Combined Probus Club

of Belrose Inc.



December 2020 Newsletter Edition No 155

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Members of the Combined Probus Club of Belrose

Please note the change of venue, day and date for our next meeting - **Belrose Uniting Church on Thursday**, **December 3.** Please arrive from 9.40 onwards.

Please note on this occasion you must register to attend the meeting. Numbers are restricted to 65. Our hope is the requirements will be relaxed in the New Year. This is our latest attempt to return to a normal venue and date, please bear with us.

On that note you must register to attend any of our events, this allows our hard working organisers to meet the requirements for the event, seating, meals etc.

If an incident was to occur, we would be required to provide a contact list of attendees. These are government rules and therefore we must adhere to them. I'm sure if anyone has attended any venue recently, you would be familiar with these requirements.

Our AGM will be held next March and nominations for board positions are now open. Please consider nominating for one of the committee positions.

As usual stay safe and healthy and see you soon.

Terry Stewart - President Combined Probus Club of Belrose Inc

CLUB CONTACTS

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Club Website: <u>http://www.belroseprobus.org.au</u>		

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ENTERTAINMENT

Warwick Brady (0418 793 684)

Well 2020 is almost at an end and I would like to thank the members of our Club who have supported me in the later part of the year when thanks to the Management Team at Glen Street Theatre we were able to continue to enjoy two performances and we have bookings for two more shows including the most eagerly sought after production namely the final presentation of the Wharf Revue in January 2021.

Prior to this we will have the pleasure of enjoying "Christmas with Catherine" which replaces the previously advertised "Love will Keep us Together" as the lead performers in this show have decided not to come to Sydney as they are residents of Victoria, may be next year. "Christmas with Catherine" will be a festive morning with a selection of favourite Christmas Carols with a Stellar Support Team for Catherine Alcorn including Michael Tyack (Mary Poppins, The Boy from Oz) on piano, and supporting vocalists of Kirby Burgess (Dirty Dancing) and Clare Ellen O'Connor (Rock Rhapsody).Thanks again for the support given to me, once more all 41 seats which had been booked for " Love will Keep us Together" have been transferred to the new show.

I was really grateful when on the 11th November 2020, I received correspondence from Glen Street stating that THE WHARF REVUE WAS GOING AHEAD and because our booking was one of the first on Glen Street's books we were to be allowed our original booking of 60 seats, as I said previously this was a record booking for Clubs. Our booking had to be split to 26 Seats on the Opening Night and 34 seats on the following Night. As there were no special celebrations allowed on Opening Night after the show this was not a problem and I thank all members for complying with my request. Only took two days to have this situation confirmed. The Matinee Performance on the 13th January was not altered.

So, lets roll on 2021 and hope that as soon as the programme from Glen Street is announced we will have a normal big choice to consider, as well as some of the hit productions coming to the city venues.

Finally best wishes to all our members for a happy and holy Christmas season and a New Year 2021 full with good health and Worldwide Peace.

Warwick Brady - Entertainment Officer

Combined Probus Club of Belrose Newsletter

GUEST SPEAKERS

Jan Staniland (0409 455 652)

We all enjoyed our Speaker, Cr David Walton, at the meeting on 13 November. It was so intriguing to hear of the Manly Underbelly which most of us could remember and good to know we are now well looked after by the current local police force! David also answered many questions from members about the Northern Beaches Council. He was thanked by Peter Moxham and, considering the lack of technical facilities at the Forestville Community Hall, he provided an entertaining talk.

Next month we will be meeting on Thursday 3rd December at the Uniting Church, Morgan Road, Belrose when our President Terry will be talking about the connection of his sailing club with Mark Foy – mostly remembered for the iconic store in Sydney which bore his name.

It will be wonderful to be back in our comfortable and familiar surroundings. Thank you Cherry for organising this return for us.

Jan Staniland – Guest Speaker Coordinator



SOCIAL

Liz Pawsey (0403 206 460)

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER

TERREY HILLS GOLF CLUB 12 NOON

Very happy to report that the response for the Christmas Lunch bookings has been excellent. We have 6 on the waiting list. Hoping to hear about increase in numbers being allowed at the function. Maybe we will hear something as late as 1st December.

