



May 2025 Newsletter
Edition No 208

CLUB PRESIDENT
MIKE HARTNELL



Happy May to everyone. A great month to join in, participate and enjoy.

Sorry I missed my first General Meeting as President. Had a great time going to Vietnam, Cambodia and Japan for a month. Cambodia is a lovely place with lovely people. Vietnam I had only known about through all the media and propaganda during the years of the war there.

Vietnam and Cambodia had some terrible violence and destruction in the 60s and 70s. But it is fifty years on now and two generations ago. Most of the population weren't born then. They are young and keen to have visitors and investors to help build their country. They are very friendly and will do anything to help you and look after you and they speak good English!. It gives them joy to help you.

Japan is just impressive on so many fronts. Beautiful country, excellent high speed transport systems, lovely, well dressed, polite, helpful, courteous and respectful people. So clean - no rubbish anywhere to be seen, no graffiti etc, and lots of technology. We can learn so much from the Japanese.

Thanks to Peter Moxham, Jenny Jones, Margaret Ayre, Ros Thompson, Tony and Marg Lovett and others for picking up all our jobs while we were away.

We had a very interesting speaker organised by Cherry in April talking about iconic Australian inventions, and a great lunch at Limani's on 23rd April. Thanks Megan and Tony. Warwick just keeps the entertainment flowing – thanks Warwick.

Coming up on 1st May we have a visit to the Australian Museum to get a museum tour by Les Bassett (thanks Les) and to see the Machu Picchu exhibition (thanks Margaret Ayre). 15 events on our calendar for May, so check the calendar in the newsletter for details. There's something for everyone. More players welcome for Mahjong – we'll teach you if you don't know how. And don't forget Cards and

Board games after our next general meeting (ask Ros or Mike).

We also had some sad news, losing former club president and all-round champion Lyle Pearce. Everyone who knew Lyle speaks so highly of him. We extend our sincere condolences and best wishes to Jill and their family.

Thought for the month

Do all that you can, with all that you have, in the place where you are, in the time that you have. (Nkosi Johnson)

Look forward to seeing you soon.

President Mike

LATE-BREAKING "MARGVELLOUS" NEWS

At our management committee meeting last Thursday there was a burst of spontaneous applause when it was announced that our wonderful Margaret Ayre was putting in her nomination to become our Vice-President this year, and President next year.

We all know and love Margaret for her sunny disposition, beautiful smile and hugely capable organising of our Tours and Outings over the last three years and it will be such a joy to have her in this new role. Please join us in congratulating and thanking her for her commitment to us all. The future is in good hands now. WOW !

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2025/2026

President	Mike Hartnell
Past President	Peter Moxham
Vice President	Margaret Ayre
Secretary	Alison Soutter
Assist Secretary	Liz Pawsey
Treasurer	Brian Soutter
Assist Treasurer	Colin Fordred
Entertainment	Warwick Brady
Guest Speakers	Cherry Robinson
Membership	Tony Lovett
Newsletter	Jenny Jones
Social	Megan Hartnell
Tours/Outings
Welfare	Robyn Wood

CLUB SUB COMMITTEES 2025/2026

Audio Visual	Terry Stewart
Honorary Auditor	Chris Wood
Birthday/	Ros Thompson/
Lucky Door	Mike Hartnell
Book & Jigsaw	
Exchange	Judy Morton
Book Club	Sandy Cameron
Cards & Games	Ros Thompson/
	Di Pill
Cinema Outings	Gloria Attwooll
	Rosemary Daly
Coffee Mornings	Ros Thompson and
	Di Pill
Hospitality	Di Pill
Mahjong Group	Sandra Murphy
Photographer	Peter Loveday
Reception	Warren Needs
Returning Officer	Mike Gibbs
Walking Group	Helen and Dennis
	Miles
Website Admin.	Ross Swadling
Wine Apprec,	Mike Staniland
Wrap with Love	Merle Fox



