

Coonara-Cherrybrook Chatter



Newsletter of the Combined Probus Club of Coonara-Cherrybrook

Club Number 592480 Founded 24th April 2007 District 9685

ABN Number: 37897363271

Meeting held 3rd Tuesday of each month **10.00am for 10.30 am**

Postal address: The Combined Probus Club of Coonara-Cherrybrook Inc.
Suite 110/159 Ridgeway Drive, Castle Hill 2154

Banking Details for direct transfers: BSB: ACC.NO:

Club web site: www.coonaraprobust.org.au

President	Leonie Lawson		
Vice President	Geoff Murray		
Secretary	Lyn Martel		
Treasurer	Bob Walker		
Events/Activities	Carolyn Powell		
Marketing Officer	Paul Sweatman		
Membership Secretary	Sue Badcock		
Newsletter Editor	Elaine Finch		
Past President	Andre Maas		
Speakers Convener	Irene Fisher		
Web Master	Paul Sweatman		
Welfare Officer	Jan Duffy		

April 2026



Be alert this morning and aware, watch your step & play it cool. Don't be caught by a joker who'll, turn you into an April Fool ! Don't forget to change the clocks, go & buy your Easter Chocs, then forget how much you weigh & march along on Anzac day!

President's Letter

Hello Everyone,

April brings my very first message as your newly appointed president – just two weeks in and already enjoying the adventure. Thank you all for the warm welcome as I settle into the role.

Our changeover lunch in March was a lovely day and I would like to thank Sue Badcock and Elaine Finch for all the time and effort they put into the day and also all their helpers.

This year is especially exciting as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Probus. To mark the occasion, Sue Badcock and I were invited to afternoon tea with the Governor of New South Wales Margaret Beazley at Government House, along with many other clubs, it was a lovely afternoon and we met some very interesting people.

It was a wonderful honour and a lovely recognition of our club's history and community spirit.

With Easter approaching I would like to wish everyone a lovely peaceful Easter with your families and friends.

Thank you again for your support as I settle into this new role. I'm looking forward to a great year filled

with connection and a few laughs along the way, together.

Leonie Lawson

With warm regards,

President



NEXT CLUB MEETINGS

21st April 2026

19th May 2026



TREASURER'S REPORT

On 30.3.26, the financial position is as follows :

Total Cash at Bank	Amount
Westpac Working Account	\$
Less	
Members prepayments	\$
Net Cash Position	\$

Subsequent payments will be ratified at the next committee meeting on the 7th April.

Paul Cashman Acting Treasurer

Bob Walker Treasurer

LUNCHEES & DINNERS



ALL WELCOME SUNDAY LUNCH

4th Sunday of the month

April Lunch

Venue: Baulkham Hills Sports Club

11 Renown Road, Baulkham Hills

Date: Sunday 26th April

Time: 12.00 pm

Cost: Pay on the day

Ann Colless

MAY DINNER

Venue: La Caretta

Shop 7/35 Coonara Ave, West Pennant Hills. Italian Pizza and Pasta

Date: Wednesday May 13th

Time: 7.00 pm

Cost: \$40 per head including corkage.

Payment at the **April meeting** or online payment by the end of April.

Carolyn Powell



We are going to arrange another visit to this popular show..

Venue: The Hills Lodge Boutique Hotel & Spa
1 Salisbury Rd, Castle Hill

Date: Sunday Afternoon 26th July.

Time: 3.00pm- 5pm

Cost: \$35. Includes afternoon tea, there is a cash bar.

Expressions of interest ASAP with payments at June or July meeting.

Lyn Paterson

0414798 881



ATTENTION BAREFOOT BOWLERS

Our members are looking forward to Barefoot Bowls on Sunday 12th April.

Those who have pre-ordered lunch need to arrive at 11:45AM for lunch to be served at 12noon.

Those that are not having lunch please arrive at 12.45AM.

Bowls will commence at 1PM.

We are looking forward to a great day!

