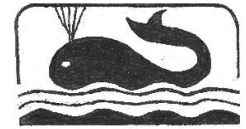




THE PROBUS CLUB OF MOSMAN COMBINED INC



PO Box 264, Mosman NSW 2088
mosmanprobus@gmail.com

ABN: 96 728 384 926

Fun and Friendship in Retirement

PRESIDENT:	Rob Taggart	0411107025	MEMBERSHIP:	Sarnie Hay	0400471607	ACTIVITIES:	Robyn Yates	0407432642
	Peter Reeves	0418496505		Sally Cullen	0406116810		Monica Anastasia	0411424 674
VICE-PRESIDENT:				Jane Chandler	0487389204		Sarah Fennamore	9955 1962
SECRETARY:	Ian Hume	0478051950		Mona Deakin	0419532000	WELFARE CONTACT:	Liz Parsons	0417977533
	Helmut Regelein	0417247415	CLUB AMBASSADOR:	Barry Starr	0417905170		Margaret Badger	0430315319
TREASURER:						PUBLIC OFFICER:	Laurie Smith	0438267920
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:	Margaret Badger	0430315319	SOCIAL CLUB:	Gill Napper	0412543385	BOOK EXCHANGE:	Vichy Clapano	0458515008
SPEAKER COORDINATOR:	Heather Jenkins	0409191083	FINANCIAL REVIEWER:	Rob Brown	0467232444			
CLUB LUNCHES:	Jennifer Walker	0414727350				GREETING TEAM:	Keith Jenny McDonald	

No. 42Z

NEWSLETTER

25 February 2026

*** Next Meeting: Wednesday, 25 February 2026**

*** Venue: Mosman Art Gallery Hall 10:30 – 12:30pm**

Doors will open at 10:00am

*** Speaker: Justin Martin & Team - Fire Safety for Seniors**

Justin and his team from Mosman Fire Station will discuss the dangers associated with home fires, how to reduce your risk of a home fire, knowing what to do in the case of fire, how to maintain your smoke alarms in working order and, finally, preparing a home escape plan.

◆ Next Meeting (25 March, 2026): tba

Member's 5-Minute Spot: Lynette Armstrong

YOU ARE INVITED TO COME TO A CLUB LUNCH AFTER THE GENERAL MEETING

Members and guests are invited to join a Club lunch after each meeting. It is held upstairs in the Upper Duck Restaurant, Hotel Mosman, Military Rd, Spit Junction, just a short walk from the Mosman Art Gallery.

Lots of work going on in the Management Committee as we prepare for the new Probus year and some changes in the Club leadership at next month's Annual General Meeting. It's very pleasing to see many Committee Members indicating that they're happy to continue in their roles providing invaluable continuity. Equally pleasing are the successors emerging to some of our stalwarts who are stepping back after serving fellow Members well.

For those still pondering how best to contribute to the Club next year, talk to a current Committee Member, who can give you details about what particular roles actually involve. Importantly all positions require annual election so Members can nominate for any role and we'd welcome that.

In our 2025/2026 vision to move the Club to a more sustainable footing, one of the more visible decisions is to buttress our financial position. Whilst we are in a strong position overall with good reserves, the income and expense balance needs adjustment. Last year we reduced subscriptions from \$65 to \$55, returning Member funds equitably and adding a little extra with a small Christmas lunch subsidy. The result was an overall loss for the year, which clearly is not the sustainability we seek for the Club. As a consequence, the previous

subscription level of \$65 will be applied this year

generating a small loss for the forthcoming year but comfortably within our funds buffer. Activities will continue to be priced to break-even. Your subscription still represents amazing value when you think of all the activities organised for you, the Guest Speakers and a safe and supportive meeting place of friends.

Details about the preferred payment direct to the Club bank account are included in the Newsletter below..

Payment of Annual Subscriptions

Due & Payable before 26th March AGM

The Annual Subscriptions for 2026 / 2027 year are

- Members (emailed Newsletter) \$65.00
- Members (printed Newsletter) \$85.00[#]

[#] only available to Members without an accessible email address

- New Members (emailed Newsletter only) \$80.00[#]
[#] includes \$15.00 once only administration fee

◆ 2026 /2027 Annual Subscriptions can be paid in either of the two following ways:

1. PREFERRED METHOD: ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

using internet banking from your account to the Club account

BSB: 032 097

Account Number: 750 233

Account Name: The Probus Club of Mosman Combined Inc.

