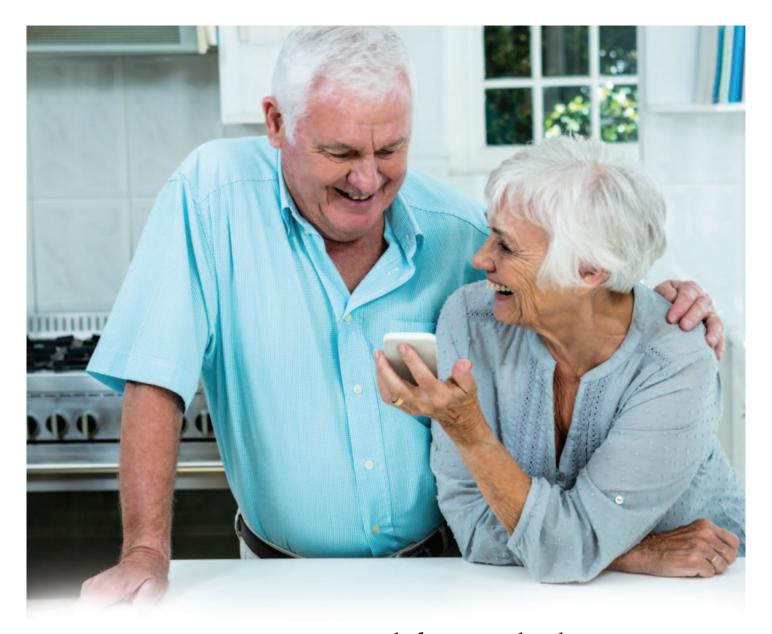


See p.11 for upcoming concerts.





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## The Queensland **PROBIAN**

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Email copy for the magazine to the Editor's address above. Articles should be in Microsoft Word format. Send photos as separate jpg files as attachments to emails. To assure receipt, send only one photo per email. Number the photos with the same number as captions in text. Stories generally comprise one or two photos and the length of articles may vary depending on the topic.

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## **COVER PHOTO**

Queensland Symphony Orchestra

# OF QUEENSLAND INC

## Volume 33 Number 2 - May 2021

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The mission of the Probus Association of Queensland shall be to advance Probus as a vibrant community organisation for retired and semi-retired people by sharing ideas and information, coordinating multi-club opportunities for friendship, fellowship and social interaction, and assisting PSPL and Rotary with the formation of

The Probus Association of Queensland Inc. (PAQ) is administered by a group of volunteer Probians. PAQ was formed to help, advise, assist, co-ordinate and initiate activities between Probians and Probus clubs throughout Queensland, without in any way infringing on their autonomy.

Probus is an association of retired and semi-retired people who join together in Clubs, the basic purpose of which is to provide regular opportunities for them to keep their minds active, expand their interests, and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends. The word PROBUS is an amalgam of the words "PROfessional" and "BUSiness". All PROBUS clubs are sponsored by Rotary clubs but, on formation, are autonomous.

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## PAQ President's Annual Report 2020-2021

My report is a 'year in review' – a way to look at the achievements, workings and directions of PAQ during the past year since the last AGM and to set new directions for the coming year.

To say that 2020-2021 has been an 'unusual year' is an understatement. With lockdowns and restarts and more lockdowns and restarts, we have all been tested. Everyone has endured these trials and, fortunately for us in Queensland, we have endured and survived. Let us be thankful for the care that was taken to protect us during the early stages of this pandemic – which I would remind us all, is not over yet. We must continue to be vigilant in our daily routines and depend on and obey health warnings and directions from the Chief Medical Officer for the duration.

Like many of our clubs, PAQ also faced lockdowns and the possibility of being unable to operate. I must give thanks to all of your PAQ Management Committee members for their commitment and willingness to continue to meet as soon as the rules allowed us to come together again as a group in July.

Well, I've identified a number of things which PAQ initiated and supported during this 'unusual year'. They are focussed in the areas of keeping clubs going (*membership retention*) for the duration of the pandemic through regular communication with clubs and the establishment of new clubs (*membership development*).

In March 2020, following the AGM and the first lockdown on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, we advised all clubs that:

- we would still produce the Queensland Probian for May and
- PAQ would produce some materials for clubs to use to keep in contact with their members.
- PAQ also wrote to the Minister of Justice seeking permission for Probus Clubs to use technology email to conduct their AGMs and was successful in getting that permission and conveyed that to clubs no other Probus group did this in Australia.
- PAQ began the distribution of the first of the materials for clubs to use on March 20<sup>th</sup> and again in March 27<sup>th</sup> thanks to the efforts of Jarvis Finger (Kenmore Millennium Probus Club).

## From April until July 2020,

- PAQ continued the development and distribution of materials for clubs to use to keep in touch with their members. These included quizzes, interest and activity sheets as well as a photo competition.
- PAQ also distributed information, produced by the state and federal governments as part of their everchanging 'Roadmap to Recovery'.
- As well as these, PAQ developed and distribution of a Risk Analysis Chart for Probus Clubs.
- PAQ distributed a *Probus Meetings Checklist* to clubs in May to assist in their planning for returning to meetings - thanks to Wayne Roddom (Highfields Probus Club) efforts
- as well as the development of and distribution of a **COVID-19 Incident Response Plan**. All three of these

- documents were made available to PSPL who made them available to all Australian Probus Clubs.
- PAQ also distributed a Discussion Paper about Getting Probus Up and Running Again Post 12 July along with information about the changes in food handling rules set by the Queensland Health Department.

## May 2020

 PAQ release of the first digital issue of the Queensland Probian. I would like to thank *Peter Rogers* (New Farm Probus Club) for his devotion to ensuring that the issue was produced and to *Jeni Neary* (Highfields Probus Club) who continues to put together the Talk & Travel page.

## In July 2020

- PAQ assisted with the formation of the Pimpama Probus Club. No mean feat as Covid-19 restrictions were limiting the number of people to 50. Our success in establishing new clubs throughout 2019 2021 is directly attributable to the help and assistance that PAQ gets from Queensland's only active Rotary Probus District Chairman/person (RPDC) *Merv Richens*. PAQ wishes to thank Merv for his invaluable assistance to PAQ and enthusiasm for starting new Probus Clubs.
- Thank you also to Carwyn Arnold PAQ Secretary and Brian Gilmore - PAQ Treasurer – for their continued mentoring of Pimpama Club.

## In August 2020,

- PAQ released a COVID Safe Checklist to clubs as part
  of its desire to assist clubs get back to regular meetings.
  This was made available to PSPL who made it available
  to all Australian Probus Clubs.
- Distribution of materials for clubs to use continued along with
- notifications concerning changes to meeting numbers and conditions from the Covid-19 Roadmap to Recovery as they were made available.
- The second digital issue of the Queensland Probian for 2020 the August issue was published and distributed to clubs. This issue increased in size to 34 pages. The pages were increased again in the October 2020 issue to 36 pages without creating too large a file for distribution to clubs and members. This was quite a technical feat as the email size has to be set to a maximum of 7-8Mb for the magazine as most internet providers will not allow files larger than 10Mb in total to be sent to individual email addresses.

## In September 2020,

- PAQ was able to hold its *Delegates' Meeting* and learned of many of its delegates' skill in making and flying paper aeroplanes along with the serious business of determining
- what PAQ could do for the remaining part of the year.
- The survey conducted at this meeting about PAQ events such as Bowls and Golf Days, as well as Ecumenical Services, indicated that most preferred if

- these were carried out on a regional level rather than across the whole of Brisbane. The survey also indicated that most of these events were not as popular in 2020 as they had been in the past and so PAQ has decided to offer its support to regional groups of clubs which are interested in organising these activities at their regional level
- As a result, PAQ has set, as its future directions, more activities to support clubs, provide assistance to clubs in retaining members, training members to participate in club management and growing club membership. It also has set a goal of starting six (6) new clubs in the 2021-2022 year.
- PAQ wrote to all of the 97 local members of state parliament promoting Probus and October 1st as Probus Day.
- September saw the establishment of the Mount Tamborine Combined Probus Club which was the second new club in 2020 after the formation of Pimpama Probus Club in July.
- September 2020 marked the involvement of *Phil Matthews*, Coomera Valley Probus Club, in PAQ and was *appointed the first Probus District Chairperson (PDC)* in Queensland. Phil has been working with the Gold Coast clubs to establish some priorities and opportunities for new clubs in that region.

#### In October 2020.

- PAQ wrote to 77 local councils throughout
   Queensland seeking to find the contacts for community
   events and to alert them of the existence of Probus
   as a means of providing seniors with a way to deal with
   loneliness and social isolation.
- PAQ also wrote to 38 regional newspapers throughout the state to again promote Probus as an appropriate solution to seniors' isolation and loneliness. Plans are already in hand for the formation of the Capalaba Probus Club with a formation meeting planned for May 19, 2021.

## In November 2020

 PAQ focussed on the results of the survey conducted at the Delegates' meeting and determining future events for PAQ to initiate or support.

## In January 2021,

- Lorelle Pacello (Brisbane Probus Club) accepted the role of RLO for Brisbane North in conjunction with Barbara Tobin. Lorelle has been a member of the PAQ MC for many years and PAQ welcomes her experience to the role of RLO.
- PAQ also welcomed Geoff Leddy (Pelican Waters Probus Club) as the new Regional Liaison Officer for the Sunshine Coast – South region centred around Caloundra area. Phil Mathews and Geoff Leddy have been undertaking presentations of Anniversary Certificates from PAQ to clubs celebrating milestone anniversaries in those regions, as have our other RLOs.

