

Yarrawonga—26 September–1 October 2021

Put the dates in your diary. More details will be advised closer to the time.
For information, please contact Wal Gallagher by email wwg@bigpond.com or mobile 0429-484-639.

BRIAN TEASER

The answer to last month's Brain Teaser, which was the last of my collection, is that the frog never gets out, as the distance gets shorter.

Have you ever wondered.....?
Why do they call a single Television unit a set?
Why wrong numbers are never engaged?



President Michael 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.



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Epping and District Probus Club Inc.



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MERRY CHRISTMAS **DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER**

PRESIDENT'S MISSIVE

Now that summer is here the outlook for a resumption of our normal Probus activities is the best yet for the past whole year. Good news—I have made enquiries with the Epping Presbyterian Church yesterday and the Minister has agreed today to allow us to resume our normal monthly meetings from 8 February next year. This is a precursor to perhaps resuming all of our normal social activities and details are included in this Newsletter covering what has been arranged so far.

Keith Robinson has asked me to be relieved of his duties as Train Outings Organiser. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Keith for his strong contribution as the organiser over this past difficult period. I am pleased to announce that Col Short has agreed to take over this task and he has already planned some outings for next year.

In place of the cancelled Christmas party two informal lunches have already been arranged with the second of these to be held on Thursday this week. Thanks go to Greg Stone and Ray Palmer for organising these activities.

This December edition of our Newsletter has been prepared by Col Short and will be distributed to members by Email. Leo and Ray will print some copies and mail these to those who do not have access to Email.

At last there is some optimism in the air and from here on our freedom of movement in Australia and our social gatherings can only get better. I intend to take advantage of this and will travel to WA later in December to visit the family.

I hope you all can also visit your family and loved ones. I look forward to next year when our lives return to normal and the experiences of the past year fall behind us.

MEETINGS

November

Ken Fletcher was our guest speaker last month by Zoom, when his topic was “Nullarbor Surprises Part 2”. After visiting Cook, once a fettlers town, we looked again at the impressive 80–100 meter high Cliffs of Bunda but this time from the top of the cliffs, to scan along the slowly decaying rugged edge stretching for many tens of kilometres into the distance. We were lucky to see a large pod of dolphins frolicking in the surf, and arose early to observe the cold morning land breeze forming mists as it dropped over the edge and mixed with the warmer, more humid sea air.

At the road sign warning to be careful of camels, wombats, and kangaroos, we took the un-signposted road north and after crossing the old Eyre Highway entered the Old Koonalda Sheep Station. The walls of the homestead were constructed of railway sleepers sourced from the TransAustralian railway, the windows and doors came from the abandoned Eucla Telegraph station, the kitchen and bathroom would have been modern in their day, but the electrical wiring appeared connected to bare wires above the ceiling. The Gurney family leased this land from 1938 to 1988 but the property was only viable because they could pump water from the Koonalda cave. The aboriginals used to get flint from this cave to trade, 20,000 years ago and have left many paintings. The homestead complex consisted of the homestead, shearers hut, shearing shed, sheep drench pit, generator room, petrol outlet, workshop, storage shed and stables. In the early days, before motorised vehicles, camel teams were used to transport the wool to port, around 1907.

The National Parks now looks after the property. It has restored the roof of the homestead and removed a lot of the buildings as they were in a dangerous state. Many wrecked vehicles are scattered around that could not finish their journey.

Next we had to stop at Border Village with its extremely strict quarantine inspections, then on to Eucla to see the sand covered ruins of the Telegraph Station built in 1877. We drove through Madura with its horse breeding past and on to Cocklebidy which also has a famous cave nearby. From here, we drove south, on a sandy track to meet the sea of the Great Australian Bight and look at the EYRE Bird Observatory which occupies the restored EYRE Telegraph Station. It is manned by volunteers, all year around, to keep records of the bird and animal numbers, as well as weather reporting. Visitors can also stay.

The 90-mile straight road to Balladonia Telegraph Station and Roadhouse is next. Balladonia is the area the American Skylab crashed in

Eyre Peninsula—17 May–27 May 2021

This tour, which was planned for earlier this year, has been re-booked. Deposits of \$100 per person are now due and as is the case with Bishops tours, I expect this will be well supported and places on the 24-seater bus will be allocated in order of booking. The price of the tour is \$2615 per person twin share or \$3120 single. Please pay your deposits now by EFT to Epping Probus BSB 032287 Account 154993, or by cheque to Epping Probus posted to Leo Hart’s address, 16 Hermington Street, Epping. A summary of the tour is listed below and a detailed itinerary is available from Wal. The tour is 11 days/10 nights and includes all meals except lunch on the train and lunch and dinner on the free day.

Day 1—First class on the Xplorer train to Broken Hill at 6.18 a.m. Bishops coach will meet the train and arrange dinner. Overnight in Broken Hill.

Day 2—Broken Hill to Peterborough with a stop in Yunta. Visit the Peterborough Railway Museum and overnight in Peterborough.