Colleen Sherwood

Ken Sherwood

WINTER YULEFEST LUNCH ON THE NEPEAN BELLE BELLE PADDLEWHEELER FRIDAY JULY 31st.



As I will be on our Probus Walking Trip on the date of the May meeting I need to get this activity underway. I will have an Expression of Interest at the April meeting; payment will be due at the June meeting. Our Yulefest day begins with morning tea at the Narraginy Reserve at Doonside. We then head to Jamisontown to board the Nepean Belle travelling upstream through the Picturesque Nepean Gorge. The cruise includes a festive winter shared plates lunch followed by dessert, tea & coffee, Christmas decorations, carols and a visit from "Frosty".

The afternoon continues with a visit to Penrith's Regional Gallery & the home of Margo and Gerald Lewers; prominent Australian artists whose daughter gifted the property to the people of Penrith as a gallery featuring over 2500 paintings and sculptures by celebrated artists.

Participation limit is 48 members. Cost is \$128.00 per person based on a minimum of 30 people. On Course coach pickup from Castle Hill 9.45am, returning approx. 4.45pm.

Enquiries Carolyn Powell

I was really pleased to get a full tank of petrol for \$60.00 today..... Granted, it was for the lawnmower, but I'm trying to keep positive.



Castle Hill Bowling Club

would like to encourage juniors 10-17 years to try bowls. We have held one clinic during the Christmas holidays which was highly successful and we have now organized one for the Easter/Autumn Holidays.

Where: Castle Hill Bowling Club

When: Wednesday 8th April

Time: 10am – 12 pm

Cost: \$20

Ages: 10 - 17

We would like to ask your help to canvas families, neighbours & friends to come along to our next coaching clinic.

Emphasis will be on having fun activities and games relevant to basic bowls skills and plenty of prizes for encouragement.

Registration will be through CHRG website under School Holiday Events.

Please direct any inquiries to the Bowling Club:

Email: membersbowls@castlehillbc.com.au



GUEST SPEAKER



The speaker for April is David Hutchinson, a first-class honours graduate in chemical engineering, who spent his career working in the environmental field. He is now retired and has spent the last two years researching climate change issues. David focusses on the basis science and current data on the state of our planet. The science and data highlight the general misinformation in the community by showing perceptions refuted by facts. David provides information on what the world is doing, particularly Australia and China, to address climate change. He will discuss where we stand and predictions of what the world will look like once the earth's temperature stabilises at a new higher level.

Irene Fisher Speaker Convenor

Ph: Email:



TENNIS GROUP

We usually meet every Wednesday evening at Belltree Crescent Castle Hill between 5 pm and 7 pm. Autumn's here, that should mean very pleasant evenings to get a bit of exercise! If you are a new member, don't be shy and do come and join us for a whack around the court!

Ron Powell Coordinator



INVESTMENT GROUP

First Tuesday of the month

Next Meeting: 7th April

Time: 10.15am.

Venue: Foyer at Castle Hill RSL Club

Due to renovations at the RSL and new bar designations we will meet in the foyer and discover our new placement together! If you are an old or a new member and are interested in discussing matters financial in a light hearted way then come along and join us for coffee, company and a chat. All welcome.

John Badcock



MAH JONG GROUP

When: 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month

Venue: West Pennant Hills Sports Club

Date: 2nd & 13th April

Time: 10 am - 12 noon

Beginners and experienced players welcome, for more information please contact:

Marie Eyles



SOLO TRAVELLERS COFFEE

Coffee Morning

Held 4th Tuesday of the month

Date: 28th April

Time: 10.15 am

Venue: Castle Hill RSL Club

Ann Colless

Sue Dawes



Book Lending

A selection of books to be borrowed from our extensive collection, along with the catalogue will be available at each of our monthly meetings, books can be reserved from this list and made available at the next meeting. Clocks are going back so you'll have some darker evenings to fill. A cup of coffee, a good book and a comfy chair – sheer bliss! The Librarians- Jan, Jenny & Liz





WELFARE

A very quiet time at the moment. I am always happy to have a confidential chat with you about any health issues, or difficulties you may be experiencing.

