



March 2026 Newsletter  
Edition No 218

CLUB PRESIDENT  
MIKE HARTNELL



Welcome to March. A time of change, refreshment and renewal.

We didn't have a social lunch in February because our January one was on 29th and the next one, at Manly, is on March 5th. But we did have some excellent events. The visit to the Art Gallery of NSW was very interesting with our lovely guide Lorraine telling us about the artists and explaining their work. Thanks very much Judee.

Our Sub Committee members met for lunch after our last General Meeting. 23 Sub Committee members and spouses

celebrated another year of contributing to our club. These terrific folks contribute so much to the success of our club and we all had a nice lunch as a way of saying thanks to them.



Next was the Past Presidents' dinner at Belrose Hotel. Eleven Past Presidents of our club enjoyed a dinner and camaraderie together and discussed everything about our fabulous club. It was an honour to be in their distinguished company and to get the benefit of their ideas.



Do you remember about a year ago we had a terrific speaker, Andrew Campbell, the audiologist. He spoke to us about Hearing and Brain Health, stressing the importance of keeping our brains healthy, active and challenged by

- Meeting new people and storing new memories (Probus is great for this)
- Learning new skills, trying different things and storing new memories
- Lifelong learning, always adding to our knowledge base

In my quest for lifelong learning I discovered Yossi Ben Halaftha. Yossi was a Jewish man, born in 101 AD. He studied the Torah (the original Jewish religious document, which Christians know as the first 5 books of the Old Testament) and became a rabbi, eventually one of the most senior rabbis of his time. He decided he would use the information in the Torah to calculate exactly when God created heaven and earth and came up with the date 3760 BC. If you add the current year 2026 to that it means that the earth has had 5786 years of existence. Some Jewish web sites show the year as 5786.

At our general meetings we usually have more than 100 members in the room and our average age might be somewhere around 80. This means that we have over 8000 years of life experience in the room, significantly more than the whole world, according to Yossi and colleagues.

**WHAT A POWERFUL, IMPRESSIVE GROUP WE ARE!**

Carrying that powerful thought forward, we have the future ahead of us. In March we have our popular new President, Margaret Ayre and her new committee taking charge. Three of our existing committee members, Liz, Robyn and Brian will be taking a well-earned break. We have such a lot to thank them for, so please feel free to do so. But we do have some exciting new talent coming into the committee and this next year will be one of our best. Congratulations and welcome to Margaret and her team. Please give them all your friendship and support.

Once again, I am grateful to everyone for making our club such a great place.

Thought for the month

*“Be kind and merciful. Let no one ever come to you without coming away better and happier.”— Mother Teresa*

Look forward to seeing you soon. Have a terrific month.

**Mike**



Marion Chaffe was inducted at our last meeting

## 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



## MARCH 2026

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Breakfast/Coffee Morning
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch - The Manly Club
9 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Street Theatre - Australian Army Band
10 <sup>th</sup>	Book Club
11 <sup>th</sup>	Board Games and Cards
11 <sup>th</sup>	Mahjong
12 <sup>th</sup>	Annual General Meeting - Forest Hotel 5 Frenchs Forest Road E. Frenchs Forest 2086
19 <sup>th</sup>	Magical Mystery Gastronomic Tour
25 <sup>th</sup>	Board Games and Cards
25 <sup>th</sup>	Mahjong
26 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting
27 <sup>th</sup>	March Walk
27 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Street Theatre - Rhinestone Cowboy

## APRIL 2026

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brunch – Sandstone Café
?	Book Club April's meeting date will be agreed at the March meeting.
8 <sup>th</sup>	Board Games and Cards
8 <sup>th</sup>	Mahjong
9 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting - Forest Hotel 5 Frenchs Forest Road E. Frenchs Forest 2086
15 <sup>th</sup>	Picnic, St Ives Showground
20 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Street Theatre - Golden
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Board Games and Cards
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mahjong
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Committee Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup>	April Walk
24 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Street Theatre - Sing-A-Long ABBA
29 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Street Theatre - Everley Brothers

## 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) 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 & 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](mailto:judy.morton@hotmail.com)

## BREAKFASTS/COFFEE MORNINGS/PICNICS

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

### BREAKFAST/COFFEE MORNING

Coffee/Breakfast morning Thursday 5th February at Blue Gum café/restaurant at Glenaeon.



We had 20 attending, thank you all for coming. It was a very relaxing and enjoyable morning with great conversation and fellowship.

It's a lovely venue, so much so we have decided to go back there for our next coffee/breakfast on, **Monday 2nd March at 9:30 am**. Again it's a combined event, which is proving to be a great success. Looking forward to see you there!

