

# NEWSLETTER

Club No. 1005089

GLENMORE PARK PROBUS CLUB Inc.

INC.9884403



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## May Birthdays:

Pat King (3rd)  
Connie Towell (5th)  
Philip Ryall (8th)



## Editor's comment:

*"Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are more pliable.*

*Mark Twain (1835-1910)*

Here's the 2nd May issue of The Newsletter. Still plenty of input from members, although it would be nice to receive input from some members that haven't yet contributed, come on, don't be shy 😊. We have managed to do three Zoom meetings between members so far. I think the aim is to do one every fortnight, although there might be one on what would have been this month's Club meeting. Still not sure when we will be able to hold proper meetings again, might as well lick your finger and hold it up to see which way the wind is blowing! We will wait to see what Penrith RSL has to say about when it is safe to hold meetings of our size.

I have lots of jokes etc. from members, so don't worry if you don't see your contribution straight away, it will get there eventually, although some are in a format that I cannot reproduce without retyping the whole thing out, which is very time consuming with two fingers! I have tried dictating to the computer, but it struggles with my accent, especially dropping my H's and F's for th!

There are still about a dozen members that have not paid their membership yet or let us know if they no longer wish to remain members. This is important to us as we are very close to our membership limit, we will give priority to new members if you have lapsed.

**Glen Davis (Editor)**

If you are unable, or do not like to do online banking, then you can post a cheque to me as we now have the facility to pay them directly into the Club's Bank account. Please contact Barbara on 0412 629 945 for address & details.

**Barbara Davis (Membership Officer)**

**Book Review: 'The Goldfinch' by Donna Tartt**

This book is set in New York. 13-year-old Theo and his Mother are on the way to see his school principal, but they have time to spare, so they duck into a museum. The Mother visits her favourite painting 'The Goldfinch' by Dutch master, Carel Fabritius. Before they leave, the mother wants to quickly look at another painting in a different location. Theo is left alone for a moment and notices an old man and a young girl; he is captivated by the girl. Suddenly there is a loud bang, a bomb detonates and creates horrendous damage and confusion. The old man is dying and as Theo tries to assist him, he gives him a solid signet ring and tells him to deliver it to a certain address. Theo is profoundly traumatised and unable to cope with the news that his mother died in the explosion. The explosion, his Mother's death and the painting 'The Goldfinch', which Theo took with him from the museum, run like a thread through his life. The story is gripping, thrilling, touching and heart-rending. I always know that a book has affected me deeply when the end hits me like an anti-climax, and I can't stop thinking about it.

**TV: Australian Story – ABC - 8:00pm, Monday, 27 April**

Sam Neill – "he-might-be-a-Kiwi-but-we-think-of-him-as-our own actor."

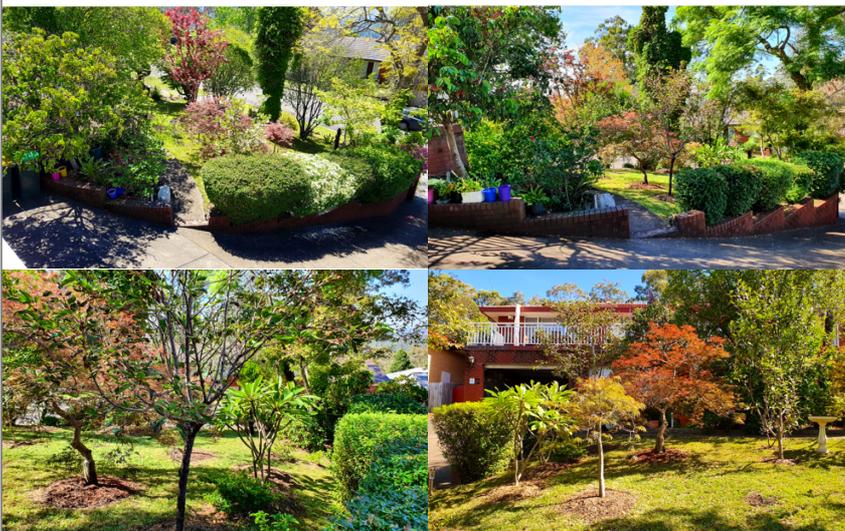
He became famous in the film 'My Brilliant Career' and has starred in many Australian films in the last 40 years. Sam owns a vineyard in Otago, NZ. During a walk through his property we were introduced to Charlie Pickering, a duck who could not cross the dam fast enough to great him. He also has quite a few hens, one of them is called Meryl Streep and I believe there are a few others he has named after his leading ladies. He also has a pig called Angelica! Sam appears to be an ordinary, down-to-earth person and can't understand why anyone makes a fuss about him. He is dry, witty and funny! I genuinely enjoyed his story.

