

OCTOBER 2024 ISSUE



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The Queensland PROBIAN

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COVER PHOTO

Grand Pacific Tours NZ



Volume 36 Number 4 - October 2024
Published quarterly and distributed free to every member of clubs affiliated with the Probud Association of Queensland in February, May, August and October.
Print Post Approval Number 437333/00067.

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PAQ Mission Statement

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 new clubs.

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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Covers.....\$700 full page only
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These rates are based on complete copy being emailed to rob.neary@paqnetwork.com.au. Advertising deadlines are at least one week before editorial copy deadlines, which are December 1, April 1, July 1 and September 1. Magazine issue dates are February 1, May 1, August 1, and October 1.

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President's Report - OCTOBER 2024

Good morning, everyone.

Six months after the AGM, and PAQ, with PSPL, has opened new clubs at Pittsworth-Southbrook, a new country club, and Bulimba, Teneriffe and Moorooka. Many thanks go to Merv Richens and Judith Maestracci who worked tirelessly before and during the Foundation Meetings to get the Committees organised and the clubs up and running.

Later this year will also see more new clubs formed at Gatton, Logan Village, Norman Park and Arundall - eight new clubs in 2024. My thanks to PSPL for their hard work and to Merv Richens and the Regional Liaison Officers (RLO) who have contributed at these Foundation Meetings.

Fifteen PAQ Workshops, ably assisted by RLOs, have been held across Queensland through to Cairns. Limited participant numbers have provid-

ed more individual attention and greater learning opportunities for all. Some members, with no current management position but a keenness to learn more about such positions have been encouraged by their clubs to attend. More participants like this needed!

In October, a PAQ survey will be sent to all clubs seeking club needs for 2025 Workshops/Seminars. These 2025 Seminars will involve a Panel of Professionals to discuss and answer your questions. Management, Mediation and Negotiation sessions may address situations impacting your clubs. Others will cover Facebook, Microsites, Web-Sites, Excel, Writing Newsletters and other topics to emerge from the Survey. So please have your club respond to the Survey - it's our guide for 2025 Workshop planning!

The largest percentage of users of Facebook nowadays is Seniors. So please Facebook about Probus often and with enthusiasm - or join local Community Groups on Facebook. For 2025 Delegates Meetings, let's record experiences and results of club Facebook and website contacts for attracting new members. Let's knock down the wall that has us as a secret group doing "secret squirrel business" behind closed doors. The more Probus is out there and known about, the better and bigger our clubs will grow.

Thank you and wishing you happy Probus meetings and events.

Carwyn



Vale Jarvis Finger

PAQ, and in particular the Queensland Probian magazine, will miss Jarvis Finger, member of Kenmore Millennium Probus Club, and his continuing contributions to the magazine.

Readers have enjoyed Jarvis' sense of humour in the "Take 10s" he has supplied over the past 10 years - in fact we ran his first "Take Ten" again in the August 2024 Issue. Again, Jarvis' sense of humour and whimsy was demonstrated in his Probian Quiz and we will see "Z" finally dealt with in this October issue. Jarvis also provided a number of "fill in" cartoons reminding clubs to send articles to the Probian for inclusion.

But it was during the 2020 COVID Lockdown period, Jarvis (and Rob Neary) produced over 120 quizzes, puzzles, competi-

tions, etc which were sent to all Queensland Probus clubs as a way of encouraging them to keep in touch with their members. These were sent to clubs each week for 20 weeks and also sent to Probus South Pacific Limited (PSPL) in Sydney who then made them available to ALL Probus clubs throughout Australia and New Zealand. What isn't known is that QLD suffered the smallest attrition of club member numbers compared to all of the other states in Australia during this time and I attribute that directly to the work done by QLD clubs in keeping in contact with their members - Jarvis' contribution certainly made it easy for them to do this.

A truly remarkable contribution from a very creative person.

Vale Jarvis Finger!



At 2021 AGM of the Probus Association of Queensland (PAQ), Rob Neary thanking Jarvis for his contribution and creativity during those bleak days of Covid lockdowns.



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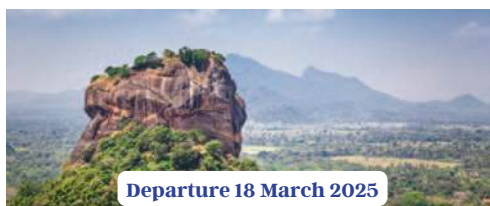
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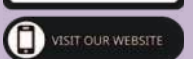
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GYMPIE

Our Mid-Year Tour – becoming part of our tradition

Early on a frosty Gympie morning, our members set off for our Mid-Year Tour to the even cooler climate areas of Warwick and Stanthorpe. We visited a camel farm for morning tea, enjoyed lunch at Cunningham's Gap and then walked the main street of Warwick to immerse ourselves in the hugely decorative "Jumpers and Jazz Festival".

That was only the first day! We visited some of Warwick's sandstone buildings – these including a Museum and an Abbey, both being set out

beautifully on display and complemented with colourful gardens, where roses are featured.

We enjoyed lunch at a local Nursery, then visited Killarney and walked to take in the Queen Mary Falls that apart from all else satisfies our need for an afternoon exercise routine. We went on to enjoy warm social evenings of good wine, food and company.

On we went the next day to Stanthorpe and then Girraween National Park to absorb the stunning spectacle



And here's the tour group gathered before the Camel Farm.

of the oddly-tossed granite boulders. Later a tasty platter lunch was prepared especially for us at a local Winery - what a treat!

By the time the fourth day came, we had apparently had enough fun and returned home after travelling through Allora, via the Oakey Army Flying Museum.

All in all, this had proved to be a wonderful short holiday and Warwick even provided warm sunny days. How lucky were we!

Carolyn Wright



Kay in her element at the Jumpers and Jazz Festival

TENERIFFE

We're the new kids on the Block!

On Thursday 15th August 2024, fifty-five people were welcomed as Foundation Members of the new Teneriffe Probus Club.

The new Club has a catchment area of Teneriffe, New Farm and Newstead – but some of these prospective members even come across the Brisbane River from Bulimba where the Club formed last April already has a waiting list. This new Club meets at the Merthyr Road Uniting Church on the third Thursday of each month and there are others planning to join in September who, for various reasons, could not attend this August meeting. They too will be classed as Foundation Members.

The promotion for forming this new club was organised by PSPL and by far the greatest number expressing interest had seen the notice in Facebook.

The Rotary Club of New Farm were pleased to be sponsors of this new Probus Club and we also had financial support and physical help on the day from Andrew Fyfe and Greg Hopper – the local Trade Travel Franchisees.

PAQ President Carwyn and RLO Barry Smith were responsible for registering attendees and handing out showbags – and then, at morning tea, collecting Membership Applications and Joining Fees.

The PSPL Qld Representative Director, Judith Maestracci OAM, conducted the initial Information Session – and then the Resolution Session to formally set the Club in place, with assistance from me pushing the computer buttons to advance the PowerPoint. Much of the success is due to Judith's passion for Probus which she showed during the presentation. As there often is, there was some reluctance for Members to volunteer for Management Committee roles, but we did finally end up with a good Committee being led by Christine Stewart as President. She is shown standing proudly with her Committee and Judith.

Merv Richens



The Foundation Members eagerly absorbed in the early stage



The new Management Committee looking for the action to come under the guidance of their President, Christine.

REDCLIFFE CITY MIXED

A Day Out at the Brisbane City Hall

We originally had forty people going. Due, however, to the wet weather we ended up with thirty-seven people, which was still a great turn-out considering the conditions. As the trains were delayed, we had a longer trip into the City than planned for and made contact with the others on the Kippa Ring train to see how they were travelling. As we arrived at Central station about twenty minutes late, it was a brisk walk to City Hall to be there in time for the start of the tour.

Twenty of our group did the tour and were lucky enough to run into the Lord Mayor. Some even had a photograph with him. The architecture and spectacular marble staircase, the vaulted ceilings, chandeliers and mosaic-tiled floors really are a wonder to behold and Brisbane may be truly proud of all this. The City Hall underwent a \$215 million restoration in the years between 2010 and 2013.

We were shown the WWII Signature Wall that is on display in the Basement covered in over a hundred and fifty signatures. It has been dubbed "The Lucky Wall" as researchers have found that every soldier listed had returned from service in the Forces during the war.

The others who had not joined in this part of the tour did not waste their time. They took the time to grab a coffee and catch up with other members. All very much in the spirit of Probus.

We then were ushered into the City Hall Auditorium to watch none less than our Redcliffe Theatre Group's "Tribute to UK". We had been aware that they had just performed at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre with their production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". On this day, they did Redcliffe proud as they performed the music of such well-known legends as Andrew Lloyd Webber, The Beatles, The Spice Girls, Adle, Robbie Williams, Rowan Atkinson and Monty Python. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the show.

With the concert over, we braved the showers and head-



A glorious view of the City Hall Auditorium



Our Vice-President, Darryl Gomersall, and his wife, Libby, welcomed to the City Hall by Lord Mayor Adrian Schinner.

ed to the Criterion Tavern for a well-deserved drink and lunch. Everyone seemed happy with what was on offer. My Beef and Cheese Pie was the best especially on a wet day. Well fed, we then made our way back to Central Station and travelled back to Shorncliffe and Kippa-Ring. It turned out that it was just as well we left when we did as there were more train delays later in the afternoon.

A special thanks must go to Anne Lewis for yet another enjoyable, well-organised tour.

Maree Butler

CAIRNS MARLIN COAST

Cairns Marlin Coast Probus Club goes to Norfolk Island

Fourteen members Cairns Probus went to Norfolk Island from 24 October to 31 October last year. Norfolk Island for those who don't know is an island in the Pacific Ocean about midway between Australia and New Zealand.