**Please RSVP to Ros or Di.**



## PICNIC AT ST IVES SHOWGROUND

The next picnic at St. Ives Showground – **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 10am**

Parking near Black Knight Cafe. Bring your own chair. Coffee and snacks available at the cafe or bring your own

**Di and Ros**

### **CARDS AND GAMES**

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

## NEXT CARDS AND GAMES

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

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

At our last gathering on 11<sup>th</sup> February it was wonderful having one of our members attending cards. It was a most enjoyable morning. Hoping more will come next time.

Thank you, take care, Di and Ros

### **Di Pill**

Mobile: 0403 003 639

Email: [dp1926@optusnet.com.au](mailto:dp1926@optusnet.com.au)

### **Ros Thompson**

Mobile: 0416 086 766

Email: [rosthompson@yahoo.com](mailto:rosthompson@yahoo.com)

## ENTERTAINMENT

Warwick Brady (0418 793 684)

### THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY BAND

**Monday 9th March 11am \$30** All tickets have been handed out. Hope all will enjoy the show

### RHINESTONE COWBOY

A Salute to John Denver & Glen Campbell starring the acclaimed vocalist John Stefan.

John delivers a heartfelt salute featuring all their biggest hits including Gentle on my Mind, Leaving on a Jet Plane & Rocky Mountain High and many more

**Friday 27th March at 7 30 pm Ticket price \$69.95.** Bookings now open

### GOLDEN

A Morning Music Event from the Award winning creators of Christmas Actually & There's Something About Music. Moments from your favourite films including My Fair Lady, Sound of Music, West Side Story, A Star is Born & many more. **Monday 20th April at 11am Ticket price \$30** Bookings now open

### SING-A-LONG - ABBA

All the hits of Abba with all words to all the songs on a big screen backed by a 5 piece band on stage. Abba hit songs include Mamma Mia, Dancing Queen, Fernando, Waterloo and Take a Chance on Me & many more. **Friday 24th April at 7 30pm Ticket price \$70** Bookings now open

### EVERLY BROTHERS

The very best of the Everly Brothers & friends. Australia's favourite vocal duo the Robertson Brothers join forces with Dean Bourne the worlds greatest Roy Orbison tribute artist. The unique concert showcases hits of the Beatles, the Hollies & Simon & Garfunkel. For the first time ever you will experience the harmonies of Phil & Don Everly & the haunting voice of Roy Orbison.

**Wednesday 29th April 7 pm Ticket price \$76.95** Booking now open

### AN EVENING WITH RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN

We have received information from Sydney Musical & Opera Society advising that they will be presenting An Evening with Rodgers & Hammerstein at Glen Street - a grand celebration of the golden age of Broadway featuring the unforgettable music of Carousel, South Pacific, King & I, Oklahoma & the Sound of Music

The Production features 7 principal vocalists, a full ensemble & choir together with a magnificent 23 piece orchestra which has been created especially for audiences who love classic musical theatre & orchestra performance.

Our show will be **Wednesday 20th May at 7 30 pm Tickets are \$60.** Please make your bookings now

Kind Regards

**Warwick Brady**  
**Entertainment Officer**

Mobile: 0418 793 684

Email: [warwickandlorna@yahoo.com](mailto:warwickandlorna@yahoo.com)

## GUEST SPEAKERS

Cherry Robinson (0438 186 584)

February's speaker Paul Kearney was entertaining from the many comments I received and memories were revived from the 50's and 60's music.

There will be no speaker in March due to the A.G.M.

April Speaker is Snr. Constable Matt Cain on Cyber Crime, a subject we unfortunately have to face as it is becoming increasingly sophisticated.

**Cherry Robinson**  
**Guest Speaker Coordinator**

Mobile: 0438 186 584

Email: [cherryrobinson259@gmail.com](mailto:cherryrobinson259@gmail.com)

## FEBRUARY SPEAKER



Guest Speaker Paul Kearney and Chris Nielsen who gave the vote of thanks

## MAHJONG CLUB

Sandra Murphy (0457 388 325)

We are still meeting at the Forest Kirk Hall on the **second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9.30** until noon. So, what has changed? Maybe our skills are improving, morning coffee and a chat still happening, but the number of men now playing is increasing.

The wonderful Kirk Hall is big enough to cater for as many as would like to join us.

Love to see you,

**Sandra Murphy**  
**Mahjong Coordinator**

Mobile: 0457 388 325

[sandramurphyfoz@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sandramurphyfoz@yahoo.com.au)

## SOCIAL

Megan Hartnell (0402 102 055)

## THE MANLY CLUB

The Manly Club, Gilbert Street Manly **Thursday 5th March 12 noon.**

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Manly next Thursday at midday for lunch. Please let me know if you have registered and are now unable to come as I have made a booking for 40 people and I can still modify it. They have a large selection of food so you can order and pay on the day.

## SANDSTONE CAFÉ

Sandstone Cafe 9.30 am for brunch.

