



NEWSLETTER

July 2026: Vol 36 No 4

Probus Club of Newcastle Inc. Website: newcastleprobus.org

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President: **Stephen Pead 0411 471 118**

Secretary: **Keith Hole 0419 219 193**

Treasurer: **Keith Lynch 0409 537 225**

Activities: **Geoff Morris 0412 613 591**

Speakers: **David Tarento 0434 133697**

Editor: **Peter Rickford 0412 495 575**

GENERAL MEETING 28th July– Programme:

10.30 am – Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, Induction

10.45 am – Member Autobiography – James Hart

11.00 am – Coffee and Tea

11.30 am – Guest Speaker – Vince Reedy - Nuclear Power in Australia - Small Modular Reactors



President's Report: *Stephen Pead*

G'day fellow club members and welcome to our July newsletter.



At last month's meeting club secretary Keith Hole asked members for ideas and suggestions. I'd like to expand further on that.

- what would you like the club to do more of?
- what would you like the club to do less of?
- how can we make the club stronger?
- how can we continue our successful membership growth?

The committee genuinely look forward to your thoughts. After all it's *your* club and to use an old phrase "there's no such thing as a bad idea, only *no* idea".

On the subject of ideas, Geoff and Robbie have been coming up with some great activities. I attended the visit to Port Stephens Fisheries Institute on 15 July, and it was a terrific day out, absolutely fascinating and there's more good ones coming up!

Newer members (and maybe older members too) mightn't be aware of the Probus National Insurance Program which provide coverage for members participating in approved club activities such as meetings, outings, tours, trips and special interest groups. The cover also includes travel to/from these activities.

One of our regular and popular segments is the member autobiography - this month it's James Hart. While our guest speaker Vince Reedy will be talking on Australian power generation and specifically nuclear power generation...now that's a very interesting subject!! If you have a mate who you think will enjoy hearing about this, invite him along.

And we'll also try something a little different at the meeting - the two minute "chocolate challenge". I promise you it'll be fun.

Finally, I'll leave you with a thought from Abraham Lincoln. ***"It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years"***

See you on Tuesday, Cheers

The next General Meeting of Newcastle Probus Club will be held on 25th August at Souths Merewether.



Treasurer's Report: *Keith Lynch*

Bank Reconciliation end June 2026: Opening Balance \$7,089, Income \$1,373
Expenditure \$810, Closing Balance \$7,653, 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 and Robbie Robinson*

Visit to Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (NCIG)

Fourteen members of the Club conducted a highly satisfactory visit to NCIG on Thursday 25th June. The Visit did not disappoint and on arrival the Group received a comprehensive brief on the management and functions of NCIG. The brief detailed the complex and highly automated process of managing and processing the coal from its arrival, through its processing and sorting prior to its eventual loading onto a bulk carrier. The brief lasted longer than had been planned due to questions on pollution mitigation and the management of such a complex operation. A vehicle tour of the extensive site followed the brief. Following the visit, the group adjourned for lunch at West's in Mayfield.

Visit to NSW Fisheries Research Institute, Taylors Beach

Wednesday 15 July

Whilst the rainy weather challenged our 19 hardy travellers it didn't prevent an interesting and informative visit to this local state government facility. I had been fortunate to have visited here over 40 years ago and my how the site and operations have expanded in that time. Whilst marine operations are still primary, the research and developments now include agriculture as well and projects are of both a national and international nature. Some significant projects include obviously fish with projects to assist in breeding and developing saleable species but all types of molluscs and feeding strategies. (The site is the 4th largest oyster producer in NSW). Special thanks to Jodie for organizing and Wayne for conducting our tour. Most of our group then moved on to the Barramundi Farm (to the Cook-a barra Restaurant) for a well-earned lunch.



Visit to Westrac NSW Headquarters at Tomago

Wednesday 19 August 10am

Westrac, is one of the largest Caterpillar agencies in the world with over 4,500 employees. Key operations include equipment sales, parts and servicing, technology and asset

management and a nationally recognized apprenticeship scheme. The visit is limited to a maximum of 20 people. Optional lunch (at own expense after tour).

