

ALWAYS CHECK THE CONTENTS

A young man wished to purchase a Christmas gift for his sweetheart, and after careful consideration, he decided on a pair of gloves. Accompanied by his sweetheart's younger sister, he went to a department store and bought a pair of white gloves. The sister purchased a pair of panties for herself.

During the wrapping, the clerk mixed up the items so the sister got the gloves and the sweetheart got the panties. Without checking the contents, he sealed the package and sent it to his sweetheart along with the following note:

Darling,

I chose these because I noticed that you are not in the habit of wearing any when we go out in the evening. If it had not been for your sister, I would have chosen the long ones with buttons, but she wears short ones that are easy to remove.

These are a delicate shade, the lady I brought them from showed me a pair that she had been wearing for three weeks, and they were hardly soiled. I had the sales girl try them on for me and she looked really smart.

I wish I was there to put them on for you for the first time, as no doubt other hands will come in contact with them before I have a chance to see them again.

When you take them off, remember to blow in them before putting them away, as they will naturally be a little damp from wearing.

Be sure to keep them on when cleaning them or they might shrink. Just think how many times I will kiss them during the coming year. I hope you like them, and will wear them for me Friday night.

All My Love.

PS The latest style is to wear them folded down with a little fur showing.

SAY WHAAAT???

- Breaking News. John Travolta has been hospitalised with suspected Covid 19. Doctors have now confirmed that it was only Saturday Night Fever and they assure everyone he is Stayin' Alive. Apparently he had Chills that were multiplyin'
- I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back. – Zsa Zsa Gabor
- My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying. – Rodney Dangerfield
- I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap. – Bob Hope.

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Epping and District Probus Club Inc.



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MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MISSIVE

This second Newsletter of the 2022 year confirms that our member's activities, meetings and social gatherings are getting back to normal at last. Covid is still with us but there are now more sensible and mature decisions being made by Politicians and Public Health officials in all the seven states in Australia. Our meetings in the Church Hall are almost back to normal and the only rules that the Church request is the wearing of masks during the meeting. Signing in on the Club register is required as per normal.

At our Club meeting, this coming Monday, we will commence at 10.00 a.m. with the agenda of our normal monthly meetings followed by the AGM. At the conclusion of the AGM, we will break for morning tea and at 11.00 a.m. we will introduce our speaker for the day. After our speaker has answered any questions from the floor the meeting will conclude.

As members are aware our club has had considerable difficulties in finding members who are willing to fill various positions on the Management Committee. We still do not have a volunteer to fill the Vice President role, but I am pleased to report that the most of the Committee members are willing to continue in their current roles for another year. Frank Hanlon has requested to retire from the Speakers Organiser role, and I wish to take this opportunity to thank Frank for his excellent contribution. Leo Hart has volunteered to take over this role and will join the Club Committee this month.

I am also pleased to report that Col Short, a previous President in 1999, has volunteered to become President and he will nominate for the position in the 2022–23 year at the AGM on Monday for election by members.

I am personally retiring from the Presidents role at the AGM but will continue as an active member of the Committee as the ex officio Past President.

For all of us it has been a tough last two years with many challenges on our family lifestyle and social activities. I have been particularly impressed by the spirit that the Australian people have demonstrated in coping with the pandemic, and the resulting difficulties, in a multitude of ways. I think

Australia will be one of the countries that recovers the fastest and our society will continue to grow and develop our nation for our future generations. My very best wishes to you all and as the Chinese say, “may good fortune be with you now and in the future”.

MEETINGS

February

We very sincerely thank our President and Leo Hart for stepping in last month as guest speakers due to the absence of Les Fenech. Michael spoke about his time in China from 1979 on behalf of the company who employed him, to build an electronics component factory in one of its Provinces. In what was supposed a day visit from Hong Kong to rewrite the specifications for the construction of the building instead took 3½ weeks. This required Michael to reside in China.

At the end of the 3½ weeks Michael returned to Hong Kong and thence back home. Sometime prior to 1980 he had to return to China taking with him a refrigerator. This was due to the lack of refrigeration for food in the accommodation where he had stayed for the 3½ weeks. Michael’s company successfully submitted its tender for the construction of the factory in 1980, which the Chinese paid for in gold. It took 2½ years to build the factory.

Leo spoke about his life growing up on a farm near Junee. He particularly covered the influence of the weather on the output of the crops and the affect on the animals. For instance, in 1964 there was a lot of rain which resulted in a record yield—3–4 tons/acre of hay (many haystacks). However, next year the weather changed—no rain. So Leo’s father sold the cattle but kept the sheep. This drought continued until 1968, the rain pattern did not change until August of that year, when heavy rain occurred at the rate of 100 mL/hour.

