

name). If paying by cash he would appreciate if you could pay the exact amount.

TOUR NEWS

Parkes—5–10 November 2023

A tour to the 'Golden West', based on Parkes, has been organised for November. Twenty seats have been secured on a coach we will be sharing with Oakhill Dural Probus Club. Accommodation will be at the North Parkes Motel and we are assured of exceptional friendly country hospitality.

Twenty-one persons have indicated that they wish to join the tour against a nominal allocation of 20 seats, so the tour is confirmed. There may be more seats made available after May when Oakhill Dural Probus confirms its requirements. In the meantime, Wal Gallagher is taking names on a waiting list basis until the final number can be clarified.

For those who have already booked, a deposit of \$100 per person is payable into Probus account before the May meeting. Please advise Wal if paying by EFT.

THE LAST POST, ROUSE AND REVEILLE

In military tradition, the Last Post is the bugle call that signifies the end of the day's activities. It is also sounded at military funerals to indicate that the soldier has gone to his final rest and at commemorative services such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

The Rouse and Reveille are bugle calls played to signify different parts of the day. The Rouse is the call used in conjunction with the Last Post at commemorative services such as Remembrance Day, at dedication services and at military funerals. The Rouse is a short bugle call that was also used to call soldiers to their duties. After the one minute silence, the Rouse is sounded during which flags are raised from half mast to the masthead.

Reveille, from the French word 'reveillez', meaning to 'wake-up', was originally played as a drum beat just prior to daybreak. Its purpose is to wake up the sleeping soldiers and to let the sentries know that they could cease challenging. It was also a signal to open the town gates and let out the horse guard, allowing them to do a reconnaissance of the immediate area beyond the walls. During the ANZAC Day Dawn Service, the Last Post is sounded followed by a minute of silence. The silence is broken by the Reveille. Today, the Reveille is only performed on the various Dawn services or as the first call of the day in Barracks.

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

Epping and District Probus Club Inc.



President	Col Jones	9871-2933/0419-017-365
Secretary	John Peters	9869-1957/
Welfare Officer	Ray Palmer OAM	9836-4516/0407-230-908
Website: http://www.rnbt.id.au/edpci		
Postal Address: PO Box 855, Epping NSW 1710		



They went with songs
Straight of limb, true of eye,
They were staunch to the end
They fell with their faces
They shall grow not old,
Age shall not weary them,
At the going down of the sun
We shall remember them



to the battle, they were young,
steady and aglow,
against the odds encountered,
to the foe,
as we that are left grow old
nor the years condemn
and in the morning
LEST WE FORGET

APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

OUR NEW COMMITTEE



Our Committee for 2023–24 is: Col Jones (President), Ross Beattie (Vice President), John Peters (Secretary), Godfrey Abel (Treasurer), Leo Hart (Speakers), Russell Gough (Outings), Ray Finch (Other Activities), Vacant (Tours), Ray Palmer (Welfare) and Col Short (Immediate Past President).

PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

Epping and District Probus Club Inc.(EDPCi) is off to a good start with the 2023–24 Management Committee quickly adapting to the revised NSW Dept of Fair Trading and PSPL reporting requirements. I don't doubt there will be some changes that members will find hard to understand but rest assured we all want to retain the EDPCi culture and reputation as a leading club providing FRIENDSHIP FELLOWSHIP and FUN.

I don't want members to be stressed out over the introduction of computer record keeping. Your Committee is working hard to keep you informed and comfortable using these modern tools.

My request at our last meeting for members to find or renew their Club Membership Card is one technique adopted by our parent organisation PSPL (Probus South Pacific Limited) as a key to its organisation's many facilities throughout Australia and New Zealand. If you have access to the internet visit the website www.probusouthpacific.org and use your Membership Card for

secure identification. AND don't forget to visit our own website <http://www.rnbt.id.au/edpci> developed and maintained by our Vice President and retiring Secretary Ross Beattie. We are very fortunate to have members and PSPL support.

I look forward to joining you for Friendship, Fellowship, Fun and something the hierarchy seem to have forgotten Food.