Deposit to be identified with the words "SUBS" and your "FAMILY NAME" **2**

2. ALTERNATIVE METHOD:

Using your credit or debit card on the **Square** payment facility at a General Meeting

Dates for Your Diaries: **Activities**

Robyn Yates

* Thursday 26 February: A 3-course meal at **Refettorio** at 481 Crown St, Surry Hills. Lunch is at noon so meet outside the restaurant at **11:50am**. A handout with directions & transport information will be available at the next Probus meeting.

This OzHarvest restaurant creates your meal using food donated to the organisation. The menu changes according to the food available. All staff other than the chefs and barista are volunteers. Other diners in the restaurant will include people who are currently down on their luck. They will receive the same food and service without cost. They appreciate a good meal and enjoy speaking with fellow diners. Feel welcome to say hello.

Each Mosman Probus participant should take an envelope with a donation of a minimum of **\$30** to cover the cost of the meal. Please hand the envelopes to the staff as you leave the restaurant. This lunch has been booked out.

* Monday 9 March: **Secrets of the City Circle Tour**. Be at the **Central Station Concourse at 9:40am** for a tour from 10am-12:45pm. Meet next to the booking office at Central Station. Marc Cote will guide us through Sydney's iconic stations while uncovering their hidden stories. We will travel between the City Circle stations by train. The tour at each station entails walking and steps as the tour will cover ghost platforms, wartime secrets & John Bradfield's visionary transport plans before finishing at the starting point. Cost is **\$25pp** for a minimum of 20 people. The maximum number is 40 people.

Participants can choose to stay for lunch in a nearby café, at their own expense. Further information will be provided to participants, including the meeting place, lunch and travel options to Central. Bring your Opal card to travel between the stations on the City Circle.

* 27-31 March: 5 day escape to **Orange Food Week & the Mudgee Harvest** with OnCourse. This popular tour has been booked out.

* Thursday 30 April: **National Maritime Museum Behind the Scenes Tour, Darling Harbour**. Meet at the Museum entrance, Darling Harbour at **10:00am** for 10:30am tour. The cost is **\$24pp**. Following the tour, you can explore any of the Museum exhibitions open on the day. Lunch at Ripples Café Maritime Museum will be at our own cost. Information on transport to the venue will be provided before the event.

* May: A surprise event.

* Wednesday 10 June: **Behind the Scenes Glasshouse Tour, Royal Botanical Gardens Sydney**. The cost is **\$26pp** for a minimum of 20 people. We will meet at the **Calyx** in the gardens at **10:40am**. Coffee is available at the Calyx. The tour focuses on the gardens' tropical plant collection, including orchids and aroids, as well as rare plants not normally seen by the public. The duration is 1 hour 45 minutes, starting at 11:00am sharp. After the tour, we will lunch at Farm Cove Eatery (below Botanic House in the gardens) at our own expense.

Further information will be provided re transport options and directions to the meeting place.

* Friday 17 July: **Bastille Day Lunch at The Little Snail, Pyrmont.** Hold the date for this extremely popular 3 course lunch at a most reasonable price.

* Friday 11 September: **Navy in Sydney- West Harbour Cruise.** This is a follow up to Noel Phelan's presentation on *Remembering the Costa Concordia* at our November 2025 meeting. Noel will conduct this tour from 9:30am-1:00pm. The cruise departs from King Street Wharf 3 at Darling Harbour. Several network Probus Clubs will participate.

The tickets are discounted to **\$77.50pp**, including a delicious morning tea. To ensure places are reserved for Mosman Probus, please register & pay at the February meeting.

* 21-25 September: **A Taste of the Capital in Bloom with OnCourse tours.** Join our friends from Bobbin Head Probus (from our highly successful Bellingen tour) for a diverse range of visits including the Fedral Olive Grove, National Arboretum, Deep Space Communication Complex, Tulip Tops Gardens, Bungendore & the Blackwattle Alpaca Farm. Brochures & booking forms will be available at the January meeting. **\$1,795 pp** with a single supplement of **\$440**. Mosman Probus will collect the forms and OnCourse will invoice the \$200 deposit & final payment. Only 9 rooms remaining.