**TV: Miriam's Big Fat Adventure – ABC - 9:30pm, Tuesday, 28 April**

Miriam Margolyes is a lovable 78-year-old actress, who became known to the general public through her role in the Harry Potter movies. She is an Australian citizen but lives at present in the UK. Miriam calls a spade a spade and no doubt about that. She decided to find out about obesity in the UK and meets people from all walks of life that have the same problem she has – they are fat. She visits a Health Retreat, talks to a family with a chubby 13-year-old girl, she meets a Mum who had stomach reduction surgery and investigates cosmetic surgery.

**GARDENING CORNER BY CLARENCE GO**

More photos of Clarence and Maria Go's garden.



Rhonda Shuttleworth's garden



**GARDENING APPROPRIATE JOKES**

What the world needs now is Global Worming!

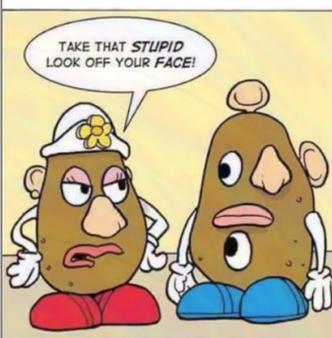
When did my wild oats turn to prunes and all bran?

**People are like Potatoes!**

**Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are content to watch others ...They are called "SpeckTators."**

**Some are always looking to cause problems and really get under your skin ...They are called "AggieTators."**

**There are those who are always saying they will, but they never get around to doing...We call them "HessieTators."**



**Some folks spent a lot of time sitting and peering into their garden ...They are called "MediTators."**

**There are those that try to maximise their crop yields while reducing expenses ...We call them "CompuTators."**

Disclaimer

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**TV: Miriam's Big Fat Adventure** continued.....  
 I find that I am not so quick to judge anyone who might be big and respect the struggle they go through to do something about it. Miriam herself admits that she has been big all her life and been on endless diets, with little effect. On the other hand, she does enjoy food. Her conclusion was that you can be fat and still have fun, as she joins a group of very big ladies, dancing to infectious music!

**TV: Australian Story – ABC - 8:00pm, Monday, 4 May**

Forged by Fire – a profile of NSW Rural Fire Service Commissioner, Shane Fitzsimmons. We all remember the horrendous bushfires last summer and the calm way in which Shane managed the situation, which established him as a very admired and trusted leader. He experienced domestic violence when he was a child but rose above it and followed his father into the RFS, where he became the youngest Captain in the history of that organisation. His life was on the line when his truck was surrounded by fire during one stage, so he can relate to the horrendous conditions in which the RFS has to carry out their duties, as he has been out in field and experienced it in person. Shane has now retired from his position as NSW RFS Commissioner and has taken on the role as Commissioner of Resilience NSW. We have not seen the end of Shane Fitzsimmons and somehow, I feel that once again he will do his best we are in safe hands.

**by Karin Figg**

*Once again Karin has picked some fantastic shows. Although I haven't read the book "Goldfinch", I have seen the film and I, once again, fully endorse Karin's review.*

*I did watch the Sam Neill story and he comes across as one of the nicest blokes you could wish to meet. His vineyard property is beautiful.*

*I also saw the Australian Story of Shane Fitzsimmons, I was greatly impressed by him every time he gave his report on the TV during the bushfires, he highly deserves his appointment as Commissioner of Resilience NSW.*

**Glen Davis (Editor)**

**A SHORT GUN STORY**

A GUY WALKED INTO A CROWDED BAR, WAVING HIS UNHOLSTERED PISTOL AND YELLED, "I HAVE A 45 CALIBRE COLT 1911 WITH A SEVEN ROUND MAGAZINE PLUS ONE IN THE CHAMBER AND I WANT TO KNOW WHO'S BEEN SLEEPING WITH MY WIFE."

