



PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

ACN A0029363K

NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

Chartered on 25 March, 1986, Incorporated on 9 May, 1994

This Probuss Club meets at:

Kew Golf Club, 120 Belford Road, East Kew 3102

At 10:00 am, 2nd Tuesday in the Month (excepting January)

The Club can be contacted by email at : portphillipprobuss@gmail.com

The Club's web site details are: www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/portphillipm

Issue 419

December, 2023

PRESIDENT

Ms S. Harraway (Susan)

Tel: 9329 5293 Mob: 0447 941 963

E: susanrlharraway@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Mr R. Smith (Russell)

Mob: 0417 190 040

E: rsmith@bersmith.com.au

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, 12th December, 2023

At **Kew Golf Club**, 120 Belford Rd, Kew East, 3102 (Melway Ref. 45 G1)

Coffee and Fellowship: 9:00 am

Meeting commences: 10:00am

Desk Duties:-

December 2023

TBA

IMPORTANT DATES in December, 2023

Deadline for Lunch Bookings	5.00 pm	7 th December	page 4
Meeting	10:00 am	12 th December	page 3

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



What an exciting time of the year it is. We have returned from a wonderful getaway where we saw so many interesting places in and around Hobart. John and Marsha Rankin created a themed program for each day. This included art and theatre, the natural environment, convict life and military history. How fortunate we were to experience these diverse attractions. Miles Pierce told us about the beginnings of the Hydro Electricity in Tasmania after a meal one night and on another occasion about the building of the famous bridge in Richmond. The RACV hotel was a convenient location and the meals we had there were good. The staff were friendly and helpful, so it made for a very happy time. Unfortunately, the dreaded COVID caused one couple to miss some of the things and others have since been struck

down. The last night dinner was in a beautiful location on the harbour, and we all enjoyed the food and drinks.

We will soon be telling you about the next getaway so do note the dates when they are announced and plan to come.

There are still some places available for the Silo tour starting on 2nd April 2024. Ross Worboys is the person to see if you are interested. This is a change from our usual mini getaway in that we are using a tour company to do all the arrangements. I really enjoyed it when I went a few years ago and there is the advantage of not having to plan anything. Do remember that all meals are included in the cost.

Our final speaker for the year is Ross Milton who will be entertaining us with his experiences of doing business in the Middle East and, quite differently, telling us about non-toxic anaesthetics. Should we be surprised that he will be yet another interesting speaker that Margaret Hill has found. She also arranged for the Lord Mayor of Hobart, who just happened to be holidaying on Magnetic Island when Margaret was there, to speak to us on the Tuesday night of the getaway.

The next visit will be in February to the Exhibition Building where we will be able to see the marvellous view of Melbourne from the top. Neil Pearce has found us such a great many different and interesting places to go and this one will be no exception.

As a departure from the usual Tuesday visit some of us are going to Jack's magazine on Sunday 3rd December. Ursula and Manfred Tursky have organised this and then booked a pleasant place for lunch afterwards. We will be able to tell people about this surprising place at the next meeting.

We have had our last Coffee and Conversation, but it will resume in February. Thank you so much Lois Bell for chairing these sessions. We have had many discussions about a variety of topics.

One of our members, Pat Sands, will be celebrating his 100th birthday in January. This very special birthday will be with his family in Perth, but we look forward to his return in March.

We will be welcoming two new members at this meeting. I know you will go out of your way to greet them and the other "starred" ones. We are always pleased to have new members who will bring with them new interests and ideas.

These new members may be interested in learning about older members and one way this can be done is by answering a few questions that David Sutherland has sent out. He has already collated about 20 of these and made them available to all members. These questions are simply a way to have a conversation starter so do think about doing this. Longtime members will recall that we used to keep a copy of the Profile talks when they were given. Unfortunately, many of these are not available now. Maybe, in the future, with digitalisation this could happen again but in the meantime these conversation starters can be used. Please be assured that they are only available to club members just like this newsletter is.

The getaway has meant extra work for the treasurer, Pam Russell, as well as the organisers, John and Marsha Rankin. So, a big thank you for that. I am confident that all will be completed by this meeting.

Our web manager, Dedrie Green, will be putting some of the photos from the getaway, on the web site soon so do look out for them. The “WhatsApp” she setup for the attendees at the getaway was well used.

At the last meeting we voted to change the standing orders, so we do not have a Walks person on the committee. This vacant position is not named at present. This change was flawlessly handled by our super secretary. So, thanks as always to Russell Smith for that.

This will be the final lunch of the year. Anne St George, our catering Officer, will be waiting to get your emails and phone calls so please remember to contact her before the cut off date. We found out at the end of the last meeting that Alisha was leaving so hopefully her replacement will be as capable as she was. We thanked Alisha with \$100 on the behalf of all the members. This means we will be giving \$400 to the rest of the staff at this lunch. You will notice the cost is a little more than usual as it is a special lunch with nibbles as well. The committee agreed to pay for a drink for everyone to be served at the table. This cost will be covered by the funds we have in our account.

It is a special time of the year and many of us will be catching up with family. For all our members I wish you a very happy time wherever you are, and I will see you in February.

Susan Harraway

SPEAKER

Ross Milton

Businessman and Entrepreneur, CA, B.Comm.

Ross had a background in Chartered Accounting with Deloitte’s prior to taking on the Finance Manager role with Texas Utilities in Melbourne in 1999.

But life dramatically changed when in 2001 he joined one of the world’s largest privately owned global consumer goods companies, Mars Inc, as “Petcare” Financial Controller for Australia and New Zealand, in country Wodonga.

