



The Newsletter of the Combined Probus Club of West Pennant Hills

Club Website: www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/wphc

MEMBERS MUST READ

Members must consider their capabilities before undertaking any activities with the Club. This includes housekeeping duties and organised activities such as clubs, groups, trips or walks. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that they are physically capable of undertaking any particular activity. In particular, please advise the Welfare Officer (Marie Macdouall) if your medical condition precludes you from helping in the hall set-up and kitchen rosters. The responsibility for compliance sits with attendees.

President's Message



Finally, the sun is shining as I write this message. I do really love a rainy day but nothing beats a sunny Saturday morning. Later today we are off to watch 16 year old grandson play his soccer final and how nice that we won't need umbrellas.

Our ladies' coffee morning had its launch on Wednesday 20 August with, I think, around 20 members attending. Do join us next time on 17 September! There will be an Expression of Interest sheet, with all details, on the table at our September meeting, and make sure you read Mavis's article later in this newsletter for further information. Thank you Mavis Todd and Julia Elborn for overseeing this new activity.

I'd again like to remind you all to check the Roster for **Hall Setup** and **Kitchen** that Mike Macdouall includes in every newsletter. It does have an impact on others if even one person is missing. If you're unable to attend, please contact Mike or arrange a replacement.

I hope that you do all read your monthly newsletter – it's full of information. For instance, the newish section titled 'Good Viewing' put together by Leo. If you're struggling to find some enjoyable TV, check out Leo's list. And ... further back in the newsletter is a listing of contact details for all our committee members and activity leaders – very useful.

Finally, just for fun I was looking at Ross Prestipino's list of Questions for an Interview ... My favourite TV show? Hard to pick just one but when I was 10 or 11 years old – Superman would be right up there!

Keep well everyone.

Janet Hayes

Editor's Notes

The Knitting Group cast off to become a larger and aptly-named **Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up Group** and its female members will meet on the third Wednesday of each month.

Ross Prestipino will be continuing his **Getting To Know You Q&A** by interviewing a Club member with a dozen or so questions. Be at the next meeting to find the identity of his September subject.

I thought members might be interested in a walk I did with Marjorie Seaton to view some of Sydney's fine Art Deco buildings. Marjorie's very interesting report in *Slice of Life* encapsulates one aspect of this fascinating city of ours.

If you have had an interesting outing or experience you'd like to share, please let me know.

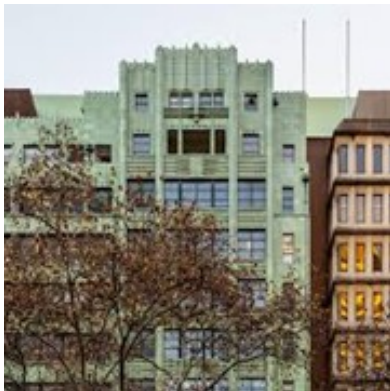
Just one special event this month - the Soiree on 17 September - but October is promising to be busy!

Susie Bannatyne

0413 897 016

Slice of Life

An Art Deco Walking Tour



Railway House



The BMA Building



The Grace Hotel

It was a cold, but sunny, July day as Susie Bannatyne and I headed off early into the city to join a walking tour organised by the Workers' Educational Association (WEA). WEA is an education movement whose educational offerings range from humanities, languages and arts, to computer, business and vocational training (Wikipedia). Today's presentation was a walking tour of the Sydney CBD focussing on Art Deco buildings.

After having a much-needed coffee and making our way through a crowd of runners just finishing up their run we met our tour leader, Michael, outside the Museum of Contemporary Art, itself an Art Deco building. Before we started, Michael described the various styles of Art Deco which is a decorative art and architectural style that originated in the 1920s and 1930s, characterised by its geometric shapes, bold colours, and luxurious materials.

Michael took us to view 19 buildings! All were stunning examples of the time, but a few stood out. The British Medical Association building on Macquarie Street is a fine example of an early Sydney "skyscraper". High on the façade can be seen six medieval knights and two koalas! Railway House on York Street was another standout. The façade is comprised of green terracotta tiles – sounds horrible, but the effect is magnificent. The Grace Hotel on York Street is a spectacular example of Art Deco's immediate precursor, the Commercial Gothic style. The lobby is a must-see for its light fittings, reception desks, and occasional table designed in sea-faring images.