Colin Swindells has given up his membership due to his decreasing mobility and difficulty in getting around. Colin was a founder member and became the club's official photographer. He has over 30,000 photos still on his computer. He was a great support to Marg at all the events that she organized. Colin also organized some of the club's holidays. We will miss you Colin and perhaps when the ramp is completed from the garage to his house, he may pop in to a meeting one day.

Jan Duffy

Welfare Officer



Wine Appreciation Group

Usually 1st Monday of the month

Date: 4th May as April's date is Easter Monday!

Time: 4pm to 6pm

Venue: Living Choice Leisure Centre

Living Choice, 15 Old Glenhaven Rd, Glenhaven

Hosts: Sue Waesch and Steve Kyneur

Cost: \$10 per head per meeting (pay on the day) which will cover the cost of a wide range of pre-selected wines to be sampled. Please bring your own drinking wine if you wish to have a wine and a chat after the tastings and also bring your own nibbles.

Rob Templeton ph.

email:



CARD GROUP

When: 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month (except Public Holidays when there will be NO cards.)

Venue: West Pennant Hills Sporting Club

Date: 13th & 27th April

Time: 10 am - 12pm

Why not come along to cards and enjoy the company and either play a game that you may already know or learn how to play. Hand and Foot Bolivia is addictive! Maybe stay for a chat and a light lunch at Sawyers Brasserie.

Contacts: Colleen Sherwood

Jenny Davis



CRAFT

First Wednesday of the month

Next meetings: 1st April.....No foolin'!

Venue: West Pennant Hills Sporting Club

Time: 10 am - 12.00 noon

Bring your own craft project and come along for a chat, cuppa and compare notes. Come and show us your amazing skills, All very welcome especially crafty new members!

Judith Gauci



MOVIE GROUP

Third Monday of the month

Next Meeting: Mon 20th April

Venue: Castle Hill Events Cinema (Foyer)

Time: 9.45 am

Depending on what is still showing or has been released, at this stage there may be two possibilities, 1) Project Hail Mary 2) I Swear. I will keep an eye out for any updates and contact Movie Groupers closer to the date! If you would like to be added to this group, please drop me an email or ring:

Elaine Finch

Email:

It's probably just as well
McDonald's never put a
sirloin sandwich on the
menu. It would have
been a McSteak.



BICYCLE GROUP

Third Friday in the month.

Date: Fri 17th April

Time: 10:00 am - ready to start the ride

Place: Bella Vista Farm

With the current uncertainty of fuel supplies we will again plan for a local ride in April and postpone the planned Wollongong ride until fuel supplies and prices get back to normal (if ever). We will start our April ride, on the 17th) at Bella Vista Farm and do a variation of a previous ride to take in Kellyville and Beaumont Hills. More details will be sent to the group closer to the ride date. As usual we will start at 10am from Bella Vista Farm and have a picnic lunch in the park after the ride, but bring your own food and drink (maybe a chair as well).

We are still looking for suggestions for new rides and ride leaders.

Contacts for the Bicycle Group:

Russ & Rhonda Email:



JAZZ AT THE PINES

When: 19th April

Time: 12.30 till 3.30 pm

Where: Roughley House,
Old Northern Rd. Dural

How Much: \$25.00 concession

Who's On: Maryville Jazz band

If you would like to join us then, please contact :-

Lynn Paterson



THEATRE GROUP

Please collect tickets for:

“ANASTASIA” 1pm Wed 29th April Lyric Theatre

“STEEL MAGNOLIAS “ Theatre Royal, Wed. 20th May

Expressions of Interest for:

“HAIR” Theatre Royal 17th June 1.00pm tickets \$89 pay by April Meeting. Please call if you want tickets for this show as we might have to cancel if we do not get 20 people. It would be appreciated if you could pay into account before meeting for Hair & Lion King

“THE LION KING” Capitol theatre 1pm Wed 8th July Tickets \$105 pay by April Meeting.

