



September 2025 Newsletter

Edition No 212

CLUB PRESIDENT MIKE HARTNELL



Greetings everyone!

No more 'might as well waiting'- September is here with the first breath of spring. I liked the joke printed in the Bilgola Plateau Probus newsletter of a billboard outside a nursery saying 'Spring is here. I am so excited, I wet my plants'.

In the biblical book of Genesis it tells us that there were four people who lived for over 900 years! Imagine that! And they didn't even have Probus clubs then, so I have no idea how they got their group bookings at Glen St Theatre. Lucky we have Warwick!

A few days ago we had a Probus Cluster 11 meeting. Representatives of several local Probus clubs got together to share ideas and experiences. We all were encouraged to nominate our best three speakers in the last 6 months and to describe our best three outings. In a week or so the convenor will produce lists of all the best speakers and outings, and we will 'Cherry' pick the best ones for our club. There are some really interesting speakers on the list and it is great to learn from other club's successes, as they learn from us.

Enjoy the lunch at Doyle's at Watson's Bay? Good, there are more on the way. Check out Megan's social report later in the newsletter. Yum, yum, Christmas is yumming.

We had a New Members morning tea at Taste Buds during the month. New members were able to meet other new members as well as Committee members, so they all have now at least 10 friends in the club. A good way to welcome them.

When you see a new member or a visitor at our General meetings, don't forget to say Hi and to welcome them – it will make it so much nicer for them.

Well, once again lots of activities planned for your enjoyment. Check the calendars later in this issue. It is a good time to join in, participate and enjoy.

On a sad note we lost Kathleen Chesterton after a short illness. We send our sincere condolences to Kathleen's family and friends.

Thought for the month

While politicians and leaders talk propaganda many innocent people are suffering and dying. Please spare a kind and compassionate thought for them

Look forward to seeing you soon

Mike



New Club Member Christine Humphries and President Mike Hartnell

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

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	Mike Hartnell
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	Lesley Walker
	Liz Pawsey
	Merle Fox



SEPTEMBER 2025

1 st	Breakfast/Coffee Morning
9 th	Book Club
10 th	Mahjong
10 th	Cards and Games
11 th	General Meeting, 10am - Forest Hotel, 5 Frenchs Forest Road E. Frenchs Forest 2086
18 th	Magical Mystery Tour
20 th	Glen Street Theatre - The Grandparents Club
24 th	Mahjong
24 th	Cards and Games
25 th	Committee Meeting
25 th	Dinner, Phulkari Indian Restaurant
26 th	September Walk

OCTOBER 2025

7 th	Book Club
8 th	Mahjong
8 th	Cards and Games
9 th	General Meeting, 10am - Forest Hotel 5 Frenchs Forest Road E. Frenchs Forest 2086
13 th	Breakfast/Coffee Morning
11 th -14 th	Zig Zag Railway/Mudgee Tour
16 th	Magical Mystery Tour
18 th	Glen Street Theatre - Some Enchanted Evening
20 th	Glen Street Theatre - Bach to Broadway
22 nd	Mahjong
22 nd	Cards and Games
23 rd	Committee Meeting
31 st	October Walk

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), Megan Hartnell (social) and Mike Hartnell (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

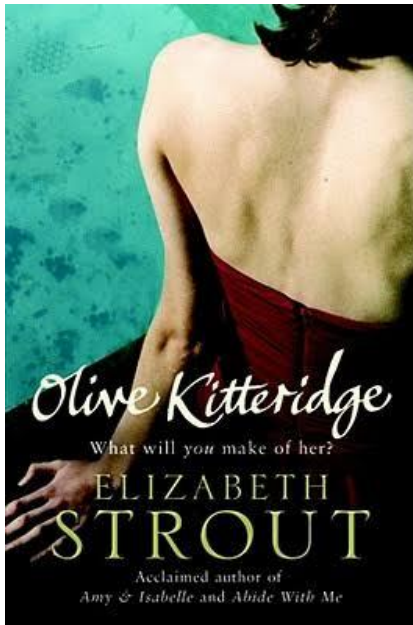
If you need to pay in cash please place in an envelope for each event with your name on the front and give it to the event organiser. Separate payments in separate envelopes please.

Preferably no cheques or cash please.