**Thursday 2nd April**

Unfortunately, we were not able to book Long Reef Golf Club as they cannot take more than 20 people at one time. Instead I have made a booking for us at Sandstone Cafe on Myoora Road in Terrey Hills for 9:30 on Thursday, 2 April .... Our " Happy Easter Brunch " !

We need to choose our food beforehand so the kitchen can have the ingredients ready. Drinks can be ordered and paid for separately on the day.

If you would like to come, could you please look at the menu below, choose what you would like to eat and then write it on an envelope clearly marked with your name and the cash enclosed as I need to pay one complete bill on the day. I have booked for 30 so would appreciate it if you could let me know if you're coming and you can hand me your envelope at the next Probus meeting (or by 30th March at the latest)

Thanking you,

Happy socialising,

**Megan Hartnell**

Social Convenor

Mobile: 0402 102 055

Email: [megt11@bigpond.com](mailto:megt11@bigpond.com)

### Sandstone Café – Breakfast

Toast & Sandstone preserves Sonoma sourdough Sonoma whole wheat miche	\$8
Bircher Muesli Almond milk, fresh apple, raisins, honey, coconut yoghurt, poached peach & nectarine and honey comb	\$18
Banana Bread Maple butter	\$12
Pancakes Pancake, berry compote, whipped ricotta, Canadian maple syrup	\$18
Eggs on Toast Scrambled, fried, poached and Sonoma sourdough	\$14
Zucchini and Corn Fritters Labne, avocado, bacon & Sandstone chilli jam	\$22
Eggs Benedict Poached eggs, hollandaise sauce on Sonoma sourdough With ham With salmon	\$19 \$22
Bacon & Egg Roll Hash brown, on milk bun & Sandstone Tomato chutney	\$18
Smashed Avocado Heirloom tomatoes, fetta cheese, beetroot hummus on Sonoma sourdough	\$19
Steak & Eggs 2 fried eggs, scotch fillet MB2, hash brown and Alba's chilli oil	\$28
Sides Gluten free bread Hash brown Hollandaise sauce Avocado Smoked Salmon Bacon	\$2 \$3 \$3 \$5 \$6 \$6

### **OUTINGS**

Peter Moxham (0417 299 283)

Geoff Jones (0412 420 213)

### MAGICAL MYSTERY GASTRONOMIC TOUR FOR MARCH

Several of our fellow travellers have suggested a gastronomic mystery tour and have recommended a specific destination where our group can have our own guided gourmet food tour and relax and indulge ourselves. (Bring a bag to take some goodies home).

So, our plan is to indulge ourselves on the **third Thursday in March which is 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. We will meet at Wynyard Park which is where the buses from Belrose and Mona Vale stop @ 10am. Then we get a train direct to our gastronomic delights.

If you are feeling bold you can skip breakfast.

TTFN+KBO

**Geoff Jones**

Mobile: 0412 420 213

Email: [geoffjones1874@gmail.com](mailto:geoffjones1874@gmail.com)

### ETTALONG DAY OUTING

I am seeking expressions of interest for an outing from Palm Beach by ferry to Ettalong and with lunch at Ettalong RSL Club on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May**. The meal option includes a choice of one of four mains followed by cake + tea/coffee station.

The ferry leaves 10:30 am from Palm Beach Wharf with a return mid afternoon. There is a complimentary shuttle from Ettalong Wharf to the club for those preferring not to do the 10 to 15 minute level walk.

The **cost of \$40 is inclusive of lunch and the ferry both ways**. Car sharing to Palm Beach is recommended with some parking at Palm Beach wharf if you are early and have a Northern Beaches sticker, or in surrounding streets. A sign on sheet will be available at our next meeting.

**Peter Moxham**

Mobile 0417 299 283

### ART GALLERY OF NSW

“Dangerously Modern”  
Australian Women Artists in  
Europe 1890-1940



The first major exhibition to focus on the vital role of Australian women in the development of international modernism, “Dangerously Modern” explores the art and lives of fifty trailblazing artists. They belonged to an unprecedented wave of women journeying from Australia through Europe and beyond at the turn of the twentieth century, prevailing against centuries of social constraints to pursue international careers.

On Monday 2nd February 10 Proberians visited the New South Wales Art Gallery to explore the art and lives of these women artists.

These artists included the first woman Archibald winner Nora Heysen, plus cubist painter Dorrit Black, Grace Cossington-Smith, Margaret Preston and Dora Meeson

These women artists played an integral often unrecognized role in modernising our nation.

With more than 200 works *Dangerously Modern* expands our understanding of modern art movements, the works explore colour, light, form and movement.

Our guide Lorraine was very knowledgeable and enlightening in her understanding of the art works.



