

numbers for tours to proceed and will be offering a tour to India in August/September 2020.

India's Golden Triangle & Tiger—31 August–8 Sept. 2020

This is an 8-day tour with highlights in Delhi (significant historical architecture), a train trip from Delhi to Agra (Taj Mahal and Agra Fort), by modern coach to Ranthambhore National Park (Project Tiger conservation programme) and Jaipur (ancient forts and palaces).

Flying via Kuala Lumpur the cost \$3,290 pp twin share (\$4040 single), all inclusive except for lunches. Business class fares are available. A stopover in KL on the return is available for \$400 pp twin share (\$715 single), includes 3 nights in the Park Royal Hotel, airport transfers and a half-day city tour.



Merry Christmas

President Ed and the Committee would like to wish all the members of the Club and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



happy new year

Private and confidential for Probus use only and is not to be used for any other purpose.

Epping and District Probus Club Inc.



President	Ed Thurston	9868-5016
Secretary	Ross Beattie	9871-1838
Welfare Officer	Ray Palmer	9836-4516
Website:	www4.tpg.com.au/users/keithrob	
Postal Address:	PO Box 855, Epping NSW 1710	

40th Anniversary
1979 - 2019



Back in June last year, as Vice President, I facilitated a SWOT Analysis. This is where members identified the Club's Strengths and Weaknesses plus the Opportunities and Threats most likely to impact the Club over the next Five Years. This resulted in a Five Year Plan. Within the plan, Five Action Steps were documented for each of the five years. In year one, 2019, we agreed to implement the outcomes of a Future Activities Survey, Review ClubExpress (a website package exclusively designed for clubs such as ours), and trial some New Promotional Materials. In order to 'Attract and Retain' some younger members, the appointment of a Membership Officer was also proposed for this year. Learning from other Probus clubs was seen as an annual commitment for the Club.

The implementation of the Future Activities Survey by Ray Finch has been an outstanding success this year. New groups such as Train Journeys and Dining have been particularly popular. Hopefully, the Club will see fit to make this role another Vice President one in the future, like other Probus' clubs. Early in the year all Committee members received a link to the ClubExpress website for evaluation. Unfortunately, I was unsuccessful in finding a Club member willing to take on the Web Administrator's role. Incoming President, Michael Brinsden, has indicated that he will also pursue the Club's need for a new website in 2020. A new poster was trialled this year, which promoted our monthly guest speaker. A number of interested women responded. One was widowed, one was married but did not want to bring her husband and the other wanted to join our Club because of our interesting speakers. Another poster with the theme 'Active Retires' did attract a number of men but they did not show up on the day, although promising to do so. A small 'Active Retires' poster in Coles Epping inviting people for a free Cup of

Tea did motivate a homeless gentleman to visit our General Meeting for a free cup of tea. Our public Facebook page also got some interesting hits. Within hours a Nigerian fellow was Phishing for business. Three Indian lads wanted to come to Australia and run our computer workshops. Four people from England wanted to join Epping Probus, so I referred them to Epping Probus in Essex, England. Fortunately, Keith Dixon saw our community announcement in the TWT newspaper and has since joined the Club. So far this year I have inducted six people into the Club, all of which are potential Office Bearers. Your Committee decided not to pursue the proposed new Membership Officer role, preferring to spread the workload among existing Office Bearers. The Club's commitment to continue improvement by learning from other Probus' clubs has been met by attending Cluster Meetings, Orientation Days, visiting other clubs and joining other clubs on Outings and Travel. I personally learnt a lot during my visits to Kirra Probus in Queensland and by attending Probus Beecroft's Investment Forums. Keith Robinson got some great Train Journey ideas from visiting Thornleigh Probus club. All members are encouraged to visit other Probus' clubs, preferably through their club's secretary.

The Club has an opening for a Vice President and an Outings Officer. If, like me, you thrive on trying new things and not be afraid to make mistakes from which you can learn, why not be part of the 2020 team. On the other hand if you are the more conservative type, remember you have 20+ Past Presidents and other past Office Bearers to call on for help. Feel free to talk with any Committee Member either formally or informally about a role.

