MANLY BEACH PROBUS CLUB

October 2026 Newsletter

Meeting day/time: 1st Monday of every month at 10:00am
Next meeting: Monday 2nd November 2026, 9.45 for 10.00am.
Meeting venue: Manly Youth & Community Centre, 9 Kangaroo Street, Manly 2095

Minutes of last general meeting are sent with the newsletter, please review before the next meeting.

President's Message:

Congratulations to Manly Beach Probus Inc! We have reached our cap of Eighty members in little over one year. Thirty-three of us celebrated in style, welcoming our last-in member, Ngaire Childs, and cheering the 50th Anniversary of Probus in Australia, at a picnic at 'The Office' on the harbourfront. Members excelled themselves in producing an amazing byo spread, and we had a tot of champagne to welcome both these milestones. Brenda Gilet organised an interesting game which kept everyone entertained and amused. Our newly elected Deputy Mayor, Ruth Robins, said a few words and helped Ngaire and I cut our special Probus cake, and she stayed to enjoy the whole proceedings. I believe the town hall bathed in Probus colours of blue and gold light when the sun went down, had people intrigued. The 50th celebrations will continue for the rest of the year so do have a look at South Pacific Probus' Newsletter to see what others are doing.

Our long weekend meeting proved a very useful and fun event. Collating all the information from the day is showing a much clearer path for our club. Thanks everyone for such enthusiastic participation. Recently at The Steyne Hotel, our Manly Beach boys 'floated some ideas on paper' as Frank McEncroe described it. Making paper planes and attempting to fly them is a more apt way to describe their activity! An interesting introduction for newcomers to Probus!

Our group activities continue to be well attended like the very comprehensive tour of the GPO - highly recommended to anyone who has not been. It really pays to 'look up' occasionally! And the Sculptures by the sea 'walkie talkies' adventure is shaping up well.

Now everyone's heard of people being sent to Timbuktu, but the only person I know who has actually returned to tell the tale is our next guest speaker, Catherine DeVrye. Mentioned in to the top 100 women of influence, Catherine is a a best selling author who has twice been voted Speaker of the year.

People often ask me: What is the difference between Probus and Rotary Clubs? Here is the short answer. Rotary Clubs actively raise funds, manage charities, and run community service initiatives. Probus was initiated by Rotary but is now explicity a non-service club dedicated to social connection, mental stimulation, guest speakers, and interest groups (such as walking, book and travel clubs, all designed to prevent isolation in retirement. It is perfectly acceptable to belong to both at the same time.

Our next meeting will take place on Monday 2nd November with our aforementioned guest speaker, Catherine DeVrye; and our usual socialising over a delicious morning tea. The venue is of course, the Manly Community Centre, 9 Kangaroo Street, at 9.45 for 10 - and as always, we love to see all those happy smiling faces at our activities in the meantime. Just a 'heads up' that there will be no Guest Speaker in December. Its Christmas party time!

Anne McEncroe (Foundation President)

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Guest Speaker

November Speaker: Catherine DeVrye - Best-selling Author and Leading Australian Motivational Speaker. The topic of her talk will be her new book - **'Beyond Timbuktu: Journeys of Hope & Humanity'**

Catherine DeVrye is a best-selling author and one of Australia's top motivational speakers, known for her inspiring and practical approach to leadership, customer service, and personal resilience. With a diverse background that spans a decade in executive roles at IBM across Australia, Tokyo, and Hong Kong, DeVrye has developed a unique understanding of corporate dynamics, cross-cultural management, and quality customer service.

Always in search of new material, as a thought leader she has even trekked to Timbuktu! An active surf lifesaver, sportswoman & adventurer, she's cycled over the Andes, scaled peaks in the Antarctic & climbed 20,000' to the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro in Africa & beyond Everest Base Camp

Catherine has taught at prestigious institutions such as Harvard University, The Melbourne Mt. Eliza Business School, and IMD in Switzerland

If you have any recommendations for future inspiring Guest Speakers, please leave a note in the Suggestion Box

Activity report

For more photos go to the **Manly Beach Probus Members only Facebook page**

We'd love you to share your photos and stories from the activities you've attended on our members-only Facebook page: it is a wonderful way to add even more fun and connection and get involved.