Several of us stayed back to enjoy lunch in the Art Gallery Café (our tour guide Lorraine in the centre in the photo above)

**Judee Radford**

## NORA HEYSEN

Winner: Archibald Prize 1938



Nora Heysen won the Archibald Prize for this portrait of Adine Michèle Elink Schuurman (nee Lambert), the French wife of the Dutch consul-general to Australia.

As the first woman to win the prize, there was a lot of interest in Heysen's work and life. It emerged in the press coverage that she had been in her kitchen when told of her win; consequently she was also, apparently, the first Archibald winner to have been approached to supply their favourite recipes for *The Australian Women's Weekly* (4 February 1939, p4). Her favourites? Hungarian goulash, duck with olive sauce and Chilean stuffed green peppers.

## DORA MEESON

Artist Dora Meeson was born in Hawthorn, Melbourne in 1869 and studied at the National Gallery School in Melbourne, the Slade School of Fine Art in London and the Academie Julian in Paris. In 1900 she moved to London with her future husband, Australian painter George James Coates. An active member of the British suffrage movement, Meeson was instrumental in breaking down the social barriers that limited women artists by appropriating subject matters traditionally reserved for male artists. Dora Meeson is best known for her many fine impressions of the River Thames, a number of which were acquired after 1945 by the Port of London Authority.

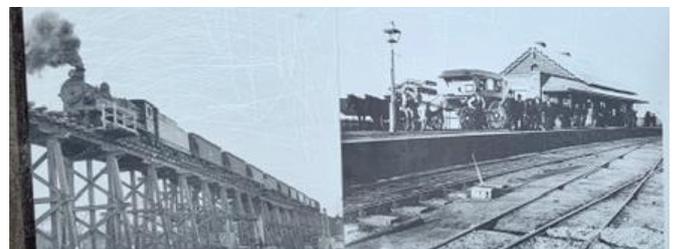


## FEBRUARY MAGICAL MYSTERY HISTORY TOUR

On Thursday 19 February 11 of us (7 ladies and 4 gentlemen) met at Central Station for the 75 minute ride through Sydney's Western Suburbs to Windsor.



## WINDSOR RAILWAY STATION



Windsor Railway Station opened on December 1, 1864 as part of the first country branch line in the state. The original 1864 building was replaced by the current heritage-listed Victorian style brick station in 1883. It served as a critical goods and passenger hub for the Hawkesbury region and was electrified in 1991.

On arrival at Windsor we walked to the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery to view works by local artists Enid Colquhoun and Greg Hansell.

A deep etch and aquatic print on paper in Australian Greens by Enid Colquhoun.



Paintings by Greg Hansell



As there were no buses available to take us to our original lunch destination, we decided to make our way back to the station stopping at Tates Hotel for lunch.

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## TATES HERITAGE HOTEL



There has been a hotel on this site in Windsor since the Commercial Hotel was built in 1840. The original pub was demolished in 1938 by Bert Tate and reopened as the Windsor Hotel although locally, the new building was affectionally referred to as Tates – a name which has been retained.

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On the return journey the train passengers included school children and adults from many ethnic backgrounds – a reflection of Sydney's multicultural population.

Reaching Sydney the train stopped at Central, Wynyard and Chatswood. My mobile tells me I walked 11,481 steps this day.

**Geoff Jones**

## TOURS

Ted Morton (0412 235 400)  
Margaret Ayre (0423 302 069)

### QLD SOUTHERN OUTBACK TOUR 11 to 22 OCTOBER 2026

As mentioned at the last meeting our QLD Southern Outback Tour has not reached the numbers required so will now be advertised to other local Probus Clubs. I say local because I have included bus transfers to the airport and return from/to Glenrose and we would like to maximise that extra service.

### POSSIBLE TOUR TO NORFOLK ISLAND IN 2027

At the meeting there was interest indicated for a trip to Norfolk Island next year. I will explore this in March and give feedback on what we might be able to do and get possible timing.

**Ted Morton**



### CANBERRA YULEFEST 29-31 JULY 2026

Travelling with On-Course Tours, a 3 day tour is in progress going to Canberra on the 29th-31st July 2026.

There are 25 rooms reserved for us at this stage.

16 rooms have already been booked.

Please see the full itinerary in the newsletter. A deposit of \$200.pp is due now to reserve your room.

Cost per person (minimum 30 people):  
\$1,075.00

Cost per person (minimum 25 people):  
\$1,225.00

Single supplement: +\$250.

When the new committee takes over Peter Moxham will be the Outings Coordinator

Please register with Peter.

