



Probud
WESTLEIGH COMBINED

Club No 9002565 Accreditation No 2379 Foundation Meeting 27/11/2007
P.O. Box 106 Thornleigh NSW 2120 Website: www.westleighprobud.org
President: Judy Edwards Secretary / Public Officer: Barbara Rees
Treasurer: Danny McGarrigle

NEWSLETTER.®

No. 223 AUGUST 2026



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members,

As we move through a fairly mild and dry winter, we are also moving into brighter mornings and enjoying some wonderful sunsets. The warmth of our days, although on and off, has been quite pleasant. Maybe this is a sign of an early spring and summer! I'll leave that prediction to the Bureau of Meteorology - whether they're right or wrong!

Unfortunately, this month has also brought another farewell to one of our fellow members. I extend my deepest condolences, both personally and on behalf of our club, to their family and loved ones.

On a brighter note, our club continues to be on a winning streak by being able to welcome new members. The other day I had the pleasure of spending time with some of our recently joined members, and I was delighted to hear their comments about how warmly they have been welcomed. They spoke so positively about the friendship, kindness and genuine sense of belonging they have experienced since joining us.

What more can I say? We truly do enjoy the friendship, fun and fellowship that make our club so special.

So on that note I would like to say thank you to each and every one of you for helping to create such a welcoming and caring club.

I hope everyone stays warm, keeps healthy, and I look forward to seeing you at our next General Meeting on Monday, 10th August.

Warm regards,

Judy

PRIVACY NOTICE

We understand how important it is to protect your personal information. We only print personal information where it is reasonably necessary for, or directly related to, our functions and activities.

ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, INCIDENTS

These must be recorded on the Sign on sheet by the Activity Leader soon after they occur. Activity Leader to report these to the Club Secretary the day they occur.

****** OUR WEB SITE ******

Well worth a look for what's coming up as well an opportunity to look back (a great selection of photos from past events)

Simply click on the following: [Westleigh Probus | Friendship, Fellowship and Fun](#) – firstly hold down the <Ctrl> key then click to be taken to the Home page – no password is required.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

3 Aug	Walking	2 Sep	Fun with Words
5 Aug	Fun with Words	2 Sep	Canasta (Day)
5 Aug	Canasta (Day)	2 Sep	Live Music (LIMAS)
6 Aug	Cycling	3 Sep	Cycling
7 Aug	Golf	4 Sep	Golf
10 Aug	GENERAL MEETING	7 Sep	Walking
10 Aug	Book Club	8 Sep	Craft and Chat
11 Aug	Craft and Chat	9 Sep	Lunch Group – Little Snail
12 Aug	Lunch Group	9 Sep	Canasta (Night)
12 Aug	Canasta (Night)	10 Sep	Upstagers
13 Aug	Upstagers	11 Sep	Tennis
14 Aug	Tennis	14 Sep	GENERAL MEETING
14 Aug	Wine and Cheese	14 Sep	Book Club
19 Aug	Cinema	16 Sep	Cinema
19 Aug	Afternoon Tea	16 Sep	Afternoon Tea
20 Aug	Table Tennis	17 Sep	Table Tennis
21 Aug	Lawn Bowls	18 Sep	Lawn Bowls
24 Aug	Outing	18 Sep	Wine and Cheese (tbc)
28 Aug	Garden Group	21 Sep	Songsters
28 Aug	Bridge	23 Sep	Garden group
		25 Sep	Bridge
		28 Sep	Outing (tbc)



IT'S BIRTHDAY TIME!

**Beverley Avery, Vern Bowrey, Bjorn Haglund, John Havercroft, Gail Hick
Michael Hollier, Roslyn Krempin, Robert Lawrance, Judy Moore
Sue Purcell**

Congratulations and warmest **August** Birthday wishes to these Combined Probus Club of Westleigh members. We all hope you enjoy your birthdays and connect with family and friends to celebrate.



SETTING UP ROOM / MORNING TEA

Roster for Thornleigh Community Centre. August- October 2026

Last updated – 28th June 2026

Furniture Roster coordinator- volunteer needed

	Tasks			
Month	Table & Chairs layout and return to storage 3-4 people 9.30 start	Urns Storage, setup, Drain and take home Store Morning Tea supplies 1 person	Morning Tea Lay out and clean up 9.45 am start +2-3 people Coordinator Vreni Schwotzer	Audio Visual Set up and check 1 person
Aug Mon 10 th	1. Cameron Allanson 2. Michael Hollier 3. John Gorman	Leo Murphy	1. Melanie Allanson 2. Karen Murphy 3. Julie Ortlepp 4. Marilyn Hollier	
Sept Mon 14 th	1. Cameron Allanson 2. Barry Gill 3. John Gorman	Leo Murphy	1. Melanie Allanson 2. 3.	
Oct Mon 12 th	1. Cameron Allanson 2. Barry Gill 3. John Gorman	Leo Murphy	1. Melanie Allanson 2. 3.	

If you are rostered and unavailable for the Morning Tea part on that date, please contact **Vreni Schwotzer** - (M) 0402 271 004



WELFARE

As our members age, we send our best wishes to anyone who is not as well as usual.

To members who are in hospital or who have had time in hospital, but who would prefer not to be "mentioned in dispatches", we send our best wishes.

Please phone or email either of us (see below) if you are aware of any member who is unwell so I can send our best wishes. This is especially necessary in the case of our newer members.

