



PROBUS NEWS FOR MARCH 2016

PRIVACY STATEMENT

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President:	Keith Huxham	4862 5648	thelmahuxham@gmail.com
Secretary:	Francis de Beaujeu	4862 3532	fdebeaujeu@bigpond.com
Treasurer & Vice President:	Arthur Delbridge	4869 5453	arthurdelbridge@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor and Webmaster:	Brian Collath	4869 2140	collath@bigpond.com www.probusmossvale.org.au
Postal Address:	PO Box 456	MOSS VALE 2577	
Cheques payable	Payee: Probus Moss Vale		
Online Payments	Account Name: Probus Club of Moss Vale	BSB=032723	Account No.= 750434 Ref= “identify yourself”

Your President and Committee members announce that there are now 95 ordinary members, 3 Non-active members and 1 Life Member, hence there are 9 membership vacancies. The February Meeting was attended by 59 Members, 1 Inductee and 4 Visitors.

Members are advised that we have received 2 resignations, for private reasons, from the following:

- **Mr. Eric BROWN**
- **Mr. Bruce HUDSON**

Members are asked to keep Membership Officer, Graham Balfe, up-to-date with any changes in their details they may have, see below, to assist him in keeping the club’s membership list valid.

- change of address?
- change of phone number or email address?
- other amendments or corrections to their entry?

You are requested to pay your monthly meeting fee of \$5.00, with an as crisp as possible **Five Dollar Note**. This greatly assists your Membership Officer to swiftly count the takings and pay the Golf Club Management for us.

March 2016 Birthdays

Roger BUCKLAND, Richard CANT, Tom CURRIE, Piero Dal BIANCO, Ian FARQUHAR, Cres GODLONTON (NA), Richard LONG, Jim NIELD, Johathon PERSSE, David RICKARDS, Peter St. CLARE-GROTH, Bruce WINDYBANK and Ray SLEEMAN (Life Member)

Inductions for March 2016

Mr. Neil BRAITHWAITE, wife’s name is Anne, proposed by Mr. Francis de BEAUJEU, and seconded by Mr. Arthur DELBRIDGE.

Mr. Stephen LEHMANN, wife’s name is Louise, proposed by Mr. Allen BROOME, and seconded by Mr. Graham WARNER.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Meeting		Guest Speaker	Topic	Background	Club Speaker	Topic
March	10	Hugh Mackay	The Art of Belonging	Author	N.A.	N.A.
April	14	Tony Grey	Romans in China	Author	Jeremy Strong	Cape Town to Cardiff – a Voyage with a Difference

Members are asked to put on their thinking caps and see if they can come up with potential guest speakers and topics. Also, to consider themselves doing a long or small talk on their topic of choice to members. Our speakers program has been excellent in the past, and is a hallmark of our club's success. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated and worthwhile to the club.

Just let **John te Wechel** (4861 7679 or jwechel@bigpond.net.au) or any other Committee Member know of your suggestion.

TOURS and FUNCTIONS

The tours and functions organisers, and your treasurer, now inform members that they are now able to pay online by direct debit to;

Probus Club of Moss Vale

Westpac Bowral BSB= 032723 Acc No.= 750434 identifying themselves as the payee.

Note: It is important for the Treasurer that members identify themselves when paying online.

Also, when paying for tours and functions please pay separately for each item as paying one lump sum is too difficult for the Treasurer to itemise or identify.

Contact for Tours and Functions is:-

Gordon Dummer 4862 4989 or email gordolyn@hinet.net.au

TOURS

None at present

FUNCTIONS

Changeover Lunch (after AGM)

Date: Thursday 10th March 2016

Venue: Bowral Golf Club

Time: 12:30pm for 1:00pm

Menu:

Mains:-

1. Marinated slow roasted pork scotch fillet on roast potatoes with beetroot marmalade and seasonal vegetables
2. Pan fried barramundi on vine ripened tomatoes and spinach, with Kipfler fingers and roast pepitas.

