



Glenhaven Probus

Founded 2nd October 1997

Newsletter

Issue 206 January 2026

Website: [Glenhaven Probus](http://GlenhavenProbus.com)

Contact Us: email: secretary.glenhaven.probus@gmail.com

Monthly Meeting: Our General Meeting is held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am in the Auditorium of the Castle Hill Bowling Club – Castle Street, Castle Hill

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Please visit [Glenhaven Probus](http://GlenhavenProbus.com) website information about

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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Maureen Baker

GUEST SPEAKERS

Leigh File

HOSPITALITY

Anne Phelan

RISK MANAGEMENT

Allan Broadhead

WELFARE

Phyllis Knight

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brett Wood

NON COMMITTEE:

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Position Vacant

WEBSITE EDITOR

Brett Wood

President's Report

Carolyn Broadhead

As I sit down writing this report Christmas is almost upon us. By the time we meet again it will be all over and we'll all be in 'diet mode' and recovering from New Year's Eve celebrations. Thanks to Maureen for organising such a wonderful Christmas party last month. It gave us the Christmas vibe!!!

A new year is upon us and we hope 2026 will be a year of working towards peace in the world. As Probus members we enjoy fun, fellowship and friendship. To me, friendship is the hallmark of Glenhaven Probus as members regularly reach out to each other to give support in times of need. Lets continue this in 2026 not only at Probus but in your communities.

President's Challenge

At the BeachGet out your beach gear, sunhats, thongs, sun dresses, shorts, surf shirts, snorkels, goggles, flippers, swimming noodles, fishing gear, surfboards, and boogie boards. Take your pick from the list above and come to enjoy our January meeting.

Guest Speaker - Dr Rita Crews OAM

Leigh File

Dr Rita Crews OAM

PhD(UNE), BA(Hons)(UNE), AMusTCL, GradCertDistEd, [UNE], FMusicol(ASMC), HonFNMSM, DipMus[hc](AICM), HonFMusA, MACE, MMTA.

Having failed the Leaving Certificate in spectacular fashion, in 1978 Rita eventually went on to complete studies in Musicology and Australian History as a mature-age student at UNE culminating in a PhD in musicology.

She served on the Council of the Music Teachers' Association from 1988 to 2019 including 14 years as President and is now a Patron. She also served on the Australian Music Examinations Board [NSW] for 28 years, and as Deputy Chairperson and Chair of the Examinations Committee for 21 of those years.

She has lectured on many aspects of music teaching, has mentored many teachers and has been an AMEB written examiner since 1988 and is currently the Chief Examiner in Theory for the AMEB. She has published many articles and reviews, authored and co-authored books, was a Justice of the Peace for 50 years and her biography appears in *Who's Who of Australian Women* and *Who's Who in NSW*. She is currently writing the history of Canterbury Girls High School. She received the OAM in 2014 for "services to the Performing Arts as a music teacher, examiner and composer", and in 2015, the Distinguished Alumni Award of the University of New England.



Getting to Know You

Michael Harrison


Please for the benefit of our new members could everybody wear their Probus Name Tags at the General Meetings. **Not everybody knows who you are!**

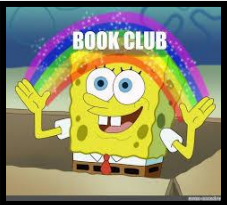
The Welcomers for January are Roy and Jenny Jones


Please note Meeters and Greeters are required for February, March, April 2026


Christmas Party @ Springfield House - There are more on the Website Gallery




Croquet		Brett and Kerry Wood
	<p>This year has seen many changes and improvements for the Probus Croquet Group, with the building works completed, the clubhouse now overlooking the lower green and a noticeable difference in the quality of the lawns thanks to the new green-keepers. No longer has Vern needed to supply a bucket of Galston Gold soil to fill in the divots, the weeds are gone and amazingly most shots go straight to somewhere near where we are aiming!</p>	
	<p>Congratulations to all who have honed their skills enough to attempt jump shots, make a hole in one the length of the field, or manage an 'in-off' defensive shot to win the match! The standard has certainly lifted, with stakes high, especially when playing against your (not so better) half. Thank you to all members who make it a great way to start a day.</p>	
	<p>We look forwards to another enjoyable year in 2026 and would encourage all new members to 'give it a go'. You will find it a wonderful mix of strategy, luck and skill, while the morning tea interval is a highlight.</p>	
Next game	<p>Our first game for 2026 will be Thursday 22nd January with a 9:00am start for a 9:30am draw. New members are always welcome to join the group. Just send us an email or register your interest with Brett or Kerry at the next meeting. Play is at the Cheltenham Recreation Club, 60-74 The Crescent, Cheltenham. Mallets are available to borrow for those in need.</p>	
Cost	<p>\$15 per person in cash as no EFTPOS is available.</p>	

