



GUILDFORD PROBUS

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Please
Turn off Your
Mobile Phones

President's Report

3 July 2025



Good day to everyone.

For those who are reading this at home, I hope you are keeping warm and well. For those who are at the meeting today, thank you for making the effort to come especially at this cold time of the year.

Our speaker last month (Carol Duane) graciously stepped in at short notice and gave us a very informative and interesting presentation about the art of Bonsai. Well done. Carol!

The "\$2.50" outing to Paddy's Markets was an enjoyable day. Thirteen of our members participated.

Thank you to the ten members (and friends) who helped reach the required number for the Greystanes' Probus trip to Castlereagh and the new airport. (Had we not been there, the trip would have been cancelled.) It was a good day.

Check the remaining tours for this year and be sure to pay any outstanding costs. The Junee Tour needs to be paid at (or before) the August meeting.

Guildford Leagues Club is planning Christmas in July again. It is scheduled for Wednesday 30th July from 11.45am. Cost is \$45 (members) \$50 (non-members). There will be a two course lunch and entertainment (Danny Elliott and Sharna Le-Grand). Ticket purchase is at reception downstairs.

Enjoy our meeting today.

Heather Schabel(President)

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|--|
| <u>PRESIDENT</u> |
| Heather Schabel 0421 339 961 |
| <u>VICE PRESIDENT</u> |
| <u>& TOUR TEAM</u> |
| Barry Hogan 9632 1670 |
| <u>SECRETARY</u> |
| Gwenda Collins 9631 3756 |
| <u>TREASURER</u> |
| Peter Schabel 0412 729 044 9636 6358 |
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| Margaret Ricketts 9622 0574 |
| <u>NEWSLETTER</u> |
| Carol Duane 0478 012 447 |
| <u>GUEST</u> |
| <u>SPEAKERS</u> |
| Gordon Mitchell 0403 777 555 |
| <u>TOUR BOOKING</u> |
| Rhilma Bruce 0439 950 193 |
| <u>WELFARE</u> |
| <u>& TOUR TEAM</u> |
| Sue Both 9632 1886 0418 112 325 |

2025 dates for your diary

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
| Thursday | 3 rd July | Monthly Meeting starts at 10.30am sharp |
| Sunday | 14 th July | Linnwood Open Day |
| Thursday | 17 th July | Coach Mystery Tour |
| Thursday | 7 th August | Monthly Meeting starts at 10.30am sharp |
| Thursday | 21 August | Annual Winter Lunch at the Coolibah Hotel |
| Thursday | 4 th September | Monthly Meeting starts at 10.30am sharp |
| 9 -12 September | | Coach 4 day tour to Junee |
| Thursday | 2 nd October | Monthly Meeting starts at 10.30am sharp |
| Thursday | 16 th October | Coach Trip to Rathmines |
| Thursday | 4 th December | Monthly Meeting starts at 10.30am sharp |
| Thursday | 4 th December | Annual Christmas Lunch after monthly meeting |

A BIG WELCOME to our Guest Speaker – JOHN DONOHOE who will be speaking about **“CAPTAIN THUNDERBOLT’S FOLLY- The Day the Gentleman Bushranger Got Himself Killed”**.

About the speaker -

After retiring from a technical sales career in the chemical and allied industry, John Donohoe realised that there were other things in life he wanted to do.

