



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

# NEWSLETTER

**August 2024: Vol 34 No 5**

**Website:** [newcastleprobus.org](http://newcastleprobus.org)

**Email:** [newsletter@newcastleprobus.org](mailto:newsletter@newcastleprobus.org)

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

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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**

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## GENERAL MEETING 27<sup>th</sup> August – 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 – Mark Brooker

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### **President's Report:** Lindsay Threadgate



Welcome to the August 2024 Newcastle Probus Newsletter.

Our July meeting was well attended and again we had some visitors making our attendance 31. Seems 31 is a repeating number but the receipts verify it. This is positive as we had been catering for 30 at our meetings and we have increased that to 35, so let's take up the slack.

Our member Alan White gave a very interesting autobiography including his much-travelled career. I think we envied his time in Canada and realised how often he was not home upon his return to Australia. All in all, very interesting, thanks Alan.

Our guest speaker, Sarah, enlightened us on the work that St Vincent de Paul does, it is not just the Vinnies shops. It is always good to hear about the lesser-known activities of such organisations.

Our Ladies Luncheon was, in my opinion, an outstanding success. Thanks go to Stephen Pead. And how well were we entertained, taken back in time etc. by Rick Pointon. His book, HEY ROCK "N" ROLL, was a particular hit. For Novocastrians of our generation or would be Novocastrians, like me, it certainly took us back. For those who bought a copy, (and there were many) I suggest you get your best reading glasses out. To accommodate all, Rick has selected quite a small font size.

We thought that Geoff Morris had given us a spell in August but at short notice he sprung on a TAFE dinner. I hope those that many can take this up have an enjoyable evening. Geoff will have us venturing out again in September. This time having a look at what I believe will be a very interesting display. The largest collection of ex-military vehicles and memorabilia in Australia.

That's about me for August. Except that I would like to express that August of course has another meaning other than the eighth month of the year. One might use it in relation to those that gather for coffee on those other Tuesdays. Or is that gathering more correctly the Probus Sophoi? Let my word of the month be Sophoi and it can be debated.

Of course, if I have missed something then do not hesitate to bring it up with me personally. If you have something to share with us then please do so!

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***The Next General Meeting of Newcastle Probus Club will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Souths Merewether***

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**Special Interest:** *Marty Rowland*

Our autobiographer for this month is Graeme McIntyre

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**Treasurer's Report:** *Keith Lynch*

**Bank Reconciliation end July 2024:** Opening Balance \$8,841, Income \$1,226, Expenditure \$2,481 Closing Balance \$7,586, 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

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**Activities:** *Geoff Morris*

**Visit to Military Vehicle Museum(s) Rathmines Wed 13 September**

A special collection of working machinery and we have access to inspect it on this rare occasion. The plan is as follows:

10.30 Assemble at NMS 16 Karoonda Close, Rathmines for viewing of part of the collection and location of possibly restoration work happening.

11.45-12.00 Leave for lunch at the Toronto Workers Club (good parking and simple starting point for visit to Ryhope, (good menu at reasonable prices)

2.00 Arrive at Ryhope (details at lunch break) for part 2 of the collection

Departure time from Ryhope will be flexible unless you have any specific wishes (some may wish to view a further collection of military mementos in the old house and some may not).

There are currently nearly 30 names for this outing and registration sheet will be available at Tuesday's meeting.

Geoff Morris [morrisgeoff@y7mail.com](mailto:morrisgeoff@y7mail.com)

0412 613591



*Some Ladies Luncheon photos*

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**Walking Group:**

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

Next week will be the beginning of spring and a great time for a pleasant walk along the banks 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.

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## “Save the Date” for our Christmas Luncheon”

Date: 29 November (11am-3pm)  
Venue: Club Macquarie, Argenton

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### **Bowls:** *John (Robbie) Robinson*

The bowls group is starting to interact with other local clubs. There have been two days since the last PROBUS meeting. Charlestown on 29<sup>th</sup> July and Morpeth on Hunter (at East Maitland) on 12<sup>th</sup> August. No games were won, but we had better luck in the raffles.

There are two days coming up in September and we would love for a few members to join us. Maitland North Probus at Lorn on 16<sup>th</sup> September and Fern Bay on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

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### **Membership:** *Brian Prior*

Brian is continuing in his quest to recruit more members, and his efforts are certainly bearing good results.