If your circumstances change and you find yourself unable to attend the lunch, please let me know as soon as possible as there are members eagerly waiting to be told they can join in the annual fun at THGC! If there are any members still keen to come, and would like to join the Waiting List, please let me know at the next meeting on THURSDAY 3rd December at the latest. Terrey Hills Golf Club needs final numbers on 4th!

As this is our first social get-together since February I thought this Christmas Lunch occasion should be made more special by wearing something very **SPARKLY** to mark our "breaking" out of strict Covid restrictions! The sparkle can be in any form – hats, ties, tops, jackets, jewellery, socks, shoes, belts etc! The sparklier the better! Let's make it a dazzling occasion!

WELCOME THE NEW YEAR WITH BREAKFAST AT

PIEMONTE CAFÉ AT 8.30AM

THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY 2021

I am happy to announce that we are celebrating finishing off such a difficult 2020 and welcoming a better 2021 by having a breakfast at **Piemonte Café** at Terrey Hills on **THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY** at **8.30am**. Al is very excited about welcoming us back to his café and will charge us **\$18** for a breakfast of our choice from his set menu and 2 cups of tea or coffee. Very good value.

Bookings will be through the website (as you are all experts at that method now!!) or email me directly. Numbers will be restricted but Al is hopeful by January we may be allowed 50. So, I encourage you to book and we'll see how numbers go!

Payment will be appreciated by EFT and by the Probus meeting on Thursday 14th January.

Liz Pawsey – Social Coordinator



PAGE 3 GIRLS



Barely the day started and...it's already six in the evening

Barely arrived on Monday and it's already Friday ... and the month is already over

...and the year is almost over

...and already 40, 50 or 60 years of our lives have passed

...and we realize that we lost our parents, friends ...and we realize it's too late to go back

So...let's try, despite everything, to enjoy the remaining time

Let's keep looking for activities that we like Let's put some colour in our grey

Let's smile at the little things in life that put balm in our hearts

And despite everything, we must continue to enjoy with serenity this time we have left

Let's try to eliminate the "afters" I'm doing it after... I'll say after... I'll think about it after... We leave everything for later like "after" is ours Because what we don't understand is that: Afterwards, the coffee gets cold... Afterwards, priorities change Afterwards, the charm is broke..... Afterwards, health passes Afterwards, the kids grow up Afterwards, parents get old Afterwards, promises are forgotten Afterwards, the day becomes the night Afterwards, life ends And then it's too late

So...let's leave nothing for later Because still waiting to "see you later", we can lose the best moments The best experiences Best friends The best family The day is today.....The moment is now

We are no longer at the age where we can afford to postpone what needs to be done right away So, let's see if you have time to read this message and then share it Or, maybe you'll leave it for..."later"

With thanks to Cherry Robinson



SCRAPBOOKING

Liz Pawsey (0403 206 460)

PROBUS SCRAPBOOKING – IN RECESS

The Pawsey Folly will be having a break over the Christmas holidays but will open up again on **February 16**^{th.} In the meantime, keep sorting out your photos and planning your albums in readiness for a productive year of Scrapbooking with Probus friends in 2021.

<u>Remember</u>: The only place where housework comes before Scrapbooking is in the dictionary!



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Geoff Jones (0412 420 213)

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY TO JANUARY NEWSLETTER

If you would like to submit input for the January Newsletter, please do so by 25 December 2020 or earlier if you don't believe in Santa. Input can be sent to me, the Newsletter Editor at <u>geoffjones1874@gmail.com</u>

TOURS AND OUTINGS

John Robinson (0438 456 808)

FERRY TRIP TO ETTALONG

Thirty two members enjoyed a great day on the water and at the Diggers Club recently and a stroll around the very pleasant Ettalong Village.

We were entertained on the boat by Hastings with an interesting poll dancing routine.