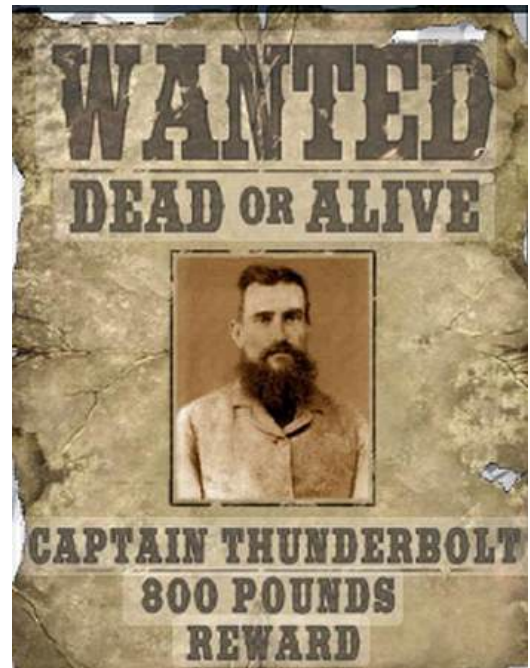
With a burgeoning interest in Bushranger History, John researched and published two books on Ben Hall, arguably Australia’s greatest bushranger.

His first book, “Ben Hall’s Treasure” was released in 2014, followed by his second book, “Ben Hall’s Last Days” in 2016.

After several years of studying bushranger history, John was mesmerised by the legendary life of Frederick Ward, known as Captain Thunderbolt.

After two years researching Thunderbolt, including many visits to the New England region, where the man known as “The Gentleman Bushranger “roamed, John produced his latest work: “Captain Thunderbolt’s Folly”.

John lives in Epping, Sydney when he is not on a field trip or on a cruise ship as a “special interest” lecturer. He is a current director of The Epping Club.





Best Wishes for a very Happy Birthday

To our members
who are celebrating
a birthday
in July

ROBYN COLLETTE
GWENDA COLLINS
CAROL KENNEDY

TONY MERLINO
HELEN REARDON

MAUREEN O'DONOGHUE
SHEMI SKINNER



United Nations

Peace, dignity and equality
on a healthy planet

Here's some of the officially recognised
United Nations International Days in July

5 July International Day of Cooperatives

11 July World Population Day

12 July International Day of Combating Sand
and Dust Storms

12 July International Day of Hope

15 July World Youth Skills Day

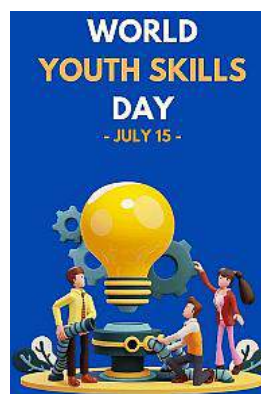
20 July World Chess Day

20 July International Moon Day

25 July World Drowning Prevention Day

28 July World Hepatitis Day

30 July International Day of Friendship





SOCIAL DAYS

Please **add your name to the list at the Tour Team Table now if interested in any of these tours and excursions.*

*If you attend an organised event without having placed your name on the list beforehand, you are **not covered by Probus insurance****

Pay in cash at the Tour Team table or by Direct Deposit - BSB: 032073 Account: 153813

Please include name and purpose in the description field.

Bus trip

July 17

Mystery Tour

\$50 per person

The fun starts before our departure from Guildford Leagues Club at **9am**.



Every passenger needs to complete the form (provided on the day) by writing where you think we are going.

Throughout the day we will be in 3 different areas.

Whoever has the most correct areas wins the prize.

Your clues are – **1. History** **2. Country** **3. Oriental Flavour** **4. Sweet Treat**

Tour cost includes luxury coach travel and morning tea. Lunch is own expense



Annual Winter Lunch by the Fireside at the Coolibah Hotel

12noon Thursday 21st August

To ensure there are sufficient tables and chairs for everyone, please add your name to the Coolibah Winter Lunch List on the Tour Team Table no later than the July meeting

RATHMINES – tour of the ex RAAF Base

Thursday 16th October

Coach departs Guildford Leagues 8am

***\$86 pp includes –**

***Luxury coach travel,**

***Tour of the base by coach,**

***A Guide who will tell us**

about the interesting history of the base

***Morning tea and *Lunch in the former Officers Mess, which is now a bowling club.**



We will also visit the War Memorial and the Catalina Memorial Site

Club Catalina is named after the Catalina Sea Plane which landed in the lake in WW11.

