



# **The Newsletter of the Combined Probus Club of West Pennant Hills**

**Club Website: [www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/wphc](http://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.

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## President's Message



Earlier this week Lawrie and I, with a couple of friends, travelled into the city and had coffee at busy Circular Quay while watching crowds and crowds of people pass by. We walked past the Opera house and into the Botanic Gardens and spent a couple of hours strolling through beautiful gardens, Australian natives and exotics from around the world. It was busy here too but, despite the crowds, the pace was gentle, no one was in a hurry, everyone seemed to be relaxed and enjoying the day.

How lucky are we here in Sydney, Australia, to be able to spend a day this way.

By the time you read this message our Probus Australia Day celebration may be over but I must thank the many members involved in organising this day. Lawrie and many helpers have put a great deal of time into making the day a success.

All regular activities such as Bridge, Mah Jong, Book Group, Walking Group, coffee days will be starting up again so look for further information later in this newsletter.

Looking forward to 2026 . . .

Janet Hayes

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## Editor's Notes

It's good to see the Club's activities getting back to normal this month after the December/January hiatus.

*Outings and Trips Away* on page 5 promise fun times ahead.

Lawrie's walk (page 6 and map on page 7) is rated "Easy" with the caveat of "73 steps".

Susie Bannatyne

## Important Notice from the Treasurer

I sometimes make several trips to the bank each month, often with only one item to deposit. In future, I'd therefore appreciate it if those of you not wishing to use EFT would, unless handing it to me at a monthly meeting, deposit your cash or cheque into the Club's bank account directly and email me the details.

Jim Bannatyne

Treasurer

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## New Activities

### Anne's Puzzle

You planted sunflower seeds in your back garden. Every day, the number of flowers doubles. If it takes 52 days for the flowers to fill the garden, how many days would it take for them to fill half the garden?

Solution on page 9

Anne Prescott

### Getting to Know You Q&A

Who will be Ross Prestipino's subject this month? Be at the February meeting to find out.

Editor

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## Good Viewing

Thanks to those who submitted shows to watch this month. If you have anything you want to share, please send to [leothedent@gmail.com](mailto:leothedent@gmail.com).

Title	Genre	Service	Episodes	Author
<b>The Brokenwood Mysteries</b>	Drama	Netflix	24	Susie Banatyne
This great programme is best described as Midsomer Murders in New Zealand, without the roses! Good scripts, interesting characters and great acting.				
<b>Choral</b>	Drama	Movie	1	Leo Dent
A choral society's male members enlist in World War I, leaving the demanding Dr. Guthrie to recruit teenagers. Together, they experience the joy of singing while the young boys grapple with their impending conscription into the army.				
<b>Dr Karl's How things work</b>	Doco	iView	8	Janet Hayes
Dr Karl visits eight new factories to find out how some of Australia's best-known products are made. With an access all areas pass to see how everyday items like books, guitars and chips are made, he'll discover the secrets of modern manufacturing.				
<b>Portrait Artist of the Year</b>	Reality TV	iView		Barbara Burgess
Talented artists from across Australia compete in a once-in-a-lifetime challenge: capturing iconic celebrities in a race against the clock. Who will be crowned the winner and walk away with a life-changing commission?				

Leo Dent

## Guest Speakers

**February** - Jennifer Hubbard – Old Movies – Bill Collins Style

**March** - Graham Sims – Legend of Tarzan

**April** - Changeover meeting so no speaker

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

Ross Prestipino

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## Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up



The next gathering will be on Wednesday 18 February at 10am, Wills Cafe, ARV, Castle Hill. Please advise Julia or me if you would like to attend.

Best wishes.

Julia Elborn and Mavis Todd

## Men's Coffee Group



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

When: Friday 27 February at 10am

Where: Wills Café at the ARV

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

Please email me [lawriehayes@bigpond.com](mailto:lawriehayes@bigpond.com) so I can confirm reservation numbers.

Lawrie Hayes

## Outings and Trips Away

### Upcoming Trips

Proud Mary Tour in May 2026. Balance of tour cost payable by 28 February 2026.

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## Proposed Trips

**Retired Laughing**, a revue-style comedy theatre show at Glen Street Theatre, Frenchs Forest on 17 February 2026. The cost is \$75pp or \$65pp if we can get a group of eight. 12 confirmed to date. Details as per information sheet.

