



BILGOLA PLATEAU PROBUS CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone,

We had a good member attendance of 80 in September, plus 2 visitors. A most entertaining and informative presentation was given by Melinda Murray from NSW Mounted Police. Her enthusiasm for all things equine was evident from Melinda's talk on obtaining suitable horses for the Mounted Police, to training, exercise and welfare.



Our guest speaker in October will be Darren Peters from the One Meal organisation

The lucky door prize for the September birthday members was won by Elizabeth Englund. My apologies to Patricia Clifton who, due to an error, was not included in the September list. Patricia will be entered in the October birthday lucky door draw along with Susan Anderson, Anne Brandt, Ray Brooks, Kerryn Chad, Di Cross, Chris Elliot, Kay Fairall-Lee, Peter Honan, Steve Jones, Jane Kelly and Kim Lee.

Another note on succession planning, this one from our Immediate Past President, Mike Musgrave. We have had previously joint ticket Committee Positions. Lyn Hope and Janeen Macfarlane have worked very well together to provide an extensive and very successful tours and outings programme. If anyone considers they may like to contribute to their Club but feels a little apprehensive in nominating on their own for a Committee position, consider nominating for a position with a friend.

Our umbrella organization, Probus South Pacific Limited, provides members with a wide range of benefits. Individuals can take advantage of these benefits by contacting the organisations directly. I have included a copy of these benefits below.

I am looking forward to a large attendance at our fourth birthday celebration in October.

Best Regards,

John Perrott

PROBUS MEMBERS BENEFITS OFFERS AND DEALS

TRAVEL

Trade Travel
Coach Holidays and Tours
Love Tasmania Tours
On Course Tours
National Travel
Aussie Trains
Janesco Travel
Vagabond Cruises
Wendy Wu Tours
Metro Hotels
Tropical Lanka Getaways
Ciconia Exclusive Journeys
Reflections Holidays
Beyond Travel

LIFESTYLE & ENTERTAINMENT

Levande Retirement Living
Blue Mountain Botanic Gardens
Claymore Thistle
Doltone House
Murders Most Foul
A Station
Tribal Warrior
Youngster & Co
Task Tamers

FINANCE

Over Fifty Insurance
Car Search Brokers
Clime Asset Management
Hamilton 12

HEALTH

Aidacare
Alpha Hearing
Connect Hearing

FIND DETAILS: <https://probussouthpacific.org/member-benefits-australian-members/>

HOW TO ENQUIRE

Contact the supplier company
Have your Probus Membership card and number ready
Quote their relevant offer or discount code

CLUB CO-ORDINATORS

Your Probus Club has many people who work behind the scenes to make sure we have a Club that is friendly, fun and full of activities. We're always on the lookout for more people to help so when you're tapped on the shoulder, please say **YES** and join the team!