Contact: **Heather Barber** (M) 0419 488 340 (Email): heatherbarber@optusnet.com.au
or **Karen Murphy** (M) 0402 904 913 (Email): leokarenm74@gmail.com



SPEAKERS

Graham Sims will be doing a presentation titled "Funny Dummies".

We Aussies have made a 'thing' about our dunnies (despite the fact that we did not invent the word) whether they be in the bush or in suburbia.

We write poems and stories and songs and take photos of them.

Graham relates a lifetime of 'dunny' reminiscences, from both here and overseas - keeping it clean and wholesome for audiences of delicate or genteel disposition.

Convenor: **Bridget Robertson** (M) 0402 422 791 – (Email)
westleighspeakers01@gmail.com

GENERAL MONTHLY PROGRAM

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Walking		Fun with Words	Cycling	Golf
			Canasta (Day)		
			Dinner Group		
2	GENERAL MEETING	Craft and Chat	Lunch Group	Upstagers	Tennis
	Book Club		Canasta (Night)		Live Music (date flexible)
3	Songsters		Cinema	Table Tennis	Lawn Bowls
			Afternoon Tea		Wine and Cheese
4	Outings (date flexible)		Garden group		Bridge
5					



AFTERNOON TEA GROUP

A very good turnout this afternoon saw an even greater level of fun and laughter as we conversed about anything and everything while at the same time consuming our always delicious afternoon tea.

Details for August are:

- When – Wednesday 19th August
- From – 2:30pm
- Where – Pennant Hills Heritage Café, Hillcrest Rd, Pennant Hills

All are most welcome.

Contact: **Chris Jose** (M) 0402 275 199 (Email) chrisjose106@gmail.com
or **Barry Jose** (M) 0411 482 255 (Email) barry.jose@bigpond.com



BOOK CLUB

The meeting of the Book club took place after the General meeting on Monday the 13th July at Pennant Hills Pub. Eleven members were present.

We had a lively discussion about Stan Grant's book "The Queen is Dead".

I do not think any of us would recommend this book for others to read. He certainly has a real dislike of the colonisation of Australia by white people even though he himself has benefited from being educated and being part of "White society "

Most members did not read the whole book. We were told that he has written another book since which is not so full of anger that is much better, but I do not think many of us are in a hurry to read it!!!

The book we are reading this month is a very good book about the women fighters of the Jewish resistance- their untold story. It is called "The Light of Days" by Judy Batalion.

These Jewish Polish women were very courageous and risked their lives to work against the Nazis as intelligence agents and saboteurs. Many of them died in their fight. These unknown heroes have not been recognised, and their exploits have not been written about until now.

It is a big book with many heroes in it, so a long read but an interesting one. Indeed, you wonder how any of them survived their exploits.

Our August meeting will be held after the General meeting on the 10th August at the Pennant Hills Pub.

New members are always welcome.

Co-ordinator: **Christine Norman** (M) 0438 616 780 (Email) chris1944anne@gmail.com
Second contact is: **Lyn Mealey** (M) 0419 162 177 (Email) lmealey@bigpond.com



BRIDGE

In July we welcomed Michael Kevin to our Friday get together. Michael joined us for the first time, and we certainly hope to see a lot more of him.

Unfortunately we had a number of apologies, as often happens on a Friday.

After morning tea James taught us how to play three-handed bridge which was very interesting, and a good game if there are only three players. What a pity I couldn't remember how to play it properly when I offered to teach some people on Saturday!

Our next Bridge morning is Friday 28th August at 9.30am. If you are not receiving my emails, please check your "spam" as that could be where they may go if you don't have my name in your contacts list.

Any member interested in playing this great game is more than welcome.

Contact: **Kay Taylor** (M) 0420 257 603 Email: kaytay42@hotmail.com



CINEMA

An email with the movie details for August will be sent out when details of the movie to be seen are known.

Contact: **Roslyn Krempin** (M) 0411 961 300 {Email} roslynkrempin@hotmail.com



Day Canasta – 1st July

Wednesday 1st July was a day to forget all the new financial year woes and enjoy our monthly canasta game.

We had 15 players in attendance and all had a great time.

- Chris and Jo took the honours on table 1 over Wendy and Rob.
- Diana and Judy started well on table 2 but were narrowly beaten by Michael and Fiona
- Barry and Helen had a good win over Kay and Danny.
- At the only Singles table, Bridget was the winner, beating Barbara and Brian.

Our next Daytime canasta will be on the 5th August, 1pm at the Manor Cherrybrook

Night Canasta – 8th July

There was no Night Canasta this month due to ill health (but things are back to normal now!)

August dates

- Day Canasta – 5th August at the Manors Clubhouse starting at 1pm
- Night Canasta – 5th August at Chris / Barry's home at Castle Hill starting at 7pm.

Please note: If you would like to attend Night Canasta, please let either Chris or Barry know so that we can organise an appropriate number of tables.

New players are always welcome.

If you want to learn the game, please message or email Chris.

Contacts:

- Day Canasta: **Lesley Bowrey** (acting)
 - (M) 0414 454 180
 - Email: lesleyjbowrey@gmail.com
- Night Canasta: **Chris / Barry Jose**
 - Chris: (M) 0402 275 199 (Email) chrisjose106@gmail.com
 - Barry: (M) 0411 482255 (Email) barry.jose@bigpond.com



CRAFT AND CHAT

On a cool but beautiful June afternoon, our group spent a most delightful afternoon catching up around our various projects. A special welcome to first-timer Muriel.

As always, there was lots of laughter and fun as well as a delicious afternoon tea.