It is technically governed by Australia but is still fiercely independent.

They surrendered their financial de facto independence some years ago when they ran out of money and needed a bail-out that extended social security benefits enjoyed by Australian citizens.

Australia has always appointed an Administrator who seems to have a love/hate relationship with the locals.

We stayed at the 'Governors Lodge hotel' and went out most days on various tours and for prearranged dinners.

The island is a beautiful emerald green for the most part and the lay-back life style makes it a great place to relax and soak up the history of this once penal colony of New South Wales during colonial times.

Apart from a longish boat trip the only way to commute is a weekly Qantas flight from Brisbane.

There is no jetty on Norfolk so all goods, including buses and cars must be delivered by lighter, off loaded from anchored ships.



Cairns Marlin Coast Probus Club members on Norfolk Island

This results in fairly high prices for everyday goods in the shops.

The people are very friendly particularly since they realise that tourism is the industry that keeps their economy afloat. We strongly recommend to anyone who has not been there to consider it for a short holiday.

**Peter Fitz-Gibbon, IPP,
Combined Probus Club of Cairns**

INNISFAIL

Our Great Western Trip – all the better for having other Clubs with us

On the 22nd July, twenty-four Probus members from Innisfail, Mission Beach-El Arish and Mareeba together with guests travelled by coach to Western Queensland destinations for eleven days of true "Friendship, Fellowship and Fun". The first overnight stop at Hughenden was a cold 8C!! Undaunted, the next day we enjoyed Smoko beside a lovely lake in Richmond and a welcome hot lunch at Julia Creek, before it was on to Mt Isa, where we checked in at the Ibis Hotel.

Our third day started with a town tour and visit to the "Hard Luck Mine". We pulled on gum boots, protective overalls and don hard hats and make a rather rapid descent down one of Mt Isa's mine shafts. Here we experienced the replica of everyday workings of the mine including a go at live (very noisy) drilling. We had a miners' smoko underground. The fascinating Irish Club was our lunch venue. In the evening, we visited the Underground Hospital built during WW2 as a precaution against Japanese invasion. Never used, it is still completely kitted out as it was nearly eighty years ago.

Leaving Mt Isa, the next day, we visited The Flying Doctors Museum in Cloncurry. We lunched at The Walkabout Pub in McKinlay where "Crocodile Dundee" was filmed and finally checked into the Boulder Opal Motor Inn at Winton. We welcomed a tour of Winton by local resident Reg who also ensured we enjoyed a visit to the Singing Fence, the Truck Museum and Waltzing Matilda Centre. We enjoyed dinner at the Gregory Hotel and listened to fascinating tales of the Waltzing Matilda song's origin and finally watched a night movie, "Goldstone" which was filmed locally at the Winton Open Air Theatre.

Leaving Winton, we headed for Corfield and The Australian Age of Dinosaurs. Here, we viewed real dinosaur bones and learned of the intricate extraction and preservation processes. We continued on to Longreach doing a tour of the town before checking into our Motel. In the evening, rain started to set in, but, not put off in the slightest, we donned ponchos and beanies and embarked on our Sunset Cruise on the Thomson Belle Paddle Steamer, followed by a Camp Dinner complete with log fire ... in the rain!!! Unfortunately, the



Ready to go in the Stagecoach at Longreach. Boy! Were we cold?



The whole group on the steps of the Longreach Hall of Fame

weather deteriorated and only the adventurous enjoyed the delicious damper, golden syrup and Billy tea if they left the bus.

Our next day set off well, with breakfast at the Qantas Museum followed by lunch at the iconic Wellshot Hotel at Ilfracombe. A few hours were spent at the Australian Hall of Fame where a group photo was taken and the day was rounded off with a scrumptious Chinese banquet at the Happy Valley Chinese Restaurant.

At Kinnon's we were thrilled with an exciting Stage Coach ride, especially thrilling for those on the top- back or front. An old-style Tent Show, movie and a Billy-can lunch were further highlights of the day. The Qantas Museum proved well-worthwhile in the afternoon, as did watching the Qantas Laser Night Show in the evening. We enjoyed a pizza meal at the Birdcage Hotel.

Eventually came the time to leave Longreach and start our return journey home. It was a long travel day, stopping briefly at Emerald before

finally stopping at Clermont for the night at Leo's Hotel where the temperature plummeted to 0.5C degrees. An early start was called for the next day, with Brunch at Belyando Crossing before arriving in Charters Towers for a quick town tour, a stop at the local Cemetery, where members paid their respects to departed loved ones and checked in at the Park Motel. At sunset, we visited the Charters Towers Lookout, had drinks and nibbles and watched a film and commentary of the town's history followed by an enjoyable evening meal back at our Motel to the accompaniment of celebrated saxophonist Anne Bavin of "Sax and the Single Girl Fame" and give thanks to Bruno and Bev Bandiera for organising a wonderful trip.

The final day we bid farewell to Charters Towers homeward bound, stopping briefly at Reid River for smoko. The Ingham RSL provided our final lunch together before we arrived in Innisfail- wouldn't you know it - in the pouring rain!!!! Good to be home!

GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA

Garden City Probus is pawstitive about Guide Dogs

Garden City Probus was given a tail-wagging lead on what Guide Dogs Queensland do with a comprehensive presentation by Liz Jeffrey (Philanthropy Coordinator – Gift in Wills), Desley Hegney (Community Volunteer Ambassador) and Kayla Higgins (Community Partnerships – Gold Coast and Darling Downs) and their “smooch dog” Vanda.

Guide Dogs role in the community is much wider than most members had realised. Liz Jeffrey explained that Guide Dogs Qld is more than just providing trained guide dogs.



Liz Jeffrey, Rob Neary (GCT Probus Club), Desley Hegney, Kayla Higgins and Vanda (Smooch Dog)

It is about empowering people with vision loss to achieve independence, participation, inclusion and wellbeing. Liz also explained the variety of services provided by Guide Dogs Queensland to meet the needs of each individual referred to them.

While these include Guide Dog Mobility which is focussed on partnering a person with a Guide Dog for confidence, companionship and greater independence, Guide Dogs Queensland also offers Orientation and Mobility training which is all about helping vision impaired people build their ability by enhancing mobility skills. They also provide Occupational Therapy to support the learning of the skills and techniques needed by vision-impaired people to cope with everyday life.

They also offer Counselling Services to support individuals understand, accept and manage their vision level. Other services offered include: Assistive Technology; Programs for kids and teens; Support for adult, seniors and carers; Leisure and Lifestyle programs which build connections with other people to form new friendships, enjoy activities and share stories and experiences.

Not all dogs make the intensive training program. Some are better suited to a slightly differ-



President Jan Handy, Kayla Higgins and Vanda

ent career path and these dogs are often used as Therapy Dogs.

Liz Jeffrey explained that over 85% of their funding comes from the public, like Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club members. The generosity of the public makes Guide Dogs Queensland work possible. Liz handed out information about how members can contribute to Guide Dogs Queensland's work and their website is: <https://qld.guidedogs.com.au/> if readers would like to find out more.

PINE RIVERS

We were eager to use our Grant to the full – and were grateful to PAQ

The Probus Club of Pine Rivers wishes to increase its Membership, with particular focus on younger members and men. We have a current membership of fifty-eight, of which some thirty-nine per cent are men, and are aged from sixty to ninety-three and an average age of seventy-nine.

The Club received a grant of \$200 from PAQ for membership promotions and used the funds to purchase a Pull-Up Banner and other promotional material.

We were able to acquire brochures from PSPL and produced a Handout based on the Proforma Brochure from the Seniors Week Resources on the PAQ Website.

On 27 August, we hosted a Stand at

the Dickson Seniors' Expo at the South Pine Sports Complex at Brendale. Getting on for two thousand people attended and there were a hundred Stallholders registered. Our members on the Stand were kept very busy asking passers-by: "What do you know about Probus?" As a result of ensuing conversations, we handed out over a hundred Information Packs and received many very positive responses. The Expo drew people from a wide area, and we were able to direct people to other Clubs as well as locals to our own.

Although we are listed on Council and Community Directories, we recognise that we need to have a Web presence so that people can find us easily on the Internet. We already



We were ready for business and we got it!

had a private Facebook Page for our Members and have recently set up an Open Facebook page where we post information about recent Club activities. We have been very encouraged by the number of people who have viewed the site.



KIWI SOCIAL UKULELE TOUR

03 - 11 APRIL 2025

Ex Brisbane



INCLUSIONS

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Meals as per itinerary
All transport in private air-conditioned coach
All inclusions and attractions as per itinerary

HIGHLIGHTS

Ukulele Workshops with local musicians
Ukulele Jam Sessions
Ukulele Factory Tours
Auckland Sightseeing
Hobbiton Movie set
Te Puia guided tour & night experience
Waiotapu thermal area

\$6,445*

per person twin share
ex BNE

\$1,180**

Single Supplement



SPLENDID SINGAPORE

12 - 21 MAY 2025

Ex Brisbane



HIGHLIGHTS

Singapore Zoo
Gardens by the Bay
National Orchid Gardens
Bum Boat Ride
High Tea at Raffles
Changi/Kranji Tour
SEA Aquarium
Sentosa Island



\$6,375*

per person twin share
ex BNE

\$1,795**

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ATAS Accreditation No: A10619

Contact our office to receive the full itinerary and booking form!

Terms and Conditions apply to all bookings & are subject to availability & based on minimum numbers.