MEETINGS

April

Arthur Pearce from the Australian National Maritime Museum is our guest speaker today, when his topic will be "RAAF Catalinas in WW2". Most people will have heard of the wartime exploits of the Dam Busters, or the RAF Bomber Command, or the crucial role played by the Spitfire and Hurricane squadrons in the Battle of Britain, but fewer people will be aware of the many exploits of the humble PBY Catalina.

Although in many ways obsolete at the start of the war Catalinas were deployed by most Allied Air Forces, including the RAAF, right through to the end of the war and beyond. The "Cat" was a very different aircraft in speed and design to most others of the time, but it has often been claimed that the Catalina was as vital in the battle for Australia as the Spitfire was in the Battle for Britain.

This presentation will describe the history of the aircraft, and the many roles the Catalinas played in WW2. Their roles included air-sea rescue, convoy escort, supplying coast watchers and Z Force, behind enemy lines, as well as the strategic mine-laying operations by the Black Cats. At the end of the war Catalinas were involved in repatriating POWs from Japanese concentration camps.



Because many of the operations of the RAAF Catalina squadrons were conducted in secrecy, and at night, many of their exploits have never been told, while others are only just coming to light. It is important that the stories of the often-unsung heroes of the crews that flew and maintained these machines be told before their memory fades with the passing of these veterans of the skies.

Please Note that this meeting is on the 1st Monday and not the 2nd Monday due to Easter.

Thankfully this is a very good report. Many of our other Non-Active members have said they are Ok at present even though they have ongoing issues with various health problems, with either themselves or family members—Milton Bartlett, Dennis Druce, Bruce Frost, John Goodman, Owen Harrison, Alan Herron, Frank Johnson, Tony Malin, Dick Nicholson, Ray Thorpe, Wal Williams, Paul Woodward and Tony Chaine.

Alf McDermott saw his cancer specialist on Wednesday, awaiting results. Yew Cheah is continuing to have a battle with his health and Doug Sneddon has now been added to our Non-Active members as he is continuing to have ongoing issues with his legs.

MEETING DAY LADIES COFFEE

Some ladies who regularly like to join us to hear our guest speaker at 11.00 a.m. meet at 10 o'clock at the Darcy Street Project Coffee shop. They are more than happy for other ladies to join them. The shop is located on the edge of Boronia Park and access is from the northern end of Victoria Avenue (the short section between Bridge Street and the Park) or the bottom of Coles Car Park.

MORNING TEA ROSTER

Wayne Steele is happy to do the pre-Meeting set up, so rostered members are only currently needed should be at the hall for serving and tidy-up. If you are unable to be present as rostered, please arrange a swap with another member and inform the Secretary.

April

Rick Collins Joseph Corte
John Connell (serving tea/coffee only)



May

Bob Cruikshank Andrew Davidson
Keith Dixon



SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription for 2023–24 of \$40.00 was approved at last month's AGM. The Treasurer would be pleased to receive your subscription either by cash or direct deposit 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. (please include your

Please contact Steve if you wish to participate or need more information. Contact details are: email sandbdrury@gmail.com or phone 9872-7447 or mobile 0487-785-444.

Theatre—Wal Gallagher is taking bookings for the first play in the Theatre on Chester's 2023 season of three plays, the much loved *Blithe Spirit*. Often described as 'An Improbable Farce', the play is about the chaos that arises when the ghost of Charles Condomine's former wife, Elvira, appears after a séance that he organises in his house. Charles can see and hear the ghost but no-one else can. The play is beautifully written in typical Noel Coward style with his subtle but biting social comment on the English wealthy classes. Some lines are particularly relevant today.

Wal has tickets available for the Wednesday, 26 April performance at 8.00 p.m. at \$25 each. Please book with Wal at the April General Meeting. Also let him know if you wish to attend dinner at the North Epping Thai Restaurant before the play.

By Opal Card—the April Opal Card trip to Cronulla was postponed to Monday, 22 May 2023 due to rain. Use your Opal Card on Friday, 28 April 2023 to travel to Maitland and see Transport Heritage NSW Steam Locomotives 3801 and 6029 arrive for the weekend's Hunter Valley Steamfest. We will assemble at the Sydney end of Epping Station's Platform 3 no later than 8.30 a.m. to catch the 8.40 a.m. train to Hamilton Station, arriving there at 10.46 a.m. Here we will then quickly cross to the Up platform (stairs or the level crossing) to board the 10.50 a.m. train to Maitland, arriving there at 11.26 a.m.