Our July get together will be as follows:

- Date: Tuesday the 11th August
- Time: from 1:30pm
- Where: 3 Milne Court, Castle Hill 2154

New members are most welcome.

Contact: **Chris Jose:**

- Mobile – 0402-275-199
- Email – chrisjose106@gmail.com



CYCLING

In July we had our Adventure ride on the Central Coast, from The Entrance around Tuggerah Lake. This ride, which has taken several months of preparation, was researched, hosted, and led by David Conway.

This ride was very different from any rides we have in Sydney. The track was much flatter than we are used to. Being alongside the lake for most of the ride, the scenery was very pleasant and there were trees scattered around the path along the way. All very picturesque.

We really couldn't have asked for better weather for a ride in July. However, there had been some heavy overnight rain and in some places there were a few centimetres of water over the track (quite fun to ride through, really).

In David's pre-ride briefing he warned us to watch out for mothers with prams (often two abreast, leaving little room on the path for riders) or toddlers, as well as dogs not under control. He also warned us not to go on to the grass to avoid these hazards as we would probably get bogged after the rain!

The ride, which started in Long Jetty, was in 2 legs. The first leg, which included the mandatory Probus coffee, was to Chittaway Bay and through the Chittaway Wetlands, before returning to the start point for lunch. The second leg was a return ride to The Entrance Bridge.

We had 6 riders for this ride, and we all enjoyed ourselves. Our thanks to David for a wonderful day.

August ride

The next ride on the 6th August will be along the Parramatta River from Meadowbank to Parramatta Park.

September ride

Our ride on 3rd September will be the newly-opened Greenway cycle path from the Bay Run to Cooks River.

If you would like to join us to experience the Cycling activity, please email me and I will provide you with further details.

Norman.

Contact: **Norman Parris** (M) 0418 727 744 (Email) nparris8855@gmail.com



DINNER/LUNCH CLUB

AUGUST LUNCH

Kathy and Andy Noney will host a lunch **at 12 midday on Wednesday, 12 August** at

The Fiddler at Rouse Hill, Cnr Commercial and Windsor Roads, Rouse Hill.

Entrance from Commercial Road. There is plenty of parking.

Cost – Order from the a la carte menu and pay directly. Seniors can take advantage of a two for one offer on all Main Meals. Please bring your Seniors card.

Drinks, Dessert and Coffee – Pay as you order.

Please inform Andy Noney if you wish to attend so that our group can be seated together.

Co-ordinator:- **Andy Noney** (M): 0418 116 182 (E): westleighprobus.vicepres@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER LUNCH

Karen and Leo Murphy will host a lunch at 12 midday **on Wednesday, 9th September** at

The Little Snail, 50 Murray Street, Pyrmont. It is a few minutes away from the Pyrmont Bay Light Rail stop and the Maritime Museum.

Cost: \$48 per person includes a 3-course meal selected from a set menu on the day.

Drinks are not included and are best paid for at the time you order them from the bar or waiter.

More information can be found at this link: <https://www.thelittlesnail.com.au/menus/lunch-menu>

Public transport recommendations will be distributed a few days beforehand based on the timetable at the time. Last year we had 43 participants so please advise Andy your intention to attend early to ensure we get the needed seats.

Bookings and payment by 31 August by direct deposit to Treasurer, Danny McGarrigle, westleighprobus.treasurer@gmail.com and cc to Andy Noney, westleighprobus.vicepres@gmail.com

Co-ordinator: **Andy Noney** (M): 0418 116 182 (E): westleighprobus.vicepres@gmail.com



FUN WITH WORDS

Oh! What a topic it was last month. It was set by Bob Young.

"Looking at how the economy of Australia appears to be heading, investigate and write about the following :-

WOULD A UNIVERSAL WAGE HELP US TO WIPE OUT POVERTY IN AUSTRALIA?"

The reaction from the group, OMG how will we deal with this?

Some of us resorted to AI and/or Google.

We know Bob felt bad about what he'd set so he read out a poem to put us in a fun mood to begin the meeting.

*Robert Young, now what have you done
Fun with Words is supposed to be fun
How did you come up with the subject you chose
Don't you think that your subject is a bit on the nose?*

*I can't understand what I must have been thinking
I'm beginning to think that I must have been drinking
I've spent a lot of time searching the Internet
To get pages and pages that I know I'll forget*

*Let's get to the subject that I've sent to you all
About a Universal Wage, something to enthral
But probably the subject of which you weren't aware
Lack of knowledge of the subject with you I will share*

*So just to say I'm sorry for what you've been put through
It's something that I again will definitely not do
So I hope that you can listen to what I've got to say
And we all enjoy a happy chatting day.
BOB YOUNG*

Some of the research and contributions from members follow, as well as others courtesy of AI and Google.

A universal wage, more commonly called a universal basic income (UBI), could reduce poverty in Australia, but whether it could *wipe it out* depends on how it is designed and paid for.

Most economists would say the answer is, it could dramatically reduce poverty, but on its own it is unlikely to eliminate it permanently.

Challenges remain as to why a UBI might not eliminate poverty, eg. Cost, Housing costs, Inflation, People with greater needs.

Various UBI trials have been conducted in countries including: Finland, Canada, United States and Kenya.

The general findings have been:

- Poverty and financial insecurity decreases
- Mental health and wellbeing often improve
- Employment usually falls only slightly, if at all, contrary to fears that most people would stop working.