TWILIGHT PICNIC THURSDAY 28TH JANUARY 2021 WINNERERREMY PARK, MONA VALE

In the early years of our club picnics were held at this spot in the cool of the afternoon in January and were very well attended.

In view of the current situation and warm weather in January I am suggesting a twilight picnic once again, commencing around 4.30 / 5.00pm

The council advise me the tables in the park are suitable for distancing and will seat eight.

I have chosen the latter part of the month because schools will have returned.

Numbers are limited to 30. Please register your interest on the club website.



ARTHUR STREETON RETROSPECTIVE THURSDAY 4TH FEBRUARY - ART GALLERY OF NSW

I have been told the gallery hopes to begin private tours in the New Year and we will be advised should this be the case. The other option is a non-guided trip with audio for some items.

At this stage I would ask that members who may be interested register on the net and once confirmation is received from the gallery, time, bus times and entry fee can be advised.

This will be the most significant Streeton retrospective ever held and will feature more than 150 works from public and private collections including some not exhibited for over 100 years

"Streeton" will present a fresh look at these muchloved works, enriched by a selection from the artist's international career in Egypt, England, Italy and WWI France. Streeton's environmental activism on his return to Australia in the 1920s led to paintings which are prescient of our current highly charged debates on the destruction of the natural world.



Arthur Streeton – Land of the Golden Fleece (1926)

SNOWY MOUNTAINS TOUR 6th - 11th APRIL 2021

We have a full bus! We have 50 registrations and the good news is the tour will proceed with the full numbers. I'll notify details of when deposit is required in due course.

I have created a waiting list as we know there are usually some members who are unable to proceed and vacancies occur.

John Robinson

Combined Probus Club of Belrose Newsletter

WALKING GROUP

Helen Miles (0407 078 963)

The Walking Group were so fortunate to have a perfect day, after all the rain, for our October walk from Collaroy to Long Reef. Thirteen walkers enjoyed the morning in mild sunshine beside the ocean, cheese and biscuits in the shade near Long Reef Surf Club and coffee overlooking Fisherman's Beach watching surfers riding motorised Wave Riders.

There is no walk in December

Helen Miles







Coca-Cola was originally green.

Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury.

WELFARE

Robyn Wood (0424 243 457)

We are never too old for appendicitis and Barley Stewart knew when the pain hit. She went straight into surgery after lots of tests. She is back at home now and should be resting but will not of course. Looking her usual bubbly self. We wish her a speedy recovery.

This Christmas will be different for some of us who normally have family from other states visit. Please let us know if you need us. Our thoughts are also with you that have partners in care and have not had a Christmas without them for many years. Please let us know if you know of anyone in the club that needs a call.

Happy Christmas to everyone,

Robyn Wood – Welfare Officer



WINE APPRECIATION

Mike Staniland (0417 234 346)



WRAPS WITH LOVE

Margaret Hobson (0416 090 140)

Another 10 Wraps have been handed over to Wraps with Love which takes our total to 917 since our group commenced in 2012.

Many thanks to all the Probus members and their friends who have produced squares for us to create into wraps and also for the completed wraps.

Shown below are photos of the wraps handed over.

Margaret Hobson









DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



7 th	Dulcie Hermann
7 th	Madame Tussaud, Waxworks (1761)
9th	Warwick Brady
9 th	Kirk Douglas, Actor (1916)
11th	Lyn Morris
11 th	Brenda Lee, Singer (1945)
13th	Judith Macaulay
13 th	Dick Van Dyke, Actor (1925)
13th	Jean Morrow
13 th	Dionne Warwick, Singer (1941)
14 th	Ivan Krajancic
14 th	King George VI (1895)
19th	Judy Barnes
19 th	Leonid Brezhnev, Soviet Leader (1906)
19 th 19 th	Glenda Tinson Mileva Maric, Physicist, wife of Albert Einstein (1875)
a a th	

- 20th Kathy Bennett
 20th "Tiger" Bill O'Reilly, Australian cricketer (1905)
- 24th Tony Somerville
 24th Kit Carson Frontiersman (1809)





"Halt! Who goes there?" the sentry's call Rose on the midnight air Above the noises of the camp The roll of wheels, the horses' tramp The challenge echoes over all – "Halt! Who goes there?"