All in all, a great day out viewing beautiful buildings and being escorted by a very knowledgeable teacher.

Marjorie Seaton

Upcoming Activities

\$2.50 Group



Outing to Old Government House Parramatta

Save the Date!

Thursday 30 October 2025

For the **Fashionable Silhouettes Exhibition**

Travel by Light Rail or transport of your choice. Cost is \$12 per person for the exhibition and a guided tour of Old Government House. I will give details of time, coffee/lunch at the October meeting.

Register your interest at the September meeting.

Enquiries to Marion Dent on 0416 280 261 or dentmar99@gmail.com

Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up



On Wednesday 20 August, at the request of President Janet, the established Knitting Group welcomed non-knitting lady members to our monthly morning tea. It proved to be a most enjoyable time together and will now continue offering an opportunity to participate in a regular Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up to all the ladies in our Club.

Our next Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up will be held at Will's Café, Anglicare (Mowll Village) on Wednesday 17 September at 10am. Please place your name on the attendance sheet

available at the next meeting if you wish to attend. Please understand, out of courtesy to the Café, we need to reserve definite numbers.

The Knitting Group continues to support our new charity, *HOPE IN A SUITCASE*, by providing knitted goods for foster children.

All knitting enquiries please to Maris Wild on 0412 170 756.

Apologies for the morning tea to Julie Elborn 0409 461 997 or Mavis Todd 0427 668 964

Garden Group

Red Cow Farm Gardens in Sutton Forest



Save the Date! Thursday 9 October 2025

A day trip to the gardens by bus, \$20 each plus \$10 entry. Lunch at the Exeter General Store.

Enquiries: Ros Ward gandrward@bigpond.com or 0407 891 117

Getting to Know You Q&A

Don't miss this month's session of Ross Prestipino's Q&A with an as-yet-unknown Club Member.

At the August meeting Fran Kirby was the subject and gave a spirited response to those probing questions.

Editor

Guest Speakers

September - Judith Dunn – History of Parramatta

October - Max Hitchins - 5 Most Important Words in the World

November - None – Club Christmas Lunch

December - Arthur Pearce – A Short History of Sydney Ferries

(see <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/wphc> for more details)

Ross Prestipino

Good Viewing

Thanks to those who submitted shows to watch this month. If you have anything you want to contribute, please send details to leothedent@gmail.com

Cheers, Leo Dent

Title	Genre	Service	Episodes	Author
Austin	Comedy	iview	16	Janet Hayes
When author Julian's offensive post goes viral, his career seems over until his neuro divergent son, Austin, suddenly arrives. Embracing Austin may be Julian's path to redemption if he and wife, Ingrid, can move past his mistakes.				
The Piano	Arts	iview	6	Maureen Farago
Unearthing everyday pianists from all over Australia through the celebration of the street piano, regular Australians are invited to play the at busy locations around the country and given the opportunity of a lifetime.				
Dept. Q	Drama	Netflix	9	Marion Dent
Carl, a former top-rated detective, is wracked with guilt following an attack that left his partner paralyzed and another policeman dead. On his return to work, Carl is assigned to a cold case that will consume his life.				
Ripley	Drama	Netflix	8	Leo Dent
In New York in 1961, Tom Ripley is a down-at-heel con-man. Unaware of his situation, a wealthy man hires him to convince his prodigal son to return home from Italy. But Tom's introduction to Dickie Greenleaf's comfortable and leisurely life abroad turns out to be the first step into a complex life of deceit, fraud and murder.				
Hannah Gadsby's Nakedy Nudes	Arts	iview	2	Susie Bannatyne
Hannah Gadsby, wearing both her comedian and arts historian's hats, unravels the apparently simple practice of recreating our own nude human form. Taking a close look at one of the most enduring subjects in western art history.				
David Stratton's Stories of Australian Cinema	Arts	iview	3	Susie Bannatyne
In this three-part series, revered film critic David Stratton, tells the story of Australian cinema with a look at films that have captured the spirit of the nation with candour, emotion, humour and originality.				