“WAITRESS” Lyric Theatre 1 pm Wed 19th August Tickets \$70, pay at June meeting.

“FIDDLER ON THE ROOF” Theatre Royal Wednesday 2nd September 1pm tickets \$84 pay by July meeting

“MY FAIR LADY” Opera House – Joan Sutherland Theatre 1 pm Wednesday 23rd September 2026. Stall tickets \$178.00. Pay at July meeting.

“MOULIN ROUGE” Lyric Theatre 1pm 7th April 2027 tickets \$90 please pay January meeting.

Howard & Sue will be away 19th April until 14th May so all inquiries to Pat

If interested, but unable to attend meetings please call: Howard & Sue Patterson

Email:

Pat Bisby

Email:



BOOK CLUB

Meets on the 4th Thurs. of the month.

Where: Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL Club

When: Thu 26th March

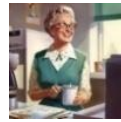
Time: 10:30 am

The book for March is 'Small Things like These' by Claire Keegan.

This book won The Booker Prize in 2022. It was made into a movie. The story is an expose of the power of the Catholic Church in the small Irish town of New Ross. It is a brilliant little book. It is dedicated to the women and children who suffered time in Ireland's mother and baby homes and Magdalen laundries.

Contact: Lesley Maker

Email:

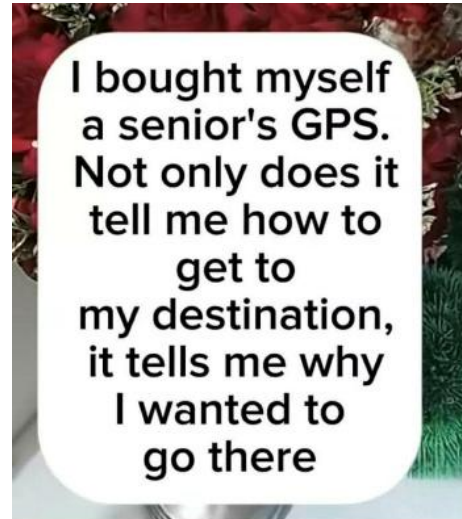


Tea Roster

Please arrive by 9.30 am to help Colleen and Janet set out cups and check urns etc. If you are unable to attend the Probus meeting when you are on the roster, please contact Leonie Lawson on _____ to arrange a replacement.

April Sue Dawes

May Ann Dowdell



NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE

Thursday 30th April

Please send to Elaine Finch



WALKING FOR PLEASURE

APRIL WALK

A most pleasurable walk through the W. P. Valley with its tall trees and bushland area. We walk some of the trails of the Cumberland State Forest and break for coffee/tea at Café Saligna. On our return walk we will stop and look at the distant views over the Cumberland Plain. Come and join in the fun.

Date: Tuesday 14th April

Time: 10.00am.

Meet: George Thornton Reserve, View Street, West Pennant Hills.

Grade : Easy/medium.

Duration: Approx. 6km taking about 3 hours.

Toilets : George Thornton Reserve and Café area.

What to bring : Hat, water, good walking shoes.

Following walk: If you can stay, join us for a picnic lunch, bring a thermos, sandwiches, fold up chair etc.

MAY WALK

Reminder

18th - 21st May is the Newcastle Get-a-way.

Contacts Julie Dunesky

Steve Dunesky



LAWN BOWLS

2nd and 4th Friday of each month

Dates: 10th & 24th April

Time: 9:15am latest

Venue: Castle Hill Bowling Club

Our lawn bowls activity group meets on the second & fourth Fridays of the month at the Castle Hill Bowling Club and we join up with some members from adjacent Probus clubs.