A quaint old figure clothed in white He bore a staff of pine And ivy-wreath was on his head "Advance, O friend" the sentry said "Advance, for this is Christmas Night And give the countersign"

"No sign or countersign have I Through many lands I roam The whole world over far and wide To exiles all at Christmastide From those who love them tenderly I bring a thought of home"

"From English brook and Scottish burn From cold Canadian snows From those far lands ye hold most dear I bring you all a greeting here A frond of a New Zealand fern A bloom of English rose"

"From faithful wife and loving lass I bring a wish divine For Christmas blessings on your head" "I wish you well" the sentry said "But here, alas! You may not pass Without the countersign"

He vanished – and the sentry's tramp Re-echoes down the line It was not till the morning light The soldiers knew that in the night Old Santa Claus had come to camp Without the countersign.

Andrew Barton "Banjo" Paterson

AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

The Burnum Burnum Declaration

To coincide with the bicentenary of the arrival of the First Fleet, in 1788 on the banks of what is now known as Kurnell, Sydney and what was the founding of the colony of New South Wales, Burnum Burnum placed an Aboriginal flag on the white cliffs of Dover - British soil – and made this declaration.

26 January 1988 - DOVER

The Burnum Burnum Declaration Justice with Honour

I, Burnum Burnum, being an aristocratic nobleman of ancient Australia, do hereby take possession of England on behalf of the Aboriginal Crown. In doing so we wish no harm to you natives, but assure you that we are here to bring you good manners, refinement and an opportunity to make a Koompartoo – a fresh start.

Henceforth, my face shall appear on your coins and stamps to signify our sovereignty over this domain.

At the end of two hundred years, we will make a Treaty to validate occupation by peaceful means and not by conquest.

For the more advanced, we bring the complex language of the Pitjantjatjara. We will teach you how to have a spiritual relationship with the Earth and show you how to get food from the bush.

We do not intend to souvenir, pickle and preserve the heads of 2000 of your people, nor to publicly display the skeletal remains of your Royal Highness, as was done to our Queen Truganinni for eighty years. Neither do we intend to poison your water holes, lace your bread with strychnine or introduce you to highly toxic drugs.

We acknowledge the need to preserve the Caucasian race as of interest to antiquity, although we may be inclined to conduct experiments by measuring the size of your skulls for levels of intelligence.

We pledge not to sterilise your young women.

We solemnly promise not to make a quarry of England and export your valuable minerals back to the old country Australia, but to encourage Earth Repair Action to unite people, communities and religions in a common, productive, peaceful purpose.

Finally, we give an absolute undertaking that you shall not be placed into the mentality of government handouts for the next five generations but you will enjoy the full benefits of Aboriginal equality.

RADAR/RADIO ASTRONOMY MONUMENT

Hello Members.

The Radar/Radio Astronomy Monument on Collaroy Plateau and located in Plateau Park, is now complete for all to see. Do I hear a sigh of relief - definitely from me.

After 5 years of challenge, the temporary construction fence was removed on 19 November, after the landscaping was completed during the days before. Please see the photo taken on 20 November after I was invited to be onsite with our Mayor, Cr Michael Regan.



This Monument is placed on the birthplace of Australia's world leading Radio Astronomy's new science. A fact very few were aware of before the project was initiated.

Though this stage has been completed, there are a number of minor additions I'd like be involved with, to add to its significance.

Plateau Park is easy to drive to and it's a very pleasant smallish Community playing field with a new children's playground, which was part of the overall project. Take a drive up there one day and remember that it's also the site of one of the primary RAAF Radar Stations protecting Sydney during WW2. Then it became the starting point of Radio Astronomy in Australia. That was 75 years ago, last 3rd October 2020.

I've appreciated the interest many have shown to me over these last years.

