Hi ‘Meaders

What an amazing inaugural AGM we had. We addressed the *elephant in the room* - COVID-19. Members voted to suspend our April and May meetings along with a number of events. The committee will continue to meet online and, through these conversations, will decide when to re-convene. You will be notified by email or through the post.

The AGM showcased how far we have come as a Club. Janet Swinnerton was elected as our new Secretary. What an asset she will be - a wonderful example of a member stepping up when needed. We will retain current membership quota and fees. We are financially stable. Year-to-date reports from Committee of Management were given. We have an enthusiastic core group of volunteer team leaders who bring you our quality activities.

Importantly, I would like to thank Malcolm Western, our Foundation Secretary, both personally and on behalf of our Northmead & District Probus Club. He performed his role superbly, with a minimum of fuss, giving maximum results. He made my job so much easier!

**A Word of Advice:** I am currently self-isolating to stay well so that I can continue to visit my darling husband of 56 years in the high level dementia unit at Northmead.

This virus is affecting us all. Families can not visit from overseas, holidays are cancelled, and just going shopping has become a nightmare. The best advice is to focus on wellness - wash hands often, continue to enact social distance and importantly, love your family. See you back at our meetings when we get the all clear.
Sometimes Senior Moments are not about getting old... older. Sometimes it happens when you are barely out of your nappies or...well...it does happen.

Over fifty years ago, promotions for changing from glass to transparent plastic - a technology that was purported for having had many advantages - became popular. Plastic was described as tough, lightweight, easily moulded, low cost. A drop and bounce phenomenon.

Back in the day, the Sunsilk Shampoo commercials featured a young woman dropping a bottle of said shampoo. It would BOUNCE! This was exciting news for me! I bought a half dozen plastic Sunsilk Shampoo bottles (promotional half price) and placed them in the bathroom in a high cupboard. Standing on a chair and, with my husband watching, I thought I would give him a shock surprise. I would accidentally drop the shampoo and smile as it bounced along the bathroom floor. Instead, what he saw was my horrified look as soon as I let go of the shampoo. It smashed and splashed onto the timber floor.

Recollection came instantly. As soon as I let go of my plastic bottle, I knew it was glass! My antics had badly backfired as I watched the ensuing explosion of glass and splattered shampoo. Not funny at the time, but the memory lingers.

As the song goes …

~ Anonymous ‘Meader

Due to our soft closure as a Probus Club, we have had to postpone our April Guest Speaker David Gordon, a volunteer for TAD - an organisation that changes the lives of people living with a disability by providing personalised technology, equipment and services.

Hopefully, when we are back in the NBC for our next physical get together, we will be able to invite David as a Guest Speaker once more.

Here are a few smiles for you from some of our members who have been active at our different ‘Meaders Clubs (more on page 7).

Our fortnightly WeWalks challenges members to do rather dramatic things.

Every walk in Winston Hills has been a surprise. So much wondrous bushland!

Our fortnightly WeWalks challenges members to do rather dramatic things.

SSSSHHHHH!

At Studio 57, members are focussed on their creations - embroidery for our Secretary, quilting for our Mookies Convenor, and knitting for the hosts, Sherel and Syd Jakes. These creatives are serious about their creative craft. SHHHH!
Events & Excursions

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

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

Events & Excursions with an **EVENT CODE (#number)** must be paid through Probus Northmead & District Bank Account. Bank details **BSB 112 879 A/C 470889027**

Cite Name of Event and Event Number - always! Call Treasurer Lyn Curby on 0432 679 751 if you have any issues. Details on [WEBSITE](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Riverside Theatre</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#210 We Will Rock You!</td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>$44</td>
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<tr>
<td>#213 The Wharf Revue</td>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>$61</td>
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<td>Sydney Theatre Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>#209 The Picture of Dorian Gray</td>
<td>July 21</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>$48</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Lyric Theatre</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#212 Secret Garden</td>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>$69.90</td>
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**Excursions/ Tours**