MEETINGS

November

Judy Tenzing was our guest speaker last month, when her topic was "A Tail of the Himalaya". Judy gave a power point presentation covering aspects of her life as she spoke. She was born in Sydney in 1950. Following her schooling she went on to University and obtained an Arts Degree majoring in South Asian History.

Eventually this led her to visit Tibet, where she spend 7 years and as a result became interested in the story of Tenzing Norgay, the "Man of Everest". Consequently, she became involved in mountaineering.

In 1976, she did a somewhat hazardous bus trip from Katmandu to London. She also visited India, but her great love was Nepal, where she returned to as a mountain guide. She met Tashi Tenzing, the grandson of the "Man of Everest", and eventually he became her husband. They combined to write a book on his grandfather and the Sherpas of Everest.

Judy runs a small travel agency involved in tours to among other places Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Japan. She still visits many of these

ride will be on Friday, 21 February 2020, provisionally meeting at Mill Park Street, Rhodes.

Please contact Steve Drury prior to the day, on phone 9872-7447 or mobile 0487-785-444, if you wish to participate. Note a loan cycle and helmet may be available if required.

† IN REMEMBRANCE †

We pause to remember those of our number who have passed away this year—Peter Patrick, Doug Bennetts, John Mortimer and Michael Healey. We think also of member's wives—Gwen Cunningham and Loretta McDermott.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome into our membership Russell Gough and Martin Maguire. Russell, a retired Engineer, resides with his wife Joan at 60 Carlingford Road, Epping, phone 9869-2365. Martin, a retired Academic, resides with his wife Vicky at 249 Midson Road, Epping, phone 0434-147-131.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Our final "Meeting" of 2019 is the Christmas/End-of-Year Lunch on Tuesday, 3 December 2019 at North Ryde RSL. There will be NO Old Codgers' Music Group in December or January. However, the President's Coffee Morning will still go ahead in December as outlined elsewhere.

CHAIR AND MORNING TEA ROSTER FOR FEBRUARY

Rostered members capable of setting up chairs should be at the hall shortly after 8.30 am. If you cannot be present, please arrange a swap with another member and inform the co-ordinator, Mark Gibbs, phone 9899-8545.



Vince Bignell
Brian Carlin
Maurie Catt (serving tea/coffee only)

Geoffrey Brothers
Tony Chaine



TOUR NEWS

A proposed tour of Norfolk Island in February next year has not been well supported and is unlikely to proceed but will go ahead with only 8 people. We continue to work with South Creek-St Mary's Club to get sufficient

at Rhodes, the 3 eventually returned to Rhodes by the Route 553 bus after a bit of a walk led by our Secretary, using his mobile phone, trying to find where it left from. They had lunch at a café near Rhodes Station before returning home.

This month use your Opal Card for a train trip including the new L2 Light Rail to Randwick Light Rail Station on Monday, 16 December 2019. We will assemble at Epping Station at 9.30 a.m. to catch the train on Platform 1 at 9.47 a.m., arriving at Central Station at 10.25 a.m. on platform 16. Here we alight and join the train on platform 17 at 10.30 a.m. to Circular Quay, arriving there at 10.39 a.m.

We will exit the Station and go to the Circular Quay Light Rail Station and join the first available Light Rail Vehicle (tram) and travel to the Randwick Light Rail Station in High Street, adjoining the Prince of Wales Hospital. We will then walk the short distance to Belmore Road and find a suitable café for lunch. After lunch, we will return to Randwick Light Rail Station and board the Light Rail Vehicle to Central Light Rail Station in Chalmers Street and proceed to Platform 18 to catch the train back to Epping. Please note that departure and journey times for the L2 Light Rail are not available yet, although one report suggests 38 to 40 minutes.

Next month's train trip will be on Monday, 20 January 2020 and is a journey to Manly. We will meet at Epping Station at 9.30 a.m. to catch the 9.47 a.m. train to Central Station from platform 1, arriving there on platform 16 at 10.24 a.m. We will leave from platform 17 at Central at 10.30 a.m. for Circular Quay, arriving there at 10.39 a.m.

