



# Probus

## WESTLEIGH COMBINED

Club No 9002565 Accreditation No 2379 Foundation Meeting 27/11/2007

P.O. Box 106 Thornleigh NSW 2120 Website: [www.westleighprobus.org](http://www.westleighprobus.org)

President: Leo Murphy Secretary / Public Officer: Barbara Rees

Treasurer: Danny McGarrigle

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# NEWSLETTER<sup>®</sup>

**No. 207 APRIL 2025**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Welcome to the newsletter and my first 'Presidential Report'.

A big thank you to those of you who attended the AGM. It's not often I am thankful for wet weather, but the cancellation of the bowling tournament by the bowling club relieved our parking issues.

March saw 42 members go on the Parkes and surrounds bus tour. Barbara Crossman delivered a well organised and fun experience for the participants, and left the rest of us with a bucketful of regret for not going. It was great to see a number of our newer members share this fun. One complaint has been received - that this tour exceeded the usual levels of fun by 15% resulting in sore faces from smiling too much.

Your committee has just received the long-awaited revised Constitution and model standing orders documents from Head Office. We will do some preparatory work on these and engage with you, the members, in June. On first glance there is nothing contentious but it will be worth revisiting and refreshing the framework that has made our club successful.

There are great activities and outings coming up. Try one you haven't recently done. Make sure any new participants are welcomed.

Finally, Karen and I will soon be on a holiday (booked even before I became vice-president) which results in me missing the April and May General Meetings. Guilt and disappointment on my part but I know Judy and your committee will do a great job.

***Leo Murphy***

[Song quote for the month..

*Ma, you don't know what hell this is*

*My hair don't look like Elvis's!*

by Glenn Cardier and Ol' 55)

<https://youtu.be/qPMrrbMF7b8?si=STyn3HuecsM6gInr>

## 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.

## MONTHLY CALENDAR

2 Apr	Fun with Words	2 May	Golf
2 Apr	Canasta (Day)	5 May	Walking
2 Apr	Dinner Group	7 May	Fun with Words
4 Apr	Golf	7 May	Canasta (Day)
7 Apr	Walking	7 May	Dinner Group
8 Apr	Craft and Chat	8 May	Upstagers
9 Apr	Lunch group	9 May	Tennis
9 Apr	Canasta (Night)	12 May	GENERAL MEETING
10 Apr	Upstagers	12 May	Book Club
11 Apr	Tennis	13 May	Craft and Chat
14 Apr	GENERAL MEETING	14 May	Canasta (Night)
14 Apr	Book Club	15 May	Table Tennis
14 Apr	Songsters (after Book Club)	16 May	Lawn Bowls
15 Apr	Garden Group	16 May	Wine & Cheese
16 Apr	Cinema	19 May	Songsters
16 Apr	Afternoon Tea	21 May	Cinema
17 Apr	Table Tennis	21 May	Afternoon Tea
18 Apr (Good Friday)	No Lawn Bowls	23 May	Tennis
18 Apr (Good Friday)	No Wine and Cheese	24 May	Outing (tbc)
25 Apr	Tennis	26 May	Garden group (tbc)

## 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.

## Put it in your diary!

This is just an advanced notice to advise members that our 2025 Crazy Whist function has been booked!

Details are:

- Where: Hornsby Leisure and Learning Centre
- Date: Sunday the 27th July

Further details will be advised closer to the date



## IT'S BIRTHDAY TIME!

**Philip Avery, Wendy Bowring, Margaret Dellow, Cliff Fairbrother, Lorice Gill  
Lee Hegarty, Pamela Lawrance, Perce Legge, Lynne Lockwood  
Fiona McGarrigle, Colin Morrison, Maureen Morrison, Christine Murray  
Carol Pretty, Bridget Robertson, Bruce Stuckey, Len Ward**

Congratulations and warmest **April** 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

The Roster from February to April 2025 is as follows:

April Vreni Schwotzer & Marilyn Hollier

May Carol & Edy Huttary

June Roslyn Krempin & Pamela Lawrance

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](mailto:heatherbarber@optusnet.com.au)  
or **Karen Murphy** (M) 0402 904 913 (Email): [leokarenm74@gmail.com](mailto:leokarenm74@gmail.com)



## SPEAKERS

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Our guest speaker for April is Wendell Rumbel.

