



# NEWSLETTER

GLENMORE PARK PROBUS CLUB Inc.

No. 159 WEDNESDAY 18th. JULY 2018

probusglenmorepark.com.au



President:	Rayella Haines 0411 237 699	Hospitality:	Kay Cane 4737 9484	Programs:	Rayella Haines 0411 237 699
V. President:	Glen Davis 0476 187 670	Web Master:	Ernie Campbell 4732 4859	Welfare:	Carole Gregory 4737 8118
Secretary:	Patricia Ryan 0438 335 056	Membership:	Barbara Davis 0476 187 670	Public Officer:	Steven Hackett 4733 8018
Treasurer:	Rosina Ward 0450 039 420	Newsletter:	Glen Davis 0476 187 670	Movie Group:	Carole Gregory 4737 8118
Tours:	Patricia Ryan 0438 335 056	Social:	Rosina Ward 0450 039 420	Lunches:	Ernie Campbell 4732 4859

This months quote. **You get what you get and you don't get upset: Sonny Davis.**

## EDITORS COMMENT

I can't believe it! After last months Flu, this week I have a cold, luckily it was after Barbara's 70th. Birthday and it's only part two of my bio, so no germs to spread, only boredom. You might laugh now, but there is a distinct chance it may have to be three parts! On 23rd. June, The Movie group saw "The Bookshop", I think only Ernie and myself liked it, it was a bit slow but Carole wishing for a brick to throw at the screen, I thought was a bit extreme :-). 27th. June we had The Probus Lunch at Kemp's Creek Bowling Club, what a turn out, 28 of us! The place was heaving, but the staff coped well. On 1st. July Barb and I were invited out to Lunch with Pat & Roy King at The Rowers Club on Penrith Lakes, a lovely Seafood Buffet, nothing to do with Probus except, it's the venue we are considering for our Christmas Do. I have to report it is excellent, large Aircon units all round the edges, not blowing in your face like last year, beautiful views of the Lake through huge glass windows, a small stage for entertainment and a very friendly and efficeint staff. Last but not least, not wishing to tread on Carole's domain, Barbara and I would like to wish Betty Watkins a speedy recovery from a broken shoulder. As you know, Betty and Violet are essential members of Barbara's Membership Team and she will be sorely missed, no pun intended. Good news, you can now pay directly into our Glenmore Park probus group Bank account.

**The details are : Westpac Bank : BSB: 032278 : Account No: 313219**

You will need to put a reference, so as we know who is paying for what. I will supply this every month via The Newsletter. The next payment due is for the **Hunter Valley Xmas Lights Tour \$200 (+\$50 single suppliment)** due no later than **The September Meeting. Reference: HV plus your Surname.**

Glen Davis. (Editor)

## PART TWO



Where was I? Oh yes, Hildesleys, I could tell you a myriad of stories of my time there but A) I don't have the room. And B) Peter Kurton tells it much better in his excellent book "Work in The Repro Trade". I'm sure if anybody wanted a copy, I could get reduced rates for Probus Members, or you could just borrow my copy :) On the left is a photo of the Printing Industries famous Ceremony called "Banging Out". It celebrates an Apprentice completing his 5 year term and becoming a qualified Journeyman. Basically we put him in a barrow, dress him up ridiculously, throw rotten fruit, eggs, flour, months old milk and any other crap we can find at

him then parade him round the company and the adjacent streets whilst banging drums, dustbin lids etc.. Then we all go to the Pub and get thoroughly Brahms & Liszt! 'The Unholy Trinity' are in the red box, left to right Me, Alan Tumbridge & Pete Kurton. Both my sons went through this ceremony and I video'd It! After a lot of wrangling and a few overtime bans (unofficial of course) the management of Hildesleys offered a substancial pay rise based on longevity of service. This, of course, suited all the old guys close to retirement, us younger ones wanted improved conditions,