If Australia wanted to reduce poverty to very low levels, the evidence suggests a package like the following would have the biggest impact:

- Raise the income floor
- Fix housing
- Improve access to work
- Support people with higher needs
- Reduce the cost of affordability essentials and Address wealth inequality.

A lot easier said than done!

One of our members quoted Elon Musk's prediction that AI and automation will eventually render most human jobs obsolete, making a UBI mandatory. She said her personal, uninformed and irresponsible reaction to Musk's prediction is "Bring on an apocalypse!" And if her computer dies "she has paper and pencil, loads of books, and grandchildren who will need her to tell them stories because they no longer have the Internet. She will have a purpose."

ChatGPT was asked to give a few light-hearted takes on the idea of a UBI:

- UBI: because even your bank account deserves emotional support.
- Imagine payday, but it shows up whether your boss remembers you exist or not.
- A UBI is like your Grandma slipping you a \$50 note - except it's the government and there are a lot more forms involved.
- UBI: the economic version of your phone battery never dropping below 20%
- A dry Australian-style one: - a UBI - enough to keep the lights on but still not enough to buy a house in Sydney.

And to prove that a UBI has been thought of for a while:

- Thomas More's "Utopia" (1516) suggested that providing everyone with a guaranteed livelihood would eradicate theft and hardship.
- Juan Luis Vives (1526) - a Spanish scholar - argued that public authorities should guarantee a minimum means of survival for all citizens, regardless of their employment status.

On a sad note - Vale David Rees.

- David will be very much missed at our monthly FWW meetings. He was a great contributor - his stories and poems varied, being very clever, funny, deep and meaningful and thought provoking.

Fun with Words meets on the first Wednesday of the month, 10-12 noon. New members welcome.

Contact: **Diane Rowe** (M) 0419 486 218 (Email) diane.rowe134@gmail.com



GARDENING

July Outing

The Gardening Group this month had a full day program to the Botanic Gardens to see three different aspects of the gardens.

We started as usual with morning tea in the cafe after the train / metro trip into the city.

We were then joined at 11am by Greg Lamont who is the horticultural advisor for the Growing Friends Propagation program at the gardens. Growing Friends is one arm of the Foundation and Friends program attached to the Botanic Gardens. Greg took us into the Behind the Scenes area where the general public are generally excluded and the real work is under way.

Firstly we met with Valerero who is the guru of the extensive collection in the orchid houses and his colleague, Peter, a world renowned international judge . Firstly it was into the cooler climate orchid house. Hundreds of orchids in beautiful condition, then it was off to the tropical orchid glass house where the temperatures are 26c - 46c (in summer) . Some orchids were in flower and breathtakingly beautiful.

Then Greg showed us into the propagation sheds for the Growing Friends nursery. He explained how many of the plants are propagated, either seeds or cuttings. They propagate plants from the living collections in the three Botanic Gardens, Mt Tomah (cool climate) Mt Annan (hot climate) and the Royal Botanical Gardens. They are then sold on to the general public.

We then handed over to David Chandler who showed us a few significant trees in the garden, including the garden's oldest tree, a red cedar planted in the 1820s. David also showed us the garden's tallest tree, a Kinkie Pine, native bee hives and the Cycads from the dinosaur times. Then it was off to the Calyx for a tour by David of the Alchemy of a Rainforest exhibition. Lastly off to the nursery where many of us purchased a plant.

Everyone was very tired but exhilarated by the wonderful weather and day we had been treated to. Some headed back to the city and the rest of us collapsed into the Art Gallery for a late lunch. Thank you to David, Greg and Val for treating us to such a wonderful day.



August outing

Next month we will be off to the Randwick Sustainability Hub. The details will be available at the next meeting.

September outing

For September we are planning to have the Propagation workshop.

Spring is around the corner. Time to get ready for some serious gardening.

Contact: **Margaret Besley** (M) 0418 229 194 (Email) margaret.besley@gmail.com

**GENEALOGY**

How to start your own family history research

Do you need help with your own family history research?

I can provide information about software that can be bought for you to record your family history details and documents, on your own computer. You will be able to print out your ancestor and descendent trees.

I can provide information about the tools available for researching BDMs (births, deaths and marriages), immigrants and convicts, as well as UK censuses from 1841 to 1911 and UK parish and civil registrations of BDMs from early 1700s to the 20th century. You don't need to leave Australia to do it. And your research can be done on your home computer, much of it for free. But you will need to visit libraries, use the internet and send letters and emails. I've got details of the right websites and the right indexes where you can research the information you need.

Members should not hesitate to contact me if they have any questions about family history research they may be doing, or have hit a roadblock with their research, or they get to the stage of asking themselves "What do I do next?" Just send me an email, or letter, or phone me and I'll see what help and suggestions I can make. No charge.

Contact: **Ron Matthews** (Tel) 9871 2017 (Email) rmatthew@bigpond.net.au



GOLF

Hi everyone,

Our last game was played on 3 July at the North Turramurra course by 7 players.

Prize winners were:

- Player of the Day: Michael Kevin
- Score: Andrew Janiszewski & Michael Kevin
- NTP: Brian Rothery (2nd) & Michael Kevin (4th)
- Putting: Brad Sichter
- Longest Drive: Michael Kevin
- Putting Kit: Danny Eves

NEXT GAME: GORDON Course on Friday 7 August 2026

Venue: Gordon Public Golf Course, 6 Lynne Ridge Ave, Gordon.

Play: 10 Holes with 3 groups, i.e. a maximum of 12 players

NOTE: Our competition will be played over first 9 holes only.