Book Club		David Short
	<p>The Book Club finished its year with the discussion of two books followed by a social gathering for lunch at <i>Glenhaven Green</i>. Thanks to Helen McGregor for hosting the meeting and introducing the great little café at her village.</p>	
	<p>The two books that we have been reading this month were "<i>Burn Book: A Tech Love Story</i>" by Kara Swisher and "<i>The Drowned</i>" by John Branville. As usual, opinions of the books were vastly different. Kara Swisher's book did not draw much support, with most discussion criticising her style of writing as well as the content of the book. John Branville's book, on the other hand, was generally considered to be worth the time to read, although, again, opinions were varied.</p>	
	<p>We would welcome new members into the group for 2026. Two books are listed for each month, with members free to choose between the books or read both books or read none at all and just come for the morning tea! We meet on the fourth Wednesday between 10am and noon at different venues each month. If you are interested in joining in the gathering, please let David Short know.</p>	
Next get-together	<p>Wednesday 28th January, 10am -12 noon at a venue to be advised A reminder and address details will be sent one week prior to our meeting</p>	
Book Selection	<p>The books for January are any one of Jeffrey Deaver's crime fictions and Darry Fraser's historical fiction "<i>The Widow of Ballarat</i>".</p>	

Movie Group		Karen Green
	First Monday of each month. 12:00 noon at the Café outside the theatre.	
	Event Cinemas Castle Towers	

Golf		Graeme Giles
	The first game for 2026 will be in February.	

Garden		Jenny Kington and Wendy Hennessy
	The next meeting will be in February 2026.	

High Tea and Tour of Government House - Friday 20 th Mar 2026		Maureen Baker
	All 24 spots have been filled for this event. Please add your name to the waiting list at the January Meeting to secure a spot at the next Parliament House High Tea on a date to be determined.	
	11:30am Parliament House Tour Experience the historical architecture of one of Sydney's oldest buildings while getting a first-hand look at the workings of Australia's first Parliament. The Tour departs promptly at 11:30am from the main reception desk located at the front of the building.	
	12:30pm High Tea Steep yourself in history with a classic high tea menu that strikes the perfect balance between modern Australian flavours and tradition to please any palate. With tumbling dry ice and sweet and savoury treats galore, enjoy petits fours with a side of history.	

Madame Thai Restaurant – 6:00pm Thursday 19th February 2026 Maureen Baker



Madame Thai Restaurant is a family run restaurant nestled in the heart of Castle Hill. Head Chef John's journey began with a deep love for food and he is excited to share this with his guests.

Where 3/33 Terminus St Castle Hill.
Cost \$40 per head



Entrees: Spring Rolls, Curry Puffs, Fish Cakes, Satay Skewers
Main Course: Garlic King Prawns, Chicken with Cashew Nus, Red Duck Curry, Thai Beef salad served with Jasmine Rice.

Coffee not included buy BYO with NO corkage

South Australia with OnCourse Tours 3rd - 11th May 2026 Marilyn Hill

Please note the following for those going on the South Australian Trip.

Final payment is required by the March Meeting.

Booking forms from OnCourse Tours will be available at the January Meeting.
Please have the completed forms returned to Marilyn Hill at the February Meeting.



If you will not be at these meetings please contact Marilyn to make other arrangements.

Breakfast in The Park - Tuesday 20th January 2026

Brett Wood



Join us for Breakfast in the Park. Enjoy bacon and egg rolls, sausage sandwiches and champagne & orange juice. Instead of thong throwing this year will see the introduction of axe throwing.

Where: Heritage Park Castle Hill

Time: 9:00am – 11:30am

Cost: \$6

This is a test event for our Online Booking system using Floktu Software.

Please click the link below to register for the event.



Simply select the number of Tickets and click the **Checkout** Button.

