



# The Combined Probus Club of Mona Vale Inc

PO Box 1165, Mona Vale NSW 2103

## Newsletter Volume 8 Issue 4 – April 2025

**NEXT PROBUS MEETING:** Tuesday 15 April 2025 – 10:00 am for 10:30 am start – Pittwater RSL Club

### GOING PLACES (update from the Outings Desk)

#### TEMPLE TALES & CULTURAL SPACES

Tuesday 6 May 2025



Join us on a fascinating and insightful day out with Heritage Guide, Judith Dunn, as we learn all about a variety of diverse cultures and religions. We will visit churches, temples and cultural spaces throughout the day, depending on availability. These can include Hindu, Lao, Kmer, Chinese, and Vietnamese Temples. We will also see Assyrian, Dutch, Russian Orthodox, Aboriginal and Croatian cultural spaces as we wind through western Sydney, and discover their stories brought to life through compelling commentary. We will visit four venues throughout the day and take a scenic drive past others. Bring a camera to photograph dragons, statues, temple guardians and amazing architecture.

Morning tea will be served at Merrylands Gardens after the first temple. Then experience the renowned International Star Buffet at Club Marconi – an all you can eat family restaurant serving up a smorgasbord of international cuisine including Seafood, Asian, Carvery, Sushi Train plus an extensive Salad and Dessert bar. After lunch we will visit Holland House a large gabled Dutch building housing everything Dutch - part supermarket, part delicatessen, part souvenir store and part café.

Note: Be prepared to take shoes off for a temple entry and modest clothing is required (no shorts – male or female)

**Cost is \$85.00** per person which includes: Heritage Guide, morning tea, buffet lunch, temple entries and luxury coach touring, **Departs from Mona Vale Beach at 8:30 am and returns at approx. 5:00 pm.**

#### KURRI KURRI MURAL TOUR

Tuesday 3 June 2025

Join us for a vibrant day tour through Kurri Kurri and its charming surrounding villages, where art and history converge in over 60 stunning outdoor murals. Each artwork serves as a visual narrative, celebrating the rich heritage, events, and the remarkable people who

have shaped this unique region. A local guide will board the coach and provide insights into the stories and meanings behind a selection of murals. Our guide will share fascinating anecdotes about the artists, the inspirations for their works, and the historical significance of the themes depicted. Keep your eyes peeled for the kookaburra, the beloved emblem of Kurri Kurri, cleverly hidden within each mural. See if you can spot them all!



Lunch will be at The Taste of Country where we will enjoy a two course lunch including a glass of local Hunter Valley Wine from the winery next door (De luliis), followed by a tea or coffee. If time permits we will visit the Hunter Belle Cheese Room located next door to the café.

**Cost is \$98.00** per person which includes: morning tea, guided tour of Kurri Kurri Murals, 2 course lunch, a glass of wine, and luxury coach transportation, **Departs from Mona Vale Beach at 8:00 am and returns at approx. 5:30 pm.**

#### COONABARABRAN, LIGHTNING RIDGE, ROMA & TOOWOOMBA - 8 DAY DRIVE/FLY TOUR

8 – 15 September 2025

This tour combines three great regions, each offering something a little different. Our first destination is Coonabarabran which lies at the gateway to the spectacular Warrumbungle National Park, a small but dynamic town that takes pride in its hospitality. The surrounding rugged terrain and dense vegetation stand as a stark contrast to the North West's vast plains. We have a two night stay here at the Acacia Motor Lodge (Ph: 02 6842 1922).

Standing at the edge of the outback 'The Ridge' is renowned for its magnificent black opals which are the town's lifeblood. Our visit includes some optional fossicking and regardless of our luck, the town tour is guaranteed to uncover some real characters! For the next 2 nights our accommodation is at the Wallangulla Motel, Lightning Ridge (Ph: 02 6829 0542).

We continue on to Roma for 2 nights staying at Best Western Bungil Creek Motel (Ph: 07 4624 2200). Roma lies on the edge of the Queensland Outback and has a rich history as a livestock centre and for its oil and gas production.

It is home to Australia's largest cattle sales where big hats and even bigger personalities are on display. We will also see the Big Rig which showcases Australia's oil and gas exploration from the first gas find in Roma over 100 years ago through to today's multi-billion dollar industry.

Our final night is in the thriving regional city of Toowoomba, staying at Potter's Toowoomba (07 4670 4988). Our return to Sydney sees us flying out of Brisbane which allows a little time for a brief tour of our vibrant Northern Capital.

