rather enjoy the park and the beach near Watsons Bay wharf (while the walk is taking place), please feel free to do so. Lunch at Doyle's 'On the Wharf' - fish and chips, at approximately 12.30pm. Please make your own way back to Circular Quay after lunch. Ferries run every 1/2 hour back to the Quay. Hope to see you there. Jane 0412 543 353

March, Wednesday, 12th: Walking in Hyde Park. Meeting at Museum Station at 10.30 am, walking to view the Pool of Reflections and explore the Anzac Memorial then walking through the park to the Archibald Fountain, if time allows walk across college Street to St Mary's Cathedral. Lunch to be advised, it will however be close to St James train station, so easy to leave the city. Jane 0412543 353

JANUARY OUTING: Tuesday, 28th is to the Justice and Police Museum (one block from Circular Quay, corner Phillip and Albert streets). We will meet at the museum at 10.15 (it opens at 10am) Entry is free. Lunch at the Gateway food court, opposite Circular Quay station. Julie 0415 825 858.

FEBRUARY OUTING: Wed Feb 26th is to the Australian Museum. Meet at the Museum at 10:15. There should be a free guided tour at 10:30 leaving from the foyer, but this far out we can't be sure it will be available as it is volunteer-led. In any case your leader will have prepared a DIY version so we aren't caught out. This will be a tour of the permanent exhibits so is free. Lunch at the Billabong Waterhole Cafe within the Museum.

LUNCHEON CLUB: Wednesday, 19th February: White Cockatoo

500 CLUB: (*First Monday of the Month 10.00 am*). Club Ashfield. **Note: usually first Monday except for Public Holidays. Next games:** Mon 3rd February (or as arranged – ref. Secretary).

SCRABBLE: **Next game** Mon 24th February (*Last Monday of the Month 10.00am.*) Club Ashfield.

COFFEE CLUB: Happy Daze café. 24th February following Scrabble.

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 4th February, 10.00am Board Room Club Ashfield.

PARTHENOPE - Drama, 136m Duration, Start Date -26 December. Description: 1950's young Parthenope, part of rich family named after the legendary Greek Siren associated with the foundation of what became modern day Naples. Italian, English subtitles. 3 Sessions per day at present.

EMAIL PEREZ - Musical/Crime, 122m Duration, Start Date - 16th January. Description: Follows the journey of four remarkable women in Mexico, each pursuing their own happiness. English and Spanish, with English subtitles.

CONCERTS: CLUB ASHFIELD: "From Opera to the Oscars, Songs of the Stage & Screen" Saturday 1st March, at 7pm. Cost \$65.00 includes two course meal.

Premier's Seniors Gala Concert: 11.00am Thursday 13th March. Free Concert & Free bus to & from.

GENERAL MEETING SPEAKER: January - Alan Lawrenson and his title is "Australia's Looming Energy Crisis."
February – Possibly, a guest speaker from Royal Botanic Gardens (Lyn to confirm)

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.