In the Merry Month of May we inducted two new members, Brian Jessep (brother of Graeme) and Phil Bennett, into our Club.

Please give them a warm welcome when we meet for morning tea on 17 June. It’s so easy to get caught up with friends and be unaware of newer members.

Our Club speaker was the indefatigable, adventurous Ray Kench who took us, via slides, to Antarctica. Ray told us he had taken about 6,000 slides, so we settled down for a long session. However, Ray had selected (only) 250 brilliant photos of penguins and more penguins, seals, ice floes and whales at play (!). With the aid of Zodiac inflatable boats and sea sick tablets, the group visited the British Antarctic base at Port Lochroy, Deception Island and the South Shetland Islands. On land, a highlight was a journey on the “End of the World Railway”.

Where to next, Ray?

Our May guest speaker, Dr. Brian Boettcher, informed us about the little known and barely recognised Australian codebreakers in WW2. Eric Nave, was a genius (mathematician) who led a large Australian team, doing invaluable work breaking Japanese codes and translating the transmissions. The information was supplied to General Douglas McArthur and the Allied forces. A most interesting talk.

Next month we hope to have a speaker from The National Heart Foundation. Details in the Newsletter.

Speaking of which, I want to say a very big ‘thank you’ to Peter Edwards and Gordon Davies for the superb Newsletter that they produce each month. Some Clubs don’t even have a web page. Please read it carefully, and make a diary note of upcoming events that appeal to you and that includes CANBERRA!

And thanks for what you do to make our Turramurra Probus the pre-eminent Club in our region.

Geoff Chubb
President

MEETING ROOM ROSTER: 9.15 am
Welcome Table: Axel Buchner and Martin Thomas
If unavailable, please contact Keith Napper 9489 0201
Ray gave a very polished presentation on his recent Antarctic Expedition, covering a lot of ground in a limited time. He showed a beautifully presented set of photos of the voyage, the locations and the wild life, especially the penguins and seals seen on the expedition, at times in very close detail. With the aid of maps to show the route of the expedition, Ray took us through his trip from Ushuaia, Argentina, the southernmost city in the world, to the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland islands, via the Drake Passage. Scattered throughout the presentation, Ray inserted helpful photos of local notices, thus highlighting various aspects of the trip. All in all, the trip was a great success and Ray couldn’t speak highly enough about it. A copy of Ray’s slide show is available on our web-site.

Scribe: Peter Edwards

Brian emphasised that code breaking during WW2 required a special kind of mind, with skills in decrypting and translating foreign languages, a knowledge of aircraft and carriers and signals. To some, however, it was a boring job involving much checking and analysis of confused information. Code breakers should have been highly valued, given their crucially strategic importance to the outcomes of war; e.g. they were able to discover when the bombing of Pt Moresby was planned and even the times of the enemy planes taking off and landing. Prior to Pearl Harbour, Eric Nave knew that the Japanese were focusing on aircraft carrier night take-offs and landings and warned the US that there would be war with Japan that December. However the role of Australian and U.S. code breakers was under-estimated by the US Navy Senior Staff, and their warnings were given scant attention.

Not surprisingly, after Pearl Harbour, the US listened very carefully to Eric Nave. His skills were said to surpass those of the US “experts.” Eric hailed from Victoria. He became fluent in Japanese, and, after a spell as a translator in Britain in 1921, was sent to Tokyo to break the Japanese military code, working in the Embassy for two years. While there, he met the Emperor, and was asked to help in five of their Navies! The Australian Navy was very involved in the South East Pacific war effort. The battle of Milne Bay was the greatest victory Australia ever had and the most decisive land defeat the Japanese had ever had. The battle of the Coral Sea caused the halt of the Japanese southward advance. Code breaking was also effectively used in the battles of Midway Island, Milne Bay, the Kokoda Track land battle, the air battle for Port Moresby, the invasion of Lae and the battle for the Bismark Sea, using combined US and Australian bombers. Given the strategically valuable contribution he made to the success of the war, it seems a grave oversight that he received no awards or recognition.

Scribe: Pat Edwards

Meet at Turramurra Station at 9.10 am for the 9.19 train to Wynyard, arriving at 9.53 am. Proceed to Barangaroo Business Centre via York, Erskine and Sussex Streets. Morning coffee at The Canteen. The walk continues around the Harbour and over Pyrmont Bridge to Harris Street, then follows Harris Street until we come to The Goods Line, where we stop for lunch. Ping pong tables are available. After lunch, some culture at the White Rabbit Gallery (free entry). Return home from Central Station. Grade 2, approx 6 kms. Book with an Alan by 9.00 pm on Thursday, 23 June.

Enquiries re both walks to David Wilkinson 9144 3986 or 0411 716 708
OUTINGS AND TRIPS
Outings Michael Clarke 8065 0171
Trips Peter Cribb 9484 7509
Book with Don Gould 9449 4451 or bookings@turramurraprobust.com

TOUR OF AUSTRALIAN OPERA CENTRE
Tuesday 21 June 2016

Staging an opera involves a thrilling combination of talented people – milliners, wig makers, cobblers, costumiers, designers, carpenters, model makers, scenic artists, choreographers, repertoire and language coaches, stage hands, stage managers, directors, musicians, conductors and singers.

