

# NEWSLETTER

## Copacabana Probus Club Inc



### Next Meeting

**MONDAY**  
**11th AUGUST 2025 10.00 am**

**The Probus Club of Copacabana meets on the second Monday of the month at 10.00am at Copacabana Surf club.**

**Guest Speaker: Tricia Fortier**

**CLOWN DOCTORS**

**Contact: President Roy Etherington**

**Phone: 0417 438162**



### 2025 Committee

|                                  |                    |             |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| President                        | Roy Etherington    | 0417 438162 |
| Vice President                   | Dave Morgan        |             |
| Vice President                   | Gabe Revello       |             |
| Secretary                        | Bev Jones          | 0401 184013 |
| Ass.Secretary                    | Trevor Johnston    |             |
| Treasurer                        | Elizabeth O'Rourke |             |
| Ass.Treasurer                    |                    |             |
| Activities                       | Ellen Revello      |             |
| Public Officer & Club Ambassador | Sandra Jeffree     |             |
| Guest Speakers                   | Roge Mairat        |             |

### Presidents Corner

Well, here we are, halfway through the year.

We have just celebrated "Christmas in July," and our Event Managers have already organised activities for our members through to the end of the year.



It takes a lot of work for these managers to make these events happen, and I would be remiss not to acknowledge the efforts of Sandra Jeffree, Gabe Revello, Dave Morgan, and Bev Jones. Attendance at these activities has been strong, and I hope you all find them enjoyable, diverse, fun, and socially interactive—which is our primary goal.

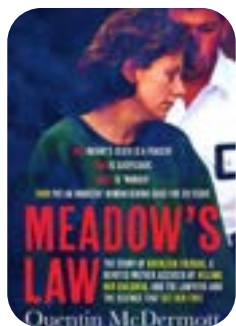
Along with the many other members who are crucial to running the club, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the great efforts of the Committee and General Officers—our volunteers—who manage everything from Morning Teas, Sign-In and Visitors Desks, Guest Speakers, the Newsletter, the Website, Book club, Membership Records, Finances, and Administrative duties.

As President, I would like to thank them. After the last General Meeting, the response from members offering to take on roles we needed to fill was encouraging, and I intend to follow up with them to discuss further. With this in mind—and because we already have enough major activities organised—I intend to focus the next few Committee Meetings on establishing our New Constitution and Standing Orders, as well as finalising the Administration Structure and Planning for 2026. By February 2026, this will establish a solid administration and management structure moving forward.

## Copacabana Probuss Calendar

| Date                     | Time     | Activity                      | Location                       |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday 4th August        | 10.00 am | Committee Meeting             |                                |
| Monday 11th August       | 10.00 am | Probuss General Meeting       | Copacabana Surf Club           |
| Tuesday 19th August      | 10.00 am | Walk/Coffee club              | TBA                            |
| Tuesday 26th August      | 1.00 pm  | Proposed Pickleball match     | Terrigal Indoor Sports Stadium |
| Sunday 21st September    | 1.00 pm  | GMS CHOIR Rocks On            | Everglades Club Woy Woy        |
| Wednesday 8th October    | TBA      | PROBUS Month BBQ or picnic    | TBA                            |
| Sunday 12 - 17th October |          | Griffith Spring Festival tour |                                |
| Thursday 23rd October    |          | Riverboat Postman cruise      |                                |
| Tuesday 4th November     |          | Melbourne Cup                 | Breakers Wamberal              |
| Sunday 23rd November     |          | Snowy Mountains trip          | (fully booked)                 |
| Wednesday 3rd December   |          | Christmas party               | Avoca Beach House              |

## Quentin McDermott



Award-winning investigative journalist Quentin McDermott has worked in magazines, newspapers and television. Following six years at Granada Television in the UK, he joined the ABC as the supervising producer on Lateline before joining Four Corners in 2000 as a senior investigative reporter and producer.

If anyone is interested in reading Quentin McDermott's book, "Meadow's Law" before his talk in November, where he'll discuss the background of the book.