A VOICE FROM THE BACK OF THE ROOM CALLED OUT,

John Shelley  
 "YOU NEED MORE AMMO!!"



I'm normally a social girl  
 I love to meet my mates  
 But lately with the virus here  
 We can't go out the gates.  
 You see, we are the 'oldies' now  
 We need to stay inside  
 If they haven't seen us for a while  
 They'll think we've upped and died.  
 They'll never know the things we did  
 Before we got this old  
 There wasn't any Facebook  
 So not everything was told.  
 We may seem sweet old ladies  
 Who would never be uncouth  
 But we grew up in the 60s -  
 If you only knew the truth!  
 There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll

The pill and miniskirts  
 We smoked, we drank, we partied  
 And were quite outrageous flirts.  
 Then we settled down, got married  
 And turned into someone's mum,  
 Somebody's wife, then nana,  
 Who on earth did we become?  
 We didn't mind the change of pace  
 Because our lives were full  
 But to bury us before we're dead  
 Is like a red rag to a bull!  
 So here you find me stuck inside  
 For 4 weeks, maybe more  
 I finally found myself again  
 Then I had to close the door!  
 It didn't really bother me  
 I'd while away the hour  
 I'd bake for all the family  
 But I've got no flaming flour!  
 Now Netflix is just wonderful  
 I like a gutsy thriller  
 I'm swooning over Idris  
 Or some random sexy killer.  
 At least I've got a stash of booze  
 For when I'm being idle  
 There's wine and whiskey, even gin  
 If I'm feeling suicidal!  
 So let's all drink to lockdown  
 To recovery and health  
 And hope this awful virus  
 Doesn't decimate our wealth.  
 We'll all get through the crisis  
 And be back to join our mates  
 Just hoping I'm not far too wide

To fit through the flaming gates!  
 (Pam Ayres)

Touche!

A Lexus mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a LS460, when he spotted a well-known cardiac surgeon in his shop.

The surgeon was there waiting for the service manager to come and take a look at his car when the mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc, want to take a look at this?"

The cardiac surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working.

The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I opened its heart, took the valves out, repaired or replaced anything damaged, and then put everything back in, and when I finished, it worked just like new. .... So how is it that I make \$48,000 a year and you make \$1.7M when you and I are doing basically the same work..?"

The cardiac surgeon paused, leaned over and whispered to the mechanic....."Try doing it with the engine running."

**Closed for tourists**

AFTER having to cancel successive attempted holidays to various states, I decided to rename them:

- NT: No trespassing;
- SA: Stay away;
- QLD: Quietly locked down;
- VIC: Very inconveniently closed;
- WA: Withdrawn association;
- NSW: Not So Welcoming;
- TAS: Totally alone state;
- ACT: Authorised coronavirus tacticians.

**You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers....**

**I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy but here we are**



Home made Date Crumble & Olive Bread - BarbaraDavis



Clever Irene Grundig with her home made throws. Keeping busy, and just as important, warm during 'The lockdown'.



This is what Probus looks like on Zoom! We will hold them regularly, feel free to join in.



Rosina's Cup Cake, yummy.



My crop of Spuds from 3 old ones that sprouted.



Barbara Davis' Orange Curd



Wendy Johnston - Squares knitted by Wendy Johnston's mum, crocheted by Wendy into keepsake blankets for the great grandchildren.

Robert Hillsmith has suggested that it might be interesting if any of you amateur genealogists have come up with anything interesting/unusual/scandalous in your family tree. For example, when researching Glen's maternal Treadaway line I discovered 'The Pimlico Murderer'. George Treadaway was found guilty at the Old Bailey, London, in 1876 of murder and sentenced to be hung. His sentence was later commuted to life. He served 17 years in prison, was released, married and lived to the ripe old age of 83! Not a direct ancestor of Glen's but interesting. Let's hear your stories. *Barbara Davis*

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# THE PETS PAGE



This is Rayella's menagerie, left to right: Amy, Captain Darling (water colour by Barbara Davis), Lionel (named after me!), Missie and Charlie with Rayella. Unfortunately, only Amy is still with Rayella, the three other dogs have passed away and Lionel, the cat, has moved on. (as cats can tend to do!).