MAY 2025

- 1st Machu Picchu
- 2nd April Walk
- 2nd Picnic, St Ives Showground
- 8th General Meeting
- 8th Cards and Games
- 9th Two Strong Hearts
- 13th Book Club
- 14th Mahjong
- 14th Cards and Games
- 22nd Committee Meeting
- 22nd Lunch Dee Why RSL
- 28th Mahjong
- 28th Cards and Games
- 28th The Robertson Brothers
- 30th May Walk

JUNE 2025

- 10th Book Club
- 11th Mahjong
- 11th Cards and Games
- 12th General Meeting
- 12th SOPA Senior's Concert
- 16th Breakfast/Coffee Morning
- 25th Mahjong
- 25th Cards and Games
- 26th Committee Meeting
- 26th Anniversary Lunch
- 27th June Walk

CLUB CONTACTS

President: Mike Hartnell 0419 717 382
Secretary: Alison Soutter 0400 525 700
Treasurer: Brian Soutter 0410 603 050
Newsletter: Jenny Jones 0405 310 537

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

Club Email Address:
combinedbelroseprobus@gmail.com

BOOKING CLUB ACTIVITIES AND PAYMENT

TO BOOK CLUB ACTIVITIES

- Please register online via our club website
<http://www.belroseprobus.org.au>
- or
- During meetings at the back of the hall, Warwick Brady (entertainment), Marg Lovett (social) and Margaret Ayre (outings) will be happy to take your details for club events.

PAYMENT

Preferred method of payment is EFT.
VERY IMPORTANT — Please ensure that you include your surname and event name in the description section of your EFT payment or (if you cannot do this) send an email to the event organiser with a copy to the treasurer to notify them of your payment. Print the "transaction receipt" and give one copy of it to the event organiser and another to Treasurer Brian Soutter.

Our club bank details are:

Combined Probus Club of Belrose
BSB: 032123
Account No: 325864

If you need to pay in cash please place in an envelope for each event with your name on the front and give it to the event organiser. Separate payments in separate envelopes please.

Preferably no cheques or cash please.

BOOK CLUB

Sandy Cameron (0417 829 449)

"ENID" BY ROBERT WAINWRIGHT



Robert Wainwright

Six members of our book club met for coffee and discussion of our latest book Enid on Tuesday 8th April. What a diverse discussion it was, ranging from "didn't like it at all" to "truly loved it."

Enid. Who knew that Australia "owned" such an intriguing character as Enid Lindeman, granddaughter of Henry Lindeman, the winemaker who put the Hunter Valley wine region on the map in the 1860's.

Her life was as grand and exotic as she was – a statuesque beauty with alluring blue eyes and amazing subtle blond hair who turned heads wherever she went, be it in Sydney, New York, London or her opulent mansion La Fiorentina on the French Riviera where she entertained lavishly.

Enid married four times and became a widow four times, all her husbands dying from various ailments. Three children resulted from these marriages but, even as a mother, her life remained a kaleidoscope of promiscuity, extreme wealth, famous

friends such as Somerset Maugham, Elizabeth Taylor and Winston Churchill and huge idiosyncrasies – she enjoyed animals so much she often wore a hyrax (had to look that one up!) round her neck.

Robert Wainwright has well written an intriguing biography of a fabulous, jet setting Australian woman and of a woman, that I'm guessing, most of us have never heard.

Sandy Cameron

Book Club Coordinator

Mobile: 0417 829 449

Email:

sandy_cameron7@hotmail.com

BOOK & JIGSAW EXCHANGE

Judy Morton (0412 235 400)

Please, no more than one book per member to be brought to the table and to be taken back if no one has taken it by the end of the meeting.

PLEASE NO MAGAZINES, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICS (OR SIMILAR).

Jigsaw puzzles may also be exchanged.

On the table there is also a "suggestion box". Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Judy Morton

Book Exchange Coordinator

Mobile: 0427 235 400

Email: judy.morton@hotmail.com

BREAKFASTS/COFFEE MORNINGS/PICNICS

Ros Thompson) (0416 086 766)
Di Pill. (0403 003 639)

BREAKFAST/COFFEE MORNING

For April, the ladies breakfast/coffee morning at Acacia went very well with 12 ladies attending. The men's breakfast/coffee at Imbue also had a good turnout.

