



Probus Club of Newcastle Inc.
PO Box 597 The Junction NSW 2291

NEWSLETTER

July 2024: Vol 34 No 4

Website: newcastleprobus.org

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To print from the Website, click **NEWSLETTER**

President: **Lindsay Threadgate 0419 230 236**

Secretary: **Frank Rice 0418 611 195**

Treasurer: **Keith Lynch 0409 537 225**

Activities: **Geoff Morris 0412 613 591**

Speakers: **Neil Latham 0488 166 355**

Editor: **Peter Rickford 0412 495 575**

GENERAL MEETING 30th July – Programme:

9.30 am – Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, Induction

9.45 am – Member Special Interest/Autobiography

10.00 am – Coffee and Tea

10.30 am – Guest Speaker – Surprise



President's Report: Lindsay Threadgate

Welcome to the July 2024 Newcastle Probus Newsletter.



Our June meeting was well attended and again we had some visitors making our attendance 31. Our recently inducted member Bruce Devir gave part 2 of his autobiography, what an interesting life and considerable contribution he has made.

Unfortunately, our guest speaker had to withdraw leaving insufficient time to arrange a replacement, but fortunately effective "Googling" found a very interesting video "Newcastle 200 Years of History (1997/1998)" which was released to commemorate the passing of Historian Dr. John Turner. Many of us knew John and by the comments and feedback the video was well appreciated.

Geoff Morris had us venturing out again, this time to the HMRI (Hunter Medical Research Institute) located in the grounds of the John Hunter Hospital. What an eye-opening experience, such a facility in our backyard. Thanks to the internet and Wikipedia we find "*Established in 1998, the research institute is a partnership between the University of Newcastle, Australia, Hunter New England Local Health District and the community. It aims to improve health and wellbeing of its communities.*" It must surely do that! Although a relatively small group, we were admirably impressed by the young professor, Kirsty Pringle and Dr Grace Burns. They made us especially welcome and besides the information they presented gave us a very colourful morning tea.

Keith Hole has now commenced working with our Secretary Frank Rice and I am sure will soon be putting his ideas and influence forward.

I am hoping that you are all aware of our upcoming Ladies Lunch, this is the occasion that we get to thank our Ladies for supporting us in our Probus activities. It is one of our must attend events of the year. I hope to see many of you and your ladies on Friday 26th.

What has happened to July? Of course, if I have missed something then do not hesitate to bring it up with me personally. The last time I bit someone, it was my mother putting her finger in my mouth to feel the progress of my baby teeth. Sorry, read that, the second last time. The last time I got a smack from her. If you have something to share with us then please do so!

The Next General Meeting of Newcastle Probus Club will be held on 27th August 2024 at Souths Merewether



Special Interest: *Marty Rowland*

Our autobiographer for this month is Alan White



Treasurer's Report: *Keith Lynch*

Bank Reconciliation end April 2024: Opening Balance \$9,027, Income \$1,776, Expenditure \$1,062 Closing Balance \$8,841, Term Deposit \$7,500

Payments: Cash: To Treasurer (in envelope with name, purpose, and amount).

Internet Banking: Newcastle Permanent Building Society, BSB: 650000, A/c No.943213300



Activities: *Geoff Morris*

Visit to Hunter Medical Research Institute 3rd July

20 of our members and partners enjoyed a special opportunity to

review some of the amazing activities

being undertaken in this world leading research facility. A pleasant lunch was held after at the Gates Hotel, Adamstown.



Military Vehicle Collection at Rathmines and Ryhope

(incorporating lunch at Toronto Workers Club) **Wednesday 11**

September. Meeting at Rathmines at 10.30 returning to

Newcastle mid-afternoon. Keep the date free with more details closer to the day.



Membership: *Brian Prior*

On the recent visit we learned that worldwide our HRMI centre is so highly regarded that they were asked by the Harvard Institute in the USA to be one of only 3 centres in the world to use the most powerful MRI scanner. To put this MRI scanner in perspective to the MRI scans we may have had it was like "comparing a bicycle to a space rocket". Its resolution is so great it can determine if a speck of blood may develop into a clot.



Walking Group:

Our walking, talking and coffee is on Tuesdays except for General Meeting days.

Now that it is winter and cooler, it is still a pleasant walk along the bank of Throsby Creek, followed by coffee at the NYC and stimulating discussion. Come along to enjoy the friendly banter on the day. All welcome. The walk starts promptly at 9.30 am and coffee follows at 10 am.

"Everyone who attends enjoys the outing."