March

Hazelyn Dillon is our guest speaker today, when her talk will be “My Life in The Business World”. Hazelyn left school just before she turned 16 after completing the School Certificate and began her working life as a Laboratory Assistant in a Rock & Soil Laboratory. After ten months, she moved to a drug company where she learnt many analytical procedures.

She married at twenty years of age and moved to take up employment in a Pigment, Paint & Plastic Laboratory, closer to where she was living. Then after some time she left the workforce for 12 years to raise her children.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Committee proposes that the subscriptions for 2022 be increased from the 2021 reduced rate of \$30.00 to \$40.00. Members are reminded that their subscriptions become due following the decision of the members at the Annual General Meeting and the Treasurer would be pleased to receive your subscription as soon as possible. The Club’s direct deposit details are Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Account No. 182681668 Account Name Epping and District Probus Club Inc. If paying by cash he would appreciate if you could pay the exact amount.



TOUR NEWS

Queensland Outback to Reef—15—28 May 2022

This tour is fully booked but a waiting list is in place if you want to add your name to it. Final payments for this tour are due by Tuesday, 15 March 2022.

Adelaide to Uluru—10–21 August 2022

Bookings are now open for this 12-day tour to the outback, Adelaide to Uluru via the Flinders Ranges. Among the many highlights are Burra, Hawker, Wilpena Pound, Pichi Richi Explorer (steam-train ride), Port Augusta, Woomera, Coober Pedy (Desert Cave Hotel with choice of underground or above ground accommodation), Alice Springs, MacDonnell Ranges and Uluru. There is a free day in Yulara for anyone interested in a number of optional tours available there. Return to Sydney from Yulara.

Travelling by luxury coach after the flight to Adelaide, the tour is priced at \$5798 per person twin share with a single supplement of \$1195.

Yarrawonga—18–23 September 2022

Please put these dates in your diaries for later this year. Deposits already paid for this tour when it was cancelled last year will be carried forward.

Please contact Wal for further information on any of the tours: email wwg@bigpond.com or mobile 0429-484-639.

well, especially with breathing difficulties. Alf McDermott is feeling far from well with his mouth cancers affecting his eating and Ron Mackintosh is really experiencing difficulties with his vision. John Steele-Smith is a little more settled at Dural. No contact was made with family of Laurie Fuller.

And now to celebrations: Ray Finch turned 80 years on 8 March while Ray & Jill Thorpe will be celebrating 70 years married on 12 March. Congratulations to both of our Rays!!!!

SECRETARY'S GUFF

We hope the coming year allows our normal activities to resume fully with 'live', face-to-face meetings at 10.00 a.m. in the Epping Presbyterian Church Hall.

Please consider nominating for a Committee position next year. Remember that the current Management Committee has served the 2021–22 year as a "roll-over" due to COVID. Consider NOMINATING for a Committee position and help your Club. Many of you will have served previously, consider serving again. (PS: a perk is exemption from the Morning Tea roster while on the Committee!)

Remember a WebSearch for 'EDPCi' should find the Club's Website (<http://www.rnbt.id.au/edpci>) and associated Calendar which are fairly up-to-date and can be used in conjunction with the Newsletter.

CHAIR AND MORNING TEA ROSTER

Rostered members capable of setting up chairs and tables 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 Secretary.

March

James Bidgood	Vince Bignell
Geoffrey Brothers	Brian Carlin



April

Tony Chaine	Yew Cheah
Rick Collins	Javerchand Christie



During this time Hazelyn went to TAFE and did her Higher School Certificate. After gaining her Certificate she went to Macquarie University and did a Science Degree majoring in Biology. It took six years as a part-time student.

Hazelyn then gained employment with a Cosmetic Company. After two years she became its Laboratory Manager and several years later she moved to Colgate as a Developing Chemist and, after six years, finishing as the most senior Technical Woman in Colgate Australia. During this time, she became a member of the Australia Society of Cosmetic chemists.

As an active member she joined teams who organised conferences to keep Australia up to date with the developments in clinical trials. Hazelyn was then "head hunted" and joined a contract Manufacturing Company, that manufactured personal care products for many international companies, as its Research and Development Manager. She worked there for 8 years until she retired.

April

Alice Kang OAM will be our guest speaker next month on Monday, 11 April 2022, when her topic will be "The Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway". Alice is currently the Director of the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway located at Rhodes Park, Concord. She recently retired from Concord Hospital after 46 years of service, having held several leadership roles over this period, the latest as Director of Marketing and Community/Veteran Relations.

