



*In new Waratah Train B sets—A scene at a former North Coast Line station*



*A newly constructed non streamline 38 class locomotive*



*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Bathurst Station in 1954*

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# *Epping and District Probus Club Inc.*



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Secretary	Ross Beattie	9871-1838
Welfare Officer	Ray Palmer	9836-4516
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*40th Anniversary  
1979 - 2019*

## MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

### PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

Well the end of my one year stint as your President is on us and as I look back I've been fortunate to have so much help and support from the members. What an experience and one I recommend to any member who hasn't sat at that table in front with the "bling" about his neck. After 40 years of operation our Club has developed tried and proven traditions and procedures that make it truly a place of fellowship, friendship, fun and food. Best wishes to the incoming Committee.

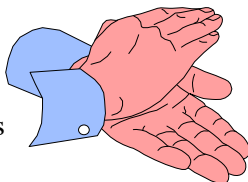
Our retiring Past President, Neil McDonald said it all in his final President's Pattern and AGM report last year. He threw your then new Management Committee the challenge and I quote ". . . However, ongoing success is not assured if the changing age profile of the membership is not addressed . . . The incoming Committee will need to give increased attention to the issues involved". Throughout the year our membership has remained static, having lost a few to the Grand Reaper and gained some younger, recently retired, men. Hopefully the small change to our By-Laws and planned expansion of our social activities will entice the younger members and their partners to participate more in club activities.

By careful planning and commitment from your Committee, each year a few positions on the Committee reach their tenure, so vacancies occur. I encourage these new members to seriously consider joining the Committee—it really isn't difficult and quite enjoyable with the help and support of the members. In 2019–20 we need leaders for our activities and our Publicity member John Connell would like to step down after many years ensuring our Club's details appear in local newspapers and shopping centres' notice boards. Thank you John and I'm sure somebody will step forward soon. I'll sign-off by saying THANK YOU and see you around.

### APPRECIATION TO OUR OUTGOING COMMITTEE

The members all join together in thanking our outgoing Committee—Col Jones, Ed Thurston, Ross Beattie, Leo Hart, Frank Hanlon, Michael Brinsden, Wal Gallagher, Ray Palmer and Neil McDonald—for guiding the

Club through a very successful and enjoyable year. We also would like to thank Mark Gibbs and his team in the kitchen as well as the other members who have worked behind the scenes to assist the Club in various spheres over the past year.



## MEETINGS

### February

**D**avid Vasey was our guest speaker last month, his topic being “Seniors and Computers”. He gave 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.

The topics he covered were fake text messages; security; scamming; online newspapers; My Health Record; Wikipedia, Google and Youtube. David went into great details of how we can minimise the risks that are part and parcel of the internet; how we protect our passwords—the use of a password bank (the Editor has one obtained from Inovations).

We very sincerely thank David for coming and using his expertise to bring us to scratch with using our computers, tablets and smart phones to prevent us falling prey to the many unscrupulous people and hackers that are now part of the World we live in.

### March

**P**eter Kahn is our guest speaker today, 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 its Public Relations Officer, a position he has held for quite some time. Those who visited the Museum last year will remember Peter, who was our Guide.

### April

**A**nn Howard will be our guest speaker next month on Monday, 8 April 2019, when her topic will be “You’ll Be Sorry”. “You’ll Be Sorry” is a penetrating account of the experiences of the women who served in the

- Day 1: Travel by luxury coach to Jindabyne (lunch at own cost).
- Day 2: Thredbo village and chairlift to Eagles Nest. Bullocks Flat ski tube. Smiggin Holes, Perisher Valley, Charlotte Pass and Island Bend.
- Day 3: Eucumbene Dam wall. Snowy Mountains Museum at Adaminaby. Lunch in Cooma. Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre.
- Day 4: Jindabyne Visitors Centre. Gaden Trout Hatchery. Wild Brumby Distillery. BBQ lunch at the hotel. Afternoon free.
- Day 5: Cooma and Cooma Gaol. Nimmitabel. Lunch at Burnima Homestead (1896). Bombala and Dalgety.
- Day 6: Depart for home.

The tour is inclusive of all meals (except the first day lunch) and is accompanied by local guides who are passionate about their history and the area they live in.

Brochures are available from Wal and deposits of \$50 per person are payable at the April meeting.

### West Beecroft Probus Tour—Queensland Garden Spectacular

**V**acancies exist in this 5-day/4-night all-inclusive tour of gardens and galleries in Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast areas, accommodated at Caloundra Oaks Oasis, with West Beecroft Club. The tour is from Thursday, 11 July to Monday, 15 July 2019 and is priced at \$1750 pp twin share (single supplement is \$320). Details from Wal.



*Light Rail Vehicle at Newcastle Beach Terminus being re-charged.*

The next President's Coffee Club will be held on Friday, 15 March 2019 at 10 o'clock, near the Coffee Club at Carlingford Court. Both events highly recommended!

## CHAIR AND MORNING TEA ROSTER FOR APRIL

**R**ostered members capable of setting up chairs should be at the hall shortly after 8.30 a.m. If you are unable to be present as rostered, please arrange a swap with another member and inform the Co-ordinator, Mark Gibbs, phone 9899-8545.



Peter Golding

Emil Hahn

Brian Hartshorne

John Griffin-Miller

Owen Harrison



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

**T**he Treasurer will propose at the Annual General Meeting that the subscription for 2019 be \$40. Members are reminded that their subscriptions are due following the Annual General Meeting and it would be appreciated if you could pay the exact amount.



