



Photos from the Young Tour (top left) and the December Christmas Party (Doug Carruthers), while the Editor happened to go to Chatswood by chance on Monday, 14 January 2019.

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Epping and District Probud Club Inc.



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FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S PATTTER

Welcome back to another year of Epping and District Probud Club's friendship fellowship and fun. I hope those who attended, enjoyed the December celebration of our 40th Anniversary and Christmas. Our guests and members mingled well and the dignitaries kept the speeches short. A big THANK YOU to Mike, Neil, and Frank for organising the whole thing. We plan a less a formal celebration for the end of the Probud year at the March General meeting and AGM so please keep that date in mind.

Even though the club officially goes into recess for the December and January period, I know the Probud friendship continues and behind the scene members have been enjoying each other's company. Your Committee have been working to ensure we have a full year of quality speakers, events and new activities in 2019. Please consider what you can do to maintain the benefits to all. The Management Committee is always on the lookout for volunteers and even if you are not actually organising, please attend as many activities as you can—it is FUN.

MEETINGS

February

David Vasey will be our guest speaker today, his topic being "Seniors and Computers". He will give us an overview of what we can learn as seniors and use our computers more effectively, surf the web safely and maybe converse with our grandchildren and understand what it is they are telling us. David is a Tech Savvy Trainer with Macquarie Community College.

Following this overview we will have the opportunity to join up with Ed Thurston's computer group and learn how we can get more out of using our computers, such as internet banking, online shopping, using Skype and filing all those photos we have. This is a great opportunity to learn new skills with friends our own age and help each other gain new confidence using our computer.

March

Peter Kahn will be our guest speaker next month on Monday, 11 March 2019, and his topic will be “Sydney Trams”. Peter grew up in the Milperra area on his family’s poultry farm. As a young boy in primary school he developed an interest in transport, firstly with buses when he had to catch the motor omnibus service into Bankstown, then trains, plus, due to living near Bankstown, even planes. In late 1957, he moved with his family to Killara and this brought him closer to trams.

After a year working in an accounting firm (1958), he moved into the general insurance industry, where he remained until retirement in 2000.

He joined the Tramway Museum in late 1958, which was setting up on the eastern side of the Princes Highway in The Royal National Park. He has been actively involved since 1960. Today, he is the Public Relations Officer for the Sydney Tramway Museum, a position he has held for quite some time. Those who visited the Museum last year will remember Peter, he was our Guide.

DAY OUTINGS

February 2019

The published outing previously included in our December Newsletter has had to be cancelled due to the Ferry operator ceasing business. An alternative outing has been organised on Tuesday, 19 February 2019, to the Royal NSW Lancer Barracks & Museum. We will assemble at Epping Station Concourse at 9.50 a.m. to catch the train to Strathfield on Platform 1 at 10.05 a.m. Here will change trains for the Parramatta train on Platform 6 at 10.23 a.m. We will arrive at Parramatta Station at 10.37 a.m. and then there is a short walk across Smith Street to the front entrance of the Barracks.

Our tour will commence at 11 o’clock and the entrance to the Barracks is from Smith Street which is right next to the Parramatta Railway Station.

The building was constructed in 1820 to house British Regiments stationed in NSW. The Barracks are the longest continuously running military facility in Australia, home to the Royal NSW Lancers. The site includes a Museum run by volunteers. A guided tour of the Barracks and the Museum has been arranged. Note that this is an old building and there are a number of steps at the entrance and to the first floor of the Museum. There is no lift in the building.

Lunch is available at the Bistro in the Commercial Pub next door to the Barracks. A reserved area has been arranged for 12.15–12.30 p.m. and the Hotel offers typical Pub fare from \$16 per course.

TOUR NEWS

Welcome to 2019 touring news. The response to the recent broadcast e-mail seeking expressions of interest for tours in 2019 and 2020 was disappointing. If you have not yet responded, it is not too late to do so and your input would be appreciated.

After many years of an international tour each year there will not be one this year. Those who are interested can join with South Creek St Mary’s Probus Club in an autumn tour of Japan in November. For 2020, we are looking at Egypt, South Korea and New Zealand as possible options.

As indicated in the broadcast e-mail the proposed tour of Adelaide and the *Proud Mary* cruise in July was cancelled for lack of interest. It is proposed to run three local tours this year and if necessary, we will combine with other Probus Clubs to enable the required minimum numbers to be achieved. Proposed tours for this year are:

Northern Ranges & O’Reilly’s—28 March–5 April 2019

Please note, those members going of the tour are required to settle outstanding payments for this tour at the February meeting. The balance is \$2565 per person (single supplement is \$450).