The club is located in a picturesque location on the shores of beautiful Lake Macquarie.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

4TH DECEMBER 12.30PM \$45PP

MENU -

STARTER : Bread Roll and butter

MAIN: Double smoked ham (Honey glazed) with slow cooked roasted baby lamb – with a side of gravy and mint sauce. Served with herb and butter roasted vegetables (potato, broccolini and pumpkin)

DESSERT : Choice of Sticky Date Pudding with Custard or Fresh Fruit Salad

Add your name to the booking list now. Final date for payment is the 6th November meeting

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Grey Nomads 4 Day Junee/Young Coach Tour 9 to 12 September 2025

****If you know someone who may be interested, or if there is somewhere you can promote this tour, please ask for a promotional leaflet at the Tour Teams Table today****

Payment by cash or Direct Deposit for all tours and outings - BSB: 032073 Account: 153813

Please include name and purpose in the description field

Day 1 - Dinner & Bed

Departing 7.30am from Guildford Leagues Club; morning tea and lunch (own expense)
Travelling through **Goulburn** and **Gundagai** arriving **Junee** to our motel for next 3 nights

Day 2 - Breakfast, Dinner & Bed

Coolamon Cheeses then **Junee** for free time for lunch (own expense)
Watch for updates about an alternative to Monte Cristo Historic Haunted House & Doll Museum which is now permanently closed

Day 3 — Breakfast, Morning Tea, Dinner & Bed

Historic **Junee Railway Round House Museum** ; Lunch in Junee (own expense)
Gas Works Garage Memorabilia & Historic Cars; **Junee Chocolate and Liquorice Factory**

Day 4 - Cooked Breakfast

Check out of Motel; **Gundagai; the Dog on The Tucker Box; Goulburn** - lunch (own expense)
Arrive back at Guildford Leagues Club approximately 6.00pm

PRICE PER PERSON TWIN SHARE : \$620.00 SINGLE SUPP. EXTRA: \$200

**** (BASED ON MINIMUM 25 people or more) ****

**PRICE INCLUDES -- COACH TRAVEL; ALL ATTRACTIONS AS PER ITINERARY;
3 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION; 3 DINNERS & 3 HOT BREAKFASTS**

Please Note:

We retain the right to cancel tours, amend fares if any increases occur in accommodation or entry fees and the itinerary could vary subject to weather and road conditions.

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*** Reminder ***

Please wear your **NAME BADGE**
to meetings and Probus functions





Morning Melodies at Merrylands RSL

Held every second Thursday of the month in the Swan Room

\$11 Members | \$15 Guests

Price includes 10.30am morning tea and 11 am show

Request seats at **Table 10** when booking.

Next show date - Thursday 10th July with **Daniel Tambasco**, a man with a big voice. He sings and performs the songs that people love, Pop, Opera and anything in between.

Plus, **Christine Lee Tyrrell** who is a true all round entertainer. She has performed in musicals and plays such as Les Miserables, Dick Whittington and in Faulty Towers a UK travelling show. Recently working with Children's entertainers The Wiggles & hosting the Dorothy the Dinosaur show.



EVENTS

CHRISTMAS
In July

A Wonderful Celebration

- with - *Danny Elliot*

WED. 30TH JULY
11.45AM TO 2.30PM

\$45 MEMBERS
\$50 NON-MEMBERS

INCLUDES SHOW & 2 COURSE LUNCH
TICKET PURCHASE AT RECEPTION

LUNCH & DESSERT MEAL

ALTERNATE SERVE OF:

Slow Cooked Lamb Shank
WITH MASH POTATO AND VEGETABLES

Grilled Barramundi
WITH CHIPS AND SALAD

Black Forest Cake
SOFT CHOCOLATE SPONGE CAKE LAYERS, CHERRY SYRUP, SOUR CHERRY FILLING, WHIPPED CREAM & DARK CHOCOLATE

PLEASE NOTIFY STAFF OF ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS UPON PURCHASING TICKETS



Thank you to Heather Schabel for the photo from the \$2.50 excursion to Paddys Markets in June

WEBSITE

A reminder that Guildford Probus Club has it's own website
as part of the Probus South Pacific Website!!