BOOK CLUB

Sandy Cameron (0417 829 449)

"Olive Kitteridge"
by Elizabeth Strout, 2008



This work of fiction, which won a Pulitzer Prize, consists of linked stories revolving around Olive Kitteridge, a blunt and independent-minded seventh-grade math teacher, now retired, in a small town in Maine, USA. In some stories, she is a minor character, making way for a range of others, often strangely affected by her and mostly, but not always, for the good. Some of us liked Olive, some didn't.

The stories stirred vital discussion of themes like the things we hide from others or can't even recognize about ourselves. Angie, the piano player in a bar, is often drunk but manages, brave and gallant, except that she can't get away from an abusive boyfriend or forgive her mother. A doctor drives back to town after years

away, contemplating ending it all as his mother did. Olive, who cared about him when he was in 7th grade, bullies her way into his car to say, "your mother may not have been able to help it." Suddenly Patty, a young woman on her third miscarriage, falls off the nearby cliff into the choppy, cold, swirling ocean. "Hurry!" Olive yells. The doctor dives in. Life is all that matters. "He would not let her go." She was "holding him with a fierceness that matched the power of the ocean – oh, insane, ludicrous, unknowable world! Look how she wanted to live, look how she wanted to hold on." Him and her both.

This book left all of us thoughtful.

Cathy Bell
Book Club Member

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.

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

Our next breakfast/coffee morning will be on **Monday 13th October** at the same time and location.

Ladies at Acacia Glenrose.
Men at Imbue Cafe cnr Yindela and Pound Ave Davidson **9:30 AM**.

Please contact Ros or Di by phone, text or email if you would like to attend.

PICNIC

8th August 2025 – The sun came out and eight of us gathered at the St. Ives Showground and sat under the trees for a chat.

Sustained by mini pizzas and a muffin from the café, six of us were still there two and a half hours later.

“Friendship, Fellowship and Fun” – we ticked all of these boxes this morning.

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)

Dates for September

Wednesday 10th

Wednesday 24th

At : Forest Kirk Church Hall,
Fitzpatrick Avenue, French Forest.
Time: **9:30am to 12:00pm**.

You are most welcome to come part of the time. It's a great time for a chat and fellowship. You're welcome to bring a friend or a favourite game. We look forward to seeing you.

Di and Ros.

CINEMA/MOVIE GROUP

Rosemary Daly (0403 238 341)
Gloria Attwooll (0430 215 536)



On Tuesday 26th August 6 people saw the movie “The Friend” at Warriewood cinema. There were mixed thoughts, half enjoyed it while the other half said it was a slow paced, nothing movie and the one redeeming factor was the Great Dane, “Apollo”.

Based on a bestselling novel, writer & teacher Iris, (Naomi Watts) is bequeathed Apollo by her close friend & mentor, Walter, (Bill Murray), after he suicides. With Iris living in a small 1 bedroom & "pets forbidden" apartment in New York this naturally brings many problems from the destruction of furniture to eviction notices. Both Apollo & Iris are grieving & depressed but gradually they turn this story into one of healing, love & enduring friendship.

A chat over coffee & sandwiches after the movie was enjoyed by all.

Rosemary Daly

ENTERTAINMENT

Warwick Brady (0418 793 684)

Hi Everyone,

Since my last report we enjoyed Le New Paris Skies, a very good show enjoyed by all.

THE GRANDPARENTS CLUB

The Grandparents Club is our next show - All the fun of a holiday with friends. The show features Lynne McGranger the Gold Logie winner from Home and Away and Wayne Scott Kermond who was the star of Spiegelesque earlier this year in Vaynes World. The show is on **Saturday 20th September at 7.00pm** and also the **Matinee at 3.00pm at \$67.50.**

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

Some Enchanted Evening - a theatrical celebration of Broadway's Golden Age under the Musical Direction of Glenn Amer accompanied by a full orchestra. The programme includes hits from South Pacific, My Fair Lady, Carousel, Man of La Mancha, West Side Story and more. There is only one Show on **Saturday 18 October at 2.00pm. Tickets cost \$45.00.**

BACH TO BROADWAY

A great Morning Musical "Bach to Broadway" through the Classical Music of Bach, Beethoven and Mozart to the hits of Broadway, such as - Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story, Chicago, Beauty and the Beast, Boy from Oz and More. Our Show is on **Monday 20th October at 11.00am . Ticket are \$30.00** per each. Please make your booking today.