Sign on: 09.15 - 09.50am - Outside Pro Shop

Hit-off: 10.00, 10.10, 10.20am

Cost:

1. Senior \$24.00 for 10 holes
2. Carts \$38.00 - two carts have been ordered, please contact me to reserve a seat on a first-come basis (2 per cart) otherwise phone the Pro shop directly on 9498 1277

NOTE: There will be no charge for prizes as we have a healthy ball/funds balance!

Prizes:

- Player of the Day
- Best Overall Score
- Putting comp over 3 nominated holes
- Longest Drive on nominated hole
- NTP on 2 nominated holes
- Putting Kit

No one player can win more than one golf ball prize.

Lunch: After the game we will have prize presentation, lunch and/or refreshments in the Club dining room.

Availability: Please advise me of your intention to play by noon Wednesday 5th August.

If it is raining on the day phone me at 8am to find out if we will be playing.

New members are always welcome.

Contact: **Graham Rowe** (M) 0414 774 334 Email: grahamrowe55@gmail.com.au



LAWN BOWLS

July bowls was cancelled due to the unpleasant conditions.

Weather permitting, our next morning of Probus bowls will be on Friday 21st August.

Contact: **Lynnette Lynn** (M) 0408 612 844 Email: lynnfamily@bigpond.com



LIVE MUSIC APPRECIATION SOCIETY (LIMAS)

Here is the latest update on upcoming events. If you are not on the LIMAS email contact list, please contact Leo on 0411882066 or leokarenm74@gmail.com

Friday 23rd October - Glen Street Theatre, Belrose 7.30 pm
The Man in Black Johnny Cash show

We have about 14 attending. If you do wish to attend, please book your tickets directly with the venue via the link below. The link is

<https://gst1.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/163651>
[Johnny Cash: The Man in Black Returns](#)

As was the case for our recent visit to Glen St Theatre, attendees are welcome to join us for dinner or snack or drink and the Belrose Club, about a 5 minute drive away. We will meet from about 6 pm. Self-order at the bistro or bar.

Wednesday 2nd September. Noon-1.30 \$47-54
Jane Rutter Live at lunchtime show- Chatswood Concourse

Members should buy their tickets direct from <https://www.theconcourse.com.au/>

Currently about 8-10 are attending. Some sitting in row Q.

For those interested in a preshow coffee or snack I suggest we meet in the forecourt of the Concourse near the reflecting pool and pick the place that has available seating on the day.

Wednesday 18th November - Conservatorium staff/student performance at NSW Parliament House

Thank you to the 26 folks who have reserved their online tickets to this. The venue is now sold out.

It is a fair way off.

The only task left is to decide if or where we might gather before or after for a drink or a meal. The 12.30 start is awkwardly placed. A very early lunch or a late lunch.

This can be decided in early November, but if anyone has a good idea, please let me know.

For this biggish group my 2 thoughts at this stage are:

1. The NSW Library Café, or
2. a new place near the Metro station (Hunter St exit) called K

Event Report

31st July- Yacht Rock at North Leagues Club

6 music lovers were blown away by the guitar mastery of Peter Northcote, the incredibly tight band and the veteran singer Barry Leef. We now know what Yacht Rock is.

Too many highlights to choose from, but maybe the one that sounded like this came close
https://youtu.be/dM97mE70S0U?si=EoPmHc5dF_ammLmX

Contact: **Leo Murphy** (M) 0411-882066 (Email) leokarenm74@gmail.com



OUTINGS

July Outing – Mini Golf

This was the first successful Outing under new Management, if you don't count the rained out Mini Golf in May earlier this year.

We were a total of 17 members that took part in an 18 holes round, and I believe we were all winners.

For those that count and score all the attempts, we had a clear winner in Norman Parris (isn't he a cyclist?)

After the round we all had a coffee (and some even a cake), and we celebrated a well played game. The café was filled with laughter and happy golfers, due I guess to the fact that we all had already forgotten what we scored!

Suggestions were put forth to have Mini Golf every month - maybe we have a seed for a new Westleigh Probus activity. Watch this space.

August Outing: The Rocks Walking Tour - Discover the Story of Sydney's Beginnings

Members can still register for this outing by latest 10th August (payment to westleighprobus.treasurer@gmail.com) and copy to Alison or myself.

The Rocks Walking Tour invite you to step back in time and explore one of Sydney's most historic and atmospheric neighbourhoods.

On this immersive 90-minute guided tour, the guide will bring the area's rich history to life - from the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788 and the establishment of the convict settlement to The Rock's evolution into a bustling waterfront community.

Details are:

- Date: Monday 24th August
- Time: 10.15am
- Venue: The Rocks
- Travel: suggestions to follow
- Duration: 90 min
- Cost: \$35 per person
- Payment: see above
- Group size: up to 30

We will provide suggestions for a café to have a coffee prior to the tour, and of course a restaurant for lunch after the tour.

If you are interested, please contact Björn either via SMS, email or at the next meeting

Contact: **Bjorn Haglund** (M): 0404 081 239 Email: bjornhaglund@gmail.com



SONGSTERS

There will be NO get together in August due to many of our members being unavailable for a variety of reasons.

Please contact Pam if you are interested in joining Songsters. You do NOT have to be an Opera or Musical Theatre virtuoso.

New members are most welcome.

Contacts: **Pam Legge** Tel: 9489 2299 Email: pammypod@bigpond.com
Colin Gibb (M) 0405 759 557 (E) colingibb2@gmail.com



TABLE TENNIS

11 members were present at the Thornleigh Brickpit for Table Tennis on the 16th July, which was enjoyed by all.

