



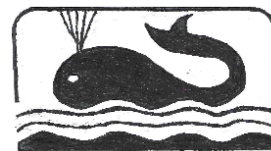
THE PROBUS CLUB OF MOSMAN

COMBINED INC.

PO Box 264, Mosman NSW 2088

mosmanprobus@gmail.com

ABN: 96 728 384 926



Fun and Friendship in Retirement

CLUB CONTACTS

President:	Peter Reeves 0416 496 505	Membership:	Keith McDonald Jenny McDonald	Newsletter:	Margaret Szalay Don Napper
Vice-President:	Lynette Armstrong	Team:	Sally Cullen Mona Deakin	Welfare Officer & Probus Cluster:	Margaret Badger
Secretary:	Ian Hume 0478 051 950	Activities:	Jenny Reeves Christine Fraser	Publicity Team:	Sarnie Hay Heather Jenkins Dawn Willis
Treasurer:	Helmut Regelein	Team:	Desley Hume Denise Bloom	Book Exchange:	Vichy Clapano
Immediate Past President:	Rob Taggart	Team:	Robyn Yates 0407 432 642	Club Lunches:	Jennifer Walker
Club Ambassador:	Barry Starr	Team:	Monica Anastasia Sarah Fennamore	Cinema Club:	Gill Napper
Speaker Officer:	Heather Jenkins	Team:	Dawn Willis Sue Hartmann	Financial Reviewer:	Rob Brown
Greetings Team:	Keith McDonald Jenny McDonald Sally Cullen			Public Officer:	Lawrie Smith

CLUB NEWS

Meeting on Wednesday, 24 June 2026

Newsletter photos to: margaret@cremorne1.com

Meeting Apologies to be sent to: mosmanprobus@gmail.com OR 0478 051 950

Venue: Mosman Art Gallery Hall

10:30 – 12:30pm

Doors will open at 10:00am

Today's Speaker: **PETER THORPE**

“Artificial Intelligence for Seniors”

Peter says a lot of mature age people who didn't grow up with computers and the internet, feel anxious about using technology, and believe it is too late to learn. However, accessing and using AI is not difficult, once you know how, with life-changing benefits. Peter unravels the mysteries of AI, and tells how AI can enhance your daily life, regardless of your age. Copies of his book will be available.

Member's 5-minute Spot: Don Napper “Nobel Prize winners I have known”

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, 22 JULY 2026**

Speaker: E/Prof Michael Atherton AM: “Living for Words & Music”

CLUB LUNCH AFTER THE GENERAL MEETING ... YOU'RE INVITED

Members and guests are invited to join us at a Club lunch after each meeting, held upstairs in the Upper Duck Restaurant, Hotel Mosman, Military Rd, Spit Junction, (next to Boronia House), a short walk from the Mosman Art Gallery.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Peter Reeves

Mosman Probus Club has enjoyed another active month, with strong attendance, growing member engagement, and a busy calendar of events — and our website is reflecting that energy too, with visitor numbers up 16% in May compared with April, and page views up 12%. Hopefully this is indicative of both greater community interest in our activities and members viewing pages on the website as well.

We held our first Trivia Night at the newly reopened Club Bradley on Bradley's Head Road. Thank you to Quiz Master Barry Starr for preparing challenging questions for the three competing teams. Members enjoyed the welcoming venue and an excellent dinner from the new chef's menu, making the evening a great success. Club Bradley comes highly recommended.

Sarnie Hay and I also attended Club Bradley's official opening, where we toured the facilities and met the new directors, caterers, and local dignitaries, including the Deputy Mayor and Councillors. Events like this help maintain our Club's profile in the local community.

A special thank you to Robyn Yates and her Activities Team, and to Pamela McLeland who coordinates our popular \$2.50 Outings. Between them they kept us busy with a Tribal Warrior Cruise, a visit to Watsons Bay, and an unforgettable tour of the Orchid and Tropical Plant Greenhouses at the Botanical Gardens. All three events were well attended and, from everything I've heard, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who went along. Reports and photos appear later in this Newsletter.

We were delighted to welcome 14 visitors to our May meeting, and especially pleased that four will be inducted at our June meeting: Sandra Berrick, Diane Gallery, Halyna Koscharsky and Helen Palmer.

This edition marks Margaret Szalay's first Newsletter as Editor following Don's retirement. Congratulations and thank you, Margaret.

POSITION VACANT

Assistant Secretary

Only needed should the secretary embark on interstate or overseas tours.

