

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**AUGUST**

- Fri 1 7.15 am First Friday Golf  
Mon 4 Bowls  
Thu 7 12.30 pm Investment Club Lunch at the Bluegum Hotel, Waitara  
Fri 8 8.50 am Walk - Oatley Park  
Thu 14 9.30 am Bridge at Miems van Nierop's  
Fri 15 9.00 am Committee Meeting  
10.00 am Monthly Meeting  
Guest Speaker: Chris Meller  
**"Travel Insurance Explained"**  
Guest Speaker: Paul Brunton  
**"Matthew Flinders"**  
Fri 22 10.30 am Walk - Ku-ring-gai Chase + BBQ  
Wed 27 1.00 pm High Tea and Tour at "Eryldene"

**SEPTEMBER**

- Thu 4 12.30 pm Investment Club Lunch  
Fri 5 7.15 am First Friday Golf  
Fri 12 Walk: Waitara to Lisgar Gardens  
Thu 18 9.30 am Bridge  
Fri 19 9.00 am Committee Meeting  
1 0.00 am Monthly Meeting  
Club Speaker: Bob Johnson - Member Profile  
Guest Speaker: Gordon Mar - **"Chinese Coolies in France in WW1"**  
Thu 25 Fort Denison  
Fri 26 Walk: Bondi Junction to Double Bay via Cooper Park

**OTHER FUTURE EVENTS**

- Oct Wed 8 **"The King and I" FULLY BOOKED**  
Nov Mon 3-Fri 7 Ghost Town Blue Mtns  
Dec Tue 2 Christmas Luncheon, Berowra

**MEETING ROOM ROSTER: 9.15 set up**

- Welcome Table** Don Bullivant and Tony Clark  
**Room Duties** Tony Martire, Ted Pasfield and Leo Ryan

If unavailable, please contact  
Keith Napper **9489 0201**

**PRESIDENT'S REFLECTIONS**

Hi All,

If there is a motto for Probus it is **"Fun Fellowship and Friendship"** and as a non card player I never imagined that you could use those words in connection with bridge. Robin and Alison Harris hosted the card players last month and I was privileged to be welcomed to their activity. There were only two groups of four, which was down on normal, but they were all having fun. There was enough banter for good fellowship and the style of banter was a proof of well established friendship.

I do not intend to become a bridge player but I enjoyed the warmth of the welcome to sit in with both groups. I can guarantee that you will get a warm welcome if you want to participate. Wives and partners are very welcome to try their skills against one another or against the men. I encourage you to book the Thursday before each club meeting and phone Robin Harris, or Jack Opie, Kevin Meyer, Fred Benecke, Brian Abbot, Alan Hislop and other players who can tell you where they meet.

Geoff and Max have found some great speakers for our meetings. The subject of our August guest is "Matthew Flinders", which is appropriate because Flinders died 200 years ago this year. Some insights into Flinders exciting life promises to be interesting.

The bowlers are in the midst of the annual competition. They do not find themselves in an invincible position yet, but they are working on it.

In spite of the cold weather, the walkers are enjoying some great strolls, seeing many new places. Be in it, the walks are not arduous. David and Brenda Wilkinson led the Gosford walk in July.

Golfers challenge the Bondi Icebergs, getting out at 7 am these cold mornings. The warmer weather is coming and Jack Opie has now joined this happy band of duffers.

Be careful of investment advice coming from Geoff Chubb's Investment group. Only D'Arcy Hardy would get his money back if they sold now and he has been banned. There is, however, an impending court case in reply.

Christmas in July will be a memory when this hits your email. Bob Kemp puts a lot of effort into these outings and thanks are due to him and to Georgia Bretherton for her invaluable input again.

Be sure to tell your wives or partners about the High Tea at **Eryldene** on 27 August - no limit on numbers. Bob promises that it will be a very pleasant and entertaining day.



**Ian Howden**



New member, Michael, was introduced by Max Press.

In an address illustrated by many family photos, he went into the background of his parents, his father having come to Australia in 1920, married a country girl and went off to Western Samoa to become a missionary.

On their return to Oz, they moved around, experiencing the challenges of the Depression (and the birth of Michael), floods and WW2.

Michael's schooling? Newington, Cleveland St. High, Sydney Tech., followed by university.

**CLUB SPEAKER**  
**Michael Clarke**

Then there was a career in the Public Works Department, with involvement in the building of the Hume Dam, testing of the Argyle Cut Bridge and Lower Hunter Flood mitigation.

We were fascinated by a detailed account of an assignment as a diver – a narrative not for the faint-hearted.

His presence indicated that he had survived the ordeal but at times we had our doubts. This and other anecdotes such as tales of floods and river bank collapses indicated why we needed to do something about OH&S.

On the personal side, there were

mentions of divorce, remarriage to Annie, retirement in 1993 followed by an almost full-time career with a heritage committee. Walks and cruises were devised and manuals written. He alluded to the involvement of Annie with Greta and Bela Herkovits, a musician whose life story (*Mr Bela*) she wrote. Concluding remarks referred to step daughter's wedding in Vermont, a much loved dog and picking chestnuts at Mt Wilson. We learned a lot about Michael from his detailed, well-presented life story.