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ex BNE

\$650**

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05 - 12 JUNE 2025

Ex Brisbane

INCLUSIONS

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Return airport transfers
7 nights at Aloha Apartments
7 x Breakfasts
1 x Lunch
7 x Dinners
Touring as indicated
Fletcher's Mutiny Cyclorama

HIGHLIGHTS

Bounty Day Picnic and celebrations
Half Day Orientation Tour Island
Fish Fry
Progressive Dinner
Colleen McCullough Tour
Convict Settlement Tour



\$5,389*

per person twin share
ex BNE

\$1,099**

Single Supplement

EL QUESTRO WINTER ESCAPE

06 - 12 AUGUST 2025

Ex Brisbane



HIGHLIGHTS

Half-day Perth Sightseeing tour
Half-day El Questro tour
Thermal Zebedee Springs
Chamberlain Gorge Cruise
Lake Argyle scenic cruise
Durack Homestead Museum
Ord Hydro-Power Station
East Kimberley Sunset



ATAS Accreditation No: A10619

SHERWOOD

Anyone for tennis? With more to follow that.

On a recent visit to the Tennyson Tennis Centre, the whole gathering of twenty-four members and their friends thoroughly enjoyed our visit and were treated to a grand tour of the complex by Michael Blomer who has been there from Day One and knows everything about the working of the Centre.

Michael told us the story of how it came to be built – the Milton Courts complete with flood problems had outgrown their usefulness and Brisbane were in need of a better complex.

The \$82 million facility built on the site of the old Tennyson Powerhouse opened in January 2009 and has Pat Rafter Arena – a 5,500 seat international-standard Centre Court with twenty-four Corporate Suites and a total of twenty-three International Tennis Federation standard courts including clay, grass, and cushion acrylic (plexicushion) surfaces – the first in Australia to be built with all three Grand Slam surfaces. The Tennis Centre is also home to the National Tennis Academy.

We looked in on the Pat Rafter Arena, toured the Complex to see all the different types of courts, had a look at the facilities of the National Tennis Academy, viewed the Corporate Boxes and were invited into the office of Craig Pearson, the Tournament Director. He filled us in on the Tournaments to come and gave interesting information on what will be required to host the Olympics in 2032.

The present number of courts will not suffice, but, through earlier good planning and vision, there is the facility to expand and add courts to the complex. They are ready to go when the "green light" to planning of the games is given. Craig told us that they'll be welcoming back the Brisbane International from 29th December to 5th January and tickets will go on sale soon. We ended our day enjoying fellowship and lunch in the Café on site.

At our July meeting we were entertained by radio personalities Craig Zonca and Loretta Ryan of ABC Radio



Guest Speaker Officer thanks Craig Zonca.



Enjoying Fellowship and Lunch at the Tennis Centre.

Breakfast Programme who spoke of their careers in radio – Loretta has had forty years and assured us that she has never tired of the feedback from they get from listeners – a lot of them regulars. It was interesting to learn that there are no photographers present in the studio. It is all done by robots.

At morning tea, the Club celebrated our Twenty-Fourth Birthday with a special cake and toast to our Club and presented their well-earned Ten-Year Certificates to Neil Page and Patra Kalinowski. We are looking forward to our Twenty-Fifth years celebrations next year. – It'll be a big one.

BEAUDESERT

Scots wha' hae'

Probus Club of Beaudesert members had a fun-filled meeting in early July at The Club, Beaudesert.

Members were asked to wear some tartan to celebrate International Tartan Day which is held annually in July. International Tartan Day has been celebrated in Australia since 1996 and falls on the Anniversary of the Repeal of the 1747 Act of Proscription. This Act made wearing tartan an offense punishable by law. Millions of Australians are proud of their descent from Scottish ancestors, so one aim of Tartan Day is to help them reconnect with their roots.

Our Vice President, Mark McCabe, designed his McCabe Clan Tartan, called McCabe 2016, and had it registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans. He had the tartan



Just a great bunch of laddies and lassies.

woven in Scotland and had a kilt made along with other tartan items for his family.

We all got to see Mark's kilt and the rest of his fabulous outfit at our July meeting, but we never did find out what was under it! It was great to see so many members getting involved with the spirit of the event.

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HOLLAND PARK CENTRAL

A cruise along the Brisbane River and lunch at Riva Kitchen - food for soul and body

When was the last time you went on a river cruise to have lunch with friends? Well, twelve of our fellow-Probians did just that one day towards the end of May.

It was a superb late Autumn morning at the Southbank Parklands and it was here where that we met for a one-hour CityCat cruise and chat en-route for NorthShore Riverside Park at Hamilton.

I haven't been into the City for ages and was amazed to see the nearly completed Pedestrian Bridge to the Star Queens Wharf development.

This is going to be my first CityCat ride. It has been something I was going to do one day after I retired. I've been saying that for ten years! No wonder I was feeling excited!

The mirror-sided buildings around Eagle Street are striking from the river, where you can view them side-by-side, leaning into the blue sky, and reflecting each other's presence. Quite spectacular.

The other new Pedestrian Bridge between the city and Kangaroo Point is also taking shape. Steel ropes support the structure, so the deck appears to float above the river. Past the City Construction Reaches, the CityCat skipper was able to open the throttle.

I was surprised how much "oomph" the vessel has when sprinting between some Terminals. You should hold onto something if you're standing. We arrived at Northshore at just before noon and at a good time for lunch.

The newly renovated Riva Kitchen Restaurant sits in a park on the river's edge some twenty meters or so from the Ferry Terminal. It's modern, open and flooded with natural light.

The staff were friendly, attentive and ready to ensure we had a memorable experience. The meals were excellent and very reasonable priced.

The favourite dish was the impressively named "Chef Special". My mother would have called them Salmon Rissoles. But they were nothing like the Rissoles my mother cooked. Corn and zucchini Fritters with salad took out the runner-up meal.

We washed the meals down with some Rose or Pino Grigio, or beer. Coffee followed.



A bridge made for pedestrians and easy crossing of a beautiful river.



A happy group caught in mid-chat while enjoying the other Probus "F".

With lunch completed and satisfying, we made plans to depart on the Ferry. And there one was, waiting at the Terminal to run us back upstream in the balmy afternoon sun. We arrived back at Southbank at half past two, to catch busses and trains home.

It may not be the same as a European River Cruise, but, a relaxed day out on the Brisbane River with Probian friends and a great lunch, is hard to top.

Trevor Leverington

NORTH BRISBANE

A trip back to the Past of Brisbane

Lovely fine weather greeted members for our June trip to Queensland Police Museum. Our Morning Tea at the Northey Street Community Farm was nearly derailed with the realisation that the Bus Company hadn't bought any hot water on the bus. So a lesson well learnt – this would be the last time I try to save time by just CCing the Company into my detailed emails to members outlining the trip. Instead, there would be my usual specifically bus transport detailed email to the Bus Company outlining

venue/exact travel time/distance travelled / bus parking details/morning tea spaces with "NEED HOT WATER PROVIDED" in capital letters/ trip component times with bus departure and loading etc's.

Luckily, the "Lovely Leslie", someone I met at the Northey Street Community Farm External CommKnity kitchen area as I raced in hoping there was a hot water urn there, was washing up some plates, and she volunteered to go and get her portable hotplate, her gas bottle and then her two saucepans to boil up enough hot water for all of us to enjoy along with our morning tea. Her first words were "I need to go in fifteen minutes" thirty minutes later and she was still

there helping. Many members had a good walk around the Community Gardens, chook-pens, trails, etc

The Qld Police Museum showed a True Crime story about Slim Halliday and his dead dog that was exhumed and stuffed to link him to the crime scene of the murdered cab driver. We saw Peter, the stuffed dog, in the exhibit. Fun Facts= Slim Halliday was the babysitter of author Trent Dalton in his book "Boy Swallows Universe". Aside from this, there were lots of interesting exhibits showing the evolution of Qld Police over more than a hundred and fifty years.

Lunch at The Normanby Hotel was all it took to complete a lovely day.



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\$42pp

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* Subject to availability
Groups of 30 or more

“ 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 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 ”

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Groups of 12 or more.
Monday to Friday only.
Coaches welcome.

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Your choice of:

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Menus subject to change and confirmed upon booking
Tea & Coffee station extra \$3pp

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SHERWOOD

A Day at the Races

What a great day out we had on our recent visit to the Doomben and Eagle Farm Racetracks. We set out by bus and travelled firstly to Doomben where we were met by our guide for the day, Ross Stanley, who just happens to be a long-time friend of our President, Martin Finbow.

Karen Best, who is none other than the daughter of racing great Fred Best, joined us to help Ross out. We enjoyed a quick cuppa and then Ross played his part by guiding us through great pictorial slides on the history of both the Doomben and the Eagle Farm Racecourses, with videos on races won by Bernbrough and his loss when injured. We were also treated to a view of the trophies that are on display.

After a view of the track, we left Doomben and travelled to Eagle Farm to enjoy the rest of the day. Firstly, it was a visit to the Museum where Paul Coghlan was in his element, showing off the pictorial board relating to the Engineering Heritage listing of the Julius Totalisator.

This is the last one in the world and is to be found in the Racecourse Museum. A walk by the stables, the mounting yards, and the Sky News Box was followed by lunch in the Members Area. Of course, the day would not have been complete without partaking of a view of some races from the Stand. That really did complete our day. Some of us even had a bet and won! When one enjoys such a great day, we feel very sorry that there weren't more members able to participate.

Ross and fellow voluntary enthusi-



The Engineering Heritage Board that is one of the prides of the Museum.



We were just so lucky to have Ross as our guide.

asts from the Thoroughbred Racing History Association welcome visits from other Probus Clubs. Initial enquiries can be directed to the TRHA Committee Member Ross Stanley (0490 512 497). The organisation manages the dual campus Heritage Unit in association with the Brisbane Racing Club. There are sections in the heritage-listed Old Tote building at

Eagle Farm Racecourse. The James McGill Library, Pascoe Family Pictorial Record, the Stanley Room, and the Racing Archives are located at Doomben Racecourse.