The next breakfast/coffee morning will be **Monday June 16th at 9:30am** **Acacia for ladies and Imbue for men.**

Looking forward to seeing you there.
A great time to relax and chat.

MAY PICNIC

This **Friday 2nd May** is our Picnic at **St Ives Showground at 10:00am.**

Please bring a chair. Coffee/tea and snacks are available at the Black Knight Cafe.

New members are most welcome to attend for a coffee and a chat.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Di Pill

Mobile: [0403 003 639](tel:0403003639)

Email: dp1926@optusnet.com.au

Ros Thompson

Mobile: [0416 086 766](tel:0416086766)

Email: rosthompson@yahoo.com

CARDS AND GAMES

Ros Thompson (0416 086 766)
Di Pill (0403 003 639)

Games and cards will be available to play after our general meeting **Thursday 8th May.**

NEW TIME AND LOCATION FOR CARDS AND GAMES

As everyone is enjoying lunch and a chat after our general meetings we have decided to change the day and location for cards and games to;

Wednesday 14th May and

Wednesday 28th May

Time 9:30am to 12:00pm

Cost \$5 morning tea supplied

At: **The Forest Kirk Church Main Hall**
Fitzpatrick Ave, Frenchs Forest.

Mahjong is played in the 2nd hall the same day. New players are welcome.

Everyone is welcome to come along and bring a friend, or your favourite game.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Di Pill [0403 003 639](tel:0403003639)

Ros Thompson [0416 086 766](tel:0416086766)

ENTERTAINMENT

Warwick Brady (0418 793 684)

TWO STRONG HEARTS

Two Strong Hearts - A tribute to John Farnham and Olivia Newton - John given by Jeff Fallon and Anita Spring with John Farnham's special band. on **Friday 9th May at 7.30pm. Tickets are \$57 each.** A high energy musical production will include feature hits from the Whispering Jack Album plus songs and dances from the fabulous "Grease" and a number of duets. Additional bookings can be made but payment of any bookings must be included.

THE ROBERTSON BROTHERS 1960'S VARIETY SHOW

The Robertson Brothers are returning with their variety show on **Wednesday 28th May at 7.00pm.** The show will make tribute to the Musical Giants of the 1960's namely the Beatles, Del Shannon, the Beach Boys, The Hollies, The Bee Gees and the Everley Brothers and Simon Brook McLachlan from the original cast of the Jersey Boys.. **Ticket price is \$76.95** - anyone wishing to join us can book. Any bookings can be made now, but must include money as soon as possible.

SOPA SENIOR'S CONCERT

Once again we have been invited to Davidson High School - SOPA Senior's Concert at Glen Street on **Thursday 12th June 2025 at 1.00pm.** Always a magnificent Show which is **absolutely free.** Everyone should make their bookings with me today. Afternoon Tea will, be supplied. I have already interest from 30 of our members.

CAROUSEL

Finally Glen Street Theatre has given us a very special offer to see a production to Celebrate 80 years of Carousel with the Sydney Musical and Opera Society on **Wednesday 2nd July at 7.30pm.** Enjoy a spectacular production with a full 23 piece Orchestra. Stunning Costumes from Opera Australia and timeless songs. Following it's triumphant debut abroad the Cunard Queen Elizabeth, this land based production promises to be just spectacular. A show for the lovers of Golden Aged Musicals.

Now the best news **tickets are only \$45.00 each.** Your bookings should be made now if you are interested.

CRUISING WITH GRANDPA'S CLUB

Another show you won't want to miss is "Cruising with Grandpa's Club" on **Saturday 20th September at 7.00pm.** It is a comedy set on a boat with the fabulous Wayne Scott Kermond the multi award winner who we all enjoyed in Vayne's World earlier this year and Lynne McGranger who for over 30 years has been one of the leads on TV in "Home and Away". **Ticket Price is \$67.50.** Bookings are now open.