Highlights include:-

- Murrurundi, Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter
- Siding Springs Observatory
- Warrumbungle National Park
- Coonamble & Walgett
- Dirranbandi & St George
- Black Opal Underground Mine Tour and Bevans Cactus Farm Australian
- The amazing sandstone carvings of the Chamber of the Black Hand
- Roma War Memorial Heroes Avenue
- The Roma Big Rig, Oil and Gas Museum
- Roma Saleyards and St Pauls Cathedral
- Mount Abundance Homestead
- Chinchilla, Dalby & Toowoomba
- Brisbane city sights & river cruise

**Cost per person is \$3,100.00** and includes air fare, all meals, accommodation, admissions and luxury coach travel. **Single supplement \$620.00.** Note: **\$500.00 deposit** payable at time of booking.

## THE THEATRE

### Lyric Theatre – MJ the Musical

**Wednesday 14 May 2025 – 1:00 pm**

**SOLD OUT.** If you would like to be added to the waitlist please contact Shirley Holder. **Tickets @ \$99.50 pp** (group rate).

### Elanora Players – The Great Divide

**11 to 19 July 2025.**

A new comedy with wise-cracking commentary on wealth inequality and human greed – and with characters you may have met! [Learn More](#), Venue: North Narrabeen Community Centre, 2-10 Woorarra

Ave, North Narrabeen. Tickets \$35, \$28 concession – on sale now – book direct (click [here](#)).

### Theatre Royal – Cats

**Wednesday 6 August 2025 – 1:00 pm**

Let the memory live again!. Experience the 40th Australian Anniversary of Andrew Lloyd Webber's record-breaking musical CATS. **Tickets @ \$70.50 pp** (group rate). Contact Shirley Holder or Jean Hart to reserve your seat. Payment required by **Tuesday 17 June 2025.**

## WALK THE WALK & TALK THE TALK

### TODDLES WALKING GROUP (Patsy Wilson)

**Tuesday 22 April 2025 – 11:00 am**

#### Dee Why Lagoon

Distance – 3.0 kms

Grade – Moderate

**Time – 11:00 am**

Meet at Cnr Clarence & Hawkesbury Ave. We will walk to mouth of Lagoon & either return the same way or walk along the beach. Lunch will be at Dee Why RSL. Non walkers welcome to come to lunch. Contact Patsy Wilson to confirm if you are going on the walk, and/or if you are going for lunch.

**Tuesday 27 May 2025 – 10:45 am**

#### South Curl Curl to North Curl & return

Distance - 3.5 kms

Grade - Mixed but easy

**Time – 10:45 am**

Meet - On Carrington Pde (ocean side of Harbord Diggers). We will walk to the dog park at Nth Curl Curl & return for lunch at the Diggers. On-street parking available or park at the Diggers; no bookings needed for lunch. Non-walkers are welcome to join for lunch.

If you would like to do a longer, more challenging walk, please contact Sheila Trett (see back page).

### GUEST SPEAKERS (Ramona Cox)

**Apr 2025 Paul Lucas – Angel Flight**

**May 2025 Dale Cohen** – CEO and Publisher of the Northern Beaches Advocate.

**Jun 2025 Simone Carson**, Arts and Cultural Operations Officer, Willoughby City Council

Guest speaker, Paul Lucas, is a volunteer with Angel Flight Australia, who work tirelessly to coordinate free, non-emergency flights and transfers so people living remotely across Australia can access specialist medical treatment. Paul Lucas is a retired lawyer, who was looking for a worthwhile charity to which he could make a contribution. He is a volunteer driver, picking up patients from either Bankstown or Mascot Airports when they come to Sydney with a volunteer pilot. Paul has driven people to hospitals all over Sydney and gets a great deal of pleasure from being able to help these people who are going through a tough time.

## THINGS TO DO & PEOPLE TO SEE

### PROBUS PRESIDENT'S LUNCH

Next President's Lunch: **Tuesday April 29 2025**  
Venue – The Sands, Narrabeen  
Time – 12:00 noon  
No need to RSVP – just look for the Probus tables.

### LADIES' DINNER

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday** of each month at the Glasshouse, at 6:00 pm. Contact Diana Calthorpe if you would like to attend the next dinner.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Wednesday** of the week following the club meeting each month at the Armchair Collective in Darley St Mona Vale, from 8:30 am. Let Graham Lynch know if you are coming (see back page for contact details).

### CRAFTY FINGERS

**1<sup>st</sup> Monday** of each month, 2:00 to 4:00 pm – at the home of Robyn Day (until numbers become too large). Contact Robyn if you wish to join the group.