The new concept of 'Rounders' was introduced to the afternoon, which brought much laughter amongst those involved. (Ed. Note – perhaps we should read some sort of Instruction manual to get a handle on just how it should be played ???!!!!)

Should you be interested in some gentle exercise, social interaction and a LOT of fun, this could be the activity for you.....beginners welcome!

We have an afternoon tea break around 3pm, so BYO refreshments please.

Next Table Tennis gathering - Thursday 20th August, 2pm.

Beginners are most welcome. The first 2x sessions are free, then \$5/session thereafter.

All equipment is supplied.

Contact **Janet Stevenson** (M): 0412 067 085 (Email): janetste@bigpond.com



TENNIS

Tennis report

Despite the weather forecast being of some concern, the threatened showers to the south-east did not make an appearance and the afternoon turned out perfect for tennis, with 8 players participating.

It was good to see Christine Murray returning to tennis after recovery from injury. Colin and Robyn Gibb also joined us after returning from their overseas trip.

Next month's tennis will be on Friday 14th August at 2:00pm at The Manor in Cherrybrook.

Contact: **Peter Norman** (M) 0409 667 626 (Email) p.x.norman43@gmail.com



TOURS

We have 2 tours booked for the future.

Hunter Valley – November 2026

Judy Edwards is organising a tour to the Hunter Valley-Port Stephens-Newcastle for 6 days, 28th November to 3rd December 2026. This tour is fully escorted. Because of the number of vacancies as at the July meeting, the tour has been opened up to outside parties. However, if you are still interested in going, please contact Judy or chat with her at the August meeting.

Wagga region – April 2027

Andy Noney is organising a tour to Wagga for 6 days, 4th April to 9th April 2027. This tour is fully escorted and travels around Wagga and the Riverina region. Andy can give you a brochure should you require one.

A deposit of \$200 per person is payable by 31 August 2026 with the balance due by 28 February 2027. Please make payment to:

Coach Holidays and Tours: BSB: 082 356 Account No. 889 113 770. Please use Ref: WAG4427NONEY.

Please email Andy at westleighprobus.vicepres@gmail.com to inform him that you have paid.

Cancellation Fees:

More than 60 days: \$50 per person admin fee

31-60 days: Loss of deposit

8-30 days: 50% of tour price

0-7 days: No refund

For your information:

- **Travel Insurance is highly recommended**
- Coach seat rotation will apply each day
- You must be able to negotiate coach steps
- You will be asked your preference for bed types after 31 August

Please contact Andy if you have any questions or if he can assist you in any way.

Contact: **Barbara Crossman** (M) 0412 100 729 (Email) barbjcro@gmail.com

**UPSTAGERS**

Roles have been cast and at our July meeting we read through the scripts a couple of times and did some fine tuning.

If any of you Westleigh Probus members have come across short comedy scripts that you think might suit Upstagers, I would appreciate it if you could email them to me for our consideration.

We meet at 2.00 pm on the second Thursday of the month in the Clubhouse at the Manor, Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook. If you think you would like to join our fun group, please feel free to contact me. We would certainly like to welcome some new members.

David.

Contact: **David Conway** Mob : 0414 582 664 Email : davraycon@bigpond.com



WALKING

July Walk

On a fairly grey Monday morning in July 21 members met at the Spears café in the main shopping complex of Richmond for a most delicious morning tea before embarking upon our historic walk around some of the historic sites of Richmond.

Led ably (as always) by Don, our stops included the following:

- The former Court House and Police Station
 - Designed by James Barnet in 1877, it replaced The Watch-house built by William Cox in 1827. The rear of the site was set aside for the first stock pound in the Town. The Court house is still in use, however the Police is now located in Windsor.
- Former Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd (CBC)
 - The Richmond Branch was completed in 1880 and included banking chamber, stables, and a residence on the first floor. In 1981 the CBC Ltd merged with the National Commercial Banking Corporation of Australia Ltd (now NAB) and in subsequent years the branch was closed.
- St Andrews Uniting Church Group
 - Originally constructed as a Free Presbyterian Church in 1854, St Andrews was built on land donated by George Bowman. He also funded most of the building costs, including the tower erected in 1877 and the clock installed after his death in 1878.
 - Restoration work was undertaken in 1987, took five years to complete and by 1992 St Andrews was reopened for worship. The adjacent Sunday School Hall was built in 1860.
- St. Peter's Anglican Church and Cemetery
 - Designed by architect Francis Clarke in the Colonial Georgian style, the church was consecrated in 1841. The bricks were made locally by hand, varying in size and shape.
 - Opposite the church lies the cemetery which was in use by 1811. Notable citizens have been interred here including members of the Cox, Bowman, Pitt, Onus, Town, Sly and Boughton families.

After viewing the town, we strolled down to Pugh's Lagoon – what an amazingly beautiful and peaceful spot!

Back up the hill and into town where the outing concluded with a splendid lunch at the historic Royal hotel followed by another great train trip back home.

August walk

The August walk is again a fairly easy walk from Rydalmere Wharf to Parramatta. This is approximately 4kms and ends with a pub lunch followed by a short stroll to Parramatta station for the train home.

Basically the walk is broken up as follows:

- 800m Meadowbank station to Meadowbank Ferry Wharf via a coffee stop

- 3.9 kms from Rydalmere Ferry Wharf to the Albion Pub
- 800m from pub to Parramatta Station for a grand total of 5.5 Kms.