Hastings D. Pawsey

ELECTRIC SURFBOARD

These photos relate to an electric surfboard which we collectively watched being used while on our Probus walk in October. The operator of the surf-board initially lies flat on the board and activates the propeller via a hand-held control; then the operator gets onto the knees; then stands up while progressively gaining speed; the operator's body weight is then put on the back leg and the surf-board is raised above the water surface. For those interested in purchasing such an electric surf-board it costs about \$18,000.

Peter Loveday







RUDYARD KIPLING'S INSPIRATIONAL POEM "IF"

- If you can keep your head when all about you Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
- If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, But make allowance for their doubting too;
- If you can wait and not be tired by waiting, Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
- Or being hated, don't give way to hating, And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:
- If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
- If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim; If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
- And treat those two impostors just the same; If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
- Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools, Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
- And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:
- If you can make one heap of all your winnings And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss, And lose, and start again at your beginnings
- And never breathe a word about your loss; If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
- To serve your turn long after they are gone, And so hold on when there is nothing in you Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'
- If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch, If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you, If all men count with you, but none too much; If you can fill the unforgiving minute With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
- Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it, And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

Joseph Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)



Rudyard Kipling's (1865-1936) inspirational poem 'If' first appeared in his collection 'Rewards and Fairies' in 1909. The poem 'If' is inspirational, motivational, and a set of rules for 'grown-up' living. Kipling's 'If' contains mottos and maxims for life, and the poem is also a blueprint for personal integrity, behaviour and self-development. 'If' is perhaps even more relevant today than when Kipling wrote it, as an ethos and a personal philosophy. Lines from Kipling's 'If' appear over the player's entrance to Wimbledon's Centre Court - a poignant reflection of the poem's timeless and inspiring quality.

The beauty and elegance of 'If' contrasts starkly with Rudyard Kipling's largely tragic and unhappy life. He was starved of love and attention and sent away by his parents; beaten and abused by his foster mother; and a failure at a public school which sought to develop qualities that were completely alien to Kipling. In later life the deaths of two of his children also affected Kipling deeply.

One of his sons died in the First World War after Kipling used his influence to get his son an army commission, despite him having been rejected by the army due to poor eyesight. Kipling's words in a later work "If any question why we died, tell them because our father lied" is thought to be a reference to Kipling's role in helping his son bypass the military eyesight test.

Rudyard Kipling achieved fame quickly, based initially on his first stories and poems written in India (he returned there after College), and his great popularity with the British public continued despite subsequent critical reaction to some of his more conservative work, and critical opinion in later years that his poetry was superficial and lacking in depth of meaning.

Significantly, Kipling turned down many honours offered to him including a knighthood, Poet Laureate and the Order of Merit, but in 1907 he accepted the Nobel Prize for Literature. Kipling's wide popular appeal survives through other works, notably The Jungle Book (1894) the novel, Kim (1901), and Just So Stories (1902).

Following his death in 1936 his ashes were interred at Poets' Corner, part of the South Transept of Westminster Abbey.

Kipling is said to have written the poem "If" with Dr Leander Starr Jameson in mind, who led about five hundred of his countrymen in a failed raid against the Boers, in southern Africa. The "Jameson Raid" was later considered a major factor in starting the Boer War (1899-1902).

<u>E V O L U T I O N</u> How Does a Caterpillar Turn into a Butterfly?

To become a butterfly, a caterpillar first digests itself. But certain groups of cells survive, turning the soup into eyes, wings, antennae and other adult structures



As children, many of us learn about the wondrous process by which a caterpillar morphs into a butterfly. The story usually begins with a very hungry caterpillar hatching from an egg. The caterpillar, or what is more scientifically termed a larva, stuffs itself with leaves, growing plumper and longer through a series of molts in which it sheds its skin. One day, the caterpillar stops eating, hangs upside down from a twig or leaf and spins itself a silky cocoon or molts into a shiny chrysalis. Within its protective casing, the caterpillar radically transforms its body, eventually emerging as a butterfly.

But what does that radical transformation entail? How does a caterpillar rearrange itself into a butterfly? What happens inside a chrysalis or cocoon?