We will be taking a guided tour of the Opera Centre's vast production workshops and rehearsal studios and will see firsthand how an opera is made.

Duration: The tour will start at 10.00 am and finish around 11.30, with a Thai food lunch at own expense at the GTS Hotel, 64 Devonshire Street.

Important information: participants must wear covered shoes and have a good level of fitness as there are many stairs and no passenger elevators. Photography is not allowed.

Location: The Centre is at 480 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills about 10 mins walk from the Devonshire St exit at Central Railway. We will travel independently but must be outside the Centre by 9.45 am.


CAREFLIGHT & AUBURN BOTANIC GARDENS
Tuesday 23rd August 2016

CareFlight is an Australian aeromedical charity that was established in 1986. We will visit its Operations Base at Northmead, after morning tea route.

Our lunch will be at the Rosehill Bowling Club which offers an excellent three course buffet.

After lunch we will visit the Auburn Botanic Gardens. We should be there for the Cherry Blossom Festival which happens over a two week period in mid to late August. The gardens have twelve separate divisions so you can choose to see the Japanese Hill and Lake Garden, the Sunken Rose Garden, the Australian Native Garden or the central formal area containing the reflection pool and pergola.

Transport: Our coach will depart from Karuah Rd at 9.00 am and will return at about 4.30 pm.

Cost is $58.00 per person.

Bookings & payments close on 16 August. Please book with Don Gould ASAP.

CANBERRA
Tue 26-Thu 28 July 2016

Canberra is a delightful city especially in mid-winter, outside school holidays and minus the usual crowds.

You will have time to explore your choice of activities, with a smorgasbord of options.

How about a visit to the Museum of Australian Democracy in Old Parliament House to see “Menzies”, an exhibition curated by John Howard or “Behind the Lines – The Year’s Best Political Cartoons”.

The National Portrait gallery has an exhibition of Arthur Boyd’s Portraits and the National Museum of Australia has “Stories from the Canning Stock Route”.

The National Gallery is always worth a visit and there have been big changes there in the last few years.

On the way to Canberra and back we will take breaks to explore the historic Berrima village, Bungendore Woodwork Galleries and Robyn Rowe Chocolates at Murrumbateman.

There will also be visits to key sites around Canberra such as the National Arboretum, the War Memorial, the Embassy district, Tidbinbilla Space Tracking Station and Duntroon Military College.

All meals and morning teas are provided including “Christmas in July”, with all the trimmings

Pickup will be at a central location in Turramurra and accommodation is in the very comfortable 4 Star Alpha Hotel in Tuggeranong.

Book with Don Gould ASAP.

Cost is $570 per person, single supplement $170.

For further information, see the brochure available on our web site or contact Peter Cribb.

BEST OF GIPPSLAND WITH BISHOP’S ADVENTURES - Thu 17-Thu 24 November

This tour is already fully booked and has proved so popular that a second tour has been scheduled for next March.

There are already enough expressions of interest to fill the coach in March, plus a waiting list.
BRIDGE

We had 8 players at our last afternoon bridge game at the Harris’s. Our next game will be on Thursday afternoon, 16 June, at the home of Pat and Jack Opie at 1.30 pm. Anyone wishing to play please contact me on bridge@turramurraprobus.com or 9489 6436.

Alan Hislop
Co-ordinator

CAMERA GROUP

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 20 June at my home, 8 Lisa Valley Close, Wahroonga, when I will show a few photos of Southern France. For details contact me on 9489 4467, 0418 861 822 or cameras@turramurraprobus.com Ray Kench
Co-ordinator

COMPUTER GROUP

The next meeting of the Computer Group is on Monday 20th June at the usual place, Canisius College St Ives, at 9.30am. I will be back from overseas and will lead the session.

Stephen Cooper
Co-ordinator

FIRST FRIDAY GOLF

Next event 3 June 7.15 am at Gordon GC

We had ten players for golf at Gordon on 6th May. The winner won with 39 points; last month it was 38. The next golf day is on 3rd June.

Alan Keating kindly emailed us golf lessons, demonstrated by girls at the San Diego State University, with tricks that our players could only dream about. Ring me on 9977 3669 the day before, or just turn up.

Terry Samuel
Co-ordinator

INVESTMENT GROUP

Our next lunch is at the Greengate Hotel on Thursday 2 June, at 12.00 pm for 12.30.

Make a diary entry for the 1st September lunch at Avondale Golf Club. We encourage all members to come and ask David Lee, an experienced financial services adviser, your questions about getting the best and safest return on your money.

The investment competition has become intensely competitive. Gordon Davies is now leading D’Arcy Hardy. All of the competitors are in positive territory and have a chance of winning. President Geoff has changed half of his investment into cash and refuses to reveal where he will now place it.

Ian Howden
Co-ordinator

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Contact Gordon Davies for passwords
For payments by internet - pay to Probus Club of Turramurra BSB 032089 A/C 271988
Include name and purpose of payment
Please do not pay by transfer “over the counter” at bank, due to difficulties tracking such payments.