

July
Wal Gallagher Maurie Catt Neil Gillies
August
Leo Glockemann Peter Golding John Griffin-Miller



TOUR NEWS

Parkes—5–10 November 2023

A tour to the ‘Golden West’, based on Parkes, has been organised for November. 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.

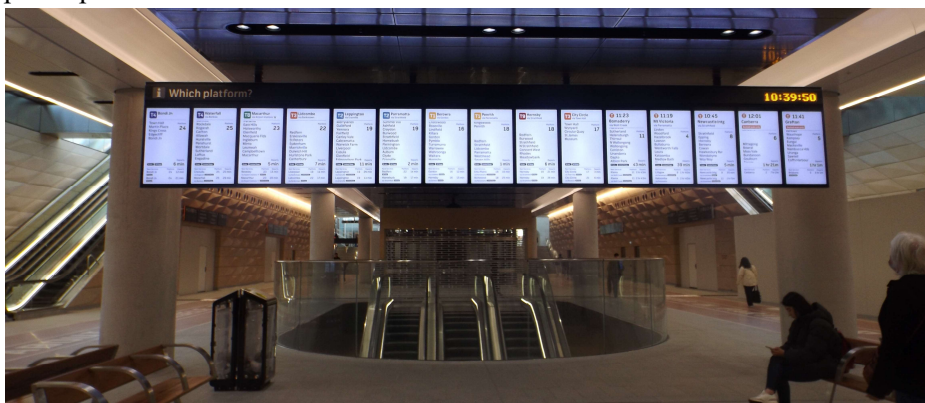
Parkes is named after Sir Henry Parkes, the ‘father of federation’ and the tour involves visits to the Parkes Centre, the Dish and the collection of Elvis memorabilia in Parkes; and visits to surrounding towns.

The tour price is \$1295 per person twin share with a single supplement of \$300, and includes all meals and accommodation.

Parkes tour is now fully booked—26 from Epping and sharing with Oakhill Dural Probus Club. Final payments will be due (preferably by EFT to Probus account with e-mail advice to Wal) at or before the September meeting.

Departure will be 8.00 a.m. from in front of the Epping Club on Sunday, 5 November 2023. Please be there 20 minutes before.

Daily seat rotation will apply and is essential for all passengers to participate.



A scene from the new North-South Concourse at Central Station

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
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JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

We are well into the Probus Year with lots of regular activities for our members & friends to enjoy. Activities Leaders are planning months ahead and seek input from you to find things of interest. PSPL published a Club Health Questionnaire that has been taken by the Management Committee. We find we have survived the Covid years far better than many others BUT we need membership growth & participation in all aspects of our programme for a successful club. To broaden the range of activities available, our Ambassador Mike is liaising with other clubs in our Cluster. We will be canvassing your interest in proposed future events.

Our Travel and Tours Officer has a research/survey paper in progress. Your response will assist in planning future trips near and far. Outings are organising our annual barbeque & end of year party. Note the proposed venues and dates in your diary and volunteer your services. All assistance, great or small, is always appreciated and being part of the organising team really is fun.

Some of our regular leaders will be away in coming months so we will have new faces in several key roles. This is an opportunity to help spread the load and try out new skills. And don't forget to invite your friends to our meetings and activities.

Last meeting the Ladies Coffee group boasted they drank “designer coffee and cake” while the men had instant coffee and biscuits. We must do something about this. I'm not telling what.

MEETINGS

June

Rod Best was our guest speaker last month on Monday, 5 June 2023, when this topic was “An Historic event in Pennant Hills in 1905”. Rod began by talking about the existence of Chinese Market Gardens in Beecroft in the 1800s and early 1900s. They were principally located along Copeland Road East. The Chinese who worked these gardens also became gardeners to the households of Beecroft, Pennant Hills and Thornleigh.

One of these gardeners was Charlie John Tye, who had been living in the area for about 20 years and was well known and liked. He had recently worked at Riverview Catholic College in Hunters Hill and the Hampden Hotel in Pennant Hills.