Exiting the Station we will proceed to Wharf 3 to catch the Manly ferry at 11.00 a.m., arriving at Manly at 11.30 a.m., where we will have lunch, which will be either at the Manly Wharf precinct or somewhere along The Corso/Manly Beach area.

After lunch we will proceed to Bus Stand "B" in the Esplanade (beside the Wharf) and take the Route 144 bus to Chatswood that departs at 1.13 p.m. This bus should arrive at Chatswood at 2.10 p.m. We will proceed to Chatswood Station and go to Platform 3 to catch the Metro train at around 2.21 p.m. back to Epping, arriving there about 2.35 p.m.

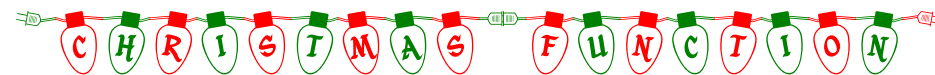
Cycle Group

There were 4 riders on Friday, 22 November 2019 for the ride along the Parramatta Cycleway. The meeting point was Mill Park Street, Rhodes at 10.00 a.m. We rode through the wetlands to Silverwater Bridge where we crossed over the river to ride to Meadowbank for coffee. We then crossed the railway bridge back to Rhodes, approximately 20 km return trip.

No rides are planned for December or January. However, if anyone would like to do an impromptu ride please do a 'ring around'. The next cycle

places herself and maintains close ties with the people of these lands. The wildlife in these South Asian countries are of special interest to her.

We very sincerely thank Judy for coming and telling us about her life story and how she became closely involved in Mount Everest and the family of the Nepalian who first climbed it.



Our Christmas Function this year will be held at The Grand Pittwater within The North Ryde RSL Community Club on Tuesday, 3 December 2019 at 11.15 a.m. Drinks will be served at the dining room entrance from about 11.20 a.m. and lunch will commence at approximately 12 noon. The Club is located at the cnr of Magdaia and Pittwater Roads North Ryde.

The Menu will consist of three courses with an entrée, a main course and dessert. There will be two dishes per course and they will be served alternately to each person at each table. Gluten-free meals can be requested. Self-serve coffee and tea will be available after sweets. Drinks during lunch will be at individual cost and can be ordered from the Bar.

Seating is at round tables, each providing for 10 persons and the table settings will be white linen with Christmas decorations. Guests are encouraged to circulate between tables during the meal.

We have 63 members and partners attending our Christmas Function this year. There will be a short address from our President after the main course to mark the completion of our 40th year. A public address system will be in operation during the day.

February 2020

Patrick Dodd will be our guest speaker on Monday, 10 February, 2020, when his topic will be "The Governor's Travels—touring the colony with Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie". He will tell us the impressive achievements of Lachlan Macquarie during his tenure as Governor of the Colony. Come and join Patrick as he walks in the Governor's footsteps down the original Cox's Road from Emu Plains to the top of Mount York and across country to Glenroy Crossing. The Governor was constantly on the move between the Illawarra, Lake George, Bathurst, Port Macquarie and Tasmania. We meet some of the fascinating people who went with him on his journeys.

He had 5 decades of experience in education, training and tourism with numerous organisations. In 1980 he started his own training and development company, Mindworks International which consulted to many companies in 14 countries. He has the Australian Sports Medal for services to sport, being a manager of Australia's Winter Olympic Teams in Canada and Norway.

In retirement he was Founder and President of the Macquarie Society; a Volunteer Guide at the State Library of NSW; a Public Speaker and in 2012 was awarded NSW Volunteer of the Year for Cultural Heritage Interpretation.

This year, he and his wife Gillian will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary. She was a history teacher and passionate gardener who is a Volunteer Guide at the Royal Botanic Gardens. They enjoy the company of their eight grandchildren.

