Combined Probus Club of Belrose Inc.

November 2026 Newsletter

Edition No 226

~ MARGARET'S MANTA ~

Manta meaning - the ultimate destination for captivating stories



Dear Members and Friends,

PSPL has been celebrating its 50th anniversary throughout Australia and New Zealand. As October was Probus Month, all clubs were encouraged to hold a special event, and we certainly rose to the occasion with plenty of fun, friendship and fellowship.

On 1 October, 26 members enjoyed a visit to Vaucluse House, where we were treated to a guided tour. This was followed by lunch at Coogee RSL and then a visit to the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway at Concord. It was a fantastic day out enjoyed by all.

At our monthly meeting on 8 October, members were welcomed with chocolates wrapped in blue and yellow cellophane and finished with coordinating ribbons. Thank you to everyone who embraced the spirit of Probus Month by wearing either blue or yellow. Looking around the room, I think the blue team may have won! Following morning tea, we were entertained by three talented banjo players. We learned a great deal about the banjo and happily joined in a singalong. It was great fun.

On 15 October, I hosted a Past Presidents Dinner at the Belrose Hotel. Eleven past presidents attended, making it a wonderful evening of reminiscing and fellowship.

Our final outing for the month was lunch at The Little Snail in Pyrmont on 29 October. With over 70 members booked to attend.

We are also pleased to announce that Robyn and Chris Wood have kindly taken over the organisation of the Movie Day outings. Thank you both for volunteering to look after this popular activity. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Rosemary Daly for assisting Gloria Attwooll in looking after the movie outings for so long

Thought for the month

Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right.

Yours Truly
President Margaret

Club Contacts

President:	Margaret Ayre	0423 302 069
Secretary:	Alison Soutter	0400 525 700
Treasurer:	Chris Nielsen	0409 242 888
Newsletter:	Jenny Jones	0405 310 537

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

Club Email Address:
combinedbelroseprobus@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENTS DINNER 2026

On Thursday, 15 October, we celebrated our 5th Past Presidents Dinner at the Belrose Hotel.

This special event was first held in 2022 following a suggestion from Lesley Walker, who shared the idea with then President Liz Pawsey. It was a wonderful initiative, and we thank both Lesley and Liz for bringing it to life. I sincerely hope this tradition continues for many years to come.

During the evening, we paid tribute to three of our Past Presidents:

· John Robinson, our 2nd President

· Lyle Pearce, our 5th President

· Kevin Radford, our 8th President

All three were true gentlemen who made significant contributions to our club. They are remembered with great respect, gratitude and affection.

I would also like to acknowledge Elaine Davidson, our first female President in 2013, who was unable to join us. Elaine is currently enjoying a holiday on Lord Howe Island. Lucky lady! It is certainly a destination on my own bucket list. We hope Elaine will be able to join us next year as we celebrate our 20th anniversary.

From the feedback and acknowledgements received, everyone enjoyed the evening. I certainly did.

A special thank you to Peter Loveday for attending and capturing the occasion with his trusty camera.

President Margaret





PAST PRESIDENTS

YEAR	PRESIDENT
July 2007 and 2008	BRUCE NICHOLSON
2009	JOHN ROBINSON
2010	GEOFF HUNTINGTON
2011	WARWICK BRADY
2012	LYLE PEARCE
2013	ELAINE DAVIDSON
2014	LESLEY WALKER
2015	KEVIN RADFORD
2016	PETER LOVEDAY
2017	HASTINGS PAWSEY
2018	MIKE STANILAND
2019	CHERRY ROBINSON
2020	PETER MOXHAM
August 2020 and 2021	TERRY STEWART
2022	LIZ PAWSEY
2023	ROS THOMPSON
2024	PETER MOXHAM
2025	MIKE HARTNELL
2026	MARGARET AYRE



COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2026/2027

President	Margaret Ayre
Past President	Mike Hartnell
Vice President	Margaret Lovett
Secretary	Alison Soutter
Assist Secretary	Christine Humphries
Treasurer	Chris Nielsen
Assist Treasurer	Colin Fordred
Entertainment	Warwick Brady
Guest Speakers	Cherry Robinson
Membership	Tony Lovett
Newsletter	Jenny Jones
Social	Megan Hartnell
Tours/Outings	Peter Moxham
Welfare	Lesley Walker

SUB COMMITTEES 2026/2027

Audio Visual	Terry Stewart
Honorary Auditor	Chris Wood
Birthday/Lucky Door	Di Pill Ros Thompson
Book & Jigsaw Exchange	Judy Morton
Book Club	Sandy Cameron
Cinema Outings	Robyn and Chris Wood
Coffee Mornings & Picnics	Di Pill Ros Thompson
Extended Tours	Ted Morton
Geoff's Journeys	Geoff Jones
Mahjong Group	Sandra Murphy
Reception	Jackie Taylor
Photographer	Peter Loveday
Returning Officer	Mike Gibbs
Walking Group	Helen and Dennis Miles
Website Admin.	Ross Swadling
Wine Appreciation	Mike Staniland
Wrap with Love	Lesley Walker Liz Pawsey Merle Fox





Payments for the following activities are now due. Please pay into our club bank account

$ 35.00	The John Newcombe Story
$ 20.00	Barefoot Bowls
$ 30.00	Back to the Tivoli Christmas Spectacular
$ 97.00	Christmas Lunch

NOVEMBER 2026

9th	The John Newcombe Story $35
10th	Book Club
11th	Mahjong Club
12th	General Meeting
18th	Picnic, St. Ives Showground
19th	Barefoot Bowls, Club Belrose $20
25th	Mahjong Club
26th	Committee Meeting
27th	November Walk

DECEMBER 2026

1st	Coffee/Breakfast, Blue Gum Café
3rd	Geoff's Journeys – Law Courts
7th	Back to Tivoli Christmas Special $30
10th	General Meeting
17th	Christmas Lunch $97

~ CLUB ACTIVITIES ~

~ HOW TO BOOK AND PAY ~

REGISTER

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 Peter Moxham and Geoff Jones (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.

If you cannot do this please send an email to combinedbelroseprobus@gmail.com

to notify the event organiser and the treasurer of your payment

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.

But preferably no cheques or cash please.

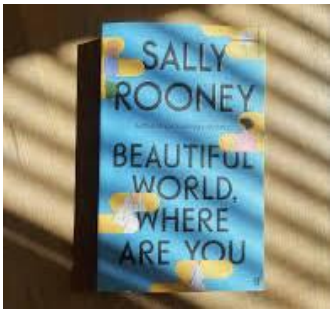
~ BOOK AND JIGSAW EXCHANGE ~

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
0427 235 400

~ BOOK CLUB REVIEW ~



“Beautiful World Where Are You?” by Sally Rooney. Although this book won Novel of the Year in the 2021 Irish Book Awards, the members of the book club did not particularly enjoy reading it.

Not much happens to the two couples Alice and Felix, and Elaine and Simon whose relationships are at the heart of the story. At the same time, the book does explore ideas. In their correspondence Alice and Elaine discuss the Bronze Age Collapse which was a period when major societies in the Mediterranean such as the Mycenaeans and Hittites collapsed around the 12th century BC and they wonder whether our society will face a similar collapse due to AI or climate change or wars. They ask themselves how we should live in the face of such threats? This is a worthy question but it was not explored in an engaging way. We felt that this book was not for people of our generation but may well speak to Millennials.

Alison Soutter

~ COFFEE MORNING/PICNIC ~

PICNIC
Wednesday 18th November

Time: 10:00am
Location: Black Knight Café
St Ives Showground.

A lovely spot to relax, under sprawling gum trees, with great company.

Purchase morning tea /coffee from the Café or you may prefer to bring your own. Please bring a chair.

Looking forward to seeing you at our last picnic for the year

COFFEE MORNING
Tuesday 1st December

Time: 9:30 am
Location: Blue Gum Café at Glenaeon
207 Forestway, Belrose.

Very relaxing atmosphere, a lovely time of fellowship.