However, in August 1906 he was doing it tough. He was without employment or somewhere to live. On 13 August 1906, he slept in the bush in a tent belonging to fellow Chinese gardener Joe Young, on Mr Garrett's property *Loch Maree* in Thornleigh. He left the next morning but returned the next day to Joe's tent. That afternoon he left for Thornleigh Station with Yee Sam, another Chinese gardener. They purchased their tickets but as the train arrived Charlie had a mental episode and pulled out a tomahawk he was carrying in a bag and attacked John Hockley, a slaughterman employed by Mr Pollard at Thornleigh. Hockley had his back to Tye when attacked and was struck a glancing blow to his head cutting him just above the right eye. Tye took another swing with the tomahawk but Hockley moved just enough so the blade only split his coat.

Bedlam took place and Hockley took off to seek medical attention while Tye fled across the line to The Esplanade. He subsequently murdered two schoolboys, 9 year-old Albert Gordon Pettet and 15 year-old Horace Aitken. Tye then hid in a nearby house and when the police arrived he was trying to burn it down. He was overpowered by the two Constables and taken by train to Ryde Police Station and Lockup.

He subsequently appeared in court on the Murder and attempted Murder charges but they were dismissed on Mental Health Grounds. He lived out his life at the Parramatta Mental Hospital.

Rod then told a story of the back ground of Sir Leslie Joseph Hooker and his connection with the Chinese Market Gardens in Beecroft. He was born on 18 August 1903 at Canterbury to Ellen Tingyou, who was unmarried. They lived with his grandfather James Tingyou and extended family at Beecroft. He went to Beecroft Primary School.

He began working at the age of 13 and three years later bought land at Blacktown. So began his life in Real Estate. He changed his name to Hooker in 1925 to circumvent the *White Australia Policy*.

We sincerely thank Rod for coming and relating to us the Chinese in Beecroft and neighbouring suburbs.

July

Barry Pareezer is our guest speaker this month on Monday, 3 July 2023, when his topics will be "The collision between HMAS *Voyager* and HMAS *Melbourne*" and "How to write your life story". Barry grew up in country NSW and joined the Navy in 1963. As Chief Petty Officer he was

We will then make our way out to the Sydenham Station Bus Stand B in Railway Parade to join the Route 358 bus to Randwick at 11.36 a.m. We will alight at the Royal Randwick Shopping Centre for lunch at 12.10 p.m. Lunch will be at The Shed within the Shopping Centre.

After lunch we will walk up Belmore Road to the Randwick Light Rail Terminus and catch the tram back to Central Station at 2.00 p.m. and the train home to Epping.

Please contact Col Short on the day (9876-1018) before 9.00 a.m. to check on the whether the trip is going ahead if raining.

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

Two members and two wives attended the Celebration of a wonderful life for Alf McDermott and three members and one wife attended the Celebration for John Egarr, who was a Past President of our Club.

I spoke to the following Non-Active Members, or their family, and all say they are coping at present: Milton Bartlett, Dennis Druce, Bruce Frost, John Goodman, Alan Herron, Frank Johnson, Tony Malin, Dick Nicholson, Ray Thorpe, Wal Williams, Tony Chaine and Yew Cheah. Paul Woodward has been joined in care with his wife Mary—they have just celebrated being married 72 years. Doug Sneddon is far from well and constantly under care of Doctors. Owen Harrison sustained a break in his leg and was operated on at the SAN and now at Mt Wilga for rehab.

And now to our Active Member Brian Haywood who is also continuing to have rehab at Mt Wilga following break in his femur.

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 only need to be at the hall for serving and tidy-up. Rostered members are to assist putting tables and chairs away after the meeting if physically capable. If you are unable to be present as rostered, arrange a swap with another member and inform the Secretary pjpetersoz@gmail.com

phone 9849-6774, for information or to offer any suggestions for future movies.

Dining—a group of members and guests enjoyed lunch at Carlingford Bowling Club on Wednesday 28 June.