A visit is certainly enhanced by spending time at a Wednesday race day at Eagle Farm or Doomben when admission is free and the general public use the Members Area.

INDOOROOPILLY

Australian Outback Spectacular

For a trip that we took quite a while ago now, but one that is well remembered, thirty-eight very enthusiastic Probus members boarded the coach at Cubberla Creek Reserve for our long-awaited trip to the "Australian Outback Spectacular" on the Gold Coast.

We arrived in time to be taken on a Back Stage Tour through the stables by a guide, who certainly knew his stuff. It probably was no great surprise when he turned out to be one of the trick riders we were to admire in the

show. Some of the horses we were to see in the performance looked at us as we walked past, as if to say "Well, where is my pat"? But we were not allowed to touch them. The horses are stabled next to their friends - they are all neutered. As a result, there are very few problems with the tantrums, and the attitudes sometimes associated with the same sex animals being housed together.

We were then ushered into our seats along the large rectangular arena. For the next two hours, we were told the Australian Outback Story of drought, floods and family life and the many struggles particularly that of drought, that farmers have to live with. Through the medium of ever-changing cutting-edge technol-

ogy, we were taken on a gripping and emotional adventure into the Australian Bush through film, sound, and light-shows.

The magnificent horses were a major attraction as they mustered brumbies and cattle and the clever riders performed their acrobatic stunts. There was, of course, an obedient kelpie. And a love story!

While we were being entertained, we were served a three-course meal and drinks.

We all enjoyed our very special evening and arrived back at Cubberla Creek Reserve safely at half past ten that night well fed and well entertained.

Margie Dunks



And here is part of the gang are – happy and smiling!

MT GRAVATT- RUNCORN

A Picnic and a walk – what a combination!

Twenty-six members rolled up very early as usual – but isn't that the Probian way – at the Capalaba venue, determined to enjoy the beautiful day, the company of fellow members, the environs and, of course, the beautiful site prepared food. And there you have the famous 4Fs, all in one go! After a sumptuous morning tea, members took to the various tracks to work off the almost calorie-free treats and then returned for a light lunch. The outing finally wrapped up at around two o'clock and all agreed it was time well spent away from the humdrum of everyday life.

INDOOROOPILLY

The Mugrabi Exhibition

On a rainy bleak day, what could be better than a visit an Art Gallery? And this one was specially designed to reflect all that is good of the Gold Coast and unlikely to be found elsewhere. So, ten of us ventured to the Gold Coast and assembled at HOTA (Home of the Arts) for our own curated tour of the Pop Masters:

The HOTA summary of the Exhibition captured our interest: "In a world exclusive exhibition, Pop Masters: Art from the Mugrabi Collection, New

York pairs Andy Warhol, Keith Haring, and Jean-Michel Basquiat alongside contemporary artists inspired by their legacy. Blurring the lines between fine art and consumer culture, together they paint a picture of Pop Art across the past sixty years."

Andy Warhol together with various other artists were featured, and the credo of this Art Movement evolved into "Art is Anything You Can Get Away With", but it still had the responsibility of being of value in its own terms. Andy Warhol was well to the forefront of this. Most of the artists seem to have had fairly brief lives, many of them having serious

drug addictions that served to hasten their early demise. Their art sells now for millions of dollars, and in some cases, hundreds of millions of dollars. Typically, one on exhibition at HOTA is a banana image, only recently discovered on a floppy disc found amongst the art works of Andy Warhol and dating way back to 1986 when computer art was in its infancy.

After the tour we ventured to The Exhibitionist Bar for a light lunch and stunning views of the coast and hinterland before returning to Brisbane.

A good day was had by all, and HOTA was well worth the visit.

Frieda Khalo and Helen Banks

YERONGA

We celebrated our Birthday with a High Tea – what could be better?

At our June meeting, the Club turned on a spectacular "High Tea" for its Thirty-Fifth Birthday celebration. There were only a handful of members absent. It was back in 1989 that the Yeronga Ladies Probus Club was formed, being based at that time at the RSL Club, Yeronga, and we still enjoy the RSL hospitality, albeit that we have changed to the name: "Yeronga". In 201, due to declining numbers in the Yeronga Men's Club, there was an amalgamation with the Ladies Club, and we have been a mixed Club since then.

To help us celebrate, we invited two special guests – the Local Member for Sherwood, Nicole Johnston, and the Qld. Representative of PSPL, Judith Maestracci AM. The latter kindly

addressed the assembled Members and presented a framed Birthday Certificate to our President, Vern Wilson.

It was a complete surprise for the members to see the local Uniting Church Hall set up in blue and yellow colours, with balloons, beautiful white tablecloths, English fine bone-China crockery, and yellow flowers. The word "posh" was mentioned a few times. Most spectacular was the Birthday Cake, decorated by a niece of one of our members.

Actually, we had a tireless line up of volunteers in various capacities, in the kitchen, waiting on the tables and then washing up. In fact, there were three daughters, one niece, one sister, one son, one grandson and one son-in-law.

Cheap labour, you might call it!!

Yes, this celebration took abundant time in planning and execution but was voted a rip-roaring success thanks to a great TEAM EFFORT.

Bronwen Mitchell



Our President proudly accepts the Certificate from Judith Maestracci AM.



Now that's a cake, that is!

1 DAY TOUR

\$48 FROM
pp

Duration: 6 hours
Operates: Monday to Friday
Departs: Ipswich Visitor Information Centre
9.30 am
Returns: Ipswich Visitor Information Centre
3.30 pm
Physical: ●○○



📍 St Mary's Catholic Church

IPSWICH HERITAGE BUILDINGS TOUR

Start your morning by exploring the **Ipswich Visitor Information Centre** set within one of the state's first parks, Queens Park. See the **HMAS Ipswich memorial** and enjoy morning tea on the covered verandah with fluffy scones, cakes and fruit.

Embark on a journey to view some of Ipswich's most idyllic heritage sites, including lovingly restored heritage homes in tree-lined lanes. Take a stroll through the Memorial Gardens to the entrance of the **Ipswich Soldiers Memorial Hall**.

Visit one of the most photographed landmarks in Ipswich, **St Mary's Catholic Church**. Marvel at its stunning stained glass, high arched ceilings and the tomb of a former priest inside.

Enjoy lunch at an award-winning venue **The Prince Alfred Hotel**. It was first built in 1842 and has undergone extensive refurbishments over the years.



📍 Prince Alfred Hotel



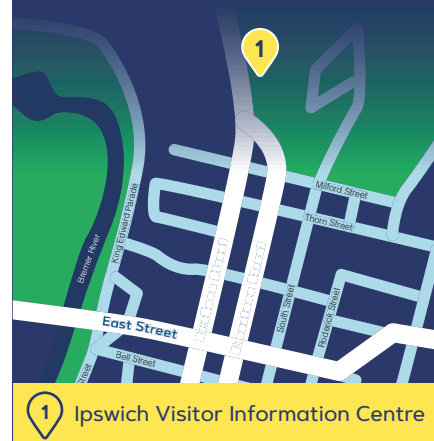
📍 Ipswich Visitor Information Centre

INCLUSIONS

- ✓ Morning tea
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Experienced tour guide

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the **Ipswich Visitor Information Centre** and shop for local produce and artisan wares.
- See heritage homes and landmarks.
- Visit the **Ipswich Soldiers Memorial Hall** with letters, artefacts and photographs from war time eras.
- Marvel at **St Mary's Catholic Church** architecture, visit in October to see the Jacarandas in bloom.
- Stop for lunch at the home of the southern hemisphere's largest craft tap beer bar.



1 Ipswich Visitor Information Centre

2 DAY TOUR

\$98 FROM
pp

Price includes both the Ipswich Heritage Buildings and Marburg Tours.

*Tour excludes accommodation.

Duration: 30 hours

Operates: Monday to Friday

Departs: Ipswich Visitor
Information Centre
9.30 am Day 1

Returns: Ipswich Visitor
Information Centre
3.30 pm Day 2

Physical: ●●○



📍 Woodlands of Marburg

MARBURG HERITAGE AND HISTORY TOUR

After exploring the Ipswich CBD on day one and then staying overnight in one of our group accommodation options, let us take you on an adventure to discover rolling hills, historic finds and heritage buildings.

Visit luxury styled picnic business, **The Soul Nook Collective**, set in the grounds of an old church for morning tea. Inside the former church you'll find all manner of artisan wares, fashion and art.

After a coffee and something to eat discover antiques, art, gifts and collectables at **The Black Museum**, **Special Branch Collective** and **Scotland Yard Antiques**.

After a browsing these treasure troves, head over to the park and meet your historian from **Rosewood Scrub Historical Society** to learn the history of the area.

Enjoy lunch at the heritage pub and then take a drive to the historic **Woodlands of Marburg** estate. Enjoy a tour of the manicured grounds and stately mansion.



📍 Special Branch Collective



GROUP ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Stay at either **Woodlands of Marburg**, **Quest Ipswich** or **Country Motel Ipswich**.

For customised tour itineraries and group accommodation options and prices, please contact the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre directly.

INCLUSIONS

- ✓ Morning tea
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Knowledgeable guide
- ✓ History talk

HIGHLIGHTS

- Browse for antiques and collectables in Marburg's eclectic boutiques.
- Explore the historic **Woodlands of Marburg** grounds and mansion. Learn some of the ghost stories attached to this century old estate.
- Have lunch in a heritage-listed country pub, one of the oldest in the region.



