



Club No 9002565 Accreditation No 2379 Foundation Meeting 27/11/2007  
P.O. Box 106 Thornleigh NSW 2120 Website: [www.westleighprobud.org](http://www.westleighprobud.org)  
President: Leo Murphy Secretary / Public Officer: Barbara Rees  
Treasurer: Danny McGarrigle

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# NEWSLETTER.®

**No. 217 FEBRUARY 2026**



Dear Members,

February sees many of our activities return after a Christmas/New Year break due to hot weather and the holiday season. January is the one month you get to temporarily 'retire' from the busy life of being a Probud retiree.

Songsters return with an expanded song list of SINGALONG / TAP ALONG tunes that any member should enjoy. Songsters is not a public performance group- It is there for the pleasure of the attendees - you can even attend just to listen and clap along. The bonus is that the Westleigh Orchestra under the leadership of Ruth Eves is worth hearing in itself.

The new activity - LIMAS (Live Music Appreciation Society) - now has 37 interested participants. At the end of the February General Meeting there will be a brief meeting to get a little more organised than we are at the moment.

The role of Outings Coordinator is still available, and we would welcome a volunteer to assist with this.

Of course, the February meeting will include voting on 2 motions to adopt the updated Constitution and the updated Standing Resolutions. No submissions have been received suggesting changes and the votes will be on the two documents emailed to all members in January. Proxy voting is available and a proxy nomination form has been emailed to all members. If you wish to do this please ensure your proxy is in the hands of your nominee or the Secretary no later than Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> February.

February is associated with St Valentine, and Valentines Day. How the execution of Bishop Valentinus (as patron saint for epilepsy and beekeepers) by Emperor Claudius II for trying to make him a Christian has morphed into buying over-priced roses is beyond me. I prefer The Valentines (Featuring Bon Scott who went on to fame in AC/DC). Have a listen as you read this newsletter.

<https://youtu.be/rPfw9-Yps7E?si=JnRRPpiB2o4vnQ4Q>

See you at the February meeting or one of our fun activities.

Cheers

*Leo Murphy*

### **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.

**MONTHLY CALENDAR**

2 Feb	Walking	2 Mar	Walking
4 Feb	Fun with Words	4 Mar	Fun with Words
4 Feb	Canasta (Day)	4 Mar	Canasta (Day)
4 Feb	Dinner Group	4 Mar	Dinner Group
5 Feb	Cycling	5 Mar	Cycling
6 Feb	Golf	6 Mar	Golf
9 Feb	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b>	9 Mar	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b>
9 Feb	Book Club	9 Mar	Book Club
10 Feb	Craft and Chat	10 Mar	Craft and Chat
11 Feb	Canasta (Night)	11 Mar	Canasta (Night)
12 Feb	Upstagers	12 Mar	Upstagers
13 Feb	Tennis (tbc)	13 Mar	Tennis (tbc)
15 Feb	Live Music Appreciation Society (LIMAS) – first show	16 Mar	Songsters
16 Feb	Songsters	18 Mar	Cinema
18 Feb	Cinema	18 Mar	Afternoon Tea
18 Feb	Afternoon Tea	19 Mar	Table Tennis
19 Feb	Table Tennis	20 Mar	Lawn Bowls
20 Feb	Lawn Bowls	20 Mar	Wine and Cheese
20 Feb	Wine and Cheese	23 Mar	Outing (tbc)
23 Feb	Outing	25 Mar	Garden group (tbc)
25 Feb	Garden group	27 Mar	Bridge
27 Feb	Bridge	27 Mar	Tennis (tbc)
27 Feb	Tennis (tbc)		



## IT'S BIRTHDAY TIME!

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**Sheena Brown, Johanne Hill, Marilyn Hollier, Dennis Lockwood, Jan Manlik  
Jacqui Millen, Kay Mulders, Margaret Norris, Gary Purcell, Gaye Rawlin  
Vreni Schwotzer, Michael Wolfe, Martin Wynne**

Congratulations and warmest **February** 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.