We look forward to welcoming new members to the bowls group, experienced or otherwise, or the return of players that have not played for a while. For those who would like to try bowls we can help you learn the fundamentals and can provide bowls for you to use. Come along and give it a go. It has been nice to have a few first-time members come along over the past couple of meetings and there's plenty of room for more. Now that the new undercover carpet green is finally open, come along and be involved in a whole new experience playing on a beautifully smooth and shaded surface.

Contact for Bowls attendance:

Russell Bush

email:



GOLF GROUP



March Player of the Month: We are delighted to announce that our star player for **March 2026** is **Mal Anderson** (pictured). Mal achieved an impressive **155 points** over five games, closely followed by **Sheena Brown** with **141 points**. Well, done to these players!

Invitation:

Join our friendly and welcoming group for some social golf fun! The 2026 season is in full swing, and we extend a warm invitation to golfers of all standards and abilities to come and give it a go. Our games are typically followed by light refreshments and occasional BBQs. For more information, please feel free to contact any of our golfers.

When: Every Monday morning, with tee-off at 7:00 am for those wishing to play either 9 or 18 holes.

Venue: Various local courses, including Rosnay, Fox Hills, Carnarvon, Woodville, Windsor, and others.

Cost: Approximately \$20 - \$40 per game.

Upcoming Games: April 13th, 20th and 4th May
Mal Anderson



Golf trip

Our annual golf trip this year is to Wollongong. We arrive Sunday October 11th at the Boat Harbour Motel, address 3-9 Wilson Street, corner of Campbell Street. Playing golf 3 days at various courses, departing Thursday morning October 15th.

There is a café downstairs which opens every day at 6.30am for breakfast for the golfers or each room has a microwave, bar fridge and tea/coffee facilities. The non-golfers usually meet for breakfast in the café. We will have dinner each night in the local club (walking distance) or you can choose local restaurants if you wish.

The exact cost of the trip is difficult to calculate at this stage because until a deposit is paid, I don't know how many rooms we need. I always equalise the cost of the accommodation so everyone pays the same then "draw straws" one Monday at golf for the better rooms (e.g. a larger size or with a view). Based on the figures I currently have the **APPROX** cost is as follows

3 Day Golfer twin share \$630

2 Day Golfer twin share \$560

1 Day Golfer twin share \$490

3 Day Golfer Single Supplement \$1030

Non-Golfer twin share \$410

Non-Golfer Single Supplement \$810

Deposit of \$100 **PER ROOM** is due by the **APRIL MEETING**.

Carolyn Powell



Let's Get Down to Business Column



Justices of the Peace

Leon Creed	
Dennis Fitzgibbons	
John Hughes	
Geoff Murray	
Susanne Waesch	
Bob Walker	



CLUB WEBSITE

Catch up with all the latest news on the club website. May I encourage you all to access the site to keep up-to-date with the planned events and activities. The site is no longer password protected, so you can go directly to the site.

Site address: www.coonara probus.org.au

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND a function that you have booked would you please let the organiser know as early as possible so that the venues, ferry operators etc. can be advised. Please consider others and notify the **organiser** of changed intentions even if on the day. Apologies for inability to attend monthly meetings should be sent to **Membership officer** Sue Badcock. Please remember to **SIGN IN at the membership table AT EVERY MEETING**. This is the only way you can acknowledge your required attendance.

SUGGESTION BOX

The suggestion box is always on the front of the stage at every meeting and is discussed at the committee meetings. If you have anything you would like to bring up, please place it in the box, signed or anonymous and the committee will acknowledge it ASAP. Alternatively, you can email a committee member with any ideas or suggestions and it will be forwarded to the appropriate person. The email addresses of all committee members are on the front page of the Chatter.

CLUB OUTINGS

PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUTINGS etc.

Payment by cheque, cash or direct transfer (BSB No: Acc. No.) for each outing must be in a separate deposit with your names and outing written in the deposit reference.

REFUND POLICY – The restaurants, cafes and venues require prior notice of final numbers. If a member is unable to attend a function after paying, the policy of the club is that once monies have been paid, refunds are only possible if the venue does not charge for the absentee. Once paid for, theatre tickets become the responsibility of the club member.