Alice commenced her nursing training at Concord Hospital in 1974. Her time at Concord has seen her rise from being a Charge Nurse of the Emergency Department to Assistant Nursing Director of the Critical Care Area. She completed post graduate courses in Management and Gerontology in the late 70s and a Bachelor of Health Administration degree from UNSW in 1991.

In 1997, she was appointed as the State's first Veteran Liaison Officer at Concord Hospital, a role funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs. She was charged with overseeing all matters pertaining to the care of veterans, setting a blueprint for other hospitals around the State who have veterans in their care.

Alice was responsible for the construction of the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway, a major project initiated by Concord Hospital. She set up the Friends of Kokoda in 1998 and spearheaded the school's visitation program to the Memorial Walkway, engaging veterans as guides allowing them to share their valuable stories. The Memorial now receives approximately 4,000 students and 158,000 visitors annually.

In her role as Director of Marketing, Alice was instrumental in helping the Hospital engage with the broader community. She was responsible for setting up the Public Health Forum series at the Hospital including the major annual fundraising events Opera Night at Rivendell and the Rivendell Flower Show. These events became major cultural highlights in the City of Canada Bay.

In acknowledgement of her work at the Hospital and on behalf of veterans, Alice was made Drummoyne Woman of the year in 2015 and City of Canada Bay's 2018 Citizen of the year, while very recently she was awarded the OAM.

She is presently curating 2 books to capture the history of Concord Hospital and the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway to mark their 80th and 25th anniversary respectively, which occurred last year.

DAY OUTINGS

March

This month's outing will be on Thursday, 31 March 2022, and will be a trip on the Nepean Belle Paddlewheeler. This cruise on the Nepean River will take 2½ hours and will take us up the Nepean River Gorge through very scenic surrounds. The boat is equipped with a Bar and lunch table facilities. Please note that drinks on board can only be purchased with cash. A delicious lunch will be served while we cruise the river and we will be entertained by the Captain's commentary.

Guests are asked to be at the dock at Penrith, ready to board, by 11.30 a.m. for a 12 noon departure. Boarding is at the Jetty at Tench Reserve, Tench Avenue, Jamisontown. Free parking is available—turn toward the river at the small roundabout, follow the loop road back up and park in the carpark on the left (just before Tench Avenue exit). Please note that drinks on board can only be purchased with cash. The cost is \$53 per person (senior's prices) for the cruise and lunch.

April

Next month's outing will be on Friday, 29 April 2022, and will be a Naval Harbour Cruise. The 3-hour cruise west of the Harbour Bridge is operated by the Naval Historical Society of Australia. The sites you will see and learn about include; HMAS *Waterhen*, Cockatoo Island, Spectacle Island and Snapper Island. The commentary on the cruise is supported by a complimentary booklet of photos to bring the story to life. During the cruise you will also learn about some of the RAN customs and traditions. The cost is

In his absence, please contact Ross Beattie on 0402-350-481 if you wish to participate or need more information.

By Opal Card

Use your Opal Card on Monday, 21 March 2022 to travel to Narellan for lunch. We will assemble on Platform 1 at the southern end of the Metro entrance area, no later than 8.45 a.m. to catch the 8.56 a.m. train to Rhodes arriving there at 9.06 a.m. Here we will alight to catch the Route 533 Bus at 9.15 a.m. to Olympic Park Station arriving there at 9.28 a.m.

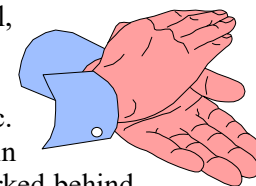
At Olympic Park Station, where the entrance is adjacent to the bus stop, we will join the 9.32 a.m. train to Lidcombe, where we go to Platform 4 to catch the 10.03 a.m. train to Leppington (this allows sufficient time at Lidcombe for those who wish to use the lift at the western end of the station). At Leppington we will board the Route 841 bus at 11.12 a.m. to Narellan Town Centre arriving there at 11.55 a.m. This 43-minute bus ride is a "Cook's Tour" through the housing developments in the Macarthur suburbs of Leppington, Emerald Hills, Gledswood Hills and Gregory Hills.

After lunch at the ART House restaurant at the entrance to Narellan Town Centre, we will board the Route 895 bus at 1.10 p.m. to Macarthur Station arriving there at 1.28 p.m. From here we will join the 1.44 p.m. train on Platform 1 to Town Hall Station, arriving there at 3.01 p.m. to cross to Platform 2 to board the 3.12 p.m. train to Epping arriving there at 3.50 p.m.