Wendell worked for Arnott Biscuits for nearly 40 years and his time with the company covered a time of major evolution from family owned to part of a global organisation and beyond. Arnott was certainly an employer of choice, and Wendell was given many opportunities and experiences that he will be sharing with us.

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

**GENERAL MONTHLY PROGRAM**

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

**AFTERNOON TEA GROUP**

Numbers were down for our March get together due to a number being away on the Club trip to Parkes. Still, for those able to attend another great afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Details for April are:

- When – Wednesday 16th April
- From – 2:30pm
- Where – Pennant Hills Heritage Café, Hillcrest Rd, Pennant Hills

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 March meeting of the Book club of the Westleigh Combined Probus group took place after the meeting and the AGM on Monday 10th March. Eleven members attended.

The book for discussion was "Flinders" by Grantlee Kiesza. It was a very comprehensive book about Matthew Flinders and his extraordinary life, his many voyages and the explorers who accompanied him on many of his voyages to and around Australia.

Flinders went to sea at the age of 16 despite his father wanting him to become a doctor, but Matthew was inspired by the story of Robinson Crusoe and so he always wanted adventure.

Although he married a woman called Anne whom he really loved, their time together was very scarce as he was always away at sea. Then he was imprisoned by the French so by the time he came home to his wife his body was worn out by years of imprisonment, and he died at the young age of 40.

The charts drawn by him are so accurate that they are still used today.

Flinders certainly had his cat with him - "Trim" - and his Aboriginal interpreter and guide Bungaree and with them he mapped "The Great Southern Land".

It was a very comprehensive book to read and I think we all learned more about him than we knew. So, this was a book to assist us in learning more about our explorers and our history.

The book for this month is much lighter and easy to read. It is "The Accidental Tour Guide" by Mary Moody. Mary is a well-known figure in the world of journalism having worked at the Australian Women's Weekly and been a presenter on Gardening Australia.

This is a book that deals with Mary's grief when her husband dies. It's a good insight into dealing with death but also getting on with life when your loved one gets sick and dies. We read how Mary had very good family support which helped her through this difficult time in her life.

Other books by Mary Moody include:

- \* Sweet Surrender
- \* The Long Table
- \* Last Tango in Toulouse

New members are always welcome.

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



## CINEMA

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

Contact: **Roslyn Krempin**

Tel: 8407 9612 or (M) 0411 961 300

Email: roslynkrempin@hotmail.com



## CANASTA

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### Day Canasta – 5th March

Today we had a lovely rounded off number of 16 players making up 4 tables.

- \* Sylvia and Judy played Jo and Tricia, the latter winning convincingly by 27,000 to 15,000
- \* Chris and Lesley defeated Diana and Fiona 20,000 to 14,000
- \* Bridget and Helen had a convincing win over Michael and Barry, winning 26465 to 20555
- \* Kay and Karen defeated Danny and David in the highest scoring game today 28,000 to 25,000

Well done everyone!

### Night Canasta – 12th March

On a lovely evening 11 members turned up for a great night of competition and fun.

Results were as follows:

- \* Bridget and Vreni defeated Peter and Leo in a tight tussle
- \* In an even tighter struggle Jacqui and Brian had it over Barbara and Karen
- \* In the one table of singles Kate absolutely massacred Chris and Barry

Details for April

- \* Day Canasta will be held on the 2nd April at Cherrybrook starting at 1pm
- \* Night Canasta will be held on the 9th April at Pennant Hills starting at 7pm

Contact me or Chris/Barry (if I'm away) if you want your name on the list for either Day or Night canasta.

New players are always welcome.