Maths Puzzle

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- *Ethan is thinking of a four-digit counting number.* **x**
- *The thousands digit is different from the hundreds digit.* **x**
- *The hundreds digit, the tens digit, and the ones digit are the same.* **x**
- *The sum of the digits is 28.* **x**
- *Ethan's number is prime.* **x**
- *What is Ethan's number?* **x**

+++++

Anne Prescott Answer on page 13

Men's Coffee Group



Men's coffee, cake and general world problem solving session

WHEN: Last Friday of the month – 26 September at 10am

WHERE: Will's Café at the ARV

Don't forget about your chance to solve any number of the local and international problems by joining us for a cup of coffee and maybe a tasty cake or two.

Please email me lawriehayes@bigpond.com so that I can confirm reservation numbers.

Lawrie Hayes

Outings and Trips Away

Future trips away and day trips include the following

1. **Murder Most Foul** **Postponed** until 21 October 2025.

Thank you to those who paid for this outing. It was very disappointing that the Rain Gods intervened - hence the postponement until 21 October.

Those members who paid and are unavailable for 21 October should contact Treasurer Jim for a refund. Members who were unavailable for the August date are most welcome on the October tour.

2. **Zig Zag Railway** visit. This trip has been rescheduled for 7 November 2025.

I have contacted Taylor Made Tours and they are offering to host the day for \$140, based on 22 members joining the outing.

The cost includes:

- Bus travel
- Zig Zag Railway train tickets
- Sausage Sizzle lunch, tea and coffee

I am required to submit final numbers by 2 September. The bus holds 48 people, hence the higher the number of participants the lower the cost. Members who would like to join the tour are most welcome to add their name to the list. Payment is required by 2 September.

3. **Tasmanian Tour 26 January 2026.** This tour has been cancelled.
4. **Proud Mary Trip 24 May 2026.** 16 people have expressed an interest in this tour. A booking form has been circulated and should be completed and returned to Lisa at Proud Mary. Payment of \$500 per person will become payable in 4-6 weeks' time which Treasurer Jim will collect.

Geoff Childs

September Walk



PARRAMATTA PARK AND WISTERIA GARDENS

Date: Tuesday 9 September 2025.

Distance: About 4km.

Walking Time: Approximately 1.5 to 2 hours.

Grading: EASY! All level walking paths and shared cycleways.

Time: We will meet at Club Parramatta, 2 Macquarie Street, Parramatta at 10am. Parking is free in the Club car park if you buy a coffee before we start the walk.

Travel Options: Drive yourself or organise your own carpool to the Club.

Map: Please see Appendix C.

The Walk: From the Club walk towards to main gate of Parramatta Park and then to the right towards the river. Continue as shown on the map until you reach the Wisteria gardens. Walk around the gardens at your leisure then continue to the right along the pathway through the bush. Cross over West Domain Avenue and continue to follow the

path until you reach Railway Parade. Turn left and then right into Governor Macquarie carriageway. Turn right opposite Old Government House then into the car park near the old bowling green and the Rose Garden. After your own time in the Rose Garden find your way back to Club Parramatta for lunch.

Lawrie Hayes

General Club Notices

Probus Meeting Roster

Month	Hall	Kitchen
September	Lawrie Hayes	Gael Ward
	Leo Dent	Marie Macdouall
	Neville Ward	
October	Mike Macdouall	Patricia Jackson
	Murray Bensley	Julia Elborn
	Andrew Clarke	
November	David Taylor	Sandra Sun
	Bob Dickerson	Florina Vanderwaal
	James Wu	

If you are unable to attend on allocated day please arrange for a replacement.

Regards, Mike Macdouall

Welfare Report

Unfortunately Graham Osborn had a fall whilst running and broke the humerus bone in his left arm. He will undergo surgery on Friday this week. Sending best wishes to Graham for a speedy recovery. No more running for Graham for some time.

Susie Bannatyne spent a week in the SAN hospital with chest and heart issues. Susie is home now and we send our best wishes to her and hope she's on the road to recovery.

I hope you're all surviving this wet, miserable weather and looking forward to a beautiful Spring as much as I am. Please contact me if you hear of anyone unwell or in hospital.

Travel safe and cheers.

Marie Macdouall

0434 819 862

Reports of Ongoing Activities

Mah Jong Monday



For our 28 July session we went "social" and had a lovely lunch at the Dural Club, finishing with a Mahjong raffle and coffee.

