PEN WEST NEWS & VIEWS ISSUE 281 NOVEMBER 2026

NOTE – SOME PHOTOGRAPHS HAVE BEEN REMOVED DUE TO DOCUMENT SIZE FOR WEBSITE

The Newsletter of the Combined Probus Club of West Pennant Hills

Club Website: www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/wphc

MEMBERS MUST READ

Members must consider their capabilities before undertaking any activities with the Club. This includes housekeeping duties and organised activities such as clubs, groups, trips or walks. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that they are physically capable of undertaking any particular activity. In particular, please advise the Welfare Officer (Lyn Marsden) if your medical condition precludes you from helping in the hall set-up and kitchen rosters. The responsibility for compliance sits with attendees.



President's Message

Welcome to members and visitors to the November edition of the President's message.

For members who are having health issues and cannot attend meetings in person we hope things are improving and look forward to seeing you soon.

Glenys and I enjoyed the outing around Newtown with other Probus members. It was an interesting day for both of us.

The November meeting usually has a special format (Melbourne Cup Day!) in that there is no guest speaker – so it is a short meeting. This allows members to attend any Melbourne Cup lunches and/or viewing obligations in the afternoon.

However, during the shortened meeting there will be (as usual) some Melbourne Cup sweep draws. Reminder – bring small change ($1s, $2s and $5 notes) if you wish to participate in the sweeps.

To add to the short meeting Lawrie Hayes has made a reservation at Wills Café, ARV Castle Hill for coffee and cake following the meeting. We would like to see you there if this suits. Please let Lawrie know by email if you wish to attend the "after-meeting at ARV". His email is LawrieHayes@bigpond.com before 31 October.

As always, I thank the Committee and all the Activity Leaders for their time and energy in keeping our Club up to date and active.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 3 November meeting.

Colin Lissner

Editor's Notes

A bumper issue this month! Club members have been getting out and about – see reports of three outings/trips.

Good luck to those who take part in Lawrie's sweepstakes at the November meeting.

Upcoming on the 24th is the Christmas Dinner, organised by Patricia Ellison, and details are on page 4.

Susie Bannatyne

Special Thanks

Ann Osborne recently gave me the most enormous bag of stamps for Mary MacKilllop and they were very grateful.

They have volunteers who prepare the used stamps which are then sold to raise money for disadvantaged women - a worthy cause.

So thank, you Ann!

Lynette Hope

Special Praise



Congratulations to Ian Western on his NSW Volunteer of the Year Award - Inner Western Sydney Senior Nominee. Well deserved after many years volunteering with West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Lions Club.

Glenys Lissner

New Activities

Anne's Puzzle

Please put the appropriate maths symbols in the number sentences to make them true.

You can use addition, multiplication, subtraction, division and parentheses ( ).

1 1 1 1 1 = 100

5 5 5 5 5 = 100

5 5 5 5 5 = 100

5 5 5 5 5 = 100

HINT: Remember the order of operations!

Answers on page 13.

Anne Prescott

Christmas Dinner

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Tuesday 24 November 2026 at 6pm

Venue: Wills Cafe, ARV Castle Hill (car park below the cafe).

Menu: Nibbles and drinks from 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm: main course, dessert and tea or coffee. There will be two bottles of wine on each table and you may BYO if you would prefer.

Gifts: If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please buy something for $10, clearly marked for a male or female recipient. You will then be given a gift purchased by someone else.

Cost: $65 per head payable to Treasurer, Jim Bannatyne, by Monday 16 November 2026.

If you would like to attend and have not already put your name down, there will be a sheet on the table at the November meeting.

Patricia Ellison

Good Viewing

Thanks to those who submitted shows to watch this month. If you have anything you want to share, please send to leothedent@gmail.com.

Title	Genre	Service	Episodes	Viewer
Unbelievable	Drama	Netflix	8	Marion Dent
Based on a true story, a teenager is charged with lying about being raped, but two detectives follow the path to the truth. Starring Kaitlin Dever, Toni Collette and Merritt Wever.				
The Bombing of Pan Am 103	Drama	Netflix	6	Maris Wilde
A dramatisation that focuses on the two investigations into the bombing on Pam Am Flight 103 over the town of Lockerbie. The story is based on the testimony of those who were there, tracing the true story of the collaboration between Scottish police and American law enforcement. Starring Connor Swindwells and Merritt Wever.				
Airport Chaplin	Drama	SBS	7	Andrew Clark
Airport Chaplain Tobias Wallace's phone never stops ringing. He keeps a drawer of cash and uses unconventional methods to handle the airport's daily emergencies. Starring Hugo Weaving, Shabana Azeez and Claudia Karvan.				
Unabomber	Movie	Netflix	1	Leo Dent
Inspired by true events, the movie follows Ted Kaczynski's (Jacob Tremblay) transformation from 16-year-old Harvard prodigy into the infamous Unabomber. Subjected to controversial psychological experiments by Professor Henry Murray (Russell Crowe), Kaczynski's troubled past resurfaces decades later when his manhunt, led by FBI agent Joanne Miller (Shailene Woodley), brings to light the chilling consequences of ambition and isolation.				
Rebecca	Movie	Netflix	1	Marion Dent
Based on the gothic novel by Daphne Du Maurier, a young newlywed arrives at her husband's imposing family estate on a windswept English coast and finds herself battling the shadow of his first wife Rebecca, whose legacy lives on in the house long				