King Island History and Culture—2–5 September 2019

This is a 4-day/3-night highlights tour of King Island, flying to Melbourne with Virgin then with Rex to King Island. The tour is priced at \$2098 pp twin share (\$260 single supplement). Get a detailed itinerary and booking form from Wal, with completed booking forms and deposits of \$200 (payable to Epping Probus), required at the March meeting.

Life of Riley Alpine Tour—27 October–1 November 2019

Based at a lakefront motel on Lake Jindabyne this 6-day/5-night tour takes in the highlights of the Snowy Mountains area. Priced at \$745 pp twin share this is excellent value for an all-inclusive luxury coach tour. Details in the next Newsletter.



Note that parking in this area of Parramatta is difficult and it is recommended that all Probus members on this outing travel by Train or Bus (M54) to the site. The cost is \$8 per head for the Barracks tour, payable on the day.

March

Next month's outing is on Wednesday, 6 March 2019 and will be a visit to the Testing Laboratories of Choice Magazine. If travelling by car, street parking is available in Carrington Road and Cary Street next to the Lab. If travelling by train, we will assemble at Epping Station at 8.50 a.m. and catch the intercity train to Central at 9.04 a.m. on platform 1. This train arrives on Platform 8 at Central and there is a short walk to Platform 25 for the 9.37 a.m. train to Tempe Station. Unfortunately there are 38 steps at Tempe Station but a pleasant shaded 10 minute walk along the Cooks River may be taken to the Lab. Those arriving by train or by car should assemble at the front entrance to the Lab at 10 o'clock.

Our guided tour will commence at 10 o'clock and will last about two hours. Please note that flat closed in shoes are a necessary requirement for this tour.

These Labs are famous in Australia for its independent assessment of a wide range of consumer products that are sold to the general public. The Lab's enviable reputation for its product recommendations have been widely acknowledged by consumer bodies over many years.

The cost of the Lab tour is \$30 per head and payment in advance is required by the end of February. However, payment will be accepted at the February meeting.

There are no convenient restaurants or Clubs nearby for lunch so it is suggested attendees all take a cut lunch, which can be consumed in the adjacent Mackay Park, or on the banks of the Cooks River nearby.

Outings Co-ordinator: Michael Brinsden, phone 9868-4940

TRAIN OUTING

For something different, a train trip will be held on Monday, 18 February 2019. We will assemble at Epping Station at 9.30 a.m. to catch the train on Platform 1 at 9.47 a.m. to Redfern. Here will just set across the platform to catch the Kiama train at 10.26 a.m. to Thirroul, arriving there at 11.39 a.m., to change for the train to Bulli, where we will have lunch before returning to Epping at 3.39 p.m.

Organiser: Keith Robinson, phone 0427-611-795

CYCLING

The next cycle ride is on Friday, 22 February 2019, meeting at 10.00 a.m. at Rydalmere Wharf. The route will be to Parramatta Ferry Terminal and on to Parramatta Park, finishing with a couple of laps, then our coffee before cycling back to Rydalmere.

Please contact Steve Drury on 9874-7447 or 0487-785-444 prior to the Friday if you wish to participate. Note: a loan cycle and helmet may be available if required.

The future cycle dates (all on a Friday) are 22 March, 26 April, 24 May, 21 June, 19 July, 23 August, 20 September, 25 October and 22 November. It is most unlikely that there will be a ride in December.

RAMBLE

The next Ramble is on Thursday, 28 February 2019. Please note the change of week. We will assemble at Epping Station at 9.00 a.m. to catch the 9.16 a.m. train to Town Hall, where we will go to platform 5 for the train to Kings Cross.

We will ramble through Kings Cross, Woolloomooloo, and the Botanical Gardens to Circular Quay. It is about 5 km in distance with lots of steps, mostly down.

Contacts are: Jack Lee, phone 9871-3260 or mobile 0438-871-326 or Col Jones, phone 9871-2933 or mobile 0419-017-365.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The next President's Coffee Club will be held on Friday, 15 February 2019, 10.30 a.m., near the Coffee Club at Carlingford Court. The next Old Codgers' Music Group will meet at the home of John and Pam Peters, 81a Cheltenham Road, Cheltenham, at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 11 February 2019. Both events highly recommended!

CHAIR AND MORNING TEA ROSTER FOR MARCH



Steve Drury
Neil Gillies

John Egarr
Leo Glockemann.

Andrew Davidson (serving tea/coffee only)