Barbara, Me, Marilyn & Alan Tumbridge, with his famous Imperial look, at one of Print Processes Dinner & Dance's

longer holidays, shorter working week etc. but we were in the minority, so The Chapel voted to accept the House Agreement. Before this stage I was called into The Managers Office and told with a nod and a wink that if it went through I could be assured I would get the full raise! My only regret was that I was silly enough not to have Peter & Alan with me when I told him to stick it 'where the Sun never shines'. In due course all three of us handed in our notice, Peter went to a dodgy firm called 'Quickplates' where he teamed up with an old friend of mine and Alan's from college, Jim Hobbley. They quickly sussed it was dodgy and both left to go to Mabbutt & Johnsons, one of the best paying Repro houses in the country doing mainly Magazines. Alan went to 'Mercury Studios', also doing Magazines, but of the 'soft porn' variety, suited Alan precisely!! He was later to leave and join me at 'Waterman & Son'. These were to be the start of the halcyon days.

Back tracking slightly, 'The Five Road Runners' had undertaken a personnel change, Alan & Micky, my two friends from the prefabs left, they were courting two sisters who didn't like the attention we sometimes got from girl fans! Alan married the elder sister and emigrated to Canada, we still keep in touch. He asked me to be 'Best Man' but his future Mother-in-law demanded I get a haircut! I'm too polite to put in print my reply, he had to settle for his young brother! Micky escaped the clutches of the younger sister and married Jane who lived on our estate, they still live there now and we are in constant contact and they come out most years to stay with us in Australia. One of the replacements 'Little John' was in Repro, a great bloke and when he decided to quit, so did I, we were earning so much money at work, that it didn't make sense to carry on, so that was the end of 'Kontroversy', our new name.

So, Watermans, we were earning fortunes, my take home pay was four times what my Dad earned as a Milkman. We worked hard and played even harder. There was a great bunch of guys there and one of them, John Adkins, asked me if I wanted to share a bedsit with him. As I was still living with my parents I jumped at the chance. We rented the ground floor of a beautiful Victorian House in Queens Gate, in the very heart of Kensington, a stones throw from Hyde Park and The Albert Hall. The next year we changed to an apartment above a restaurant which had more room, this was in Wigmore Street, which runs parallel with Oxford Street and then becomes the famous Harley Street.

Stranger bed fellows you couldn't find, John, 6'4", 14 stone of solid muscle, driving a V8 Sunbeam Tiger which he had to fold himself in half to get into and Me! 5'8" (with a following wind), 8 stone (soaking wet) driving a Mark 10 Jaguar that even John could lay sideways in. He also introduced me to the noble Martial Art of Karate, it made me the fittest I had ever been. By now Alan Tumbridge had joined the firm and most of the company would socialise together, dining at the top restaurants and clubs that London had to offer, they were heady days indeed. When I say we worked hard, some of the time was spent sky larking about, but then we would start work at 6am Friday, work through the night until 6pm Saturday, then by 8pm be in a restaurant or club with the wives and girlfriends, then back to work for an 8 hour shift on Sunday, all at double and treble time! The money was ridiculous, I would drive to a boutique in the famous Kings Road Chelsea, and while I was trying on clothes, the manager would send an assistant outside to make sure my Jag didn't get a parking ticket. One of the guys, Bob frost, left to become a Rep for Dupont, who were challenging Kodak in the sales of film to the Repro trade. He approached me to do, what we called, 'Moonlighting', working on the side for cash for a firm in West London. I did this for sometime, until the owner suggested that I went freelance, doing his work cheaper in exchange for an office rent free where I could also do work for other local firms. I took a gamble and went for it!

Barbara has been proof reading my bio and she commented that I am coming over as very boastful and arrogant at this time in my life. The truth is, we were a bunch of working class twenty year olds that had had a better education than most of our peers and as highly skilled craftsmen we were earning a great deal of money. And to cap it all, we were living in London in The 1960's, which, at that time, was The World's Capital for fashion, music and The Arts. We were living 'The good life'.

That was about to change for Barbara and I! After 5 years of courtship, we got married, I handed in my notice at Watermans, exchanged the Jag for a Ford Transit van, left the luxury flat, moved in with Barbara's parents and went Self Employed. We also had a baby on the way. We had some savings, Barb's were in a bank account, mine rolled up in a big wedge and stuffed into a jam jar, guess which one of us came from a middle class background? I had been earning on average at Watermans at least £90 a week, now, I would be lucky to get £90 a month! The good news, I paid very little, if any, Tax. The bad news was I spent as much time trying to get paid as I was working.