Many thanks

**Margaret Ayre**



# Queensland Southern Outback Trail

*With Combined Probus Club of Belrose*

**12 Days / 11 Nights - Fully Escorted**

**Tour Departs: Sunday 11 October - Thursday 22 October, 2026**



**TRADE TRAVEL**  
Fearless Journeys. Endless Memories



**Day 1. Sun 11 Oct: Belrose - Sydney - Toowoomba - Goondiwindi**

**Lunch & Dinner**

**Flight Details: QF1412, Sydney - Wellcamp 11:55/12:40 (flight subject to change)**

Today we fly into Toowoomba to begin our Queensland Southern Outback Trail. On arrival, we travel to **Picnic Point Lookout**, one of Toowoomba's signature scenic viewpoints, and enjoy lunch at the café overlooking the **Lockyer Valley**. After lunch, we visit **Laurel Bank Park** for a relaxed stroll through its beautifully maintained gardens and seasonal floral displays. We then travel west through the **Darling Downs**, stopping in **Yelarbon** to view the striking **GrainCorp Silos** titled "When the Rain Comes." This stunning artwork was created by Jordache Castillejos, Jordon Bruce (Brightsiders), and Steve Falco (Procreative), and stretches across eight silos, capturing the spirit of regeneration in the Australian outback. We continue to **Goondiwindi**, on arrival, we check in to our motel and take time to refresh before dinner.

**Overnight Goondiwindi: Best Western Ascot Lodge Motor Inn**

**Day 2. Mon 12 Oct: Goondiwindi - St George**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

This morning we explore the township of **Goondiwindi**, starting with a peaceful stroll through the **Botanic Gardens of the Western Woodlands**. These expansive native gardens offer gentle walking paths and a tranquil setting beside the lake - a relaxing start to our day. We then visit the **Customs House Museum**, a beautifully preserved heritage building. Inside, fascinating displays that tell the story of Goondiwindi's border-town history. Before departing, we stop at the **Gunsynd Memorial**, commemorating the famous "**Goondiwindi Grey**," and enjoy views from the **Border Bridge**, which links Queensland and New South Wales across the **Macintyre River**. Lunch is at the friendly **Queensland Hotel**, known for its classic country hospitality and hearty meals. After lunch, we travel northwest through peaceful outback landscapes, arriving in St George by mid-afternoon, after check-in at our motel, the remainder of the day is at leisure before dinner at the hotel.

**Overnight St George: Riverland Motor Inn**

**Day 3. Tue 13 Oct: St George**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

This morning, we visit **The Unique Egg**, the world's only display of **hand-carved, illuminated emu eggs** - extraordinary works of art that have even been gifted to the **White House**. Next, we join our **local guide** for an informative **tour of St George**, learning about the town's rich heritage and rural lifestyle. We then meet a **local cotton farmer** to gain insight into one of the region's key industries, before visiting **Riversands Vineyard** for a **tour, wine tasting and lunch** among the vines. In the afternoon, we return to our motel to freshen up before embarking on a **relaxing sunset cruise on the Balonne River**. Enjoy the tranquil scenery and gentle commentary as the day winds down. We return to the motel for dinner and a chance to reflect on another memorable outback experience.

**Overnight St George: Riverland Motor Inn**

**Day 4. Wed 14 Oct: St George - Bollon - Cunnamulla**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

After breakfast we depart St George and travel west to the charming outback town of **Bollon** for a memorable cultural experience, with a visit to the **Nullawokka First Nations Gallery**, showcasing local Indigenous art, followed by a **Kooma cultural presentation** by **Traditional Owner Bill Speedy**, who shares stories and traditions of Country. After this enriching morning, enjoy a **Native Flavours lunch**, highlighting bush ingredients and regional produce, we head west to **Cunnamulla**, arriving mid-afternoon to check in. An optional visit to the **Cunnamulla Hot Springs** offers time to relax in the mineral-rich artesian pools overlooking the **Warrego River**, or simply unwind at leisure. Later, join **fourth-generation local Peieta** for a **town tour**, featuring the striking **Cunnamulla Water Tower Art** by **Guido van Helten**.

**Day 4. Continued...** As the sun sets, enjoy complimentary drinks and nibbles, then the **3D Sound and Light Show**, where our holographic host, the Station Master, brings Cunnamulla's past to life. Conclude the day with a **traditional Aussie campfire dinner under the stars**.

**Overnight Cunnamulla: Club Boutique Hotel**

**Day 5. Thu 15 Oct: Cunnamulla - Eulo - Thargomindah**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

This morning we stop at **Cunnamulla Fella Visitor Information Centre**, enjoy a self-guided tour of the **Artesian Time Tunnel**, the interactive displays and informative video on how the Artesian Basin was formed. Travel west to the little town of **Eulo**, "**The Montville of the Outback**", see the opals and jewellery at **Telegraph House Gallery**, or hand-crafted leather goods at **Paroo Patch**. We meet Col at the **Eulo Queen Hotel for lunch** and hear the history of the Eulo Queen. Continue to Thargomindah for check in to our motel, before our visit to the **Thargomindah Visitor Information Centre** to meet our local guide. Explore the first town in Australia and the third in the world to produce hydro-electric power for street lighting. We also take in a tour and demonstration of the original **Artesian Hydro Power Plant**. Late afternoon we return to watch the spectacular outback sunset, before returning to the motel for a lovely dinner.