- 1 The Soul Nook Collective
The Black Museum
Special Branch Collective
Scotland Yard Antiques
Rosewood Scrub Historical Society
- 2 Woodlands of Marburg

Call the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre to book (07) 3281 0555.

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GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA PROBUS CLUB

QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute impresses Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club

Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club was privileged to see first-hand the work being carried out at the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute on a recent tour of the facility.

Clare Blake, the Community relation Officer, spoke of the vast scope of work being undertaken at the Institute. From humble beginnings in a ramshackle, run-down left-over WWII hut in Victoria Park, Herston in 1945, the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (now known as QIMR Berghofer or simply QIMR) is renowned for its rich history of scientific discoveries.

Spread across three high rise buildings next to Royal Brisbane Hospital, QIMR Berghofer is engaged in a number of challenging research projects, some focussed on specific Queensland based diseases, some with worldwide implications.

The QIMR Berghofer team of 1000 scientists, support staff and students carry out the institute's purpose to achieve better health and well-being through medical research. Teger is no doubt that QIMR Berghofer is saving lives; translating discoveries from the research laboratory to bedside practice and progressing research from hopeful theory to daily reality therapies.

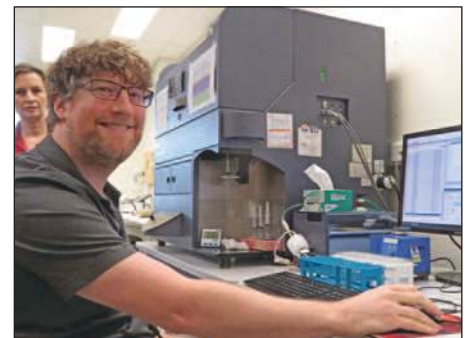
After a briefing in their auditorium by Clare Blake, Tom Kennedy, a senior researcher outlined his group's project using psychedelics (remember LSD and magic mushrooms) to address chronic grief issues.



Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club QIMR visitors



Researcher Tom Kennedy addresses group about his research into psychedelic compounds



Testing for the effectiveness of immunotherapy drugs

Our group was then organised into two smaller groups with parallel visits to the Immunology and Mosquito Diseases laboratories. It seems bizarre but QIMR researchers are injecting mosquitoes with Wolbachia bacteria, taken from other insect species, to immunize the mosquitoes against Dengue fever. This has then reduced the mosquito's capacity to further spread the fever when biting humans. One group

viewed research into using modified T-Cells in blood for possible cancer and other immune disease treatment.

Projects underway include Cancer Research, Brain and Mental Health, Infection and Inflammation, and Population Health, in more than 60 specialised laboratories. QIMR Berghofer relies on the support of generous donors for their research costs with the Queensland Government providing administrative costs.

SUNNYBANK

And off we went camping and caravanning to the Carnarvons

A big thank you to everyone who made our camping group outing to the Carnarvon Gorge such a fun experience.

Yve and Mike took the slow route in their caravan with four overnight stops. I met up with them at Lake Broadwater, south of Dalby, on their second day. Leonne and Graeme fitted in a dip at the Mitchell artesian water hot pools as part of their three night caravan trek. Leo, Gail and Gary, and Rita made the mammoth effort of driving out over two days, with overnight stops in Roma and Miles respectively.

On Monday, we were disappointed to find we were driving into Carnarvon Gorge in drizzly rain, and those of us living under canvas had to contend with setting up between, or despite, the intermittent showers.

Most of our group were allocated camping sites next to each other, but, unfortunately, Leo and his campervan were a short walk away, and Rita's 'Takka tent with outside en-suite' was much further away, sometimes necessitating a drive to our 'Happy Hour' rendezvous in the nearby camp kitchen or fireside laughter making s'mores for dessert.

Tuesday morning came and all nine of us set off to explore the walking track into the Gorge itself, with the most eager five completing the almost eight kilometre return trek to the Moss Garden.

On Wednesday, there was more walking, more steps to climb and more rock-hopping across creeks, with only one mishap resulting in one person who shall remain nameless coming back to camp with wet clothes. While most of our group opted for shorter walks, Graeme and I completed the seventeen kilometre return walk to the Aboriginal Art Gallery site and the spectacular Amphitheatre.

Thursday saw a much more subdued group exploring closer to camp, and Friday came around all too soon, meaning it was time to say farewell to Carnarvon Gorge, knowing that we all had a great time sharing a beautiful location whilst building friendships, both old and new.

Carol Clifford



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DAY EVENTS 9:30AM – 2:30PM

Monday 21 October

Caloundra RSL, Caloundra

Tuesday 22 October

Broncos Club, Red Hill

Wednesday 23 October

Oaks Toowoomba Hotel, Toowoomba

Thursday 31 October

InterContinental Sanctuary Cove Resort, Hope Island

Monday 11 November

Brothers Leagues Club, Cairns

Wednesday 13 November

Townsville RSL, Townsville

Australia and New Zealand featuring the Kimberley, Murray River and more	9:30am – 10:15am
Amsterdam to Budapest River Cruising	10:30am – 11:00am
Discover More of Europe featuring Portugal, Northern Europe, the Mediterranean, Croatia and more	11:10am – 12:00pm
Canada and Alaska featuring the USA.....	12:15pm – 1.00pm
Asia Holidays featuring Vietnam and Cambodia, Japan and South Korea, India and Sri Lanka.....	1:10pm – 1:55pm
Bucket-List Destinations featuring Antarctica, South America and Africa	2:00pm – 2:30pm

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MULTI-673-PROBUS

FRASER COAST - HERVEY BAY COMBINED

A great Trip to Lightning Ridge

Thirty enthusiastic members of the Club, were up early in August to begin their five-day tour to Lightning Ridge, travelling via St George. A highlight at St George was a visit to the Riversands Winery, where they enjoyed wine-tastings.

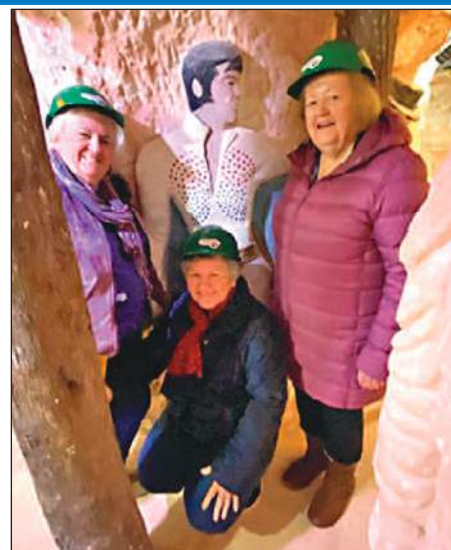
Lightning Ridge was an eye-opener, renowned as it is for its rare Black Opal, its mining history and its vibrant local characters.

Members took full advantage of their visit to enjoy visits to underground mines, to the Lunatic Hill Open Cut Mine and watched in fasci-

nation to demonstrations of opal-cutting. They even saw Elvis in an underground mine.... Now we know where he has been all these years!!!

On the return journey a visit to Goondiwindi Cotton was a highlight, especially for the men, who marveled at the machinery used in cotton production. All in all, everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next year's trip.

Probus members including a few new ones, found the trip to be an excellent opportunity to meet others in the group and make new friends.



Well, well, well! Look who's here.



All about to board, for a long looked-forward to trip.



Who'll be the first to take the plunge?

BEAUDESERT

Beenleigh Rum Distillery visit

Logan Coaches took a group of Beaudesert Probians to Distillery Road for a tour of the Beenleigh Rum Distillery on 23 August. Beenleigh Rum, established in 1884 on the

Albert River, is the oldest registered distillery in Australia holding the country's number 1 licence. Australian Rum must legally mature for a minimum of two years to be sold as Rum.

After the distillery tour, some members enjoyed a tasting while others elected to have coffee and cake.

Then it was on to Harrigan's Irish Pub for lunch. Harrigan's is located in the heart of Calypso Bay, a unique

community set beside the calm and sheltered waters of southern Moreton Bay, midway between Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

It offers stunning water views to the Broadwater and beyond and lush tropical gardens. An idyllic setting to have lunch.

A lot of fun was had by all members who attended if the smiles were anything to go by.



Members in front of the Beenleigh Rum Distillery



Members enjoying a tasting at the Beenleigh Rum Distillery



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COOMERA VALLEY

Coomera Valley gets Council Community Project Grant

In September our club was fortunate to have Councillor Naomi Fowler from Gold Coast City Council, attend our general meeting to present us with a cheque for \$2,498 as the result of our application for funding from the 2024/25 Gold Coast Community Projects Programme.

Our Past President, Paula Clohesy,

started the ball rolling to obtain this grant when she was President but the cut-off date for the 2023/24 elapsed before she could finish everything needed to apply.

Not daunted, Paula kept up with her promised "project" of doing her best to get our club this grant and was greatly assisted by Cr. Fowler.

The money was used to purchase two much needed laptops to replace ones past their "use by" dates.

Unfortunately, Paula could not be present when Cr. Fowler made the presentation so our President, Nina



Cr. Fowler presents cheque to President, Nina Hardie and Vice President, Ann Dwyer.

Hardie and Vice President, Ann Dwyer, accepted the cheque on her behalf.

Pamela Dick – News Editor

PAQ is looking for a new editor for 2025

The Queensland Probian Editor is a gatekeeper between Probus Club writers and the Queensland Probian's audience. He/she has to take a dual perspective in order to keep both parties happy. The Editor advises club submitters about the Probian publishing process, briefs advertisers and illustrators if required, encourages great photographs to accompany articles and liaises with our graphic artist to ensure that the finished product is what Probus Club readers want. The Queensland Probian editor is someone who is a critical reader and a lover of words. He/she will prepare a contributor's submission for publication by polishing, refining and enhancing it.