after her death. Starring Lily James, Armie Hammer and Kirsten Scott Thomas.				
Hotel Portofino	Scenic Drama	SBS on Demand	12	Susie Bannatyne
In the 1920s, the daughter of a wealthy industrialist moves to Italy to set up a quintessentially British hotel in Portofino, while Benito Mussolini's fascist movement is on the rise. A feast for the eyes - scenery to die for, vintage fashion and cars, wonderful cast. Can't wait for season 3!				
Dustfall	Crime Drama	Iview	6	Susie Bannatyne
Starring the wonderful Anna Torv (The Newsreader) and Juliet Stevenson, this series is based on a novel. A detective returns to her hometown after spending years in the city, to investigate the sexual assault of an 18-year old woman with no memory of the incident. Excellent script.				

Leo Dent

Guest Speakers

November No speaker this month

December Peter Thorpe – AI for Seniors

January Paul Kearney – Early 60s Rock and Roll History

Ross Prestipino

Knitting Group

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Here we are up to Melbourne Cup month. My best wìshes to the happy punters. I have been down several times but it is always electric and exciting!

Also, it is almost Christmas-planning time. Another big year almost gone.

Not all of us can do great things but we can do small things with great love - Mother Teresa.

Dear thoughts and best wishes.

Mavis Todd and the knitting. Group

9680 7019 / 0427 668 964

Julia Elborn (0409 461 997) or Maris Wild (0412 170 756) are also happy to take your calls.

Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up

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Hello everyone – this is a reminder about the ladies' Coffee and Catch-up morning held on the third Wednesday of each month.

Our next date is **Wednesday 18 November 2026 at 10am** at Wills Cafe, the ARV, Castle Hill. Come along and join us. It's a very relaxed morning for us to enjoy the company of friends.

There'll be a sheet on the table at our next meeting but I'm happy to hear from you either by phone or email: 0405 197 991 - janetlhayes@bigpond.com**.**

Janet Hayes

Men's Coffee Group

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Men's coffee, cake and general world problem solving session

When: Friday 27 November at 10am
Were: Wills Café at the ARV
Don't forget about your chance to solve any number of the local and international problems by joining us over a cup of coffee and maybe a tasty cake or two.
Please email me lawriehayes@bigpond.com so I can confirm reservation numbers.

Lawrie Hayes

Outings and Trips Away

Trips for 2027 and 2028

14 to 20 February 2027 - South Coast and Southern Tablelands tour. The final balance is due by 14 December 2026.

Murder Most Foul

16 March 2027 - Join us for the next tour -Hyde Park.

13 to 23 June 2027 - Broken Hill, Flinders Ranges and Lake Eyre tour. Deposit $995 by 1 November 2026.

September 2027 - Lightning Ridge tour.

2028 - Gulf of Carpentaria tour.

Geoff Childs

November Walk

Lane Cove River Park Walk

Date: Tuesday 10 November 2026.

Distance: About 5.5 kms.

Walking Time: Approximately 1.5 hours or so.

Grading: Easy. Road and track walking. Mostly downhill with some bush tracks. ***NOTE! Parts of the track are undulating with some bush steps.***

Time: I will be catching the 09.06 train from Beecroft to Epping Metro (approx. 09.16). Arrival time at the coffee stop should be about 09.30.

Coffee Stop: We will meet at The Cake Man Coffee shop inside the Macquarie Centre on Herring Road - See map.

Travel Options: Train and Metro to Macquarie University Metro stop. Catch the 292 bus after coffee from stand C to the corner of Fontenoy Road and Lane Cove Road.

The Walk

After getting off the bus, cross over Lane Cove Road and turn left to the entrance of The Lane Cove National Park. Follow the park road down the hill on Riverside Drive until you reach the Porters Creek Bridge. Take the track on the left immediately after the bridge and walk down the hill through the forest and along the river edge until you reach the weir, then cross over and join the Lane Cove Park Café for a light lunch.