**Overnight Thargomindah: Oasis Motel**

**Day 6. Fri 16 Oct: Thargomindah - Toompine - Quilpie**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast and check-out before heading along the Quilpie- Thargomindah Road toward the opal town of Quilpie. En route, stop at the **famous Toompine Hotel** - known as the pub without a town. In the early afternoon, travel to **Toogunna Plains Farmstay**, a fifth-generation sheep and cattle property in the heart of the Channel Country. Settle in for a two-night stay in beautifully appointed ensuite cabins and enjoy locally sourced meals prepared by our host and resident foodie, Fiona Ferguson. This evening, celebrate the colours of the outback with **sunset drinks and canapés overlooking the picturesque Kyra Sandhills**, followed by a two-course dinner in the homestead garden.

**Overnight Quilpie: Toogunna Plains Farmstay**

**Day 7. Sat 17 Oct: Quilpie**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Wake to the tranquillity of this 130,000-acre property and start our day with a gourmet cooked breakfast. We then, join our hosts for a morning **station tour**, offering a first-hand look at the challenges and rewards of life on the land. Enjoy **lunch in the 100-year-old shearing shed** with more station insights from our hosts. Early afternoon, we'll travel about 25 minutes to the **Eromanga Natural History Museum** to meet Australia's largest dinosaur. On a one-hour guided tour, discover fossil preparation in action, view incredible megafauna remains, and experience ancient creatures brought to life through immersive multimedia. As the sun sets, enjoy drinks and canapés on the museum's open-air pavilion, followed by an exclusive **five-course 'Taste of the Outback' long-table dinner** in the striking museum gallery.

**Overnight Quilpie: Toogunna Plains Farmstay**

**Day 8. Sun 18 Oct: Charleville**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

This morning, we farewell our hosts at Toogunna Plains Farmstay and travel east to Charleville, the heart of Mulga Country. On arrival, we visit the heritage-listed **Hotel Coronas** to explore its 1929 origins during Charleville's wool boom and the colourful legacy of Harry Coronas, we enjoy lunch in the grand dining room before heading to the **Charleville Bilby Experience** to see the endangered nocturnal bilbies and learn about their successful breeding and release program. Later this afternoon, we delve into Charleville's intriguing wartime history on the **WWII Secrets Tour**, discovering why this remote outback town was selected as a top-secret base by the US military. We also learn about the highly classified **Norden bomb sight**, once considered revolutionary wartime technology. This evening, we enjoy the **Big Sky Twilight Tour** at the Cosmos Centre, viewing planets and star clusters through powerful telescopes while expert Sky Guides share fascinating insights. We then return to our motel for a relaxed dinner.

**Overnight Charleville: Mulga Country Motor Inn**

**Day 9. Mon 19 Oct: Charleville - Mitchell - Roma**

**Breakfast & Dinner**

After breakfast, we visit the **Outback Date Farm** for a guided tour, learning how this unique crop thrives in the harsh outback environment and hearing the story behind this surprising local success. We then travel east to **Mitchell**, stopping for a light lunch at the **Great Artesian Spa Café**, before continuing to **Roma**, the heart of Queensland's cattle country. After check-in and time to refresh, we visit the iconic **Roma Big Rig**, meet our local guide, and learn about the region's pioneering oil and gas industry. As the sun sets, we enjoy a regional port and the captivating **Big Rig Night Show**, before returning to the motel for dinner.

**Overnight Roma: Roma Explorers Inn**

**Day 10. Tue 20 Oct: Roma**

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Today after breakfast we set out on a **full-day tour** with local experts from Boobook Explore, offering a rich insight into the history and heart of Roma. We begin with a guided visit to the iconic **Roma Saleyards**, the largest cattle-selling centre in the Southern Hemisphere, followed by a stop at the historic **Roma Power Station**. We then enjoy a stroll through the tranquil Bush Gardens and admire the town's famous **Biggest Bottle Tree**. Later, we travel through Mandandanji Country to **Massey Downs**, a working cropping and cattle property. Here, we explore the station gardens and hear stories of life on the land. Morning tea and lunch are included. Tonight, after a short break at our motel, we visit **Western Queensland Spirit**, a distillery on a former citrus and grape farm producing award-winning small-batch spirits infused with native botanicals. Enjoy a **private tour, tasting, and relaxed dinner**.

