WELCOME TO THE AUSTRAL ADVOCATE

A friendly reminder that our meetings are held every second Friday of the month at 10.30am at the Austral Bowling Club. Our last meeting for the year is on the 14th of December. Please consider having lunch at the Club following the meeting as it is a good opportunity to really get to know one another.

SPONSORS

We would like to thank IGA Austral for their continued support, who provide a monthly door prize/raffle prize to the value of $25.00 per month. The Austral Probus Club would also like to thank the Austral Bowling Club for their ongoing support and patronage.

WALKING CLUB

There is a walking club that meets every Monday, Wednesday & Friday outside the Chinese restaurant in Austral at 8.50 for a 9.00 start.

KIRS KRINGLE REMINDER

A reminder that our December meeting will include our Christmas luncheon. Please bring a Kris Kringle present to the value of $10 dollars.

OUR WEBSITE

http://australprobus.org/

Don’t forget to visit our website to stay up to date with all the happenings of the club!

MoNTH | DATE | D AY | TiME | ACTIVITY NAME | VENUE | Cost | P AY BY | COMMENTS
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
November | 16th | Friday | 8:15am | River Cruise | Cruising the Hacking River and E G Waterhouse National Camellia Garden | $50.00 | 14 Sep | Limit of 25 people. Meet at Austral Bowling Club 8:15 AM.
November | 23rd | Friday | 10:00am | Devonshire Tea | Anteira Resort, Cowapstead Road Leppington | $8.00 | On the day | Tea or coffee and fresh scones
November | 27th | Tuesday | 12:30pm | Monthly Lunch | St Johns Park Bowling Club | $10 | On the day | 
December | 14th | Friday | 10:00am | Monthly Meeting | Austral Bowling Club | | 9 Nov | Christmas lunch and “Kris Kringle”

ROLE | NAME | PHONE | EMAIL
---|---|---|---
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Welcome to the Austral Advocate
ACTIVITIES FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

FRIDAY 9TH NOVEMBER, Probus Meeting 10:30 am at Austral Bowling Club, the guest speaker will be Frank Higgins from the NRMA speaking on “Years Ahead Driver Program.”

FRIDAY 16TH NOVEMBER, outing on the “Tom Thumb III”, three hours, cruising in the relaxed and informal atmosphere, you will enjoy exploring the upper reaches of the Hacking River, one of Sydney’s most unspoiled waterways, with its many bays and inlets down to the open expanses of Port Hacking and Bate Bay. You will see breathtaking views of the Royal National Park, which borders the whole southern shoreline. Learn about the early explorers of the district, Historical Settlements deer farming in the park, the state’s first fish hatchery. Pass by Aboriginal sites; whilst discovering their names and meanings, and cruise by some of Sydney’s most magnificent waterfront properties. Cost of bus and ferry $50.00As per Management Meeting Minutes Morning Tea of Coffee, Tea and biscuits is provided. Members also have the option of taking a packed lunch or waiting until we get to the café at Camellia Gardens where they can purchase some lunch. You can read their menu [here](#). A visit to E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden in Caringbah, overlooking the beautiful Yowie Bay.

TUESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER Lunch at St Johns Park Bowling Club 12:30.

FRIDAY 23RD NOVEMBER, coffee morning at Antegra Oasis Restaurant. Coffee or tea and scones with jam and cream for $8.00.

FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER, Probus Meeting 10:30am at Austral Bowling Club, followed by Christmas lunch. We have spoken to the chef, and he will provide ham, pork and turkey with Christmas pudding and custard for desert. He advised the cost will be $25. We need have numbers and pay in November as there were many more people at “Christmas in July” than we had booked for. Everyone enjoyed “Christmas in July” so we will have another “Kris Kringle” and hope Santa is not too busy.

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**BIRTHDAYS**
Lyn Turner - 2nd Nov
Ken James - 14th Nov
Lillian Depena - 20th Nov
Beverley Kearnes - 22nd Nov
Lynne Fleeton - 5th Dec
Susan Quean - 10th Dec

“When you’re retired, you’ll have plenty of time to do more reading...mostly prescription labels.”
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

It has been my pleasure to fill in for our club president Gary Amesbury whilst he and his wife and Treasurer Marilyn enjoy their annual pilgrimage to Western Australia.

Pity they did not share this with the rest of us as this could have been our first Probus interstate trip! Surely, that huge caravan could have accommodated more than two people. What a waste!

Good to see our club growing steadily in numbers. At our October meeting, we welcomed 5 new members bringing our total membership to 48.

In addition, at the same meeting we were both entertained and enlightened by Jim Haynes OAM with fascinating stories about some misconceptions of Australian history. Judging by the feedback and reaction, he will be most welcome for another gig in 2019!