MUSIC OF THE NIGHT

Andrew Lloyd Webber's production of "Music of the Night" includes melodies of Phantom of the Opera, Jesus Christ Superstar, Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat, Les Miserables, Sound of Music, Miss Saigon, Jersey Boys and Boy from Oz among others. Enjoy the best Musical Theatre on **Sunday 9th November at 2.00pm. Ticket Price \$75.00.**

Best wishes,

Warwick Brady

Entertainment Officer

Mobile: 0418 793 684

Email: warwickandlorna@yahoo.com

GUEST SPEAKERS

Cherry Robinson (0438 186 584)

AUGUST SPEAKER



Guest speaker Melinda Murray and Margaret Ayre who gave the vote of thanks

Our excellent August guest speaker was Melinda Murray - A Senior policewoman in the Mounted Police Unit. She is the longest serving current member of the NSW Mounted Police.



The NSW Mounted Police headquarters is in Redfern. The premises were built in 1907 and have majestic old stable blocks with brass name plaques for the horses. There are currently 20 horses in the stables and 10 at spelling paddocks.

50 years ago 75 per cent of The Mounties were men, today 80 percent are women. Years ago a lot of the horses were donated off-the-track thoroughbreds because the budget was small. These days the budget is larger so suitable horses can be purchased.

Each rider has their own set of stirrups and every horse has its own saddle, professionally fitted every month to make sure it's not hurting its back, and its own bridle and bit.

Horses are spelled every five to six weeks and also get a day off each week. Over the years the welfare of the horses has increased dramatically due to greater awareness and larger budgets. The horses are given massages, professional chiropractor session and they are taken out of their boxes regularly during the day for training, patrol, grooming or even a roll in the sand yard.

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

Trish Chapman, a Representative from Trade Travel which partners with Probus will be the speaker on possible tours.

Best Wishes

Cherry Robinson

Guest Speaker Coordinator

Mobile: 0438 186 584

Email: cherryrobinson259@gmail.com

MAHJONG CLUB

Sandra Murphy (0457 388 325)

We continue to meet on the **second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 9.30am** in The Forest Kirk Church Hall, Fitzpatrick Avenue, French Forest.

Experienced players as well as beginners most welcome. We pack up at noon after having fun playing Mahjong and chatting over coffee. Would love to see you next month.

Sandra Murphy

Mahjong Coordinator

Mobile: 0457 388 325

sandramurphyffoz@yahoo.com.au

SOCIAL

Megan Hartnell (0402 102 055)

LUNCH AT DOYLE'S

Despite a shower of rain and light swell on the harbour 26 of us had a most enjoyable day out on the ferries from Manly to Watsons Bay via Circular Quay.

Always good to be on Sydney Harbour !

We had lunch at Doyle's overlooking the Bay. Alice Doyle's original seafood chowder recipe was delicious as were the fish and chips ! Sadly the coffee machine was on the blink so we had to forego our caffeine fix !

All in all an enjoyable day out.

Mid-morning we gathered at Manly Wharf for the 10.30am ferry to Circular Quay.



At Circular Quay we boarded the ferry to Watsons Bay and Doyle's Restaurant



Where, in beautiful surroundings, with a view of the city in the distance, we enjoyed a lunch of fish chowder followed by fish and chips and a glass of wine.



DINNER AT PHULKARI INDIAN RESTAURANT

We have cancelled The Palms lunch planned for September so thought we might replace it with an Indian dinner at Phulkari, Sorlie Road Frenchs Forest on **Thursday 25th September at 6pm**. Order at the counter and pay as you go ... maybe share a couple of dishes with a friend. BYO or buy a drink there. Wheelchair friendly access. Please register your interest with me by 18th September so I can give them numbers .

LUNCH AT THE LITTLE SNAIL

We have 39 people registered for The Little Snail lunch on **Thursday 6th November at 12 noon**. This is **\$48 for three courses**. Pay as you order please. We can travel on the Metro from Chatswood to Central then take the light rail to Pyrmont 50 metres from the restaurant. If you haven't registered but want to please let me know by 30 October.