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

Contact: **Lesley Bowrey** (M) 0414 454 180 (Email) lesleyjbowrey@gmail.com



## CRAFT AND CHAT

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Numbers were down a little this month but, as always for those who were able to make it, another fun—filled afternoon of sharing projects, chatter and a delicious after noon tea was held:

Details for April

- \* When: Tuesday the 8th April
- \* 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)



## DINNER/LUNCH CLUB

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### REMINDER re APRIL DINNER

Diane and Graham Rowe will host a Dinner at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 2nd April, at The Okami Japanese Restaurant  
Shop 12 & 13 Pennant Hills Market Place, Pennant Hills. (Adjacent to IGA.)

### MAY DINNER

Wendy and John Bowring will host a Dinner at 6.00 pm on Wednesday, 7th May at

Lotus Inn Restaurant - 41 Redleaf Avenue, Wahroonga (Phone – 9489 5740)

Cost - \$43.00 including corkage.

Menu – Chicken Lettuce Bowl – San Choy Bow  
Salt & Pepper King Prawns  
Crispy Chicken with Soy/Ginger/Shallot dressing  
Stir fried beef with green vegetables in ginger & shallot sauce  
Crispy Pork fillet with special sauce  
Fried rice/Steamed rice

Bookings and payment by 30th April 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)).



Really the task of hosting is not very onerous and there are only 9 dinners/lunches per year. I can provide you with a list of restaurants we have used in the past.

**We still need hosts for June, August, October.**

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-imbursement 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 :- **David Conway** (M) 0414 582 664 (Email) [davraycon@bigpond.com](mailto:davraycon@bigpond.com)



**FUN WITH WORDS**

For our March meeting we were asked to Write a poem or short story about an amusing incident in our life.

**Story 1**

One couple bought a new house in Westleigh back in the 70's and decided to camp in the house overnight because the electricity was being connected the next morning.

They left for a few hours to attend a musical rehearsal and on arrival back home found the house was swarming with Police, guns and all. They convinced the Police they were the owners.

The neighbours had called the Police assuming the couple were squatters!

## Story 2

One member's first business trip to Indonesia was full of mishaps. An itinerary requested didn't materialise, no one at the airport to meet him, luggage missing, lost all phone numbers (before mobiles) so had to ring his wife in Australia. On the way to the hotel the bus was involved in an accident.

After eventually settling into the hotel - no hot water.

That evening he was taken to a nightclub where the hostess poured a drink and asked "Is there anything else you would like sir?"!!!

## Story 3

Another member was at a party when her sister-in-law passed out. The paramedics came and a little 5 year-old relative began gushing over one of the paramedics telling him how very, very handsome he was!

As they say, "Out of the mouths of babes".

## Story 4

When one couple visited a National Park in Canada, a relative took them on a 14km walk to see Bison. They saw plenty of Bison pats, however no Bison.

He slipped on a fresh pat, landed on the ground, camera and all. Anyway, they trudged back to the car feeling smelly and miserable only to find Bison everywhere near the car!

## Story 5

At 18 years of age, one of our group was working in a bank and played in a band at night at the local pub in Muswellbrook.

Even though the pub closed at 10pm they could play until 10.30pm and then drink until the early hours of the morning. All this with the knowledge of the local cop!

However on one evening the music was louder, the drinking continued after closing time and the Police were called - turned out it was a different cop who didn't know about the arrangement with the publican!

## Story 6

In the 1970's, one member, along with his wife and children, lived and worked in Paris and all spoke French - a fun way to learn the language!

They experienced the same while living in Austria and Germany.

## Story 7

Our eldest granddaughter, now 18, at the age of 13 was playing competition soccer. Our son, her Dad, was the referee. In the middle of the game she yelled out, "Dad, that girl was off-side!" Our son had trouble keeping a straight face! He ignored the outburst.

John wrote an amazing poem based on Mr Bean.

Below is Margaret Hegarty's funny story. As with all the other stories, it is TRUE!