## In February 2021

• I asked our Brisbane-based RLOs, and John Barclay as RLO Coordinator, to plan 2 *Presidents' Lunch Days* – but to ensure that the VP is also invited.

- PAQ also set the following timetable for meetings of club representatives from MC positions to look at training needs for those roles.
  - o 30 April Friday: Mt. Gravatt Bowls Club: Club Secretaries, Minute and Assistant Secretaries
  - 31 May Monday: Geebung RSL: Club Presidents' Lunch: North Side Include Sunshine Coast and Moreton
  - 1 June Tuesday: Mt. Gravatt Bowls Club: President's Lunch -South Side Include Bayside. Brisbane West and Gold Coast
  - o 29 June Tuesday: Mt. Gravatt Bowls Club. Treasurers, assistants and successors.
  - 30 June Wednesday: Geebung RSL. Outings and Activities Officers focus.

#### In March 2021

- PAQ has had to provide assistance to a number of its clubs having difficulties getting a MC or even surviving.
   I would like to thank Lorelle Pacello – PAQ RLO Brisbane
   North – for her continued assistance to a number of Brisbane North clubs facing these difficulties.
- PAQ asked its affiliated clubs to approve an increase, after 5 years, in the affiliation fee for clubs to \$2/member/year. This increase is to allow PAQ to provide more assistance with its affiliated clubs during this difficult post-Covid restart period and to also run a number of the planned training days.

## PAQ's focus in 2021 will be as a result of

- the Secretaries Survey which pointed out clearly that clubs need to have a Club Succession Plan and that it is important tool for the filling of management committee positions in clubs.
- PAQ wishes to encourage all clubs to begin planning for their 2022-2023 committees now.
- While there are difficulties in many clubs establishing a full committee, newly elected committees need to 'bring-on' members to take positions for the following year. This will be one of the goals of PAQ's Training Days.
- I would also like to take the opportunity to introduce Annette Richards (North Redlands Probus Club) who has offered to take on the position of RLO for the Bayside region. Thank you and welcome aboard.

## In conclusion,

- My hope is that your club can see value in what PAQ has been doing throughout the past year and support its plans for 2021-2022.
- PAQ is your association. Your PAQMC is always willing to listen to and take positive suggestions for improvements in how we can assist your club.
- In 2023, many of the current members will retire –
  myself being one and PAQ will need new leaders
  and committee members. While PAQMC is focussed
  on improving Probus in Queensland, we also enjoy a
  great deal of fellowship and fun at our meetings. Please
  consider joining us you will be most welcome

Regards Rob N



# JOIN US AND EXCITE





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4 Days / 3 Nights

Tour Departs: Thursday 12 August – Sunday 15 August 2021 Tour Departs: Thursday 26 August – Sunday 29 August 2021

Tour Highlights: Bondi Beach; Guided Tour of Vaucluse House & High Tea; Sydney Opera House; Darling Harbour Precinct; Vivid Festival Dinner Cruise; Parramatta River Cat Ferry Cruise; Historic Highlights Tour Parramatta; Lunch at Lachlans Old Government House; Quarantine Station; Sydney Tower Restaurant Dining; Queen Victoria Building & more.

#### Price Includes:

- Return economy flights Brisbane Sydney Brisbane
- Luxury coach travel
- 3 nights quality accommodation
- All meals as per itinerary
- All entry fees, attractions, cruises & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price: \$1599.00 pp Twin Share (Single Supplement \$250.00)

## A TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND ESCAPE

6 Days / 5 Nights

Tour Departs: Monday 23 August - Saturday 28 August 2021

Tour Highlights: Kuranda Scenic Rail; Kuranda Village - Heritage Markets, Art & Craft Galleries, Shops & Cafés, Rainforest Board-walk Walk Trail; Skyrail Rainforest Cableway; Dundee's Aquarium Cafe; Green Island Day Tour; Green Island Semi-Submersible; Atherton Tablelands; Millaa Millaa Falls; Giant Curtain Fig Tree; Fascinating Paronella Park & more.

## **Price Includes:**

- One way domestic economy flight Cairns Brisbane
- Luxury coach travel
- 4 nights quality accommodation
- All meals as per itinerary
- All entry fees & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price: \$1795.00 pp Twin Share (Single Supplement \$375.00)







## CANBERRA FLORIADE. HIGH COUNTRY & SILO ART DISCOVERY

7 Days / 6 Nights

Tour Departs: Sunday 26 September - Saturday 02 October 2021

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- All meals, touring, guides, attractions & cruise as per itinerary

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#### Price Includes:

- Luxury coach travel
- 9 nights quality accommodation
- All meals, entry fees, cruise & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price: \$3195.00 pp Twin Share (Single Supplement \$695.00)







# SOUTH AUSTRALIA & VICTORIA GETAWAY 10 Days / 9 Nights

Tour Departs: Friday 17 September - Sunday 26 September 2021

Tour Highlights: Glenelg; St Peter's Cathedral; City of Churches Tour; Adelaide Oval & Bradman Collection; Cedars - Home & Gallery of Hans Heysen; German Village of Hahndorf; Lunch & Tasting One Paddock Currency Creek Winery; Historic River Port of Goolwa; Cockle Train Rail Journey; Victor Harbor National Trust Museum; Coorong Discovery Cruise & National Park; Kangaroo Island - Clifford's Honey Farm; Raptor Domain; Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Oil Distillery; Kangaroo Island Spirits; Seal Bay Conservation Park; Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park; Emu Bay Lavender Farm; Kangaroo Island Brewery; Reeves Point; Frenchmans Rock; Bridge Hotel Langhorne Creek; Coonalpyn Silo Art Mural; Umpherston Sinkhole; Blue Lake Aquifer Tour; Highlights of Warrnambool; Flagstaff Hill Museum; Laser Light Show "Shipwrecked"; Great Ocean Road; Loch Ard Gorge; Twelve Apostles; Apollo Bay; Geelong & Bellarine Peninsula Highlights Tour; National Wool Museum & Wool Exchange Cafe & more.

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# Whitsundays SILVIA BYRNE SMITH

I'm normally a social girl, I love to meet my mates. But, lately, with the virus here, We can't go out the gates.

You see, we are the 'oldies' now, We need to stay inside. If they haven't seen us for a while, They'll think we've upped and died.

They'll never know the things we did, Before we got this old. There wasn't any Facebook, So not everything was told.

We may seem sweet old ladies, Who would never be uncouth, But we grew up in the 60s -If you only knew the truth!

There was sex 'n drugs 'n rock 'n roll, The pill and miniskirts. We smoked, we drank, we partied, And were quite outrageous flirts.

Then we settled down, got married, And turned into someone's mum, Somebody's wife, then nana. Who on earth did we become?

We didn't mind the change of pace, Because our lives were full. But to bury us before we're dead Is like a red rag to a bull! So here you find me stuck inside For four weeks, maybe more. I finally found myself again. Then I had to close the door!

It didn't really bother me.
I'd while away the hour,
I'd bake for all the family
But I've got no bloody flour!

Now, Netflix is just wonderful. I like a gutsy thriller. I'm swooning over Idris, Or some random sexy killer.

At least I've got a stash of booze, For when I'm being idle. There's wine and whiskey, even gin, If I'm feeling suicidal!

So let's all drink to lockdown, To recovery and health And hope this bloody virus Doesn't decimate our wealth.

We'll all get through the crisis And be back to join our mates. Just hoping I'm not far too wide To fit through the flaming gates!

(from Sylvia)

# Vale

## **BERNIE HOMAN**



Bernie Homan passed away on 15 February 2021.

He was a member of Ithaca Probus Club for many years and also became involved in the workings of the Probus Association of Queensland (PAQ).

He visioned a way forward into the digital age for PAQ, allowing computerisation of the association's records, both financial and administrative.

From 2002-2004 he was ICT Co-ordinator and undertook preparatory work to establish a PAQ website that was subsequently launched in October 2003.

Also during this period Bernie took on the role of Co-Editor of the Queensland Probian magazine, along with Bob Rogers.

Then from 2004-2007 Bernie was Association Secretary.

He also enjoyed attending the Association Friendship Days.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Judith and family.

Barry Lack (Past Secretary PAQ)

## **PAQ Mission Statement**

The mission of the Probus Association of Queensland shall be to advance Probus as a vibrant community organisation for retired and semiretired people by sharing ideas and information, coordinating multi-club opportunities for friendship, fellowship and social interaction, and assisting PSPL and Rotary with the formation of new clubs.

Surround yourself with people who see retirement as the start of a great adventure





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the **V** village

## REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICER – SUNSHINE COAST SOUTH



## **Geoff Leddy**

Geoff was born in April 1948, grew up and was educated in Brisbane to tertiary standard. He undertook a career in Civil Engineering and worked as an engineer in Brisbane until 1975.

At that time he was transferred to Bundaberg to be the Resident Shire Engineer for the local authority surrounding Bundaberg. In 1983, he started his own consulting engineering business and undertook engineering, town planning and environmental science projects.

This firm grew to around eighty staff in five offices in South East Queensland, including one in Caloundra and one in Brisbane. The business was sold to the international firm GHD in 2007.

He joined the Board of RACQ in January 1998 and served as the Director representing members in the Wide Bay Sunshine Coast Zone, until he retired from the Board in November 2014 after his last three and a half years was devoted to serving as President and Board Chairman, and as a Director of RACQ Insurance and the Australian Automobile Association (AAA). He also served for a period as a Director on the Board of Gold Coast Airport.

Geoff is married to Cheryl and has two daughters and four grandchildren.