NOTE: For those who want a slight detour, we will walk up to the Female Orphanage School and the Whitlam Institute to take a look at the beautiful old buildings. To rejoin the riverside walk there is a long staircase down to the river, so this option is not recommended if you have trouble going down steps.

I'm looking at doing a longer walk in September.

Contact: **Don Murray** (M) 0410 539 285 (Email) don.m.murray@gmail.com



WEB SITE UPDATE

Our website is definitely well worth a look for what's coming up as well as an opportunity to read about recent Activities (a great selection of photos).

Simply click on the following: [Westleigh Probus | Friendship, Fellowship and Fun](#) – firstly hold down the <Ctrl> key then click to be taken to the Home page – no password is required.

The following additions have been made to the website:

- Garden group: Calyx, Orchids and Propagation – 22nd July
 - Link: [Westleigh Probus | Garden Group | Calyx, Orchids and Propagation \(Jul 26\)](#)
- Walking Group: Richmond ramble – 6th July
 - Link: [Westleigh Probus | Walks | Richmond Ramble \(Jul 26\)](#)

Password for Members section is:
westleigh2007

Contact: **John Immelman** (M) 0447 044 704 (Email): john.immelman@bigpond.com



WINE AND CHEESE

For August only our Wine and Cheese will be held on the **second** Friday of the month, i.e. the 14th August, not the following Friday as Sheena and Ross will be moving home the following week.

Details of the August Wine and Cheese are as follows:

- Where: Home of Ross and Sheena Brown, 27 Morgan St Thornleigh
- How: Register with Sheena and Ross at brown.cb@bigpond.net.au or SMS 0414250562. Then pay Westleigh treasurer \$7.50 per person
- What to bring: Your own drinks and glasses
- How to register (not before 1st August)
 - Contact Ross and Sheena Brown at brown.cb@bigpond.net.au or SMS 0414250562.
 - Then pay Westleigh Treasurer \$7.50 per person (westleighprobus.treasurer@gmail.com)

We are seeking a second helper in the kitchen.

Contact: **Ross and Sheena Brown** brown.cb@bigpond.net.au or 0414 250 562



JULY MEETING – INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER



New member – John Harris



OUR SPEAKER – ALAN BRADY

Our speaker Alan Brady, a resident of Hornsby, gave members a most interesting and entertaining presentation on lost railways of Eastern Australia. We learned a lot!