Let's go back quite a number of years - my mum and dad are still alive, Trev and I are married with 2 girls, probably pre-teen.

Along with my sister and her family plus close friends of my parents, we were all having dinner together. Somewhere along the line the conversation turned to a discussion on whether rose petals can be eaten. (Remember, way back then we were not putting edible flowers in our salads.)

To prove that one could, my dad proceeded to eat a rose whilst standing on the table. I no longer have a clue as to why he stood on the table.

A couple of months later he developed gout in his big toe. He told the girls the gout was caused by the thorn from the rose coming out of his toe.

Move forward many, many years. Our girls Lindy and Sarah are now both married with children of their own.

Sarah's husband Tony has developed gout in his foot. 'That's so painful' says her sister Lindy. 'Yes' says Sarah 'he's having a lot of pain with it. But remember the time Pop got gout after eating a rose. Tony got gout without eating a rose'.

Me - 'really girls, surely you didn't believe that'. They did – Dad was very good at spinning a tale.

The following is a Fun with Words message I sent to Barbara Crossman the day before the Parkes tour. Barbara asked me to put it in the newsletter because there wasn't an opportunity to read it out on the tour.

I guess **It's now or never** to go to Parkes but **That's all right**.

No need to get **All Shook Up** about staying at a **Heartbreak Hotel**.

Have fun on your Elvis night - some will have **Blue Suede Shoes** however others may be the **Devil in Disguise**.

I know you're a **Hard Headed Woman** Barbara so **Don't be Cruel** with the quiz!

Hopefully there won't be a **Hound Dog** in the group.

Have a great trip - you'll be **Always on my Mind**.

New members are always welcome.

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

On Friday 21 March I was the speaker at the monthly meeting of Turramurra Probus Club. There were about 60 members. I spoke about how to start your family history research.

At the end of the meeting I provided photocopies of a 4 page handout to members who wanted to do research. The handout provided guidelines for how to get started.

Attached to the handout was a 2-page explanation of DNA ancestry, including how to buy DNA test kits.

At the April meeting I'll come armed with 5 photocopies of the handouts for any Westleigh member who may be interested in starting their research. If 5 is not enough, I'll send a copy via email

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



## GARDENING

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### Gardening Outing April

There was no March Garden Outing and we are bringing forward the April one to TUESDAY, the 15th April. This is to catch the Exhibition described below before it closes.

Already we have a large group who have put their names down on the Expression of Interest.

We are off to the city to the Royal Botanic Gardens. The plan is to visit the following exhibitions:

- Botanica: The Art of Disguise and Deception - this year the exhibition has moved from Liongate Lodge to the the Garden Gallery, so this will be an interesting change after the many years the Exhibition has been held in Liongate Lodge.
- Alchemy of a Rainforest - at the Calyx (entry by donation).

Travel details etc will be issued in due course.

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



## GOLF

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Hi everyone,

Our last game was played at the North Turramurra course in March by 6 players.  
Prize winners were:

- Player of the Day & Score: Graham Lawson
- Nearest the Pin (1): Brad Sichter
- Longest Drive: Brad Sichter
- Putting: Tony Rees
- Putting Kit: Leo Murphy

NEXT GAME: Gordon Course on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

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

Play: 10 Holes with 4 groups, ie a maximum of 16 players

Sign on: 09.15 - 9.50am - Outside Pro Shop

Hit-off: 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30am

**Cost:**

- Senior \$22.00 for 10 holes
- Carts \$36.00 - 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.

Prizes: Player of the Day, Best Overall Score, Putting comp over 3 nominated holes, Longest Drive on nominated hole, Nearest the Pin on 2 nominated holes, Putting Kit (for the one in greatest need of putting tuition!)

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 2nd April.

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

New players are always welcome.

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



## LAWN BOWLS

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We had a very small number of players at Probus Bowls on Friday 21st March, only 7 players, because several of the regular bowls players from Westleigh were on the Parkes tour.