## TOUR NEWS

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

**A**ll payments have been received and all is in place for this tour. Assemble in front of the Epping Club at 7.30 a.m. for a 7.45 a.m. departure.

### King Island History and Culture—2–5 September 2019

**T**his 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. Completed booking forms and deposits of \$200 (payable to Epping Probus) are required at the March meeting.

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

**B**ased 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 tour. As we will not have enough members to fill the coach, we will be sharing with another club.

Australian Women's Army Services (AWAS) during WWII and their experiences in post war Australia is a superb account of women's participation in Australian History and their battle against shrivelled sensibilities of putting females in their place. In World War Two 66,000 women joined the services.

Ann reveals in her book how they overcome prejudice and captures a unique view of Australia History told through the eyes of the women who left their homes to join the AWAS and later how the return would impact their future perception and opportunities for women in Australia.

## DAY OUTINGS

### March

**T**his month's outing was held on Wednesday, 6 March 2019 (prior to our monthly general meeting) and was to the Testing Laboratories of Choice Magazine.

### April

**P**lans for a joint outing with the Eastwood Club did not eventuate as it recently decided to not have an outing in April. As a result there is no short term plan for April. As there are quite a few holidays in April (Easter and Anzac Day), it is recommend that we defer any outing in April this year.

### May

**Q**uite a few members have mentioned that a visit to the Ambassador Restaurant, Northern Sydney TAFE is a good outing and from previous experience. The Ambassador is located in Building A, Level 4, 250 Blaxland Road Ryde, part of Northern Sydney TAFE, and these luncheons are prepared by the Chef and Hospitality students as part of their course content.

The lunch will commence at 12.00 noon and will be a French Cuisine Le Cordon Bleu menu of 3 courses. Cost is \$30 per head and this includes drinks. Payment is required in advance and bookings and the fee will be collected at the April general meeting.

Northern Sydney TAFE has not yet issued its detailed timetable for Term 2 and this is not expected to be available till the third week of April. However, a general reservation for up to 20 persons has been lodged for a day in the third week of May.

If you are driving there parking is available behind the College off Parkes Street. Otherwise assemble on Epping Station Concourse at 11.00 a.m. and catch the 11.17 a.m. train to Eastwood on platform 1. At Eastwood transfer to



Bus Route 515 at Stand A on West Parade. Arrive at Northern Sydney TAFE at 11.39 a.m. Return journey buses are available about every half hour to Eastwood Station.

## June and July

The June outing is in planning and details will be available at the April meeting. The July outing will be a Heritage Tour to Sydney University commencing at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 23 July 2019. The conducted tour will take about an hour. A 2-course lunch is included in the cost of approximately \$40. Further details will be advised at the May meeting.

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

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### The THEATRE on CHESTER

This year gets under way at the Theatre on Chester with the Australian play, *Caravan*, written by Donald Macdonald and directed by Joy Sweeney. *Caravan* is the holiday we would all like to forget, the story of three couples on a caravan holiday in NSW.

The Robinsons love their annual summer holiday, living the dream by the beach in their luxury caravan. This year they have invited their best friends, all nudging forty and hating it. It is complicated when Pierce brings along his new young girlfriend. Parkes, the frustrated caravan owner, missed out on his usual site, a fact which he reminds everyone about continually. Monica despises camping and is always in need of a brandy. Bachelor Pierce's young friend Gwendolyn is rather out of her element, not helped by Monica. Parkes' wife Penny tries to keep the peace.

This comedy takes a light-hearted look at friendship, age, and the holiday you should never take.

This performance is on Wednesday, 17 April 2019 at 8.00 p.m. and the cost is \$22.50 per person.

### Ramble

The next Ramble is on Thursday, 28 March 2019. We will assemble at Epping Station 9.00 am to catch the 9.16 a.m. train to Central, changing trains here for Circular Quay and the 10.30 a.m. ferry to Cremorne Point.

We will ramble around Mosman Bay, over the hill to Little Sirius Cove, past the Zoo, lunch at Bradley's Head before returning to Taronga wharf. The distance is about 5 km, with one good Hill.

The Schedule Ramble Day for April is Anzac Day. So consequently, there will be no Ramble on that day, but we may be able to fit in another date.

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

## Cycle Group

There were 4 riders on Friday, 22 February 2019. We left from Rydalmere Wharf car park and followed the Parramatta River cycle path, past the Parramatta Ferry Terminal to finish at Parramatta Park. After coffee in the Park we returned via the same route.

The next cycle ride is on Friday, 22 March 2019, meeting at 10 o'clock at Rydalmere Wharf car park. The route will be along the river cycle path to Meadowbank, across the river to Homebush and on to the Armoury in Olympic Park for coffee at the café. We will then return to Rydalmere via Silverwater Bridge.

Please contact Steve Drury on 9872-7447 or 0487-785-444 if you wish to participate. However, Steve is not available for the March ride. In his absence please contact Col Jones on 9871-2933 or Ross Beattie on 9871-1838. Note a loan cycle and helmet may be available if required.

## By Opal Card

Use your Opal Card for a trip to Bulli on Monday, 18 March 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, we will just step 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

## Movies and Croquet

Seven of us enjoyed the movie *Stan and Ollie* at the Roseville Cinema on Tuesday, 26 February 2019 followed by lunch at Saluto Café. The next movie is on Tuesday, 26 March 2019.

Four was the final number of players at Croquet on Thursday, 21 February 2019. The next game is on Thursday, 21 March 2019.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

The next Old Codgers' Music Group will meet at the home of Bob and Margaret Cruikshank, 1 Mason Avenue, Cheltenham, at 2.30 p.m., on Monday, 11 March 2019.