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2026/27

**John Perrott
President**

E: john.perrott7@biapond.com

**Brian Cross
Vice President**

E: bd.cross@outlook.com.au

**Mary Musgrave
Secretary**

E: maryatnewport@gmail.com

**Ray Pride
Treasurer**

E: raypride136@gmail.com

**Mary Wearne
Membership Officer**

E: mary_wearne@hotmail.com

**Sue Walker
A/Publicity Officer**

E: sues0408@gmail.com

**Maree McEvoy
Guest Speakers Officer**

E: ianmaree10@gmail.com

**Di Cross
Welfare Officer**

E: bd.cross@outlook.com

**Lyn Hope
Tours/Activities Officers**

E: lynghope@gmail.com

**Jenny Angus
Newsletter Officer**

E: jangus897@hotmail.com

**Mike Musgrave
Immediate Past President**
E: mikeatnewport@gmail.com

Activity/Event	Co-ordinator
Book Club	Mary Musgrave
Book Club (New)	Di Cross
Boys' Coffee	Mike Musgrave
Coffee and Chat – 2nd Thursday	Mary Wearne
Coffee and Chat – 4 th Friday	Mary Musgrave
Crafty Tarts	Di Cross
Crafty Yarners	Mary Musgrave
Drinks and Catch Up	Mary Musgrave
Golf	Janeen Macfarlane
Lunches/Dinners	Lesley Death, Rhonda Mortimer
Mahjong – 4 th Thursday	Di Cross
Mahjong – Pittwater RSL	Janeen Macfarlane
Meeting and Greet	Brian Cross
Morning Tea	Di Cross
Movies	Lesley Death
Outings	Lyn Hope and Janeen Macfarlane
Raffle Ticket selling	Chris and Robyn Elliott
Rummikub	Di Cross
Scrabble	Di Cross
Theatre	Janeen Macfarlane
Trivia	Shelley Barwick
Walks (extended)	Shelley Barwick, Sue Whisker, Patricia Ryan
Walks, 2 nd Tuesday	Julie Bertoldo
Welcome Desk	Mary Wearne, Joyce Moody, Joy Bell
General Meetings	
'Colour' Table meetings	Brian Cross
Guest Speakers	Maree McEvoy
Ice Breakers	Mike Musgrave
Morning Tea Servers	Lesley Death, Christine Herbert, Rhonda Mortimer and other helpers
Table Set-Up for meetings	Mike Musgrave and team

OUT AND ABOUT IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

HISTORIC PARRAMATTA TOUR

We boarded the coach bright and early - thanks to everyone for being on time. Morning tea was at Lake Parramatta and it was surprising how many of us had never been to that area before despite living in Sydney most of our lives.

Our next stop was the Female Factory and whilst we didn't get to go inside the buildings, Judith, our tour guide, brought the whole experience to life for us. Everything she spoke about had a slight sense of humour attached to it.

Our next stop was Parramatta Park with an explanation of all the buildings and memorials inside that park. A drive past many of the historic buildings in the area brought us to the Rosehill Bowling Club for lunch.



The afternoon trip to the Parramatta Orphanage in the grounds of the Western Sydney University quite literally blew our minds as Judith regaled numerous tales of what went on behind those stone walls.



It was a fabulous day but without Judith as our guide it would have just been an ordinary day. She was an incredible lady with such a vast array of knowledge.

Thanks Lyn for organising an unforgettable day for our club.

LONG REEF PEARLS

Your Long Reef Pearls walking group once again rolled around the Headland on Tuesday the 8th into a strong breeze and just a little drizzle. Afterwards we enjoyed our coffees and hot chocolate at the clubhouse where Jenny Angus was waiting to meet us. Great company and enjoyable conversation

Hope to see more members attend this walk at a future date



COFFEE AT BAYVIEW GOLF CLUB



Coffee at the Bayview golf club is always a winner! Topics of conversation can range from TV shows, cars, sport local issues, Probus activities in the club . . . to childhood memories movies, fashion and general chit chat.

It's a monthly calendar event not to be missed. Hope to see you there in October.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL

The Gospel According to Paul - what can we say!!!! No former or current political scumbag going back 50 or 60 years was spared.

The show provided a professionally performed commentary of Australian politics centred around Paul Keating's life in Parliament. Whether or not you were a fan of Keating, we all agreed that Jonathan Biggins was amazing to remember 90 mins of detailed oratory.



Thanks Janeen for organising a great afternoon for our members.

VISIT TO ELIZABETH BAY HOUSE

Have you ever been to Elizabeth Bay House?

Originally built in the Regency-style for Alexander Macleay, the Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, the property was built between 1835 and 1839 and overlooked Sydney Harbour. At one stage it was known as 'the finest house in the colony' and surrounded by an extensive 54 acre garden described as a botanist's paradise. Whilst the house still stands in original condition, the various subdivisions over the years mean that the gardens no longer exist.



The guide for our tour was Michael - he had a wealth of knowledge about the era and provided great commentary on the history of the house.

Coffee at the Elizabeth Bay Marina before the tour and lunch afterwards at the Greenknowe Café nearby gave an extra bonus for those who attended. Many thanks for organising a great outing for our Club!

BARANGAROO WALK

Ten members braved fresh early morning southerlies to visit Barangaroo on Thursday the 17th this month. At the bottom of the escalators from the B1 bus stop leading down to the sparkling promenade we enjoyed hot coffees or chocolate.

Then it was off to the end of the headland. It was stunning and the jackets were off! After a brief rest we walked back and enjoyed a buffet lunch at one of the large eateries.

We split up as some members were born to shop while the rest of us returned to our domestic duties.



THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT BILGOLA PLATEAU PROBUS CLUB



**Dates and activities correct at time of publication of newsletter,
but please check the full 2026 calendar on our Website.**

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS LOOK WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Date/Time	Activity	Where/Details	Meet at	Comment
1 Oct	5 day Coach Holiday and Tours Bus Trip	Sunshine Coast and Montville	TBA	Refer the EOI for all the details. Bookings must be made via the official Coach Holidays and Tours website https://coachholidaysandtours.com.au/coach-holidays/sunshine-coast-montville-probus50/
Friday 2 Oct 10 am	Probus Monthly Meeting	Newport Bowling Club	Clubhouse	CLUB BIRTHDAY PARTY No Guest Speaker Visitors are welcome to attend
Tuesday 6 Oct 1.30 – 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale	Inside the club, games room	For both new and more experienced players. This group meets every Tuesday. Please contact Janeen Macfarlane: janeen.macfarlane@gmail.com
Thursday 8 Oct 10 am	Coffee and Chat	Bayview Golf Club	Cafe	No need to book, just come along. Enquiries: Mary Wearne, mary_wearne@hotmail.com
Thursday 8 Oct 1 - 4 pm	Crafty Tarts Group	Home of Di Cross	Di's house	Bring your handicraft work to Di's for an afternoon of crafty fun, Contact bd.cross@outlook.com.au
Thursday 8 Oct 7-9 pm	Trivia with Jim	Avalon Beach Bowling Club,	Inside the Club at 6.30 for 7pm start.	For further information, please contact Shelley Barwick, sbarwick7@icloud.com
Friday 11 Oct 1-4 pm	Rummikub	Pittwater RSL Club, Mona Vale	In the cafe area	For both new and more experienced players. Contact Di Cross bd.cross@outlook.com.au if you wish to join
Monday 12 Oct 11 am	Book Club	Waterview Cafe, Mona Vale Golf Club, Mona Vale	Lounge area	Contact Mary Musgrave, maryatnewport@gmail.com for further information
Monday 12 Oct 4 – 6 pm	Drinks and Catchup	Newport Bowling Club	Clubhouse	No need to book, just come along. Enquiries: Mary Musgrave, maryatnewport@gmail.com
Tuesday 13 Oct 10 am	Walk	Long Reef Headland Walk at Collaroy, followed by coffee	Meet at the entrance to tennis courts	Grade: Medium, Distance: 3km loop Time: 1hr, Path: Formed track, gentle hills, occasional steps. Contact Julie Bertoldo if unsure about the weather conditions jmb6257@yahoo.com.au
Tuesday 13 Oct 11.30–4pm	Scrabble	Home of Di Cross	Di's house	Contact Di Cross for more information bd.cross@outlook.com.au
Tuesday 13 Oct 1.30 – 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale	Inside the club, games room	For both new and more experienced players. This group meets every Tuesday. Please contact Janeen Macfarlane: janeen.macfarlane@gmail.com