Please note that there will be no Probus bowls in April because the scheduled day falls on Good Friday. I will send out an email advising this closer to the date to all members on the Probus bowling list.

New players are always welcome.

Contact: **Julie Ortlepp** (M) 0414 662 864 (Email) jortlepp@hotmail.com



## MEMBER PHOTOS

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As mentioned at previous meetings, the Committee has decided that it might be helpful for members if we had some sort of Members' Gallery set up in the secure section of the Club's website.

Such a gallery was created shortly after the club was first set up, and it was thought that having something like this today would benefit all members.

Having your photo / name on the website is voluntary – it is NOT mandatory. It's entirely up to you. So if you'd like to be part of this Gallery of Members, there are three ways you can go about it:

1. Send your photo to either John Walker (walker888hq@gmail.com) or John Immelman (john.immelman@bigpond.com), or
2. See either John at a meeting or activity and he can take your picture then and there, or
3. Email either John to make an arrangement to meet

Contact: **John Immelman** (M) 0447 044 704 (Email) john.immelman@bigpond.com OR **John Walker** (M) 0401 587 250 (Email) walker888hq@gmail.com



## SONGSTERS

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Our April meeting will be at our usual place, however for this month only it is going to be brought forward one week due to the 3rd Monday of the month being the Easter Monday public holiday.

Details for April:

- Date: 14th April
- Time: from 2pm (straight after the Book Club meeting)
- Where: Thornleigh Baptist Church, corner of Duffy Avenue and The Esplanade, Thornleigh

New members are most welcome.

Contact: **Pam Legge** (Tel) 9489 2299 (Email) pammypod@bigpond.com



## TABLE TENNIS

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Eleven members played at the Brickpit Stadium on 20th March.

Several regular players were absent, hopefully enjoying the Probus bus trip to Parkes. However, the rest of us still played, had fun, although with longer rests due to the ongoing heat and humidity.

The next playdate is Thursday the 17th April.

Alan will be absent as he will be in the UK visiting his 101-year-old- mother.

New and "old" Probus members are very welcome to come along to "Check us out". No experience is required, and a cuppa is provided.

### WHERE

Brickpit Stadium Thornleigh  
3rd Thursday month  
2-4pm

Contact: **Marion Pengelly** (M) 0438 129 145 (Email) gladdie4@bigpond.com



## TENNIS

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The Tennis Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month between 2 & 4pm at the Westleigh, Ruddock Park Tennis Complex.

April Tennis is scheduled on 11th and 25th April (Azac Day - note that tennis will be available for anyone who wishes to play).

We have finally left the HOT weather behind us but we still had rainy weather threatening to stop tennis.

We only had 4 players who 'braved' the hot weather on the 14th March.

Rain occurred prior to 10:30 on Friday 28th of March but the courts were dry by 2pm when we had 9 players and booked the second court. The weather was beautiful.

As we have only one court permanently booked please advise if intending to play if possible the day before so that if necessary we can arrange for an additional court to be booked.

Contact: **Geoff Adams** (M) 0409 362 089 (Email) sbadams1945@gmail.com.





## TOURS

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### **Parkes Tour 16th to 21st March 2025 - courtesy of Barbara Crossman**

On Sunday 16th March 42 Probus members headed off to Parkes leaving Westleigh at 8.30am. Michael was our wonderful coach driver who was a very good driver, a wealth of knowledge of places we visited with lots of funny jokes along the way.

On Monday we drove to Forbes and a tour guide joined us on the coach with all the history and information on the area including Ben Hall the bushranger, Lachlan Vintage Village and McFeeters Motor Museum. We then drove to see the amazing sculptures along the Lachlan Valley Way. After our dinner we had our games night. Lots of noise and laughter throughout the night with some very lucky members taking home lots of 20 cent pieces. Thank you to Margaret Hegarty who helped explain the rules of the game.