Desserts:- (Alternate drop)

1. Flourless chocolate torte with double cream
2. Spiced apple trifle

Wine:- 2 bottles per table

Cost:- \$47.00 per person

COFFEE CLUB

**Next meeting at 10:00am on Wednesday 30th March 2016
in the International Cricket Hall of Fame,
in The ASHES Room (not the Café area),
and entered from the double doors facing the St. Judes Street.
Please do not walk through the kitchen to pay.**

The Coffee Club meets every last Wednesday of the month (except December), hence on your new 2016 calendar please mark these in for your attendance so you do not miss out.

**Please consider a topic for discussion, and phone or email Gordon Dummer 4862 4989
or email gordolyn@hinet.net.au to book your attendance.**

FEBRUARY 2016 GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was **Ester LANDELLS**, who is the Wingecarribee Shire Council's Waste Education Project Officer.

Ester talked to us about the right way to place our waste in our bins. This talk consisted of an interactive quiz or test for us on what should go in what bin.

Please visit the WSC's website page for information on the Waste Education Program, with links to assist you.
<http://waste.wsc.nsw.gov.au/education-2/>

FEBRUARY 2016 CLUB SPEAKER

Our club speaker was fellow member, Piero dal BIANCO who talked to us about his passion for racing cars. Piero explained how he became involved in the sport, and showed us his history of racing cars, and the events he has entered.

VICTORIA BARRACKS TOUR

Eighteen adventurous folk set off for Paddington on what would end up a hot day in the city. Our plan was to catch the train from Moss Vale, Bowral and Mittagong, then catch a bus from Central to Paddington.

Dutifully, we all gathered at the Railway Stations above, on time. That would be the only "on time" thing that happened getting there because once the train arrived at Moss Vale to have 2 additional cars added, to make a four car train, things started to go wrong. You guessed it! The cars would not couple. They tried again, no go. So, with up to 6 to 10 experts, scratching their heads on what could be wrong, they decided to give up, and make 2 trains instead of 1 train.

Fortunately, we were able to alert those at Bowral and Mittagong, that we would not be in the third car of the train that arrived there, because there would be no third car. Thus we informed them we would be on the first car of the second train.

All this kerfuffle meant that our departure was delayed by 30 to 45 minutes, meaning that our bus connection at Central would be missed. Also we alerted the Victoria Barracks people of our delay.

There we were, merrily travelling to Central, thinking that this would be the worst of it!

Then, Allen Broome, who drove in, mobiles us to say that, "there is a police action at Eddy Avenue, and the road is closed!" This meant no buses from there.

So, we arrive at Central, and start to find an alternative way to get to Paddington. One person tells us this and another person tells us that, and we are none the wiser. Thus we venture, walk, up Elizabeth Street at Campbell Street, where we think the bus might come. Wrong, nothing. So, further up we go to Liverpool Street, near Museum Station entrance, and a bus does come. Great, and we make it to Paddington, and have to walk another 10 minutes from Oxford Street, along Greens Road, to Moore Park Road, where the Victoria Barracks Entrance now is.

Hot and bothered we finally make it, and are now more than one hour late, but the very understanding staff there console us. Our tour starts and we have a fantastic tour guide who tells us about the history of the Barracks, its architecture, and its purpose.

The exterior walls of the Barracks are convict build, and the masons have inscribed their signature patterns to the sandstone. We saw Busby's Bore, which is a remnant of the system of bores that supplied water, that came from the Lachlan Swamp (now Centennial Park), to the early colony's inhabitants. We saw the Parade Grounds and the magnificently kept Military buildings.

Victoria Barracks is one of the best-known examples of military architecture in Australia. The Regency-style Victoria Barracks were designed by Lieutenant-Colonel George Barney, who also built Fort Denison and reconstructed Circular Quay. Most of barracks was constructed using locally quarried sandstone between 1841 and 1849. The barracks were occupied by British troops up until 1870 and then taken over by the New South Wales colonial forces. After the Federation in 1901, Victoria Barracks housed the various headquarters responsible for administering and co-ordinating the military. Between 1931 and 1936 the barracks was home to the Royal Military College of Australia and from July 1938 to July 1940 it also housed the Command and Staff School. Today, Victoria Barracks is home to the Headquarters of Forces Command.

The tour over, we walked up Oxford Street, to Paddo RSL, where we have a good beer, or two, or three, and have a lovely lunch, all in air conditioned comfort. From there we make a successful journey to home by bus and train, this time, on time.

