President’s Message:

Hi all

At our AGM held 15 Feb 2021 we had a change to our management committee as you can see on the right side of this page.

As your new President I would like to thank the outgoing members and welcome those joining to help run your club. Special thanks goes to Barbara Towart who has had to endure personal health issues on top of the Covid crisis to keep us running, although in a limited way. Thanks Barbara for your efforts. Thanks also to the 51 members who attended the AGM.

I am honoured to be the 2nd President of this club and ask all members to assist wherever possible with ideas on new activities or groups that may interest you.

For the near future (ie 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 but I will require volunteers to set up a catering group to provide this service.

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

Executive Committee

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Welfare Officer
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Executive Committee—Patrick Vallely, Ken Sinclair, Lyn Curby

Next meeting :- NOTE Friday 19th March Don Moore Community Centre 10am

North Rocks Rd Carlingford cnr Farnell Ave
Walkie Talkies AGM Report 2021

We started with the intention of an activity every month then like everyone else we were impacted by COVID-19 and weather events resulting in several cancellations. Covid however couldn’t hold us back. We recommenced our planned walks and adhered to the covid guidelines.

Our walks are about getting out and seeing what Sydney and our local area have to offer and covered terrain from easy to medium grades, bush and rocky tracks, sealed and unsealed pathways and roadways, flora and Fauna, water views, residential and industrial sites.

Group sizes varied from 9 to 23 members with an average of 18 members per walk.

Our walks usually were about 1 ½ to 2 hours and were definitely for social activity and unavoidable physical activity with the emphasis maybe being on the talkie then the walkie. A wide range of topics were discussed from aspects to do with the walk, world events, location for the next walk and are we having coffee at the end!

Once again, no Walkie Talkies were lost, and the only injury mentioned at the last meeting was an ant bite to one of our regulars, from which they have fully recovered!

The activity is open to all interested members and published on our club’s sites and by email. My contact details are on the web page if you are interested in joining the group and be personally notified of our future walks.

I look forward to any recommendations or suggestions members have for future escapades for our Walkie Talkies.

Tours

A variety of tours had been investigated for the club, prices obtained and dates considered but they have been put on hold. Some of these were, in no particular order: bus trip to Bathurst and tour, New Zealand Fiordland, Camino Pilgrim walk, Mudgee wine tour, Murray River paddle wheeler. A lot of possibilities post Covid!

Pat Vallely

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. Our walking group has explored the history of the area, certainly checked out the horticulture and botany of our suburbs, made friends with most of the canines and chatted on all the subjects life has to offer.

We walk for about 1 hour currently at 9:00am. Next walks 2nd March, 4th March, 16th March, 18th March, 30th March, 1st April
Coming Events

Our First Gold Opal club outing is confirmed as the historical tour of the Hydro Majestic at Medlow Bath - Friday 26th March

We meet at Parramatta Station at 8:15, train leaves at 8.45.

Historical Tour starts at,11:00 and costs $10 per person.

If you do not wish to catch the train, you may meet us at the venue, but you must let me know.

I have booked the Boiler a La Carte restaurant for anyone who would like to eat at the venue after the tour.

It costs $58 per person for two courses from the a la carte menu, either 1 entree + 1 main or 1 main + 1 dessert.

Look up Hydro Majestic, Boiler room restaurant for menu online.

I need to know numbers for the restaurant booking by 19th March. there is a cafeteria for an alternative lunch.

So $10 per person if only doing the historical tour, $68 if doing tour & lunch at the a la carte restaurant.

PROBUS EVENT NUMBER # 216

KRAZY WHIST

Thursday 11th March 6-9pm

MAD CARD GAME FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T PLAY CARDS.

Venue Barbara Towart's house

16 Atlas Place Winston Hills contact Barbara - 0413572713

Cost $5 pay at door. BYO own refreshments , drink - food. alcohol ok

Luncheon

TREVI restaurant at Norwest Mon 22nd March 12:00

Sydney Rowing club Abbotsford 28th April 11:30am

Contact Sue Osborne 0402 777 994 for bookings

Government House Free Guided Tour

Friday APRIL 9

Macquarie St, Sydney
For MeetUp details

Contact Sandra Joy
0410 511 678
BACKYARD BLITZ  Date - Friday 12th March
BYO secateurs, BYO Gloves, BYO hat, BYO water bottle.  10:00 12:00
Social day out with members, helping tidy members gardens, get cuttings
Once a month at a different garden(weather permitting)
Morning tea provided, by member whose garden is blitzed
1st garden  Barbara Towart  -  Drawn from hat from attendees  after that.
16 Atlas Place Winston Hills  Contact Barbara 0413572713