Gawaine Robin Davis was born in Lewisham Hospital, S.E. London on 21st. March 1971. I had been travelling every day all the way to Isleworth in West London where my office was in Modern Litho, a horrendous journey right across London, so we moved to Southall in West London. We rented a two bedroom semi-furnished flat in, what was essentially a white enclave, in a predominately Asian suburb where the first language was Urdu. Most of the people in the flats were from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada, they were working on Concord at Heathrow Airport. While there our second son, Galvin Scott Davis, was born on 10th July 1972, Barbara had him at home. My clients were starting to ask me to do more than just the Retouching, I asked the boss of Modern Litho if he would help, but he wasn't interested. Bob Frost said he knew a Camera Operator that, as well as working at E.J. Days, who specialised in record sleeves, worked from home as well. That was how I met Herschel Bacall, a wonderfully neurotic Jew who was one of the most talented Camera Operators I had ever met. We hit it off straight away and before long we had built up quite a good portfolio of clients, then Bob Frost said he knew of a company that was going bust. The owner only wanted a £1000 (in cash!) for all the equipment, the catch being, we had to take over the remainder of the lease. Again, we went for it, I had been trading as Speedmaster, so we registered as a Limited company named Speedmaster Litho Ltd. We managed to sell some of the equipment we didn't need for £500 and the lease was for the first three floors of a four storey building, the top floor was leased to an engraving company, Ralph Braham, Herschell, being a fellow Jew, talked Ralph into taking the third floor off of us. Herschell left E.J.Days and started full time at Speedmaster, Bob carried on working for Dupont so as we got a great deal on all our film and I told the boss of Modern Litho I could no longer do his retouching at a reduced rate, he wasn't best pleased! Bob Frost didn't last long, he hardly contributed, having been a Camera Op. he should have helped Herschell. We bought him out and just to rub salt in the wound of the boss of Modern Litho, I stole his best Camera Operator, who in turn, new a good planner, platemaker. At a later date, we took on a sales Rep. who worked for one of our clients, they tried to buy into Speedmaster, we were quite happy to sell them Bob Frost's third share but they wanted 51%! In other words, control, so when we said no, they cut off their work to us, this meant their Rep lost all his bonuses. So he came to work for us and brought all his clients with him. Herschell also had a friend from The trade that now worked in an Advertising Agency, we also inherited clients from the Company we had bought out. So now we were five strong, plus Barb doing the wages and books. Welcome to Speedmaster Litho, Glasshouse Yard, Clerkenwell, London E.C.1. to be continued.....

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JULY. Tuesday 24th.** : Christmas in July Lunch at Blue Mountains Hotel, Lawson. **\$21:00.** Buy own drinks. **All should have paid.**

**AUGUST. Wednesday 22nd.** : “Welcome Inn” Chinese Restaurant, shop 2, lot 1 Weir Road, Warragamba. Meet 12 noon, ‘Lunch with Ernie’.

**SEPT. Wednesday 26th.** : “Peach Tree Inn”, Peach Tree Road, Penrith. Meet 12 noon, ‘Lunch with Ernie’.

**SEPT. Thursday 27th.** : Little Hartley Japanese Gardens : Cost, Members **\$40** - Guests **\$43.** This includes Coach, Morning Tea & Garden Tour. Coach leaves Penrith Golf Club 9:00am sharp, returning 3:00pm. Pay by **AUGUST** meeting latest or **DIRECT DEBIT** using Reference **JG4** plus your **SURNAME.**

**OCT. Wednesday 3rd.** : ‘EVITA’ at Sydney Opera House at 1:00pm. **All should have paid.**

**OCT. Wednesday 24th.** : “O’Donoghues Irish Pub”, Great Western Highway, Emu Plains. Meet 12 noon.

**NOV. Wednesday 28th.** : “The Gaels Sports Club”, Richmond Road, Kingswood. Meet 12 noon.

**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 latest **SEPTEMBER** meeting. Or by **DIRECT DEBIT** using Reference **HV** plus your **SURNAME.**