Members are encouraged to consider arranging a lunch during July, at a venue of their choice. Alternatively, please consider arranging a lunch sometime between now and December.

Please discuss with Ray Finch: email rayfinch42@gmail.com or mobile 0414-746-954.

The Rambler—on the 29th of June a group of merry Ramblers enjoyed an interesting ramble from Birkenhead Point, along Iron Cove by Hawthorne Canal reserve to Marion Street Leichardt for lunch at Little Sicily Restaurant for lunch.

The next Ramble will meet at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, 20 July on the Hardys Bay foreshore near the corner of Killcare Road and Araluen Drive. Hardys Bay is on the Central Coast about 1.25 hours drive from Epping. We will enjoy a 5 km (return) scenic ramble along the Hardys Bay and Pretty Beach foreshore to the Wagstaffe Café for a mid-ramble coffee, before returning to Hardys Bay for lunch at the Fat Goose restaurant, 3 Killcare Road, Hardys Bay. Give Rick Collins a call or text on 0411-611-338 if you would like to come or if you have any queries.

Theatre—Wal Gallagher has tickets (\$25 each) for the remaining plays, presented at the Theatre on Chester in 2023 as follows: on the 16th of August *The Peach Season* by Debra Oswald and on the 15th of November *Clue* by Sandy Rustin.

Wal is also taking bookings for Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera *Iolanthe*. The performance will be held at the Smith Auditorium Lyric Theatre, Shore School, William Street, North Sydney, and we will attend the matinee performance on Sunday, 9 October. Tickets are \$44 each. Contact Wal Gallagher on 0429-484-639.

By Opal Card—use your Opal Card on Monday, 24 July 2023 to travel to Randwick for lunch. We will assemble on Epping Station's Platform 1 near the lift (seats on Platform 2 side of lift) no later than 10.00 a.m. to catch the 10.05 a.m. train to Central Station, arriving there at 10.29 a.m. Here we will go from the Grand Concourse either by steps or lift to view the new North-South Concourse. We will then go to Central Walk to Platform 19 (escalator or lift) to board the 10.54 a.m. train to Sydenham Station, arriving there at 11.03 a.m. We will proceed up the new Northern Concourse from Platform 4 (lift not working) for a view of the Sydenham Metro platforms and maybe a train. In the distance will possibly be a view of Sydney Metro Train Facility South. We will then proceed down the stairs to Platform 3, walk along the platform to the Southern Concourse (stairs or lift).

serving on *Melbourne* when it collided with *Voyager* and was on HMAS *Perth* in Vietnam when it was hit by a missile or by gunfire.

After the Navy, Barry served as a detective in the New South Wales Police Force ending his law-enforcement career with the rank of Superintendent. He then moved on to work in the Asia Pacific region and the People's Republic of China with a global security and investigation team in the computer industry.

A significant part of his presentation will be an encouragement to everyone to write their autobiography for the benefit of their families and tips on how to do this. **Note:** This month's meeting is on the 1st Monday of July.

August

Trevor McAlister will be our guest speaker next month on Monday, 14 August 2023, when his topic will be "A Virtual Walk—Exploring Hidden Sydney". Trevor is a former secondary school teacher with an interest in local history and walking.

In 2007, he began leading free walks around the streets and suburbs of Sydney and to make his walks more interesting began to draw people's attention to things of interest which they may not have noticed before. Over the years the number of walks and the features they contained, increased. These grew into a catalogue which became a book. Included were the largest and smallest, the oldest and the strangest. Each had a story which often gave a surprising insight into our past.

Trevor will have his book *Exploring Hidden Sydney* on sale for \$35 cash. All proceeds from the sale of the book go to The Rotary Foundation.

DAY OUTINGS

July

This month's outing will be held on Monday, 17 July 2023, and will be a Christmas in July celebration at The Fiddler at Rouse Hill (at the corner of Commercial and Windsor Roads). You will receive a welcome drink, a traditional, two-course Christmas luncheon and entertainment. Doors will open at 11.45 a.m. The cost is \$55 per person. Please advise the Outings Coordinator and pay on or before Monday, 3 July if you wish to join this outing.