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### **Website:** *Lindsay Threadgate*

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

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

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### **Don't tell secrets in the garden.**

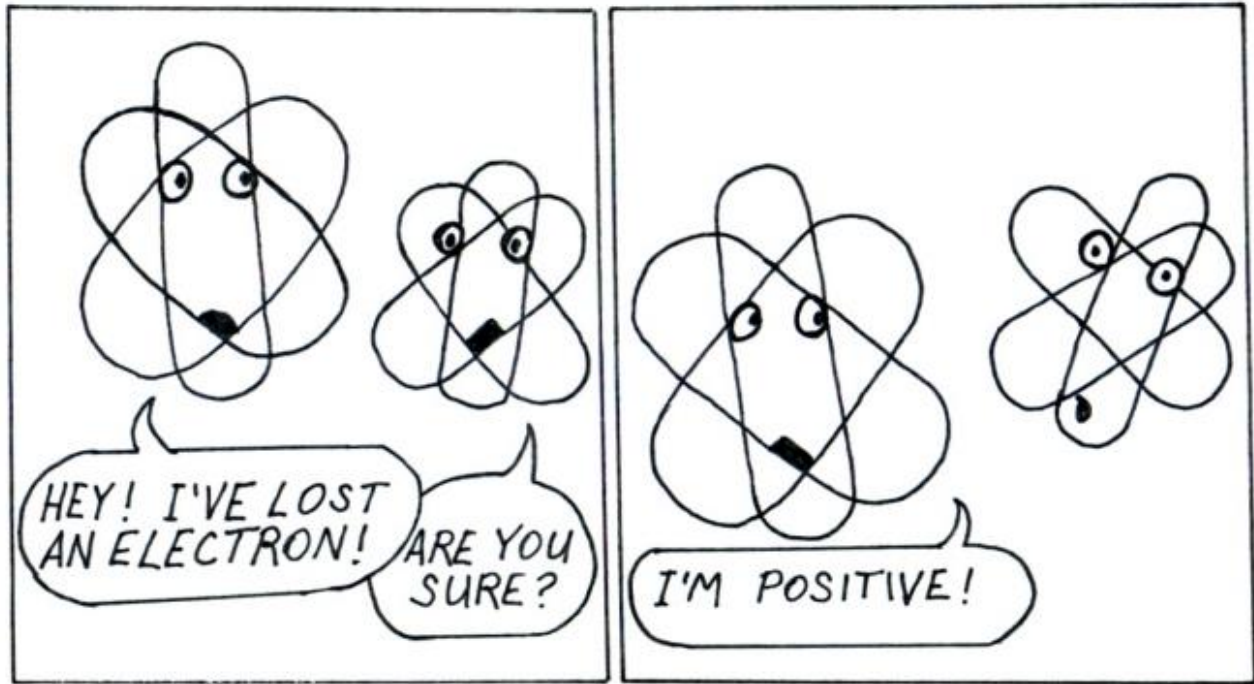
The potatoes have eyes, the corn has ears, the grapevines aren't known for being soundproof and the beanstalk.

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Two old men are sitting in a bar.  
One of them looks at the other & says  
“You look familiar... where you from?”  
The second old man replies “Ireland”  
The first old man looks astonished & says  
” No way I'm from Ireland myself, what a small world!”  
The second old man then looks at the first “What city?”  
The first old man says “Dublin?”  
The second old man looks astonished  
“No way I'm from Dublin myself! What a small world.”  
The first man looks at the second old man “What school you go to?”  
The second old man replies  
“Saint Mary's class of 89”  
The first old man is absolutely baffled  
” NO WAY Saint Mary's class of 89 myself! What a small world!”  
At this point, another man comes into the bar & says to the bartender  
“Hey, Joe! Anything interesting going on?”  
The bartender says  
“Not really... but the Murphy twins are drunk again.”



## TWO ATOMS



© NEIL LATHAM.  
9.9.99

An elderly woman went to buy some cat food. She picked up three cans, but the cashier stopped her and said, "I'm sorry, but we can't sell this to you without proof that you own a cat. Unfortunately, some seniors have been buying cat food to eat themselves, and management requires proof that you're purchasing it for your pet."

Determined, the woman went home, fetched her cat, and returned to the store. With her cat in tow, she was able to purchase the food.

The following day, she came back to buy two cans of dog food. Once again, the cashier insisted on proof that she had a dog. So, the woman went home, brought in her dog, and successfully bought the dog food.

A day later, the woman returned with a small box that had a hole in the lid. She handed it to the cashier and said, "Would you please put your finger in the hole?"

The cashier hesitated and replied, "No way, there might be a snake in there!"

The woman reassured her, "There's nothing in there that could hurt you, I promise."

Reluctantly, the cashier put her finger into the hole, then quickly pulled it out, exclaiming, "That smells awful!"

With a grin, the elderly woman responded, "Exactly. Now, may I please buy two rolls of toilet paper?"

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