**DEC. 6th.** : **PROBUS CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT “THE LAKESIDE RESTAURANT”.** Gate A Sydney International Regatta Centre, Penrith 2750. Members **\$40.** Guests **\$55.** Pay latest **OCTOBER** meeting. Or by **DIRECT DEBIT** using Reference **CL5** plus your **SURNAME.**

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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**OCTOBER “The Good Old Days”.** **AS THERE WASN’T SUFFICIENT NUMBERS, THE RESERVED SEATS HAD TO BE CANCELLED.** For anyone that still wants to go you can book, online or PH. 95874569

**NOV./DEC.** ‘ Jersey Boys ’ TBA

**2019 APRIL : TASMANIAN TRIP CANCELLED, DUE TO INSUFFICIENT NUMBERS.**

SEE WEBSITE UNDER **TOURS** FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TRIP. EMAIL **ERNIE CAMPBELL** OR SPEAK TO HIM AT OUR JULY MEETING FOR DETAILS.

**2019 JANUARY :** Lunch at “The Pioneer Tavern” TBA

### UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKERS

**July: Jan Moll :** Changes & entitlements - Centrelink Services.

**August: Our own Pat Ryan** with an interesting presentation!!

**September: Richard Parker:** Help in Retirement

**October: Bank Fraud.** TBA

### WELFARE

**Carole:** Cards & phone calls to Pat McCall, Roy King, Joy Hotson, Josephine Rossetto and Betty Watson. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

### MOVIE GROUP

**28th. July 1.25pm:** ‘The Leisure Seeker’. Stars Helen Mirren & Donald Sutherland.

Meet for Lunch 12:00 noon at Mountain Blue.

### 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 JULY MEETING

The guest speaker for July is Jan Moll from Centrelink. Roving Mike subject : ‘Object or passion that you have always desired’.

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

**5th:** Diane Sankey-Morris. **16th:** Anne Harrison. **18th:** Gail Kelly. **23rd:** Josephine Rossetto.  
**23rd:** Shantha Kailasapathy.

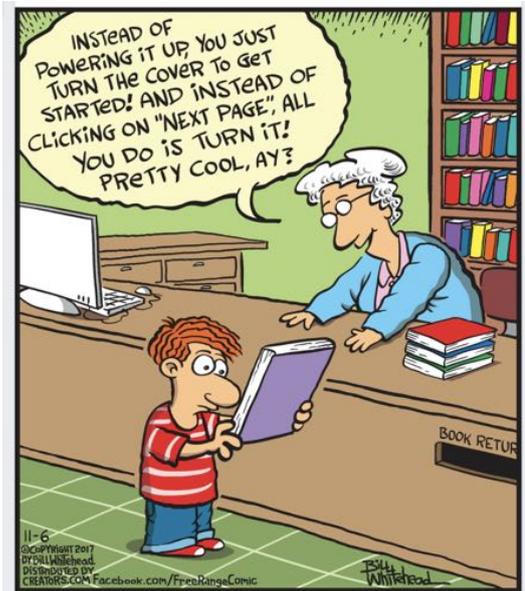
(special birthdays for Dianne & Shantha, extra special for Anne, all ending in a zero!)

***Our Membership Officer is currently compiling a register of Members who may need transport to and from meetings and events. If you need a lift, or are able to help by giving a lift [in your local area] occasionally, please let Barbara Davis know.***

#### 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.

**Lunch at Kemps Creek Bowling Club. Photos, courtesy of Barbara Davis.  
What a turn out, 28 members.**



There was a power failure in a Dublin Department Store last week and three hundred people were stranded on the escalators for more than two hours.

"O'Leary, your glass is empty, will you be having another one?"  
"And what would I be doing with two empty glasses?" O'Leary replied.

Young Teresa came home with some dreadful news. "I'm pregnant" she cries.  
"And how do you know it's yours?" shouts her father.

PADDY: "Hey Sean, what's Mick's surname?"  
SEAN: "Mick who?"

*SOME IRISH JOKES COURTESY  
OF ROY KING*



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