Scribe **Grahame Marr**

**ENTHUSIASTIC REPORTERS NEEDED**

A suggestion has come from the floor of the house that the Newsletter could well be enlivened by some entertaining reports from activity groups, after the event.

I understand that the idea is to share experiences with other members, thus promoting further fun fellowship and friendship.

I can imagine comments such as these:

*"Cathy Chubb won more than her fair share of bridge games last month and we are looking for a challenger, male or female" or "The walking group were caught in the open in a thunder storm. You would have enjoyed seeing Alan Williams trying to get under an umbrella already occupied by Alan Keating, Marjorie Howden and Brenda Wilkinson."*

Think about it, and give the editor, Grahame Marr, and the committee, some feedback on how the idea might possibly work.

**Ian Howden**

**iPad INTEREST GROUP**

Many of us now have iPads. It may be useful to form a group to meet and share information on the uses that we have found for the iPad and to attempt to sort out any problems.

If interested please contact Gordon Davies **9997 6505** or



Geoff Chubb introduced Matthew, whose parents had both worked at the Rose Bay Flying Boat Base.

Matthew began with a video of a flying boat coming gracefully over the Harbour Bridge to alight (*NOT land*) at the base in 1974. We were taken back to 1938 and Rose Bay, Sydney's first international airport.

Flying boats were quite common around the world at the time. They had hulls rather than floats and could carry a bigger load. Qantas HQ was moved to Sydney from Longreach and Brisbane.

The priority load was airmail, but they could carry about 15 passengers in apparent comfort. Anyone for golf in the aisle? They were used by government, business, the military and the wealthy. How much? Typically £200 for a 10 day trip to the UK, with superior accommodation (anyone for Raffles?) and meals included - equivalent to a current average ANNUAL salary! Three stops a day for refuelling was the norm.

Then came the war! Now they were converted into troop carriers, a means of evacuating those under threat, even having Vickers machine guns and bomb racks added. The

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
**Matthew Holle**

**"AUSTRALIA'S FLYING BOATS"**

government bought 169, using them for night raids and for dropping mines in Hong Kong Harbour. They brought POWs back from Changi to huge receptions.

We heard more about Catalinas, Sunderlands, their maintenance and some near disasters.



Later, they became very popular for holidays and honeymoons, especially to Lord Howe Island where the tides were the determiners for landings and takeoffs. Eventually the high cost of maintenance led to their demise, with a conventional landing strip being built on Lord Howe Island.

Matthew concluded by responding to questions which informed us of accidents, boarding methods and a reference to the Spruce (really beech!) Goose.

Ray Knight eloquently thanked the speaker, pointing out how relevant his information had been for an enthusiastic audience.

Scribe **Grahame Marr**

## OUTINGS AND TRIPS

Bob Kemp 9449 1046 Max Press 9402 7888  
Book with Peter Young 9144 1422 or [peter.young@ozemail.com.au](mailto:peter.young@ozemail.com.au)  
Or after 30 July with Bob Kemp 9449 1046 [bobkemp.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:bobkemp.sydney@gmail.com)

### Wednesday 27 August HIGH TEA AT ERYLDENE

Bookings are going well, but we still have a few vacancies. If interested, please book ASAP so that we can give the Eryldene people firm numbers.

Meet at ERYLDENE 17 McIntosh St, Gordon, at 1.00 pm for a guided tour of the house and gardens, followed by High Tea in a garden setting

Cost is \$35 pp **BOOK NOW**

### Thursday 25 September FORT DENISON

Meet at Circular Quay for the short ferry ride to Fort Denison, where we will be given a tour (in two groups) of the site, followed by lunch at the on-site restaurant. Exact times will be published shortly, when timing has been confirmed by NPWS people. Cost is \$66 pp.

Maximum is 40 for this tour, but there is still room for you!!

**BOOK NOW**

### Mon 3 to Fri 7 November "GHOST TOWN IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS"

Bookings are closed for this trip as we have the full 34 seats taken. In fact, we have a waiting list.

For those who have paid a deposit, we would appreciate payment of the balance at your earliest convenience, to enable us to sort out who is going, and to find if we have any vacancies that we can fill from the waiting list.

### **ADVANCE NOTICE** Annual Christmas Party Berowra Waters on Tuesday 2 December

We are not taking bookings yet, but would like you to note this major event of the Probus year in your diary. The staff at Waterview really look after us, with great food and hospitality. The food and wine only improves each year and the price is the same as last year (\$55 pp).

### PLEASE NOTE

Booking Officer, Peter Young, will be away from 30 July so, if you want to book after that date, please contact Bob Kemp or pay at the next meeting via the "booking office" at the rear of our meeting room.

## WALKING FOR PLEASURE

Alan Williams 9488 9975 and Alan Keating 9449 1392

### Friday 8 August Wetlands at Lime Kiln Bay - Oatley Park

The walk is 7.2 km, grade 2.5, including 2.4 km of street walking from and to Oatley Station.

It winds around Lime Kiln Bay, then around the edge of and through Oatley Park.