How to find our website

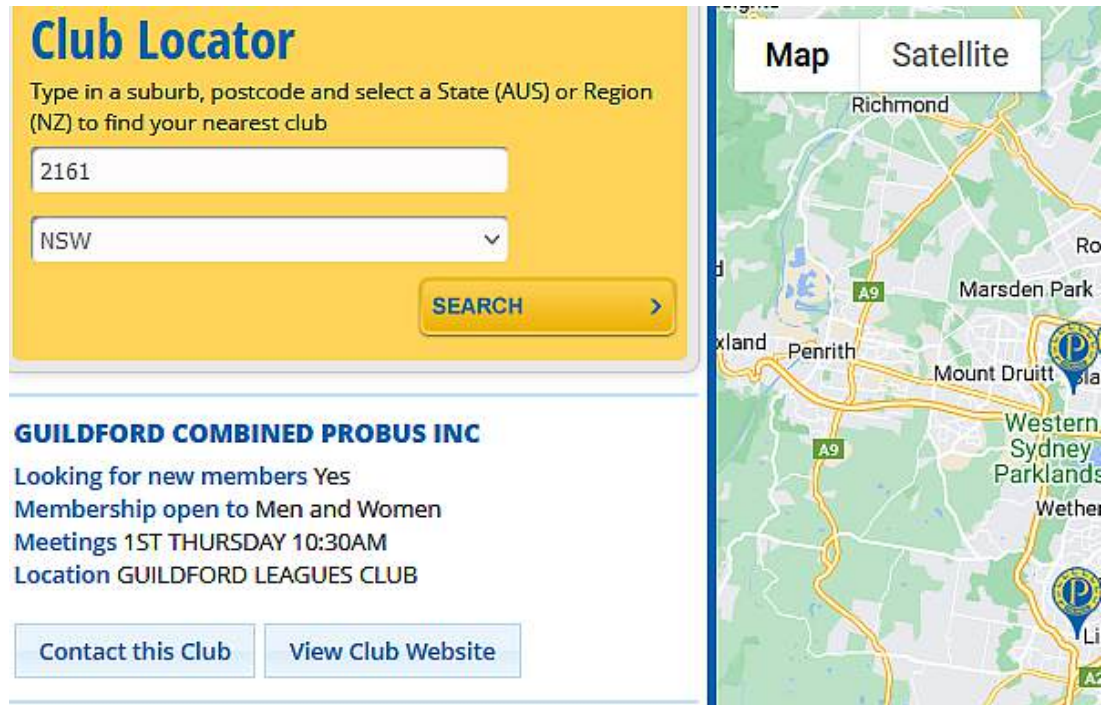
In your browser search bar type - probussouthpacific.org

On the right side of
the front page of the
PSP website under
"Find A Club"

type in **2161** - -
then click **NSW** - -
then click **Search**

Guildford Combined
Probus will appear at
the top of the list.

Click **View Club
Website**



The screenshot shows the 'Club Locator' search results for the suburb 2161 in NSW. The results list 'GUILDFORD COMBINED PROBUS INC' with details: 'Looking for new members Yes', 'Membership open to Men and Women', 'Meetings 1ST THURSDAY 10:30AM', and 'Location GUILDFORD LEAGUES CLUB'. There are buttons for 'Contact this Club' and 'View Club Website'. To the right is a map showing the location near Penrith and Mount Druitt.

The website
contains some
basic meeting
information, plus
newsletters from
2023 to the
current issue as
well as the
meeting minutes
for these years.

Developing the
website is an
ongoing learning
experience for
Brian Duane who
kindly accepted
the role of "Webmaster".