**Overnight Roma: Roma Explorers Inn**

**Day 11. Wed 21 Oct: Roma - Surat - Toowoomba****Breakfast & Dinner**

We farewell Roma this morning and travel south to **Surat**, a picturesque riverside town steeped in Cobb & Co history. At the **Cobb & Co Changing Station Museum**, we view the original stagecoach, explore the Social History Museum, and enjoy the impressive 25,000-litre freshwater aquarium. Take a relaxing walk along the Balonne River and enjoy morning tea (or early lunch) in this peaceful township. From Surat, we continue east through the towns of **Miles**, **Chinchilla** and **Dalby**, enjoying scenic countryside views along the way. Arriving in Toowoomba in the late afternoon, we check into our hotel and settle in before dinner.

**Overnight Toowoomba: Potters Hotel****Day 12. Thurs 22 Oct: Toowoomba - Sydney - Belrose****Breakfast**

This morning, after breakfast, we check out and visit the **Queensland Cobb+Co Museum**. This unique museum celebrates Australia's transport heritage and features the National Carriage Collection - a stunning display of horse-drawn vehicles that played an important role in the development of Queensland. We enjoy time to explore the fascinating exhibits and immerse ourselves in the stories of early travel and settlement. After our visit, we head to Toowoomba Airport for our flight home. On arrival, we are transferred to Belrose, reflecting on the many special memories shared with the **Belrose Combined Probus Club** and **Trade Travel** during our Queensland Southern Outback Trail.

**Flight Details: QF1413, Wellcamp - Sydney 13:05/15:50 (flights subject to change)**

## Tour Highlights & Inclusions

**Tour Highlights:** Picnic Point Lookout; Laurel Bunk Park; GrainCorp Silos; Gunsynd Memorial & Border Bridge; Botanic Gardens of the Western Woodlands; Customs House Museum; Queensland Hotel; Unique Egg; Heritage Tour; Cotton Farm Tour; Riversands Vineyard Wine Tasting & Lunch; Balonne River Sunset River Cruise; First Nations Gallery; Cultural Presentation; Native Flavours Lunch; Hot Springs Experience; Water Tower Art; 3D Sound & Light Show & Camp Fire Dinner; Cunnamulla Fella Visitor Information Centre; Artesian Time Tunnel Tour; Opal & Art Gallery; Leather Craft Shop; Outback Pub Lunch; Visitor Centre & Guided Tour; Artesian Hydro Power Plant Tour; Outback Pub Stop; Station Farmstay; Sunset Drinks & Canapés; Station Tour & Shearing Shed Lunch; Natural History Museum Tour & 'Taste of the Outback' Dinner; Historic Hotel Tour & Lunch; Bilby Experience; Big Sky Twilight Tour; Top Secret WWII Tour; Outback Date Tour; Town Tour - Heroes Avenue, Bush Gardens & Biggest Bottle Tree; Sound & Light Show; Saleyards Visit; Power Station Stop; Cropping & Cattle Station Tour; Distillery Tour, Tasting & Dinner; Cobb & Co Changing Station Museum; Cobb+Co Museum & more.

**Tour Price ex Homeport includes:**

- Return Airport Transfers from/to Belrose
- Trade Travel Tour Host
- Return flights with Qantas from Sydney to Wellcamp (Toowoomba)
- Quality coach travel
- 11 Nights quality accommodation
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary
- All entry fees, cruise & guides as per itinerary

**Tour Cost ex SYD: \$6898 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$1198 - limited capacity)****A minimum of 20 passengers is required for this tour to proceed.***The tour prices are valid for travel in 2026. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice.*

**Deposit:** A deposit of **\$200.00 per person** is due on booking to secure your place on this tour, along with completed booking form (\$55.00 is non refundable at time of booking)

**Final Payment:** Due no later than **Friday 7 August, 2026.****For information, bookings & travel insurance contact:****Trade Travel 1800 034 439****Email:** [bookings@tradetravel.com](mailto:bookings@tradetravel.com)

Central Reservations: PO Box 1715 Noosaville 90 QLD 4566  
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29 - 31  
JULY 2026



## CANBERRA YULEFEST

### Day 1 – Mittagong to Canberra

We set off together this morning, pausing in Mittagong to enjoy Morning Tea before continuing our journey south. Our first stop is Fedra Olive Grove, where we enjoy a delicious lunch. From here, we indulge in a wine tasting at the charming Contentious Character winery, with the option for anyone who wishes to wander up to Jasper and Myrtle Chocolates for a sweet treat. This evening, we settle into the elegant Hotel Kurrajong and gather for dinner.

**Overnight:** Hotel Kurrajong

**Meals Included:** Lunch & Dinner

### Day 2 – Canberra city sights and Yulefest celebration

After breakfast, we set off on a **city sights tour**, taking in Canberra's embassies, national institutions, and key landmarks. We pause for **morning tea at the Portrait Café** before exploring the **National Portrait Gallery**, where portraits of Australia's most notable figures share the story of the nation through art and photography.

Our morning continues with a guided visit to the **Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House**, offering fascinating insight into Australia's political heritage and the people who shaped it.