Activity Groups

Manly Beach Boys

Another fun and enjoyable evening held on Monday 12th October at Hotel Steyne for the Manly Beach Boys with an excellent 12 in attendance. Drinks and dinner were preceded by a paper aeroplane throwing competition. A lot of laughs. Graham won 1st prize for longest distance and another prize awarded for a plane that went backwards (name kept a secret)

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Craft and Chatter Group

The Craft Group is making a wide range of items, including Remembrance Poppies for Remembrance Day on 11 November. **Knitted poppies will be available for sale at the meeting on 2 November for $5 each, payable in cash**. Proceeds will help cover the cost of materials for the group's charity projects, including blanket squares for Wrap with Love, beanies for seafarers and premature babies, and trauma teddies for Stewart House. Different colours of poppies will be available.

In Australia and other countries of the Commonwealth, we recognise the red poppy as the commemorative flower of remembrance. The flower reminds us of those who lost their lives or suffered in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. It's a tradition that began in the early 1900s, after World War I.

The meanings of other poppy colours vary, but generally: white commemorates all casualties and represents peace; purple honours animals that were victims of war; and black remembers those who died, particularly Indigenous service personnel.

Everyone is welcome, please keep in contact with Brenda Gilet who is coordinating this group and communicating through a dedicated WhatsApp group

If you have any spare craft items e.g. fabric pieces, wools, needles or hooks that you no longer need the group would appreciate any donations to make items for Charity.

Walkie Talkies

The walk in October is to the Sculptures by the Sea

For more information on this group or to offer suggestions for future walks please talk with Trish and Deanna who are coordinating this group

Activities team - LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU!!

Links to details for events are included in the diary dates below.

Please also refer to our website for the activity information.

It would be helpful if you can view the activity information and pay for activities by bank transfer **prior** to the Club meeting. Bank transfer is the preferred method of payment. Please see how to pay later in the newsletter.

Don't miss an event! To help you keep track of activities and club events, follow the instructions on our website at Manly Beach Probus Club - Activities. Click on "subscribe to our club Calendar" and the events will then transfer to your calendar. Also remember to save the Manly Beach Probus Club website as one of your favourites so you can find it quickly and easily. Not sure how to do this? – Ask Sally for help at the next meeting.

💬 Our club thrives on connection, laughter, and shared experiences. The more we participate, the more vibrant and welcoming our community becomes. Joining in is the best way to meet others and help shape future events that reflect what *you* enjoy.

📬 Got an idea for an outing, activity, or theme? Pop it in the Suggestion Box—we're all ears! Let's build a club that's full of energy, friendship, and unforgettable moments. See you at the meeting!

Activities coordinator

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NEW!!! Pickle Ball

Following our recent afternoon of Pickleball at North Head we are planning to start a group for those that would like to play on a regular basis. Several people have already indicated that they would be interested in participating and others are most certainly welcome to join as well.

Please add your name and phone number to the list at our next meeting if you would like to be included and added to the WhatsApp Group.

When: Wednesdays from 2–3 pm, for five weeks, from 4 November to 2 December.

Cost: $65 per person (equivalent to $13 per session), payable in full to Probus by direct bank transfer by Tuesday's meeting on 2 November, following the payment instructions later in this newsletter. Payment for the full 5 sessions is required even if you cannot attend all sessions
Bats can be hired at the courts for $5 per session. Pay at the courts
We hope you can join us.

Carrie

Brainstorming results

Thank you for your contribution to the activity Brainstorming session – we got some great ideas for new groups and coordinators of the groups.

The results will be shared at the next meeting.

We are hoping we can kick off some of these groups in the new year.