While in Bundaberg, Geoff was a member of Bundaberg East Rotary Club and, after relocating to Caloundra in 2005, he joined the Caloundra Pacific Rotary Club. He and Cheryl are both are members of Pelican Waters Probus Club. At that club, Geoff served as the Outings and Events Co-ordinator for 2018 and 2019 and as Vice President in 2020/ He has nominated to be President in 2021.



# BAYSIDE REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICER

## **Annette Richards**

Having lived in Birkdale for forty years, Annette and her husband Eddie downsized to Maridale Park, Capalaba about four years ago and Annette retired some two years after that.

On retirement she joined her husband, Eddie, in the North Redlands Probus Club and finds she is able to spend more time with her four children and eight grandchildren. Still an active member of the Rotary Club of Capalaba, she has served in many leadership roles including that of District Governor for 2012-13.

Along with a career in Small Business and Retail Management, Annette has always been very active in her community, with activities ranging from Guiding, to the Playgroup Association, and further on to such as the Chamber of Commerce, Apex Partner, School Committees and Rotary in addition to a history of Event Management. She hopes to bring some of the skills developed in these roles to the position of Regional Liaison Officer.

## **EMU PARK**

## We are active!

Exercise Physiologist Kate Sweeney West from "ACTIVATEhealth" recently gave us a very comprehensive and enlightening talk on Exercise Physiology.

She stressed that no two people have the same needs when it comes to treatment of injuries and we must be aware of a range of chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, and respiratory problems.

Medication can often be reduced or

eliminated by following a personally tailored programme which can be reevaluated from time to time.

Allied Health Professionals (AEP's) undertake at least a Four Year University Degree in training which includes extensive clinical experience and a full assessments of each client before prescribing a suitable and safe personalised programme.

Treatment focuses on gentle and seated exercise for those with limited mobility, chronic pain or disease.

There was certainly much to think about and to digest as we look to our oncoming years.



Kate Sweeney



## **UPCOMING CONCERTS**



## MUSICAL THEATRE GALA

SAT 15 MAY 3PM & 7.30PM | CONCERT HALL, QPAC

Calling all musical fans! Enjoy favourites from Chess, Les Misérables, West Side Story and more. Featuring guest stars Simon Gleeson and Lorina Gore, this tribute to iconic show tunes is guaranteed to have you humming all the way home!



## **EPIC SOUNDS**

SAT 26 JUN 3PM & 7.30PM I CONCERT HALL, QPAC

Indigenous musical icon William Barton returns to Queensland to perform a brand new work he has composed for didgeridoo and orchestra. Don't miss this special collaboration.



## **GREAT INVENTIONS**

SUN 25 JUL 11AM I CONCERT HALL QPAC

Guy Noble hosts this relaxed morning concert where the orchestra will perform music by Beethoven, Haydn, Debussy and more. This is a great way to enjoy a Sunday at South Bank.



## **BREATHTAKING TCHAIKOVSKY**

FRI 6 AUG 11AM & SAT 7 AUG 3PM & 7.30PM **CONCERT HALL QPAC** 

Get ready to luxuriate in emotional melodies. Russian composer Tchaikovsky sure knew how to create breathtaking musical moments, and his 6th Symphony has them in spades.









# BARGARA AND DISTRICT

# We're looking forward to a successful and active year

On 8 March, sixty-two members gathered at Club Bargara to elect our Management Committee for 2021.



Incoming President, John Appleby

Outgoing President, Val Watson, thanked the Committee for their dedication during last year, and for keeping members informed and the Clubs profile active. She wishes the new Committee well and asked members to remember that all those who serve the club are volunteers.

Incoming President, John Appleby, thanked the outgoing Committee for

their service, highlighting the unusual challenges faced during the past year.

Welcoming his new team, he assured members of a busy year ahead that will include all of the usual monthly activities together with several long tours.

An excellent meal was enjoyed together with the company of good friends.



President John Appleby, Secretary Ray Strong, Vice President Alan Foster and Treasurer Judy Ford

## KAWANA WATERS

# On board the Rattler – rattling away!

The trip on the Rattler was, I think, a great success. Andrew of Mystic Mountains Tours got us up well in time for the 10:00 departure time which allowed us to get a cup of coffee from the Rusty Rails Café before getting onto the train.

I think most members and friends on board were surprised with the condition of the countryside, as we passed through the rolling green hills and thick woodland areas. The dams were full and the cattle were in great condition.

It was a grey day with the threat of rain - which gave us a heavy shower

when we got to the end of the line at Amamoor. This was a pretty place with cafes, the local store and, of course, the turntable to turn the engine round to return to Gympie.

Considering this line was completed in the late1800s, closed in 1993 and has, since 1998, been operated as a Tourist Steam Train service by the Mary Valley Heritage Railway - a band of volunteers who work tirelessly to keep the whole operation going to a very high standard - it is amazing and a well worthwhile experience.

Most folk enjoyed their lunch back on the platform at the station. The winner was the Nourish Bowl and this fulfilled the dietary requirements of quite a few of our members.

Personally, I was a bit disappointed with the commentary on board. It



Happy Volunteers

was not very clear at all, and I am sure there was a lot of interesting and historic facts being mentioned.

It was, however, great to get that whiff of smoke up the nose.... memories from childhood.



"Tickets Please!"



Lunch at the Rusty Rails Cafe

# REDCLIFFE PENINSULA

# An old club is well and truly active

The Club was thrilled by finally being able to conduct their Change-Over Lunch that culminated in the Investiture of 2020/21 President, Barry Davis.

We were, fortunately, able to secure the complete Dining Room of the Peemai Thai Restaurant, to hold our Function. The Club's traditional Meeting Rooms have still not re-opened for Functions.

As with all our past functions this Dinner was a bright and breezy event, and was well supported by our Members.

At the same time, another significant event was the Presentation of our Thirty-Five Year Certificate, received from Probus South Pacific, and, o course, the cutting, (and eating), of the Celebratory Cake.

Thanks are due to Life Member,

Bob Blanch, who, on behalf of our Sponsor, Redcliffe Rotary Club, officiated at the presentation. Already before this, Moreton RLO, Mel Fursman, had, in February, presented the Thirty-Five Year Certificate from PAQ.

Our Club is, once again, active, having held a Morning Tea, a Luncheon, and is close to securing a New Meeting Venue.

The 13th October will see us hosting a BYO Picnic, and, of course, celebrating Probus Day.

Barry Davis.



Members enjoying our Inaugural Lunch



A great moment in the Club Year

## ADVERTORIAL

## A NEW LEASE OF LIFE



Thank you, Thank you...

...I am a 76 year old pensioner. I have suffered excruciating pain going to the toilet and the indignity of severe Haemorrhoids for many years now.

Having the Bidet has given me a new lease on life, I love it, and it has changed my life."

You can only imagine what toileting was like pre-bidet. Post-bidet things have changed.

After I do my business, I press the wash button on my easy to use remote control. A nozzle comes out and with my preferred pressure setting remembered by the machine), I undergo my wash cycle. I even get to adjust the temperature, which is soothing for my haemorrhoids. When I feel fresh and clean I press the dryer function, the warm air is so gentle as it dries me off. There is none of the irritation or pain which I had become custom to in the many years prior.

Thanks to The Bidet Shop, I have restored my dignity and removed the painful experience of toileting with toilet paper.

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## **SHERWOOD**

# A great day in the life of any club

We have finally been able to celebrate the Twentieth Anniversary of the formation of our club. With Covid restrictions we had begun to doubt it would happen. The celebrations took the form of a special lunch which followed our monthly meeting. We were delighted to welcome Judith Maestracci, Director and newly appointed Deputy Chair of PSPL, today filling in for Rob Neary, President of PAQ. We also welcomed Councillor Nicole Johnston, our great friend and supporter who through the Lord Mayor's funding provided a grant of \$500.00 towards today's proceedings, Barry and Sylvia Řead -Regional Liaison Officer for Western District Probus Clubs as well as former members, Helen Plant, an instigator in the formation of the club, with the first ever meeting held in her home, Joyce Bruce, member and wife of the second President, Col Bruce, Margaret Izatt, many years as our secretary, and Cathy Hagen (instigator of the Dinner group) and husband Geoff.

President Joan, on behalf of the club presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation to Councillor Nicole Johnston who in a short address wished the club well. Nicole conducted a heads and tails competition for her donated prize of a \$25.00 voucher for Miettes Bakery which was won by Vivienne Dixon.

On behalf of Probus South Pacific, Director Judith Maestracci addressed the club on the activities and strengths of Probus in Australia and highlighted the inaugural Probus Day that all clubs are asked to celebrate on 1st October. Judith presented a framed Certificate of Congratulations to the Club on its twenty years. We raised our glasses in a toast to Probus.

President Joan, in response, thanked PSPL for the Certificate and reminisced a little, saying: "It is a little over twenty years since the first meeting was convened on Friday 21st July, 2000 with forty members, and, within six months, we had a capacity of eighty members. This said something to us that the need for such an organisation was evident. Today nine Foundation Members remain in the club and our membership is seventy-three.

Sadly, Foundation President and Life Member Col Mulholland passed away early this year during Covid lockdown, but we remember him today as the gentleman he was. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rocklea, the Collar of Office and Office Bearer's Badges were presented by them. Speaking personally, Joan related that joining Probus had meant a great deal to husband Paul and herself as, after returning to Brisbane from Mackay after spending thirty-four years meant leaving their many friends behind, and joining Probus enabled them to make new ones, and enjoy the benefits of the activities that Probus offered. She thanked the Club for Club years of fun, friendship and fellowship.