## MORNING TEA

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The Roster from January to February 2026 is as follows:

February	Rosemary & Kevin Stevens
March	Pamela Webster & Kay Taylor
April	Elinor & Len Ward

If you are rostered and unavailable on that date, please contact **Vreni Schwotzer:**  
(M) 0402 271 004



## WELFARE

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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

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Did you know that 85% of Greater Sydney's drinking water supply comes from rainfall?

With a growing population and a changing climate, we need to think about water differently.

This month our speaker will be a Sydney Water Ambassador and we will explore water supply options such as purified recycled water and discover what we can do to care for water now and for the future.

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 (tbc)
	Book Club		Canasta (Night)		
3	Songsters		Cinema	Table Tennis	Lawn Bowls
			Afternoon Tea		Wine and Cheese
4	Outings (date flexible)		Garden group		Bridge
					Tennis (tbc)
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### AFTERNOON TEA GROUP

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Numbers were still down slightly due to it being the Christmas / New Year period, yet it was still a great afternoon for those able to make it.

Details for February are:

- When – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February
- From – 2:30pm
- Where – Pennant Hills Heritage Café, Hillcrest Rd, Pennant Hills

This time together provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know other members in a very relaxed, informal setting. All are most welcome.

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



### BOOK CLUB

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The meeting of the Westleigh Probus Book club took place after the General meeting on Monday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026. We had 10 members attending the meeting.

This last month we all read a book that we would discuss at the meeting. It was an interesting discussion and good to listen to books we might like, and some of us even exchanged books at the meeting. The following represent reviews by some of the members.

“The Last One Out” written by Jane Harper was read by three members - there were varying opinions on the story. I do not think they thought it as good as her earlier novels. This one was about a young guy who is at college, and when he returns to the town where his family lives he goes missing. Like Harper’s other novels it is set in the desolate rural landscape of Australia. His mother is sure when she returns to the town for the anniversary of his disappearance that her son had discovered some dodgy deals with a mining company in the area. So, it is a murder suspense novel like her other novels.

“Stoneyard Devotional” by Charlotte Wood was read by Margaret Norris who really enjoyed it (also, it sounded to me a good book to read. It was about a woman retreating to a convent in NSW. She has despaired about the world she is living in such as mass extinction, the state of our rivers and what ability do we have to change things.

This woman leaves her husband and children, and when she first goes to the convent just lies on the floor. But she soon joins into the life of the nuns. The pressure comes to the convent with the arrival of the mortal bones of one of the sisters who was murdered in Thailand. They are accompanied by a climate activist called Helen Parry who brings all the noise the narrator has tried to leave behind. This person had become a wholehearted campaigner Then they had a plague of mice swarming through the convent. Meanwhile the nuns just keep trying to have a normal existence These three visitations throw up all sorts of possibilities about how we might live with the damage we have done. The reviewer states it is a powerful book.

"The Soldiers Daughter" by Fiona McIntosh was read by Robyn Blisset. For many of us who are her fans it was a great book and followed one of her other novels "The Champagne War". McIntosh's books are historical fiction, and this one was no different with the story of the whisky business. The daughter is following in the shadow of her father's whisky business and the story spans the two world wars. They come to Tasmania for a while for her father to set up a whisky distillery. The book is listed as Whisky, War and Romance. A good read.

"The Clockmakers daughter" by Kate Morton was read by Jacqui Millen. She has written a lot of novels, and this one was released in 2018. The reviewers stated that it was hard to follow with a lot of characters. It is historical fiction. It has many stories about parents' children and a house that has witnessed great love and unbearable loss. I know Jacqui enjoyed it and I think it is a book you must read slowly to absorb all the themes in the book.

"Showtime" by Judy Nunn was read by Judy Edwards. She stated it was a nice and fluffy novel to read in the summer break and I agree as I have just read it. Judy Nunn was in the theatre before she started writing books so although it's a work of fiction there are many actual facts in it. It's an interesting look at entertainment at the time of federation and two families that reach the top of show business only to have a falling out. War comes which affects the families too.