SAVE THE DATE!

Do I dare mention "Christmas" ? 🍷 Our Christmas Lunch will be held at Cromer Golf Club on **Thursday 18th December at midday**. We will enjoy a drink and canapés, then a Christmas Carvery followed by desserts, tea/coffee and chocolates served to your table so you only need to get up once ! Bookings will open at the September meeting. **\$90 per person**. Please pay through the club account by 11th December

Megan Hartnell
Social Convenor

Mobile: 0402 102 055

Email: megt11@bigpond.com



Christmas Lunch

Canapes and beverage on arrival

*Lemon and rosemary turkey breast
Roasted pork loin with apple sauce*

*Duck fat roasted chat potatoes
Charred broccolini and green beans
with toasted almonds and lemon
Prosciutto wrapped baby carrots
with maple*

*Prawn, peach and goat's cheese salad
Pumpkin, cranberry and pistachio
salad
Beetroot, balsamic fig, orange, fetta
and walnut salad*

*Individual Christmas pudding with
vanilla bean ice cream
Lemon meringue tart with berry
coulis, cream and raspberries*

Tea, coffee and chocolates

\$90 pp



TOURS (DAY EXCURSIONS)

Geoff Jones (0412 420 213)

SEPTEMBER MAGICAL MYSTERY **\$2.50 OPAL CARD TOUR**

On Thursday 18 September - This tour starts when you board the #283 Bus from Glenrose, then another bus to Chatswood Station and then get onto a train, possibly the Metro, either going north west to Tallawong or south east to Sydenham.

I will send out a broadcast a few days before with more information.

Geoff Jones

Mobile: 0412 420 213

Email: geoffjones1874@gmail.com

TOURS (LONG STAY)

Mike Hartnell (0419 717 382)

Ted Morton (0412 235 400)

ZIG ZAG RAILWAY/MUDGEES TOUR **11th to 14th OCTOBER 2025**

We are on the way on October 11th



to ride the beautiful Zig Zag Railway
and then on to Mudgee.

29 of us will be together for 4 days of interesting touring, fellowship and fun. And of course, food. It will be a great long weekend away.

Don't forget, On Course recommends Travel Insurance in case there are any late changes of plan. Qantas Travel Insurance is apparently quite good and cheap.

You need to arrange your own Travel Insurance.

Look forward to seeing you for a fun tour.

Mike Hartnell

TRADE TRAVEL



We have Trish Chapman from Trade Travel coming to speak to us at the September meeting. Trish is arriving early and bringing some travel information for your perusal. I will help her set up a display at the back of the room, ie the carpark/entrance side. Please feel free to look at the material before the meeting, at morning tea or for a short while after the meeting. Trish will also welcome you to discuss anything of interest.

As the guest speaker, Trish will talk to us about Trade Travel generally and also present some slides from past tours. I particularly wish to draw your attention to information she will present about a Queensland Southern Outback Tour. The tour has a really interesting and busy itinerary and I have chosen it as a tour for our Club in October 2026.

I was collecting expressions of interest at the August meeting and already have twelve members on the list. We need a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 30 for the tour to proceed. When I say proceed, that means Trade Travel will start to put together a tour for us.

There are many areas where people have to be contacted and locked in - these include accommodation, visits to many attractions, town tours, property tours and meal providers. If several of these cannot be arranged and there is no viable alternative, then the tour will have to be abandoned or pushed back to 2027. If we have an overflow of interest it is possible I might be able to get some members on a public tour – I believe there is one in August 2026 that has some vacancies. I will look into this if/when necessary.

Ted Morton

Mobile 0412 235 400

THE GREAT ZIG ZAG RAILWAY & MUDGEES TOUR

11TH TO 14TH OCTOBER 2025

4 DAY TOUR

Join us on an unforgettable journey to the majestic Blue Mountains and Mudgee, where nature's wonders await. Our specially curated 4-day tour is designed to offer a perfect blend of relaxation, exploration, History and breathtaking 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.



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. In 2023, Mudgee made history by becoming the first town to be inducted into the Australian Tourism Awards Hall of Fame in the Top Tourism Town category!

Our accommodation for this tour is at the Parklands Resort Mudgee (Ph 6372 4500), set on 15 hectares of gardens and pasture land, where we will enjoy its friendly country hospitality and excellent facilities.