On Tuesday we spent the day in Parkes at Henry Parkes Museum, the car and Elvis Museum (with its replica of the gates into Gracelands). The war memorial was a highlight with a beautiful view down to Parkes township. We saw Elvis statues and murals before heading out to the Dish. The dish put on a display, and we were lucky enough to see it move slowly to a near-vertical position.

On Wednesday we saw murals in Eugowra then travelled on to Cowra to the Japanese Gardens and POW camp remains. We then went on to Grenfell with its painted murals on water tanks and silos.

Dinner was at 6.30pm with everyone dressing up and looking fantastic for our Elvis trivia night which was amazing to see. Special mention to our Elvis's in full Elvis costumes - Peter Norman, Margaret Hegarty, Margaret Dellow, Bob Husband, Pamela Webster and with our very own Priscilla – Jenny Chandler. Geoff Lean was dressed in his Jail House Rock outfit including his rock next to Pam who was 16. Everyone else was dressed in their best Blue Hawaii outfits. Our Elvis trivia was compered by Margaret Dellow, Brian in charge of the music and Chris Jose led the sing along with the help of Margaret Hegarty and Peter Norman. Thank you for all your help on the night.

On Thursday we headed off to Dubbo Zoo on a very hot day. After lunch at the zoo, we headed off to the RFDS and had an interesting talk then looked at all the exhibits. Sadly, our last dinner was Thursday night, and we asked the cook her staff and all the motel staff Janelle, Gareth and Mel to come out so we could thank them for the amazing meals we had and the wonderful service by them all. All our meals over the 6 days were absolutely superb.

We headed home on a damp Friday morning and arrived at Westleigh just after 4pm.

Could you all please fill out the online surveys for both Coach Holidays and Tours and the North Parkes Motel.

I would like to thank Brian for all his help. Also to Chris Jose who helped me along the way with all her knowledge and a special thank you to Colin Gibb for all his hard work with the collection of our deposits, payment balance and refunds throughout the year. Thank you to our Elvis trivia and music extraordinaire who spent a lot of time working it all out and loved

doing it. Thank you to all the members who attended our tour and for being such special people.

Lots of fun and laughter was heard every day. Thank you.

Barbara Crossman

### **From Pamela Makey**

I would like to thank Barbara very much for organising the fabulous tour to Parkes that everyone enjoyed. The Coach Company she used was excellent. Barbara has written about it in this Newsletter.

Westleigh Probus usually has two tours a year, one in Autumn, the other in Spring.

We have the 'Bravo Cruise' in October this year.

If any member who was on the tour (or not) feels inspired and would like to organise a tour for this time in 2025, then I'd think that "Coach Holidays and Tours" would be a great way to start. They have a number of interesting destinations. Both Barbara and I have copies of their tours.

We can also give you a lot of help.

So if you have a great idea of a trip, do talk to me about it.

Pamela Makey  
Tours Co-ordinator





## UPSTAGERS

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Last meeting we experimented with a reading of part of the script of the movie, "Twelve Angry Men", which I edited from the original. (You can have access to many movie scripts for free, which quite amazed me.) I found it very interesting to see how a movie script works with descriptions of characters, set movements, recommended tones of voice, camera angles, etc.

Upstagers were sent the script in advance and roles were pulled out of the hat at the meeting. Unfortunately, some members couldn't make it. So everyone had to read two parts (which led to quite a few laughs and the odd "Who's juror number #?")

However, in true thespian style, we all muddled through and, in fact, did very well.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the experience and asked me to complete the editing of the whole script for our next meeting. Hopefully a full complement of Upstagers will lead to an even better reading this month.

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.

David

Contact: **David Conway** (M) 0414 582 664 (Email) [davraycon@bigpond.com](mailto:davraycon@bigpond.com)



## WALKING

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### March walk

We had 19 happy walkers on Monday 3rd March who met in the new Parramatta Square. After the mandatory coffee and chat Don Murray guided us through historic Parramatta Park, the bat colony and the Wisteria Garden finishing at the new Light Rail station outside the Children's Hospital, Westmead. We then used the Light Rail to head towards our various destinations.