Thanks to all our members I was told today that we are the leading Organisation with our bookings at Glen Street Theatre being the largest of any other group. Well done everyone.

Regards.

Warwick Brady
Entertainment Officer

Mobile: 0418 793 684

Email: warwickandlorna@yahoo.com

GUEST SPEAKERS

Cherry Robinson (0438 186 584)

APRIL SPEAKER

Our recent speaker Ian Thompson is almost a regular at our meetings, having now spoken on three occasions on completely different topics. His last was on Iconic Australian Inventions and whilst some of the later ones, including the Hills Hoist and Victa Lawnmower we all know, I was unaware an early Postmaster in Sydney was instrumental in paid postage commencing between the colonies and England with paper stamps coming approximately 20 years later. Another was the "Ute" after a farmer requested of Ford a vehicle be designed to take his wife to Church Sunday and a pig to sale yards Monday!

Ian has 3 talks on this subject and it could be interesting to follow up with the next one before too long.

MAY SPEAKER

Alan Lawrenson - The Looming Energy Crisis Books will be available for sale.

JUNE SPEAKER

Andrew Rogers - Going down to the Titanic

Cherry Robinson
Guest Speaker Coordinator
Mobile: 0438 186 584
Email: cherryrobinson259@gmail.com

MAHJONG GROUP

Sandra Murphy (0407 068 990)



Mah Jong on Wednesday

Our Mah Jong group is slowly growing and at the last meeting we had eight players. We would love to increase our number, and any prior knowledge of the game is definitely not required!

Estelle started teaching our little group of novices and we were amazed how quickly we picked up the basics and started playing.

We meet at The Kirk at 9.30am, play for a while, stop for coffee and a chat, then continue playing until noon.

This is a great opportunity to learn a new skill and get to know other club members better.

We meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Forest Kirk in Fitzpatrick St, Frenchs Forest at 9:30am

Please think about joining us.

Sandra Murphy
Mahjong Coordinator
Mobile: 0457 388 325
Email: sandramurphyffoz@yahoo.com.au

SOCIAL

Megan Hartnell (0402 102 055)

LUNCH AT LIMANI'S

In April we had a delightful lunch at Limani's on Narrabeen Lake overlooking the water. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves as the food was excellent and, with a glass of vino or soft drink included, it was good value for money.

DEE WHY AQUA RSL RESTAURANT

On **Thursday May 22** we will be having lunch at the DYRSL at 12:30pm. It's a lovely spot with good food at reasonable prices. Hoping many of you can join us. Very casual and you can order what you like on the day.

ANNIVERSARY LUNCH AT CROMER GOLF CLUB

Yes, it's coming around already and will be held on **Thursday June 26th**.

Further details coming soon but it will be an alternate drop like last year.

Hope many members, new and old, will join us for this special occasion. Pop it in your diaries !

Megan Hartnell
Social Convenor

Mobile: 0402 102 055

Email: megt11@bigpond.com

LUNCH AT LIMANI'S



TOURS AND OUTINGS

MACHU PICCHU AND THE GOLDEN EMPIRES OF PERU EXHIBITION AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

The next outing is to the Australian Museum on **May 1st at 11.45am** to see the Machu Picchu and the Golden Empires of Peru exhibition.

Followed by lunch at your own expense.

Les Bassett one of our members is a volunteer at the museum and has offered to take us around for a free conducted tour of the main museum, not the Machu Picchu exhibition

We plan to leave on the 9-15am bus from Glenrose shops. Meeting Les at 10-30am for the tour, followed by the Machu Picchu tour and lunch.

Please purchase your own tickets online. **Concession \$33.50** and let the organiser know that you are going.

HAWKESBURY WINTER YULEFEST

The 2-day outing to Winter Yulefest **19-20 July is fully booked**. There are 20 rooms booked and 32 members going.

Final payment is due by 19th June 2025

ZIG ZAG RAILWAY/MUDGEES TOUR

Exciting news! On Course are planning a new 5 day tour in central NSW and we are looking at it for October / November. Dates not final yet, but it will visit the Zig Zag Railway and the Mudgee area. A good area for wine lovers. Cost will be \$1690pp for a great country experience with Probus friends. More details as they come to hand.