UPCOMING: \$2.50 Club Ferry to Manly + Walk to Fairy Bower Pamela McLeland

Date of Visit: Wednesday 11th March

We will meet at **9:15am** at the Manly Ferry Wharf at **Circular Quay** – however, please check the notice board for the Manly Ferry wharf number because it is sometimes changed.

On arrival at Manly, we will walk down the Corso (plenty of coffee outlets) to the ocean beach, then turn right and walk along the path to **Fairy Bower** (about 30 minutes slow walk, all on the flat). Lunch will be taken at The Boathouse. Afterwards, we will walk back to Manly where we will either catch the 144 bus back to Mosman or the ferry back to Circular Quay. Hope to see you on the day.....Pamela McLeland 0412 024 704.

Past: \$2.50 Club Visit to Wendy's Secret Garden

11.02.2026





Twenty Club members visited the spectacular Wendy's Secret Garden on the northern foreshore of Sydney Harbour. Wendy and her husband, the artist Brett Whitely, had lived in their Lavender Bay home for two decades before Brett died in 1992. Asking no one for permission, Wendy channelled her grief into attacking the piles of overgrown rubbish on a large valley of unused railway land at the foot of

her house. This allowed her to create a gorgeous 'guerrilla' garden that our members greatly enjoyed visiting.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25 March 2026

Mosman Art Gallery 11:00am

AGENDA

1. Welcome – President
2. Quorum and apologies
3. Adoption of Minutes of previous AGM on 26th March 2025
4. President's Report (copy in Newsletter)
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Office Bearers
7. Handover to incoming President
8. General Business – Any items of which notice has been given
9. Questions – Any questions of which notice has been given
10. Close of AGM

Minutes of the 2025 AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday 26th March 2025

At Mosman Art Gallery Hall at 10.50am

Meeting opened by President Margaret Badger

- Minutes of March 2024 AGM as detailed in March 2025 Newsletter proposed by Barry Starr & seconded by Susan Jones
- Treasurer's report as detailed in March 2025 Newsletter proposed by Peter Reeves & seconded by Sandra Pearson

Other Business -nil

Election for Committee positions for 2025- Gill Napper as Returning Officer reported that there was only one nomination for each Committee position and therefore the following positions are to be filled by:

President- Rob Taggart

Vice President- Peter Reeves
 Secretary- Graham Levido
 Treasurer- Helmut Regelein
 Membership- Sarnie Hay
 Activities- Robyn Yates
 Public Officer- Lawrie smith
 Publicity- vacant
 Immediate Past President- Margaret Badger
 Newsletter- Don Napper
 Speakers- Heather Jenkins
 Financial Reviewer- Rob Brown
 Ambassador- Barry Starr
 Cluster- Margaret Badger
 Webmaster- Peter Reeves
 Books- vacant

Incoming President Rob Taggart

- Thanks to outgoing president Margaret Badger
- Stark Realities 2025-2026 club Objectives & to move the Club towards a sustainable footing
- From the floor Graham Levido commented on the fact that the new committee is 66% men & 33% women while the general Club membership is about 22% men & 78% women

Meeting concluded at 11.05 am

Next meeting fourth Wednesday in March 2026.

Financial Report: January 2026	<i>Helmut Regelein</i>
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Opening Balance per Statement 01.01.2026	\$ 11,026.32
<u>Credits:</u>	
Total Deposits for January 2026	\$1,388.97
<u>Debits</u>	
Total Debits for January 2026	\$1,971.93
Closing Balance Bank Statement 31.01.2026	<u>\$10,443.36</u>
<u>Estimated Liabilities:</u>	
Nil	\$ 0.00
Estimated Liabilities:	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
<u>Club Funds 31.01.2026</u>	<u>\$10,443.36</u>

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO WEAR THEIR NAME BADGES AT MEETINGS

MOSMAN ROTARY SOIREE

At our January meeting, Gill Napper and Barry Starr promoted a Mosman Rotary Musical Soiree. Probus members acknowledge Rotary as the original founding parent of our Probus Club and it will be wonderful if Probus members could support this fundraising initiative of Mosman Rotary.