We then enjoy **lunch and some free time in Manuka**, one of Canberra's most popular shopping and café precincts, known for its boutique stores and relaxed atmosphere.

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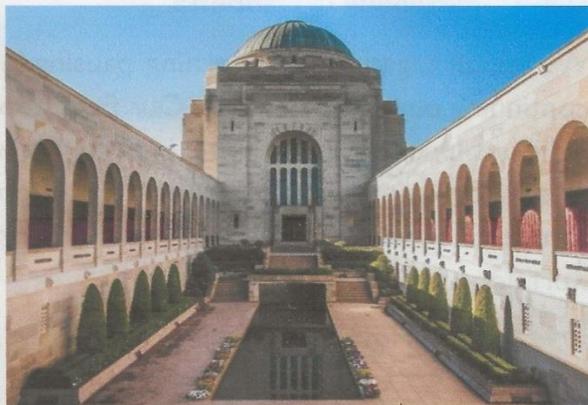
Please note: Itinerary subject to change due to operational requirements or local conditions.

In the afternoon, we visit the **Australian War Memorial**, a moving and significant tribute to those who have served. We explore the galleries and reflect during the **Last Post Ceremony**, a poignant conclusion to the day's sightseeing.

To finish the day, we enjoy our **special Yulefest celebration** — a much-loved highlight of the tour. Celebrate the season with a traditional Christmas-style meal shared in warm company, creating the perfect festive atmosphere to round off a memorable day in Canberra.

**Overnight:** Hotel Kurrajong

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



### Day 3 – Canberra to Sydney

Following Breakfast, we travel to Bungendore to enjoy Morning Tea at the charming Café Woodworks. We explore the impressive Woodworks Gallery and browse the Leather and Trading Store across the road. Our journey then takes us to Goulburn, where we enjoy Lunch at the historic Goulburn Brewery.

With hearts full and bags perhaps a little heavier, we make our way back to Sydney, bringing our wonderful getaway to a close.

**Overnight:** Breakfast & Lunch

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Please note: Itinerary subject to change due to operational requirements or local conditions.

### Pricing

Cost per person (minimum 30 people): \$1,075

Cost per person (minimum 25 people): \$1,225

Single supplement: +\$250

This includes all experiences, meals, accommodation, and luxury coach travel as listed in the day-by-day itinerary.



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Please note: Itinerary subject to change due to operational requirements or local conditions.

## WALKING GROUP

Helen Miles (0407 078 963)

### MARCH WALK

Our March Walk is on **Friday 27th March**, is in The Rocks, and is led by Malcolm.

We will meet at Glenrose at 8.45am for the 8.59am 271 City Bus to Wynyard. We will have coffee and cheese and biscuits during the walk and an option for choosing somewhere for lunch in the area or returning home at the conclusion of the walk.

For anyone coming from a different direction or on a different bus, we will all meet at Wynyard Park at approx. 9.43am. Please let Helen know if you are meeting us at Wynyard Park.

#### **Helen Miles**

#### **Walks Coordinator**

Mobile: 0407 078 963

Email: [milesawile@bigpond.com](mailto:milesawile@bigpond.com)



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## March Birthdays

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4 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Scott
7 <sup>th</sup>	Merle Fox
10 <sup>th</sup>	Barry Hackshall
20 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Bowman
21 <sup>st</sup>	Lesley Walker
22 <sup>nd</sup>	John Worboys
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Geoff Huntington
26 <sup>th</sup>	Megan Hartnell
28 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Lowe
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mike Hartnell

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Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

### Golden Anniversary of Probus in Australia

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I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations to Probus Clubs throughout Australia as you celebrate 50 years of service to our community. The strength and longevity of Probus Clubs reflect the dedication of your members and the tireless efforts of those who have given their time to leadership and service.

Since the establishment of the first Probus Club in 1976, your organisation has played a vital role in enriching the lives of retirees and semi-retirees by fostering friendship, fellowship and active engagement. For half a century, Probus has helped Australians remain socially connected, intellectually stimulated and involved in their local communities.

As Governor-General, I promised to put care, kindness and respect at the heart of my work. I talk about care in all of its forms across our country, from care for each other and for those who care for others, to care for our democracy and institutions, care for the way we discuss the issues of our time, not with anger, but with respect and kindness.

At Probus, you have care, kindness and respect deep in your commitment to inclusiveness, volunteerism and lifelong learning. As a community, you make a lasting contribution to wellbeing across cities, towns and regions nationwide. I have seen and continue to celebrate the profound impact of Probus in the lives of many of my family members, and in the communities I have visited across Australia.

I hope all Probus Clubs will celebrate this significant milestone throughout 2026. I thank all involved with Probus for your enduring contribution to Australian life and wish you every success in the years ahead.