Who is interested? Come down to see me at the back of the room at the May meeting.

Mike Hartnell

SENIORS OPAL CARD OUTINGS

This was one of the most requested things in our recent survey. For \$2.50 a day we can travel far across the Sydney/NSW public transport network. All we have to do is decide where we want to start (possibly Glenrose), where we want to go, and when we want to do it.

We need a volunteer to get it started. It's not hard, just needs someone to say "I will do that for my clubmates". Once it gets going it will build its own momentum, and you will have made a welcome difference for our club. Come down to see me at the back of the room at the May meeting.

Mike Hartnell

ZIG ZAG RAILWAY & MUDGEES

From \$1,690.00 Twin Share \$2,105.00
Single Room. Duration: 5 Days
(approx.)

Join us on an unforgettable journey to the majestic Blue Mountains and Mudgee, where nature's wonders await. Our specially curated 5-day tour is designed to offer a perfect blend of relaxation, exploration, History and breath-taking scenery. Our journey takes us over the Blue Mountains and home through Merriwa, Denman and the Hunter Valley.

Step back in time as we ride the historic Zig Zag Railway, a remarkable engineering feat that winds its way through the rugged terrain of the Blue Mountains. Soak in the panoramic views of lush valleys and dramatic cliffs on our unforgettable journey filled with nostalgia and awe-inspiring scenery.

The Portland Cement Works Silos, also known as the Portland Foundations Silo, are an iconic industrial heritage site, showcasing the remnants of the former cement works that operated from 1890 to 1991. Today, they stand as a reminder of the region's industrial past and have become a popular spot for photographers and history enthusiasts.

Mudgee, aboriginal for 'nest in the hills', is a charming town nestled in the Central West region of New South Wales. Boasting a rich history dating back to the 19th century, the town is characterized by its well-preserved heritage buildings, many of which now house boutique shops, cafes, and galleries.

A flourishing wine industry has seen the town expand in recent years; however, Mudgee has retained its character with settlement here dating back to the 1820s and its 'golden' past remains very evident. Surrounded by rich grazing country and a diversity of agriculture and horticulture, all framed by stunning National Parks, the district has seen enormous interest in recent years. It has been awarded Australia's Top Tourism Town for the last 2 years!

Our accommodation for this tour is 2 nights at the 4-star Black Gold Motel, Wallerawang (02) 6355 7305, nestled inside the historic 1881 Wallerawang School and 2 nights at the Parklands Resort Mudgee (Ph 6372 4500), set on 15 hectares of gardens and pastureland, where we will enjoy its friendly country hospitality and excellent facilities.

Highlights include:-

- Everglades House
- Leura Village
- Zig Zag Railway
- Jannei Goat Farm
- Foundations at Portland Art Silo
- Historic Gulgong - the Ten Dollar Town
- Lunch, Stud Tour and Tasting at Gooree Park
- Henry Lawson Centre & Holtermann Museum
- Songs from the bush at Gulgong Opera House
- Mudgee Honey Haven
- Mudgee Wine Tasting
- Merriwa
- High Tea

Includes accommodation, most meals including 2 continental breakfast and 2 cooked breakfast, 4 lunches and 4 dinners, admissions and guides.

WALKING GROUP

Helen Miles (0407 078 963)

APRIL WALK – 2nd MAY

Our April walk is on this coming **Friday 2nd May**, postponed because of Anzac Day.

We are walking from Darling Harbour to the Anzac Bridge and the walk will be led by Helen.

Meet at the Glenrose bus stop at 9.05am for the 9.14am City Bus (271) to the Queen Victoria Building. We will walk down to Darling Harbour for coffee at the cafe at the Maritime Museum then walk around the Harbour foreshore to the Anzac Bridge, enjoying glorious views and some amazing units.

This walk has a few short cuts for those not wanting a longer walk and is predominately flat after the downhill section to Darling Harbour. We are planning to have lunch at a cafe in the park near the Anzac Bridge and there is the option of bus or light rail back to the city for those not wanting the two blocks uphill walk back to the bus stop.

