



# ANZ BANKING GROUP RETIRED OFFICERS' CLUB (N.S.W.)

ABN 19 337 817 538

PRESIDENT  
**Philip Cohen**

4 Cliff Avenue  
Peakhurst Hts  
NSW 2210,  
Tel 9534 5480,  
0418 273 403, cohenp1  
@optusnet.com.au

SECRETARY (acting)  
**Graeme Bool**

6 Jamberoo Place  
Bangor, NSW  
2500, Tel. 95434337,  
0427125327  
gbool@bigpond.com

HON. TREASURER  
**Mike Cunneen**

27 Leicester St  
Epping NSW 2121  
Tel. 9876 6969, 0411 639 317  
mikecunneen@optusnet.com.au

WELFARE OFFICER  
**Ken Dighton**

P O Box 16  
New Lambton NSW 2305,  
Tel.0423 104389  
kendighton@bigpond.com

EDITOR

**Sebastian Zammit**  
4/23-25 Market St  
Wollongong NSW 2500  
Tel 0417 171 703  
s.zammit50@bigpond.com

*Welcome to our August 2019 NEWSLETTER*

## Our Club Report from Luncheon 19 August 2019

Today's gathering attracted a great rollup of 46 members. President Phil Cohen welcomed all. Included in the welcome were the following members not seen for a while:-

Ken Keen, Ken Hill, Peter Devoy, Albert Ben Mayor, Clive Neutze.

Phil's welcome was followed by the Loyal Toast to the Queen and the People of Australia.

Thanks to all attendees. Thank you also to those members who took the time to provide us with all of the positive feedback on the quality of the dining experience and all of the other elements of the gathering today. Our thanks and appreciation have been passed on to the club management and the staff.

### Apologies:

Ken Abrahams, John Friedman, Alf McDermott, Elaine Davis, Ron Miller, Tim Barker, Noel Bottrell, Ken Dighton, Richard Peddar, Angela Vallender and Paul Jepson,

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### Bereavements:

#### **Loretta McDermott.**

We regret to advise of the death of Loretta McDermott who was the wife of our well-loved & respected member Alf.

Whilst Loretta was not a member of ANZROC she was an ES&A Employee when she met Alf and was very active in ES&A and later ANZ Women's Club. She has been in poor health for the last few years and it has been a very difficult time for Alf.

Loretta's funeral was held on Tuesday 20th August, 2019 in the Chapel at S.Antonio Da Padova Nursing Village Corner Blaxland Road and North Road Ryde.

Condolences of all members go out to Alf.

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### **Keith Nunn.**

Our esteemed and one of our oldest members, Keith passed away on 12 August, Aged 98 (only 13 days short of his 99 Birthday. Keith was a Union Bank man and joined that Bank in January 1939 in Sydney and served the Bank in various positions over the years. During World War II he was awarded Frances Highest Honour "The Legion of Honour" and full details were recorded in our August 2018 newsletter.

Keith was the late Arthur Brown's brother-in-law who was well known to many ANZ Staff.

Keith's funeral will be held:-

St. Stephens Anglican Church  
252 High Street, Penrith  
Tuesday 27 August 11:00 a.m.

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### **Richard Walkom.**

Sadly, Richard Frank Walkom passed away on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 - aged 88. Richard's Son, Geoff, advised us that his father had not been in good health for the last few years and was suffering from Alzheimer's.

Our condolences have been passed onto Richards's family. His funeral was held at The Magnolia Chapel Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium North Ryde NSW on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> August.

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### **Geoffrey Lydiard**

Sadly, we were advised the loss of our friend and colleague, Geoff Lydiard, who passed away on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.

The news of Geoff's passing came to us through Geoff's long-time friend and ANZROC member, Warren Hudson. Warren has advised that Geoff has not been in good health in recent times and had succumb to a respiratory illness.

Geoff was not a member of ANZROC but maintained an interest in the news of the day through his friend Warren. We are sure that there will be many people within our member ranks who have recollections and memories of working with Geoff Lydiard whose ANZ career traversed a wide range of jobs and locations, as was typical of a career banker in earlier days. Our condolences go out to Geoff's family and in particular, his wife Norma.

His funeral was held at Hanson & Cole Funerals 634 Northcliffe Drive Kembla Grange NSW on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August.