Looking forward to seeing you at our last coffee morning for the year. We look forward to seeing a lot attending.

There will be a sign up sheet for both events at our next meeting or please reply to:

Di 0403 003 639
dp1926@optusnet.com.au

OR,
Ros 0416 086 766
rosthompson@yahoo.com

Thank you,
Take care,
Di and Ros.



On the 6th.October another enjoyable morning tea was held at Blue Gum Cafe at Glenaeon Retirement Village. This is the perfect meeting place to catch up with Probus friends as it is spacious, quiet, serves good coffee and has a lovely outlook.

Ros and Di.





~ ENTERTAINMENT ~

Hello all - Here are the details for the last two shows for this year

THE JOHN NEWCOMBE STORY
Monday 9th November at 11am $35

The show is the grand story about the life of the great Australian tennis player of the 60s and 70s John Newcombe. Any member interested in coming please make your booking and payment immediately

BACK TO THE TIVOLI
CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR
Monday 7th December at 11 am $30

This show is inspired by the golden era of the Tivoli Theatre. Anyone interested please make your booking immediately as this show is very heavily booked.

Payment for this show is now due.

Please note Morning Tea will be served after the show to celebrate the end of a wonderful year of entertainment

Thankyou all for your support during the year
Many thanks

Warwick Brady
0418 793 684

~ GUEST SPEAKERS ~

OCTOBER



We were entertained at our October meeting by Dennis Quinlan, Cliff Parsons and Gordon Brown who all played banjos and explained to us the mechanics of the instrument, along with the history going back to the Africans who were brought to America. I picked one up and it is surprising how heavy it was, with most of the weight in the bowl, around 6 kilos. The trio entertained us and we enjoyed a sing-a-long with a few well known songs.

NOVEMBER

The November speaker is Hans Kunnen, an economist and survivor of September 11th 2001 terrorist attack in New York.

Cherry Robinson
0438 186 584

~ MAHJONG CLUB ~



As usual we will meet at The Kirk Hall on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month for our morning of Mahjong commencing at 9.30.

Sandra Murphy
0457 388 325

~ OUTINGS AND TOURS ~

BAREFOOT BOWLS



Our next activity will be barefoot bowls at Club Belrose on Thursday 19th November from 4pm to 5:30. There will be some guidance before we commence and the cost for those bowling will be $20 pp.

Those not wishing to bowl are invited to come along as this will be a social afternoon as well, with dinner available after 5pm.

If you plan to bowl, please pay $20 into the Club's account as the numbers need to be finalised.

Peter Moxham
0417 299 283

VAUCLUSE HOUSE
1st October 2026



A pleasant spring day, as 26 members and guests set out for a tour of Vaucluse House and beyond.

A waterside morning tea at Rose Bay, then off to Vaucluse House for a guided tour.

The wonderful heritage house was once the residence of William Charles Wentworth in the 1830s and is surrounded by ten acres of landscaped gardens.

After our morning tour the Oncourse coach took us to the Coogee Legion Club where we enjoyed a very good two course lunch overlooking the water.

Then in the afternoon on to the Kokoda Memorial track at Concord.













Original lounge wallpaper dating from 1846









GEOFF'S JOURNEYS
$2.50 OPAL TOUR
Thursday 3 December 2026

See the Law at work live

Our visit is scheduled to the Sydney Law Courts at 184 Phillip Street in the Law Courts Building where we hope to visit one of the courts in session:

>Supreme Court of New South Wales

>Federal Court of New South Wales

>High Court of Australia



View of the Law Courts from Queens Square

We should have a private (audio) tour and sit in the visitor's gallery of one of the courts which is in session on the morning of 3 December 2026

Meet @ 10am in the Law Courts café (Legal Grounds Café, 225 Macquarie Street) before you go through airport type security and quietly watch the law in action

Afterwards we can go to the NSW Parliament where some of our laws are made, and to the Long Bell Café for lunch and a chat about our morning's events

Geoff Jones
0412 420 213

~ SOCIAL ~

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
Thursday 17th December
at Cromer Golf Club at 12 noon

Plans are well under way for this fun, Hawaiian - themed summer event !

