



NEWSLETTER

GLENMORE PARK PROBUS CLUB Inc.

No. 157 WEDNESDAY 16th. MAY 2018



probusglenmorepark.com.au

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Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life - Confucius

EDITORS COMMENT

Again no crossword this month due to lack of time as I was away on the fantastic Probus trip along The Great Ocean Road, more about that later. This months issue will be packed with photos, mainly from The Trip, we also have another excellent biography of Ron & Margaret Greenfield. We visited them in their lovely home in Penrith and spent a very pleasant couple of hours talking with them in between cups of tea and cake! I hope all that attended The Good Old Days Concert enjoyed themselves, we were too busy packing for The Trip. We did get along to the first of Ernie's lunches at The Lapstone Hotel in Blaxland, my sides are still aching from so much laughter and not all from Ernie's jokes. Ann Johnson kept us highly amused, if not deliberately! The food was very good value, most had the special, Sausage, Mash & Onion Gravy, very tasty, but sadly lacking the Onions in the Gravy! We were an exclusive group of just 9 members, the rest of you missed out on a great time and I am sure the next lunches Ernie has planned will be just as good, join us and have yourselves a great time. At our time of life, we should be grabbing everyday day we can. The Movie Group met up on Saturday 28th. April for lunch first, at The Mountain Blue Cafe, then to The Glenbrook Cinema for the excellent movie "The Guernsey Literary & Potato Pie Society", a great mixture of humour and sadness. Then on 1st. May, nineteen of us headed for Sydney Airport to set off on our big adventure. From day one to our return on 8th. May, we had an absolutely fantastic time. Pat Ryan, with assistance from her friend Deborah, was our team leader, she made sure that nobody was left behind at the many stops along the way, not the easiest of jobs when you have a couple of clowns like myself and David Figg! We were also very lucky to have an absolutely wonderful driver in Vincent or Vince or Vinnie as he liked to be called, although David and myself came up with some alternative names, mainly based on his shaved and very shiny head!! But seriously, he was very knowledgeable and also adaptable to any changes we requested and had a great sense of humour himself. We always had a full size coach, which meant, that with a small group such as ourselves, we had plenty of room to stretch out in.. On Kangaroo Island we had a local driver, Kevin, who had a dryer sense of humour but his forte was his local knowledge as he lived on the island, in fact, was related to most of the population!! Personally, the treat for me, was to get to know better, some of our members that I don't always get a chance to talk to. We also had some non-members that I would like to thank, not just because their numbers made The Trip possible, but for how well they fitted in and added to the enjoyment of all .So, Thank You, Deborah Chivers (Pat's Friend), Judith Hill (who shared with Rose), Lyndall Davis (Gail's sister), Denis & Lynette Smith (who we hope, might become members!) and last, but definitely not least, David Figg (Karin's husband) who, in the absence of Ernie, completed the double act with myself :)
Glen Davis. (Editor)

Lunch at The Lapstone Hotel, Blaxland - Ernie Campbell, Ann & Ernie Johnson, Terri Gould, Jean Howard, Kay Cane, Robert Hillsmith & Glen & Barbara Davis.



Marion Turner & kookaburra, at 'Birds of Prey' on Kangaroo Island

Some of 'The Motley Crew' viewing 'London Bridge', Great Ocean Road

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY. Thursday 24th. :Nepean Lunch Cruise at 11:30am. Cost p.p. **\$53:00.**

JUNE. Wednesday 24th. :Kemps Creek Bowling Club, Elizabeth Drive, Kemps Creek. Meet 12 noon.

JULY. Tuesday 24. :Christmas in July Lunch at Blue Mountains Hotel, Lawson. Cost p.p. **\$21:00.** Buy own drinks. **Pay at the May meeting.**

AUGUST. Wednesday 22nd. : “Welcome Inn” Chinese Restaurant, 1 Weir Road, Warragamba. Meet 12 noon

OCT. Wednesday 3rd. : 'EVITA' at Sydney Opera House at 1:00pm. Cost p.p. **\$83.90. Balance \$73.90 due at June meeting.**

NOV. 29th-30th. : 2 day Hunter Valley Christmas Lights Tour. **\$300** p.p. based on 30 people. Single supplement **\$50. Balance \$200 to be paid at October meeting.**

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CLUB CANNOT ISSUE REFUNDS OTHER THAN IN THE CASE THAT THE EVENT IS COMPLETELY CANCELLED*****

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT. 25th. or 27th. : Little Hartley Maple Springs Nursery & Gory'u Japanese gardens. Expressions of interest at the meeting please.