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rob.neary@paqnetwork.com.au

Our Queensland Probian Editor

- selects articles for inclusion into the Queensland Probian;
- prepares club contributions for publication by correcting spelling, grammar, punctuation and sometimes word choice;
- checks facts and references;
- structures the magazine to foster interest;
- formats club contributions to minimise time spent by our graphic designer;
- and works with the Probian Publisher and Advertising Manager to ensure the magazine is interesting for its readers.

Probus at Kallangur

Feeling frustrated, well, don't bottle up your anger

Come on out and join Probus at Kallangur

It's lots of friendly Probians you'll meet.

And enjoy fellowship that's hard to beat.

You can take part in meetings, Tours, Luncheons and walks

And listen to many very interesting and informative talks

To book on a tour you will find it necessary

To go and see a good-looking bloke called Harry

If you can't find him to pay him don't be blue

When it comes to money, Harry will soon find you

Norm is the man who does our Newsletter

You'll travel near and far and not find anything better

At the meeting, he has a role to play

If there's nothing to report, he cries: "I have nothing to say".

Norm's wife, Marj, as a driver, still holds her nerve

Once driving in five minutes to Kallangur and back from Sweeny Reserve.

Our Secretary goes by the name of Dick Dancer.

Any problems just ask Dick, he'll have the answer.

Treasurer Ian, along with his wife Lex, it pains me to say me to say

When travelling to walks, they're prone to losing their way.

*To advise them of a location, we do our very best,
But if the walks at Shorncliffe, they're likely to end up at
Bullocky's Rest.*

The talks are arranged by a lady named Gwyne.

Once on the trail of a speaker, she never gives up.

She has a perfect record and rather than spoil it

She once had Gordon Wright give up a talk on Toilets.

Now this talk went over much better than you may think.

Despite fears by some that it may cause a terrible stink.

Audrey does well with our Welfare

And because she's my sister

There would be a terrible stink if by chance I missed her.

Alec, our new President is said to be a man of great worth.

*Why is it then, that no sooner was he elected, he shot
through to Perth?*

*But we're not worried, we have no great fear
We know he'll guide us successfully through the rest of the
year.*

*There are many more fine characters of whom I could
speak.*

But to do so, I'd be here for a week.

*So come and join us and I am telling you this,
Outside of Heaven you will never know so much bliss.*

Wallace Young



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HAMILTON

Memories and Reflections – Adventures in Eidsvold

Medical Graduates in Queensland in 1964 were assigned to major hospitals for supervised training as Resident Medical Officers for twelve months.

On satisfactory completion of this period, they were then registered to practise in the community.

My year as an RMO in 1965 was spent at the Royal Brisbane Hospital (Brisbane General Hospital), where I rotated through terms in all the major disciplines including medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, anaesthesia and emergency – generally this being associated with a casualty.

A lot of experience was gained quickly during working weeks of up to a hundred hours including night and weekend rostered time.

As a second year RMO, before commencing any specialist training, many of us were assigned to relieve Medical Superintendents of country hospitals for their annual leave.

I went to Eidsvold, a town of nine hundred people in the Upper Burnett with a district population of three thousand, to relieve Ken Siddle for a month in June 1966, at the age of 24. That month made me grateful for all the training I had received.

Arriving in Eidsvold on a Sunday afternoon, I found quarters in the Medical Superintendent's residence which also contained his private consulting room and the drugs cupboard, for I was also the local dispensing pharmacist. There had been no mention of a veterinary practice being associated with this.

Within an hour my first call came

from a local farmer whose cattle had broken into the lucerne paddock. As a result, they suffering from "the bloat". I was not a country boy, although I had been to boarding school with boys from the bush.

Eating fresh lucerne in excess causes acute gastric distension from gas and the only remedies I knew of were to encourage natural release or to puncture the abdominal wall with a trochar (metal tube).

I advised the farmer to drive his cattle uphill hoping that would work because I didn't fancy offering the alternative which required veterinary skills. I never heard from him again.

In the first week, I looked after the seven inpatients at the hospital, saw private patients, dispensed medications and spent Saturday night as the invited judge of the jive competition in the CWA Hall.

On Sunday, I accepted an invitation from Dr. Guy Athell, the GP in neighbouring Munduberra, to come down for a drink and chat. Guy was a Bush Pilot with his own small Cessna. He offered me a flight and ended our joyride with three loop-the-loops. I needed that Scotch which followed as did an invitation to give anaesthetics for his weekly operating list. I guess the flight was to test how I coped with the unexpected.

I had experience giving anaesthetics after hours at RBH and all went well with surgery in Munduberra.

One night in Eidsvold, a boy came into the hospital with a nasty forearm fracture.

I started the anaesthetic, the matron of the hospital continued it, while I set the fracture and took and developed the X-rays to confirm optimal position, and woke our patient. All in a night's work.

After receiving much country hospi-

talities, I decided in my last week to cook dinner for our hospital matron and Guy Athell.

As I had never lived alone, my cooking skills were more imagined than real, but I was pleased with my first attempt at filet mignon. As we sat down to dinner, there was a loud hammering at the front door. I was confronted by an aboriginal woman crying, "Doctor, Doctor come quick!! Dora she done bad!!" Dora was lying on my front path in an ever widening pool of blood, becoming a very pale eighteen-year old single Aboriginal girl in the process. She was miscarrying at twenty weeks. We bundled her up to the hospital, resuscitated her with IV fluids and called in blood donors, took blood and transfused her with O-blood, the universal donor for emergencies. We had no facilities for storing or matching blood. Dinner was very cold when we returned.

The following morning, Guy came up and gave the anaesthetic, while I performed the curette on a twenty week uterus. This was a very lonely feeling but helped Dora recovered well.

The month in Eidsvold was an unforgettable experience, taking me far beyond my comfort zone. Fortunately, I didn't have to deal with major road trauma as did some of my fellow second years on country rotation. It was only in London four years later when I was doing Postgrad work, that I compared my training with its experiences in Brisbane and Eidsvold, with that of my English colleagues that I realised how much responsibility we had all been given, and how much practical medicine we had learned in the process.

Dr David McEvoy

WATTLE DAY

Where Wattles Bloom

As I write this note at the end of August 2024, the wattles in Brisbane and nearby regions have mostly finished their blossom display. However, there are many acacia varieties still blossoming in Western Queensland. The Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*), our National Floral Emblem, typically blooms in the Southern States from late August through into September. The Golden Wattle produces prolific quantities of blossoms amongst lush green phyllodes (aka leaves).

Wattle is important to Australia as our National Floral Emblem. As the Green and Gold of which we all so proud, it is emblazoned on the Coat of Arms, it can be found on bank notes, it welcomes Spring and it is often used in times of mourning.

There are 1070 varieties of Wattle (*Acacia*) across Aus-

tralia and it is said there is a Wattle blooming in some part of Australia every month of the year. Wattle can be a small bush, ground cover, a small tree or a tall towering tree.

Wattle's physical characteristics of resilience and renewal after bush fires and floods, and its diversity and adaptability reflect, according to poets and others, the characteristics, values and diversity of the Australian people. Wattle is a symbol that binds and unites us as nation.

I have given a 'Wattles, Symbols and Myths' talk to several Probus Clubs across SEQ. If your Club would like to hear the talk, please contact me on 0416 185 153 or mikegilmour@aussiedpoet.com.au.

Please visit the Wattle Day Association's very interesting website at MyWattleDay.org.au

Mike Gilmour Wattle Wag

**Vice President and Queensland Coordinator
Wattle Day Association**

WATTLE DAY

Spirit of Wattle

A land of many nations, with a multitude of voices
Where all are equal, free to follow dreams and
lifestyle choices

Arrivals always welcome, with solutions
clear and vital

And all are free to speak their mind,
not fearing harsh reprisal

A country often breached by fire, long droughts,
and flooding water

Not doubting its resilience, locals start again
much stronger

Our forebears too battled challenges, while
trusting life's equation

All shape the mateship creed and spirit that
proclaims our nation

Our wattle, always sturdy through climatic
devastations

And always set for growth, come soaking rain or
inundations

And quick in Spring, to flourish its endearing floral
splendour

With bursting buds of green and gold, for us to
greet and tender

Acacia's hardy species, found in sandy
stony outback's

With green beside our waterways, and shade on
sunny backtracks

While lightly scented blossoms, emanate
a gentle aura

The sprays of green create a graceful charm to
golden flora

Our wattle, found in many foods and early
cures for ailments

And worn with pride by sporting teams, with
dreams of grand attainments

And rousing troops to stand and fight, and
bravely guard our freedom

For victories in Green and Gold, we thank'em
with good reason

Our wattle, sold in times before, by Wattle Day
foundations

For scholarships to gifted locals, seeking
higher stations

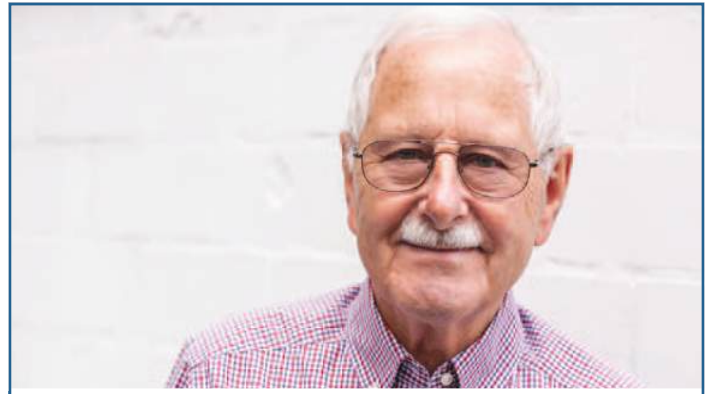
To help and heal our diggers, missing
limbs and minds in trauma

And care for people battling mental
illness, striving order

Now, golden wattle on our Coat of Arms,
post Federation

To light and guide this free, diverse and
independent nation

Mike Gilmour © mikegilmour@aussiepoet.com.au



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WATTLE DAY

Watt'le I do on a Winter's Day

What to do on a Brisbane Winter's Day,
in the sun,

try a walk amongst wattle blossoms that stun.

