



THE GRAPEVINE – JULY 2026– Issue 4



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Staying Connected and Looking Ahead

Winter has arrived, and I hope you are keeping warm and cosy. Fortunately, there's plenty to brighten the season, with some wonderful outings and activities on the horizon—giving us all something to look forward to.

Our July meeting featured a truly inspiring presentation by Clare Pearson from Little Wings. Her heartfelt stories and dedication to helping seriously ill children and their families resonated deeply with our members. The remarkable work of Little Wings continues to make an extraordinary difference, and we're grateful to Clare for sharing her experiences with us.

In this edition, I shine a light on some of our 25 interest groups. With such a diverse range of activities available, there's something to suit every interest. Take a few moments to browse the groups—you may just discover a new hobby, make new friends, or find your next favourite activity.

ENJOY the read!

Pam Floyd
President

PRESIDENT

Pam Floyd

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Sharon Peterson

MEMBER SUPPORT

Helen O'Neill

GUEST SPEAKER CO- ORDINATOR

Jehangir Sidhwa

INTEREST GROUP FACILITATOR

Anne Symons

TRAVEL CO-ORDINATOR

Vacant position

INTEREST GROUPS

Here's a couple of interest groups

THE GAME 500 – CONVENER MIKE WARD

Try your hand at playing 500, a four-player social card game played in partnerships.

Held fortnightly on Tuesday evenings – 7pm – 9pm.

Contact Mike [here](#) if you have a question or would like to join the group.



EASY RIDERS – CYCLING GROUP – CONVENER GEOFF DIX

Meet at 8am on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at the Admiralty gates (near the Medora Street Breakfast Point, weather permitting).

All are welcome. It is a social ride, usually about 12kms or so, to a coffee shop for refreshments and a chat. Then a ride back to Admiralty gates by 11am.

Contact Geoff [here](#).



BECOME AN OUTINGS CONVENER

Our Outings Facilitator, Sharon Peterson, has some fantastic ideas for future outings—but she can't do it alone. To bring these ideas to life, we need members willing to step up as outing conveners.

If you've ever thought about helping, now is the perfect time. Don't worry if you have never organised an outing before—planning is easier than you might think, and Sharon will guide you through the entire process. You will have plenty of support every step of the way.

Being a convener is a rewarding way to contribute to our club, help create enjoyable experiences for fellow members, and ensure our exciting outings continue.

If you can lend a hand, please have a chat with Sharon at our next meeting or send her an email (you can find her email address on the directory). Your support would be greatly appreciated.

The following outings require a convener:

- **BIG RED BUS SYDNEY** – Get on the big red bus and view our city of Sydney as if you were a tourist
[Click here to view details](#)
- **LEURA GARDEN FESTIVAL – 2 – 5 OCTOBER**
[more information here](#)
- **BUNDANON – ARTHUR BOYD HOMESTEAD AND GALLERY DAY TRIP**
[Click here for information](#)

SUMMARY OF OUTINGS – JULY

TRAVEL CHAT – CENTRAL RHODES WALK EAT– 8 JULY 2026 - FULLY BOOKED

Learn about the fast-changing history of Rhodes, walk around cafes and restaurants from Singapore to Shanghai, and Tokyo to Taiwan.



BASTILLE FESTIVAL 2026 – 16 JULY 2026 – CIRCULAR QUAY, SYDNEY

C'EST si bon.....a celebration of French culinary, wine and artistic culture.



PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP – NEWTOWN MURAL WALK – 21 JULY 2026

View the murals and street art around Newtown.



CWA TEA ROOM – EASTWOOD - 29 JULY 2026

Enjoy the renowned scones, jam and cream.



[Click here](#) to view further details about the July outings

FRIENDLY FEUD – WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2026
2.30PM – 4.30PM – BREAKFAST POINT COMMUNITY HALL

SURVEY SAYS.....YOU ARE IN FOR A GREAT TIME

Guess the most popular survey answers — not necessarily the technically correct ones! Think of it as “not the *right* answer — the *most common* answer.”

For example:

Q. Name someone Cinderella probably discusses with her therapist

- A.** Stepmother (4 points)
Prince Charming (3 points)
Stepsisters (2 points)
Fairy Godmother (1 point)

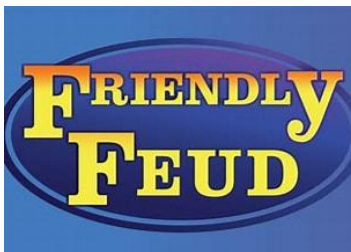
We have a dedicated team ready to organise everything, lead the way, and make sure you enjoy every moment. All you need to do is turn up, join in, and have fun — we’ll take care of the rest.