'Home" written by Harlam Coben was read by Maureen Morrison. It is the story of two boys who were kidnapped 10 years ago in New Jersey and then one is found wandering the streets of London. Now the mystery is what has happened to his missing friend.

"The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying club was also read by Maureen. This is a novel about a young woman after World War 1 when she befriends a group of independent motorcycle riding women in a seaside town. It is what happened to women post war when they were very useful during the war, but when they come home they had to fit back into society. I am about to read it.

"The island of Sea Women" by Lisa See was read by me. I had it recommended by a friend and it was a great book that I have now given to someone to read and there were other members who wanted to read it as well. It is the story of The Korean women divers "Haenyeo" who brought the food up from the seabed to feed their families. The story took place on Jeju Island and although it is fictional story it is classed as historical fiction. The story centres around two women divers who are best friends. They come from different backgrounds but forge an incredible friendship that has many challenges. The island of Jeju was in a strategic military position so was always in the middle of conflict causing poverty and restrictions for the people of this island.

My friend who bought me the book stated it was one of the best books she had read, and I agree that it was a book you could not put down so I hope others who read it will feel the same. Lisa See has written quite lot of books, and she certainly does her research into the culture she is writing about. Many people do not know much about the occupation of the Japanese in Korea so it's a good insight as to what happened in Korea during the wars.

"Patriot" is a memoir and was read by Margaret Hegarty. It is the posthumous non-fiction story of Alexei Navalny. This book details his life and career and then goes on to his prison memoir, describing the boredom, isolation and suffering endured living in a prison. The book demonstrates Navalny's long fight into not giving into despair despite the authorities' punishments and he gives advice on how not to lose hope.

I hope this description of these books will encourage people to read some of them and to encourage other members to join our Book club.

We usually get a book from the library that we read and discuss, but it's good to get input into other books our members have read.

Our next book for this month is called "The Burrow" and yes, it's about a rabbit!!!! It is written by another author whom we have read in the past called Melanie Cheng. It is an easy book to read so I hope everyone will enjoy it.

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

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Over the festive break, I hope all our Bridge players have had an opportunity to study those many Bridge books they have acquired over the years and are now gathering dust on the bookshelf.

The next Bridge meeting will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30 am. Wendy Bowring has offered to bring morning tea.

See you all then

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



## CINEMA

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An email with the movie details for February 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

Day Canasta was not held in January.

The next Day canasta meeting will be in February at the usual time and place

## Night Canasta – 14<sup>th</sup> January

Tonight we had 14 players, which meant 2 tables of 3 players and 2 tables of 4.

- Table 1 (singles) – Colin just pipped Karen and Kate
- Table 2 (singles) – In an extremely close contest Lee (welcome back!) finished just ahead of Lyn and Brian
- Table 3 (pairs) – In a closely fought encounter Jacqui / Barry finished strongly to down Bridget ./ Barbara
- Table 4 (pairs) – Winners were gridders here where Chris / Peter proved just too strong for Maureen / Leo

Well done everyone!

## Details for February

- Day Canasta will be held as per usual at Cherrybrook starting at 1pm
- Night Canasta will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February at Pennant Hills starting at 7pm

New players are always welcome.

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

## Contacts:

- Day Canasta: **Sylvia / David Marshall**
  - (M) 0436 466 332
  - Email: [sdmmarshall@yahoo.com](mailto:sdmmarshall@yahoo.com)
- Night Canasta: **Barry / Chris Jose**
  - M (Chris) 0402 275 199
  - Email (Chris) [chrisjose106@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjose106@gmail.com)



## CYCLING

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The December ride was the Bay Run, a fairly easy ride which is well suited to this time of the year. We had 7 cyclists on this ride, which is a record number, and especially good considering it was quite a hot day.

