Our Next Meeting

February 17  
9.30am for 10:00am  
NBC Sports Club  
166 Windsor Road  
Northmead NSW

Caring for You

Are you OK? We are all about caring for each other. If you know a member of our Club who needs a hug, let our wonderful Welfare Officer Jan know 0428 080 848

Be Kind. Take Care. That’s our Probus.

The 3Fs of Fellowship

The best attribute of being a Probus member lies in our creed - the 3Fs (with a twist). Our Northmead & District Club is dedicated to Fun, Friendship and … Food (read that as conversation at lunch, dinner, walking, making, playing or just a 4pm wine).

Our Website

To HELP you stay informed of the events/ excursions/ Interest Group happenings, our Northmead & District Website has it all. IT is EASY to access. Open Google. Type in Probus Northmead & District and ‘voila.’

Paying for an Event

Pay direct to our Northmead Bank Account. Cite Event Number.  
BSB 112 879  
A/C 470889027  
St George Bank. Winston Hills

A Word from Barbara

One of our Meaders was chatting to me about caring and being kind as an important part of who we are. The ‘Meader shared with me these thoughts, “You know, Immanuel Kant was purported to have said ‘Science is organised knowledge. Wisdom is organised life’. It is our humanity that will reach across our country, our state, our bushlands, our towns, our farmlands, our animals … we should share and be kind in the knowledge that we CAN make a difference. As ‘Meaders we should reach out to help one another; lend a hand to our neighbours near and far.”

Something to think about. I know the Events Team is planning an excursion to the south of our state: to shop in local stores, eat in local restaurants, overnight in local hotels, give to our southern neighbours. That’s a great idea. We should make 2020 a year of giving forward - caring and acting.

As we move into our first year as a Probus Club, we have inducted eight more members, along with appointing a Luncheon Club Convenor. The really good news is that you, our ‘Meaders, have agreed to boost our membership to 120. We are continuing to grow.

Remember - we are focussed on social inclusivity and caring for one another - a good start was our Lunar New Year Dinner and Twilight BBQ at Lion’s Park (check these out on pages 6 and 7). Do read the Events and the Club pages in this issue of The ‘Mead. Enjoy Drinks and Nibbles evening at my place, head on up to the Botanical Gardens for the Tomato Festival, and get ready for a wonderful Twilight BBQ at Third Settlement Reserve in Winston Hills.

Mookies and Mahjong Clubs are in full swing as is Walkie Talkies. Make an effort to come on walks (WeWalk Club); join the Crafters Club. Know that you are always welcome to join any of our Clubs. Just ‘phone the Club’s convenor and make yourself known. And check out what’s in store for you in March: it’s going to be active - very active. Take care, be kind.
Peter Kirkwood is a didgeridoo player - yup - he is also an active Rotarian and graduate of the Rotary Leadership Institute, President of Hornsby & Ku-ring-gai PCYC as well as a director of CPI (Communications & Power Industries Australia), specialising in satellite communications. Whoa… let’s go back a step.

Peter has had a quintessential role as a Rotarian, establishing Rotary Waitara, serving as its Club President, Community, as well as Vocational, Service Director, before moving across to Rotary Wahroonga. At the District level, Peter served as Rotary Wahroonga Assistant Governor, Vocational Service Director and Community Service Director. He is the recipient of many significant awards including, of more recent times, NSW Premier’s Community Service Award, Ku-ring-gai Citizen of the Year and a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

Peter was significant in establishing the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai PCYC and was actively involved in establishing the PCYC Performing Arts Centre which includes music, drama, dance, and other cultural activities.

Recently retired, Peter (black belt in karate so watch out) continues to give selflessly to his community, being very active as Life Governor and Director on the Board of PCYC NSW.

Now back to that didgeridoo.

Several years ago, whilst on a business trip in Alice Springs, Peter acquired his first didgeridoo. It took a couple of years before he decided to learn how to play the instrument - he is self taught from a cassette tape, no less! Over the years he has been a student of the instrument including its cultural significance, and has acquired a collection of authentic didgeridoos from different parts of Australia; also a few not so authentic didgeridoos including a didgeribone and a slidededge. Peter is an accomplished didgeridooist, playing with different bands including an Aboriginal reconciliation group at Uluru, as well as playing didgeridoo in the USA, Canada and Singapore.