On behalf of the committee, we welcome Linda Lambert who has accepted the role as our new Theatre/Movie bookings organiser. Always good to welcome fresh eager members taking on new roles as we evolve. And speaking of new roles my thanks also to Mary Lyons for standing in as treasurer in Marilyn’s absence, that banking managerial experience has come in handy after all Mary.

Please enjoy reading the newsletter that Christine has put together so professionally. I was very impressed with the last one and am sure this one will not disappoint.

It’s been real... It’s been nice... it’s been real nice. I thought I was going to wear that medal around my neck but Gary took it with him. Been told he keeps it under his pillow!!

Ciao Ciao
Frank Ranieri

GET WELL SOON FRANK

It is with much sadness that we have to tell you that Frank Ranieri has had to resign as Vice President due to health problems. We want to thank him for all the wonderful and tireless work he has done for the club. Our thoughts are with you.
What is a favourite hobby of yours?
Love knitting and tapestry.

What is your favourite food?
LOLLIES!

What is the more memorable restaurant you have dined in?
Australia Square – the view was fantastic along with my man

Your most enjoyable movie of all times?
Loved watching Toy Story with the grandkids and had a friend buy me Woody because I said I liked him.

What’s sometime unusual about you most people don’t know?
Had very strange pets growing up. A baby kangaroo which we had to bottle feed till it grew up then mum & dad were frighten that it would hurt us as it was a big red so rang the zoo and they would not take it so we had a family trip out to the zoo with kanga got there open the doors near the turnstiles hit kanga on the butt and it jumped thru the entrance so we all took off. Another pet was a baby crocodile that came from New Guinea in a shoe box but as it grew up it kept biting us so we let it go in front of our house in Kogarah Bay only to hear approx. 40 years later on the radio that there had been a sighting of a crocodile near Kurnell – rang my sister laughing my head off with the comment “do you think it is ours” we say nothing. Maybe this is why I am a bit crazy.

What’s the funniest thing that has happened to you?
Winning the very first Graham Kennedy’s Funniest Home Video – wow thanks to my mum who also had a sense of humour we sent a clip in of her sixtieth birthday strippergram and lord and behold we won.

What is the most interesting place you have ever visited?
Machu Pichhu and Antarctic – the wild life was fantastic along with the icebergs

What’s the best program on TV and why do you enjoy it?
Not in love with any one particular program

Have you had any “Brush with Fame” experiences?
My business was at Fox Studios in the production side met some wonderful people. Chris Bath and her husband, John Swan (he made a CD and signed it just for me) and Jimmy Barnes, Packer when training his staff didn’t know it was him and asked him to leave the classroom. Heaps more too many to mention.

As a child what did you want to be when you grew up?
Travel the world like my famous dad and have his butler wait on me.

Did you achieve that childhood desire?
NO was a Secretary.

What is your favourite childhood memory?
Camping with my mum and also have my dad takes us on travels to Disneyland and lived with him for a short while in LA, also to New Guinea

If you could be any animal in the world, what animal would you be and why?
A little dog like my Honey because if I had owners like me I would be so spoilt with love and attention that I could not ask for anything else
PROBUS PROBE – GARY AMESBURY

What is your favourite hobby?
So many to choose from, but I guess my Vintage cars would have to top the list, I have always wanted to own a vintage car and this came true when I started the Vintage Car Timber restoration course at TAFE. Built my first car from the ground up out of spare parts, I am now driving vintage car number five.

What is your favourite food?
I don’t really have a favourite food, I love to cook and create new tastes, cooked for 120 in the army under all types of conditions and made it my goal to make the food look and taste good.

What is the most memorable restaurant you have dined in?
Probably Australia Square Tower, when it was new and before it catered more for our Japanese visitors. Loved dining while viewing the city on a slow turning dining room.

Most enjoyable movie of all time?
I am not a big movie buff so the one that comes to mind is Grease, loved the stars and the era of the movie.

Something unusual about you that most people don’t know.
I used to race Mini Hydro boats, they were eight foot long and powered by a 350 cc outboard motor. We used to race on private dams and were handicapped, on a sixteen lap race I had a handicap of eight laps on the slowest boat, and I still used to win.

What is the funniest thing that has ever happened to you?
Along with my wife we won the first “Graham Kennedy Funniest Home Video Show”, we won a car for sending in a video of my mother-in-law’s 60th Birthday where she upstaged a strippergram.

The most interesting place you have visited?
This would have to be Machu Picchu, in the Andes in South America, it was quite amazing to see the structures that were built by the early Incas, three kilometres above sea level. Much of the granite used had to be obtained from other mountains and transported to the top of this mountain.