Anyone coming from another area please let Helen know so that we can arrange a suitable place to meet.

The weather forecast doesn't look too promising so if unsure please ring Helen and watch for an email re cancellation.

MAY WALK

Our May walk on **Friday 30th May**, is from the QVB through Chinatown to Haymarket and along the old Darling Harbour Goods Railway line to the Chinese Gardens and is led by Malcolm. For those interested the entry to the Gardens is \$12.00.

Meet at the Glenrose Bus Stop at 8.45am for the 8.59am City Bus (271) to the QVB. We will meet anyone coming from a different location at the Queen Victoria Statue, southern end of the QVB. Please let Helen know if you will be meeting us there. This walk is reasonably easy and level and approx. 4-5 km. There are numerous options for the time spent and route home.

Helen Miles

Walks Coordinator

Mobile: 0407 078 963

Email: milesawile@bigpond.com

OLD STAMPS

When we met at the Belrose Church you could leave used stamps for forwarding to a church charity which collected them to raise money. Well you can continue to do this.

If you have unwanted used stamps, put them in an envelope or box and hand them to me (Rob Murphy) at a Probus Meeting. He will take them to the Terrey Hills Anglican Church. The stamps help to raise money for Bush Church Aid which supports people in the outback.

Rob Murphy

LYLE PEARCE



Lyle Pearce, one of our early Presidents sadly passed away earlier this month while in palliative care at Mona Vale Hospital.

Lyle and Jill joined the club shortly after inauguration and Lyle joined the Management Committee as Vice President in 2011. He commenced his Presidential term following the AGM in March 2012. During his term the club had its first overseas trip – to China.

We remember Lyle for his sincerity, friendly personality and welcoming leadership of our Probus Club and his ongoing involvement in the life of the club. He has been described as the loveliest, happy man, easy going and humble

Rob Murphy remembers Lyle Pearce as a very genuine and self-effacing person. He always met you with a hearty greeting and a big smile. What you saw - that is who Lyle was.

When he became President he did so very humbly and for a long-time wore an L plate on a lanyard around his neck. It was not Lyle's style to open the meeting with a little tingle from a bell; he brought a massive bell and brought us to attention with a real "clang".

He and Jill were a great husband and wife team. Lyle will be greatly missed within Probus and well beyond.

BARBARA HUNTINGTON



It is with deep affection that we remember Barbara Huntington, a founding member of the Combined Probus Club of Belrose, who passed away peacefully on Sunday, 2nd March 2025, aged 77.

Barbara was a warm and quietly humorous presence in our Club. Those who knew her well admired her

generosity, practicality and tireless service. Alongside her husband, Geoff, a former Club President, Barbara helped to shape the spirit of fellowship and community that we continue to enjoy today.

Born in North Sydney and raised in Willoughby, Barbara's life was rooted in service from an early age. By breaking new ground in banking as one of the first female tellers and actively participating in youth leadership and church activities, Barbara demonstrated quiet determination and strong values. Her marriage to Geoff marked the beginning of a devoted partnership during which they raised three children and created a loving home in Terrey Hills.

Barbara epitomised quiet capability, always working with warmth and thoughtfulness behind the scenes. She excelled as a home cook, was an accomplished seamstress and knitter, and a meticulous organiser, whether managing her household or supporting the community. Her retirement years were filled with travel, family joy and treasured moments with her seven grandchildren.

Even as her health declined in recent years, Barbara remained surrounded by love and continued to bring joy to those around her.

Barbara leaves a lasting legacy of kindness, loyalty and service. We are grateful for her friendship and her positive impact on our Club and our lives. She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

The Huntington family

May Birthdays



1 st	Pat Howard
2 nd	Anne Hutchinson
13 th	Keith Hutchinson
14 th	Valerie Gardner
16 th	Vicki Johnston
19 th	Mike Gibbs
20 th	Miriam Brownlee
26 th	Helen Miles
26 th	Roslyn Wells
29 th	Ross Kempshall