After lunch walk towards Delhi Road for the bus to North Ryde Metro Station. The bus stop is on the other side of the road, so please be careful crossing the road as it is busy.

https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/cafes-and-kiosks/lane-cove-national-park-cafe

Hope you enjoy the walk.

See map at Appendix C

Members must consider their capabilities before undertaking any activities with the Club. This includes housekeeping duties and organised activities such as clubs, groups, trips or walks. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that they are physically capable of undertaking any particular activity. DON'T FORGET TO BRING SOME WATER WITH YOU ON THE WALKS.

Lawrie Hayes

General Club Notices

Probus Meeting Roster

Month	Hall	Kitchen
November	David Field	No kitchen duties in November
	Ross Prestipino	
	Andrew Clarke	
December	James Wu	Lorraine Fallon
	Russ Riddell	Sue Craig
	Mike Macdouall	
January	John Vermeer	Marjorie Seaton
	Terry Stinson	Vivi-Anne Logan
	Leo Dent	

If you are unable to attend on the allocated day please arrange for a replacement.

Mike Macdouall

Welfare Report

I was fortunate, recently, to meet with Marie Macdouall. She was in good spirits and hoping to come along to a Probus meeting soon.

Meanwhile, with the weather warming up, it's a great time to get out and about and enjoy this pleasant time of year – a great way to lift one's spirits I believe.

If you know a friend who is unwell and would appreciate a call, please let me know.

Janet Hayes

janetlhayes@bigpond.com

0405 197 991

Reports of Ongoing Activities

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Mah Jong Monday

We had 7 players in each of 2 sessions.

First session the winner on the day was Vivienne Truelove with 23,500 points. There was close competition of only 200 points between Pat, Lynne Horne and Meg Mills.

Second session Rita Watson was winner with 21,700 points followed by Lynne Horne and Ros Ward with only 500 points between them.

Well done ladies, enjoyable afternoon's play for all.

We would welcome some new players. We can teach you, just give me a call.

Meg Mills

0414 639 654.

Outings Reports

1. Garden Group

Day Trip to the Bowral Tulip Festival Thursday 1 October 2026

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Lyn Marsden (left) and Meg Mills (seated, right) among the tulips.

The Garden Club had a very pleasant day out to Bowral to see the floral display in Corbett Gardens.

What could be better than nice weather, a CWA cream tea and a Spring floral display, followed by lunch at the Mittagong RSL.

Marion Dent

2. Murder Most Foul Newtown - 20th October 2026



A beautiful Moreton Bay Fig tree located in St Stephen's Church cemetery in Newtown

Left to right: Janet Hayes, Mary O'Byrne (friend of Karen and Geoff Childs), Lawrie Hayes, Di Cox-Taylor, Geoff Childs, Leo Dent, Marjorie Seaton, Anne and Ross Prestipino, Maria Gobbo, David Field, Glenys and Colin Lissner.

We had 17 members join the *MMF* Newtown excursion. Once again a thoroughly enjoyable tour, this time through Newtown and Erskineville.\\

The tour finished at the Bank Hotel where we enjoyed a final story and a well-earned drink and lunch.

Join us for the next tour (Hyde Park) on 16 March 2027.

Geoff Childs

3. Toowoomba Flower Show Tour - 21 - 28 September 2026

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Our hardy group of 7 (*Left to right in photo above: Lawrie Hayes, Karen Childs, Denise Wheeler, Leo Dent, Janet Hayes, Geoff Childs, Marion Dent).* joined the bus group departing Sydney for Brisbane on Monday 21 September, destination Toowoomba Flower.

After checking in to the Toowoomba Comfort Inn Grammar View Motel, we embarked on a brief tour of the city, readying ourselves for the days to come.

On day 2 we were joined by a local garden expert and toured nearby private gardens, owned and meticulously cared for by residents.

The “Grand Champion” Garden’s front nature strip was every man’s dream, not a weed in sight and cropped to the perfect height.

After lunch we visited Laurel Bank Park, located in the heart of the city, and having many spectacular gardens and blooms, the photo above demonstrates the quality that was on view.

We then visited the Downstream Tourist Railway Museum, a museum totally maintained by volunteers who are happy to talk all things steam engines. We were taken through a rail carriage that had been painted by an indigenous man and demonstrated the indigenous art in all its glory.

The remaining days in Toowoomba were spent taking in everything Toowoomba had to offer. One of the highlights was a view overlooking the Lockyer Valley - quite stunning.

The highlight of day 4 was a tour of the Empire Theatre. This building was to be demolished and replaced by a car park in the 1930s: fortunately the Toowoomba locals were able save the building and today it is used for a multitude of events. Prior to our arrival Bill Bailey (a well known English comedian) had performed there.

The photo above shows the Probus members in front of the theatre.

We departed Toowoomba for Ballina, stopping at the Glengallan Homestead near Warwick and the Main Range National Park.