Enter your First Name

Enter your Last Name

Enter your Email Address

Click the **Register** Button

You will then receive an email confirming your registration

Payment by Thursday 15th January 2025 using the usual Direct Debit

Photography

Ruth and Allan Garbutt



The Photography group will participate at Breakfast in the Park on Tuesday 20th January.

If you are interested in learning more about the camera functions and editing on your mobile there will be two groups meeting in February and March 2026.

Each of the groups will be 2 x 2hour sessions meeting at Winston Hills.

Group 1 – Tues 3rd Feb & Tues 3rd Mar (10:00am – 12 noon)

Group 2 – Wed 4th Feb & Wed 4th Mar (10:00am – 12 noon)

For any further information please contact Ruth or Allan



Immerse yourself in the world of fine gin, spirits and liquors. As you savour each sip, sit back and relax in the picturesque surroundings of a beautiful distillery located in the Central Coast.

Start with morning tea at Edogawa Japanese Gardens at East Gosford then to Distillery Botanica to explore their gardens. We will have a light lunch with tea or coffee and finish with a tasting session of their gins, liqueurs & limited editions.

A sign-up sheet will be at the January Meeting. Payment of \$100 (\$105 visitors) will be required by our January meeting. Please ensure payments are made into the Activities Account.

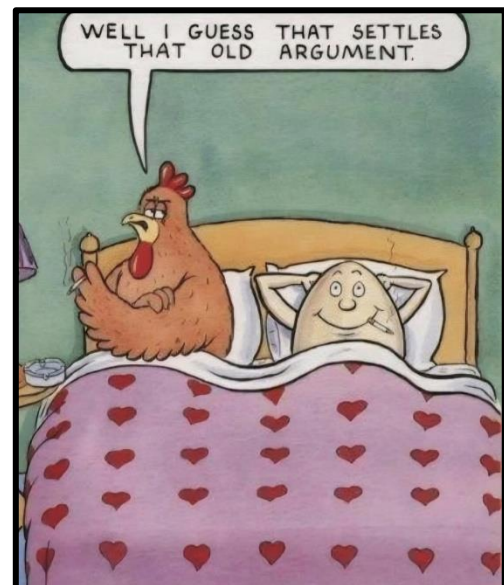
Arrival time: Please arrive no later than 8.15am

Pick up time: 8.30am at the Castle Hill Bowling Club

Parking: Please park in the top RSL car park nearest the Bowling Club.

Please **do not** park in the Bowling Club car park

Return: Approx 5pm



Leisure Walking

Michelle Goldsworthy



The Walking Group will resume in March when the weather has cooled down.

Berowra Waters Evening – 5:00pm Friday 6th February 2026

Kerry Wood



Bring your own chairs for our annual BYO picnic dinner on the banks of the river at Berowra Waters. Relax and enjoy the water views and passing boats.

Please click the link below to register for the event.



Dad Jokes

I KEEP ALL MY
DAD
JOKES IN A
DAD-A-BASE

I cannot believe someone broke into my house and stole all my fruit. I am peachless

Drinking at home instead of the pub isn't working out. I almost asked my wife for her phone number.

I caught my neighbour stealing my socks off the clothes line. I was going to confront him but I got cold feet.

I wish I knew who kicked the jack from under the car whilst I was working on it. The suspension is killing me.


It's a five minute walk from my house to the pub. It's a 35 minute walk from the Pub to my house. The difference is staggering.


I just saw a man with one arm shopping in a second hand store. I don't think he will find what he is looking for.

I can't understand why my calculator just stopped working. It just doesn't add up.

I asked the librarian if they had any books on amplifiers. She said "yes, what volume would you like?"

I met a girl who runs a battery kiosk in the local park. So basically she sells C Cells by the seesaw.

Darts	Graham Fletcher
	<p>We had another good day at our December gathering with 16 sharp shooters in attendance. We were also very pleased to welcome Peter and Cheryl Wadick to the Group.</p> <p>Why not join us for the next game, followed by lunch afterwards. There is no cost for playing and lunch costs approximately \$15.00.</p> <p>Please do not be concerned if you feel that your dart skills are not the best, you won't be alone and the game we normally play is not designed as a competition but more a game of luck.</p> <p>Aim to be there.</p>
<p>Next Darting</p>	<p>Date: Thursday 5th February 2025</p> <p>Time: 11am</p> <p>Venue: The Dural Club</p> <p>Should you like to join the group, send an email so I can add you to our list.</p>