Wendy Johnston's two dogs: Tipper (left) and Tyson (right).



Brenda Emerson's two little dogs. Drawing by Barbara.

So, I was sitting on the couch and my husband sweetly whispered... "The best part about all of this is that I get to spend more time with you". As I looked over at him lovingly, I realized he was talking to the dog

Right: Marion Turner's lovely little dog, Chase.



Granddaughter Zara with the family Labrador, Lucky.



Left & above, Billy: Mandy Steven's dog.

Our son Galvin with Juno, our Great Dane. Both one year old.



Left: Me, with some of Helen Skepper's dogs. They knew I had treats in my pocket!



Blacky, our cat from the UK. Her ashes are here!



Kathleen Gilbert with grandkids.



Mandy Stevens & son John



Wendy Johnston with grandkids.



Pat King with her bouquet.



Barb Davis with sons Gawaine & Galvin

# Mother's Day



### GUESS WHO?

Last issue was of Irene & Bill Noble  
Who do you think this couple is on the right?  
Answer next issue



Come and join us on FaceBook and get daily news on the latest events, birthdays etc. We are completely private, all new Members have to be approved as do any new posts. Just search Glenmore Park Probus Club.

## Committee Members

- |   |              |   |              |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|
| <b>President: Glen Davis</b>            | 0476 187 670 | <b>Vice President: Mandy Stevens</b>    | 0439 323 103 |
| <b>Secretary: Mandy Stevens</b>         | 0439 323 103 | <b>Acting Treasurer: Rosina Ward:</b>   | 0450 039 420 |
| <b>Tours &amp; Social: Connie Cogle</b> | 0419 255 816 | <b>Membership: Barbara Davis</b>        | 0412 629 945 |
| <b>Hospitality: Kathleen Gilbert</b>    | 0431 778 308 | <b>Web/ Lunches: Ernie Campbell</b>     | 02 4732 4859 |
| <b>Programs: Rayella Haines</b>         | 0411 237 699 | <b>Newsletter: Glen Davis</b>           | 0476 187 670 |
| <b>Welfare: Wendy Johnston</b>          | 0403 338 887 | <b>Public Officer: Robert Hillsmith</b> | 0429 015 861 |
- Assistants-** Secretary: Rayella Haines 0411 237 699 Treasurer: Judith Mahon 0430 529 635  
Hospitality: Wendy Johnston 0403 338 887

- Helpers-** Hospitality: Debbie King. Tours & Social: Robert Hillsmith, Judith Mahon, Leah Curds. Registration: Betty Watkins & Violet Mulcahy. Library: Marion Turner & Jeanette Corlis. Welcomer: Barbara Orth. Equipment: Peter Clay.

- Group Leaders-** Canasta: Kay Cane. Chess: Brian Corlis. FaceBook: Barbara Davis. Movies: Carole Gregory. Saturday Walking: Pat Ryan. Gardening: Helen Skepper. Mid Week Walking: Allan Curds.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Many Members have been bringing it to my attention that they don't know who some of the other Members are. I hope this will be of help to get to know who is who. Let's Start with our two oldest ladies and some of our long serving Members.



Jean Howard  
Our Oldest Member



Pat King  
Our 2nd Eldest



Heather Brown



Livia Parkanyi



Pat Sanders



Brenda Emerson  
Life Member



Alayne Humphries



Gail Kelly



Karin Figg



Terri Gould



Max Brenton



Kay Cane



Ann Johnson  
Honorary Member



Ernie Johnson  
Honorary Member



Bob Ley



Dot Thomas



Ann Harrison



Pat Leitch



Elsie Bremner



Pauline Simpson



Elaine Metcalfe



Helen Ward



Irene Kilminster  
Honorary Member



Lorraine Batterham