Sparkling in the sunlight with their
green and gold,

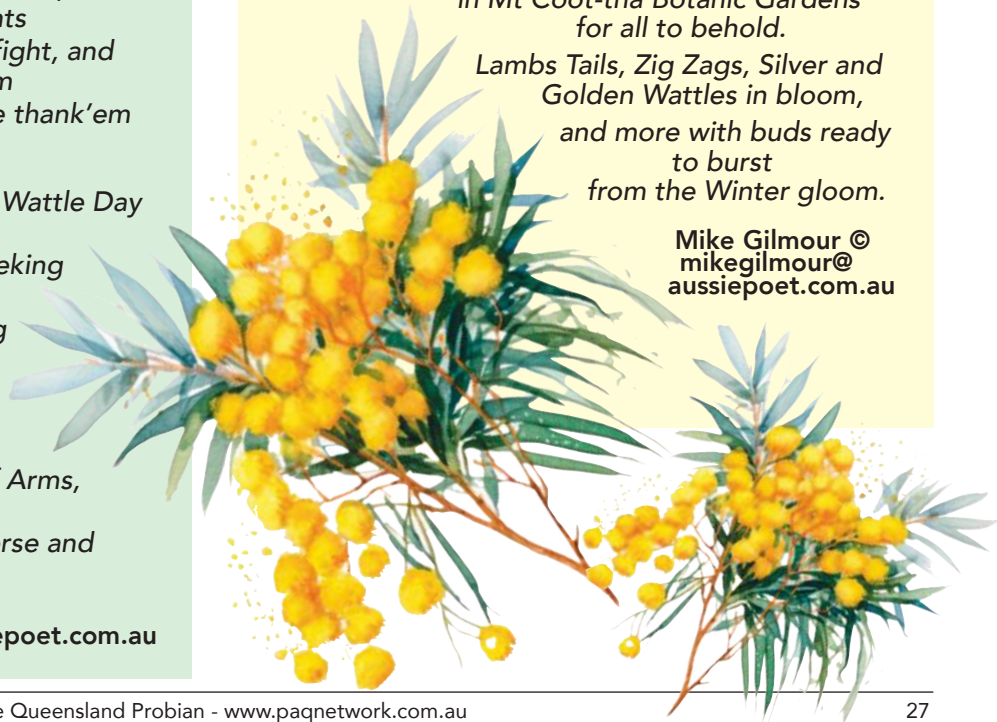
in Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens
for all to behold.

Lambs Tails, Zig Zags, Silver and
Golden Wattles in bloom,

and more with buds ready
to burst

from the Winter gloom.

Mike Gilmour ©
mikegilmour@aussiepoet.com.au



CAPALABA PROBUS CLUB

The Rocks' Crossing, Capalaba

31 members enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch at The Rocks, Capalaba. President Col Sutcliffe explained that Capalaba Rotary and BushCare met once a month to maintain the area along Tingalpa Creek with new native plantings and weed control. They had erected the picnic sheds for the

benefit of visitors and walkers.

There is a focus on highlighting the local history of the area. The cobblestones were remnants of the original road crossing of Tingalpa Creek, linking Cleveland to Brisbane. "The Rocks" crossing was treacherous and could only be negotiated at low tide.

Early accounts of travel between the Redlands and Brisbane describe many incidents where people and vehicles were stranded on the banks of Tingalpa Creek. It was particularly hazardous for the weekly mail and passenger coach service that operated from 1867.



President Col talking with Capalaba Probud members about Bushcare



Tingalpa Creek environs.

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3 Night 4 Days \$680pp /Single \$890pp

4 Night 5 Days \$850pp /Single \$1130pp

THE PROBIA'S QUIZ

All answers
begin with
the letter **Z**



1. Australians call it post code. What do the Americans call it?
2. What is the imaginary band in the heavens that, for astrological purposes, is split into 12 constellations or signs?
3. Ben Stiller plays a dim-witted fashion model in what 2001 film?
4. The last letter of the alphabet to a Tasmanian is.... ?
5. What word for a light wind gets its name from the Greek god of the west wind?
6. Southern Rhodesia was the former name of what country?
7. What name is given to the scientific study of animals?
8. What term for an 'undead' creature originally came from Haitian creole?
9. What large airship is named after its German inventor?
10. What is the largest city in Switzerland?
11. In Greek mythology, who was the ruler of the gods?
12. What is the outer coloured part of the peel of citrus fruit, often used as flavouring?
13. What fictional character, a masked swashbuckling swordsman, takes his name for the Spanish word for 'fox'?



1. Zip code. 2. Zodiac. 3. Zoolander.
4. Z or Zed. 5. Zephyr. 6. Zimbabwé.
7. Zoology. 8. Zombie. 9. Zepellin.
10. Zürich. 11. Zeus. 12. Zest. 13. Zorro.

GOODNA- SPRINGFIELD

Our Club took a Stand.

Recently, we had our Probus Stand at the Springfield Orion Shopping centre, and we are now hoping that our hard work will pay off with a few new members. We started off with a stand full of brochures, show bags, and balloons and banners flapping in the wind.

Starting slowly at the beginning of the working day, we seemed eventually to get into the swing of things and by mid-morning were started to attract some interest.

By the end of our display, a good number of brochures were given out, and a reasonable number of names taken for us to follow up on with a newsletter explaining what events



We're all set up and ready. Now we'll just wait to see what we attract.

and outings our Club has coming up.

So, I'd like to think, judging from the amount of interest from the public we received, we will see a few new members soon.

We had some great support from other Club Members and owe them a big "Thank you" for turning up and helping to spread the word.

We must also express gratitude to PAQ who enabled us to achieve what we did.

TEWANTIN-NOOSA

Maleny Gardens and Bird World were real eye-openers.

A group of Members from the Club recently enjoyed a day excursion to the Maleny Botanic Gardens and Bird World, which are located high in the Blackall Ranges with spectacular views over the Glasshouse Mountains. As it was a cool day, our first stop was the café where we all enjoyed a hot drink before our tour of Bird World. This was a guided tour led by an expert in the collection of birds in the five aviaries that we quickly identified as being very large enclosed-spaces with birds of many varieties, swooping down to take "treats" from the Guide's hand. Bird World is aptly named as here are many parrots in it from all over the world, as well as an impressive collection of Australian birds, mostly very colourful and inquisitive. We had been warned before entering the aviaries that the parrots love to perch on visitors and anything shiny is irresistible to them. So we were advised to remove all jewellery and hats with buttons before entering, otherwise they could be pilfered. The Macaws were particularly spectacular, being very large birds with long tails and brightly coloured plumage. To have a Macaw swooping towards you at full speed is quite an experience.

After our tour of the aviaries, we were free to stroll around the Gar-



Mary with a colourful Macaw.

dens, but for those who found the paths too steep there are buggies for hire. From a buggy visitors can see most of the Gardens and stop here and there to enjoy the garden beds and scenery. There is also an enclosure for miniature domestic animals and even a few rabbits, rescued originally by the RSPCA and given a home here, to befriend and stroke, carefully handled by a Keeper.

There is a very informative website about this venue and I'm sure all visitors will thoroughly enjoy a visit to this outstanding attraction.

Promoting Your Club

- Rob Neary
PAQ

Internally	Talk by MC	Encourage a "competition" to introduce new members - monthly prize for most Encourage positive talk - deal with dissenters promptly – no "bad apples" policy Stop emphasizing problems - negative talk leads to a negative attitude
	Business card	Get business cards printed for club with place for member to write their details
	Newsletter	Celebrate members & give recognition for their efforts in the club newsletter
	Meetings	Ensure there is Promotional material on display and available to members Have club promotional material available for members to take and use
	Members	Encourage members to promote Probus – shops, places and people they visit Use connections in other community and interest / hobby groups to promote club
Externally	Council Listings	Ensure your club is posted on council website – Community Noticeboard page Send Ward/Division councillor your newsletter Provide ward / division councillor with club promotional material for office Invite Ward/Division councillor to club special functions - XMAS - Changeover
	State member	Prepare a regular piece for his/her newsletter to electorate - promote club Provide state member with club promotional material for office display Invite to special celebrations and ask for funds for special club functions Use as reference for grant applications e.g. Gambling Fund Grants
	Federal member	Invite to attend special functions Provide federal member with club promotional material for office Use as reference for special grants e.g. Volunteer Grants Prepare a piece on the club emphasizing seniors and submit for his/her news
	Shops & Offices	Where do you shop. Ask & place promotional material there What professional services do you use. Ask & place promotional material there Other shop & service offices e.g. tyre shop, mower repair shop, car repairer
	Community Noticeboards	Regular notice of club events / promotional material there Change poster regularly - keep your material looking "fresh"
	Using Media	Club Newsletter Circulate to other clubs in region - reciprocal agreement - speakers & trip ideas Have section celebrating new members and those who introduced them Make October special by having a focus on all things Probus & special events Produce an "External Version" - Only MC contacts - circulate to possible venues Ensure prospective members get a copy on/after/before visiting club Have a special meeting in which emphasis is on "bring a friend" Circulate "External" version to other local and community groups – Rotary, Lions
	Social Media	Facebook Facebook very successful for reaching newer and younger seniors in your area Promote the club and its activities on your Facebook page Start a Probus Friends page in your Facebook pages Start a Closed Group for your club to protect privacy for members
	Newspapers	Free Newspaper Get to know the editor by inviting him/her to a club meeting Invite editor to club events and outings and special functions e.g. Changeover Determine if there is a reporter who should be contacted for stories Send "News" not "Olds" to paper - speakers coming up, planned trips, etc. Consider taking an ad in the paper regularly - negotiate price for many ads Check to see if a "contra" deal is possible - ad in your newsletter about the paper
	Radio	Commercial What stations are available in your area or region & Community Radio What are the "rankings" of those stations - listeners in your age demographic What is their listener demographic – under 30's, over 40's, etc. Do they have a "community noticeboard" for clubs and groups to send to When and how often in a week for community announcements What "lead time" does the station need for their community announcements How would they want notices - phone in or written material Is there an opportunity to promote a club event e.g. an Open Day, etc. Do they / Will they do an interview with the club promoting Probus
	TV	Commercial What stations are available in your region or area including community TV & Regional What are the "rankings" of those stations – state and national rankings What is their viewer demographic & and at what times do they watch Do they have a community "noticeboard" When and how often in a week for community announcements What "lead time" does the station need How would they want notices - phone in or written - with photo/s Is there an opportunity to promote a club event e.g. an Open Day Do they / Will they do an interview with the club promoting Probus