Date/Time	Activity	Where/Details	Meet at	Comment
Thursday 15 Oct 10 am	Victoria Barracks. Free Tour + Museum Visit \$5 + optional lunch,	Victoria Barracks, entry Moore Park Rd, Paddington. Lunch after at Paddington RSL, Oxford Street, Paddington	Bus from Wynyard. Short walk from Flinders Street. Details TBA.	See EOI for all details. RSVP for Tour and Lunch, by 1st October, to Lyn Hope, lynghope@gmail.com
Friday 16 Oct Time: TBA	Movies and Coffee	Warriewood Cinema	Cinema Foyer	The movie will be advised the Monday before. Contact: Lesley Death lesleyjanedeath@gmail.com
Monday 19 Oct 10.30 am	Heaven's Devils Boys' Coffee	Relish, 8/1 North Avalon Road, Avalon Beach	The cafe	Boys' coffee is a regular monthly event. No need to book, just turn up. Contact Mike Musgrave mikeatnewport@gmail.com for any additional information
Tuesday 20 Oct 1.30 – 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale	Inside the club, games room	For both new and more experienced players. This group meets every Tuesday. Contact Janeen Macfarlane: janeen.macfarlane@gmail.com
Thursday 22 Oct 10.30-4pm	Mah-jong	Di Cross's house	Di's house	Morning tea supplied. Bring your own lunch. Enquiries: bd.cross@outlook.com.au
Thursday 22 Oct 7-9 pm	Trivia with Jim	Avalon Beach Bowling Club,	Inside the Club at 6.30 for 7pm start.	For further information, please contact Shelley Barwick, sbarwick7@icloud.com
Friday 23 Oct 10 am	Coffee and Chat	Lovat, 316-324 Barrenjoey Road Newport	Cafe	No need to book, just come along. Stay for as long or as little as you like. Enquiries: Mary Musgrave maryatnewport@gmail.com
Tuesday 27 Oct-Wed 4 November	9 Day Oncourse tour	Kangaroo Is, Murray River Barossa & Adelaide	Pick up and drop off from your home	Refer EOI for all trip inclusions & cost details. Final Payment due by 28 August, 2026 - RSVP to Lyn Hope lynghope@gmail.com
Tuesday 27 Oct 1.30 - 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale	Inside the Club	For both new and more experienced players. This group meets every Tuesday. Contact Janeen Macfarlane, janeen.macfarlane@gmail.com
Tuesday 27 Oct 2pm-4pm	New Book Club	Contact Di Cross for venue address	N/A	Contact Di Cross for more information bd.cross@outlook.com.au
Thursday 29 Oct Narrabeen BLine 9.30 or Milsons Point Station 10.30 am	Away Walk and optional lunch	Walk from Milsons Point Station to Milsons Point Park Kirribilli, Harbour Bridge to The Rocks	Narrabeen B1 or Milsons Point station entrance	Attendance is at member's discretion re fitness. Optional lunch stop available. Refer to the EOI for all details. RSVP to Sue Whisker asap susan.whisker@bigpond.com
Friday 30 Oct 10.30 am	9 holes Social Golf	Palm Beach Golf Club	At the Pro Shop 10.30	Book in via Probus Social Golf WhatsApp Group. Pay at the Pro Shop Contact Janeen Macfarlane janeen.macfarlane@gmail.com

BITS AND PIECES

NEW TRIVIA LOCATION



A new Trivia location has been found. We're now testing our brains at the Avalon Bowling Club. Jim, the RSL host is still the compere. Please contact Shelley Barwick sbarwick7@icloud.com if you'd like to join the Probus group.

PROBUS MEMBER BENEFITS

You may not be aware that there are a wide range of **discounts and offers** from a number of participating businesses available to Probus members. These include Travel, Lifestyle & Entertainment, Finance and Health.

You can view the offers on the website:

<https://probussouthpacific.org/member-benefits-australian-members/>



Contact the suppliers directly and have your Probus membership card and number to enquire about their offers.

NB: It is important to read the Terms and Conditions of the offers, as well as read the Probus Disclaimer.

NB: DATE FOR JANUARY 2027 GENERAL MEETING

January 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Due to New Year's Day 2027 being the first Friday of the month, our General Meeting has been moved to Friday 8 January 2027.

Please mark this date in your diaries.

MORNING TEA



MORNING TEA ROSTER FOR 2 OCTOBER 2026

**Our Birthday treats will be provided
by your Probus Club**

**Thank You to our Kitchen Ladies:
Lesley Death, Rhonda Mortimer,
Christine Herbert and helpers**



CLARIFICATION: *Judy Holtz would like it known that although she helped with morning coffee at our September meeting held on Friday 11 September she did not prepare any of the delicious goodies on offer.*

CHRISTMAS PARTY TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

Tickets to our Christmas Party at the Palm Beach Golf Club are now available. The 2-course menu is \$70 pp which includes a welcome drink.

If you're interested in attending the function, please advise either Rhonda Mortimer, rhondamortimer@bigpond.com or Lesley Death, lesleyjanedeath@gmail.com by Saturday, 7 November 2026, **stating any dietary requirements**. See the website for all the details.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're trialling a new page in our monthly newsletter and your feedback about the page to any member on the Management Committee would be appreciated.

If the page continues, it's hoped it will contain **non-Probuss items** that might be of interest to members such as some local news, a useful app or computer game, a joke, recycling bargains, great coffee location, new exercises for seniors, etc, etc.

For it to continue, your contributions would be gratefully received.



If you have any shopping bags you'd like to recycle at Newport Coles Supermarket, Newport, please email Lyn De Klerk lmdeklerk@hotmail.com. Lyn's happy to take paper, cloth or plastic.