Attending Geoff's funeral service were ANZROC members Warren Hudson, Annette Osmond, Jenny Osmond, Catherine Pietracci, Laurie Sainsbury, Brian White and Sebastian Zammit.

Hale and farewell, Geoff Lydiard.

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## Hugh Ferguson

Whilst Hugh was not a member of ANZROC he would be well known by many for his time in NSW with Corporate Banking. Sadly we were informed by his wife, Randi, that Hugh had passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> August. Our life member, David Wright, received the following letter from Randi which we now share with our members:

*Dear all,*

*We are all devastated - Hugh passed away yesterday - he fought the nasty lung cancer right to the end and never gave up. We were so optimistic he could conquer it when he was diagnosed last July and he coped really well with the chemo and radiotherapy and immunotherapy for the first 6 months, but then got pneumonitis in January and it has been a struggle for the last 6 months. He was admitted to hospital with a lung infection 10 days ago and died peacefully with the 'kids' and me there.*

*We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary last month with a wonderful week in France with the whole family (all 19 of us!) and are grateful that Hugh could manage to travel - I attach a photo - we have wonderful memories and right now we are trying to remember the good things, although I must admit I am struggling - the family are with me and a huge support, but it isn't easy....*

*Lots of love*

*Randi*



Our condolences to all of the families and friends of our departed sisters and brothers. Gone but never forgotten.



**Treasurers Report:** Mike Cunneen reported a sound financial position.

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**Ken Dighton – Welfare Officer**

**Welfare Report:**

**Sick List:**

- Tony Thompson – Tony remains in hospital. His wife Gay said he had a serious setback a week or more ago but he is much more comfortable now. They are hoping he will be able to return home shortly. Best wishes Tony.
- Barry Gibson – Barry has completed an 8-week program of radiation and he will be having a follow-up check in September. He said he is feeling OK but extends his apology for not attending today – he has a medical appointment for another issue (nothing to do with his recent radiation).
- John Burg – John said he is “not too bad”, despite having had radiation treatment, chemotherapy and immunotherapy in recent times. He said the current immunotherapy wins hands-down over chemo. because at least it allows him to taste a beer and a glass of wine (and some food of course). Good luck with the treatment John.
- Barry Smith – our admired Life Member has had much interaction with medicos in recent weeks as part of the treatment regime for his cancer problem. According to wife Wilhelmina he remains positive and continues to enjoy life – when I telephoned he had just left to go down to his golf club for a quiet beer in the sunshine with some mates. Keep that up Barry. Barry rarely misses our monthly lunches and today was no exception.
- Bob McEwan – I spoke with Bob’s wife Rosemary. She said Bob has settled-in well at Peter Cosgrove House and the care is very good – he particularly enjoys the meals there. Well done Bob.

I want to once again express thanks to all those members who regularly make the time to contact former work friends who are not in the best of condition. We rely on the “network” functioning well to ensure as much as possible that one of our Club’s more important objects (member welfare) is met. And of course weight of numbers means that the task of making contact with our members who are unwell needs to be spread around.

I made contact with the following people who enjoy the esteemed title of **Honorary Member** to extend happy birthday wishes and to check to see how they are:

- Ron Booth (89) –Ron said he is “alright”, but a lack of mobility is frustrating. He has a few “age related” conditions” but on the whole he is OK. He continues to live independently with the invaluable help of his niece.
- Kevin Nelson (80) – a new kid on the Hons block. Welcome Kevin. He was in Queensland when I phoned him and he was celebrating in fine style. He is well and keeps active with rounds of golf 3 days a week.
- Allen Burrige (87) – Allen is a regular at our lunch meetings and it was nice that he was able to attend this month. He has had a few issues with bleeding after recent surgery for skin cancer removal, but on the whole he is OK (“still aboveground” as he puts it).
- Bill Chapman (85) – Bill is in reasonable shape apart from some “old fella” ills. He is regular at our lunch meetings and he hopes to join us again on 19<sup>th</sup> (depending on wife Mary’s chemotherapy treatment – best wishes Mary).
- Bob Cunningham (85) – Bob is doing quite well, and he’s happy in his hostel-type accommodation which pretty much allows him to come and go as he pleases. He is expecting a visit from his daughter and her family from Melbourne for a birthday celebration. Have a good one Bob.
- Carl Fleming (86) – Carl is “going OK – no problems”. He sounds as if he is happy with his lot and is still smiling.
- Gary O’Meara (83) – I saw Gary at last month’s lunch meeting. He was in good form then, and he said “don’t bother phoning me for my birthday in August, all things being equal I’ll be at next month’s meeting”. Good work Gary.
- Keith Johnson (86) – I wasn’t able to speak with Keith, but I left him a phone message. We hope you’re in good shape Keith and trust the year ahead will be a happy and healthy one for you.
- Vic East (82) – Vic is another lunch meeting regular from The Illawarra (in attendance today). He said wife Lesley was escorting him to the Kembla Grange gallops for his birthday and he was expecting “to win a fortune”. Vic has finally hung up his hockey stick, and is concentrating on lawn bowls.
- Roy Easton (81) – Roy said his actual birthday was a quiet affair, but he did do some celebrating beforehand with family and friends. He is well and he hopes to catch-up with some old colleagues at our Christmas get-together.
- Colin Stoner (82) – Colin’s many activities show no sign of diminishing. He has just returned from a 2-week charity bike ride in the North West and southern Queensland in aid of the RFDS. He said he was a bit saddle sore for a while but felt he had

achieved something after the event. He also did some cross-country snow skiing earlier in winter. Keep it up Colin, and well done!

- Chris Mirana (80) – Chris is going well and he said he is more than pleased to be drafted onto The Hons list. Welcome aboard Chris.



"You've been with us for 20 years, George. In a few week's time we won't remember your name and wonder if you ever worked here."



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kevin	ALCHIN	7th
Noel	ARMITAGE	21st
Eamon	BERNE	10th
Tony	BROWN	15th
Pauline	BRYANT	17th
Paul	BURGE	22nd
Mike	CUNNEEN	24th
Terry	FERGUSSON	21st
Phil	GARDINER	10th
Graham	GILLARD	4th
Peter	GOERMAN	16th
Bob	HAENEY	29th
Dorothy	JOHNSTON	16th
Allen	JOHNSTONE	4th
David	KNOBLE	12th
Karl	MIZENS	28th

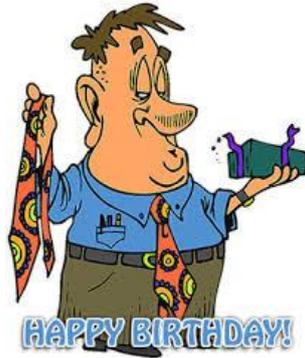
Albert	ORSZACZKY	17th
Annette	OSMOND	17th
Terry	PARKER	29th
Catherine ('Kate')	PIETRACCI	14th
Henry	PILARSKI	16th
Bob	PRIMMER	6th
Trevor	REES	11th
Craig	RICE	21st
Peter	ROBISON	9th
Peter	RUTLEDGE	25th
Peter	SIMPSON	20th
Glen	STORTENBEKER	3rd
Geoff	THOMAS	29th
Brian	TIMMS	23rd
Peter	WATSON	19th

## THE HONS

Garry	ATTEWELL	23rd
Norman	BRAIN	24th
Stan	DOYLE	12th
Reg	ELLIOTT	2nd
David G	FLEMING	5th
Evelyn	GOLDSTEIN	30th
John	HEATHWOOD	29th
John	HICKEY	13th

Barry	HUMPHREYS	26th
Keith	JACOBS	19th
Spencer	MYERS	13th
Les	RENNIE	13th
John	ROBSON	20th
Don	SHEATH	30th
Rupe (Rupert)	THOMAS	24th

**Congratulations to Garry Attewell and Spencer Myers on joining the "Hons"**



Birthday wishes were extended by Graeme Bool to:  
Alan Burrige; Albert Ben Mayor; Vic East; and Gary O'Meara.

Happy birthday to all Club members who celebrated their birthdays in AUGUST.