WINE & CHEESE NIGHT  -  FRIDAY 19TH MARCH - 6-9PM
Due to COVID, numbers are restricted to 30.
I have 29 names already but will take a waiting list.
BYO WINE A PLATE OF FOOD & OWN WINE GLASS  $5 PERSON  pay at door
ACTIVITIES, GAMES, RAFFLES.
WHERE -  BARBARA TOWART'S HOUSE 16 Atlas Place Winston Hills
contact  Barbara 0413572713

Theatre
18 April @4.30pm
Always a Bridesmaid
Pavilion Theatre $25 p/p Contact B Towart for details
Probus Event Number #219

Mahjong
1-3pm Mondays  Call Jan Field for details 0428 080 848
Beginners welcome, come along and learn a new game.

Twilight Picnic
The next Twilight Picnic will be on Thursday 4th of March 5.30pm at Caber Park, 22 Clackmannan Road, Winston Hills. BYO food and drinks. Rod and Lyndall Garrett
BOOKCLUB

Book Club is back & running & Debra is distributing books. For more information contact Debra Sheath 0421 998 434. Next meeting 17th March.

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

**Guest speaker** for next meeting **Friday 19th March** is Ron Ray OAM

Ron Ray is a local man of many talents, he is a founding volunteer with Bella Vista Farm & has compiled a history of the venue.

He volunteers twice a week at the Maritime Museum & started up the volunteers guest speaking group at venues such as Probus clubs who do over 100 guest speaking engagements a year.

He also volunteers at Middle Head, is a member of the Historical society & is involved in historical re-enactment groups.

He will be coming to speak to us about the history of Sydney Ferries. A man with a wealth of knowledge

**Studio 57 Craft Club**

4 members attended the Studio 57 Craft Club at our last meeting and it is great to be back meeting again to be chatting and crafting.

Barbara has suggested an idea of knitting squares that can be sewn up into a blanket and we are happy to support it and maybe set it as homework if it isn’t done at our meeting.

Next meeting 16th March Contact Sherel Jakes 0413 853 393

**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

**Technology Group**

The idea has been put forward to me to form a Technology group to help those who have computers, smart phones or tablets/Ipads and need to learn a little more on what they are able to do and how to do it. Wanted—members who are tech savy to assist others and those who are not tech savy who want to understand their devices. Please contact me via email at sinclairken2410@gmail.com

Ken Sinclair

**Positions Vacant**

After our AGM we have the following positions vacant and require volunteers to contribute to the running of our club.

**Newsletter Editor.**

Requirements: - able to produce a simple newsletter for members by either Apple or PC computer. Newsletter is then transmitted to members by email with a few copies printed at Officeworks and posted (at the clubs expense).

**Website Assistant:**

To assist the webmaster in updating our website on the Wix platfrom in the event of their absence.
**Writer’s Block**

The creative writing group, Writer's Block, had its first meeting early February.

The meeting focused on members writing aspirations and areas of interest and included looking at a member's very promising work in short stories. Four members attended with 2 apologies.

The group then discussed another member's difficulty in starting to write a book. The initial problem discussed was how to begin writing the first pages. The second consideration was how to lay down and cope with the large amount of information that needed to be included in the book. Finally, the function of editing a book was discussed, highlighting editing as an important part of the creative process. The group had a lively exchange of views and gave a number of suggestions that seemed to have helped remove the member's writer's block.

There are a number of objectives that members thought were worth establishing:

1. Seeking creative writer's events to attend. For example, Sydney's Writers Festival In April.

2. To find creative writing speakers to be recommended to our guest speaker coordinator to consider for speaking at general meetings.

3. To enlist the help of budding or established writers, to help workshop ideas and give the group the insight to their successful writing methods

4. Putting forward work with merit for publication in the Mead and Probus Pacific's publication.

There are longer term objectives, such as, presenting a short original play or our member's written pieces for general meetings.

All in all, the first meeting was very lively and a great start for the group.

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

The next Writer's Block meeting will be held on Wednesday March 3rd at 10 am.

**Japanese Gardens Visit**

Feb 2021