August

Next month's outing will be on Tuesday, 22 August 2023, and will be a walking tour of some of the colonial architecture of central Maitland. Maps will be provided. The town of Maitland (originally known as West

Maitland) was a private town, unplanned and surveyed only as land-holders subdivided their holdings for sale. The full walking tour of about 30 buildings will start from Maitland Station at 11.30 a.m. and is about 3.5 km in length, with opportunities to make it shorter (or longer!). Lunch will probably be at CJ's-on-the-Levee river terrace café.

If driving to Maitland, allow 1.75 hours. If travelling by train, you could catch the 8.40 a.m. Newcastle train from Epping Station's Platform 3, changing trains at Hamilton Station (travel in the rear of the train), arriving there at 10.46 a.m. Cross from Platform 2 to Platform 1 (stairs or level crossing) to join the 10.50 a.m. train to Maitland Station, arriving there at 11.26 a.m. This outing will be organised and led by Ross Beattie (mobile: 0402-360-481).

September

The outing in September will be on Monday, 18 September 2023 and will be our Annual Picnic—this year at the Lake Parramatta Reserve. Lake Parramatta was created as a result of the damming of Hunts Creek in 1856. The lake is now a recreational area with picnic areas, a cafe, a swimming precinct, boat hire facilities, and a great walking track.

It is intended that everyone gather there at approximately 10.45–11.00 a.m. for morning tea with lunch to be served at about 12.30 p.m. Lunch will consist of barbecued sausages and rolls with a wide choice of salads. The charge for lunch is \$20 per person and please bring your own drinks.

Access to the site is by car only and there are plenty of parking spaces. The main entrance to the park is via Lackey Street off Bourke Street in North Parramatta. Please register your interest in attending the picnic, and pay the \$20 cost, at or before the September meeting.

October

The outing in October will be on Monday, 16 October 2023 and will be lunch at Club Palm Beach (formerly the Palm Beach RSL). This outing will be a veritable “Cooks tour” entailing travel on two trains, two busses and two ferries. Please see the September Newsletter for further details.

November

The outing in November will be on Saturday, 18 November 2023 and will be a ride on the newly refurbished Zig Zag railway. We will meet for lunch (venue to be decided) and travel by car to Clarence Station, arriving by

2.00 p.m. where we will board the 2.30 p.m. Zig Zag train and travel to Bottom Points Station via Top Points Station and return to Clarence Station. The fare for seniors is \$27.50. Please register your interest in this outing at the July meeting.

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—this month's meeting will be at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 3 July at the home of Ross and Sybil Beattie, 23 Honiton Avenue East, Carlingford. If you wish to attend, please add your details to the Secretary's list at the July General meeting or phone Ross 0402-350-481, so that seating can be arranged.

Coffee Club—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, 7 July. Contact Ray Palmer, phone 9836-4516, if you have any questions.

Cycle Group aka The Wobblies—there were seven riders for the Parramatta River Parks run on Friday, 23 June 2023. After meeting at Rhodes at 10.00 a.m. they rode along the Parramatta River Cycleway to Parramatta Park where they had coffee. They returned to Rhodes via the cycleway on the opposite side of the River, for lunch at the Mill Park Street café. Distance ridden was 28 km on a pleasant, sunny day.

The next ride will be on Friday, 21 July 2023 for the Cooks River run. Meeting at 10.00 a.m. at Yarrowee Road, Strathfield, at the Bareena Road T junction, parking next to the cycle path and the golf course. The distance is approximately 30 km. The ride will be along the Cooks River cycle path to Gough Whitlam Park, Tempe, having coffee at the Green House café in the park and returning via the same route.

Please contact Steve Drury if you wish to ride or need more information: phone 9872-7447 or mobile 0487-785-444.

Movie Group—a small group of members thoroughly enjoyed *Bank of Dave* at Macquarie Cinema followed by lunch at Chantilly Café. Details of the next movie will be advised to members via email. Contact Andrew Davidson,