Applications to the Secretary

POSITION VACANT

CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER

Needed to record events at monthly meetings, not many skills needed, just a smartphone or similar. **Applications to the President**

PROBUS TRIVIA NIGHT

Join us for Trivia Night on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month (except January), **from 5.30pm** at the Warringah Bowling Club (renamed 'Club Bradley'), 74-82 Bradleys Head Road, Mosman. Stay on afterwards for dinner at the Club (great food!!).

Contact: barryastarr@gmail.com

CINEMA CLUB at the Orpheum

We meet at **3pm** on the **FIRST MONDAY** of the month at the Orpheum for the movie of your choice, followed by dinner at the nearby Chinese restaurant.

Contact: gillnapper@gmail.com to join the list.

NEW MEMBERS

Jenny & Keith McDonald

**At the Probus meeting on 24th June, we will welcome the following new members:
Sandra Berrick, Diane Gallery, Halyna Koscharsky, Helen Palmer.**

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES***Robyn Yates*****DETAILS, BOOKINGS & PAYMENTS AT ACTIVITIES DESK AT MONTHLY MEETINGS**or **BOOK**, then PAY BY E.F.T. to: Westpac Account: BSB: 032 097; Account number:750 233.

Account name: The Probus Club of Mosman Combined Inc.

[Identify deposit with your name & event, then email bank receipt to mosmanprobus@gmail.com]

Fri 10 July	Yuletide at Robertson Hotel, with Cremorne Probus Club We are invited to join Cremorne Probus for their Yuletide lunch in the Southern Highlands. If interested, please contact Nancy Leadbeatter direct on 0411 243 107
Fri 17 July	Bastille Day Lunch at The Little Snail, Pyrmont. Cost is \$50pp for a 3-course lunch. Meet at the restaurant at noon.
Wed 12 Augt	Fiddler on the Roof, Theatre Royal, Sydney. All tickets are sold. Tickets will be distributed at the July meeting.
Thurs 13 August	Discovery Tour, new Sydney Fish Market, Pyrmont Cost is \$46pp for a maximum of 20. Tour followed by your choice of lunch venue. Waitlist available. Meet at the Fish Market. https://transportnsw.info/news/2026/getting-to-new-sydney-fish-markets
Fri 11 Sept	Navy in Sydney West Harbour Cruise, King Street Wharf 3, Darling Harbour Tour is co-ordinated by Waverton Probus. SOLD OUT.
Mon-Fri 21-25 Sept	A Taste of Canberra in Bloom, 5-day Oncourse tour. Cost is \$1,795pp with \$440 single supplement.
Oct	50th Birthday Celebration – Probus in Australia Advance notice.
Tues 3 Nov	Melbourne Cup Lunch. Advance notice.
Wed 9 Dec	Christmas Lunch, Art Gallery, Mosman. Advance notice.

\$2.50 CLUB – UPCOMING OUTING***Pamela McLeland***

Thurs 9 July	Visit to Victoria Barracks, Oxford St, Paddington We will meet at Circular Quay bus stop at east end of Circular Quay at 9am to get the 9.10 bus (333 Bondi bus) to Green Road and Oxford St, walk down Green Road to the entrance in Moore Park Road. Please give your name and phone number to the Activities Desk and if you aren't attending next Probus meeting you can ring me on 0412024704 to give me your details prior to 1st July . The tour is free but there is a \$5 charge to visit the museum and that can be paid by everyone individually on the day by cash or card. Prior to our visit, names and phone numbers of all persons attending are required. On the day photo ID, licence or proof of age must be presented - the card itself, NOT on your phone. The tour takes around 2 hours and covers about 1.5 km. After the tour they will let us out at the Oxford St end and obviously there are restaurants in the area. The Barracks suggest the Paddington RSL which I will go to.
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RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

22 May - TRIBAL WARRIOR CRUISE (Photos on Clark Island)

On a rather overcast Friday morning, we embarked on the Tribal Warrior, Mari Nawi, a "big canoe," for a two-hour tour around the Harbour on Sydney's only Aboriginal run cultural cruise.

While on board we heard stories of the Cadigal, Guringai, Wangal, Gammeraigal and Wallumedegal people and got to know the Aboriginal names and meanings of significant Sydney landmarks. On Clark Island, we discovered all about the traditional fishing methods and food gathering skills of the Eora people and their



Brock, the Aboriginal Cultural Educator, with Trish Levido



connection to the land, culminating with an exhilarating Aboriginal cultural performance, where we were privileged to witness traditional dances and music.