Our 11 August session had 11 players = 3 tables. The winner on the day was Lyn Horne, with Pat Jackson a close second - only 400 points between them. Well done ladies. A pleasant afternoon's play was had by all, interspersed with some fun.

We play twice a month at the Dural Club and would love to see some new players.

Meg Mills

0414 639 654



Mah Jong Thursday

For various reasons, we only played on one Thursday in August, a very wet 21st.

The winner by far was Colleen Woodhead (who still holds the record of being the highest scorer on one day since Probus Mah Jong started). Well done Colleen. Again, lunch afterwards was enjoyed by all.

Judith & Michael Reidy

Second Friday Book Group



The Governor, His Wife and His Mistress

By

Sue Williams

A dip into Australian history this month with *The Governor, His Wife and His Mistress* by Sue Williams. This is a reimagining of the life of Philip Gidley King, naval officer, who sailed with Arthur Phillip on the First Fleet and was a colonial administrator and governor of Norfolk Island and then NSW from 1800 to 1806. It is also the story of his mistress, Ann Innet, a convict, and his wife, Anna Josepha.

King employed Ann Innet as his housekeeper when on Norfolk Island, and she bore him two sons - Norfolk and Sydney. She was a convict and already had two children whom she'd had to leave behind in England. King then returned to England and returned with a wife, Anna Josepha, and they in turn had five children.

King was a firm friend of Arthur Phillip and shared his - for the time - enlightened and mostly humane and intelligent views on developing the colony, managing the population and dealing with the indigenous people. He even eventually formed a tentative friendship with the notoriously belligerent and difficult John Macarthur.

The book deals with the colonial history, but concentrates on how the two women dealt with their very difficult situation - and how he really didn't! He and Anna Josepha ended up raising his two sons by Ann Innet and sending them to school in England with their own son, and Ann and Anna Josepha became friends.

The descriptions of the hardships and ghastly conditions on the voyages and living in the new colony were harrowing, but both women - and King - managed to survive, coexist and eventually find friendship and flourish.

We all enjoyed the detailed and well-researched historical information - all new to several members who didn't grow up in Australia, and many enjoyed the fascinating and surprising relationship between King, his wife and his mistress. Others found the modernity of language in conversations and describing the relationships off-putting - remembering this was the time of Jane Austen - and the characters therefore one-dimensional. It was equally split between "enjoyed", "found interesting but didn't love it" and "wouldn't have finished if it wasn't for book group". But it gave us much to discuss, especially about the roles and lack of choices for women, regardless of their class, their tenacity in surviving and finding a way through, and the capacity for friendship in difficult circumstances.

Sue Williams is a prolific writer, who's also written about Elizabeth Macarthur, Elizabeth Macquarie, and Mary Bligh.

Fran Kirby

August Walk



THE BEAUTIFUL BALMORAL WALK

We enjoyed a beautiful day at our iconic and at times, historic Balmoral Beach. Who wouldn't have enjoyed coffee, a walk along the esplanade and part of the beach, plus fish and chips etc from the "Bottom Of The Harbour" (fish shop that is). Public transport was the order of the day via the Metro and the 114 bus from Crows Nest to the coffee stop opposite the beach.



I did a little research on the 1950s transport. Balmoral's tram history is fascinating. The area was served by the Sydney tram network, with trams connecting Balmoral to other suburbs like Chatswood. The trams played a significant role in shaping the local community and providing transportation. This photo from 1957 showcases the trams' journey from Balmoral to Chatswood highlighting the scenic route and the trams' ability to navigate the hilly terrain. (So says an extract courtesy of AI.)



Keep on walking, and check the venue for our next walk in the Newsletter.

See you next time.

Lawrie Hayes

Answer to Maths Puzzle

Our number can be represented by $ABBB$ where A is the thousands digit, and B represents the hundreds, tens and ones digits.

Since A is a single digit, it must be less than 10.

Since, $A + B + B + B = 28$, (i.e $A + 3B = 28$), $3B$ must be greater than $28 - 10 = 18$.

Then $3B = 21$ or 24 or 27 so B must be 7, 8, or 9.

If $B = 7$ then $A = 7$ but $B \neq A$.

If $B = 8$, then $A = 28 - 24 = 4$, and $ABBB$ would represent 4888. But, 4888 is divisible by 2 so is not prime.

If $B = 9$, then $A = 1$, and 1999 is prime.

