President’s Message:

Hi all

First off my thanks to Geoff Newland who has volunteered to look after the newsletter

It’s great to see that our activities are up and running again.

Our visit to Lancer Barracks was very informative. “We will rock you” was a great success as was the play “The Things I know to be True”.

There are many opportunities for members to get involved and to get out and mix with fellow Probarians.

For the near future (i.e. 12 months) all general meetings will be held at the Don Moore Community Centre Carlingford. We have facilities at the centre to provide a cup of tea or coffee and I have some volunteers to set up a catering group to provide this service. Anyone else interested contact Robyn Newland.

Covid restrictions at the moment require us to log in to the meetings using the Service NSW app and/or on a sign in sheet where your name will be ticked off as an attendee. There is currently no requirement to wear a mask to meetings.

Ken Sinclair,
President

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<tr>
<th>Executive Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Sinclair</td>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>M: 0414 835 840</td>
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<tr>
<td>E: sinclairken2410 @gmail.com</td>
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<td>Patrick Vallely</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Tours Coordinator</td>
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<td>Asset Manager</td>
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<td>M: 0403 161 515</td>
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<tr>
<td>E: <a href="mailto:vallelypk@hotmail.com">vallelypk@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyn Curby</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>M: 0432 679 751</td>
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<tr>
<td>E: <a href="mailto:biddy21@icloud.com">biddy21@icloud.com</a></td>
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<td>Janet Swinnerton</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>M: 0439 843 934</td>
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<tr>
<td>E: <a href="mailto:janetms8989@yahoo.com.au">janetms8989@yahoo.com.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kent Pidgeon</td>
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<td>Membership Officer</td>
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<td>M: 0401 198 383</td>
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<tr>
<td>E: <a href="mailto:kentpidgeon@gmail.com">kentpidgeon@gmail.com</a></td>
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Events Co-ordinators:

Barbara Towart:
M: 0413 572 713
E: allanbarb@ozemail.com.au

Robyn Newland
M: 0419 463 783
E: grnewlan@bigpond.net.au

Next meeting:
Monday 19th April 10:00am
Don Moore Community Centre
North Rocks Rd Carlingford cnr Farnell

Welfare Officer:
Jan Field
M: 0428 080 848
E: keith_jan@bigpond.com
Walkie Talkies
Our walks are about getting out and seeing what Sydney and our local area have to offer.
I am continuing as the Tours Co-ordinator in the newly elected committee and am seeking
input from our members to plan tours within the guidelines of the current Covid environ-
ment. Any suggestions from club members for itineraries of interest are welcome.
As the Tours Co-Ordinator I will present all proposals received to the Club’s committee and
Events Co-ordinating team, as per protocol, to ensure the appropriate providers and insur-
ances are engaged.
If available our next walk is on the 31st March at 9am. Meeting carpark southern side of
Silverwater Bridge.
The walk will be along the southern side (Lidcombe) of the Parramatta River from the Sil-
verwater Bridge via the Louise Savage Pathway to the Pier Cafe at the Sydney Olympic
Wharf and return.
It is a generally flat terrain walk with some slight rises on a sealed surface following the riv-
er past the Armory, along and through various wetlands. There are some optional 20-30
steps (one to two steps between risers) to the top of one of the hills in the Olympic Park
overlooking the site and surrounding suburbs. There are plenty of places along the walk to
stop and rest if needed. Duration of the walk will be 40 to 50 minutes one way to the cafe
for a coffee and cake? Then return to the start. Class of the walk would be easy to easy me-
dium. Please advise if whether you will/will not be attending.
Pat

WE WALK CLUB
There is nothing like a walk with a friend, except a walk with a
group of friends. We catch-up, connect, de-stress and get the
exercise we need.
We walk for about 1 hour currently at 8:00am.
Upcoming walks: 1st April meet @ Café Els, Winston Hills Mall
Robyn 0419 463 783 Liz 0431 771 884

Treasurer’s NEW Email address: biddy21@icloud.com
Please use this email for correspondence with the treasurer.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana — Groucho Marx
Coming Events

**Luncheons**

Wednesday 28th April 11:30am Sydney Rowing Club Abbotsford

Monday 24th May: 12:00: Geranium Cottage 828 Old Northern Road, Dural (pay at the door).

Tuesday 22nd June: 12:00: Allegro Xmas Lunch 1 Porters Rd Kenthurst, Event #218.

**Bookings required.** Contact: Sue Osborne 0402 777 994 for bookings and further information.

**Gardens and Arts**

**Government House Free Guided Tour**

Friday 9th APRIL  Macquarie St, Sydney For Meet Up details :

Contact Sandra Joy: 0410 511 678

We will be leaving from Rydalmere Ferry Wharf on the 8.55 ferry to Circular Quay... coffee break....then a short walk to entry gate of Government House.

