



Probus Club of Moss Vale Inc.
PROBUS NEWSLETTER

June 2020

Website: www.mossvaleprobus.org.au

PRESIDENT
Malcolm Stephens CB

SECRETARY
Jim McGrath

This content is private and confidential and for the use of Probus Club of Moss Vale members only.

Many people have commented on how much they have enjoyed reading the newsletter throughout the isolation period. You will notice in all newsletters that quite a few members have made interesting and entertaining contributions to the newsletters and I thank them for contributing their time and effort to the club. We are not finished yet so if you feel you could contribute a short article, I would be very glad to receive it.

Editor

COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

At the committee meeting (via conference call) last Thursday there were a couple of items of note. Firstly, the possibility of re-commencing meetings was discussed but before any steps can be taken toward this until two things have to be resolved. The government has to relax the 1.5m separation rule and the RSL Club has to be able to accommodate us at the meeting venue. Until then there is no possibility of re-convening.

The membership directory is moving closer to publication and once member details have been updated it will be published and posted to all members.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

As June rolls around and we are almost half-way through the year we have nine birthdays to celebrate. It's a happy birthday to

Jim Cole	Chris Cotman
Peter Dewey	Peter Edwards
David Forbes	Stephen Lehmann
Ross Nacey	Terry O'Malley
Brian Thornton	

And the lucky winner this month is David Forbes. As we have been unable to meet of recent months, we now have quite a stock of wine to be given to the lucky winners when we gather again.

BEECHWORTH REVISITED

It is obvious that many members are looking forward to being able to enjoy the fellowship of other members in the near future. I am delighted to let you know that there have been forty-four people who have indicated that they would like to go to Beechworth in October.

That makes for a great group of travellers and everything is looking positive for the trip in October at present. As previously stated, all details are yet

to be finalised and you will be informed at the earliest possible time so that you can make your final decision to attend and the details for payment.

Any addition information can be obtained from gordon_dummer@bigpond.com or phone/text him on 0418343556.

DOWNED IN THE BAY OF BISCA Y



“Peter Eustace sent me a newspaper cutting about Victoria Cross winner John Cruickshank turning 100. On reading it, I realised that John Cruickshank had been the captain of the Catalina that had played a pivotal role in the rescue of my wife Kathy's uncle, Peter Jensen and his Sunderland crew from the Bay of Biscay in 1943. (Dudley Marrows captained the downed Sunderland.)

Peter Jensen, now aged 99, lives in Sydney. After returning to Australia, he wrote an account of his wartime experiences in an exercise book (in beautiful easy to read copperplate). Some years ago, I asked him if I could transcribe it, which I did, adding the excellent photographs he had in his exercise book.

I thought that it might be of interest to other members of the club looking for a diversion during the lock down. Those not interested in the whole tale might like to go straight to page 10 for the exciting bits, the sinking of the German U-Boat U461 and Dudley Marrows' Sunderland crew's later battle with six JU88s, which resulted in their being shot down in the Bay of Biscay.”

Chris Young

Thanks Chris has allowing me to share a copy of Peter's autobiography, complete with photos, written by Sqn Ldr Peter Jensen 461 Squadron RAAF telling of his heroic adventures. The link to this is [CLICK HERE](#). You may get a warning message but I have checked the file and it is fine to access. Remember, if you are short of

time do as Chris said, try reading the entry for 30th July on Page 10. I am sure that you'll want to continue.

Editor

THE FRANK CONROY CONVERSATIONS



I first met Alan in Hong Kong in 1986 when he was there for the "Hong Kong Sevens" and coaching the Australian team. I attended a reception

for the team and Alan spoke and I have been fascinated with this character ever since. When I returned to Sydney and took up the appointment as Head of the Retail Bank for Westpac, we locked horns during many telephone interviews on air. Even then, the banks were not the flavour of the month and his attacks on Westpac continued well into my tenure as Chief Executive.

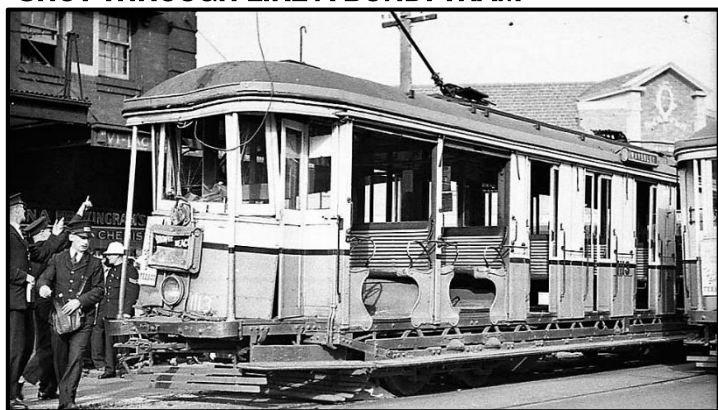
We have made peace since and in 2011, while he was the moderator of a public rally at Corbett Gardens in Bowral, I approached him to contribute to the Breakfast Session on Boxing Day on the promise of no mention of politics. The interview runs for about 22 minutes. He covers his typical day, his appearance as a President Roosevelt in the staged musical "Annie" and how he spent the day on Christmas Day."

Frank Conroy

As you probably know, Alan Jones political commentator, radio talk-back host and rugby coach is retiring soon. In 2011, Frank Conroy recorded this interview with Alan Jones [CLICK HERE](#),

Editor

"SHOT THROUGH LIKE A BONDI TRAM"



If you enjoyed the series of photos that Barry Todd contribute last month then you'll be enthralled again by the series of "A Century of Australian Historical Photographs" he has contributed this month. There's the traditional billy cart, Japanese submarines in Sydney harbour and I had never heard of a pier at Coogee! Smoky Dawson, Frank Sinatra and Don Bradman also make an appearance. If you would like to browse Barry's collection, [CLICK HERE](#) and enjoy the memories. This file has been checked and is OK to access.

GOON BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



At the start of the Lockdown while searching the web for entertainment, I came across a show called Heroes of Comedy – The Goons which can be viewed via the link below. Having laughed my way through a very pleasant 40 minutes, I realised that everyone of our vintage probably has a Goon Show story.

Here's mine Growing up in New Zealand as a youngster in the 1960's I was first introduced to the Goons via replays that were played on National Radio each Saturday morning at 8:30. I was so taken by the trio and the show that I asked for a transistor radio for my 10th birthday. The request was flatly refused on the basis that I was too young to possess such an instrument of the devil (my words). I must have pestered my Mum to tears, because I ended up with a crystal set the following Christmas that I could listen to late at night under the covers in my bedroom. The result was many more hours of late-night Goon Show repeats.

So without further ado, I give you Heroes of Comedy – The Goons; [CLICK HERE](#).

Ross Nacey

MELBOURNE OLYMPICS 1956

The Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956 were the sporting highlight in a far less complicated time. The events have changed over the years particularly in relation to team and professional sport such as tennis and football which, I must admit, I do not really think belong in the Olympics.

Anyway, you may have missed an incident in the fencing competition held in the St Kilda Town Hall as it was not widely reported until after the event. Turn on your speakers to listen to this. [CLICK HERE](#).

STAYING CONNECTED WITH PROBUS – JUNE

Below is the link to the Probus South Pacific Staying Connected site which this month contains a number of items which may be of interest to members. [CLICK HERE](#).

Member may subscribe to this publication if they wish by following the link at the bottom of the page.

Whilst visiting my daughter last week I asked her for a newspaper and she said, "Dad... this is the 21st century. We don't waste money on newspapers and magazines, use my iPad"
That fly never knew what hit him!