Many many thanks to Gordon Dummer for organising another wonderful tour for us. He was heard to utter "never by train again", but others of us thought that the things that went wrong were some of the best things of the tour.

HISTORY OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF MOSS VALE

The Rotary Club of Moss Vale called an Interest Meeting on Thursday, 14th June, 1984 at the Moss Vale Golf Club to see whether retired and semi-retired business and professional men would be interested in forming the first Probus Club in the Southern Highlands. The purpose of the Club would be to hold regular monthly meetings for retired men who would appreciate and value the opportunity to meet with others having similar interests and enjoy their fellowship. Guest speakers would be invited and visits to places of interest were envisaged.

The President of the Rotary Club, Ernie Thorpe, presided at this Meeting which was attended by Rotarians, Probus Club members from Goulburn and Cliff Johnston from Probus South Pacific who explained the structure and history of Probus, as well as 22 interested candidates who subsequently became the foundation members of the new Club.

Mr Thorpe invited Gordon Harman to take the Chair and he proceeded with the business of forming the Club, accepting the 22 Foundation members, adopting the Constitution, electing the Management Committee, setting the annual subscription at \$12.00 and resolving that the cost of morning tea would be 50 cents for each member attending. Rotary stood the cost of the President's collar, Members' lapel pins, advertising and printing to establish the Club.

Meetings have always been held on the second Thursday of the month at 10am at the Moss Vale Golf Club up until March, 2016 when the Golf Club underwent renovations and the Probus Club, unable to find a venue in Moss Vale has had to relocate to the Mittagong RSL Club.

Before closing the Interest Meeting the Rotary President installed Gordon Harman as the Foundation President of the Moss Vale Probus Club.

By the close of the August Meeting the Club had 31 members who came from all corners of the Southern Highlands. Most members in the early days had worked and lived in the Wingecarribee Shire, whereas in the 21st century the majority of the 104 members have worked all round the world and have retired to live in the district.

Moss Vale Probus Club has always had a reputation for obtaining quality speakers. In the beginning most speakers were locals, whereas today they are drawn from Sydney, Canberra, the South Coast, as well as from the Highlands. Outings, functions and concern for any sick/frail members have always been on the Club's agenda. The first trip was to visit the Goulburn Probus Club in October, 1984. Functions have often included the ladies - the first being held just before Christmas 1984 with a member performing the duties of Santa Claus!

The first monthly Bulletin was published in July, 1984 and the March, 2016 edition was No.370. Ken Hope took over as Editor in 1985, relinquishing the position in March 1998, having been responsible for 152 publications! The format has changed several times, colour added and now it is an e-bulletin. The typing has progressed from a manual to an electric typewriter and now it's all set up on the computer.

Club Interest Groups have come and gone over our 33 years of existence: golf, walking, bowls, military history, computer activities, dining-out evenings and coffee mornings to name some. Birthdays have always been remembered, but the

means by which the "lucky" boy to receive a present (i.e. bottle of wine) has varied over the years e.g. a lucky number, the length of a straw, a card from a pack etc.

For many years members provided and set up morning tea and then washed up afterwards. In recent years it has been provided by the Golf Club, but then the cost has increased from the original 50 cents per member!

The Club has had 33 Presidents who have been ably supported by hard working Committees. The third President, Ray Sleeman (1986-87), is the Club's only Life Member, as well as being the only surviving Foundation Member.

Early on a Committee member was delegated to be the Sergeant-at-Arms and his job was to scour the local newspapers and listen to the radio for news of members who would be "fined", anything up to 20 cents, for performing worthy deeds in the community. For some years the Club had a marquee at the Bong Bong Picnic Races. The Annual Changeover and Christmas luncheons have always been a feature, particularly as it provides further opportunities for the ladies to join their menfolk. Originally at the Changeover Luncheon the Incoming President would present the wife of the Outgoing President with a bouquet of flowers, but that has changed and now the wives of all Committee men receive a single rose.

Whilst the average age tends to creep up the Moss Vale Probus Club remains a vibrant group of about 100 men from many and varied backgrounds who continue to enjoy fun, friendship and fellowship.

John Maffey OAM



THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS ON THURSDAY 14th APRIL 2016

at 10:00am in the Alexandra Room at the Mittagong RSL