If you haven't yet done so, you might like to consider booking in for an ACAT assessment as the assessment can take quite a while to obtain.

Here's one for our photographers:
An amazing photography exhibition has just opened at the State Library. Lorrie Graham was the first woman photojournalist and her photos go back over five decades, including many iconic images of our politicians. On until end October.

Did you apply for your Northern Beaches car parking permit in time? Existing physical Beach Parking Permits expired on 31 August 2026. If you missed the deadline, perhaps pay a visit to the Council to enquire what you now need to do.



Has anyone ever seen Neil Diamond in person? The website says he's 6' tall but those who have seen him dispute this fact.

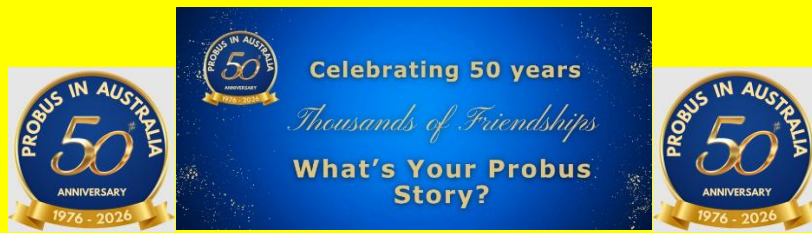
Sydney Open returns to Sydney this November For one day only, go behind the scenes and explore places and spaces that are normally off limits. From hidden heritage treasures to award-winning contemporary architecture, **Sydney Open** is your invite to see the city differently. Tickets \$55



Remember our Guest Speaker from Little Wings? Well did you hear about Dusty Langby who walked more than 500 kilometres from Warren to Canberra (arriving 14/9/26) and raised \$500,000 for rural healthcare charity Little Wings.

He met with Prime Minister who agreed to match the 12-year-old's fundraising effort and announced an extra \$1 million for Little Wings. If you want to read more, just Google it for a very moving story.

MESSAGE FROM PROBUS SOUTH PACIFIC LIMITED



As Probus celebrates **50 years of Probus in Australia**, they want to hear from the people who have made those 50 years so special – **Probus Club Members**.

Every Probus member has a story. Perhaps you joined to meet new people and discovered lifelong friendships. Maybe Probus has taken you to places you never expected to visit, encouraged you to try something new, or simply given you something to look forward to each month. You may be a long-term member or only just recently joined.

Share your story and you could WIN! PSPL is giving away **five 50th Anniversary Probus hampers in each state and territory** to some of the most compelling testimonials.

Need some inspiration?

- *Why did you join Probus?*
- *What do you enjoy most about being a member?*
- *Have you made a special friendship through your Club?*
- *What is your favourite Probus memory?*
- *Has Probus encouraged you to travel, learn or try something new?*
- *What would you say to someone thinking about joining Probus?*

Your story doesn't need to be long – a few sentences is all it takes to encourage someone to join the Probus Community.

Selected stories may be shared across the PSPL website, social media, publications and general promotion to help demonstrate the benefits of joining Probus. Other than your first name and state/territory, PSPL will not identify members in any way. As 50 years is a milestone worth celebrating, who better to tell the Probus story than the members who are living it!

Share your testimonial by 31 October 2026 to be eligible to win a 50th Anniversary Probus Hamper.

[Click here to share your Probus story](#)

BOOK REVIEWS

The Probus Book Club recently read **Strangers: A Memoir of Marriage** by Belle Burden. Set against the backdrop of the early 2020 pandemic lockdown in the US on Martha's Vineyard, Burden details the shocking moment her husband announces an affair and abruptly walks away from their shared life. With unflinching honesty, she examines not only her husband's startling abandonment but also her own privileged background and the quiet compliance expected of women. Based on fact, however it's well worthwhile doing a Google search on Belle Burden to find out more.



The New Probus Book Club has been busy and their some of their reviews for the month are shown below:

ON KUBRICK – JAMES NAREMORE – 2014 (Reviewed by Steve Jones)



James Naremore is Emeritus Chancellors' Professor of Communication and Culture and English, Indiana University, USA. He is the prolific author of books, many about movies including critical studies on Orson Welles and Stanley Kubrick, many published by the British Film Institute. This book was later revised in 2023.