Meet at Turrumurra Station at 8.50 am to catch the 9.04 am train to Town Hall, then the 10.01 am to Oatley, arriving at 10.29 am. Morning tea (byo) in the Oatley Station Gardens.

**History.** The 45 hectares of Oatley Park (dedicated in 1887) is the largest and most intact parcel of bushland in the St. George region and contains more than 300 varieties of plants.

The wetlands form an entire ecosystem where water flows downstream through a series of pollutant traps and filters.

Book with an Alan by 9.00 pm on Thursday 7 August.

### Friday 22 August Ku-ring-gai Chase Wildflowers Centre Track and Koolewong Track + BYO BBQ at Resolute Picnic Grounds.

Yes, we have done both tracks before but the wildflowers are beautiful at this time of year and there are some great views PLUS a BBQ lunch afterwards – a pretty good day out.

Grade 2.5, about 5 km in total, depending on how far we want to walk on the Centre Track. **NOTE for occasional walkers** - these bush tracks can be uneven and rocky in places.

Meet near the old top entrance to Ku-ring-gai Chase, near the junction of McCarrs Creek Road and Liberator General San Martin Drive at 10.30 am. Non-walkers are invited to join us at the Resolute Picnic Area for the BYO BBQ at around 12.30 pm.

Book with an Alan by 9.00 pm on Thursday 21 August

### Friday 12 September Waitara to Lisgar Gardens, Hornsby - led by the Wilkinsons

Details in September Newsletter

### Friday 26 September Bondi Junction to Double Bay, including an exploration of Cooper Park

Details in September Newsletter

## AMOS WEATHER WATCH

The next meeting of the AMOS Sydney Weatherwatch Group will be held in the Jacaranda Room, in the old Manse alongside the Turramurra Uniting Church, on Wednesday 27 August at 7.30 pm for a 7.45 pm start.

The Guest Speaker will be Dr Angela Maharaj from the Climate change Centre at UNSW. Her topic will be *“Climate Science in the classroom – how do you get a 15 year old to engage?”*

Approximately only half of the Year 10 students in Australia now choose to take on Science in Years 10 and 12. The Smart Science Institute is a venture to create four research modules across three states on an adaptive e-learning platform for Science students in years 9 and 10.

The Climate Research Centre at UNSW has developed a Climate Science module that maps to stage 5 NSW Syllabus and the Australian Curriculum. Angela will also explain what an adaptive e-learning platform is.

The \$5 charge to cover expenses includes biscuits and tea or coffee. For further information contact Dr. Alan Williams **9488 9975**.

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The next **First Thursday Lunch** is on 7 August at the Bluegum Hotel, Waitara.

Interest in investing is irrelevant.

Newcomers welcome. Lucky door prize.

Please ring me on **9449 1378** to book.

D’Arcy Hardy had been disqualified from the competition as he has “invested” solely in Newcrest, which was recently found guilty of unethical practices.

There is talk of a legal challenge.

**Geoff Chubb**  
Investment Co-ordinator

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The next game will be on Thursday 14 August at the home of Miems van Nierop

All welcome.

To book please contact me on **9144 1282** or [rharris3@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rharris3@bigpond.net.au)  
**Robin Harris**  
Bridge Co-ordinator

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Graeme Bradshaw reports that we suffered “substantial losses” in the first round of the Probus Shield.

We desperately need other members interested in playing bowls.

Please contact Bob Baker on **9489 0646** or [primbobbaker@bigpond.com](mailto:primbobbaker@bigpond.com)

**Bob Baker**  
Bowls Co-ordinator

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### First Friday Golf - next game 1 August

All welcome, golfers, walkers or their friends of whatever standard. Play 18 or 9 holes as you are inclined. Be at Gordon Golf Club, at the bottom of St Johns Avenue around 7.15 am for hit off by 7.30 am (finish about 11 am). Ring D’Arcy Hardy **9440 3434**, the day before or just turn up.

We welcome greater support for this activity.

**D’Arcy Hardy**  
Golf Co-ordinator

## PROBUS CLUB OF TURRAMURRA INC

Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at Turramurra Bowling Club commencing at 10.00 am.

Committee Meetings begin at 9.00 am

President	Ian Howden	9489 1294
	<a href="mailto:president@turramurraprobus.com">president@turramurraprobus.com</a>	
Vice Presidents	Max Sherrard	9449 2360
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Theatre	Peter Corin	9449 1859
	<a href="mailto:pecrdc3@optusnet.com.au">pecrdc3@optusnet.com.au</a>	
Walking for Pleasure	Alan Williams	9488 9975
	Alan Keating	9449 1392
	<a href="mailto:walks@turramurraprobus.com.au">walks@turramurraprobus.com.au</a>	

Communications to [secretary@turramurraprobus.com](mailto:secretary@turramurraprobus.com) or Secretary PO Box 3128 Nth Turramurra 2074

Web address [www.turramurraprobus.com](http://www.turramurraprobus.com)

Contact Gordon Davies for passwords

For payments by internet - pay to

Probus Club of Turramurra BSB 32089 A/C 271988

Include name and purpose of payment

Also please send confirming email to the Treasurer