There we will have time for a toilet stop and lunch at the nearby Café Loco before 6029 is scheduled to arrive at 12.54 p.m. At 1.50 p.m. 3801 is timetabled to arrive.

If all goes to plan we will board the 2.13 p.m. train on Platform 1 back to Newcastle Interchange, arriving there at 2.46 p.m. The train back to Epping leaves at 3.12 p.m. for a 5.13 p.m. arrival at Epping.

In the event of rain developing on the day and you plan to attend, please contact Col Short no later than 7.30 a.m. by phone: 9876-1018 to check if the outing is going ahead.

At the time of publishing the Newsletter the ARTC's Train Alteration Advice (TAA) Notice for the Steamfest has not been released. Times indicated above are from the 2022 TAA Notice. Any changes will be advised by email.

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

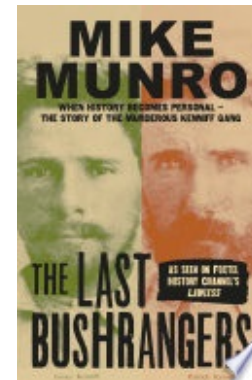
Sadly I wish to report the passing of our Dear Non-Active member Dr John Steele-Smith on the 23rd of March 2023, aged 93 years. We have sent our Club's sympathy to Alice and family. Many of our members and wives attended his Memorial Service at Epping Baptist Church on the 29th of March.

May

Mike Munro will be our guest speaker next month on Monday, 8 May 2023, when he will talk about his early life, his bushranger history and his career as a journalist on 60 Minutes, A Current Affair, This Is Your Life and Sunday Night. He will also present some aspects of his book *The Last Bushrangers*.

Mike's father had abandoned the family when he was only a child, at times his mother when in an angry mood would tell him that he was from "a family of thieves and murders." It was not until many years later when at his father's side on his death bed that this family secret was divulged. We will let Mike, as a family member, reveal this secret.

Epping Probus is fortunate to have a high profile person as guest speaker. The invitation has been extended to promote and possibly attract new members. If you know someone local that could be interested, please invite them. At the May meeting be aware for guests and make them welcome at morning tea time.



DAY OUTINGS

April

This month's outing will be on Monday, 24 April 2023, and will be a Guided tour of the Penrith Museum of Printing. The museum houses a collection of fully operational letterpress printing presses and equipment from the 1840s to the 1970s. The Museum also has a substantial collection of hand-set type and Ludlow fonts as well as an extensive collection of antique wooden display type. The cost of the tour will be \$10 per person. A table will be booked for lunch at the Club Paceway bistro, which is also on the site. Please advise the Outings Co-ordinator on or before Monday, 2 April if you wish to join this outing.

We will meet at the Museum of Printing, which is located within the grounds of the Penrith Paceway, at 10.00 a.m. If travelling from Sydney on the M4 Motorway, take the Mulgoa Road exit and travel north on Mulgoa Road to Ransley Street. Turn right into Ransley Street and then left into the Paceway. The Museum of Printing is the green colour bond building. Car-pooling is advised.

May

Next month's outing will be held on Thursday, 1 June 2023, the 81st Anniversary of the attack on Sydney harbour by Japanese midjet

submarines. The cruise is organised by the Naval Historical Society. A table will be booked for lunch at the Cargo Bar (52–60 The Promenade, King Street Wharf).

We will assemble at the Epping Station Concourse at 8.10 a.m. to catch the 8.24 a.m. Metro to Chatswood. We will change trains at Chatswood, and expect to arrive at Wynyard station 8.59 a.m. We will then have 30 minutes to walk to the King Street Wharf 3 to check in for the cruise at 9.30 a.m. We will board the boat at 9.45 a.m. for a 10.00 a.m. departure.