This was a short flat walk of about 4 kms. The day started cooler than forecast but did warm up to be 'pleasantly humid.'

The highlights included observing how Parramatta has changed dramatically (for the better) over recent years, how insane it is to build the new Powerhouse museum in that location, and to find a suburb that actually has real bank branches!

### 7th April Walk: Central Gladesville to Huntleys Point Ferry via Banjo Patterson Park and Gladesville Mental Hospital

Some key points:

- Coffee in Gladesville to start then downhill to Banjo Patterson Park - lovely river views
- Past Bedlam Point into what once was known as the Tarban Creek Lunatic Asylum - some beautiful old buildings, many run down old buildings and a bit of history although the precinct is still actively used by NSW Health Dept and many not for profits in the Mental Health arena\
- Onwards to the Huntleys Point Ferry Wharf, via Gladesville Reserve.

Walk distance / time (est.) - approx 4 to 5 km (1.5 hours) depending on how much we meander. There are a couple of inclines but only one set of stairs upwards which have an alternative route, so overall an easy walk.

Meeting Place:

2 Doors Down Coffee shop 231 Victoria Road, Gladesville, north of the Post Office for a 10.15 start.

Suggested lunch spot:

Sydney Rowers Club at Abbotsford, 7 minutes ferry ride away.

If interested, please contact [don.m.murray@gmail.com](mailto:don.m.murray@gmail.com) by 6pm Sunday 6/4/2025 for full details. 0410 539285

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



## WEB SITE UPDATE

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The following changes were made in the past month.

### Outings:

- Machu Picchu exhibition
- Quest – To Catch an Art Thief
- Hyde Park Barracks

### Walks

- Parramatta to Northmead

Password for Members and Gallery of Members sections is:  
westleigh2007

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



## WINE AND CHEESE

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Many thanks to Christine and Don Murray for their hospitality at our March meeting.

Please note: There will be NO Wine & Cheese in April as it is Good Friday.

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



## 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - PHOTOS

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## THE BACK PAGE

### REMEMBER WHEN?? - FROM JOHN WALKER

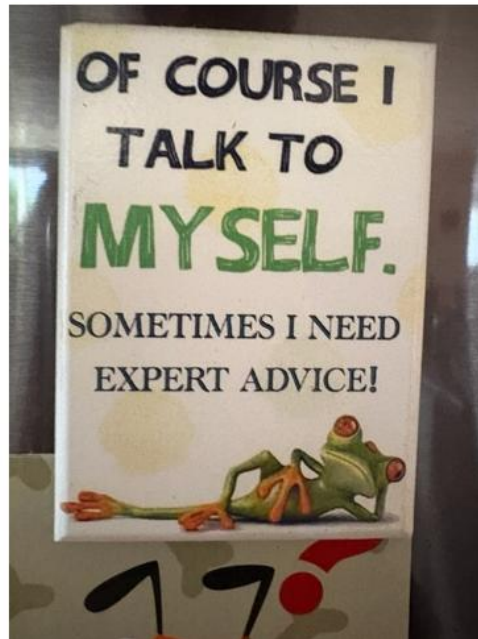
It's now 5 years since Covid in Australia was declared a pandemic. Do you remember Wine & Cheese via Zoom?

(Ed. Note – hosting Wine & Cheese could, at times, be quite traumatic!)



## FUNNY FRIDGE MAGNETS (part 2)

- Courtesy of Tony Rees





## AN ARTICLE COURTESY OF PETER NORMAN

### Chihuly

On a recent trip to Adelaide, Christine and I had the pleasure of visiting the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. We were delighted that our visit coincided with the Chihuly Garden Cycle exhibition, which made its Australian debut in Adelaide.

Dale Chihuly is the world's most celebrated contemporary glass artist. Born in the US, he has spent over half a century creating some of the world's finest art.