There was no ride in January, so I thought you might enjoy some poetry a good friend sent to me:

### **MULGA BILL'S BICYCLE by A.B. "Banjo" Paterson**

'Twas Mulga Bill, from Eaglehawk, that caught the cycling craze;  
 He turned away the good old horse that served him many days;  
 He dressed himself in cycling clothes, resplendent to be seen;  
 He hurried off to town and bought a shining new machine;  
 And as he wheeled it through the door, with air of lordly pride,  
 The grinning shop assistant said, "Excuse me, can you ride?"

"See here, young man," said Mulga Bill, "from Walgett to the sea,  
 From Conroy's Gap to Castlereagh, there's none can ride like me.  
 I'm good all round at everything as everybody knows,  
 Although I'm not the one to talk - I hate a man that blows.  
 But riding is my special gift, my chiefest, sole delight;  
 Just ask a wild duck can it swim, a wildcat can it fight.  
 There's nothing clothed in hair or hide, or built of flesh or steel,  
 There's nothing walks or jumps, or runs, on axle, hoof, or wheel,  
 But what I'll sit, white hide will hold and girths and straps are tight:  
 I'll ride this here two-wheeled concern right straight away at sight."

'Twas Mulga Bill, from Eaglehawk, that sought his own abode,  
 That perched above Dead Man's creek, beside the mountain road.  
 He turned the cycle down the hill and mounted for the fray,  
 But 'ere he'd gone a dozen yards it bolted clean away.  
 It left the track, and through the trees, just like a silver steak,  
 It whistled down the awful slope towards the Dead Man's Creek.

It shaved a stump by half an inch, it dodged a big white-box:  
 The very wallaroos in fright went scrambling up the rocks,  
 The wombats hiding in their caves dug deeper underground,  
 As Mulga Bill, as white as chalk, sat tight to every bound  
 It struck a stone and gave a spring that cleared a fallen tree,  
 It raced beside a precipice as close as close could be;  
 And then as Mulga Bill let out one last despairing shriek  
 It made a leap of twenty feet into the Dean Man's Creek.

'Twas Mulga Bill, from Eaglehawk, that slowly swam ashore:  
 He said, "I've had some narrer shaves and lively rides before;  
 I've rode a wild bull round a yard to win a five-pound bet,

But this was the most awful ride that I've encountered yet.  
I'll give that two-wheeled outlaw best; it's shaken all my nerve  
To feel it whistle through the air and plunge and buck and swerve.  
It's safe at rest in Dead Man's Creek, we'll leave it lying still;  
A horse's back is good enough henceforth for Mulga Bill."

Our first ride in 2026, on 5<sup>th</sup> February, will from Meadowbank through Silverwater, then past the Armory to Woo-la-ra, to Wentworth Point for coffee, and back to Meadowbank.

The next ride on 5<sup>th</sup> March will be on the Toongabbie Tracks near the Toongabbie Creek.

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

Norman.

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



## CRAFT AND CHAT

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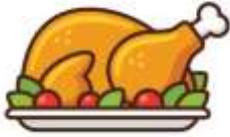
Our first get together for 2026 (and last in our current home – so do come and bid farewell!) will be as follows:

- Date: Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Time: from 1:30pm
- Where: 106 Bellamy St, Pennant Hills

New members are most welcome.

Contact: **Chris Jose:**

- Mobile – 0402-275-199
- Email – [chrisjose106@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjose106@gmail.com)



## CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

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Our Christmas Lunch was held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at Springfield House in Dural attended by 102 members including 10 new members. A great turnout!

Champagne and canapés were served on arrival followed by a delicious two course meal and dessert, with wine and soft drinks on each table.

During the meal, at appropriate intervals, various games and activities took place.

Christine Jose narrated a "Left/Right" Christmas story where a box of chocolates was passed around at each table causing much confusion and laughter.

The Christmas quiz was considered pretty hard with the highest score being 5 out of 12 at two tables making it necessary to have a tie breaker to decide the winning table.