"On Kubrick" offers a lucid critical survey of Stanley Kubrick's films, spanning his early shorts and first feature, Fear and Desire (1953), through to the posthumously realised A.I. Artificial Intelligence (Steven Spielberg, 2001). The book offers provocative analyses of each film, along with fresh insights into their production histories and cultural contexts. It aims to provide a concise yet thorough discussion useful as both an academic text and a trade publication.

James Naremore argues that Kubrick's films had ambiguous narratives, innovative, individually anchored styles, serious and/or bleakly realist themes, on subjects which ranged from nationally specific to wildly universal. Kubrick's taste and sensibility were shaped by the artistic culture of New York in the 1950s where he began as an accomplished photographer for Look magazine; he became a celebrated film director who influenced his films so much that Kubrick ranks as their author, who forged a distinctive style using art-cinema conventions in commercial productions (Barry Lyndon 1975); he challenged censorship regulations (Lolita (1962) and A Clockwork Orange (1971); and throughout his career Kubrick was a perfectionist who assumed direct control over most aspects of his filmmaking.

The author explains how Kubrick cultivated expertise in writing, editing, colour grading, promotion, and exhibition and why he was famous for the painstaking care taken in researching his films and staging scenes. He frequently asked for several dozen retakes of the same shot, often confusing and frustrating his actors. Many of Kubrick's films broke new cinematic ground and are now considered landmarks. His films are renowned for their distinctive soundtracks that often complement the film's themes and enhance the viewing experience.

War and science are key concerns in Kubrick's oeuvre, and his work has a hyper-masculine quality. Yet no director has more relentlessly emphasized the absurdity of combat, as in Paths of Glory (1957), Spartacus (1960) and Full Metal Jacket (1987), the failure of scientific reasoning, as in 2001, A Space Odyssey (1968), and the fascistic impulses in masculine sexuality, as in Dr Strangelove (1964) and Eyes Wide Shut (1999).

The book also argues that while Kubrick was a voracious intellectual and a life-long self-taught person, the fascination of his work has less to do with the ideas it espouses than with the emotions it evokes. Often described as 'cool' or 'cold,' Kubrick is best understood as a skilful practitioner of what might be called the aesthetics of the grotesque; he employs extreme forms of caricature and black comedy. Naremore details how Kubrick was a renowned innovator in cinematography that had a profound impact on his movies, especially 2001, a Space Odyssey (1968), Barry Lyndon (1975) and The Shining (1980).

In summary, Naremore provides a concise yet thorough discussion that will be useful to students of Kubrick's filmmaking and cinephiles who seek a deeper insight into the work of this perfectionist genius, whose 13 film's genres ranged from anti-war, historical dramas, science fiction, horror, comedy, thrillers and film noir.

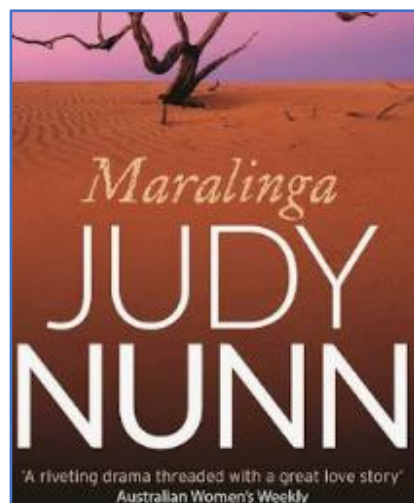
MARALINGA by JUDY NUNN (Reviewed by Lesley Whiteside)

This is the story of British Lieutenant Daniel Gardiner, who accepts a 12 month posting to the wilds of South Australia. The British airbase is in the middle of nowhere; an atomic weapons testing ground in the spring of 1956.

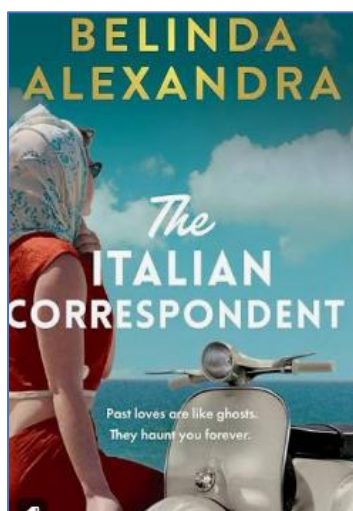
The British army packed up and went home in 1962 and Maralinga closed in 1967. The site was left to the silence of the desert. Maralinga is also a love story and draws a young English journalist half way around the world in search of the truth. It turns out that the deputy director of M16 is a Russian spy.