Website: *Lindsay Threadgate*

There are only minor updates to the website. Feedback and contributions are always welcome. Contact: lindsaythr4@outlook.com or peter.rickford@yahoo.com

A button/link has been added to the website Membership page for the latest Membership Booklet

2024 LADIES LUNCHEON - REMINDER

Club Macquarie, Lake Road, Argenton, This Friday, 26th July
11.00am: Arrive - Tea & Coffee 11.30am: Welcome – Guest Speaker
12.30pm: Lunch

Nine Important Facts to Remember as We Grow Older:

#9 Death is the number 1 killer in the world.

#8 Life is sexually transmitted.

#7 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

#6 Men have 2 motivations: hunger and hanky panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich

#5 Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years unless you give them your email address.

#4 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.

#3 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

#2 In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.

#1 Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.

Please share this wisdom with others while I go to the bathroom.

Most seniors never get enough exercise. In His wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach & stretch. When he looked down, he saw that was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it too was good.

So if you find as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

An Eskimo couple got married at the North Pole. After six months of wedded bliss, they called it a day!

The Port of Newcastle - Current Status & Future Plans

A fascinating update and vision of possibilities at the Newcastle Institute.

The Port of Newcastle handles 4,697 ship movements and 166 million tonnes of cargo annually, with trade through the port contributing \$71 billion to the Australian economy. Currently its deepwater shipping channel operates at 50% of its capacity, and with significant port land available with rail and

road infrastructure access, there are opportunities to further strengthen the port's activity and economic contribution.

At the Newcastle Institute's July meeting (Wednesday, 10th July 2024 6.00pm – 7.30pm), Professor Roy Green, Chair of the Port of Newcastle, discussed the current status of the port and provided insight into the future plans to diversify its trade, focusing on the large infrastructure projects of Newcastle Deepwater Container Terminal and the Clean Energy Precinct. Professor Green is also Emeritus Professor of Innovation at the University of Technology Sydney, Conjoint Professor at the University of Newcastle and a member of the Vice Chancellor's Business & Industry Advisory Board.

With a direct ship-to-rail capacity on the former BHP site, it is expected that the container terminal project will bring \$2.5 billion of economic activity to Australia as well as 19,000 direct and indirect jobs. Located on a 220-hectare parcel of industrial wasteland, the Clean Energy Precinct will position Newcastle and the Hunter Region as a leading production, storage and export hub for future clean energy products and technologies including hydrogen and green ammonia.

Professor Green will discuss the opportunities these projects will provide for the Hunter, state and nation to ensure a diverse and sustainable economy.

A video is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IU7-q2e0Ko0>

A little local history. It is believed that Dumaresq Street Hamilton was named after Henry.

Henry Dumaresq (1792-1838), and William John Dumaresq (1793-1868), were sons of Colonel John Dumaresq of Bushel Hall, Shropshire, England, and his wife Anne, née Jones. Both went to the Royal Military College, Great Marlow, and served during the Peninsular war and in Canada, where William, a captain in the Royal Staff Corps, was engaged in the construction of the Ottawa canal.

Henry, who served with the 9th Regiment (lieutenant-colonel, 1818) was severely wounded at Waterloo, his gallantry being recorded by Sir Walter Scott in *Paul's Letters to His Kinsfolk* (1816). While on service in Mauritius in 1818-25 he became military secretary to General (Sir) Ralph Darling, who married his sister Eliza. When Darling accepted office as governor of New South Wales, Henry was invited to become his private secretary and arrived in the *Phillip Dundas* in October 1825 to prepare accommodation for the governor's party. Edward Dumaresq accompanied Darling as far as Van Diemen's Land and William came with him to Sydney.

Darling appointed Henry as clerk to the Executive Council. William received provisional appointment as civil engineer, inspector of roads and bridges, and was later recommended by Darling as deputy surveyor general. For a short time, he was acting colonial treasurer, in anticipation of Henry's appointment to this office, but none of his appointments were confirmed by the British government.

Accusations of nepotism made by (Sir) Francis Forbes and by the editors of the *Australian* and the *Monitor* were followed by Sir George Murray's dispatch warning Darling against the appointment to public office of 'any relative or near connection'. In 1829 William retired from public life and after Darling's recall in 1831 Henry served as private secretary to the acting governor, Patrick Lindesay, until Governor (Sir) Richard Bourke's arrival, when he too retired to the country.

The Dumaresq brothers were subjected to constant newspaper attacks during Darling's term of office. William's part in the Sudds-Thomson affair and his work on the north road which led to his brother's estate received much unjust comment. He was accorded less publicity, but more enduring praise, for his services on the Land Board, on the committee of the Female Factory and as the sponsor of John Busby's water supply scheme. A libellous attack in the *Australian* on 17 March 1827, 'How to live by plunder', resulted in a duel between Henry Dumaresq and Robert Wardell. After three shots were fired on each side without effect Wardell's apology was accepted.

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