Our entertainment for the afternoon was accompanied by our President, Leo Murphy, conducted by Peter Norman. The theme was the "12 Aussie Days of Christmas - Westleigh Probus style", for example, a Koala up a Gum tree, 2 Kangaroos, 3 snot blocks (apparently Australian slang for a vanilla slice - I used to love vanilla slices however I will never eat another one!) 4 snags from Bunnings, 5 Lamingtons, 6 Bogans, 7 Sharks, 8 Magpies, 9 Mozzies, 10 tree frogs, 11 Quokkas and 12 Probus Meetings!

The judging process was quite complicated – Monique, the Event Manager at Springfield House, was the Judge and no correspondence was entered into!

Table 3 won (in recognition of having to say 'snot block' 10 times)

All in all our gathering was a joyous Christmas function filled with Fun, Fellowship and Friendship.

Di, Margaret, Jean and Graham



## DINNER/LUNCH CLUB

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### DINNERS/LUNCHESES

#### Reminder re FEBRUARY DINNER

Diane and Graham Rowe will host a dinner at 6.00pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at

The Okami Japanese Restaurant  
Shop 12 & 13 Pennant Hills Market Place, Pennant Hills (adjacent to IGA)

Cost - \$39 per person plus \$5 corkage per bottle (to be paid separately on the night)

Bookings and payment by 30 January by direct deposit (confirmation to Treasurer, Danny McGarrigle, [westleightreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:westleightreasurer@gmail.com) and David Conway, [davraycon@bigpond.com](mailto:davraycon@bigpond.com))

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### MARCH LUNCH

Kathy and Andy Noney will host a lunch at 12pm midday on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at

The Brook Eatery  
Cherrybrook Village Shopping Centre  
41-47 Shepherds Drive  
Cherrybrook

Cost - \$40 per person. Purchase your own drinks. No BYO - House wine \$25 bottle or \$8 a glass

### MENU

Garlic or herb bread

MAINS - Choose one of:

- Chicken Souvlaki
- Lamb Curry
- Angus Burger
- Chicken Schnitzel
- Fish & chips
- Veggie Risotto GF
- Salad bowls to share

DESSERT - Choice of Tiramisu or Cheesecake

TEA, COFFEE or CHAI

Bookings and payment by 28 February by direct deposit to Treasurer, Danny McGarrigle, [westleightreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:westleightreasurer@gmail.com) and [andrewnoney@yahoo.com.au](mailto:andrewnoney@yahoo.com.au)

Co-ordinator:-Andy Noney Tel: 0418 116 182 Email: andrewnoney@yahoo.com.au

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The information below explains what is required in hosting a dinner/lunch.

### Westleigh Probus - Checklist for Dinners/Lunches

Decide whether to organise a dinner or a lunch. (Dinners must be on the first Wednesday of the month, lunches on the second Wednesday to avoid clashing with other Probus activities.)

Select restaurant - consider travel requirements of guests.

Phone or visit restaurant to :-

- Assess capacity (minimum of 30)
- Decide on a date. (See restrictions above.)
- Strike a deal on a menu. (Most people are happy with \$40-45 for a dinner, \$35-40 for a lunch.)
- Get the details of the menu. (Courses? Are tea and coffee included?)
- Find out whether Licensed or BYO. (If BYO, find out any corkage cost.)
- Payment can be made via your or Co-ordinator's credit card and re-imburement sought from the Treasurer. (Find out if there is a fee for using a credit card.)
- Assess parking facilities or public transport arrangements.

Provide the Dinner Co-ordinator with all the above information.

Co-ordinator will handle all Newsletter publicity.

Co-ordinator and Treasurer will handle member's payments.

Co-ordinator will provide you with a final list of attendees and the final payment amount.