It is also a story of heartbreak; heartbreak to the First Australians who had walked their land unhindered for 40,000 years

This book mixes fiction and non-fiction in a great read. I will look for more stories written by Judy Nunn.



THE ITALIAN CORRESPONDENT By Belinda Alexandra (Reviewed by Di Cross)



Belinda started by explaining that in her research she found there were three types of love. The first love was wild and exciting; the second love had a more mature approach and the third love combined the first two and then the lover was looked on in terms of being a lifelong companion. She decided to base her book on the idea of what would happen if you were confronted with all 3 types of love at the same time. Past loves are like ghosts.

Rome, 1951. Veronica Gold is in the city as the correspondent for Vogue magazine. She is trying to convince readers that Italy is emerging from the war and trying to shake off its dark fascist past and promote itself as the most glamorous nation in Europe, competing with France. During a promotional event, Veronica is trying to forget the horrific memories of her time as a war reporter attached to the Eighth Army at the brutal height of the Second World War. She cannot come to terms with the glamour within and that outside Italy was still living in rubble, people still starving, broken and traumatised.

Throughout the book, Veronica keeps having memories of the atrocities of the War, the friends she lost and her inability to cope - a predecessor to the current post traumatic stress disorder diagnosis.

Veronica was divorced from her husband and drifted apart after the loss of their child. Lyle worked for the American foreign office. She then found out that Lyle had married another female reporter, Emerald, whom she thought was a friend.

Veronica has come to write her book set in Pompeii the week before the eruption of Mt Vesuvius, as she was always interested in ancient history. On the archaeological site Veronica meets Professor Fabbri, her second love, whom she met during the war. He had worked for the underground in Italy under an assumed identity. Veronica's third love was Count Carlo Durazzo, who was now Emerald's current husband.

Things become complicated when Lyle is found murdered and Veronica finds herself drawn into a sphere of spies and a world on the edge of nuclear war, one where nothing and nobody is quite as they seem. There's also something frightening familiar here from a moral perspective – that someone might be driven to betray their country for the sake of humanity. As I think about events on the other side of the world (committing acts of war and having disregard for entire countries) you can't help wonder if sometimes people need to do the wrong things for the right reasons.

BACK PAGE REMINDERS

PAYMENTS

Please transfer your payment directly to the club's bank account using the following details: **BSB 062205, Account No 10491254**

Don't forget to identify your transaction as instructed in the EOI



WELFARE ISSUES



*If you are aware of a member of our Club (or their partner) who is ill or in hospital, please advise our Welfare Officer **Di Cross** either by phone or email.*

bd.cross@outlook.com.au,

Ph: mobile 0412141455

CHANGED YOUR DETAILS RECENTLY?

It's really important to notify our Secretary (currently Mary Musgrave, at email maryatnewport@gmail.com) if you change your street address, email address or phone no.

As well as being used to update our Club's records and Probus South Pacific's database, these details can be used to email/phone you if you are sick, contact you for clarification of an outing, as well as a number of other items. If we don't have up-to-date records, you may miss out on enjoying all the benefits our club offers.



GET IN EARLY

*New outings and dining opportunities are continually being added to the Club's calendar on the website. Some have restrictions on numbers attending, so **RSVP** early to avoid disappointment.*



FEELING A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER?

If you're not feeling well, perhaps it's best to stay at home and away from Probus outings. We're in a vulnerable age group and germs can easily be transmitted among us. Thanks so much for your understanding.



BYO MUG/CUP

In the interests of helping to save our Club funds – as well as the planet - members are encouraged to bring their own mug for morning tea.



ADDING THE PROBUS WEBSITE TO YOUR PHONE'S HOME SCREEN



A few members have asked how to add the Bilgola Plateau Probus Club's website to their phone's Home Screen. There are different ways to do this depending on the type of phone you have, but if you'd like help with this, please see Mary Musgrave - and fingers crossed we can work it out together. Remember, you're not adding an App, it's just a direct link to the website, ie, it's like a bookmark