Day 3—Peterborough to Streaky Bay through Orroroo, Wilmington and Port Augusta. Overnight in Streaky Bay.

Day 4—Streaky Bay to Port Lincoln. Spectacular coastline of the Southern Ocean. Overnight Port Lincoln.

Day 5—Port Lincoln and a cruise on Boston Bay. Overnight Port Lincoln.

Day 6—Port Lincoln – Free day. Overnight Port Lincoln.

Day 7—Port Lincoln to Clare. Crystal Brook and Clare Valley. Overnight Clare.

Day 8—Clare to Broken Hill via historic copper mining town of Burra and railway town of Terowie. Overnight Broken Hill.

Day 9—Broken Hill and Silverton. Mining history, galleries and Mundi Mundi Plains. Overnight Broken Hill.

Day 10—Broken Hill to Dubbo. Stops in Wilcannia and Cobar. Wind up the tour with a special dinner. Overnight Dubbo.

Day 11—Dubbo to Epping. Stops in Wellington, Orange, Bathurst and Katoomba. Arrive Epping around 5.00 p.m.

Adelaide to Uluru—13 August–24 August 2021

This is *The Uluru and Outback Explorer* tour as detailed in the November Newsletter. Fly to Adelaide and luxury coach to Flinders Ranges, Quorn, Port Augusta, Woomera, Coober Pedy, Alice Springs and Uluru. Fly home from Yulara. Contact Wal for more information or to request a booking form. Deposits of \$55 per person are due now and payable to Epping Probus.

WELFARE REPORT (prepared by our Welfare Officer, Ray Palmer)

Uow! What a year we have had and now looking forward to 2021. I wish to advise of the passing of two of our Non-Active members during the month of November. John Webb passed away on the 8th and my wife and I were invited to attend his Celebration of Life, and Arthur Goswell passed away on the 14th and Glenys invited my wife, myself, Wal and Athole Gallagher to attend his wonderful Celebration of a wonderful life.

I wish to advise of the passing of the Dear Wife of Ian Campbell, Elizabeth on 20 November. A service was held on the 27th and our good wishes were sent to Ian, who was a wonderful Secretary for our Club a number of years ago.

The following Non-Active members say that they are OK at present: John Cox, Brian Howard, Tony Malin, Ron MacIntosh, Dick Nicholson and Paul Woodward. I was unable to contact Owen Harrison and Wal Williams, who is currently staying with family. John Steele-Smith is continuing to have more downs than ups.

And now to our Active members: Doug Sneddon has undergone major surgery on his skull, and speaking to Del she said he is still having big issues to successfully recover. Ron Leslie, Keith Robinson and Alf Mc Dermott are still enduring on-going health issues.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I, like you, look forward to a post-COVID-19 relaxation of the necessary restrictions, and a full resumption of our normal ZOOM-free social activities, perhaps by February.

In accordance with our Club's Constitution (12 May 2104), Clause S.c (following), I call members to consider nominating for positions on the Management Committee for the coming term: Nominations for positions on the Management Committee for the ensuing year shall be called for at the meeting preceding the February meeting, such nominations to be lodged with the Secretary no later than the February meeting. These positions shall be filled by ballot, if necessary, at the annual general meeting.

I remind members that through the past year the Vice President has remained vacant: please seriously consider nominating for this or other positions.

TOUR NEWS

Hopefully travel restrictions will be behind us as we move into 2021. Three tours are booked for next year as we look forward to the chance to get away for a break.

1979 and parts of it were displayed in the roadhouse for a while. From here we stopped at the Fraser Range working sheep station and caravan park before driving to Norseman.

We very sincerely thank Ken for taking us through more of his journey across the Eyre Highway.

February 2021

Rafaele Joudry will be our guest speaker on Monday, 8 February 2021, when her topic will be "Sound Therapy for Tinnitus and hearing difficulties". Rafaele pioneered the first portable Sound Therapy programme after discovering how much the work of Dr Alfred Tomatis had benefited her mother's hearing difficulties. She holds a Masters of Psychology degree specializing in Sound Therapy. She has dedicated her life to helping people overcome auditory problems thus enhancing their lives through better ear and brain health.

Sound Therapy SYNERGY is now a well-established method for achieving better memory, focus, creativity, communication, increased quality and amount of sleep, creating a feeling of wellbeing, improving mental alertness, clarity listening and learning, as well as natural hearing improvement and tinnitus relief. It has a profound effect on the way the nervous system responds to stress. Neural plasticity enables the brain to become a more efficient processor of sound.

SYNERGY is an effective tinnitus treatment because it works on the entire auditory pathway from the eardrum to the cortex of the brain. It is a physical stimulus that reorganises the way the ear and the brain respond to sound. This is the first time something has been released that really addresses the cause of tinnitus.

Rafaele was educated in England and Canada but now resides in Australia. Rafaele regularly tours Australia, Europe & the USA and has authored dozens of articles plus three best-selling books: *Sound Therapy: Music to Recharge Your Brain*, *Triumph Over Tinnitus* and *Why Aren't I Learning*.