Probus Coonara-Cherrybrook Facebook Page

Probus Coonara-Cherrybrook has an active and private Facebook group with almost 100 members. This is a place for members to post and view posts from members across all activity groups. If you are not yet a member, but would like to join, please contact Fred King by email, phone or text messenger or Facebook and he'll be pleased to send you an invitation.

Email; Mobile:

Direct Link to Probus Members Benefit Site: -

http://probussouthpacific.org/pages/members_offers_member_benefits_scheme

February Festivities



Wobbling along in Wollongong!



Last parade for the year before the AGM!



Begorra, it's our own leprechaun - Little Kenny!



Doin' the business!



Queens of all the Faeries!

All Mon	Golf	Various courses	TBA	Mal Anderson	
All Wed	Tennis	Belltree Crescent C. Hill	5-7.00 pm	Ron Powell	

April

Wed 1	Craft	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Judith Gauci	
Thu 2	Mah Jong	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Marie Eyles	
Mon 6	Wine Appreciation	Living Choice Glenhaven	4 – 6 pm	Rob Templeton	
Tue 7	Investment Group	Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL	10.15 am	John Badcock	
Fri 10	Bowls	Castle Hill Bowling Club	9.15 latest	Russ Bush	
Sun 12	Barefoot Bowls	Castle Hill Bowling Club	12.00 noon	Colleen Sherwood	
Mon 13	Cards for Fun	W. P.H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Jenny Davis	
Tu 14	Walking Group	Walking Trip	10.00 am	Julie & Steve Dunesky	
Thu 16	Mah Jong	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Marie Eyles	
Fri 17	Bicycle Group	Bella Vista Farm	10.00am	Russ & Rhonda Bush	
Sun19	Jazz at the Pines	Roughley House Dural	12.30 pm	Lyn Paterson	
Mon 20	Movie Group	Castle Hill Events Cinema	9.30 am	Elaine Finch	
Tue 21	Members Meeting	Castle Hill Bowling Club	10.00am.	Sue Badcock	
Thu 23	Book Club	Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL Club	10.30 am	Lesley Maker	
Fri 24	Bowls	Castle Hill Bowling Club	9.15 latest	Russ Bush	
Sun 26	Sunday Lunch	Baulkham Hills Sports Club	12.00 noon	Ann Colless	
Mon 27	Cards for Fun	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Jenny Davis	
Tue 28	Solo Travellers' Coffee	Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL Club	10.15 am	Ann Colless	

May 2026

Tue 5	Investment Group	Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL Club	10.15 am	John Badcock	
Wed 6	Craft	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Judith Gauci	
Thu 7	Mah Jong	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Marie Eyles	
Mon 11	Cards for Fun	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Jenny Davis	
Fri 15	Bicycle Group	TBA	10.00am	Russ & Rhonda Bush	
Sun 17	Jazz at the Pines	Roughley House Dural	12.30 pm	Lyn Paterson	
Mon 18	Movie Group	Castle Hill Events Cinema	9.30 am	Elaine Finch	
Mon 18-21	Walking Group	Newcastle Walking Trip	10.00 am	Glenda King	
Tue 19	Members Meeting	Castle Hill Bowling Club	10.00am.	Sue Badcock	
Thu 21	Mah Jong	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Marie Eyles	
Fri 22	Bowls	Castle Hill Bowling Club	9.15 latest	Russ Bush	
Sun 24	Sunday Lunch	TBA	12.00 noon	Ann Colless	
Mon 25	Cards for Fun	W.P. H. Sporting Club	10.00am	Jenny Davis	
Tue 26	Solo Travellers' Coffee	Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL	10.15 am	Ann Colless	
Thu 28	Book Club	Lucy's Bar Castle Hill RSL Club	10.30 am	Lesley Maker	
Fri 29	Bowls	Castle Hill Bowling Club	9.15 latest	Russ Bush	