DAY OUTINGS

February 2020

The first outing for next year will be on Tuesday, 18 February 2020 and is a conducted tour of one of Sydney most famous Cathedrals, St Mary's Cathedral, which is located next to Hyde Park in the CBD. Our tour will last approximately one hour and will be conducted by a member of the Church Staff. The tour will include a visit to most of the church alcoves and a look at part of the crypt. The churches history and unique features will be explained by our guide and questions and comments will be welcomed.

We will assemble at Epping Station Concourse at 9.30 a.m. to catch the 10.05 a.m. train on platform 1, arriving at Central on platform 9 at 10.29 a.m. We will go to platform 20 to catch the train to St James Station.

Following our tour, we will walk to David Jones for lunch at 12.15 p.m. It is a Bistro menu, which includes oysters and the prices are reasonable. The main dishes are about \$15 to \$20 and drinks are available with your order. Following lunch we will walk to Town Hall Station for the journey home.

March

The second outing is on Monday, 9 March 2020 and is a visit to Camden Valley Inn. This outing is a bus tour with another Club to the Camden Valley Inn for a St Patrick's Irish Day Luncheon Package. The venue offers a welcome drink, a 2-course Irish Lunch and live entertainment in a themed Dining Room. The total cost of lunch and the bus is expected to be approximately \$65 per head with additional drinks extra. Our bus will leave from Epping Station at 10.00 a.m. and will return to the same location at approximately 4.30 p.m. Further details will be in the next Newsletter.

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

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Probus activities mostly go into recess for December and January, after the Christmas Lunch. However, there will be some activities available as listed in the Newsletter.

The following contains reports on Other Activities held in November 2019, which are not mentioned elsewhere in the Newsletter:

Music Group—10 people attended the Music Group at the home of John and Pam Peters. The next meeting will be in February.

Coffee Club—The November Coffee Club was cancelled due to the unfortunate timing associated with the funerals of John Mortimer and Michael Healey. Next meeting is on 6 December 2019 at 10.00 a.m.

Movie Group—The November movie is *Ford Versus Ferrari* on Tuesday, 26 November 2019. At time of publication, attendance is unknown. Movies will resume in February.

Theatre—10 people enjoyed *Me and My Girl* on Friday, 8 November 2019 at the Eastwood Uniting Musical Society. Also, on Wednesday, 20 November 2019, 29 people attended *Doubt— a Parable* at The Chester Street Theatre. Theatre events will continue in 2020.

Dining—10 people enjoyed good food and conviviality at The Fork 'n Spoon restaurant, near Meadowbank Wharf, booked by Ross Beattie. Dining (lunch or dinner) will resume in February. We are still seeking more members who would be able to arrange at least one lunch or dinner each year.

Ramble—Col Jones led 13 people on an easy walk, on Thursday, 21 November 2019, from Tempe Station to Wolli Creek along the banks of the Cooks River. Further Rambles may resume in February.

Computer Club—Three people participated in computer related activity during November. As the computer activity trial concludes at the end of 2019, it will not be offered formally as an activity in 2020, unless an interested member can come forward to manage it. Contact Ed Thurston for full detail.

Tech Bar last session will be on Friday, 13 December 2019 and first meeting in 2020 will be on 7 February. Also on that day Chatswood library will be having a 'Seniors Technology Open Day' from 10.30 a.m.–1.00 p.m. There will be demonstrations on how to use chrome cast to stream movies, use Bluetooth to listen to music and use voice assistance to help finding information on the internet. This will also include a morning tea.

By Opal Card

Last month 11 members and a guest enjoyed a train ride on the soon to be closed Carlingford Line from the terminus to Clyde, thence on to Olympic Park via Lidcombe. Here we had morning tea in the café located in the heritage listed old Abattoirs Buildings adjacent to the Olympic Park Station.

Following morning tea we set out to catch the Route 526 nearby at 12.37 p.m. for a trip to Rhodes over the bridge across Homebush Bay. However, the newly trialling Navya driverless shuttle bus turned up and 3 members could not resist the temptation to try it out, while the rest went to Rhodes as scheduled. While this group returned back to Epping upon arriving