Best Program on TV?
This would have to be MasterChef for obvious reasons!

Any brushes with Fame?
I have been lucky enough to have had several brushes with fame and famous people.

• Met Governor Sir Roden Cuttler when I was a cook in the army
• Met Malcolm Douglas when driving my Model T Ford around Australia
• Been on TV with Graham Kennedy
• Written a story for the Seniors biannual publication.
• Met John Swan (Jimmy Barnes Brother) and had him over for a BBQ.
PROBUS PROBE – GARY AMESBURY (CONTINUED)

What did you want to be when you grew up?
Don’t know, I haven’t got there yet!

Your favourite Childhood memory?
Reading out an essay I wrote to my class before coming to Australia in 1961, all the information about the country that I was going to live in, Most of it turned out to be incorrect.

What animal would you like to be?
This is a hard one, but I guess I have always said “Next time I am coming back as a pet dog” probably an English Border collie, a good looking smart dog that would get a lot of love and friendship, and like Lassie, would help people.

PROBUS PROBE – YVONNE SEMMENS

Yvonne has fond memories of her early childhood holidays which is probably why "The Holiday" is her favourite movie. She loves watching "Home and Away" which explains her dream to become famous. Everyone from that show appears to become famous. She loves playing tennis and adores Chinese food. If she could be any animal it would be a dog because they are always spoilt by the family. Well Yvonne we are spoilt to have you as a member of our club and to us you are famous.

PROBUS PROBE – COLIN AND GAIL BACKHOUSE

Gail and Colin are one of our couples who are adding a lot of spice to our club. They enjoy a lot of similar interests, a great sense of humour but others interests that set them apart as individuals. Gail loves to read while Colin loves scuba diving and lawn bowls. They both love the Sea Level Restaurant in Cronulla and their favourite movie is Casablanca. The funniest thing that ever happened to Gail was marrying Colin while Colin found losing his putter up a tree was funnier. While being in the top 3% of Australia's fittest he did meet Marianne Faithful at the Sydney Hospital. He achieved his childhood dream and became a policeman. He loves Cowra and Hawaii and fondly remembers holidays on his uncle's farm and dreaming of being a bird and flying above the world. Gail on the other hand loves Goolgong in NSW and although she wanted to be an archaeologist, found it could be claustrophobic at times. She loves the Big Bang Theory, memories of holidays at the Entrance and her friend's dog. Never a dull moment here.
A SMILE
Smiling is infectious
You catch it like the flu.
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.

I walked around the corner,
And someone saw my grin,
When he smiled, I realised
I’d passed it on to him.

I thought about the smile
And realised its worth,
A single smile like mine
Could travel round the earth.

If you feel a smile begin
Don’t leave it undetected,
Let’s start an epidemic, quick,
And get the world infected.

PROBUS LUNCH 18.9.18
We had an enjoyable lunch at the Cabra-Vale Diggers Club on the 18th of September. Hope to see you at the next one!
SARCASTIC QUOTES

CUNNING

I have six locks on my door and bolt every other one. I figure no matter how long somebody stands there picking the locks they’re always locking three.

I have CDO. It’s like OCD but with the letters in alphabetical order, like they’re supposed to be.

I didn’t make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom the “John” and renamed it the “Jim”. I feel so much better saying I went

To the Jim this morning.

Why do I have to press “1” for English when you’re just going to transfer me to someone I can’t understand anyway?

Common sense is not a gift, It's a punishment. Because you have to deal with everyone who doesn't have it.
LUNCH AT LAKESIDE
Today just eight turned up for lunch at Lakeside which you would imagine is disappointing. However, we had a very nice lunch at a lovely venue with a beautiful outlook. The weather was perfect and we got to know one another a whole lot better, finding we shared similar opinions on quite a few matters. I am sure we could fix all the problems in the world without too much trouble at all. Best of all we also had a good laugh.
Gary and Marilyn, we hope you are enjoying yourselves.
-Beverly

GUESS WHO?
Can you guess which Probus members are photographed below? Answers will be revealed in our next edition.
THE SNOWMAN