The website is a constant work in progress. It is updated every month

This website is available for members to revisit some past newsletters and minutes as well for any potential members to check our meeting times as well as some of our activities etc.



Probus
SOUTH PACIFIC

JOIN PROBU

AUS: 1300 630 488 NZ

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GUILDFORD COMBINED PROBUS INC > Welcome

SITE NAVIGATION

Welcome

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Welcome to the Guildford Combined Probus Club Inc Website Fun and Friendship in Retirement

Are you a retiree who would like to meet and socialise with other retirees in the Guildford area?

We are a small club of about 50 members.

Meetings

Meetings are held at Guildford Leagues Club at 10.30am on the 1st Thursday of every month from Febru

Visitors are very welcome to attend our meetings.

A Walk down Memory Lane... by Carol Duane

While recovering in rehabilitation hospital, I've continued researching wartime shipping after the May Guest Speaker Mr Plowman, stirred my curiosity to learn more, especially about the Allied Merchant Navy, because my Father and his brother were Merchant Marine sailors in WW11

The Allied Merchant Navy was manned by sailors from Britain and the many nations that made up the then British Empire. Countries such as Russia, the United States and China which became British Allies were also members of the Merchant Navy.

Though the importance of the Allied Merchant Navy in WW11 seems to be rarely mentioned I've learnt that the merchant seamen, although they did so as civilians, faced the same dangers of war as the regular armed forces. The merchant ships were peacetime vessels fitted with guns for defence - although this weaponry could not withstand an enemy attack.

The job of the Merchant Navy was to carry vital troops, food, fuel and equipment to wherever they were needed in the fight against the Axis alliance of Germany, Italy and Japan.

As an island country, the United Kingdom was highly dependent on imported goods. Britain required more than a million tons of imported material per week in order to survive and fight and much of it came from Australia.

During my research it has been a surprise to also learn -

- * **2,603** allied merchant ships were **sunk** during WW11; **30,248** allied merchant seamen **died**
- * Some **German warships** and submarines were very **close to the USA** coastline during WW11
- * The merchant marine sailors were very **brave**, sailing on ships with almost no defence in an effort to try to ensure necessary cargo was delivered
- * **Passengers** as well as cargo were transported on merchant marine ships
- * Most of the passengers from Australia were going to England - Would you want to **sail** on what was basically an **unprotected cargo ship** on a **long sea voyage** from Sydney, across the Pacific and through the Panama Canal into the Atlantic Ocean - IN **WAR TIME**?

My father and one of his brothers were crew members on the SS Ulysses, a merchant marine ship providing much needed goods to Australia and the USA and United Kingdom.

There is an interesting, but very long story about the full history of the SS Ulysses and its last voyage. However, to save space, here is just the brief account -

The **SS Ulysses** had survived many incidents but her luck ran out when she was **torpedoed** by a German U Boat (U-160) off the coast of Carolina, USA

Three torpedoes hit the ship but she settled slowly providing enough time for the life boats to be lowered.

Even though hundreds of ships were bombed during WW11, the SS Ulysses became news, especially in the USA.

Photos were taken by a US aircraft which first reached the scene

Passengers later reported that there was no panic, women and children boarded the lifeboats first, the crew were efficient.

The Captain refused to leave the ship until everyone else was in a life boat.



Awaiting rescue in the lifeboats

The lifeboats pulled away before the ship sank.
It was the last voyage for the Ulysses.

>> This photo is said to show the Ulysses' boilers blowing shortly before sinking>>

The presence of an aircraft (possibly a flying boat) probably led to the early departure of U-160.

An hour or so later, the destroyer, USS Manley, arrived, scrambling nets were lowered and the 290 survivors were brought up on deck.



My uncle often told me about the sinking and being saved by kind and generous American sailors on the USS Manley, who gave up their own beds and their own clothing for the comfort of the Ulysses passengers and crew.