Co-ordinator:-Andy Noney Tel: 0418 116 182 Email: andrewnoney@yahoo.com.au



### **FUN WITH WORDS**

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Because there was no meeting in January, and I (as newsletter editor) missed Di's December contribution, I now include it below:

For our December meeting we were asked to write a few lines on each of the following:

- Which is your most cherished Christmas tradition?
- Who is the most challenging person to buy for at Christmas time?
- Do you prefer to buy presents online or offline and why?
- Have you ever re-gifted a Christmas present? If so, what was it?
- What was the worst Christmas gift you've received?
- If you could create a new tradition for Christmas, what would it be and why?

### **Christmas traditions**

Everyone being together with family (whether with or without Christmas pudding!

**Most challenging person to buy for** - by far Wives!!! We have 6 male members in our group! Some said daughters while others said grand daughters.

**Buying presents online or offline** - the consensus was 'offline' because of the need to see, touch and feel.

**Re-gifting of Christmas presents** - the majority said "No", however a couple said chocolates or candles. A friend of mine re-gifted something which her daughter-in-law had given her the year before.

The daughter-in-law let my friend know she had given her the gift! I guess my friend's son's wife thought, "That dreaded Mother-in Law".

**Worst gift** - nothing to write here. Must have all been too terrible to mention.

**New Christmas tradition** - Helping at a Charity lunch for those without family or friends; Including a friend or neighbour who may have family interstate or overseas.

One member mentioned the fact that in sport, news readers, politics, females were encroaching on what were once male domains so instead of having a male as Santa we should have a female.

New members are always welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at our home in Westleigh from 10am until 12noon.

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



## GARDENING

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The Garden group is now in recess until our next outing on the 25<sup>th</sup> February.

Happy gardening and plenty of watering ahead of us all.

Margaret

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



## GENEALOGY

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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](mailto:rmatthew@bigpond.net.au)



## LIVE MUSIC APPRECIATION SOCIETY (LIMAS)

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This new activity now has 37 interested members. All members are welcome to register their interest and be put on the email contact list by emailing Leo.

There will be a 10 minute gathering of interested members at the conclusion of the February General Meeting.

The first event is on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2 pm at the Collaroy Cinema/ Theatre.

'Love is a Rose' is a live Linda Ronstadt tribute show. Tickets should be purchased on-line beforehand by anyone planning to attend.

Seating in the theatre is on a first come basis and is not assigned. With doors opening around 1.30 getting there early is recommended. Fantastic Gelato can be found nearby after the show.

Participants are free to find and suggest events, with the aim being one a month, preferably at a time that does not clash with another scheduled club activity.

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



## GOLF

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Hi everyone,

Unfortunately, our first game for 2026 at North Turramurra was cancelled owing to the extreme weather conditions.

NEXT GAME: GORDON Course on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026

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

Play: 10 Holes with 3 groups, ie a maximum of 12 players

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

Sign on: 09.10 - 9.45am - Outside Pro Shop

Hit off: 10.00, 10.10, 10.20am

Cost:

1. Senior \$23.00 for 10 holes
2. Carts \$37.00 - 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: For those interested we will have lunch and/or refreshments in the Club dining room.

Availability: Please advise me of your intention to play by noon Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

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

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



## OUTINGS

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### February Outing – Cockatoo Island

As advised previously, an outing to Cockatoo Island has been organised for Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

For anyone planning on attending, please email Barry ([barry.jose@bigpond.com](mailto:barry.jose@bigpond.com)) before 5pm on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> February. We need to know final numbers so that we can enable the Cockatoo Island people to determine the number of guides to allocate.

Also, if you have not yet paid, please do so asap into the Club account with an email to Barry as per above and cc to the Treasurer ([westleightreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:westleightreasurer@gmail.com)).

Contact: **Chris Jose** (M) 0402-275-199 (Email) [chrisjose106@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjose106@gmail.com)



## SONGSTERS

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Welcome back to another year of singing and fun

- When: Monday Feb 16
- Time: 2 - 4pm
- Where: Thornleigh Community Baptist Church Hall (15-17 Duffy Rd Thornleigh) - use The Esplanade entrance

We have a new folder full of great songs covering many decades and many genres and would love you to join our enthusiastic group of singers.