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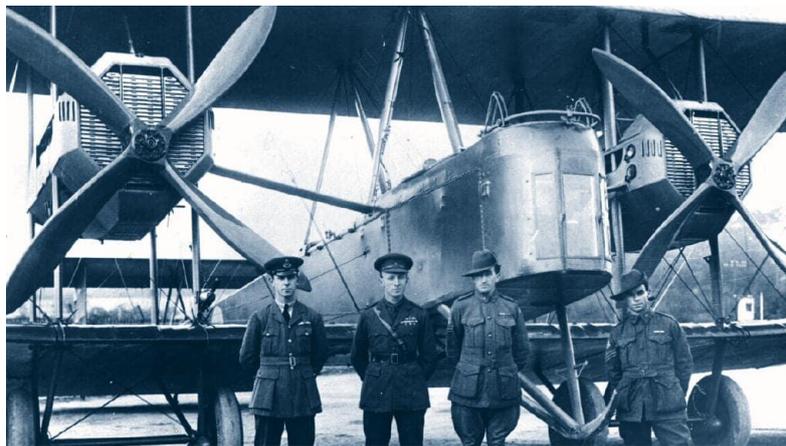
**"It's Monday today and you retire on Friday.  
Don't you think you've left it a bit late?"**

## *Did You Know? Review Mirror into 1919*

*Influenza epidemic causes nearly 12,000 deaths in Australia resulting in the closure of theatres, libraries, churches, and schools in NSW; wearing of masks made compulsory.*

*In 1919 Average weekly wage: men, £3 14s (\$7.49); women, £1 17s*

*Commonwealth government offers a prize of £10,000 to the first Australian crew to fly a British-made aircraft from Britain to Australia in 30 days before the end of the year. 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 1919 Ross and Keith Smith, with Sergeants J. M. Bennett and W. H. Shiers, leave England in a Vickers Vimy aircraft to fly to Australia. They arrive in Darwin on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec winning the race and the prize money. The flight is also remembered as being the first overseas airmail between the two countries.*





## Correspondence:

### On Geoffrey Lydiard.

Catherine Pietracci writes:

“So sorry to hear about Geoff's passing. He was a good, funny man. I really enjoyed working with him when he was posted in the Illawarra area - one of the good guys.”

Angelo Briganti writes:

“I am saddened to hear this news.

I worked with Geoff (affectionately called “Thrower”) at S (P & H) mid-seventies. He was a lot of fun and have many fond memories of him. Will always be remembered, RIP Geoff.”

Ron Miller writes:

“I am sorry to hear of Geoff's passing and of his struggle with illness over recent years.

He was a good bloke. I am unable to attend the funeral but please pass on my condolences to his family. Ron Miller.”

Karl Mizens writes:

“Sad to see the passing of another player from the ANZ rugby league team era. Never worked with Geoff but certainly had some enjoyable social times together. Good company and a good guy. Karl.”

Warren Hudson writes:

“I first met him around the age of 19 when we were both tellers at Wynyard Station, Sydney Branch. Later on, he spent some time in the Ledger Dept of Pitt and Hunter Streets Branch, and then as an auditor. While in Sydney he was an important member of the ANZ's Business Houses Rugby League Team. And many Sunday afternoons were spent playing footie and having a beer. He later moved to Wollongong, and ended his career as manager of Albion Park Branch.

Geoff was a gentleman, in the true sense of the word. He never spoke badly of anyone and had a very dry/intellectual sense of humour. He was a good work mate and friend. He lived in Figtree when he first came to Wollongong and later moved to Shellharbour. He was married twice. His first wife, Aida, passed away a number of years ago, and he is survived by his present wife, Norma. He passed away, last Friday morning (9th August 2019) at Shellharbour Hospital.”

Brian White writes:

“Sad to hear of Geoff Lydiard's passing . Have not had a lot of contact with him since retirement but did enjoy our years together in the Illawarra. What a humble man who was over his career battling with a medical situation. This did not impact on his work effort or humour. Always willing to go that extra yard and assist all staff in their banking endeavours and personal situations A good man.

Have attached a piece of his "work" that may be of interest to all. Regards Brian.”

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### **On Loretta McDermott.**

Noel Bottrell writes (to Alf):

“Sad indeed to hear this news. Please accept my sincere sympathy at your loss. As I am currently overseas I will not be returning to Australia until 10<sup>th</sup> September and will therefore be unable to attend Loretta’s funeral. My thoughts are with you Alf.”

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### **On Richard Walkom.**

Karl Mizens writes:

“Sad to hear of his passing. A real gentleman.”