Twenty Year Membership Certificates were presented by Judith Maestracci to Lillian Stephens; Clare Bedggood; Dawn Jenkins; and Foundation Members Lorraine Webster, Harvey and Pam Dale; Margaret and Brian Stevens; and Paul and Joan Coghlan. Absent were Ray and June Leigh.

Ten Year Certificates were presented to Pat Stanley and Gil Bambrick by Councillor Nicole Johnston. Absent were Helen Ryan and Maureen Godwin.

On a very happy note, Life Membership was awarded by the club to Brian and Margaret Stevens. Both retired this year after long terms on the committee which included, in Brian's case, two years as President, Vice President, Treasurer and other committee roles; and for Margaret, President, Vice President, four years as Treasurer, Tour Officer, and many years as Welfare Officer. Life Member Paul Coghlan congratulated both and presented them with framed Life Member Certificates 'in recognition of your service and dedication to the Combined Probus Club of Sherwood.' Brian thanked the club for the honour and said that they had enjoyed it all.

Entertainment by our ever-reliable Marion Fels was the recitation of a poem "The Toast of the Master's Hand".

A lunch of appetiser, roast lamb and chicken with vegetables followed by individual birthday cakes at each table, provided by members of the committee, was enjoyed by all.

The Twentieth Anniversary Birthday Cake was cut in the presence of Past Presidents Joan and Paul Coghlan, Gerry Thomas, Brian and Margaret Stevens, Ian Stephens, Pat Hurney,



Margaret and Brian Stevens receive the well-deserved award of Life Membership



Judith Maestracci presents a Certificate of Congratulations to the Club



Joan is a true "hands-on" President and shows off some of the results of her many talents

Harvey Dale, Neil Page, Pauline Williams, and Dorothy Eyears, and Foundation Member Lorraine Webster.

There were lucky winners to prizes donated by members of the committee, and trivia quizzes to test our knowledge.

Paul Coghlan moved a vote of thanks to President Joan for the time and effort put into table decorations, flowers, cakes and power point presentation of photos from the last twenty years, and to members of the committee for the provision of cakes, biscuits and their dedication and help at all times.

Joan Coghlan OAM





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## **INCLUSIONS**

Return airfares with Air New Zealand
7 nights' staying at South Pacific
Staying in Superior rooms
Bowls Social Roll-up
2-day Bowls Carnival
All touring in private air-conditioned coach
All sightseeing, activities and entrance fees
as per itinerary
Full Breakfast daily
1 Lunch & 7 dinners

## HIGHLIGHTS

Bowls social roll-up 2-day Bowls Carnival Hilli Goat Farm Tour Progressive Dinner Island Fish Fry Convict Settlement Tour Sound & Light Show Half Day Orientation Tour



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\*Subject to availability and conditions apply. Itinerary may be subject to change, if beyond our control or that of the suppliers.



# PAQ Acknowledges Some Special Contributions

At the March AGM, President Rob Neary thanked Merv Richens OAM for his outstanding contribution in the formation and starting of new Probus Clubs in Queensland over the past three years. Merv is the only Rotary Probus District Chairperson (RPDC) still in Queensland and PAQ thanks Merv for all of his assistance in creating new clubs.

President Rob also congratulated and thanked Jarvis Finger, a member of Kenmore Millennium Probus Club, for his incredible contribution of producing over 120 activity sheets, quizzes, interesting fact sheets which PAQ circulated to Probus Clubs throughout Queensland. Jarvis also

generously agreed to have these made available to PSPL to circulate to all clubs in Australia and New Zealand. Thank you, Jarvis, for an incredible contribution to Probus in Queensland and Australia.

Past PAQ President, Brian Gilmore, also received special thanks from President Rob for his continuing work with PAQ and his extra contribution to the formation of at least three new Probus Clubs in the past few years. Brian had also provided after-formation assistance to new clubs to ensure that they were "on the right track" to be successful. Thank you, Brian.



President Rob congratulates Mery Richens OAM



Rob thanks Jarvis Finger



Rob thanks Brian Gilmore

## **INNISFAIL**

# We celebrated our Thirty-Sixth Birthday in style

On Tuesday, 9th February, sixty-one Innisfail members attended their Thirty-Sixth Birthday Luncheon Celebrations held in the Russ Hinze building at the Innisfail Showgrounds making sure that we were complying with COVID Health Regulations. President Col Ritchie welcomed members, and along with Secretary Marianne, kept them informed as to events organized for that day. An enlarged framed photograph taken in 1985 of Foundation Members brought back memories for many of us. Innisfail currently has ninety-five members.

Lucky Door prizes and two Quiz sheets organized by Secretary Marianne relating to local business names and localities kept members thinking and alert. Some humorous answers kept members smiling. Well done, Marianne! Great Quizzes. The PA system and a great selection of background music was provided by Eddie and Maurine Dimech.

The highlight of the day was the cutting of the Birthday Cake performed by five of the longest current serving members Dell Pennefather, Jean McMillan, Frances Lagana, Errol Wing and Betty Westbury who represent a combined service to Innisfail Probus of a hundred and eight years. A terrific achievement congratulations to you

Members applauded a personal thanks to Cheryl Scott, daughter Clare and grand-daughter Leearna for an enjoyable lunch, inevitably followed by tea and coffee and piece of birthday cake together with fruit-cake complimented with ice-cream. It was a great day of friendship, fellowship and fun. Everyone enjoyed themselves. A special thanks to Lew Phillips and Alan Curtis for organizing this fantastic day and all members for their input and setting up the venue well done everyone!!

To those Innisfail readers of this who are not yet members - come and join us as the Club looks forward to the next thirty-six years. You will be made most welcome. Transport can be arranged. Just contact the Secretary on 0429 653 775.



Our oldest but very young at heart members Dell Pennefather, Frances Lagana, Errol Wing and Betty Westbury enjoy supervising Jean McMillan cutting the cake.

# **The Moving Planners**

## THE RIPPLE EFFECT

When we started The Moving Planners, we knew we could provide people with a solution for one of life's most stressful experiences – moving house. What we didn't anticipate was the positive ripple effect, for our clients and for us.

A perfect example is Gordon, one of our earliest clients. During his working life Gordon negotiated exciting deals, met interesting people and travelled extensively. Talking with him is fascinatina.

Sadly, a significant health issue meant that Gordon needed to sell his large home, a huge job even when you're well. After 18 months of his family making suggestions, encouraging and cajoling, he still couldn't face the task of movina.

So his family called **The Moving Planners**. Less than a month later. Gordon's possessions were packed, unwanted items sold or donated and his home prepared for sale. According to Gordon's family, we achieved the impossible. They call us 'the angels' – it's the nicest compliment we've ever received.

"We feel blessed to do a job we love which has such a positive impact on the lives of so many people"-Susie Dash.

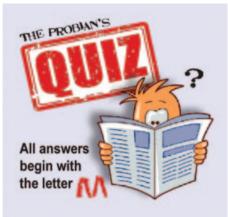
If you would like help with the stressful task of moving house, please contact us on (07) 3719 5560 or email: help@themovingplanners.com.au.



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- 1. What is the smallest planet in our solar system?
- 2. In what Saudi Arabian city was the prophet Muhammad born?
- 3. In which Australian city is Werribee Open Range Zoo?
- 4. Ray Kroc was responsible for which restaurant chain's success?
- 5. The name of the 'Impressionist' movement had its origins with the painting *Impression*, Sunrise. Who was the artist?



- 6. What is the largest island in the Indian Ocean?
- 7. Which Biblical character is referred to as 'the baby in the bullrushes'?
- 8. Which musical is based on the songs of the Swedish group ABBA?
- The medical term for nearsightedness is ......?
- 10. What Shakespearean play is set in Scotland?
- 11. Formerly known as Bombay, what is India's largest city?
- Name the galaxy that contains our solar system.
- Name the slang term for highproof spirits produced illicitly.

1. Mercury. 2. Mecca. 3. Melbourne. 4. McDonalds. 5. Monet. 6. Madagascar. 7. Moses. 8. Mamma Mia! 9. Myopia. 10. Macbeth. 11. Mumbai. 12. Milky Way.

## **WAVELL**

## **Angel Flight**

Our Guest Speaker for February 2021 at the Wavell Probus Club was Ian Brain, speaking about Angel Flights.

lan indicated that "Angel Flight" provides country people with access to free air transport for medical treatment. People can ring the Angel Flight office and arrange a flight. The only condition is that person being transported must be able to get in and out of the plane. If a person has to stay over-night at their destination, that cost is borne by the person.

"Angel Flight" uses private pilots all of whom have at least 250 hours flying experience. Some 49,000 flights have been undertaken by "Angel Flight" since it commenced operations. Each flight involves four flights – these being out to collect the person, then to the medical treatment, then back to home, then for the plane to return to its base. Angel Flights can be arranged for anywhere in rural Australia.



Ian Brain, from Angel Flight being welcomed and thanked by member Dallas Weller

Proposed flights are listed on the internet and approved pilots can indicate their interest and availability for each trip.

The people being transported by "Angel Flight" are non-urgent cases. "Angel Flight" also arranges car transport for people travelling from home to a plane, plane to hospital and home again.

This again is yet another excellent example of the place of volunteers in our society.

## **CARINDALE**

# Our 25th Anniversary – and we're going strong

Although celebrations for this event have been "put on hold" until June, due to Covid-19 restrictions, our Club thought it would be appropriate to recognise the Club's Foundation – actually on 22nd January 199 - in a small way, at the first meeting held in February this year.