So, $ABBB = 1999$.

Appendix A - Contacts and Activity Locations/Times

Management Committee

President	Janet Hayes	
Vice President	Colin Lissner	
Secretary	Anne Prescott	
Treasurer	Jim Bannatyne	

General Committee

Auditor	Will Seaton	
Guest Speakers	Ross Prestipino	
Membership	Fran Kirby	
Newsletter Editor	Susie Bannatyne	
Public Officer	Ron Ellis	
Special Events	Patricia Ellison	
Trips and Outings Coordinator	Geoff Childs	
Website	Leo Dent	
Welfare	Marie Macdouall	

Activity Leaders

2nd Friday Book Group	Fran Kirby	
\$2.50 Group	Marion Dent	

Bridge Group	Andrew Clarke	
Foyer Books	Wal Dover	
Foyer Spectacles	Ian Western	
Garden Group	Ros Ward	
Hall and Kitchen Roster	Mike Macdouall	
Kitchen, Morning Tea	Suzanne Lord Patricia Smith	
Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up Group	Mavis Todd	
Mah Jong - Monday	Meg Mills	
Mah Jong - Thursday	Judith & Mike Reidy	
Men's Coffee Group	Lawrie Hayes	
Stamps	Lyn Hope	
Walking Group	Lawrie Hayes	

Location/Start Time of Activities

Activity	Location	Time
Probus Meeting	WPH Community Centre	9.45 first Tuesday
2nd Friday Book Group	Members' homes	10.00am second Friday
\$2.50 Group	Varies	Varies but generally on fourth Thursday

Book Exchange	WPH Community Centre	09.30 before Probus Meeting
Bridge Group	Dural Country Club	13.30pm first and third Wednesday
Garden Group	Varies	Varies but generally on the second Thursday
Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up	Wills Cafe, ARV	10am third Wednesday
Mah Jong -Monday	Dural Country Club	13.15pm second and fourth Monday
Mah Jong- Thursday	Reidy home	10.15am first and third Thursdays
Men's Coffee Group	Usually Will's Cafe, ARV	10am Fourth Friday
Spectacles Exchange	WPH Community Centre	09.30am before Meeting
Stamp Donation	WPH Community Centre	Please hand to Lyn Hope at the Meeting
Walking Group	Varies	Second Tuesday most months

Appendix B – Payment Details – Treasurer Jim Bannatyne

Members and those on the waiting list have three payment methods for membership (\$55 per annum) and activities:

- 1) Electronic Funds Transfer to
The Combined Probus Club of WPH - BSB 112-879
Account Number 478 850 160
Please remember to put your name and description (eg Membership) on the EFT;
- 2) paying at the meeting by cash or cheque. Please fill in the Registration and Receipts Form before coming to the meeting. (Print from the last page of this appendix);
- 3) mailing a cheque and Registration and Receipts Form (below) to
The Treasurer, 14 Veronica Place, Cherrybrook, NSW 2126.

Jim Bannatyne

0429 408953

jim.bannatyne@hotmail.com

Registration		Receipt	
Function		Function	
Date of Function		Date of Function	
Name(s)		Name(s)	
Cost per Head	\$		
Number Attending		Received	\$
Method of Payment	Cash / Change (Circle one)	Received by	
This Payment	\$	Date of Receipt	

Appendix C – September Walk Map

PARRAMATTA PARK AND WISTERIA GARDENS



Members must consider their capabilities before undertaking any activities with the Club. This includes housekeeping duties and organised activities such as clubs, groups, trips or walks. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that they are physically capable of undertaking any particular activity. In particular, please advise the Welfare Officer (Marie Macdouall) if your medical condition precludes you from helping in the hall set-up and kitchen rosters. The responsibility for compliance sits with attendees.

Appendix D – Calendar of Activities for September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2 Probus Meeting Lunch at The Vicar, Dural	3 Bridge	4 Mah Jong	5
8 Mah Jong	9 Walk	10	11	12 2 nd Friday Book Group
15	16	17 Bridge Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up Soiree	18 Mah Jong	19
22 Mah Jong	23	24	25	26 Men's Coffee Group, Wills Café, ARV
29	30			

Note: For more details, see the activity reports, Appendix A for contact details/locations/times about specific activities and Appendix B for payment details.