Peter’s talk will be on History, Making and Playing the Didgeridoo. I’m excited. Are you?
**Events & Excursions**

**DRAMA Music LUNCHEONS Tours & OTHER FUN EVENTS!**

**THE EVENTS TEAM** has put together a range of events for you to enjoy this quarter.

Events with **#CODE** require payment through our Probus Northmead & District Bank Account. Bank details on The ‘Mead’s front page. Call Treasurer Lyn Curby on 0432 679 751 if you have any issues. Ensure **name of event** and **event number** is noted on your payment reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>At The Riverside Theatre</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>#205  Les Miserables</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>$45 (closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>#207  Senior Moments 2</td>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>$55 (closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>#206  No Pay? No Way?</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>$84</td>
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**Excursion**

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<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kee &amp; Jackson Exhibition</td>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td>9.30am (7 Hills Stn)</td>
<td>$10 (pay at event)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Museum</td>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>$12 (pay at event)</td>
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<td>#500 Dangar Island</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>$48</td>
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<td>Brislington Medical &amp; Nursing Museum</td>
<td>April 7th</td>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>$2 (pay at event)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy's Secret Garden</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>11am</td>
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**Music**

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<tr>
<td>Wurlitzer Performance</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>$25 (pay at event)</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Albans Folk Festival</td>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>$45 (pay at event)</td>
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**Food**

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<tr>
<td>Drinks &amp; Nibbles</td>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>BYO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twilight Picnic</td>
<td>February 26</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>BYO</td>
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<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Settlement Reserve Winston Hills</td>
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**Active Games**

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<tr>
<td>#301 10-Pin Bowls &amp; Dinner</td>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>$35</td>
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Need more information? **Call ANY of the Events Team** if you are interested in attending any of these events. They will answer your questions (eg where to meet; issues with payment, if any; how to get to event...)

Events Team contact details on last page of Newsletter.
Walkie Talkies
Convenor. Patrick Vallely 0403161515
Next MeetUp Cockatoo Island March 18
Depart from Rydalmere Wharf 8.30am

Mookies The Other Wife Discussion
Convenor Debra Sheath 0421998434
Next MeetUp February 3 Winston Hills Pub 11am

Mahjong Club
Convenor Jan Field 0428080848
Next MeetUp Every Monday 1-3pm @ NBC

Studio 57 (New)
Convenor Sherel Jakes 0413853393
Next MeetUp February 19 10am
57 Brucedale Drive Baulkham Hills
Call Sherel. Let her know you are interested.

WeWalk Club (New)
Convenor Robyn 0419463783 / Liz 0431771884
Next MeetUp Every second Tuesday 7.30am
February 4 and February 18

Lunch Club
Convenor Sue Osborne 0405777994
Next MeetUp February 23 1.30
Ridges Bella Vista $39 (pay on day)

Fleurs Club
Convenor Sandra Joy
Next MeetUp February 16
Tomato Festival 10am
#402 Tomato Festival Lunch 12.30pm $80

Our Cubs are growing… each club meets on a regular basis (weekly, fortnightly, monthly).

Each Club has a core group of members. If you are interested in joining a particular Club, phone or email the particular convenor. She/he will be happy to chat to you about what the Club does, and about the next MeetUp.

Clubs are all about you as a member being pro-active in suggesting ideas for following MeetUps.

Contact THE CONVENOR of the ‘Meaders’ Club you are interested in to ensure you know: Time and date * MeetUp point * Purchasing tickets * Cost

Enjoyed an Event or Club session? Share your story or photos about your experience. Go ahead. Your Newsletter Editor (click on link) will be happy to receive your contribution

Have an idea for a Club? Sent idea to our Executive? Volunteered to convene a Club? Fantastic!
Fun Fellowship Friends - a Reflection

Harry Saville and a few more ‘Meaders attended Someday at Christmas - a comedy at our Riverside Theatre last December. Harry sent this reflection and I thought it was worth sharing…  ~Editor

We always think Rafferty’s at the Riverside Theatre Parramatta is one of those intimate venues that seem to wrap you into the performance. Although there are some 200 people in the audience, it never feels that many. And even if you are not in the front row, you still feel as if the performers are interacting with you directly.

So, it was with Someday at Christmas. Performers Adam Scicluna and Neil Hanson presented us with a package of musical delights. From variations on carols, fantastic piano medleys, to old fashioned variety and popsongs, showcasing the talents of both the performers and their musos, we enjoyed an afternoon delight.

WeWalk was launched on January 21 as 4 intrepid walkers wended their way along the cycle tracks towards William Joyce Reserve through to the underpass of Seven Hills Road North. For those interested, it was a very comfortable walk. We covered about 8000 steps (or about 5 kilometres) before our reward - coffee at El's.

February MeetUps begin at El’s Cafe at 7.30am on the 4th and 18th as a starter for this NEW CLUB.