† IN REMEMBRANCE †

We pause to remember those of our number who have passed away this year—Rod Michie, Gordon Lidgett, Keith Butler, John Webb and Arthur Goswell. We think also of member's wives—Barbara Howard, Fay Salmon and Elizabeth Campbell.

DAY OUTINGS

February 2021

The February outing is on Wednesday, 17 February 2021 and is a lunch at the Manly Pavilion. The Manly Pavilion is a white heritage building with an iconic panoramic view of Sydney harbour. It is a short stroll from the Manly Ferry Wharf.

We will assemble at the Epping Station Concourse at 10.00 a.m. to travel to Manly by train and ferry for lunch at 12.30 p.m. Travel details will be given in the February Newsletter. The price of the 2-course lunch package is \$40 per person, payable on the day. We need to finalise numbers prior to the February meeting, so, if you would like to come, please advise the Outings Organiser by email to Russell.Gough51@gmail.com before 1 February.

March

The March outing is on Monday, 15 March 2021 and is a St Patrick's celebration at The Fiddler in Rouse Hill. The Fiddler includes a heritage building fronting Windsor Road that was designed by Francis Greenway in 1826 as a half-way house for Cobb & Co. to service the Parramatta to Windsor run.

If a sufficient number of members are interested in attending, we will be able to hire a bus, and the cost for the lunch, including transport, will be about \$70 per person. If you would like to come, please advise the Outings Organiser, by email to Russell.Gough51@gmail.com before 1 March.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Thursday, 10 December 2020 our Dining Group has booked lunch at West Pennant Hills Sports Club, 103 New Line Road, West Pennant Hills, NSW, for 30 people. See November 2020 Newsletter for further details. Note this is in lieu of our normal Christmas Lunch.

Friday, 11 December 2020 at 10.00 a.m. the President's Coffee Morning, Coffee Club, Carlingford Court.

Monday, 14 December 2020 at 2.30 p.m. (LIVE and via ZOOM): Ross Beattie will host an afternoon of Christmas music for the last Old Codgers Music Circle of 2020: music pre-selected by attendees.

Tuesday, 26 January 2021 (COVID-19 health guidelines permitting) our the Film Group hope to resume film plus lunch activities. The venue (usually either Event Cinemas at Macquarie Centre, or Roseville Cinemas) and times will be advised a few days in advance once cinemas announce their weekly programme. The 4th Tuesday of the month will be the Film Group outing.

Cycle Group

There were 7 riders on Friday, 20 November 2020 which includes Margaret. We were also joined by three other ladies who came for a social day. The meeting place was the Gosford Sailing Club at 10.00 a.m. Our route was along the Brisbane Water cycle path from Gosford to Woy Woy over the Spike Milligan Bridge and return, a distance of 24 km. The group had lunch in Spinnakers restaurant at the Sailing Club with views over Brisbane Water.

The next ride will be on Friday, 18 December 2020, at Narrabeen Lagoon. The meeting time is 10.00 a.m. at Billarong Playground car park on Wakehurst Parkway, for 2 laps of the lagoon, anti-clockwise, a distance of 18 km. We will have coffee/lunch in the lakeside café on the lagoon.

If you wish to participate please contact Steve Drury, prior to the day, by email: sandbdrury@gmail.com or 9872-7447 or 0487-785-444. A loan cycle and helmet may be available if required. This is the last ride of 2020, another year gone!

By Opal Card

Use your Opal Card for a trip involving the three Sydney Light Rail Lines on Monday, 15 February 2021. We will assemble at Epping Station at 8.45 a.m. to catch the train on Platform 1 at 9.01 a.m., arriving at Strathfield Station at 9.24 a.m. Here we will go to Platform 8 to catch the train at 9.36 a.m. to Lidcombe, arriving there at 9.44 a.m. on Platform 4. We cross to Platform 5, to catch the 9.49 a.m. train to Dulwich Hill, arriving there at 10.26 a.m.

We will then walk the short distance to the L1 Light Rail Terminus, which involves either about 40 steps or a lift (there is no lift at the railway station yet). The trams depart every 10 minutes. We will alight at the Capital Square stop.

We will walk to the nearby L2/L3 Light Rail Chinatown stop and join the L2 tram to Randwick. We will then walk along Belmore Road to the Bus Stop opposite Silver Street (approximately 400 metres) and board the Route 400 bus to Nine Ways Kingsford. We will negotiate the various pedestrian crossings on Nine Ways to reach the South's Juniors Club for lunch (subject to confirmation with the Club).

After lunch, we will walk across the road to the L3 Light Rail Terminus and catch the tram to the Central (Chalmers Street) Station Stop (trams run every 8 minutes). We will go to Platform 18 at Central Station and catch the train back to Epping.

Please note that Health and Public Transport guidelines current at the time of the trip will be strictly enforced.