**Murder Most Foul**, Darlinghurst Historical Walking Tour

Tuesday 24 March 2026

Meet at Central at 9.30

Tour commences at 10am

Cost \$40pp

Lunch at Kinselas Hotel optional

**Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers** and Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Arts Centre tour, 21 September 2026. Limited to 9 rooms, first in best dressed. Bookings have closed but we can include latecomers if there are any. Details as per information sheet.

Geoff Childs

**Hawkesbury Race Day**

Thursday 21 May 2026. The package for the day includes admission to course, reserved seating in the Clarendon Brassiere (2 course lunch with tea or coffee), Race Book, reserved seating in the Grandstand and car parking. Cost \$68 per person. Add your name to the interest sheet at the February meeting.

Bob Crabb

0408 189 340

## February Walk

### Rozelle to Drummoyne Sailing Club via Callan Park

**Date:** Tuesday 10 February 2026

**Distance:** About 4.3km

**Walking Time:** Approximately 1.5 hours

**Grading:** Easy. Street and park walking with some stairs and ramps

**Time:** I will be catching the 09:04 train from Beecroft

**Travel Options:** Change at Epping to join the Metro and get off at the rear of Gadigal Station. We then catch the 500X or 505, or 504, from stand K in front of the Criterion Hotel in Park Street.

**The walk:**

Get off the bus just before Darling Street and turn left into Darling Street from Victoria Road.

Coffee will be at a place to be advised along Darling Street.

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After coffee we will walk to the entrance to the park precinct and make our way down to the water's edge via the original beautiful sandstone buildings and the glass conservatory looking over the Iron Cove. From here walk down to the athletic park below and under the bridge and on to the Defunct Balmain Power Station pump house. This is very interesting.

After we have looked at the building, retrace your steps and walk up to the bridge deck via approx. 73 steps. Cross the bridge towards Drummoyne and walk down to the water's edge and around the Birkenhead shops to the Sailing Club for lunch.

After lunch walk back to Victoria Road and catch a bus 500X bus to the city or West Ryde Station.

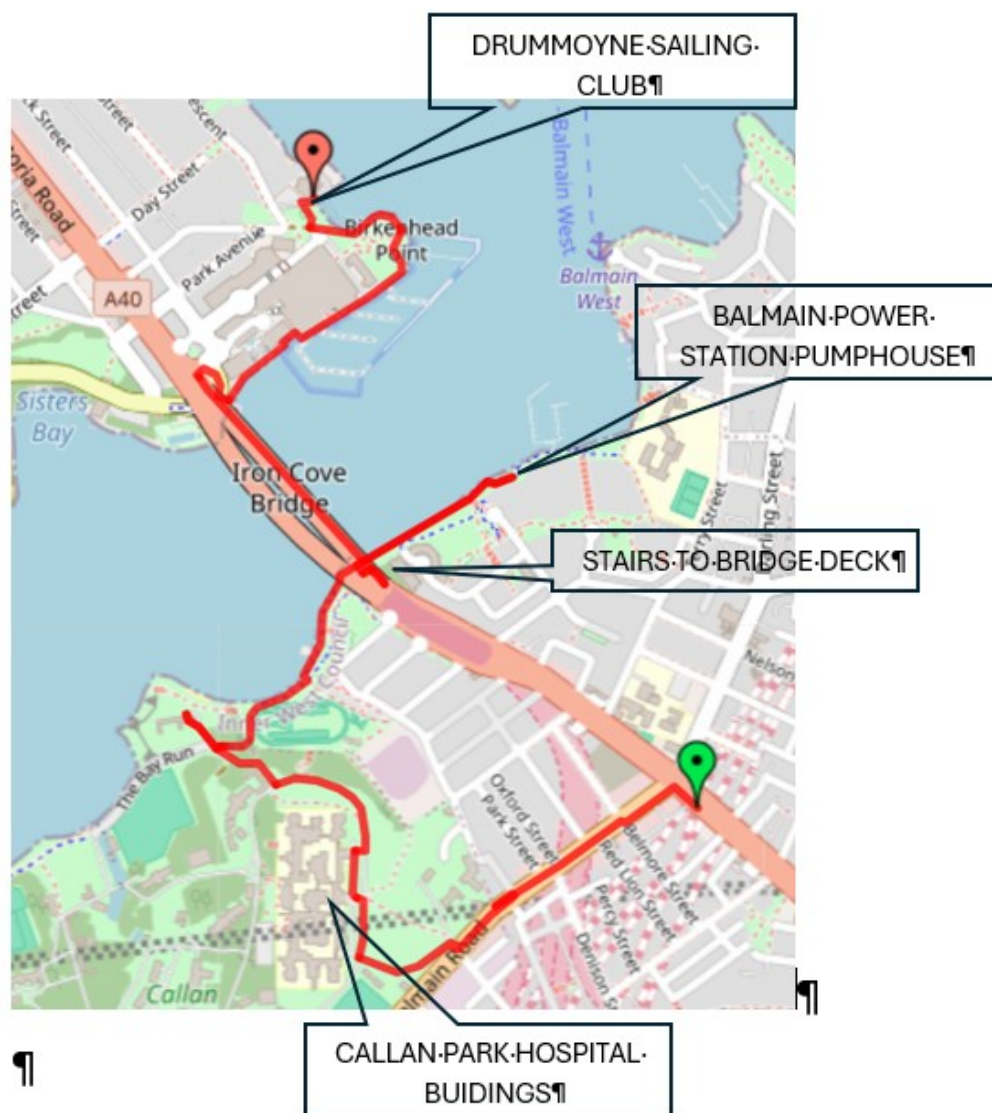
**Some interesting information:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callan\\_Park\\_Hospital\\_for\\_the\\_Insane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callan_Park_Hospital_for_the_Insane)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balmain\\_Power\\_Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balmain_Power_Station)