Wear bright summer clothes (with a lei or perhaps a flower in your hair !)

Prizes for enthusiastic hula hoopers even if you are as hopeless as I am !!

Lucky door prizes, music (with a twist !) and a few surprises ! What fun ….

We will be enjoying a welcome drink with canapés followed by a Christmas sit down main meal with alternate drop for dessert. We are aware of some dietary requirements. Please let us know of any others particularly if you are a new member !

Payment of $97 pp is now due through the Club account please.

How is it possible that Christmas is just around the corner … again !!



THAI RESTAURANT AT TASTEBUDS
Thursday 18th February 2027

This will be our first outing in the New Year !

Dinner at the Thai Restaurant at Tastebuds at Terrey Hills at 6pm.

Pop this in your diary. More details to come.



THE LITTLE SNAIL AT PYRMONT
29th October 2026



Last Thursday 70 of us headed into The Little Snail on a beautiful Sydney Spring day to enjoy the gastronomic delight of this very popular Pyrmont restaurant.

How is it possible to serve a full restaurant 3 courses for $48 so efficiently with every meal coming from the kitchen looking and tasting fabulous ??!!

And the mocktails and cocktails …. Yum !

Honestly the best value around mixed with wonderful company. You can't beat that and we might have to go again next year !! Could become a yearly event !

Meg Hartnell
0402 102 055

Trish Nielsen
0419 998 742























~ WALKING GROUP ~

NOVEMBER

Our last walk for this year is on Friday 27th November at Curl Curl and is led by Helen. As it is the last walk for the year we will have our traditional lunch after the walk at either Harbord Diggers or Wakehurst Golf Club, venue still to be finalised.

We will car pool for this walk and meet at 8.30am in the car park of Lionel Watts Playing Fields off Blackbutts Road. We will depart from here by 8.45am and proceed to the McKillop Park Car Park on the Freshwater Headland. (Everyone with Northern Beaches Parking Permits can park free of charge.). We aim to commence the walk from here by approximately 9.30am and walk to the coffee shop overlooking Curl Curl Beach for our coffee. After a further short walk we will retrace our steps, stopping for cheese and biscuits en route.

Anyone coming from another location please let Helen know so we can all meet up. Also anyone wishing to join us for lunch also let Helen know so you can be included in our reservation.

OCTOBER

After a fantastic day out and lunch at the Little Snail on Thursday, nineteen walkers still managed to gather on Friday for our walk through Macquarie University, led by Elaine with help from Terry. Easy transport by bus and Metro, we arrived at the University in good time for coffee in the great coffee shop in the Library building. After coffee we were able to walk through the extremely impressive library before continuing our stroll through the grounds. We had cheese and biscuits in the shade near the sport and aquatic centre, then continued on down to the lake with its spectacular water spout and the Graduation building which overlooks the lake. From here we crossed the lawn past the art gallery, the Lakeside Hotel and Conference Centre then up past the hospital and Exercise and Sports Sciences building.

The architecture and different styles of all the faculty buildings blend perfectly and all the gardens and grounds are immaculately maintained and have so many areas of sun, shade and under cover seating for study and socialising. After seeing the indigenous garden, which is used to study plants and their uses in indigenous medicines, and the Professor Frank Mercer gardens, we entered the building to see Frank the Kodiak Bear. Then as it was lunchtime, we followed Wally's Walk to the Central Courtyard with all its food outlets where we enjoyed lunch before returning home.

Thank you to Elaine for leading such an interesting walk with Terry's help and information, and to Peter for all his great photos.

Helen Miles
0407 078 963
















Frank the Bear











NOVEMBER

4th	Lesley Hackshall
7th	Margaret Ayre
8th	Ted Morton
13th	Tony Lovett
18th	Clare Bassett
20th	Judy Fuller
21st	Val Gibbs
22nd	Jenny Jones
24th	Mark Johnston
28th	Catherine Bell
29th	Lorna Brady