2019 APRIL : Tasmania Trip T.B.A.

UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKERS

May: Archivist - NSW Archives Kingswood.

June: Changes & entitlements - Centrelink Services.

*** Follow up speaker re Aged Care speaker ***

WELFARE

Carole Sympathy card & phone call to Elaine Metcalfe and card & phone call to Ron Greenfield.

MOVIE GROUP

2nd. June, time TBA : 'THE PARTY'. A comedy wrapped around a tragedy. Janet is hosting a party with friends to celebrate her promotion to Shadow Minister of Health. Set in present time in London. Starring Patricia Clarkson, Kristin Scott Thomas, Timothy Spall, Cillian Murphy, Emily Mortimer & Cherry Jones.

23rd. June, time TBA : 'THE BOOK SHOP'. Set in a small town in 1959 England, the story of a woman who decides against local opposition, to open a book shop. A decision which becomes a political minefield. Starring Emily Mortimer, Bill Nighy & Patricia Clarkson.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

CANASTA @ KAYS HOUSE: 11:00am 2nd, Wednesday every month. Speak to Kay for more details.

WALKING GROUP: Every Saturday 7:30am. Meet at The Coffee Club Tench Ave. Jamisontown or Glenmore Park. Any members interested, please speak to **Pat Ryan**, Club Secretary, at our meetings or by phone as listed under **Secretary** on the Newsletter heading. **The walking venue varies and suits most abilities.**

CHESS & PHOTOGRAPHY: Any members interested in either of these activities should speak to **Brian Corlis.**

THIS MAY MEETING

The guest speaker for May is an Archivist from NSW Archives, Kings wood. Pay \$21 for Christmas in July Lunch. Roving Mike subject : 'Funny stories about bringing up children'. Updated Constitution, see Ernie Campbell for a copy.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3rd: Pat King. 5th: Connie Towell. (special birthday). 24th: Doreen Ellis.



The start of the Great Ocean Road, The Memorial Archway at Eastern View.



Barbara, Joy, Evelyn and Rose with one of The Twelve Apostles in the background (still sober at this point!)

DISCLAIMER

This Newsletter is prepared in editorial format for the information of members. It is written with care and in good faith but does not necessarily reflect Probus policy nor does the Editor accept responsibility for any action taken by any reader because of information contained within.



Ron David Greenfield was born 23rd December 1943 in Sydney to parents Victor Charles Greenfield and Netecia Estelle Quigley. The family with one daughter and four sons lived in Darlinghurst, with his Australian born father working at a Wool Store, and his mother, a housewife of Welsh descent. Ron attended Darlinghurst Public School, known as Westbush Public School to locals, leaving at age fifteen. He was never keen on school, having been bullied for many years due to his having to wear glasses. He often “wished the bullies would smash them, so he wouldn’t have to wear them, but then of course.. he wouldn’t be able to see”.

His father got him his first job working at the same Wool Store as he was, employed as a wool scourer. He did this for a short time followed by a couple of other jobs until he went to work for the Australian Wheat Board, also being a First Aid Officer there for ten years. During this time, and just after he turned eighteen, Ron had married and he and his wife had four children, two boys and two girls. The couple later divorced. Ron spent six months on his own and one weekend Ron’s brother took him to a BBQ at a friend’s house to cheer

him up. It was here that he would meet Margaret Allchin.

Margaret Allchin, was born in Cribb Point, Victoria, about 80 km from Melbourne. Her parents were Cyril Allchin, a marine in the Australian Navy and Alfreda Llewellyn Roberts. Cyril, originally from England had served in The English Royal Marine Corps, as a musician, playing many instruments, and then transferred to the Royal Australian Navy when he and Alfreda emigrated with their young son and daughter. He was stationed at Flinders Naval Depot, where Margaret and her brother would be born. During WW2 he was one of the survivors of HMAS Canberra, which was sunk during the Battle of Savo in 1942. Margaret was aged about two when the family came to live in Darlinghurst, a suburb of inner Sydney.