First, the caterpillar digests itself, releasing enzymes to dissolve all of its tissues. If you were to cut open a cocoon or chrysalis at just the right time, caterpillar soup would ooze out. But the contents of the pupa are not entirely an amorphous mess. Certain highly organized groups of cells known as imaginal discs survive the digestive process. Before hatching, when a caterpillar is still developing inside its egg, it grows an imaginal disc for each of the adult body parts it will need as a mature butterfly or moth—discs for its eyes, for its wings, its legs and so on. In some species, these imaginal discs remain dormant throughout the caterpillar's life; in other species, the discs begin to take the shape of adult body parts even before the caterpillar forms a chrysalis or cocoon. Some caterpillars walk around with tiny rudimentary wings tucked inside their bodies, though you would never know it by looking at them.

Once a caterpillar has disintegrated all of its tissues except for the imaginal discs, those discs use the protein-rich soup all around them to fuel the rapid cell division required to form the wings, antennae, legs, eyes, genitals and all the other features of an adult butterfly or moth. The imaginal disc for a fruit fly's wing, for example, might begin with only 50 cells and increase to more than 50,000 cells by the end of metamorphosis. Depending on the species, certain caterpillar muscles and sections of the nervous system are largely preserved in the adult butterfly. One study even suggests that moths remember what they learned in later stages of their lives as caterpillars.

Getting a look at this metamorphosis as it happens is difficult; disturbing a caterpillar inside its cocoon or chrysalis risks botching the transformation. But Michael Cook, who maintains a fantastic website about silkworms, has some incredible photos of a Tussah silk moth (*Antheraea penyi*) that failed to spin a cocoon. You can see the delicate, translucent jade wings, antennae and legs of a pupa that has not yet matured into an adult moth—a glimpse of what usually remains concealed.

With thanks to Malcolm McLean



A group of adults were taking a computer course at a community college. One day the professor decided to have some fun and divided the class up into two groups – men on one side of the room and women on the other. He asked each group to determine what gender computers ought to be – male or female.

After deliberation, the men decided that computers should be referred to in the feminine gender because:

- No-one but their creator understands their internal logic
- When computers communicate with each other they speak in code language that only they and experts can understand
- Every mistake you make is stored on their hard drive for later retrieval.
- Because as soon as you commit to one you find yourself spending half your paycheque on accessorising it.

The women meanwhile voted unanimously that computers must be in the masculine gender, why:

- Because in order to get their attention you first have to turn them on.
- They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves.
- They are supposed to help you solve problems but half the time they are the problem.
- As soon as you commit to one you realise that if you had waited a little longer you could have got a better model.

With thanks to John Robinson

BAR STAFF FOR OUR NEXT FUNCTION



We have arranged special bar staff for our next function. Hopefully by then our barman, who has the Covid virus and is in splendid isolation in Balmoral Castle, will have fully recovered. Have any of our members met him?

LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Belrose, Davidson, Frenchs Forest, & Forestville Community Page

<u>Frenchs Forest, Belrose, Davidson & Forestville</u> <u>Community Group</u>

These are two online groups. To be a member you are required to be a Facebook member. You may join both groups or one group.

The advantages of belonging to these groups are:

- You can seek out recommendations for local professionals - builders, plumbers, doctors, dentists, classes, gyms. etc.....Who to go to OR Who not to go to.
- Post a message if you have lost ...Pets, personal items...keys, wallets etc
- Sell OR offer for FREE, Furniture, Tools, Plants, Food, Toys ...etc...
- Keep updated with what is happening in our area, traffic, accidents, etc.
- Help our neighbours who maybe experiencing a difficult situation...
- Instead of goods going to landfill, items are being recycled....

These groups provide a wealth of knowledge and support to our local Community.

With thanks to Judee Radford

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

AN ANONYMOUS SUGGESTION TO THE EDITOR

Can we please have a Probus newsletter that contains general information about our activities and doesn't have many pages of unnecessary twaddle and bad jokes!

And you had to get to the end to read this!

Thanks to those who submitted articles and jokes. We received so much that some will go into the next issue. ttfn+kbo **Geoff**