**Archibald Tour** 25 June @9.30am Event #222

Concession $25
Adults $30

Contact : Sandra Joy 0410 511 678 for details

**Christmas Lunch: Event No: #221**

Wednesday 1st December: Cropley House 84 Watkins Road, Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153.

Canapes on arrival, 2 Course meal, Wine, Beer, Tea, Coffee, Soft drinks. $60.00 a head.

Numbers and $30.00 deposit (per person) required on or before the next meeting. To secure the booking.

Contact Robyn Newland M: 0419 463 783 E:grnewlan@bigpond.net.au’

Club Account : Northmead and District Probus Club **BSB: 112 879**

Account No. 470889027

*Quote Event Number and surname*

**Norththmead and District Probus Web Site:**

https://www.northmeadanddistrictprobus.com
**BACKYARD BLITZ**  Date: Fri 16th April 2021

BYO secateurs, BYO Gloves, BYO hat, BYO water bottle. 10:00 12:00

Social day out with members, helping tidy members gardens, get cuttings etc..

Will be on Fri 16th April; Jan Field's house- 10:00 to 12:00

23 Naomi St Baulkham Hills.

Morning tea provided, by member whose garden is blitzed

**Contact:** Barbara 0413572713

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**Theatre**

Pavilion  Theatre Castle Hill

Event No 223 - THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN. **Final payment by 4/4/21.**


Contact - Janet Swinnerton (0439 843 834) for details.

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**Mahjong**

**1-3pm Mondays** Call Jan Field for details 0428 080 848.

Beginners welcome, come along and learn a new game or sharpen your skills.

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**Picnics**

The next picnic is planned for **12 noon, Wednesday May 5th** at Wentworth Common, Marjorie Jackson Parkway, Olympic Park. There are undercover tables and chairs, toilets close and free BBQs. There are easy short walks in the area. Walk up the Bay Market Look Out, Explore the Wetlands or walk the Brick Pit Ring (nature audio points exist around the 350m ring).

Regards,
Rod and Lyndall

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**BOOKCLUB**

Book Club is running & Debra is distributing books. For more information contact Debra Sheath: 0421 998 434. Next meeting Wednesday 21st April.

Regular meetings 3rd Wednesday of the month. 10am at NBC Sports Club (to be confirmed if Covid restrictions apply).
Guest speaker:

Our guest speaker for March was Ron Ray, a volunteer from The Maritime Museum on the history of Sydney Ferries.

Ron was a dynamic interesting speaker who kept us all enthralled with his overall knowledge and enthusiasm of Sydney Ferries.

Ferries began as the oldest form of water transport to move people, usually rowboats.

In 1800 the Rose Hill Packet was rowed with 10 tons cargo & 30 passengers & took a week to get to Parramatta.

Then Billy Blue a convict settler & ferryman rowed people from Dawes Point to Blues Point, named after him.

In 1861 the Sydney ferry company became the largest Ferry company in the world.

Steam Ferries started early in 1900, moving onto diesel powered.

Ron told us some of the many fatal disasters had by Sydney ferries over the years.

One in 1938 the Rodney, where all the passengers rushed to one side to see an American Warship & the ferry overturned, killing 19.

The downing of the ferry Kutabul by Japanese submarines killing 21 sailors during ww2, & many more.

He explained the change in styles of ferries, the Lady ferries, 1960's Hydro foils & River Cats to mention a few.

His talk was strewn with an excellent selection of historical photographs, which bought every topic to life. It was so enjoyed by members that I had many requests for him to come again with another subject.

Our Guest Speaker for April is Robyn Dalton, BA Dip Ed, Grad Dip Health Admin, J.P.

Robyn has lived in the Hills District since 1974 & has been an extremely active member and former President of the Castle Hill Players at the Pavilion Theatre. Her colourful career started when she was 18 years of age and has been a significant component of her life for the past 65 years.

Robyn auditioned to Nida, by forging her father's signature (who was against a career in the theatre), only to be found out when she was accepted and a letter came to her father. However father stood firm, so she went onto Sydney University, joined the drama society with now famous actors & the rest is history as she will tell you.

Robyn is a member of the Parramatta Riverside Advisory Board and has written a book about early theatre.

She is currently involved in the revival of radio plays performed at the Hills lodge.

Robyn is a joy to listen to and bubbles with enthusiasm.

Barbara Towart
Guest Speaker coordinator
Writer’s Block

The creative writing group, Writer's Block.