She attended Sacred Heart School, Darlinghurst, from age five until leaving. She didn’t enjoy school at first, but in the last few years she had a teacher that she liked, and who made her schooling more enjoyable. On leaving school at fifteen, she worked doing clerical work in the office at Crown Crystal Glass, but during the evenings she continued her education, going to night school to learn shorthand and typing, so that she could become a secretary. Margaret married and had three daughters Susan, Diane and Sharon, later divorcing and becoming a single parent, bringing up the three girls on her own, living in Punchbowl, a suburb in south-west Sydney. She worked at Sebel Furniture, Jeldi Company, and later in the legal side with solicitors, finishing at The Law Society.

Having lived in Darlinghurst since a small child, as did Ron, the couple’s paths had never crossed, although Margaret knew Ron’s older brother Ken, who, in November 1980, would introduce the pair at a BBQ they were both attending. Kenny asked Margaret to help his brother out as he was ‘down in the dumps’. She gave Ron her phone number and they arranged to play cards on a Monday evening. The couple married in March 1982 and set up home in Punchbowl where they would live until retirement. Now they were a family with seven children between them.

Once married to Ron, Margaret gave up work for a while, but not long after, Ron’s company were out on strike, so Margaret returned to working part-time, temping at various offices in the City, plus Sydney Airport. Ron was eventually made redundant and a friend suggested that he apply for a job with Qantas, which he got. He worked in engineering maintenance, getting the aeroplanes ready for inspection, and then ready for the passengers, working at Sydney Airport. He also did a Health and Safety course with Qantas.

Working for Qantas had it’s perks. The couple were very lucky to be able to travel extensively flying to London, New York, Canada, Alaska, Asia and many parts of Australia. Their trip to London was very poignant for Margaret, as her family had never returned to UK since emigrating, and the younger children had never met any of their English relatives. She did meet up with one cousin, from her Dad’s side of the family, and he introduced her to another cousin, who she still has never met but she still corresponds with to this day. He is now aged 102 and they keep in touch by email!. By the time of her London trip Margaret’s mother had passed away, and Margaret remembers a very moving Mother’s Day spent at the gates of Buckingham Palace, watching the ‘Changing of the Guards’. As the guards marched out Margaret was crying, thinking about her Mum. The band struck up with “Yellow Submarine” and her tears turned to laughter.

After having worked with Qantas for seventeen years, Ron finished his working life, and Margaret also retired from The Law Society. They had lived in Punchbowl for thirty years, and decided it was time to downsize. They looked all over for somewhere suitable to live. Their children were spread far and wide, in Australia. They looked up the coast, and down the coast and finally settled on a new villa in Penrith. They had looked at this indecisively for a few months, putting down the deposit, then changing their minds more than once, but when it was finally finished being built they decided it was the place for them. They moved there in 2012, and love it. It is very central for all their needs, and not too far that family aren’t able to visit. Margaret continues to drive, as she has always done, as Ron has never driven.

In 2011, Ron was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease, which he is now being treated for, but it doesn’t stop him enjoying life.

On moving in to the new villa they soon made friends with a neighbour John Raymond, who at the time was President of the Glenmore Park Probus Club, and soon invited them to come along to make new friends. This they did, and have been members ever since. They join the movie group at Glenbrook Cinema, and take part in some of the monthly lunches. They are very involved with their family, having twenty nine grandchildren between them, 21 for Ron and 8 for Margaret as well as many great grandchildren.. too many to keep count of. One of Ron’s grand-daughters is married to Tim Cahill, the Australian soccer player.

We spent an interesting couple of hours chatting with Margaret and Ron, marvelling at some of the co-incidences with other people’s lives in the Probus group. We finished with a lovely afternoon tea, although the cake was not made by Margaret, as I had wondered, as she hates cooking!! Thank you Margaret and Ron.



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