Our singalong is accompanied by a 5 piece LIVE band!

If you aren't sure if this is for you we would love you to just come along and listen.

Afternoon tea is provided.

New members are most welcome.

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



## TABLE TENNIS

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We were unable to play table tennis on 15th January as the Brickpit had not finished installing the new air conditioner. Very important at this time of the year.

Contact: **Marion Pengelly** (M) 0438 129 145 (Email) [gladdie4@bigpond.com](mailto:gladdie4@bigpond.com)  
**Alan Coombes** (M) 0431 823 967 (Email) [alancoombes@bigpond.com](mailto:alancoombes@bigpond.com)



## TENNIS

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Tennis is currently in recess until at least the date of the February General meeting when another meeting of the Tennis activity will be convened to decide upon if / how the activity would proceed. The results of a survey sent out to Peter Norman will be considered. Please reply to the survey sent by the Secretary if it is relevant to you.



## UPSTAGERS

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We will be resuming our meetings this month and decide on what our plans will be for 2026.

We meet at 2.00 pm on the second Thursday of the month. 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](mailto:davraycon@bigpond.com)



## WALKING

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### February walk

In the light of the hot weather warnings we have been reading about, I thought it may be better to postpone the Hurlstone Park to Bardwell Park via Tempe walk. In its place, I have more of a meander which Christine and I tested this past week.

So the new February walk will be the "**Dangar Island Walk**". This has the benefit of sea breezes should the day be hot.

Now it must be said, there is a slow climb up a tarred path which probably climbs 30 metres over roughly 400 metres. The road is tree lined so it is shady and due to the ferry timetable there is no rush. There are two circular walks with a total distance of 4.3kms. There are no steps.

There is a coffee shop (Dangar Island Depot) on the island, so we will have our caffeine hit upon arrival at the island. We can then start the stroll at around 11.30am.

If you find the slight hill too daunting, you can just do the Bradleys Beach loop which is just 1.7 kms. High tide is at 9.45am so you should be able to walk along the narrow beach around noon onwards. There is a road behind the houses should the tide still be too high.

For those who want to be adventurous there is a bush track to the top of the hill, about 500 metres each way. Views are limited due to the vegetation.

Feel free to contact Don if you wish to be added to the mailing list.

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



## WEB SITE UPDATE

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The website now includes a photo-article about the Christmas Cheese and wine at the Wynn's.

Calendar is fully up-to-date with descriptions, dates and costs of all events being held in the next 3 month

Password for the Members Login section is:  
westleigh2007

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



## WINE AND CHEESE

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Many thanks to our January hosts Bridget and Struan Robertson for a wonderful evening.

Our February function will be as follows:

- When: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 from 6pm
- Where: Home of Christine and Don Murray, 45 Malton Rd, Beecroft
- What to bring: Your own drinks and glasses
- How to register: Not before 1<sup>st</sup> February. Register with Ross and Sheena Brown at [brown.cb@bigpond.net.au](mailto:brown.cb@bigpond.net.au) or SMS 0414250562. Then pay Westleigh Treasurer \$7.50 per person (cc to westleightreasurer@gmail.com)

Contact: **Ross and Sheena Brown**  
[brown.cb@bigpond.net.au](mailto:brown.cb@bigpond.net.au) or 0414 250 562 (Sheena)



## JANUARY MEETING – OUR SPEAKER

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Our speaker - Ron Ray from the Australian Maritime Museum. Ron spoke about Teddy Sheean VC. He is the first and only RAN sailor to be awarded the VC.

In December 1942 Ordinary Seaman Sheean was serving on HMAS Armidale in the Timor Sea when it was attacked by Japanese aircraft.

After helping to free a life-raft, Sheean was wounded by two bullets. He made his way to the aft Oerlikon 20 mm cannon and began to fire on the Japanese aircraft to protect those in the water. Sheean managed to shoot down one of the Japanese bombers, but was killed when Armidale sank.