### THE CAFÉ SOCIETY

Catch up **every Friday** morning for coffee and cake at Pattison's Patisserie, Mona Vale, from 10:30 am. Everyone welcome.

### MOVIE MOB

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** of each month. Janice Tuynman will email members on Thursday or Friday before the screening with details of movie choice, time and cinema. Contact Janice if you wish to join the group.

### TEN PIN BOWLING (The Alley Cats)

**Temporarily suspended until further notice** (due to lack of participants) – change of day and time under review. Venue: Zone Bowling, DY RSL. Contact Marie Musumeci if you are interested in playing.

## TID BITS

### CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Following our AGM in March, we welcome new President, Barry Taylor. Other new incoming officebearers include Liz Kelly as Membership Officer & Julie Magill as Welfare Officer. The role of Vice President will be filled in the very near future.. All other roles remain unchanged (see below).

### PHOTOS on WEBSITE

Click [here](#) to view photos from the Toddles walk at Many Dam; click [here](#) to view photos from Kiama trip; click [here](#) to view photos from Cockatoo Island outing.

### MAH-JONG

**Wednesdays** in the Garden Pavilion, Pittwater RSL 1:30 pm. Enquiries: call Rob Johnson, or Viv Weeks.

### OPAL DAYS

**Friday 9 May 2025 – Newtown Street Art & Shops**  
For B1 users we recommend the 9:05 am B1 from Mona Vale / 9:12 Narrabeen / 9:22 Dee Why, which arrives at Wynyard 10:00 am - let Robyn or Sally know if you miss this bus and we will wait for you. Walk down 15 steps & take 2 escalators to **Platform 5**. Train via Central to Newtown. King Street exit coffee shop & rest rooms. Led by amazing guides you will be able to check out some quirky shops and amazing murals then onto Black Star Pastry, plus a number of other murals. The Court House Hotel, on the cnr of Lennox and Australia St, will be an assembly point to regroup, You may like to have lunch there or at one of the many cafes nearby. When finished exploring, many of the buses will take you back to Martin Place (Cnr Elizabeth St) then walk back to Wynyard.

### Friday 11 July 2025 - Sydney General Post Office

Catch the B1 to arrive at Wynyard by 9:15 am if you would like morning tea/coffee before the tour (\$15 for coffee and scone at the Fullerton Hotel or just get your own takeaway). Meeting point - The Fullerton Hotel at 10:00 am (Concierge Desk) for 90 min tour of GPO. Internet says over 2300 steps but this is mostly escalators. Plenty of options for lunch afterwards if you like. The tour is limited to 15 people and costs \$20 pp. As we have quite a few on the waiting list already please confirm your spot by paying Jan Nixon, our Treasurer, at the next meeting (15 April) or refer back page for Probus bank account details (EFTpayments).

Contact Robyn Alexander or Sally Lynch if you wish to attend an outing (recommended for insurance purposes). More details will be emailed to participants the week of each outing. If you have put your name down to go on an outing, but have not provided your email address please email Robyn Alexander – note email address on back page.

### SAY HELLO



**SAY HELLO** to new members Bruce Lakin and Heather Cunningham who were inducted at the February meeting – make them feel welcome.

## AFFAIRS TO REMEMBER

Please remember to wear your name badge to all Probus monthly meetings and official events.

**APOLOGIES:** A Reminder to let the Membership Officer know if you are unable to attend a meeting.

**ALL EFT PAYMENTS** should include your name and event name in the reference; then please send a confirmation email to the Treasurer and the event organiser to show that payment has been made. This helps prevent double handling. If you have special dietary requirements, let the organiser know before the event.

**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL** – due on or prior to 15 April 2025 – \$55.00 (unchanged).

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** – dates to remember and help you plan ahead to avoid double bookings.

Monthly Meeting	Men's Breakfast	Ladies' Dinner	Toddles	President's Lunch
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue / month	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed / month	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue / month	4 <sup>th</sup> Tue / month	5 <sup>th</sup> Tue / month
April 15	April 23	April 8	April 22	April 29
May 20	May 28	May 13	May 27	
June 17	June 25	June 10	June 24	
July 15	July 23	July 8	July 22	July 29
August 19	August 27	August 12	August 26	
September 16	September 24	September 9	September 23	September 30
October 21	October 29	October 14	October 28	
November 18	November 26	November 11	November 25	
December 2 – Xmas Lunch	December 24?	December 9	December – 23?	December 30?

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:** <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/monavalecombined> to view current information about our club and events. Contact Marie Musumeci re suggestions or contributions.