If you have new ideas or would like to lead a group, please speak up at the next meeting and feel free to contact Robyn Mobbs or Brenda Gilet

How to pay for an Activity

BSB: 112 879 **ACCOUNT NO:** 427 365 666
ACCOUNT NAME: MANLY BEACH PROBUS CLUB INCORPORATED
REFERENCE: Your Surname & Initials **AND** *activity name*

Please send an email to notify your payment to both
treasurer.mbprobusclub@gmail.com **AND** activities.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

To assist with administration:

- Please pay for each activity separately
- Please pay for each person separately

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MANLY BEACH PROBUS NOVEMBER DIARY DATES

NOV 2026	Craft & Chatter every Tuesday 1pm-2:45 Not on 3rd November 2 Wentworth St., Manly	1pm – 2:45pm
Monday 2nd	Probus Meeting Followed by lunch at the Manly Club	9:45 for 10am
Tuesday 3rd	Melbourne Cup Day at The Manly Club	3 course set Menu $95 Bookings Closed
Monday 9th	Coffee & Chat Manly Beach Boys	Manly Pacific 10am The Steyne 4:30pm-7:30pm Drinks & Dinner
Friday 13th	Jacarandah Walk through Kirrabilli with lunch (at own expense)	Meet at 9:30am outside the old Max Brenner on Manly Wharf
Monday 16th	Committee Meeting	9:30
Monday 23rd	Walkie Talkies	Meet at 9:30 in park opposite Garfish
Wednesday 25th	Happy Hour at the Overseas Passenger Terminal 4pm – 6pm	Meet opposite the old Max Brenner to catch ferry at 3:15pm

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MANLY BEACH PROBUS DECEMBER DIARY DATES

DEC 2026	**Craft & Chatter** 1st, 8th and 15th December 2 Wentworth St., Manly	**1pm – 2:45pm**
Monday 7th	**Probus Meeting & Christmas Party Followed by lunch at the Manly Club**	**9:45 for 10am** Dress UP with a'Touch of Christmas'
Monday 14th	**Coffee & Chat** **Manly Beach Boys**	**Manly Pacific 9:30am** **The Steyne 4:30pm**
Thursday 17th	Dinner & Christmas Lights Walk To St Mary's Cathedral & Throughout the City	**Meet on Manly Wharf @ 5:45pm**
Saturday 19th	**Christmas in the Grandparents Club 3pm Show CANCELLED**	**Meet at Glen Street Theatre At 2:30pm**
Monday 21st	**Happy Hour Christmas Drinks**	**The Manly Pavilion 4pm – 6pm**

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Welcome to new members:

Last month we welcomed 1 new visitor to our meeting and now have a waitlist of 4 prospective members. Our committee discussed our membership cap of 80 and will review again prior to the AGM to decide if it may be appropriate to increase this limit, if we have capacity in the meeting room.

Happy Birthday to Members who have recently celebrated their birthday and those with upcoming birthdays

NOVEMBER: Peter Welch, Tricia Whicker, Heather Scott-Young, Lisa Spettigue, Laurie Horsington, John Baines, Di Kirby, Bridget McVicar

DECEMBER: Chris Miles, Robyn Mobbs, Robyn Ritchie, Carrie Robertson, Chris Davitt, Lyndall Stackpool, Moya Lapish, James Kirby

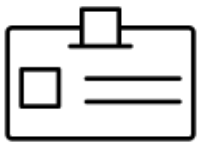
Next meeting dates/times:

Monday 2nd November 2026
Monday 7th December 2026

We are required to keep accurate records of meeting attendance. There is an expectation that members will attend at least 60% of meetings to maintain membership.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, email both secretary.mbprobusclub@gmail.com and Membership.mbprobusclub@gmail.com to have your apology registered, (put 'apology' or 'meeting apology' as the subject).

Reminder: please wear your name badge



Please wear your Probus Name badge to our **Club Meetings** and **Activities**. Wearing your badge is very helpful for new members as they get to know everyone, current members who are still trying to remember everyone's name and at events it also identifies you as a member of Manly Beach Probus.

If you have misplaced your badge, a new one can be ordered for you at cost price. Please see Sally Morton at the next meeting or email Membership.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

We have identified a stronger magnet for name badges that one of our new members uses. If there is sufficient interest, we can purchase a batch of magnets and cost will be between $3 and $5 depending on how many we order. So please let Sally know if you are interested in a much stronger magnet by email to membership.mbprobusclub@gmail.com or at the next meeting.