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<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brislington Museum</td>
<td>POSTPONED</td>
<td>10.45am</td>
<td>$3 (pay at event)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy’s Secret Garden</td>
<td>POSTPONED</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>no charge</td>
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<tr>
<td>#501 Wings over Illawarra</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>$440 pp</td>
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<tr>
<td>#208 Archibald Prize</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#502 Mudgee Tour</td>
<td>POSTPONED</td>
<td>September 10-11</td>
<td>$450 pp</td>
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**Food**

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<tr>
<td>Picnic at Fagan Park Dural</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>BYO Everything</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norman Lindsay Gallery &amp; Lunch</td>
<td>June 18</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Meaders 1st Birthday Party</td>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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**Active Games**

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<tr>
<td>#301 10-Pin Bowls &amp; Dinner</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>#302 Barefoot Bowls</td>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>$10</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...)

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**Sections:**

- **Events & Excursions**
- **DRAMA**
- **Music**
- **LUNCHEONS**
- **Tours**
- **ACTIVE GAMES & OTHER FUN EVENTS!**

**THE EVENTS TEAM**

Details for payment and contact information are included. A list of events is presented with dates, times, and costs. Some events are postponed or cancelled. Food details and active games are also provided. Additional information is available by contacting a member of the Events Team.
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.

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

WeWalk Club

It took us 45 minutes to find our way to the playground, Susie!

And what a fabulous walk - cool morning walking in the woods around Model Farm Reserve and behind The Willows.

How lucky are we to live so close to all these amazing woodland walks.
With the breeze swishing around us, we sat under a shelter erected by our President’s husband, Allan Towart, while gentle rain droplets cooled the evening air. The conversation swirled around from AFL, to the experience of recent jury duty, through to how politics has changed. Again, another relaxing evening.

Although a couple of our ‘Meaders had to leave early, those who stayed continued to laugh and chat… lovely also to have Jennifer and Lyndsay Peters join us as ‘yet to be inducted’ ‘Meaders.

See you there around **NOON May 14**. ($1 operates BBQ. Pay for Parking $6).

Let’s enjoy bushwalking trails, diverse gardens, and the historic Netherby Cottage.

38-48 Arcadia Rd Galston NSW 2159
“An Exhibition showcasing a smorgasbord of colour in fashion design...talent talent talent from the collaboration of these women...set Australia on the fashion map.”

~ Sandra Joy

“Jackson and Kee’s use of colour draws you into each alcove of their creative wearable artworks.”

~ Sandra Joy

“Retired dressmaker was our guide...the passion in her voice matched her smile...”

~ Sandra Joy

“An exhilarating exposé of our History from 1800s to early 20C. Was a walk down memory lane, especially the comments by the character posing as Governor Macquarie.”

~ Janet Swinnerton

“I loved the show – very funny and clever, particularly enjoyed the PM skit – Max Gillies as Bob Hawke is so accurate and funny - classic. I loved the Julia Gillard part too. That actress was so versatile and excellent. Pianist amazing, played some quite challenging pieces. My other favourite skit was the Australian song – repetitive tune and lyrics, going on for two bloody weeks! or so it seemed.”

~ Fiona Richards

We, the audience, would like to give NO THANKS to David Callan for his ongoing - ONGOING! - rendition of Pub with No Beer! Well - OK - we laughed. A lot. Good Parody.
Eleven adventurous and inquisitive Walkie Talkies, practising social distancing, enjoyed their exploration of the UNESCO listed World Heritage Wareamah (Dharug for Woman’s Land) in the heart of Sydney Harbour. Key points include former convict penal establishment, industrial and reformatory school (Biloela) and naval ship dockyard, including a former training ship for boys (Vernon).