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## **CASINO REUNION**

Phillip Smith, a former ANZ Staffer who worked at Casino branch, is looking to arrange a reunion with staff from 1976-1982 period who worked at the branch during that period. Phillip is seeking to contact the following who are not members of ANZROC(NSW).

Harry Mozley, Rod Hepper, Peter Shaw, Grant Glazebrook, Peter Mann and Neil Murray.

If any of our readership know where any of these ex ANZ staff are can you please let Phillip know by phoning him on his number: (02) 6622-0353.

Whilst this is not an ANZROC(NSW) function it is great to see ex staff efforts in arranging a reunion from that time. Well done Phillip!

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## **Dates for the Diary**

**16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Luncheon at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel 169 Castlereagh St Sydney**, with arrival after 11.00am. Pre luncheon drinks are available to be enjoyed at the 2nd floor bar area. Access to 4th floor is only possible after 12 noon so please drop in to Level 2 and have a chat first! All members are welcome. Bookings are not required - it is

always an enjoyable day with good food and lots of old friends and the occasional surprise visit by those who can't make the meeting all the time.

**14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Luncheon at Cardiff RSL** - Inquiries to Jim or Cheryl Richardson on 02 4943 8031 or 0419 602 087 Email: [jimcher@exemail.com.au](mailto:jimcher@exemail.com.au) Further details closer to the event regarding pricing and train timetables etc.

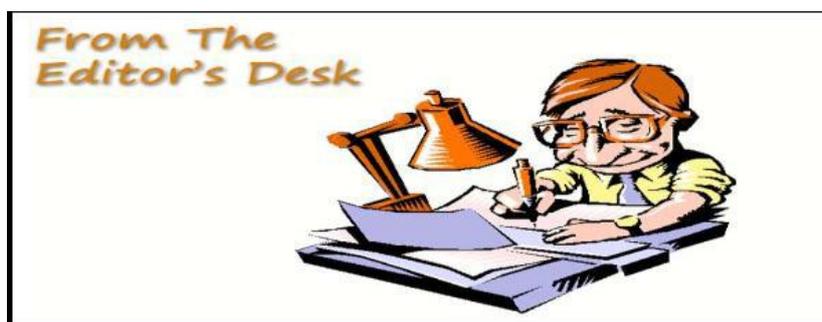
**21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 Far North Christmas Luncheon** – To be held at the Canal Road Bowls Club starting at 11:00 am - Inquiries to Brian Rawle phone: (02) 66189197; email [elwarmb@gmail.com](mailto:elwarmb@gmail.com)

**24<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Illawarra Christmas Luncheon** – To be held at St Lucia's By The Sea Cliff Rd Wollongong, commencing say 12:00 for 12:30 pm. A three course meal has been arranged at \$55.00 per head (on an alternate drop basis) with drinks on a consumer pays basis. The meal is subsidised by ANZROC (NSW) at approximately \$35.00 per ANZROC (NSW) member as is the case with all satellite Christmas functions to help ease costs. A deposit has already been paid to secure the site, so bookings are essential to Reg Smeaton [reg.kini@bigpond.com](mailto:reg.kini@bigpond.com) or mobile: 0423 661 789 by 24 October 2019. Sample Menu available on request (but it is really good and comprehensive).

**5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 ANZROC (NSW) Christmas Cocktail Function** level 24 (Plum and Cherry Room) ANZ Tower 242 Pitt St Sydney commencing at 12:00 mid-day and hosted by our Club Patron **Maile Carnegie**. **You will need photo Id to gain access to the building.**

**7<sup>th</sup> December 2019 Luncheon Wagga Wagga RSL at 12:00.** Contact Kevin Cameron for details on (02) 6922 4575 or [janette.cameron@bigpond.com.au](mailto:janette.cameron@bigpond.com.au) to book or for further details.

**13th December 2019.** Canberra Christmas Function. Royal Canberra Golf Club Bentham Street (Westbourne Woods) Yarralumba ACT. Cost of \$ 65 per person. Dress Smart Casual. Note: Denim or sneakers Not permitted. For details contact Albert Orszaczky [orszo@bigpond.com](mailto:orszo@bigpond.com) or Bob Dwyer [bob@coolcountryhats.com.au](mailto:bob@coolcountryhats.com.au)



*Until next month – good health and happiness to all.*