It had been snowing all night - So at:
8:00 - I made a snowman.
8:10 - A feminist passed by and asked me why I didn't make a snow woman.
8:15 - So, I made a snow woman.
8:17 - My feminist neighbour complained about the snow woman's voluptuous chest saying it objectified snow women everywhere.
8:20 - The gay couple living nearby threw a hissy fit and moaned it could have been two snow men instead.
8:22 - The transgender ma..wom...person asked why I didn't just make one snow person with detachable parts.
8:25 - The vegans at the end of the lane complained about the carrot nose, as veggies are food and not to decorate snow figures with.
8:28 - I am being called a racist because the snow couple is white.
8:31 - The Muslim gent across the road demands the snow woman wear a burqa.
8:40 - The Police arrive saying someone has been offended
8:42 - The feminist neighbour complained again that the broomstick of the snow woman needs to be removed because it depicted women in a domestic role.
8:43 - The council equality officer arrived and threatened me with eviction.
8:45 - TV news crew from the ABC show up. I am asked if I know the difference between snowmen and snowwomen? I reply, "Snowballs". Now I’m called a sexist.
9:00 - I'm on the News as a suspected racist, homophobe, sensibility offender, bent on stirring up trouble during difficult weather.
9:10 - I am asked if I have any accomplices. My children are taken by social services.
9:29 - Far left protesters offended by everything are marching down the street demanding I be charged by the Anti-Everything Commissioner.

Moral: No...there is no moral here... It's a small insight into the world in which we live today... and it gets worse by the week.
GENERAL MEETING 12.10.2018 - GUEST SPEAKER JIM HAYNES
An enjoyable morning was spent on Friday October 12th. We listened eagerly to an abundance of interesting stories about Australiana that we hadn't necessarily heard before. Jim Haynes gave us an unusual insight to things we had taken for granted. Aussie Aussie Aussie Oi Oi Oi suddenly became Oggy Oggy Oggy Oi Oi Oi and found out it really is a small world after all.
GENERAL MEETING PHOTOS 14.9.18
On the 14th of September we discovered the world of Marine Rescue when Bob Wilson joined us and filled us in on all the amazing work this volunteer group undertake. A very informative session.
MORE ON JIM HAYNES
Jim Haynes OAM is an Australian writer, entertainer, broadcaster, humourist, songwriter and historian.

He embarked on a career as an entertainer, performing in clubs and touring a school show called Singabout Australia. His break came when Warner Chappell signed him to a publishing deal and two songs from his album It’s Nothing Serious became hits. Don’t Call Wagga Wagga Wagga, recorded with Greg Champion and Ted Egan, was a hit in 1994 and Since Cheryl Went Feral, topped the country charts for five weeks in 1995/96 and crossed over onto the pop charts.

CAUTIONARY TALE
A group of guys are in the changing room when a phone rings.

One of them picks it up.

Man: “Hello”
Woman: “Honey, it’s me. Are you at the club?”
Man: “Yes”
Woman: “Well, I have news. The house we wanted is back on the market. They’re asking $950,000.”
Man: “Well then, go ahead and make an offer, but make it $1.2 million so we’ll be sure to get it.”
Woman: “OK. I’ll see you later. Love you.”
Man: “Bye. Love you too.”

The man hangs up. Then he asks, “Anyone know whose phone this is?” 😂 😂 😂
A GREAT CHICKEN RECIPE - MAGGIE BEER WOULD BE IMPRESSED!

Here is a chicken recipe that also includes the use of popcorn as a stuffing - imagine that! When I found this recipe, I thought it was perfect for people like me who just are not sure how to tell when poultry is thoroughly cooked, but not dried out.

Give this a try:
Size 18. chicken
1 cup melted butter
1 cup stuffing
1 cup of uncooked popcorn
Salt & pepper to taste
Preheat oven to 220c.
Brush chicken well with melted butter, salt and pepper.
Fill cavity with stuffing and popcorn.
Place in baking pan with the neck end towards the back of the oven.
Listen to the popping sounds.
When the chicken's arse blows the oven door open and the chicken flies across the room, it is done.
And you thought I couldn't cook!
Thanks Linda for the recipe!

ONE LAST JOKE

A woman was walking along the beach when she stumbled across a bottle. She picked it up and rubbed it, and low-and behold a genie appeared! The amazed woman asked if she got three wishes. The genie said, "Nope, sorry. Three wish genies are a fairy tale myth. I'm a one wish genie. So... what'll it be?" The woman didn’t hesitate. She said, "I want peace in the Middle East. See this map? I want these countries to stop fighting with each other and I want all the Arabs to love the Jews and Americans and vice-versa. It will bring about world peace and harmony".

The genie looked at the map and exclaimed, "Lady, be reasonable. These countries have been at war for thousands of years. I've been in a bottle got five hundred years. I'm good but not THAT good! I don't think it can be done. Be reasonable."

The woman thought for a minute and said, "Well, I've never been able to find the right man. You know, one that's considerate and fun, likes to cook and help around the house and gets on with family, doesn't watch sports all the time, and is faithful. That is what I wish for.......a good man."

The genie let out a sigh and said " Let me see that map again." 😂