I've reserved a few copies under my name (Roge Mairret) at Kincumber Library for borrowing. The book tells "the story of Kathleen Folbigg, a devoted mother accused of killing her children, and the lawyers and science that set her free."

## Special Interests Groups

### Walk/Coffee Club



Walks held on Tuesdays in week following meeting

### Happy/Social Hour



4th week of the month Wednesday or Thursday

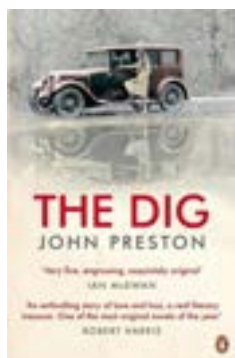
### Book Club



3rd Thursday of the month (see calendar)



### BOOK CLUB



Next Book Club meeting  
will be held on August 21<sup>st</sup>  
4.00 pm at Pip Cook's  
home

All enquiries  
Veronica Morgan  
0429 369914

Dave's BIG



Our fantastic Quiz Master, Dave, is back with another round of clever questions—some straightforward, some delightfully tricky. You'll find surprises in both the questions and the answers, so stay sharp! Gather your team, settle in, and let's see who takes the crown this year. ♦

### Walk/Coffee Club



Next walk will be  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August  
10.00 am  
Venue TBA

## Special Interests Groups Contacts

### Walk/Coffee Club

Roy Etherington 0417 438162

### Happy/Social Hour

Dave Morgan 0429 369914

### Book Club

Veronica Morgan 0429 369914



## Tricia Fortier



Meet Tricia Fortier: The Woman Behind the Smiles Funding the Clown Doctors

This AUGUST, we're honored to welcome Tricia Fortier as our guest speaker—a woman whose dedication has brought joy and healing to countless lives through her work with the Clown Doctors.

For 21 years, the Clown Doctors have been delivering laughter and comfort to hospitals across Australia, including Gosford Hospital, where Tricia once worked. Today, they provide free visits to 26 hospitals, lifting spirits when they're needed most. But behind every painted smile is a team of passionate supporters—and Tricia is one of their biggest champions.

Ian Doig, Fundraising Manager at the Humour Foundation, says the organization owes much of its success to Tricia and others like her. "Her tireless efforts have helped keep the magic alive," he shares.

Though her paid career in healthcare has ended, Tricia remains a familiar face at Gosford Hospital, where she now volunteers in the Ronald McDonald Family Room. There, she offers comfort and respite to anxious families waiting during surgeries and treatments—proving that her mission to heal goes far beyond medicine.

Join us this August to hear Tricia's inspiring story and learn how laughter can be the best medicine.



GRIFFITH SPRING FESTIVAL

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS - FULLY ESCORTED 12 - 17  
OCTOBER 2025

There is so much to see, do and experience during the festival, such as the amazing Citrus Sculptures display, the beautiful open gardens that have been created and nurtured by very hard-working and talented gardeners.



Accommodation 'Quest Griffith' which is walking distance to the main centre.

Enquiries: Bev Jones 0401 184 013

## THE RIVERBOAT POSTMAN -

THURSDAY 23rd OCTOBER

Enquiries: Gabe Revello



Step aboard the historic Hawkesbury River Mail Boat and experience one of Australia's most unique cruises! Since 1910, the Riverboat Postman has delivered mail and essentials to remote riverside communities, and today, Hawkesbury Cruises carries on this beloved tradition. Relax as you glide past breathtaking scenery, listening to the skipper's tales of the river—locals who've lived here all their lives (and yes, at least 95% of their stories are true!). Enjoy real coffee, steaming tea, and freshly baked ANZAC biscuits made daily to Grandma's secret recipe. For lunch, savour a delicious meal as you soak up the tranquil beauty of the Hawkesbury—a perfect blend of history, nature, and Aussie charm.

**THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS 5 nights and 6 days**  
**SUNDAY 23rd November - FRIDAY 28th November**

**THIS TOUR IS NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Highlights of this unforgettable trip include:

Wildbrumby Distillery – Enjoy a delightful gin tasting!

Gaden Trout Hatchery – A treat for nature lovers.