Our day in Ballina had us visiting the local Naval & Maritime Museum, once again staffed by volunteers, who were very happy to share stories of the museum.

Then off to the Tweed Regional Gallery which houses the relocated studio of Margaret Olley, a great treat.

Then, off to Port Macquarie via Evans Head where we visited the Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome. This airfield was known to be the largest training facility for WW2 Airmen in the Southern Hemisphere.

Our final day was spent travelling to Sydney.

A very enjoyable experience, the non-Probus members of the tour were very friendly and we enjoyed their company.

Geoff Childs

October Walk Report

The walk was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Solutions to Anne's puzzle

(1 1 1) - (1 1) = 100	111 - 11 =1 00
5 x 5 x 5 - 5 x 5 = 100	125 - 25 = 100
5 x 5 x (5 - 5 divided by 5) = 100	25 X (5 - 1) = 100
(5 + 5 + 5 + 5) x 5 = 100	20 X 5 = 100

Appendix A - Contacts and Activity Locations/Times

Management Committee

President	Colin Lissner	
Vice President	Anne Prescott	
Secretary	Marjorie Seaton	
Treasurer	Jim Bannatyne	

General Committee

Auditor	Will Seaton	
Guest Speakers	Ross Prestipino	
Membership	Fran Kirby	
Newsletter Editor	Susie Bannatyne	
Public Officer	Christine Taylor	
Special Events	Patricia Ellison	
Trips and Outings Coordinator	Geoff Childs	
Website	Leo Dent	
Welfare	Janet Hayes	

Activity Leaders

$2.50 Group	Marion Dent	
Bridge Group	Andrew Clarke	
Foyer Books	Wal Dover	
Foyer Spectacles	Ian Western	
Garden Group	Ros Ward	
Hall and Kitchen Roster	Mike Macdouall	
Kitchen, Morning Tea	Suzanne Lord Patricia Smith	

Knitting Group	Mavis Todd	
Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up Group	Janet Hayes	
Mah Jong - Monday	Meg Mills	
Mah Jong - Thursday	Judith & Mike Reidy	
Men's Coffee Group	Lawrie Hayes	
Stamps	Lyn Hope	
Walking Group	Lawrie Hayes	

Location/Start Time of Activities

Activity	Location	Time
Probus Meeting	WPH Community Centre	9.45 first Tuesday
$2.50 Group		Varies
Book Exchange	WPH Community Centre	09.30 before Probus Meeting
Bridge Group	Dural Country Club	13.30pm first and third Wednesday
Garden Group	Varies	Varies but generally on the second Thursday
Knitting Group		
Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up	Wills Cafe, ARV	10am third Wednesday
Mah Jong -Monday	Dural Country Club	13.15pm second and fourth Monday
Mah Jong- Thursday	Reidy home	10.15am first and third Thursdays
Men's Coffee Group	Will's Cafe, ARV	10am last Friday
Spectacles Exchange	WPH Community	09.30am before Meeting

	Centre	
Stamp Donation	WPH Community Centre	Please hand to Lyn Hope at the Meeting
Walking Group	Varies	Second Tuesday most months

Appendix B – Payment Details – Treasurer Jim Bannatyne

Members and those on the waiting list have three payment methods for membership ($55 per annum) and activities:

1) Electronic Funds Transfer to

   The Combined Probus Club of WPH

   BSB 112-879 Account Number 478 850 160

   Please remember to put your name and description (eg *Membership*} on the EFT;

2) Pay at the meeting by cash or cheque. Please fill in the Registration and Receipts Form before coming to the meeting (print from the last page of this appendix);

3) Go to any branch of St George Bank and make a deposit (cash or cheque) to the Club's bank account and then email me the details – your name and description (eg *Membership*).

Jim Bannatyne

0429 408 953 jim.bannatyne@hotmail.com

Registration		Receipt	
Function		Function	
Date of Function		Date of Function	
Name(s)		Name(s)	
Cost per Head	$		
Number Attending		Received	$
Method of Payment	Cash / Change (Circle one)	Received by	
This Payment	$	Date of Receipt	

Appendix C – September Walk Map





Appendix D – Calendar of Activities for October 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	**3** **Probus Meeting**	**4** **Bridge**	**5** **Mah Jong**	**6**
9 **Mah Jong**	**10** **Walk**	**11**	**12**	**13**
16	**17**	**18** **Bridge** **Ladies' Coffee & Catch-up**	**19** **Mah Jong**	**20**
23 **Mah Jong**	**24** **Christmas Dinner**	**25**	**26**	**27** **Men's Coffee Group**
30				

Note: For more details, see the activity reports, Appendix A for contact details/locations/times about specific activities and Appendix B for payment details.