Monthly Inspiration

"Learning never exhausts the mind." — Leonardo da Vinci

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Keep cups - Caring for the environment

Members are warmly encouraged to bring their own keeper cup to our meetings for morning tea.

By reusing your cups, we can help reduce the number of disposable cups used each month, cut down on waste, and do our bit for the environment.

It is a simple habit, but together these little actions add up—and it is another lovely way for our Probus community to show care for our beautiful local surroundings.

Morning Tea and Hall set up

A big "Thank you" to those members who have volunteered to date.

Thank you to Natalie who Leads the Morning tea arrangements. Please see Natalie if you can help with Morning tea set up and serving

If you can get to the Hall early – your assistance is setting up the Tables and Chairs would be appreciated

BOOK SWAP

Have you recently enjoyed a book—fiction, non-fiction, a recipe book, or something of special interest? If you would like to swap a book, please bring it to the next meeting, place it on the Book Table, and feel free to choose another one to take home. If your book remains on the table at the end of the meeting, please take it home with you.

Lifeline Connect - Message from Lifeline connect

Lifeline NORTHERN BEACHES, MOSMAN TO KIRRIBILLI

Lifeline Connect, a new service providing the local community with accessible service navigation, emotional support and social connection. Lifeline Connect is a free, confidential drop-in service, and access does not require a formal referral.

We know that many community members have difficulty identifying or engaging with available services, while others may be affected by social isolation and loneliness. Lifeline Connect provides a supportive environment to assist people to discuss their circumstances, consider appropriate support options and take practical next steps with our trained volunteers. Lifeline Connect volunteers work within clear duty of care and safety procedures, supporting help seekers respectfully while taking appropriate steps if there are concerns for a person's immediate safety or wellbeing.

This service supports individuals who:

- Are unsure where to begin when seeking support or feel overwhelmed by available service options
- Would benefit from encouragement and warm referral to local services
- Are experiencing social isolation, loneliness, disconnection from community or difficulty reaching out
- Could benefit from a supportive conversation and practical guidance.

Lifeline Connect
Northern Beaches, Mosman to Kirribilli
310 Sydney Road, Balgowlah NSW 2093
T (02) 9949 5522
E connect@lifelinenb.org.au
W www.lifelinenb.org.au

Management Committee:

Executive Committee

President

Anne McEncroe

President.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Vice President

Janice Scheinecker

vicepresident.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Secretary

Kerrie Goodwin

secretary.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Treasurer

Derek Ponsford

Treasurer.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Committee Members

Activities Officer

Robyn Mobbs

activities.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Membership Officer

Sally Morton

Membership.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Website / Technology Officer

Sally Morton

Guest Speaker Officer

Viv Citeaux

speakers.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Newsletter Officer

Brenda Gilet

newsletter.mbprobusclub@gmail.com

Welfare Officer

Irene Addison

General Committee

Ishbel Searle, Trish Whicker

Publicity Officer

Beverley Elliot

Coordinators:

Morning tea

Natalie Nolan

Coffee and Chat

Manly Beach Boys

Neil Spettigue

Walking Groups

Walkie Talkies – Deanna & Tricia

Happy Hour

Craft Group

Brenda Gilet

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Manly Beach Probus Club Social Media

Website	Feel free to share the link to our website with your friends who may be considering joining! Manly Beach Probus Club	
Facebook	- We have a public Facebook page and a private Facebook group - if you use Facebook, please become a member of our private group.	
	Manly Beach Probus Club Members only. There is a Private Facebook group exclusively for Manly Beach Probus members to share photos, ideas, and thoughts. Click on the link or use the QR code below to request to join	
	Manly Beach Probus Club. This is a public page to promote the Club.	

Probus celebrates 50 years in Australia

To keep up to date on special events and offers on what Probus South Pacific are organising you can go to this link Probus - Celebrating 50 Years in Australia.

Probus South Pacific

- We recommend all members register for *"Probus Active Retirees Magazine"*. To download and/or subscribe click here
- To sign-up for the "*Active Retirees Probus E-Newsletter"* click here

To learn more about Probus - Member Benefits Scheme Australia – click here