Cooma Jail & Berridale – Step into local history.

Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre – Explore engineering marvels.

Adaminaby & Eucumbene Dam – Stunning scenery awaits!



**\*THIS TOUR IS NOW FULLY BOOKED**



We invite you to an afternoon of fun with songs from the 50's to the 80's. Our amazing GMS choir will dazzle you and have you rocking in your seats. Heaps of fabulous raffles and a lucky door prize.

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  <b>SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER</b> |  <b>1.00 PM - 3:00 PM</b>  |
| <b>EVERGLADES COUNTRY CLUB</b>  | <b>9 Dunban St. WOY WOY</b>   |
| <b>Guests: U Bouddi Band</b>  | <b>Guests: The Gals</b>   |
| <b>TICKETS \$20</b>   |  0417075863  Thayer Donaldson |

Tickets for this show will be available from Bev Jones at our next general meeting and at a discount price of \$15.00 for our members. Proceeds will be going to COAST SHELTER, a leading local not-for-profit and charity providing specialist homelessness services and personal support programs on the NSW Central Coast



**BANK DETAILS**

All future online payments are to be made to  
 BENDIGO BANK Main Account  
 BSB 633000 Account 216 700 724  
 Copacabana Probus Club







Guest speaker Darryl Davis delivered a captivating talk on the rich history of the Gosford Musical Society (GMS), sharing entertaining anecdotes—both onstage and off—that delighted the audience.



The journey began in 1947, when the society (originally named the Gosford Musical and Dramatic Society) was founded by a group of passionate locals eager to bring live theatre to the Central Coast. Their early performances took place at the Valencia Theatre in Gosford, marking the start of a vibrant cultural legacy.

Over the decades, GMS became a driving force in the region's performing arts scene, staging countless productions and fostering local talent. A major milestone came in 1988 with the opening of the Laycock Street Bicentennial Community Theatre—a dream realized through the society's dedication. Darryl's talk was filled with humorous behind-the-scenes stories, showcasing the society's enduring spirit and its lasting impact on Gosford's cultural landscape.



### MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT



### HAPPY 25<sup>th</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Pictured are Ellen and Gabe aboard the SLENDOR cruise ship celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



We welcome contributions and photographs for the NEWSLETTER! Submissions can be sent via email to either the Secretary or the Newsletter Editor at [chilliwoman45@hotmail.com](mailto:chilliwoman45@hotmail.com)

If you are including a photograph, please attach a brief description or a short article with the names of those featured and any relevant details. Please note the new website address which is now through PROBUS South Pacific. If you put the above URL into your address section or google "Probussouthpacific.org" it will take you straight there.

If you or another member is having a special birthday anniversary or going on a fabulous holiday the Editor would love to hear from you with a photo.

The deadline for submissions is the last day of each month.

## PROPOSED PICKLEBALL AFTERNOON

**Get Ready to Dink, Drop, and Rally – Pickleball Afternoon Coming Soon!**

Looking for a fun, social, and easy-to-learn sport? Pickleball is the perfect mix of tennis, badminton, and table tennis—played on a smaller court with a paddle and a whiffle-style ball. Whether you're a seasoned player or a complete beginner, this fast-growing game is all about friendly competition and great exercise!



**Join us for an afternoon of Pickleball!**

**Date: Tuesday, 26th August**

**Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**



**Location: Terrigal Indoor Sports Stadium (Duffys Rd)**

**Cost: \$10 per player (payable on the day – cash or card accepted)**

**Margaret and Sue are organising this exciting event. Final details will be shared at the August General Meeting, so stay tuned!**

**Want to know more? Contact Margaret at 0427 554 115.**

**Grab a paddle, bring a friend, and let's have some fun on the court!**

## Christmas in July at The Carrington Katoomba

"We warmed up with coffee by the crackling log fire before moving to the restaurant, where the lunch began with spiced mulled wine. A classic Christmas dinner followed, topped off with rich plum pudding—pure festive indulgence. The pianist brought the day to life, weaving through beloved carols and timeless melodies, making it a truly special time.