Details – save the date! March 13, 2026, 6:30 pm at the Mosman Art Gallery. Tickets: **\$80.00 pp**, supporting a Rotary school building project in Timor Leste. Barry will have tickets at our next Probus meeting.

Three magnificent professional musicians will perform. Complimentary drinks and nibbles before the performances and at interval.

Previous Speaker: Duncan Adams *Wyargine Marine Aquatic Reserve*



Duncan preceded his interesting talk with a quotation on a slide from the prominent naturalist, Sir David Attenborough: "If we save the sea, we save our world", providing a forceful justification for the establishment of the proposed Wyargine Marine Aquatic Reserve. Duncan's interest in creating this Reserve came about because of his obsession with swimming in many different parts of the world, including the English Channel and the Straits of Gibraltar.

Closer to home, Duncan was struck by his observation that aquatic life was significantly more abundant at Shelly Beach in Cabbage Tree Bay than at his nearby Balmoral beach. Duncan attributed this decrease to a significant loss of marine biodiversity.

The Wyargine Aquatic Friends are currently preparing the documentation required by the State government in order to gazette the Reserve, the extent of which is embraced by the red line in the photo to the upper left. The proposed Reserve spans the coastal region from Balmoral Beach to Chinamans Beach and a little beyond, passing around Wyargine Point. It will be a 'no-take' zone so far as the marine sea life is concerned. We note in passing that it has not yet proved possible to determine the meaning of the indigenous word 'wyargine' (or its variant 'wy-ar-gine').

The way in which the loss of marine biodiversity is handled around the world is by the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), which include Marine Aquatic Reserves (MARs). MPAs are usually large areas of ocean while MARs are smaller coastal regions. Duncan said that two-thirds of the world's surface is covered by oceans, of which only 7% are protected by MPAs and of these, only 3% prohibit fishing.

The UN Global Biodiversity Convention has set a target of 30% of the world's oceans to be protected by 2030. It is pleasing to report that Australia is ahead of the curve, as it has already exceeded the 30% ocean nature

biodiversity protection limit. Further, Australia protects with MPAs/MARs over 50% of its oceans—more than any other country in the world.

Duncan then mentioned two specific MPAs: first, Papahānaumokuākea, north of Hawaii, which is the largest ‘no-fishing’ zone in the world whereas the second, Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park, is relatively small. The existence of the former, which is about the size of Queensland ($1.51 \times 10^6 \text{ km}^2$), has allowed its yellowfin tuna population to increase dramatically while the latter (just 71 km^2) is a community-protected marine reserve in Baja California Sur, Mexico, renowned for its remarkable 400% increase in biomass since becoming a ‘no-take’ fishing zone in 1995.

Oceans are involved in the regulation of the weather because they are the source of the world’s most abundant greenhouse gas, water, and they also act as a sink for that other greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide. Since the beginning of the First Industrial Revolution around 1750, oceans have absorbed about one-third of the annual anthropogenic carbon dioxide that has been generated. This has resulted in oceans now holding roughly 60 times more carbon dioxide than was present in the pre-industrial revolution atmosphere.

Duncan explained that the food chains of land species usually include say, only 3 links whereas ocean food chains are more likely to include 4, 5 or even more, from the phytoplankton up. Both on land and in the sea, the removal of one link from the food chain in the local ecosystem upsets its ecological balance: the species population below the removed link multiplies because it is no longer being removed as a food while the predator species above the removed link declines because its food source declines. In this way, biodiversity loss causes species imbalance in ecosystems that if sufficiently massive can lead to species extinction.

Members of the Mosman marine food chain whose populations Duncan wishes to increase through the development of the Reserve include the dusky whaler shark, the blue groper, green swimmer turtles and the striped pyjama squid (see photo right).



Duncan said that his mission was to establish the Wyargine Marine Aquatic Reserve for the benefit of public enjoyment and for the purposes of conservation, sustainability and scientific research in the Sydney Harbour marine environment. Sanctuary zones, such as Aquatic Reserves, play a central role in safeguarding ecosystems, especially where no extractive activities (such as fishing) are permitted so that habitats are allowed to recover and thrive.

Information about the important Wyargine Aquatic Friends group that is driving this proposal can be found at wyargine.org.au.

Privacy Statement: Information provided in this Newsletter must be kept private and confidential; it can only be used within the confines of Probus and shall not be used for any other purpose.