

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



*Our oldest member Doug Bennetts cutting the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake*



*Col Jones inducting Ed Thurston as our new President for 2019–20*

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## *Epping and District Probus Club Inc.*



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*40th Anniversary  
1979 - 2019*



**O**ur Committee for 2019–20 is: Ed Thurston (President), Michael Brinsden (Vice President), Ross Beattie (Secretary), Leo Hart (Treasurer), Ken Fletcher (Speakers), Ray Finch (Other Activities), Wal Gallagher (Tours and Special Events), Ray Palmer (Welfare) and Col Jones (Immediate Past President). The position of Outings is vacant.

### PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

**T**his being my first President's Pattern for 2019 I would like to congratulate Col in guiding the Club on its 40th year of providing Fun, Friendship and Fellowship to the people of Epping and District. I am personally grateful to Col for his work on the amendment to Standing Resolutions which reflects the outcomes of last year's SWOT Analysis. Hopefully, we can get a couple of new activities going this year in line with the new Activities Survey undertaken last year.

I and your Management Committee are looking forward to providing another year of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

By now you will be aware that Ray Finch has been appointed to the role of "Other Activities Officer". This is a new position on the Management Committee and, understandably, there is some confusion as to what it entails. Ray will present a talk at the April General Meeting which focuses on his role

and the operation of the Other Activities system. The talk is entitled “Demystifying the Other Activities Program”.

## MEETINGS

### March

Peter Kahn was our guest speaker last month and his topic was “Sydney Trams”. Peter began by showing the first part of the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 DVDs produced by the Sydney Tramway Museum called “Shooting Through!”. It covered the early history of the NSW Tramways. The Editor has a copy and it is a must buy.

Peter then went on to speak about the Sydney and Newcastle Tramways from those early days to the present. He covered the types of trams, the patronage at various times, the Steam Tram at Kogarah and its replacement the Trolley Bus, Manly, the building of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, World War II, and finally its ending on 25 February 1961, replaced by buses.

With his heavy involvement with the Sydney Tramway Museum, it was not surprising that he went on to speak about the beginning of the Museum and its collection of trams both from Sydney but also interstate and overseas.

Peter then spoke about the revival in 1997 with the introduction of the Light Rail from Central to Wentworth Park along part of the old Goods Railway Line into Darling Harbour. A revival which still goes on today with the extension to Dulwich Hill together with Randwick and Kensington from Circular Quay. Great to see the arrival at the Tramway Museum of Variotram No. 7, the last of Sydney’s initial Light Rail vehicles to run to Dulwich Hill.

We very sincerely thank Peter for coming and imparting his knowledge of the Sydney and Newcastle Tramways, long gone but now coming back in both cities.

### April

Ann Howard is our guest speaker today, 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 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.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that their subscriptions for 2019–20 are now due and the Treasurer would be pleased to receive your \$40.00 as soon as possible. He would appreciate if you could pay the exact amount.



## CORRECTIONS TO LAST MONTH’S CAPTIONS

There are two changes to what was in the captions on the last page of the March Newsletter. The now closed North Coast Line station is Banyabba, located between Grafton and Casino, while the locomotive is the brand new 5801 and not a non-streamlined 38 class.

## TOUR NEWS

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

Places still exist on this is 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 per person twin share (\$260 single supplement). Get a detailed itinerary and booking form from Wal. Completed booking forms and deposits of \$200 (payable to Epping & District Probus Club Inc) are required now.

### 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 per person twin share this is excellent value for an all-inclusive tour. As we will not have enough numbers to fill the coach, we will be sharing with another club.

- 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 will be accompanied by local guides who are passionate about their history and the area they live in.



accomplished cyclist left the party to ride across town for a family gathering. The other two Wobblies returned to Rydalmere without incident. Next ride scheduled for 26 April 2019, details TBA.

## ANZAC Sunday Service

The Anzac Sunday Service will be held on Sunday, 14 April 2019 at 2 p.m. The service will be held in the Epping Club Grand Ballroom followed by wreath laying at Boronia Park Cenotaph. It is suggested that members arrive around 1.14 p.m.

## ANZAC Day Dawn Service

Members interested in attending the Anzac Dawn Service on Thursday, 25 April 2019 the details are as follows. The Anzac Dawn Service will commence at 6 a.m. at the Cenotaph in Forest Park off Blaxland Road Epping. Members are requested to assemble at around 5.30 a.m.

Because of the construction work in Blaxland Road, this year there will be no Veterans March down Blaxland Road. Veterans who want to participate in a formal parade are requested to assemble in Forest Park at the foot of the stairs of Blaxland Road from which to proceed to the cenotaph.