Craft	Ann Farthing
	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Date: Monday 23rd February 2025 :</p> <p>Time: 10 – 12am</p> <p>Venue: To be confirmed</p> <p>Should you like to join the group, send Ann an email to be added to the list.</p>


Pretty Woman – Wednesday 4th February 2026 - Theatre Royal Sydney
Pick up Tickets at January Meeting

Bursting with glamour, charm, and all the iconic moments you know and love, this joyous musical hit featuring direction and choreography by two-time Tony Award® winner Jerry Mitchell (Kinky Boots, Legally Blonde, Hairspray), an electrifying original score by Grammy® winner Bryan Adams and Jim Vallance ('Summer of '69', 'Heaven'), this sensation brings a Hollywood classic to life like never before. Vivian and Edward are unlikely soulmates who overcome all odds to find each other - and themselves. Brought to life by a powerhouse creative team representing the best of music, Hollywood, and Broadway, *Pretty Woman: The Musical* is a guaranteed big night out that will lift your spirits and light up your heart.

ARIA Award-winning singer, songwriter, and actress Samantha Jade will star as Vivian Ward alongside musical theatre performer Ben Hall as Edward Lewis. Joining them are actor and comedian Michelle Brasier as Vivian's friend Kit de Luca, and singer and performer Tim Omaji in the dual role of Happy Man / Mr Thompson, who most recently starred as Ike Turner in *TINA – The Tina Turner Musical*.

Anastasia The Broadway Musical– Wednesday 29th April 2026 - Lyric Theatre
Ticket Still Available

This dazzling production, by the Tony Award winning team Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty, Lynn Ahrens and Darko Tresnjak, transports you from the twilight years of the Imperial rule to the euphoria of 1920s Paris. Anya follows a brave young woman on a journey to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by an army officer determined to silence Anastasia, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing conman and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love, and family.


Rising star **Georgina Hopson** leads the cast as Anya, alongside international stage sensation **Robert Tripolino** as Dmitry. They are joined by **Joshua Robson** as Gleb, **Rodney Dobson** as Vlad, showbiz legend **Rhonda Burchmore** as Countess Lily, and Australian theatre royalty **Nancye Hayes AM** as the Dowager Empress

Shen Yun Performing Arts Show – This outing has been cancelled due to lack of interest
Lion King – Capitol Theatre 3rd June 2026 – Tickets available at Meeting

Disney's Lion King making its triumphant return to Sydney! Giraffes strut. Birds swoop, Gazelles leap. The entire Serengeti comes to life as never before. And as the music soars, Pride Rock slowly emerges from the mist

UPCOMING THEATRE SHOWS

Date	Show	Cost	Payment by
4 th February 2026 Wednesday 1pm	Pretty Woman Theatre Royal	\$95 / \$100	Pick up tickets at January Meeting
29 th April 2026 Wednesday 1pm	Anastasia Lyric Theatre	\$71 / \$76	February Meeting
3rd June 2026 Wednesday 1pm	Lion King Capitol Theatre	\$85 / \$90	March Meeting
Payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer To Banking & Payment Details later in the Newsletter • Payment via Direct Debit preferred • Please quote your Surname & Event Name on every payment. • NB: Please present payment receipt when collecting your ticket/s. • No refunds after the payment date. 		

Activities & Events		Maureen and David Baker
	<p>Please ensure that you sign up to each activity prior to making your payment.</p> <p>Each sign on sheet requires participants to agree to the conditions for each activity, including the level of fitness required to undertake them and the expectation that they will be carrying their completed medical card.</p>	
Payment	Refer To Banking & Payment Details later in the Newsletter	
Visitors	Visitors are always welcome to attend events, but a further \$5 fee is added to cover insurance. Visitors from other Clubs who attend must provide their Probus Number but will not be required to pay the fee.	



Happy New Year to all our members and here's hoping that is both healthy and prosperous.



Happy Birthday wishes to the following members who are celebrating Birthdays in January.

1 st	Michael Taig
6 th	Susan Nery
6 th	Mark Eades
11 th	Peter Wadick
18 th	Ron Giles
23 rd	Sharon Bourne

23 rd	Michelle Goldsworthy
23 rd	Nora Pattison
23 rd	Bernice Spencer
24 th	Roy Bentley
26 th	Lorraine Furzer
30 th	Monique Nelson