What surprised me the most was recently seeing this photo and

realising how small a ship she actually was. I had always pictured a large USS Navy ship when my uncle spoke about the USS Manley.

We can only wonder how they managed to fit 290 survivors onto this small ship which already had a full crew onboard.

For some unknown reason, the story of the Ulysses captured the imagination of the American public. It was front page news >

Many passengers reported how the officers and crew of the US Navy ship treated them with the greatest kindness and this kind treatment and generosity was repeated in Charleston and New York by the community.

For the rest of his life, my uncle would never hear a bad word said about Americans after how he had been so kindly and generously treated by them after his ship was attacked and sank.



One notable act of kindness was that Baroness Rothschild took every passenger to Macy's store in New York for replacement shoes.

A **mother cat** onboard the SS Ulysses was the **only casualty**, she went down with the ship, however her 3 kittens were saved by an 11 year old girl passenger who wrapped them inside her coat and carried them into the lifeboat.

I must admit it felt a bit spooky to learn that the SS Ulysses was attacked on April 11th 1942 and sank just after midnight on April 12th 1942 because I was born exactly 5 years later - after midnight on April 12th 1947 (For Eels footy fans - that is also the date of their very first Game!)

If anyone would like to read more about the SS Ulysses, please see Brian, he has a few copies of its full history.

How to make the best-ever scrambled eggs by Australia's Best Recipes Team

While scrambled eggs seem very simple, it's pretty easy to end up with dry eggs.

Follow these steps to ensure you perfect your eggs and become the scrambled eggs master.

Step 1

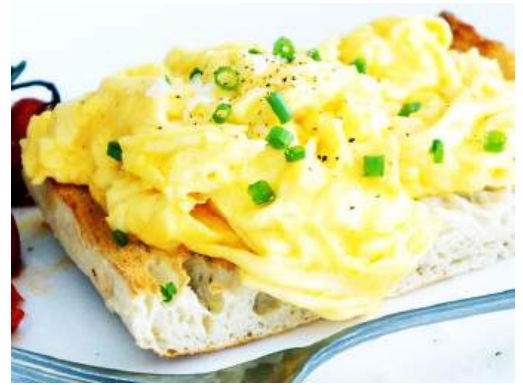
Whisk two eggs with a little milk or cream and salt, and pepper. If you want to add any additional flavours, such as parsley, corn or smoked salmon, have these ready to go.

Step 2

Melt a knob of butter in a non-stick pan. When it's sizzling, add the eggs and, using a wooden spoon, gently fold the mixture until creamy curds have formed. Turn off the heat before the eggs are fully set.

Step 3

Add any additional flavours just before the last curds form, and let the eggs sit in the pan until the curds have JUST set. Then, slide onto a plate and serve warm.



Do you have a better scrambled eggs recipe? What's your favourite way to cook eggs?

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Greystanes Probus have invited Guildford Probus members to join their 3 day tour to Mudgee/Gulgong 12th – 14th November

Price per person is \$760 pp extra \$360 for single supplement.

Price includes Luxury Coach Travel, 2 nights accommodation; 2 dinners and breakfasts and all listed entries and attractions as per the itinerary.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE –

- * Accommodation at the famous Ten Dollar Motel in Gulgong
- * Gin, Rum, Whisky, Liquors & Spirits tasting at Baker Williams Distillery
- * Guided Tour of historic Gulgong where 130 buildings have National Trust Classification
- * Wine Tasting at a couple of local wineries
- * Booked seats at the oldest, continually operating Opera House in Australia for an entertaining live show based on the works of Henry Lawson

Depart pick up point at 7.30am on 12th November

Arrive back at pick up point at approximately 5pm on 14 November.

Ask Sue Both or Peter Schabel for more information and how to book

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When I was a boy, I had a disease that required me to eat dirt three times a day in order to survive.....

It's a good thing my older sister told me about it!!