Registration sheet at Tuesday's meeting.

Hawkesbury River History and Heritage Cruise

Thursday 24 September

By Rail from Newcastle to Brooklyn. Join the train from the station that suits you.

Some options are:	Newcastle Interchange	7.31
	Hamilton	7.34
	Broadmeadow	7.37
	Cardiff	7.47

(there are other station options-see timetable)

Arrive Hawkesbury River Station, Brooklyn for 5-minute walk to wharf

Visit historic WWI and WWII sites, on board the ferry 'Sorrento'. A large monitor will display historical photos, special graphics, video, animations and onsite drawings, photos and live commentary. Hawkesbury River/Broken Bay. Departing Brooklyn 9.35am for a tour of 3 hrs 15 minutes duration.

Cost: \$40 Concession,
Morning Tea included.

After cruise optional lunch at historical Anglers Rest Hotel (early 1900's) for lunch before returning by train to Newcastle. Likely options are 2.51pm or 3.51pm

There are 30 names on the list so far and it is now time to pay the special price of \$40 per person into the Newcastle Probus Club account and confirm the same to Geoff Morris.

Registration sheet at Tuesday's meeting.



Upcoming Guest Speakers

31st July	Ladies Lunch	
25th August	Wendy Dupont	Original Tea Gardens Ferry
22nd September	Mark Apthorpe	Logistics and Supply Chain Challenges
27th October	Alan Playford	Working in Rescue and Overseas
24th November	Lucas Coleman	TBA

Save the date.

27th November - Christmas Luncheon

8th December - Life Members, Past Presidents & Current Committee Lunch



An old couple sat on the veranda. The wife said, "I love you." The husband asked, "Is that you or the wine talking?" She said, "It's me talking to the wine!"

Why do retirees love Mondays? Because they can watch everyone else drive to work while sipping a nice morning cup of coffee.

The teenager said to her friend "when I die, I want to go just like my grandfather who died peacefully in his sleep. Not screaming and yelling like all the passengers in his bus!"

I'm not old, I'm just highly experienced at being alive longer than most other people.

CLUB PROBUS POLO SHIRT & HOODIE

GILDAN POLO Shirt



Slim fit
90% cotton 10% polyester
Colour SPORTS GREY
Sizes S to 2XL
PRICE \$35

GILDAN POLO Shirt



Classic fit
100% cotton
Colour WHITE
Sizes S to 2XL
PRICE \$40

ZIP UP Hoodie



Spun yarn for softer feel
50% cotton
WHITE only
Sizes S to 2XL
PRICE \$60

Our Vice President Brian is still taking orders with payment and has size charts available.



FINAL REMINDER - 2026 LADIES LUNCHEON

Members, Ladies and Guests are invited to the Probud Club of Newcastle Ladies Luncheon

Club Macquarie, Lake Road, Argenton - Friday, 31st July 2026

11.00am: Arrive - Tea & Coffee/Pre Lunch Drinks

11.25am: Welcome

11.30am: Guest Speaker

12.30pm: Lunch

1.30pm: Fellowship

Our Guest Speaker: Newcastle's very own "Miss Kim"

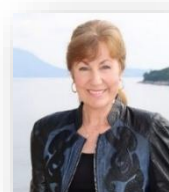


A performer since she was 10 and then a music teacher, Kim Hornby has dedicated her life to educating, entertaining and nurturing youngsters, but her influence extends far beyond that.

She's better known as "Miss Kim", and if you grew up in the Hunter Region, she was probably a big part of your childhood.



From Romper Room, to tucking Big Dog into bed every night...the iconic "Miss Kim" is ready to share her amazing journey with us!



Last chance to book and advise Stephen Pead at meeting.

OR email peady@y7mail.com or phone 0411 471 118

Payment of \$60 per person by funds transfer:

BSB 650-000 / Account Number 943213300 (please include your name)

The next General Meeting of Newcastle Probud Club will be held on 25th August 2026 at Souths Merewether