Hope you enjoy the walk.

Lawrie Hayes



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## General Club Notices

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### Probus Meeting Roster

Month	Hall	Kitchen
<b>February</b>	John Vermeer	Maree Spranger
	Terry Stinson	Lyn Marsden
	Leo Dent	
<b>March</b>	Lawrie Hayes	Maris Wild
	Leo Dent	Veronica Wiseman
	Neville Ward	
<b>April</b>	David Taylor	Sandra Smith
	Bob Crabb	Meg Mills
	Bob Dickerson	

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

Mike Macdouall

### Welfare Report

I've spoken to Colleen Woodhead and she sounds her beautiful, cheerful self. It's so lovely to hear her so positive and settling into their new surroundings. Our thoughts and prayers are with you both and Happy Australia Day. We will miss you at the gathering on 26 January.

Please let me know if you hear of anyone unwell.

Only one month left in summer and then autumn is upon us, my favourite time of the year. Keep safe, stay well and enjoy every day with a smile and a hug for someone you love.

Kindest regards

Marie Macdouall

0434 819 862



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## Reports of Ongoing Activities

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### Mah Jong Monday



There were no games played in January.

Editor for Meg Mills

0414 639 654



### Mah Jong Thursday

The first Mah Jong meeting for the year was down in numbers but some good hands were played.

The winner of the day was Ann with the runner up being Russ Riddell.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on 5 February.

Judith & Mike Reidy

### Solution to Anne's Puzzle

It would take 51 days. If the number of flowers doubles every day, half the garden would be full the day before, on the 51st day.

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## Appendix A - Contacts and Activity Locations/Times

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### Management Committee

<b>President</b>	Janet Hayes	
<b>Vice President</b>	Colin Lissner	
<b>Secretary</b>	Anne Prescott	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Bannatyne	

### General Committee

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

### Activity Leaders

<b>2nd Friday Book Group</b>	Fran Kirby	
<b>\$2.50 Group</b>	Marion Dent	

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

### Location/Start Time of Activities

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

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

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## Appendix B – Payment Details – Treasurer Jim Bannatyne

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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](mailto: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 D – Calendar of Activities for February 2026

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3 Probus Meeting  Lunch at the Pennant Hills Pub	4 Bridge	5 Mah Jong	6
9 Mah Jong	10 Walk	11	12	13 Second Friday Book Group
16	17 <i>Retired Laughing</i>	18 Bridge Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up	19 Mah Jong	20
23 Mah Jong	24	25	26	27 Men's Coffee Group

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