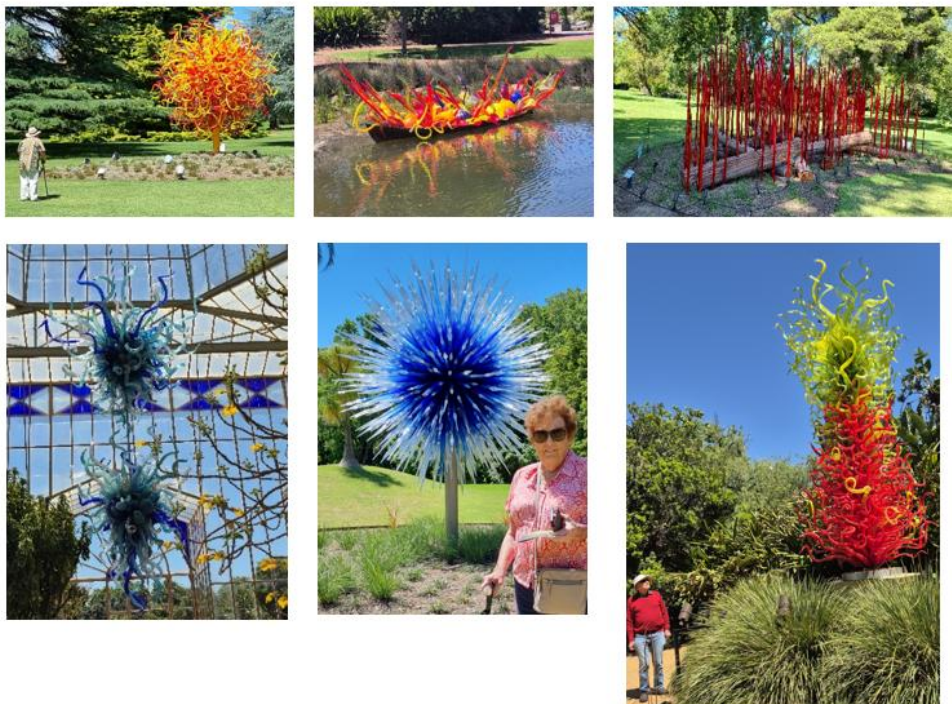
Garden Cycle exhibits 16 of Chihuly's celebrated works. The works are spaced throughout the gardens in a more-or-less loop trail, enabling visitors to experience these outstanding monumental sculptures while walking through the garden's lush surroundings, passing through many of its key locations. The description "monumental" is quite apt, as many of the creations tower up to more than 5 metres in height.

The works explore not only colour, but also translucency and light and change during the day, depending on incident light. A night time visit is a whole new experience, as the sculptures are illuminated and provide a completely different perspective.

Chihuly's outdoor exhibitions have been showcased around the world since 2001, and include cities in the USA, London's Kew Gardens and Singapore's Gardens by the Bay.

The exhibition has been on show since 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024, but unfortunately ends on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025. However, if you are visiting Adelaide before the end date, a visit to this amazing display is highly recommended. You are guaranteed to be impressed. Even if you are not a lover of Chihuly's art, you will be impressed about how such large fragile artworks could be safely transported around the world.

*Peter Norman*



## SOME PARKES PHOTOS



Cheetah – Western Plains Zoo



Grenfell painted silos



Cowra POW campsite



Murals at Eugowra



Elvis Night



## 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>Canasta</b>	Lesley Bowrey	lesleyjbowrey@gmail.com	0414 454 180
<b>Cinema</b>	Ros Krempin	roslynkrempin@hotmail.com	8407 9612 0411 961 300
<b>Craft</b>	Christine Jose	chrisjose106@gmail.com	9481 0734 0402 275 199
<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>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>	Geoff Adams	sbadams1945@gmail.com	0409 362 089
<b>Upstagers</b>	David Conway	davraycon@bigpond.com	0414 582 664
<b>Walking</b>	Don Murray	dmurray1@bigpond.net.au	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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