We are fortunate to have five of our Founding Members still active in our Club of a hundred members. President Sylvia Napier presented these ladies – Barbara Batterby, Joyce Burkitt, Norah Carroll, Lynette Hendle and Valerie McGregor - with the framed Certificate of Congratulations sent from Probus South Pacific - in honour of this special milestone in the Club's history.

It was with pleasure that these Founding Members accepted the Certificate on behalf of all members



Our Foundation and still current Members Norah Carroll, Joyce Burkitt, Barbara Batterby, Lynette Hendle, Valerie McGregor receiving the PSPL Certificate of Congratulations.

of the Probus Club of Carindale.

From the original certificate of registration and accreditation, Joyce Burkitt recited The Probus Concept which was a reminder to all of the purpose, structure and opportunities that were available for our Club members twenty-five years ago. This concept has continued on to be accessible for all past and present members as they enjoy experiencing the Probus motto of FRIENDSHIP, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN.

Maureen Hassett

## **CHAPEL HILL**

## A delightful twilight river cruise

In February, fifty-two Chapel Hill members and friends spent a most enjoyable an evening cruising from the City down river to near the Gateway Bridge. On the return journey, to our delight we saw the lights come on in the City. The Mirimar Cruises boat is available for private charter. The crew did an outstanding job ensuring our members were served with plenty of delicious canapés and drinks throughout the journey and ensured all was in keeping with their approved Co-vid safe plan. The weather was perfect for a late afternoon and evening on the river and the leisurely pace of the boat meant a very smooth ride was experienced by all. We would certainly recommend this outing to other clubs.

## Barbara Alexander



We were delighted to see the City light up in its full glory.

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NEWSTEAD I BROWNS PLAINS I REDLANDS I DECEPTION BAY

## **NAMBOUR**

## We're back enjoying full measure of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship

At last life is starting to get back to some semblance of normality. We are able to enjoy activities that had been put on hold - such as our picnics and their fun activities, coffee mornings and all the rest of the activities we enjoyed so much.

Tour Director Roger has been battling with all the Covid restrictions, while putting together some day trips. I suspect all Tour Directors are having a similar experience. Our first for the year will be in April. Due to the restrictions some venues are limited in the numbers they are able to accommodate. So we need a smaller coach. This means you have to get your name and money in quickly or you "miss the bus".

The five meetings we have had outdoors have been enjoyable as the weather has been kind. The March meeting will be our first in a new venue which is more conducive to our requirements than the previous one. Even our Guest Speakers approved of the novel idea of having outdoor meetings and they were also able to set up their displays easily. At one of our recent Coffee and Chat mornings that was held on an open undercover deck, a lady came and occupied a table close by. She had two small very old dogs which are unable to walk far. She trundles them about in a child's stroller. I always have a trusty small Leica camera in my "man bag" and with her permission I was able to capture a delightful and unusual photo. It has been a source of pleasure far and wide.

Don McGlusky



A typical Nambour Coffee and Chat Morning



Hoping for a treat

## **INDOOROOPILLY**

# Brisbane Cross River Rail Experience Centre

On Tuesday 16th February, thirty-seven nembers stepped boldly into the future and travelled through time at the Brisbane Cross River Rail Experience Centre. And quite an eye-opening experience it was. Fortunately, we were well-prepared for the journey, having enjoyed coffee beforehand at Cafe Mondial, just around the corner from the centre, and were happy to be out and about again as a group, catching up after the 2020 Covid19 shut down.

Our host, Jordan Haimes, had many aids to explain and explore the future of Brisbane's new underground rail, including the scope and complexity of the project, the consultation processes involved and the science of tunnelling.

Our first stop was the Reality Theatre to board the virtual train and speed through Brisbane - past, present, and future. This mixed-reality experience immersed us in the origins and the future of travel in South East Queensland. This experience took us down into the new tunnel stations to board the train and head out for a ride across Brisbane, including in the trip a 270 degree projection and view of how future stations may look.

Then it was on to the Learning



The future is looking good!

Room, where Jordan told us more about the project from conception, consultation, and tender processes to current construction developments. With quite a number of engineers in the group, not to mention a few train buffs, he was kept busy answering a range of questions the answers to which had us all hoping to be there to take the actual train journey when it opens.

Afterwards, we had plenty of time to use the interactive displays, visit virtual reality stations, consider the huge scope and scale of this project, as well as getting to know more about the real stars of the show, Merle and Else, the twin tunnel boring machines, named in honour of Merle Thornton, the pioneering feminist who famously chained herself to the Public Bar of

The Regatta Hotel in 1965 and Professor Else Shepherd, a trailblazing Queensland electrical engineer. These mega-boring machines will excavate and do the heavy lifting work in one of the most complex of civil and engineering challenges. This infrastructure project is Queensland's largest ever and truly is an engineers' dream-come-true.

It was good getting out again as a group after all the Covid19 interruptions last year. As usual, a lot of planning and organisation is involved in any visit and we thank Tricia and the Tours & Outings Team for arranging this one to Cross River Rail, which was much appreciated and enjoyed by all who attended.

Helen Banks Photography - Jacob Reinders

## **YERONGA**

## **Easter Bunnies for starters!**

These two bright bunnies welcomed Yeronga Probus members to the March meeting. They were urging members to buy tickets in a spectacular Easter Hamper. Who could refuse?

It was a busy morning with the General and AGM meetings, two inductions and a Guest Speaker from our Club all set to be fitted in and welcomed. It was obvious that everyone was glad to be back for the second meeting of the year, catching up with old friends and meeting some new ones.

Despite the rain on Tuesday 16th March, thirty members set off on a Mystery Bus Tour for the day. The coach driver told me he didn't know where he was going either!!

I was looking forward to getting some incredible photos, on our way up to Samford Village and Fernvale, where we stopped for lunch. However, when we did have a chance to gather in front of the bus, it started to rain. It also stopped us from driving to a couple of Outlooks. Anyway, the views really are beautiful.



Yes, who could resist Gloria and Aafie.

It was truly a great day, and at the end of it, we had no problems finding our way back to our cars at the end of it, without getting too wet.

These day tours foster fun, friendship and fellowship and our Committee are already organising another one in the near future.

**Bronwen Mitchell** 







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# 2021 LUNCH EVENTS







3 Classic Live Events to get the toes tapping and the waist wriggling! **INCLUDES:** 

## 2 Course Lunch (Pre-order choices)

- Beef & Guinness OR Chicken leek and bacon pie
  Pavlova OR Sticky date pudding
- **+ BONUS** Live Entertainment

Vegetarian and dietary requirements catered for, Driver FOC with groups over 25

Jan-Mar / Sep-Nov Other Months by request

\* Subject to availability Groups of 25 or more

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Peninsula Slimdowners attended the Best of British event at the Fox & Hounds and the ladies have not had so much fun in a long time. As an arganiser it is comforting when you have not had so much fun in a long time. organiser it is comforting when you have everyone with such great feedback. The food was great but most of all "Henk our musician was so good we wanted to take him home with us on the Bus" Many thanks to the Chef and staff. We are happy to recommend this event as it will not disappoint.

Anne Robers & Diane Rex - Peninsula Slimdowners (Redcliffe) Social organisers



All events are based on group bookings and are subject to availability 2 course lunch alternate drop main and dessert inclusive Tea & Coffee station extra \$3pp

Please call for menu options and details PHONE (07) 5665 7582

## **TOOWOOMBA CITY**

# It's been a great start to the year

Toowoomba City started 2021 enthusiastically with much glee members welcoming each other with big grins, hoping to usher in a year that can only be better than the last. Most of our members have all returned to our meetings at the Sunset Super Bowl, a COVID-safe venue which has really catered well to our needs. Our President, Bob Beaumont, along with his committee, must also be commended on their handling of the pandemic year, which would not have been easy.

They, together with the backing of all members have well promoted the values that our Club strives for – namely: mental stimulation, friendship, fellowship and fun.

Even with all the problems associated with the COVID Pandemic, we have managed to acquire twelve new members, since we started up again in the middle of last year. All these new members have been attending most of our functions that have been magnificently arranged by Sue Fraser and Wilma Laughton.

We have also had great cause for celebrations, when one of our Foundation members, Jock Psaros, turned the grand milestone of ninety years of age.

Jock and his wife Viola have been staunch supporters of our club, filling various positions and attending most functions and outings for many years.

Recently, we were thrilled to learn that long-term member Raymond (Ray) Smythe, was awarded the Order of Australia in the General Division for his service with the Endeavour Foundation.

Additionally, of course, Ray has filled many positions during his forty years in local clubs, such as National



Jock Psaros and his wife Viola

Seniors, The Lions Club and Probus Clubs. Our new committee has been formed and the Changeover, at the beginning of March, when Gary Fraser took over the Chair from outgoing President Bob Beaumont, was certainly an example of how they are going to work and manage our affairs.

Gary and his wife Sue have been very consistent hard workers for our Club for many years and we would like to thank them for these years of service - and many more to come, we hope!

Wasn't it wonderful that we had eight Past Presidents attending this function? Well done!

Celia Waldron



Ray Smythe and his wife Kathy

## **EVERTON**

## Visit to Walkabout Creek

On Monday 1st March, thirty-three of our members visited the Walkabout Creek Discovery Centre located twelve kilometres west of the Brisbane CBD on the Mount Nebo Road and adjacent to the Enoggera Reservoir. This bushland oasis is Brisbane's backyard gateway to Queensland's



A Stimson Python

National Parks. It features brilliant photographic views of Queensland's National Parks, contains a small Zoo and provides presentations by Queensland's National Park Rangers.

After morning tea, provided by the onsite cafe, we split into two groups to attend presentations by the Park Ranger. We had up-close views of animals that most of us had never seen before. While one group was attending a presentation, the other was free to visit the Zoo and explore other interesting options provided by the Information Centre.