The staff and crew were the essence of hospitality and although the rain did chase us off the island, we managed to take some fabulous photos. A five out of five from me! (by Sarnie Hay)

(Photos by Sarnie Hay & Robyn Yates)



10 June - GLASSHOUSE TOUR, ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Botanical Gardens Behind the Scenes

We had a wonderful tour behind the scenes of the glasshouses storing orchids and other wonderful tropical plants that the public never see. And we learnt some amazing facts.

Orchids grow on every continent except the truly frozen or barren, and Australia has its own odd take — while tropical orchids cling to trees, ours mostly grow in the ground. Every orchid has a cleverly shaped petal called the labellum, a built-in landing pad engineered to attract one specific pollinator. That riot of colours and forms isn't just pretty; it's advertising.

The Titan Arum, or corpse flower, is even more dramatic. It can grow over three metres tall, wait up to a decade between blooms, and then put on a 24-to-48-hour display that smells strikingly like rotting flesh to attract carrion flies as pollinators. Theatrical, but effective.

Among the surprises: dragon fruit and agave are both succulents, hiding in plain sight. Ant plants, native to Southeast Asia, create hollow chambers for ants, which return the favour with protection and fertiliser — a fair exchange.
(more overleaf)





It quickly became clear to all in our group that nature has been running some very creative experiments for a very long time.

Fun fact: Not all flowers attract pollinators with sweet fragrances. Some use scents ranging from honey and fruit to dung and decaying flesh, proving that what smells terrible to us can be irresistible to insects.

(Photos & report by Peter Reeves)

RECENT \$2.50 CLUB OUTINGS

Pamela McLeland

THURSDAY, 4 JUNE - FERRY TRIP TO WATSONS BAY

Sixteen members and friends met at Circular Quay and took the 10.45am ferry to Watsons Bay, where they enjoyed a walk to the Gap or Camp Cove Beach with its stunning Sydney skyline. The group then had a great lunch at the Watsons Bay Hotel. Led by Pamela McLeland.



Note: If anyone would like to lead an outing of the \$2.50 group, please contact Pamela McLeland 0412 024704 (pamelamcleland@gmail.com)

TREASURER'S REPORT*Helmut Regelein***FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 2026**01.05.2026 – 31.05.2026Opening Balance per Statement 01.05.2026\$15,792.42**Credits:**

EFT. Subs. \$ 191.28

EFT. Activities \$ 1,275.38

Total Credits \$ 1,466.66**Debits**

Activities payments & Refunds \$ 1,737.42

Probus Website Fees \$ 144.00

Total Debits \$ 1,851.42Closing Balance Bank Statement 30.04.2026 \$ 15,407.42**Estimated Liabilities:**

Mosman Council Rent (Art Gallery) \$ 1,800.00

Activities \$ 3,282.49

Total \$ 5,082.49Available Club Funds 31.05.2026\$10,324.93**SPEAKER IN MAY:***Peter Reeves***ALAN BARR — "THE INVASION OF THE VIKINGS"**

Alan Barr gave one of the most memorable presentations seen at Mosman Probus for a long time — enhanced with remarkable AI recreations that brought the Norse world vividly to life.

He opened with a firm correction for fans of Viking TV dramas: those horned helmets are complete fiction. The Norse — never a single nation, but tribes spread across Norway, Sweden and Denmark — raided and explored for just 273 years, from the sacking of Lindisfarne monastery in 793 AD to the Battle of Hastings in 1066. A short window for such an outsized impact.

The key to everything was their ships — shallow-drafted, flexible longships that could cross the Atlantic, sail up rivers, and beach silently at dawn. They reached North America, Constantinople, North Africa and Paris. Navigation relied entirely on nature: sun, clouds, birds, and a crystal that could locate the sun even through heavy cloud cover.

Viking society was more sophisticated than its reputation suggests. Women held real authority — running farms, managing households, and initiating divorce. Their craftsmanship was exquisite. And their conversion to Christianity? Entirely pragmatic: they simply found they could strike better trading deals as Christians.

Alan closed with the Norse legacy hiding in plain sight — Tuesday through Friday are named after Norse gods, thousands of English words are Old Norse in origin, and Bluetooth technology takes its name from Harald Bluetooth, the Viking king who united Denmark. His runic initials form the logo on your phone.

As Alan put it — they've left us quite a legacy.

Our thanks to Heather Jenkins for introducing and thanking our speaker.

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