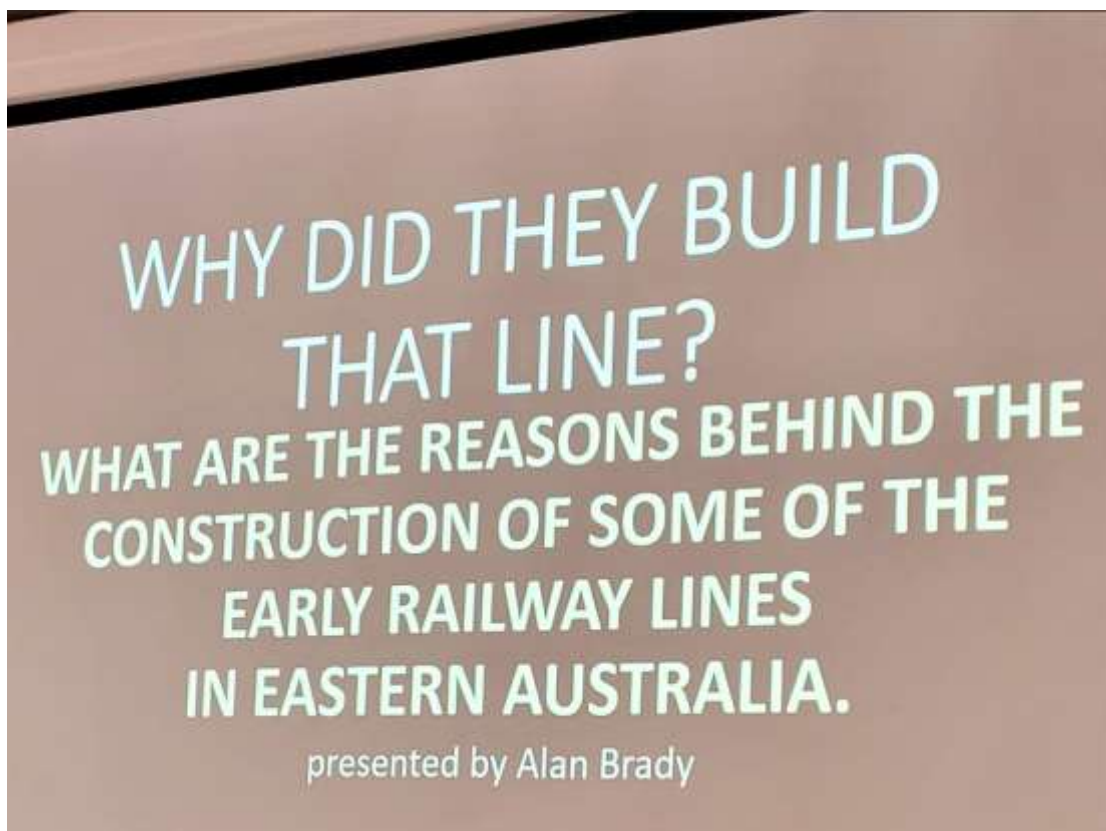




TABLE TENNIS – THE NEW GUARD



Passing the Bat on (pardon the pun!) – from Marion / Alan to Janet



RICHMOND RAMBLE – SOME VIEWS



**OFFICERS AND ELECTED COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR
1ST APRIL 2026 TO 31 MARCH 2027**

Elected Positions			
Position	Name	E-mail	Telephone
President	Judy Edwards	westleighpresident@gmail.com	0432 249 794
Vice President / Activity Convenor	Andy Noney	westleighprobus.vicepres@gmail.com	0418 116 182
Membership Officer	Brian Crossman	westleighprobus.membership@gmail.com	0417 278 053
Secretary	Barbara Rees	westleighprobus.secretary@gmail.com	0416 149 136
Treasurer	Danny McGarrigle	westleighprobus.treasurer@gmail.com	0413 953 393
Website Manager	John Immelman	john.immelman@bigpond.com	0447 044 704
Newsletter	Barry Jose	westleighprobus.newsletter@gmail.com	0411-482255
Speakers Convenor	Bridget Robertson	westleighspeakers01@gmail.com	0402 422 791
Welfare officer	Heather Barber	heatherbarber@optusnet.com.au	0419 488 340
Assistant Welfare Officer	Karen Murphy	leokarenm74@gmail.com	0402 904 913
Tours	Barbara Crossman	barbjcro@gmail.com	0412 100 729
Outings	Bjorn & Alison Haglund	bjornhaglund@gmail.com alison.haglund@hotmail.com	0404 081 239 (Bjorn) 0406 475 527 (Alison)
Functions/Events Organisers	Jean Bodilly D & G Rowe Margaret Harris	jlbodilly@gmail.com diane.rowe134@gmail.com tmig@optusnet.com.au	9481 8852/0403 942 403 9484 7479/0419486 218 9481 8655/0431 945 288
Photographer	John Walker	walker888hq@gmail.com	0401 587 250
Assistant Photographer	Wendy Miller	bloodwood08@gmail.com	0487 541 758
Roster / Hospitality Co-ordinator	Vreni Schwotzer	vrenischwotzer@hotmail.com	0402 271 004
Historian	Chris Ortlepp	chris.ortlepp@optusnet.com.au	0432 113 660
Auditor	Barry McDonald	bandm@smartchat.net.au	9876 3654
Non-Elected Positions			
Immediate Past President	Leo Murphy	leokarenm74@gmail.com	0411 882 066
Assistant Treasurer	Colin Gibb	colingibb2@gmail.com	0405 759 557
Public Officer	Barbara Rees	westleighprobus.secretary@gmail.com	0416 149 136

ACTIVITY LEADERS CONTACT LIST – 2026 – 2027

Afternoon Tea	Chris & Barry Jose	chrisjose106@gmail.com	0402 275 199
Book Club	Christine Norman	chris1944anne@gmail.com	0438 616 780
Bridge	Kay Taylor	kaytay42@hotmail.com	0420 257 603
Canasta (Day)	Sylvia & David Marshall	sdmmarshall@yahoo.com	0438 466 332
Canasta (Night)	Chris & Barry Jose	chrisjose106@gmail.com	0402 275 199
Cinema	Ros Krempin	roslynkrempin@hotmail.com	0411 961 300
Craft and Chat	Christine Jose	chrisjose106@gmail.com	0402 275 199
Cycling	Norman Parris	nparris8855@gmail.com	0418 727 744
Dinner/Lunch Group	Andy Noney	westleighprobus.vicepres@gmail.com	0418 116 182
Fun With Words	Diane Rowe	diane.rowe134@gmail.com	0419 486 218
Gardening	Margaret Besley	margaret.besley@gmail.com	0418 229 194
Genealogy	Ron Matthews	rmatthew@bigpond.net.au	9871 2017
Golf	Graham Rowe	grahamrowe55@gmail.com	0414 774 334
Lawn Bowls	Lynette Lynn	lynnfamily@bigpond.com	0408 612 844
Live Music Appreciation Society	Leo Murphy	leokarenm74@gmail.com	0411 882 066
Songsters	Pam Legge	pammypod@bigpond.com	0419 427 664
Table Tennis	Janet Stevenson	janetste@bigpond.com	0412 067 085
Tennis	Peter Norman	p.x.norman43@gmail.com	0409 667 626
Upstagers	David Conway	davraycon@bigpond.com	0414 582 664
Walking	Don Murray	don.m.murray@gmail.com	0410 539 285
Wine and Cheese	Ross & Sheena Brown	brown.cb@bigpond.net.au	0414 871 931 (Ross) 0414 250 562 (Sheena)

ACTIVITY PAYMENTS

Guidelines for making direct payments through your bank for Club activities.

1. Ensure when making direct transfers through your bank, that your name, activity and date are included in the description. Keep your description as succinct as possible as some banks limit the description space to as few as 15 characters. Example: "Brown FiddlerX2" being for the theatre tickets to Fiddler on the Roof for 2 members of the Brown family.
2. It is preferable that each direct payment be for one activity as it simplifies the Treasurer's reconciliation of the Club's bank statements.
3. Ensure that you **e-mail the Treasurer** (westleighprobus.treasurer@gmail.com) when you do a direct payment and send a copy (.cc) to the appropriate activity leader. This will ensure that the leader is aware of your intention to participate and thus avoid disappointment of potentially missing out on the activity.

Payment of Membership and Activity fees by Bank transfer

Using Internet banking and the bank's online form, the club's bank details are:

- **Bank:** Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)
- **BSB:** 062-225
- **Account No:** 10233879
- **Account Name:** Combined Probus Club of Westleigh

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