To complete the day, we were

served with lunch consisting of chicken schnitzel or fish and chips together with fruit platters by the cafe staff.

For many of us, it was a revelation of something being so interesting and so close to the City that many of us hitherto didn't even know existed.

There are many activities available at the centre including walking and hiking, swimming or paddle boarding, mountain biking and nature plays for children.

A most enjoyable day was had by

**Nev Wells** 



An Albino Blue-Tongue Lizard



# That Quirky Winter Festival returns!

A great adventure awaits you at Warwick's 2021 Jumpers and Jazz in July – Queensland's quirkiest Winter festival – complete with Covid-sensitive safety nets in place!

Spread over ten days (15 – 25 July) the festival is book-ended by two big weekends, and has become a favourite destination for Probians from afar!

Think: a kaleidoscope of yarn bombed colour; vibrant toe-tapping jazz; great food, (with warm country hospitality!), wine and coffee always; crisp, frosty mornings and soul-warming sunny days with brilliant blue skies.

Festival favourites include over 100 exquisitely dressed trees through the CBD, the Yarntopians' spectacular creation in the Art Gallery's "Orange Room",
Artisans' Markets at the Gallery (and at various venues around Warwick and beyond!), along with Stroll and Swing on Palmerin featuring Suitcase Rummage and Celebration of Local Flavours.
Add to that the awesome Killarney Bonfire night (rug up!), and Picnic in the Park finale featuring the huge Warwick Potters Winter Markets with joyful Jazz and great food all day.

The Grand Automobile Display on Palmerin, July 17, features close to 300 outstanding vehicles and motorcycles old and new through Palmerin St and in the Park.

If you can stay, mid-week offers a more relaxed pace, but there is still plenty to see and do with soup night, Cabaret, workshops, exhibitions, and pristine landscape drives featuring iconic history landmarks, and world class wineries. If you plan to stay you will need to book soon for all accommodation choices. RV/Caravans welcome at various places throughout the region.

## For accommodation check the website

www.jumpersandjazz.com.au/visitor -information

## For Key festival events:

www.jumpersandjazz.com.au/program Full programme will be online during May.

Ticketed events go live May 1st.

Visit on Facebook : www.jumpersandjazz.com.au



## **THURINGOWA**

## Our long-awaited Safari

Early Monday morning on the 21st September, forty members were ready and waiting on our coach with smiles from ear to ear. Bruno, our driver, knew we were all "good to go" on our long-awaited Texas Longhorn Safari. We were headed ten kilometres from Charters Towers to a working cattle property called Leahton Park.

After a chatty couple of hours drive plus comfort stops, we arrived to the smell of freshly brewed billy-tea, made the old way in vintage enamel teapots, and homemade treats. These were served under the canopy of the large homestead shade trees. Joining us were two more members who drove up in their own car.

The owners, Mick and Lynda warmly welcomed us to their home to experience old fashioned Aussie Country hospitality. After an information session and smoko, we were ready to climb aboard the easy access and

comfortable All-Terrain Polaris Rangers. This was an amazing and unique experience as we toured through the open pastures of their eleven hundred acre property and got an "up close" experience with the Longhorns, as well as the many other cattle and native wildlife that call Leahton Park their home. The highlight was meeting JR, the worldfamous Texas Longhorn steer, born and raised on the property. JR was certified by Guinness World Records 2013 to have the longest horns measured tip to tip of all cattle in the world. His horn's are still growing and now exceed well over three metres from tip to tip.

An unforgettable part of our whole experience was Lynda's memorable tour of the Longhorn Love Shack. As well as seeing the cattle handling facilities, we were able to see what goes into the "making" of a Texas Longhorn, at the aptly named "Love Shack".

We were then taken on an informative tour of Bethel Saddlery where Mick has been making saddles for

thirty years. This tour gave us the opportunity to learn the secrets of what goes into the construction of some of the most sought-after saddles in the country. Mick had a feature display of a replica 1880's style Texas Trail Herd Saddle, which was meticulously crafted in the Saddle Shop.

Mick and Lynda have spent all their lives raising cattle and operating their custom saddlery business. Their deep love and passion for what they do inspired them to warmly welcome visitors into their lives for an experience like no other.

After feeling as though we had just been part of a "Wild West" movie we ventured into the wonderful old goldmining town of Charters Towers to have lunch at the Sovereign Hotel. Like all pubs, especially those in the west, our meals were of great proportions.

We were all a little quiet on our journey home but still wore smiles from ear to ear. This was yet another one of our Probus Fun Friendship and Fellowship days to remember.

## **BRIBIE ISLAND**

# Ron Lett and the Canning Stock Route

The enjoyment of Ron Left of his trip along the Canning Stock Route was evident throughout our February Speaker's presentation. Ron's enthusiasm for his journeys around Australia was evident in his presentation

Ron told how, in 1906, seeking to break the monopoly of the West Kimberley cattlemen on the State's beef industry, surveyor Alfred Canning and his team were sent by the Western Australian Government to find a viable stock route from Halls Creek down to the southern markets and ports. Construction on the 1,850 kilometre route from Wiluna to Halls Creek began in 1908 and, by 1910, the first commercial droving began. However, the track did not prove popular; fewer cattle than expected could be driven at a time and wells were often in a bad condition and unreliable. The track was rarely used until the early 1930s and, even after the wells were repaired, only around twenty droves took place until 1959, when the last cattle drive was completed. Today the Route (or "Track" as it often termed) is a popular but challenging trek for intrepid four-wheeldrive owners and our very own Ron, with his wife, Coleen, with four companions, took on the challenge in 2002.

Preparation of their three fourwheel-drive-vehicles to cover all possible eventualities was vital to the safety of the travellers, as was ensuring almost all of the supplies needed along the way were on board. There were virtually no facilities along the way, other than small Aboriginal Community stores and a couple of camping spots with basic facilities, while fuel had to be pre-ordered through the isolated stations through which they passed. Absolutely essential was the radio, with which all travellers had to register their positions and estimated time of arrival at each destination. At 11 o'clock each morning, all vehicles were required to log on with their call-signs and to listen to any warning and track updates and the like.

During construction of the track some fifty-one wells were dug, roughly forty kilometres apart to suit the expected needs of the cattle being driven south. Only a few have been restored to working condition, and even there, the water is not suitable



Our Guest Speaker - Ron Lett

for human consumption. Ron's group averaged about three of the original wells a day and rejoiced when they arrived at a lovely water-hole which offered a great break from the relentless red sand and dust. His photos included some of ancient Aboriginal rock-art which can be found among the rocky outcrops, as well as of the colourful wild-flowers which manage to thrive in the desert-like conditions.

If you are up to seventeen to eighteen challenging days in the red sand of WA, Ron is sure to be ready, willing, and able to give you some very sound advice!

## **CHAPEL HILL**

# Our Outing to the Commissariat Store – a slice of history

Recently, twenty-one members of our Club visited the Commissariat Store Museum for a one hour's guided talk and exploration of the many exhibits relating to the early years of the establishment of Brisbane.

This is one of only two convict-built buildings left in Brisbane and is an important part of the city's history. The lower two floors of the building were built by convict labour and have stood the test of time very well. The top floor was added later. All manner of goods, necessary for life in the Penal Settlement and later on when Brisbane was opened to free settlers, were stored in this sturdy structure.

Our two guides, Phil and Richard, were knowledgeable and willing to answer all our questions. Scale models of the settlement, photographs of Brisbane's earliest years, all together with lots of items needed for work and living are on display.

We learnt a lot during the visit and the many exhibits require a much longer time of perusal.

## Barbara Alexander



Our introduction to the display



The Commissariat Museum Building



Here we are – viewing a model of the buildings of the Penal Settlement.

## Visit Queensland's oldest habitable building

# **COMMISSARIAT STORE MUSEUM**

Convict built in 1829, showcasing Queensland history





Three floors of exhibits, including railways, shipwrecks, convict history and colonial life.

To book your visit, including a complimentary guided tour, please contact us on 3221 4198 or email us at info@queenslandhistory.org.au



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## MT OMMANEY

## We're out on the track



Graham sure swings that billy.

One Saturday in March, fifteen of our members, together with two visitors and a dog enjoyed an almost four kilometre walk around the Pooh Corner Environmental Centre, off Wolston Road, Sumner. The area derived its name from the smell that train travellers enjoyed – or perhaps "experienced" is a better description - in the old "Red Rattlers", which were

the standard fare for Queensland Railways at the time, as the trains from lpswich passed the sewerage works at the site of the present Environmental Centre. The area had previously been used as an Army Camp during WW2. The Centre now has a flat well-prepared surface for all to enjoy. After the walk we recovered as Graham Kerven boiled the billy and we



And is that Oliver wanting more?

enjoyed billy tea and Graham's damper with syrup and Helen's pancakes with lemon curd. Graham delighted us swinging the billy, while the rest of us walkers rested, waiting for the refreshments. We later certainly "tucked in".

A very enjoyable morning planned by Helen, well worth missing out on a Saturday morning sleep-in for.

## **BUDERIM**

## Life begins at forty

The Probus Club of Buderim was founded on the 12th March 1981 by Rotarian Bob Martin, of the Mooloolaba Rotary Club.

This year, we celebrated our 40th Anniversary at our AGM Luncheon at the Maroochy RSL. There was a Birthday Cake and a slideshow of photographs from some of our various activities, including tours and luncheons.