Organise your own table of 6, or just rock up and our team will place you at a table.

Bring your own drinks and snacks. (some snacks provided).

First, second and third prizes for the winning tables. Heads and tails for a match.

[Make a booking here](#)



JULY GUEST SPEAKER

Clare Pearsons - MISSION Little Wings

Clare is the CEO of Little Wings, a not-for-profit organisation that provides free, professional and safe flight and ground transport services for seriously ill children in rural and regional NSW, ACT and Queensland.

Under her leadership, Little Wings has achieved record service delivery, increasing flights and ground transport year on year. Clare is a qualified psychologist, specialising in child and adolescent welfare, and is passionate about working in not-for-profit and community-based projects.

Clare is a strong believer in the power of people, whereby a united effort can affect meaningful change.



Clare has authored a book, [Threads of Hope](#), that celebrates the lives of human trafficking survivors.

DID YOU KNOW

Clare Pearson along with Dr Tracey O'Brien were honoured as finalists for the [NSW Premier's Woman of Excellence](#).



[Support Little Wings....More information can be found here](#)

TRAVEL 2027

LOOKING TO TRAVEL IN 2027? – (OR LATER THIS YEAR)

Express your Interest for the following (information correct at time of publication):

- **Egypt – 12- 25 October 2026**
Spaces available
- **NSW South Coast and Southern Tablelands - 14-19 February 2027**
Three rooms available
- **Highlights of Nepal and Bhutan 28 March to 11 April 2027**
Room for a single or a couple
- **Japan – 20 October – 3 November 2027**
Spaces available

[Check the itineraries here](#)



NEALE'S ANECDOTES

A bloke was driving through a country town when a copper pulled him over. "Mate, your breath smells of beer. Step out of the vehicle and blow into this breathalyser."

"Can't do that, Officer," the bloke replied. "I've got asthma. If I blow into that machine, I'll have a massive asthma attack."

"Right then," the copper said, "let's do a blood test back at the station."

"Can't do that either," the driver insisted. "I'm a hemophobic. If they take blood, I'll bleed out right there on the table."

Getting frustrated, the officer snapped, "Well, then you'll just have to walk a straight line on the side of the road."

"Can't do that, Officer," said the bloke.

"And why not?!" demanded the copper.

"Because," the driver smiled, "I'm absolutely blind drunk."

FUTURE MEETINGS - 2026

Friday 7 August 2026
Friday 4 September 2026
Friday 2 October 2026
Friday 6 November 2026

There are no meetings scheduled for December and January.

- The annual Christmas dinner will be held in lieu of the December meeting.
- The annual barbecue will be held in lieu of the January meeting.

FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Bastille Festival 2026 – 16 July 2026**
Circular Quay
- **Photography Group – Newtown Mural walk – 21 July 2026**
Newtown
- **CWA Tearooms – Devonshire Tea – 29 July 2026**
Eastwood
- **Walking Tour – Kings Cross and the mystery of Juanita Nielsen – 6 August 2026**
FULLY BOOKED
- **Friendly Feud – Wednesday 19 August 2026**
Breakfast Point Community Hall



MEMBER SUPPORT

If you hear that one of our members is unwell, recovering from an operation, or going through a difficult time, **Helen O'Neill, our Welfare Officer**, would like to know.

A kind word or helping hand can make all the difference, and Helen will ensure they receive the support and care of our Probos community.

COMMUNITY NEWS

[Banish](#) is the Banish Recycling and Diversion program. We take hard-to-recycle household items and recycle them with trusted Australian micro-recyclers. Items like bottle top lids, beauty products, blister packs and so much more!

Since the program first started in our founder Lottie's backyard in 2020, we have diverted over 3.2 million pieces of plastic, and counting!



STILL HAVING TROUBLE RECEIVING WEBSITE EMAIL POSTS?

If you're experiencing problems receiving email posts from our website, help is at hand.

Julie Turner and **Pam Floyd** will be at the Country Club on **Thursday, 9 July between 10:00am and 10:30 am** to assist members with troubleshooting and getting everything working again.

If you've been missing website updates, come along—we'll be happy to help.



Have you or your group shared special moments? Like to be included in the next edition of this newsletter? Your feedback is always appreciated.

[Click here](#) and send news, photos, group outings etc.

All issues of the newsletters can be viewed on our website - [Newsletters Archive](#)