Highlights include:-

- Zig Zag Railway
- Mudgee Honey Haven
- Mudgee Cheese & Wine Tasting
- Historic Gulgong - the Ten Dollar Town
- Henry Lawson Centre & Holtermann Museum
- Lunch, Stud Tour and Tasting at Gooree Park
- Songs from the bush at Gulgong Opera House
- Merriwa & Pokolbin

Cost per person for a minimum of 30 passengers is \$1,390.00 twin share

Cost per person for a minimum of 25 passengers is \$1,490.00 twin share

This includes group discount and pick-up, accommodation, all meals (except for 1 lunch), admissions and guides. Single supplement is \$360.00.

*** Due to unforeseen circumstances the itinerary may change ***

WALKING GROUP

Helen Miles (0407 078 963)

AUGUST WALK

Twenty members and friends gathered for our altered walk in the City and Botanic Gardens. Bus to Chatswood, Metro to Martin Place and coffee in the AMP Building before heading to the Gardens.

As the wind was already getting strong we entered near the Conservatorium and wound our way down to the Lotus Pond and Oriental Garden where we actually found a cherry tree with a few blossoms. Keeping out of the windiest areas we strolled around enjoying garden beds of flowering annuals and shrubs and found a sunny, protected spot with seating for our cheese and biscuits. Many of the Spring flowering plants are coming into bud and, with good weather, should be in full flower in a couple of weeks. We then headed for the Calyx which unfortunately was closed from today preparing for its next exhibition so walked on to Westfield for lunch. The group split after lunch with a few going on to Paddy's Markets and the rest returning home by bus.





SEPTEMBER WALK

Our September walk is on **Friday 26th**, Como to Oatley and is led by Helen.

Meet at the Glenrose bus stop at 7.55am for the 8.05am City Bus (271) to the QVB. We then catch a train at 9.31am from Town Hall to Como where we will walk down to the Marina for our Coffee. We then walk across the bridge towards Oatley with cheese and biscuits on the way. It is approx. 3km slightly uphill, we will be taking it easy. Lunch at Oatley if desired before returning home. Please let Helen know if you are coming from another direction.

Helen Miles

Walks Coordinator

Mobile: 0407 078 963

Email: milesawile@bigpond.com

WRAP WITH LOVE

Lesley Walker (0404 828 261)

Liz Pawsey (0403 206 460)

A few months ago, the Co-ordinators for the Probus WWL, Lesley, Merle & Liz, decided to host a lunch and a gathering of the active supporters in our Probus Club plus their outside friends who knit & crochet. They all help to provide the blankets for WWL. Since our Probus Club started on this adventure, 10 years ago, nearly 1700 finished blankets have been sent to WWL headquarters for distribution.

With the assistance of 4 very generous financial donors, a very enjoyable lunch was provided and enjoyed by a total of 28 guests, held in the Pawsey Folly on Thursday 31st July 2025. They were able to hear from Lorraine Sutton, a long-time volunteer from the Sydney headquarters of WWL, of the distribution process of the finished blankets.



Our guests heard about how our Probus Club became initially involved with WWL – presented by Lesley. Merle talked about what makes the perfect square which leads to making delightful blankets.

Throughout the afternoon, a PowerPoint presentation was shown. This was prepared by Liz's husband, Hastings, showing 80 slides of a great variety of finished blankets and a few photos of working bees held over the years.

It was a most enjoyable afternoon. Lots of lovely knitters and crocheters all chatting together, meeting lots of complete strangers but all being greatly appreciated for their work towards a common goal – ultimately providing beautiful blankets for people under great stress & difficulties.

Merle, Lesley and Liz wish to thank their 4 financial donors for making this event even possible and also the special "bakers" who came with delicious goodies for the table. You are all greatly appreciated.

Probus WWL Co-ordinators

Lesley Walker: Mobile 0404 828 261

Liz Pawsey: Mobile 0403 206 460

Merle Fox: Mobile: 0411 250 530





September Birthdays



4th Adrienne Bowman

6th Barry Lowe

9th Judy Morton

18th Pam Allan

18th Warren Needs

19th Keith Wilson

25th Cherry Robinson

28th Chris Wood