The second meeting was attended by 5 group members with 3 apologies. Members discussed their writing interests and some read their work for interest and discussion. The works discussed ranged from a play, some short stories and finally poetry. Workshopping works will again be the focus for the next meeting with time provided for new work to be introduced. Focus will be on the Sydney Writer's Festival at the conclusion of the meeting. The next meeting will be held on the **Wednesday 21st of April at 10am at 3 Walter Place, Northmead.**

New members are always welcome. Please see Rod Garrett at the next Northmead and District Probus meeting if you are interested.

Regards,

Rod 0433 484 977

**Studio 57 Craft Club:**

Next Meeting 20th April 10:00am

Contact Sherel :0413 853 0393

**Outings:**

22 April @10.30amMuseum of Fire Penrith
$10 @ door
Lunch @ Peachtree Hotel (at own expense)

Friday 4th June  @ 11:30am
NSW Parliament House Tour and lunch
Lunch 12 noon - 1:30pm 2 courses $62.00 3 courses $72.00 (drinks @ own expense).
Tour 2:00pm’
Numbers needed by 28th May 2021.

**Expressions of interest required for:**

Queen Victoria Building Tour:
On A Thursday TBA
$25.00 per person
Lunch @ City Tattersalls Club. Cost TBA

Contact Barbara Towart : 0413 572 713
**Photography club**

Any members who are interested in forming a photography group where we could visit various sites to take photos, meet to show our latest masterpieces or just gather to discuss various aspects of photography, please contact me via email at sinclairken2410@gmail.com

Ken Sinclair

**Electronic Devices Group**

The idea has been put forward to me to form a group to help those who have computers, smart phones or tablets/I pads, smart TV’s, new home phones, car GPS etc and need to learn a little more on what they are able to do and how to do it. Also wanted— members who are tech savvy to assist others and those who are not tech savvy who want to understand their devices. Please contact me via email at sinclairken2410@gmail.com

Already help has been given to assist setting up a home phone on a NBN system and setting up “Tap N Pay” on a smart phone.

**Positions Vacant:**

We have the following positions vacant and require volunteers to contribute to the running of our club.

**Website Assistant:**

To assist the webmaster in updating our website on the Wix platform in the event of their absence.

Ken Sinclair

**Special Notice:**

If you have put your name down to attend an event, and cannot attend that event, PLEASE contact the event organiser.

This will allow:

Other members to have the opportunity to attend, Catering to be adjusted and venues to be notified.

It is also common courtesy to notify the host if you cannot attend.

Organisers spend a great deal of their time organising events and it is a great disappointment if members fail to attend, when, they have said they will attend.

Geoff :)

Members Stories

Do you have a short story, joke or message that you would like to share? If so send it to:

districtprobusnorthmeadnews@gmail.com

What is invisible and smells of worms? - A bird’s fart.

Many people are shocked when they find out how bad I actually am at this electrician thing.

I read the other day that people eat more bananas than monkeys. No surprises there, I can’t even remember the last time I ate a monkey.

They are testing a revolutionary new blender, but they’re getting mixed results.

You may be an Aussie when you go to the restroom. You may be an Aussie when you leave the restroom. But when you’re in there?

European.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<th>Event No</th>
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<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>We Walk</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Robyn Newland: 0419 463 783 <a href="mailto:grnewlan@bigpond.net.au">grnewlan@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
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<td>2-Apr</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>PAYMENT DUE : THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN</td>
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<td>Janet Swinnerton: 0439 843 934 <a href="mailto:janetms8989@yahoo.com.au">janetms8989@yahoo.com.au</a></td>
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<td>5-Apr</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Mah-jong</td>
<td>1 - 3pm</td>
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<td>Jan Field: 0428 080 848 <a href="mailto:keith_jan@bigpond.com">keith_jan@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>9-Apr</td>
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<td>Government House Sydney Tour</td>
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<td>Sandra Joy: 0410 511 678</td>
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<td>18-Apr</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Always a Bridesmaid @ Pavilion Theater</td>
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<td>19-Apr</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>CLUB MEETING @ DON MOORE CENTER</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
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<td>Ken Sinclair: 0414 835 840</td>
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<td>Studio 57 Craft Club</td>
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<td>Sherel Jakes: 0413 853 392</td>
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<td>21-Apr</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Book Club @ NBC</td>
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<td>Debra Sheath: 0421 998 434</td>
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<td>Writers Block</td>
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<td>Rod Garrett: 0433 484 977</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Penrith Museum of Fire</td>
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<td>Barbara Towart: 0413 572 713</td>
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<td>28-Apr</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Sydney Rowing Club Abbotsford</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
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<td>Sue Osborne: 0402 777 994</td>
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