MOOKIES A Man Called Ove and The Other Wife has kept we Mookies VERY engaged. You might like to grab the DVD A Man called Ove from Castle Hill Library…. worth a watch, if not a read. And The Other Wife… well Greg Sheath certainly was right. Michael Robotham - an Aussie - is brilliant. Robotham is one of the finest crime novelists on the planet.
Born in Year of the Rat? You are

**CLEVER**
**QUICK THINKERS**
**SUCCESSFUL** but... content with living a quiet peaceful life.

No showering, throwing out garbage... sweeping - got to keep the good luck happening

Your ZODIAC year is bad luck... whaaaaat?? Gulp!

Most firecrackers are set off Lunar New Year Night across the globe

Longest Chinese holiday

Day for praying to the gods and fighting off monsters

Dumpling at every meal and every day of Festival

The BEGINNING

The END

Most firecrackers are set off Lunar New Year Night across the globe

Longest Chinese holiday
Summer Twilight BBQs

Healthy relationships are necessary at every age, but the importance of socialising for retirees cannot be overemphasised. Regular social interactions can help keep retirees mentally, physically and emotionally healthy, whilst fending off difficulties inherent to loneliness.

JOIN us at our Summer Twilight BBQs. BYO everything and enjoy time spent with fellow ‘Meaders at one of our lovely parks here in Northmead and District.

Our next Summer Twilight BBQ is at 3rd Settlement Reserve at the bottom of Oakes Road… on February 26 at 5.30pm. We get a few vegetarians coming who cook up some mighty fine beetroot burgers and veggie skewers.

And we tend to share most of what we bring. Even the beer.

So c’mon. Let’s socialise! It’s good for us.

“And as the sun begins to set, we say….’til next time. ”

Lyndall and Linda and Jean and Di enjoying a tibble.

President Barbara and Webmaster Anne

Our Secretary looking fit and relaxed.

The BIN BOYS

Good evening…

And the laughter… it flowed.
Wasn’t our guest speaker Wendy Bull (retired Wedding Celebrant) hilarious. Imagine being asked if she was pretty by the groom because he didn’t want an ugly celebrate! Well as our friends at Imagine Ellie say,

“Sometimes a change in perspective is all that is required.”

And we welcomed six new ‘Meaders at our January meeting.

Sue Osborne (Lunch Club convenor)
Leone and Scott Hale (who have already added much laughter at our events)
Dorothy and David Lee
Margaret Stewart

QUIZ
First correct answers win this month’s prize presented at next meeting. Send your answers to Linda on lcglangford@gmail.com or message her on 0417892309.

Which of these people was married to Elizabeth Taylor?


Which famous comic book character are you old enough to remember first appearing in the newspaper?

The YEAR of the RAT

Fun
Friendship
Fellowship

2020 and the party at ‘Meaders’ Probus Retreat was in full swing. And I mean **swing**. Every RAT in the outrageously decorated hall glowed in colours of green and gold with aspects of blue. Every Rat’s tail was swinging to the band *The Dragons*, who were in their element, having been invited to their friends, the Rats, big Lunar Party.

The Rats closest friends, the Oxen were there as well, dancing with their pals like they were one - the colourful Rats sliding up and down the smooth horns of the Oxen. Then a change in mood occurred. The Dragons moved off the stage, and the MC, another Rat buddy, Happy Rabbit, nodded to a bunch of monkeys who were swinging from decoration to decoration as they made their way to the stage. Happy Rabbit introduced this cheeky band, *The Monkees*, as they grabbed their guitars and began singing the RATS favourite song…*Ben*.

*Ben, the two of us need look no more, We both found what we were looking for...*

At this point, one of the Wood Monkey *Monkees*, took the microphone in his outstretched hand and continued in a soft voice...

*With a friend to call my own I'll never be alone, and you, my friend, will see...*

Turning toward a Metal Rat, he concluded,

*You've got a friend in me.*

The Metal Rats in the hall wandered across to the Earth Rats who were moving towards the Water Rats.

Soon, every Rat was hanging on to another Rat - no matter what his element was - they were still Rats. Just because Earth Rats saw things differently to Metal Rats who saw things differently to Water Rats, there was no reason that these differences, especially in the Year of the Rat, should keep them slightly on guard with each other.

The Monkees continued their song as a foursome. When they got to where Ben was ‘always running here and there’, one of the Earth Monkeys dropped to the dance floor and cruised up to one of the Metal Rats, Maradona, continuing to sing ‘You feel you’re not wanted anywhere’.

The Metal Rat, Maradona, looked across at his mate, Jude, a Water Rat and scampered towards him.

Maradona, whose furry arm was wrapped around Water Rat Jude L’s shoulders, looked across at one of the Earth Rats, Prince C, and finished the song...

*If you ever look behind, and don’t like what you find There’s something you should know, you’ve got a place to go...*

Anonymous ‘Meader"
NOTE

Your MANAGEMENT TEAM is here to help you. You are VERY WELCOME to call any of us if you have an issue, an idea, need clarification.