Please note that Health and Public Transport guidelines current at the time of the trip will be strictly enforced. Due to public holidays, there will be no Opal Card trip in April.

APPRECIATION TO OUR OUTGOING COMMITTEE

The members all join together in thanking our outgoing Committee—Michael Brinsden, Ross Beattie, Godfrey Abel, Frank Hanlon, Russell Gough, Ray Finch, Wal Gallagher and Ray Palmer—for again guiding the Club through another very difficult year due to the Pandemic. 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.



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

I have made contact with the following Non-Active members and all say they are OK at present: John Cox, Bruce Frost, Philip Jones, Tony Malin, Dick Nicholson, Wal Williams and Paul Woodward. Owen Harrison recently had a fall and his legs not so good at present, while Brian Howard is far from

Members are also invited to consider arranging a future lunch or dinner at a venue of their choice. Please discuss with Ray Finch rayfinch42@gmail.com or 0414-746-954.

Movie Group

Andrew Davidson is currently working on the selection of a suitable movie. Details of movie, cinema, time, and optional lunch venue will be provided separately by email.

The Ramblers

Meet at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 24 March at the far end of Sugarloaf Crescent, (off Eastern Valley Way), Castlecrag for a lovely 5 km ramble along the Harold Reid Foreshore Track around Castle Cove and Crag Cove. The Harold Reid Foreshore Track is well formed easy/medium grade track with some stone steps. Lunch after the ramble is at The Incinerator café, 2a Small Street, Willoughby. Please call or text Rick Collins on 0411-611-338 if you would like to come or if you have any queries.

Theatre

The Theatre on Chester gets underway in 2022 with a programme of three plays with the general theme of 'Proof that Things are Glorious!' The first offering is *Things I Know to be True*, a play by Australian playwright Andrew Bovell.

Bob and Fran Price have been married for 30 years and brought up four children. Instead of enjoying retirement, it becomes clear that a parent's job is never really finished.

The performance is at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 27 April 2022 and the cost is \$27.50 per person. Enquiries and bookings with Wal Gallagher, email wwg@bigpond.com or mobile 0429-484-639.

The Wobblies Cycle Group

The Parramatta River Park's ride on Friday, 25 February 2022, was cancelled due to the heavy rains. However, it was replaced by a group lunch at Carlingford Bowling Club, where we watched the bowling green turn into a lake!! An attempt to do the ride the following week on Friday, 4 March, was also thwarted by bad weather.

The next scheduled ride will be Friday, 25 March 2022. Steve Drury is not able to organise this ride as he is away from 16 March to 11 April. His suggested ride would be the Parramatta Cycleway, leaving at 10.00 a.m. from Mill Park Street, Rhodes and return, a ride everyone is familiar with.

\$75 per person, or \$65 per person for a group of 10 or more. The cruise starts at 10 a.m. from King Street wharf and finishes at the same place at 1 p.m.

We will assemble at the Epping Station Concourse at 8.20 a.m. to catch the 8.32 a.m. train on Platform 2 to Wynyard Station so we can check-in for the cruise at the King Street wharf at 9.30 a.m. A table will be booked for lunch at the Cargo Bar.

Please register (and pay) for this outing at the March General meeting so a booking can be made.

May

The May outing will be a lunch that will be organised by Ray Palmer. Details to be advised.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The following 'other activities' are planned for this month. It goes without saying that all activities are conditional on compliance with any relevant Covid-19 restrictions.

Old Codgers Music Group

This month's meeting will be held, 'face to face' (no Zoom) at the home of Ross and Sybil Beattie, 23 Honiton Avenue East, Carlingford at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 14 March. A programme of fine music has been selected for your enjoyment and appreciation. Some Covid restrictions have been removed but for the welfare and confidence of members it is requested that all who attend be double vaccinated, wear a mask indoors when listening to music and place their name on the Secretary's list at the Monday morning General Meeting.

Coffee Club

You can again meet 'face to face', and chat over coffee, etc, at the Coffee Club, Carlingford Court, at 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 18 March.

Dining

Greg Stone has arranged lunch at Drummoyne Sailing Club on Tuesday, 29 March at 12 noon. Please book with Greg by email wafil16666@gmail.com or SMS 0437-030-337. All members are invited to attend. However, the booking is for 20 people and the club will not accept any extras on the day. Therefore, you need to book early with Greg as the 'first in, best dressed' rule will apply.