Harry, our Probian Tour Leader, informed us that the island had the only remaining dry dock constructed by convicts (1857) as well as buildings and other relics relating to their incarceration. Cockatoo was the official dockyard of the Royal Australian Navy, being the main ship repairing facility in the Southwest Pacific during WW2. The Empress of Australia, the largest roll-on roll-off cargo ship in the world was constructed here.

Activism and stewardship on this island included 21 trades and 21 unions to match with the 3000 workers. Men worked with some of the largest engineering equipment in the country. With little consideration given to safety, there was always the possibility of explosions. Asbestos dust was an unknown hazard that permeated the workshops and dockyards. The struggles over hours, wages, demarcation and safety were closely watched by the rest of the nation.

~ Patrick Vallely
Wet weather COULD NOT stop us.

We were off for a relaxed Sunday afternoon at the Sydney Jewish Museum in Darlinghurst.

“Very thought provoking, sad, real. Unimaginable how something like this could occur. We have to be aware, as an Australian society today, that we need to see behind the demonising. Why do people do it?

As Desmond Tutu clearly argued, ‘If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.’”

~ Patrick Vallely

This glass sculpture filled to overflowing contains 1.5 million drops of water. Each symbolises a child murdered in the Holocaust.

Our tour guide, Peter, led us into his reality: real life-real experiences-real memories as he described how his parents managed their lives during the HOLOCAUST.

One of the many stories we heard... the Teddy Bear who fell out of the arms of a wee Romani boy marching along the pathway at a concentration camp. As he stopped to pick up his teddy, he was hit on the head by an SS’s rifle. He fell to the ground - dead. A political prisoner witnessed the scene and secretly picked up the teddy, eventually handing it to the Ravensbruck Museum.

“Listen to the tears of children...
Look and listen as they walk towards dark flames so gigantic that the planet itself seemed in danger.”

~ Elie Wiesel
I cried a little late last night,
But that is nothing new.
I cried last week, last month, last year,
I cried ‘cause I love you.

I still recall the night you left,
You quietly went away.
You told me you’d be first to go,
I answered “There’s no way.”

You proved me wrong - you slipped away,
We didn’t say goodbye,
We had so much we still could do -
To travel and to fly.

I wish that I could call you,
And tell you on the ‘phone,
How much I love and miss you,
And I don’t want to be alone.

I wish that while you still were here,
We’d put our heads together,
On where to live and what to do,
How to live like this forever.

I miss your hugs, your warm embrace,
Your kisses! Oh, so sweet.
I miss the times you laughed out loud,
It gave me such a treat.

So, darling, I must say ‘bye bye,’
I’ll keep on going on,
Until the day I hope will come,
When we’re together once again,

I cried a little late last night,
But that is nothing new.
I cried last week, last month, last year,
I cried ‘cause I love you.
Northmead & District Probus Committee of Management

BARRA BARBARA TOWART
President
0413 572 713
allanbarb@ozemail.com.au

JENNY DWYER
Events
0409 651 172
jennydee1851@gmail.com

LYN CURBY
Vice President
Treasurer
0432 679 751
biddy21@icloud.com

ROBYN NEWLAND
Events
0419 463 783
grnewlan@bigpond.net.au

KEN SINCLAIR
Membership Officer
0414 835 840
sicad@optusnet.com.au

LIZ RYAN
Guest Speaker Coordinator
Events
0431 771 884

JANET SWINNERTON
Secretary
Assistant Treasurer
0439843934
janetms8989@yahoo.com.au

LIZ RYAN
Guest Speaker Coordinator
Events
0431 771 884

KEN SINCLAIR
Membership Officer
0414 835 840
sicad@optusnet.com.au

LIZ RYAN
Guest Speaker Coordinator
Events
0431 771 884

LINDA GIBSON-LANGFORD
Newsletter Editor
Events
Web Assistant
0417 892 309
lcglangford@gmail.com

Patrick Vallee
Tours Coordinator
Events
Membership Assistant
0403 161 515
valleypk@hotmail.com

Web Manager TBA

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

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