We also produced a booklet of the Club's History, with details of all of our activities and tours, all in addition to a list of all Principal Officers over the forty years. Our President, Victoria Horne, was presented with Certificates of Congratulations from PSPL, PAQ and the Mooloolaba Rotary Club, by Graham Lukins, President of the Mooloolaba Rotary Club.

Here's to the next 40 years!

Ian Conkie



President Victoria Horne accepts with pride the PAQ Certificate of Congratulations.

## **MACGREGOR**

## Café Confusion

Our Club lunch at Café 63, at Springwood, a new venue - but what isn't these days? - was gastronomically successful, with around twenty members enjoying a terrific and leisurely lunch, hosted by the Mitchells, on a warm November afternoon. It was our second time at a "63".

The term "Café Confusion" wasn't used because it was a Chinese mystery but rather a mixture of mathematical Snakes and Ladders, where the lack of a comma in the Newsletter, between "Lunch Café 63" and Cinderella Drive, saw some lost in transit, finding themselves at No. 99 - an easy

error to make, except you might find yourself admitted to a Nursing Home at that number. Some might even like it.

The restaurant is on the front section of Arcare, a brilliant concept for the residents, one thought, as well as the public. Just for interest, for the rest of the Club, it's exactly opposite the Park where we "pizza-ed" and "pav-ed" for years.

We were lucky to be seated inside, instead of on a warm verandah, as the sun bore down at midday. There are at least a couple of dozen Café 63s in Queensland, most in the Metropolitan area and they double as flowershops, as well as all-day dining establishments. Why, I'm not quite sure but it's what they do and who am I to question?

Their website says they serve some four and a half million customers a year, throughout the country. The menu is incredible and the choices varied in the extreme. I had my all-time favorite, lamb's fry and bacon and it was all I hoped for. Some might not agree. Denise thought their barramundi the best she has tried in ages and most were very happy with their choices.

The service was excellent and the food arrived promptly, amazing under the circumstances, as the place filled and refilled quickly. Drinks were a good price and no one needed the sweets menu to top up, a good sign.

Thanks to those who came and to Robyn and Ron, for the good choice of venue.

John Perry.

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## **SANDGATE**

# We finally made it out – after quite a lot of virtual experience

Early March and we had no idea as we had our AGM that things were soon to change – and change a lot!

The Virus! Covid 19! A simple virus that would upset life around the world.

By mid-March when a large group of our members were heading off by train to Yeppoon for a week of touring and lots of fun, Cruise Lines had cancelled everything and ships already at sea were heading to port.

More changes came thick and fast and our committee started working out how we could maintain contact with members using technology as the focus from telephones to emails to Zoom.

Members were wonderful offering suggestions- visiting tourist spots from our lounge rooms, pictures and info on how to make material masks, documentaries to find, online trivia and lots more.

We did many things but members were all too keen to get back to our core purpose- friendship, fellowship and fun.

As soon as restrictions allowed, we started to meet in groups in a park, keeping social distance and bringing our own chairs, morning tea and coffee, tea or water. Naturally, we brought our own wipes and sanitizer, as we weren't sure what was available in park rest rooms after the weekend.

By August we were back! Our first meeting since March and what a difference - seats spaced out, social distancing, Refreshment Ladies handing out individual tea or coffee



Lunch at the Coomera Tavern after an enjoyable morning at the Gold Coast Auto Museum

with a biscuit on a napkin, while wearing plastic gloves and masks.

Bus trips were a little different with masks to be worn on the bus and morning tea in individual packets - but still delicious. Our first trip to the Awassi Cheesery near Grantham found us lunching under the avocado trees. Later trips were to Toowoomba in the week leading up to the Carnival of Flowers, going by ferry around the Bay Islands and admiring the wonderful car collection at the Gold Coast Motor Museum.

We finished the year at a wonderful Christmas lunch/party in a room at the Murrumba Downs Tavern. It was wonderful! Yes, we're back!

Diane Fuller

## **HAMILTON**

## Our First Thirty Years – The History of the Hamilton Probus Club

On 14 December, despite the inclement weather, seventy members and guests celebrated the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Accredition of the Club with Christmas Lunch at The Royal Queensland Golf Club.

The Club was officially granted accreditation on 14 December 1990, so it was fitting to be able to have a celebration on the very day thirty years later.

Eleven Past Presidents, who had all paid a valuable contribution to the development of the Club were able to be there and had their photo taken with the Present President, Barry Henzell, as he cut the cake to mark the occasion.

It was a wonderful opportunity to hear some of the stories of those early days of the formation of the Club, and Lex Lowien, one of the first members and the one who had the task of organising the outings for several years, was invited to speak. He told some of the stories of those early exciting days of development.

In 1999, discussions were held regarding the entry of women to boost the numbers in the Club, and the records showed that, despite protests from a few of the "Old Boys", after a secret ballet, women were invited to join. The first women joined at the July 2000 Meeting.

Robin Edwards was one of the first women members to



Past Presidents

join and she spoke of those early days of women entering the club. Robin was Outings Coordinator for many years and still organises some of the outings.

It was a very happy day for our wonderful club which now has eighty-six members. We have a monthly Newsletter, "The Times", which has grown over the years into an important source of information.

This in addition to a Website which promotes our Club and its activities.

Good company, interesting conversation and a delightful lunch made it a special occasion with many memories shared as well as plans for our next thirty years.

Anne Gooley

# Queensland Pops Orchestra Conductor Patrick Pickett Saturday 24 July 2:30 & 7:30pm QPAC



Join Patrick Pickett and the Queensland Pops Orchestra for a fabulous Yuletide concert full of music from around the world that celebrates all the good things about the Christmas season.

With the Pops Three Tenors and Emma Kavanagh There'll choirs and dancers and all the trimmings!

**Book Now 136 246** 

## **SPRINGWOOD**

## History can be fun

Cloudy skies, a few drops of rain, not a problem for us intrepid Probians. We brought our brollies of course. But boy, it was hot!

We discovered the wonders of the Beenleigh Historical Village.

I'm always amazed at what our forebears endured and how they lived. Wearing a corset all day long? No way.

I can't wait to remove my bra each night. Sharing an outback dunny with spiders and snakes?

Give me indoor plumbing any day. Life was certainly hard for the German settlers of this area, but also for their wives - wells for water; coppers and mangles for washing clothes; sugar bags to keep out the winter cold, and so forth.

I can't imagine coping with all that. The machinery and gadgets held the men's attention with much speculation as to their use.

Music must have been important for their relaxation with all buildings housing a piano.

But the great divide between rich and poor was obvious, as we looked at the beautifully restored old Queenslanders alongside the rough-hewn timber cottages. I guess nothing really changes.

In the school house we all had a story to tell of our own time with inkwells, slates, the cane and the rest.

And of course discipline. Back then our teachers instilled in us the respect for others which some of us perceive to be sadly lacking today. We never talked back.

Our last stop was the historic church. It was lovely to sit on the old pews and enjoy the quiet. I hoped an organist would start up a rousing rendition of "Rock of Ages." But alas, no.

Then stomach rumbles called us to the Railway Station, now called the "Tin Cup Café", where, our lunch was plentiful, and so was our chatter.

A few of us were going to visit the Lolly Shop before we left, but, unfortunately they had closed by the time we had finished lunch. Probably better for the waist-line!

It was a morning full of enlightenment and I'm glad our forebears did all the hard work.

I'll go home and hug my automatic washing machine.





Carla's been a naughty little girl.



We've all been there.

# HERVEY BAY MIXED

## When old friends meet

Members were excited to be able to gather once again and catch up with friends after so many months of isolation, keeping themselves safe from infection from COVID-19. They turned up in good numbers at the various events which our Social Director, Daphne Terrel, organised.

It was particularly pleasing to be able to celebrate the Melbourne Cup and enjoy a "flutter" in safe surroundings. Dinner outside, around the pool at one of Hervey Bay's several resorts was a very enjoyable evening and the year was sent off in style at the Boat Club Christmas party.

The view out to Fraser Island from the Dining room was a sober reminder of the tragedy unfolding on our World Heritage island.

The year had been sad enough and this latest catastrophe ends the year of 2020 as a year never to be forgotten.



Ladies were keen -or not so keen - to show off their summer attire.



A wonderful send off to a sobering year



# **TALK AND TRAVEL**

Jeni Neary compiled this information from monthly newsletters submitted by affiliated Probus clubs. To follow up, your club secretary can provide the telephone numbers of clubs on this list.