Whilst Sheean's heroic act occurred in 1942, it took until August 2020 for his act to be properly recognised for the sacrifice he made.



## SMART DRESSING

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What a well dressed young man should wear to a Probus meeting!



**OFFICERS AND ELECTED COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR  
1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2025 TO 31 MARCH 2026**

<b>Elected Positions</b>			
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
President	Leo Murphy	westleighpresident@gmail.com	0411 882 066
Vice President / Activity Convenor	Judy Edwards	judy15@icloud.com	0432 249 794
Membership Officer	Brian Crossman	westleighmembership@outlook.com	0417 278 053
Secretary	Barbara Rees	westleighsecretary@outlook.com	0416 149 136
Treasurer	Danny McGarrigle	westleightreasurer@gmail.com	0413 953 393
Website Manager	John Immelman	john.immelman@bigpond.com	0447 044 704
Newsletter	Barry Jose	barry.jose@bigpond.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	Pamela Makey	pamelamakey@gmail.com	0481 083 386
Outings (Acting)	Christine Jose	chrisjose106@gmail.com	0402-275-199
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
<b>Non-Elected Positions</b>			
Immediate Past President	Christine Murray	christine.murraysyd@gmail.com	0418 635 836
Assistant Treasurer	Colin Gibb	colingibb2@gmail.com	0405 759 557
Public Officer	Barbara Rees	westleighsecretary@outlook.com	0416 149 136
Auditor	Barry McDonald	bandm@smartchat.net.au	9876 3654

**ACTIVITY LEADERS CONTACT LIST – 2025 – 2026**

<b>Book Club</b>	Christine Norman	chris1944anne@gmail.com	9481 9703 0438 616 780
<b>Bridge</b>	Kay Taylor	kaytay42@hotmail.com	0420 257 603
<b>Canasta</b>	Sylvia & David Marshall	sdmmarshall@yahoo.com	0438 466 332
<b>Cinema</b>	Ros Krempin	roslynkrempin@hotmail.com	8407 9612 0411 961 300
<b>Craft and Chat</b>	Christine Jose	chrisjose106@gmail.com	9481 0734 0402 275 199
<b>Cycling</b>	Norman Parris	nparris8855@gmail.com	0418 727 744
<b>Dinner/Lunch Group</b>	David Conway	davraycon@bigpond.com	0414 582 664
<b>Fun With Words</b>	Diane Rowe	diane.rowe134@gmail.com	9484 7479 0419 486 218
<b>Gardening</b>	Margaret Besley	margaret.besley@gmail.com	9477 3255 0418 229 194
<b>Genealogy</b>	Ron Matthews	rmatthew@bigpond.net.au	9871 2017
<b>Golf</b>	Graham Rowe	grahamrowe55@gmail.com	9484 7479 0414 774 334
<b>Lawn Bowls</b>	Julie Ortlepp	jortlepp@hotmail.com	0414 662 864
<b>Live Music Appreciation Society</b>	Leo Murphy	leokarenm74@gmail.com	0411882066
<b>Songsters</b>	Pam Legge	pammypod@bigpond.com	9489 2299 0419 427 664
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Alan Coombes Marion Pengelly	alancoombes@bigpond.com gladdie4@bigpond.com	0431 823 967 9484 6373
<b>Tennis</b>	tba		
<b>Upstagers</b>	David Conway	davraycon@bigpond.com	0414 582 664
<b>Walking</b>	Don Murray	don.m.murray@gmail.com	0410 539 285
<b>Wine and Cheese</b>	Ross & Sheena Brown	brown.cb@bigpond.net.au	0414 871 931 (Ross) 0414 250 562 (Sheena)

## ACTIVITY PAYMENTS

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### **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: "Manlik FiddlerX2" being for the theatre tickets to Fiddler on the Roof for 2 members of the Manlik 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** ([westleightreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:westleightreasurer@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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