July

The outing in July will be on Monday, 17 July 2023, and will be a Christmas in July celebration at The Fiddler at Rouse Hill. The cost is \$55 per person. Please advise the Outings Co-ordinator on or before Monday, 5 June if you wish to join this outing. Car-pooling is advised.

If not paying cash, please make a direct deposit to Probus Account BSB 633 000 A/C 182681668 stating YOUR NAME and reason for payment and also advise the Outings Co-Ordinator, Russell Gough, by email to: Russell.Gough51@gmail.com

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The following ‘Other Activities’ are planned for this month. It goes without saying all activities are conditional on compliance with any relevant Covid-19 restrictions. If you plan to attend an outdoor activity and rain develops or heatwave is forecast on the day before the outing commences, please check by phone the activities organiser as early as possible on the day.

Old Codgers Music Group—there were 11 music enthusiasts at the meeting at the home of Bob and Margaret Cruikshank on the 13th of March. This month the meeting will be at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 3 April at the home of John and Pam Peters, 81A Cheltenham Road, Cheltenham. If you wish to attend, please add your details to the Secretary’s list at the April General meeting.

Coffee Club—last month’s Coffee Club was attended by 11 happy members and wives. Members, wives, partners, and guests are all invited to meet again ‘face to face’ to socialise over tea, coffee, etc., at the Coffee Club, Carlingford Court, at 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 14 April. NB. Due to Good Friday, this is NOT the usual Friday following the General Meeting. This activity is hosted by Ray Palmer.

Dining—13 diners enjoyed lunch at West Pennant Hills Sports Club on the 22nd of March. Wal Gallagher has made a booking at the Silverwater Hotel, 214 Silverwater Road, Silverwater, (previously Dooleys Waterview

Club) for a nominal 20 people for Tuesday, 18 April. There is no problem with numbers if we want to increase and cancellations up to 24 hours before. Please let Wal know if you plan to attend.

Between now and then Wal will arrange to get a member’s card which will give everyone member’s prices on meals and drinks. For the budget conscious they have a (basic) \$15 midweek member’s lunch.

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

Movie Group—A visit to Hornsby Event Cinemas on the 7th of March for a viewing of *Empire of Light*, attracted 11 keen moviegoers. Lunch followed at Hornsby RSL Club. Details of the next movie will be advised to members via email.

The Ramblers—full details of the March Ramble being held on Thursday, 30 March were published in the March Newsletter. If you missed this read on for details of the April Ramble.

The April Ramble will meet at 8.45 a.m. on Thursday, 27 April at Epping Station concourse to catch the 9.04 a.m. fast train to Central Station. At Central Station we will catch the light rail to the Exhibition Centre Light Rail Stop, from where we will enjoy an interesting 5 km ramble through Darling Harbour and Pyrmont. The first part of the ramble will take us from Tumbalong Park through Darling Harbour to the Maritime Museum, and then a waterfront ramble with spectacular harbour views around the redeveloped finger wharfs at Pyrmont Bay, Darling Island and Jones Bay to Pirrama Park. The waterfront ramble continues from Pirrama Park to the Anzac Bridge. From the Anzac Bridge we make our way back to the old Pyrmont Bridge, along the way discovering the historic Paradise quarry, which operated for some 80 years until 1931 producing some of the best building stone available in Sydney. Lunch after the ramble will be at The Laneway, Pyrmont, 84 Union Street, Pyrmont. After lunch we will catch the light rail from Pyrmont Bay Light Rail Stop to Central Station, from where we will catch the train back to Epping. Please give Rick Collins a call or text on 0411-611-338 if you would like to come or if you have any queries.

Cycle Group aka Wobblies—due to the March monthly ride being on the 31st, the report will not make it into the April newsletter. The next ride will be Friday, 21 April 2023 for the Parramatta River Parks run, meeting at Mill Park Street, Rhodes at 10.00 a.m. The ride will be along the Parramatta River Cycleway, crossing over Silverwater Bridge and on to Parramatta Park. The return trip will be via Meadowbank, over the railway bridge, to Mill Park Street. This will be a 2 coffee stops trip!!!!

Unfortunately Steve Drury will not be able to join you on this ride as he will be away for the latter half of April.