Topic	Virtual Speaker/Speaker	Club
Walking the Queen Street Beat in the 80s	Mark Kerle	Bellbowrie
Smart Pups – Assistance Dogs	Robi O'Keefe	Bribie Island
Innocent Victims Who Have Been Jailed	Ted Duhs, Author	Kenmore Gardens
NBN – Smart Devices and Emerging Trends	Tristan Coombe	Coomera Valley
Ageless Grace Program and Brain Health	Adele Hamilton	Holland Park Central
Great Queensland Rail Journeys	Amanda Harvey, Qld Rail	Highfields
Years Ahead Program	RACQ	Indooroopilly
Earliest Stages of Alzheimer's Disease	Professor Peter Nestor	Indooroopilly
Aged Care Commission Findings	Chris Grice, National Seniors	Holland Park Central
Insight into 2019-2020 Bushfires	Joel Gordon, QFES	Mt Gravatt
Exercise Physiology	Kate Sweeney-West	Emu Park
Wireless Communication in WWII	Peter Dunn	Redlands
The COVID19 Pandemic	Professor Nigel McMillan	Rochedale
St John Ambulance Transport Service	Samantha Townsend	Sherwood
Writers R Us – Logan Creative Writers Group	Carol Price	Springwood
Peel Island – Leprosy Lazaret	Peter Ludlow	Sunnybank
Sub Station 33 – Discarded Electrical Products	Tony Sharp	Springwood
Mithra School in Chennai, India	Helen Mahoney	Tamborine Mtn Men's
Current Scrams and Security Issues	Sgt Sue Walsh, Q Police Service	The Gap

Sharing Activities	Topics, Locations, Activities	Club
Tour	Awassi Cheesery, Grantham	Algester and Districts
3 Day Tour	Celtic Festival, Glen Innis	Bellbowrie
6 Day Train Trip	To Cairns and Cooktown and return	Bowen
Tilt Train Trip	To Rockhampton, then Yeppoon – Travel at 60 group	Bribie Island
Cruise	Brisbane River Cruise and Lunch at Breakfast Creek Hotel	Algester and Districts
Day Trip	Ipswich Heritage Tour	Bribie Island
Day Trip	Rick's Garage, Palmwoods	Centenary Suburbs
Day Trip	Currumbin Wildlife Hospital	Coomera Valley
Day Trip	Mount Coot-tha and Botanical Gardens	Hope Island
Visit	Australia Post Mail Sorting Centre, Redbank Plains	Indooroopilly
Coach Trip	Albert River Wines, Tamborine	Mount Ommaney
Guided Tour	Government House, Brisbane	Brisbane North
Coach Trip	Goomeri Pumpkin Festival	Redcliffe City Mixed
Trip	Surfers Paradise Arts Festival	Springwood
Trip	Gold Coast Motor Museum and Stanley's Barn	Tamborine Mtn Men's
Tour	Wellcamp Airport, Toowoomba	The Gap
Trip	Bunya Mountains via Bell and Maidenwell	Toowoomba City
Trip	Colonial Woodcrafts, Kingsthorpe	Toowoomba West

## Probus Club Activity and Interest Groups

Fishing, Writers, Garden Gurus, Mah-jong, Dine Out, Board Games, Happy Wanderers Walking, Trivia, Progressive Lunches, Armchair Travellers, Loud Shirt Day, Bridge, Movie Buffs, Jewellery and Craft, Bush Walking, Holly Jolly Dress-up Day, Poetry club, BYO Picnics, Canasta, Caravanning, Photography, Scrabble, Men's Interest and Chat group, Grumpy Old Men, Sceptics group.

## **SUNNYBANK**

# Capalaba Recreation – and a great day out

Recently, a group of the Sunnybank members had planned to meet at the Capalaba Recreation Park for a picnic. I looked up the directions on Google Maps, picked up Patricia and Bronte, and off we went. The distance was given as twenty-one kilometres and taking about thirty-two minutes. I got to within one kilometre of Pittwin Road and this is where it all went wrong. We missed the street sign. Thinking it was further along, we continued up this road. I stopped and hooked up my old GPS. It turned on alright but then froze. I stopped at an engineering repair shop to ask for directions. The man opened up his Google Maps and showed me what direction to take. Finally, we arrived an hour later and after the 10am start. The only good news was that a few other people had similar problems finding their way.

This green oasis on the edge of Capalaba incorporates a myriad of paths for walking or cycling through meadows and woody shady places with a number of shelters and benches. The rest of the three square kilometres of lush parklands is perfect for a stroll or bike ride. The park includes two large lagoons, linked by pathways, and is a popular playground for children. There are plenty of large trees creating scattered shade throughout your walk. There are several lagoons with friendly ducks only too willing to swim over looking for a feed of some bread or vegetable scraps.

An undercover setting with a table and wooded benches was picked for our picnic. It was suggested we bring our own folding chairs. Not long after we arrived a number of us decided to go for a walk through this well-kept parklands. We were all a bit dubious about going out, as the evening before we had severe thunderstorms and the forecast for Wednesday was an 80% chance of showers.

As it turned out by the time we entered the park the blue skies with white fluffy clouds had decided to appear and stayed this way for the rest of the day. An hour or so after our picnic lunch, we finally departed thankful for enjoyable weather and a chance to get together as a group after restrictions have relaxed somewhat to enable us to finally bring a bit of normality back to our lives.



Genise Bell, Heather Brennan, Sue Benson, Jan Embelton, Carol Clifford out to enjoy themselves.



Rita Chaffey, Wendy Symons, Graeme Hands, & Grant Symons are all feeling very relaxed about everything.

## **CARSELDINE**

# Thirty years and still going strong

At the March 2020 Meeting, we were all looking forward to our Thirtieth Birthday Lunch in April. Plans were made and the venue booked. The Management Committee for the coming year had taken office, full of energy for another year of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

We gathered as many Past Presidents as were available for a photo to record the occasion. We could not have imagined at the time how everybody's year was about to be turned upside down by Covid-19.

Our celebrations will have to wait until the Thirty-First Birthday next year.



Back Row L-R: Graeme Rice, Michael Handfield, Bill Pettigrew, John Thompson, Graham Olsson (Current President), Elenore Lynam, Len Smyth, Alan Stafford, Ron Johnston, Robin Bechly Front Row L-R: Lorelle Pacello, Bev Culverhouse, Ninna Day, Ron Peters.

## Loathsome Louis



Louis XIV of France, who ruled France for 72 years, could sometimes be an unpleasant fellow. In 1674, when

he was visiting a school at Clermont, he heard that one of the children, a nine-yearold Irish lad named Francis Seldon, had made a pun about the king's bald head.

Louis was furious. He had a secret warrant drawn up for the child's arrest, and young Seldon was thrown into solitary confinement in the Bastille. His parents, members of one of Europe's richest merchant families, were told simply that the child had disappeared.

Days turned to months, months to years, and Louis himself passed away. But Francis spent over forty years 'in the hole' for making fun of the king's baldness.

## Popes and potatoes

An American T-shirt maker in Miami printed shirts for the US Spanish market promoting the Pope's 2015 US visit. Instead of the desired 'I Saw the Pope' in Spanish (el Papa), the shirts mistakenly proclaimed 'I Saw the Potato (la Papa)'!



Compiled by Jarvis Finger Kenmore Millennium Probus Club



Last week the boys in the Year 8 Home Economics class made their first botch of jam using locally grown nectarines.

- School newsletter

## Baby talk

When the Gerber company started selling baby food in Africa, they used the same packaging as in the United States, with its iconic smiling baby on the label.

Later they learned that,



in Africa, companies routinely put pictures on the labels of what's

inside, since many people can't read.

## Maths magic

The wonder of mathematics...

111,111,111 multiplied by 111,111,111 equals 12,345,678,987,654,321

## Did you know?

Cats spend 66% of their life asleep.

For 'proper' typists, 'stewardesses' is the longest word that can be typed with only the left hand; and with the right hand 'lollipop'.

A giraffe can clean its ears with its 21-inch tongue.

All the blinking in one day equates to having your eyes closed for 30 minutes.

## Probian Puzzler

The pick of the puzzles that perplex Probians. After five minutes, you may cheat by consulting the answer below...

What is so fragile that when you say its name, you break it?

## Quiz contestant funnies

Which Indian leader, whose last name began with 'G' took the title Mahatma?

Contestant: Geronimo

What was Hitler's first name?

Contestant: Heil

Name two famous brothers. *Contestant:* Bonnie and Clyde.

## crikey!

TALES OF THE AMUSING, ODD, AND OUTRAGEOUS

## A lesson from a pig

A LION, a fox, and a wild pig went hunting for rabbits. By the end of the day, they had a large pile of rabbits to split up.

The lion said to the wild pig, 'Pig, you divide the rabbits up among the three of us in a way that you think is fair.'

The pig divided the rabbits up into three equal piles, and said to the lion, 'There we are. One pile for each of us. How's that?'

The lion immediately sprang at the wild pig and killed him. Then, the lion threw all the rabbits into one big pile again. He turned to the fox. 'Well now, Mr Fox, why don't you divide the rabbits between the two of us in a way that you think is fair.'

The fox walked over to the pile of rabbits, took the smallest one for himself, and left the rest in a big pile.

'This one rabbit is for me, Mr Lion, and that big pile is for you,' said the fox.

At that point, the lion said, 'Where did you learn to divide so evenly, Mr Fox?'

Mr Fox replied, 'The wild pig taught me!'

And the moral of the story? Smart people not only learn from their own mistakes – they pay attention to the mistakes of others and learn valuable lessons there as well – just like Mr Fox.

## Fantastic Foto #24

"OK! OK! So I had too many fish and chips before the game!



## Words of wisdom

Don't give up. Moses was once a basket case!

It's not the minutes spent at the table that put on weight; it's the seconds.

It's scary when you start making the same noises as your coffee maker.

Answer to Probian Puzzler:

## How polite!

When a man opens the door of his car for his wife, you can be sure of one thing: either the car is new or the wife is.

## A final point to ponder

Both optimists and pessimists contribute to our society. The optimist invents the aeroplane and the pessimist the parachute.





# Golf resort living for the un-retiring

This is your opportunity to embrace a fun, vibrant and connected retirement lifestyle within the popular Club at Parkwood Village precinct on the Gold Coast. Living Choice Parkwood will offer 210 premium apartments overlooking a lake and 18-hole Championship golf course and will be developed by award-winning retirement company, Living Choice.

- **Location** close to shops, hospitals, beaches, airports and sporting facilities;
- ★ Lifestyle extensive onsite leisure facilities, green space + easy access to the club's dining and entertainment areas;
- \* Luxury magnificent 4-bedroom, 3-bedroom, 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom apartments;
- ★ Live Well onsite wellness services, 24-hour emergency response, supportive staff and Living Choice Home Care.

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