In addition to Petcare, Mars’ businesses include Chocolate, Chewing Gum (Wrigley), Food, Drinks and Symbioscience, and Ross has been fortunate to hold several senior management positions in Australia, America, and the Middle East, finishing up as Vice President Human Resources (CIS, Middle East & Africa) in 2012.

On returning home, the fun really started when he founded, BOUNCE INC, a network of trampoline centres across Australia, catering for all skills and age groups.

Inspired by the growth of BOUNCE locally he decided to take that business model to Dubai and the broader Middle East in 2013 where it has been an enormous success. In 2017 Ross was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the Arabian Start Up Magazine, and BOUNCE was Voted #1 Sports Venue

in the Middle East (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016). In addition, BOUNCE is the first Women's Only Sports & Entertainment venue in Saudi Arabia.

His latest venture involves setting up a pharmaceutical business making Anaesthetics.

* *

Ross is keen to share stories of his colourful business career in what should be a light and interesting talk to end our year on.

Margaret Hill, Speaker's Co-ordinator

0448 948 548 / marg_peter7@bigpond.

CATERING - 12th DECEMBER 2023

Meeting, Lunch, Tea & Coffee \$50

(The extra cost covers a special Christmas meal)

Meeting Tea & Coffee \$10

Booking Cutoff: Thursday 7th November 5pm

Contact : Anne St George

annestg@tpg.com.au 0408314709

Tea or Coffee available pre and post meeting.

PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Direct credit bank payments by 7th December preferred.

Please do not pay before the 1st of the month.

A/C name: Probus Club of Port Phillip

BSB: 033058 A/C No. 750921

If paying by cash or cheque:

Please tender correct money in a sealed envelope
with your name and those of any guest(s).

All guests will be given a table number.

Anne St George - Catering Officer

FEBRUARY VISIT – ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING DOME

10.00 am Tuesday 20 February 2024

Our February visit is to the Dome at the Royal Exhibition Building, that very famous and beautiful building in Carlton.

Centred in those magnificent gardens, it provides a perfect backdrop for the annual March Flower and Garden Show. Within, it has accommodated vast numbers of anxious students sitting school and university exams (a show of hands in November confirmed how many in our Probus had been among them). There also have been myriad major functions, shows and exhibitions, going all the way back to the Melbourne International Exhibitions in 1880 and 1888. Was the Aquarium alongside at one stage?

Port Phillip Probus has booked in to a guided tour that covers an exhibition exploring the building's history and then walks right around the upper dome promenade.

This view has not been seen for more than a century and sounds spectacular. However, while the exhibition's three levels are accessible by lift, there are around 20 steps to the fourth – upper dome promenade – level. As well, there are some further steps involved to be able to take in the entire 360 degree view. So that's some word of caution. On the other hand, the lower promenade, also outside, does form part of the exhibition and thus can be reached via the lift.

The tour starts at 10.00 am. We need to arrive no later than 9.45 am inside the Melbourne Museum foyer, opposite the shop, at the Dome tour meeting point. We will meet our tour guide there, before crossing over the Exhibition Building itself.

Expressions of Interest again will be at our December meeting. Any queries prior to then can be to me at

neilrosemary.pearce@bigpond.com, or

tel (03) 9818 2439 ; leave message if not answered

Cost is \$23 for the tour and payment is required in advance.

This may be by transfer, with your name and 'Visit', no later than Thursday 18 January 2024 to:

"Probus Club of Port Phillip" - BSB 033 058 A/c No 750 921

or pay (cash or cheque) at the front desk at our December General Meeting.

Convenor – Neil Pearce

ALMONER

Members who wish to inform the Club of the illness of themselves or of others, please contact;

Ian 0427 318 348 or **Lindley Webb** 0418 391 148, telephone 9898 6297, or or e-mail:-
iwebb9898b@gmail.com

2023 ANNUAL GETAWAY - HOBART

Sunday 19 to Friday 24 November, 2023

After two failed attempts we finally had the Hobart getaway. But if we thought we'd defeated COVID we were wrong!

Thirty-three of us made it to Hobart, the Turners and Janet Thompson had withdrawn a week before due to illness (not COVID), and we began with a dinner at the RACV Hotel on the Sunday. The adventures began on Monday morning when our coach driver Suze picked us up and took us to MONA. Suze stayed with us all week and provided a lively, interesting and often humorous commentary during our journeys. We were warned early in the week not to refer to the coach as a bus!

Everything went smoothly until Tuesday when the Webbs informed us they had COVID and were isolating in their room. We carried on without further incidents and finished with a final dinner at the Seagrass restaurant in Sandy Bay. The next morning people started making their way home or continued on their Tasmania trip. But since then another eleven or so (including your Getaway Coordinators) have succumbed to COVID. None seems too serious and we wish them a speedy recovery.

Despite this setback at the end, feedback about the Getaway has been positive and we're very pleased to have finally been able to bring it off.

Dedrie Green has set up a Google Drive folder with photos she and Jim took during the Getaway and I've added a few of mine and some very nice ones from Neil Pearce. If you'd like to have a look here's the link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Q3e7b3wpg0JSDwCPI9jOYp8NSgOqkzi7>

John and Marsha Rankin, Getaway Coordinators

More "Pearls" from Stanton

"Never leave to chance what you can achieve by thorough calculation."

"I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more luck I have!" (Thomas Jefferson)

"If all humans benefited from their experience in life the world would become a much better place!"

"The question of when to buy is far more important than what to buy!"

Happy memories of the Getaway



On stage at the Theatre Royal



At the Anglessea Barracks



Dinner at Seagrass



Miles telling us about the Richmond Bridge. The ducks were very interested.



Devonshire tea at Glen Derwent

The temporary Newsletter Editor is David Sutherland
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Closing date for the February **2024** Newsletter is: am – **Thursday, February 1st**