Should rain prevent this service being held at Forest Park there will be a service held in the foyer of The Epping Club.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

The next Old Codgers' Music Group will meet at the home of Hugh Knight, 1/30 Fourth Avenue, Eastwood, at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 8 April 2019. The next President's Coffee Club will be held on Friday, 12 April 2019 at 10 o'clock near the Coffee Club at Carlingford Court. Both events highly recommended!

## CHAIR AND MORNING TEA ROSTER FOR MAY

Rostered members capable of setting up chairs should be at the hall shortly after 8.30 am. 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.



Brian Haywood  
Alan Herron  
Les Jenkins

Michael Healey  
Cyrus Irani



## May

Deborah Wallace APM will be our guest speaker next month on Monday, 13 May 2019, when her topic will be "My Life of Crime". Deborah is Detective Superintendent Commander, Criminal Groups and Strike Force Raptor. She will be sharing with us the experiences of a career that has spanned over 36 years with a particular focus on drugs and gangs.

Deborah started her career in 1983 as a Probationary Constable at Blacktown then Cabramatta where she progressed to the role of Chief Inspector (Crime Manager) followed by continual promotion in S/E Asian and Middle Eastern Crime squads till she became Detective Superintendent Commander, Criminal Groups and Strike Force Raptor.

She has extensive experience working in the area of Asian Crime both at the Local Area Command and Organised Crime level. This gave her a significant understanding of cultural issues as they relate to and impact on communities of Asian and Middle Eastern background; as well as the dynamics and culture of Outlaw Motor Cycle Gangs.

## DAY OUTINGS

### April

This month's outing is on Monday, 15 April 2019 and is a train journey to Cronulla. As announced previously we did not have an April outing but we now have one, courtesy of Keith Robinson's planned train journey to Cronulla. Please assemble at the Epping Station Concourse at 9.30 a.m. to catch the train to Redfern on platform 1 at 9.47 a.m. We will arrive at Redfern Station platform 3 at 10.21 a.m.; walk across to platform 2 to catch the 10.26 a.m. Kiama train to Sutherland, where we will arrive at 10.54 a.m.

We will depart Sutherland at 11.08 a.m. and arrive at Cronulla Station at 11.23 a.m. There is a short walk of about 400 metres to the Cronulla RSL, where we will go to the top floor Watergrill Bistro where I have booked a table for 11.30 a.m. This Bistro overlooks Cronulla Beach. There we will meet Mr Bruce Watt (writer and author of heritage history books about the local Shire) who will give us a talk covering the History of the Southern Shire. Following this presentation we will adjourn for lunch at 12.00 noon and Mr Watt will join us where you will have the opportunity to ask him further questions. Lunch costs in the Watergrill Bistro are very reasonable with some main courses costing from \$15.

There are train departures from Cronulla Station about every 20 minutes for the return journey to Epping with easy train changes at Central.

## May

Next month's outing is on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 and is to the Ambassador Restaurant, Northern Sydney TAFE. Quite a few members have mentioned that this is a good outing. The Ambassador is located in Building A, Level 4, 250 Blaxland Road 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 will be taken and the fee at the April General Meeting. A general reservation for up to 20 persons has been lodged for the day nominated above.

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. We will 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 currently nearly completed and I will announce details at the April General 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 two-course lunch is included in the fee of approximately \$40. Further details will be advised at the May General 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.

### Eastwood Musical Society

*Oklahoma* was the first collaboration of Oscar Hammerstein II and Richard Rodgers, firstly as a musical on Broadway in 1943 and then adapted to film in 1955. This became the first of musicals as we know them. The story is based on a 1931 play, *Green Grow the Lilacs*, and takes place in 1906 in the Indian Territories, which were being opened up to become the state of Oklahoma.

The music is a joy with such songs as "Oh What a Beautiful Mornin'", "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top", "I Can't Say No", "Pore Jud is Daid", "The Farmer and the Cowman and, of course, "Ok-la-hom-a".

The performance is in the Eastwood Uniting Church Hall, Lakeside Road, Eastwood at 8.00 p.m. on Friday, 24 May 2019 and the price is \$20.

### Ramble

Gentlemen, the scheduled Ramble for April is Anzac Day. Consequently, there will be no Ramble on that day, but we have been invited to join a small Wednesday walking group who will be meeting at Epping Station at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 24 April 2019 for an easy walk from Tempe along the Cooks River to Canterbury. It is about 6 km of easy walking. Let Jack Lee know if you are interested. Contacts: Jack Lee, phone 9871-3260 or mobile 0438-871-326 or Col Jones, phone 9871-2933 or mobile 0419-017-365.

### Cycling

On 22 March 2019 two members and our latest recruit enjoyed a pleasant ride from the car park of the newly opened Rydalmere Ferry Wharf along the northern side of the river, over the old rail bridge at Meadowbank and back to the Armoury for coffee. Shock horror, the cafe was closed because of a kitchen fire but coffee was available from the small coffee kiosk. We were joined by a partner for coffee before our latest member who is an