REDCLIFFE CITY MIXED

Our trip away into the rugged beauty of New England

Cheryl and Gary Harrison brilliantly organized and led, the most wonderful New England trip and we thank them for the enormous energy and effort they injected. Four couples stopped a night or two in Warwick prior to the trip proper and there the fun started.

Glengallan Homestead and Heritage Centre. You've seen the ruin at the Cunningham/New England Highways. Boom. Gloom. Now restored, returned from ruin, and magnificently achieved.

Tenterfield is a busy town with highway down the main street. Three caravanners followed our Fearless Leaders to the Van Park that was to be out 'home-away'.

From-home for two nights, as we settled in to await the others. Then it was to a wintry, cold McKenzie Lookout on Monday afternoon and dinner at the Golf Club.

A Walking Tour of the town on Tuesday morning proved to be well-worthwhile and then came a real choice - to go to either to the famous Bald Rock or to the equally famous nearby Gardens. Bald Rock proved to be a challenge for the fit and brave. But then there was always the Glenrock Gardens for garden lover - or let it be said "for the less adventurous"! Brilliant. On Wednesday morning, we investigated Tenterfield's Historic Railway Station, complete with long-retired rolling stock. Then almost inevitably on to the School of Arts 'before heading south.

On every Armidale Street, past-wealth oozes, impresses, intimidates even. Saumarez House and gardens inspire.



It takes real courage to turn round and look down into the depths into which the water tumbles.

The buildings of the New England University we found to be an architectural gem. The Churches that seemed to harbour every corner all forgave our sins. Not that we took them up on it but there a very real and attractive invitation to "Celebrate your next wedding at Petersons Winery" - even if we were able to. Its eight-bedroom mansion is a must see. Then who would dream of bypassing Ebor with its waterfalls, together with the Trout Farm & Hatchery that supplies NSW creeks and dams with fish stocks. Finally came the almost infamous Dangar Falls - a place of legend. Some Probians headed south to continue their Odyssey. Those of us with real jobs turned for home to recover.

Peter Perkins. Photos from Heather G, Judy A, & Susan K

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HAMILTON 42

Our Trip to Gympie

It was indeed an excellent trip, with a great organiser and good company, and, just to top it all off, even a great bus driver! We left punctually from St Colombs, with a driver who entertained us from time to time during the two-hour trip.

The Woodworks Museum was the first stop on our program. The buildings were built of tallowwood and spotted gum with silky oak bannisters, doors and windows. The offices were lined with hoop pine - all local timbers. A working Timber Mill has been set up, and the steam-engine which drives it, has been restored and is operated by volunteers.... Many hours of attention and devotion to detail by skilled volunteers! "Maurie", in the working Blacksmith shop, entertained us with stories of his years of blacksmithing, this all while he created metal hooks for us to admire. A most interesting character who really enjoys his volunteering.

We enjoyed a lunch of generously filled sandwiches and fresh local fruit for "arvos" in the Lunchroom.

The Museum had a tree slab of Kauri Pine over six hundred years old, originally harvested from the local area. The local telephones from the various generations were also on display. Many of us would have used these in our youth. There was a Flying Doctor phone, only used for the Flying Doctor, for those living in far-flung areas of the State.

We moved on to the Gold Museum. Gympie was the town that saved Queensland from bankruptcy. Nowadays, the Museum is operated by the Gympie and District Historical Society, and is located on the site of the

second-richest mine in the Gympie Goldfields. It covered four and a half hectares. We were taken through the site with explanations of how the gold was mined. The mine has seen many floods. The Flood Marker was quite amazing to see. In 1893, it peaked at twenty-four and a half metres.... the highest in a hundred years - 1999 saw it peak at nineteen and a half metres. That is a lot of water! The mine shaft is located in quite a hilly area, so, while in flood, the area would have looked like a lake. All has been very well restored.

The mine cage at the head of the shaft remains locked and was last used in 1917. This mine was the most productive in the Gympie area, producing 608,279oz. of gold from 1,589,162 tons of ore between 1867 and 1923. Across all mines in and around Gympie with a total of 3,981,918ozs of gold were produced. I bought a sample of Gympie gold for my lapidary collection. I need a magnifying glass to see it!!! Any larger would have caused my bankruptcy. And anyway, gold mining is in the too hard basket! It was indeed a hard slog of a way of life.

Some time ago, there were plans for the building of a dam. Fortunately, the project was dropped - a dam would have ruined a very beautiful and interesting part of this area.

Time came for us to go to our motel and dinner. Again, all was well-organised. It had been arranged that we were to be joined for dinner by a local who gave us a further chance ask our questions about the area! Our bus driver, Henry, was also there and kept us entertained with some sleight of hand - he was quite a character.

After breakfast the next morning, we were taken to the Mary Valley Railway Station for our trip on The Rattler.

This is an iconic tourist attraction. We were booked into the First-Class carriage where we had an attendant to look after our every need - and then some. Wine, drinks, and a cheese platter- all served with linen napkins! The train puffed through the beautiful hills and valleys, looking very lush after all the rain, as we passed along the Mary River to Amamoor. Many large old mango trees were to be seen growing alongside the railway track. These were planted to provide shade for the fettlers. A special treat came when the Monkland Primary School Grade "Ones" came out to wave to us. The Mary River railway crossing saw the flood waters in 2022 lapping the railway line! Amazing, as the calm water was today so very far below the rail tracks.

Amamoor had stalls and café at the restored area of the Railway Station. We watched the train engine turn on a restored turntable to take the carriages back to our home station. The turn table showed just what volunteers can do with restoration...obviously skilled volunteers!

Lunch had been pre-ordered and served at the beautifully restored Gympie Station upon our return there. After lunch we were homeward bound, tired but happy, after a very successful outing.

Congratulations must go to Alastair and his helper, Jacqui. They even arranged the weather with sunshine and no rain for these two days.

Thankfully, Alastair did not include floating in the Mohair Mountain rock pools, though I hope he was not implying that we are past floating in rock pools!!

Margot Kirby

SPRINGWOOD

The Fundraising Morning High Tea

I'm shattered and shocked - for all these years we have been led to believe that poor little Goldilocks was frightened and traumatised by those savage bears.

Nope, Joan set us straight with her version of the story. In her poem she related what that wicked girl did to those poor bears and their home. Well, who would have thought?

Joan's hilarious poem about this famous story had us all in stitches and topped a great morning with friends.

We started with a very informative talk about Parkinson's disease by Lisa.

I'd like to think the facts presented will give us a better understanding of this awful condition.

Rolf's cream-coloured suit and matching hat won him a prize of a bottle of wine. (Modelling material maybe?) Dave was hot on his heels and won the chocolates.

The hottest contest was between the ladies - but the prize was awarded to Margaret for Best Hat.

There were games of Trivia organised by Glen and Adele, where everyone joined in. Why? to win more prizes of course.

Of course, the hero of the morning was the High Tea!!!

Yep, mountains of delicious, yummy, moreish goodies found their way onto tables and, with teapots constantly filled, we indulged to our heart's (stomach's) content. After a couple of hours of fun, everyone left with smiles on their faces and Parkinson's disease is \$2043 better off!! A great big thank you to Hilda, June and Carla for the mouth-watering food. And to Joan and Dave for the bright venue. To Helen for the wine and chocs, and to everyone who joined us in this delightful Fundraiser.

P.S. There were lots of goodies left over for take-away. And they disappeared smartly!

Carla.

MT OMMANEY

Walking Group

One is never bored or at a loss for something to look at or to talk about as a member of our Club Walking Group – apart from that we do manage to gain a certain healthy life-style, and our walks are certainly varied. As one can see looking back on just a few of our most recent ones.

One Saturday in late July, the Club's Walking Group met at the Piggy Back Café in Jindalee. There were eleven Club members and the ever-welcomed people from outside the Club who enjoy our idea of exercise. We set off at a steady pace walking along Curragundi Road as far as Mt Ommaney Drive and continued along the river, past the Boat Ramp right down to the end of Mt Ommaney Drive and then continued along a concrete walkway (down a gully and back up) and across the aluminium bridge to Koorinal Drive. Our walk continued along Koorinal Drive to Koorinal Drive Park, through the park and across the new Koorinal Drive Bridge. Here we couldn't resist taking a photo. We then returned to the Piggy Back Café, via Burrendah Road where we enjoyed morning tea, with another five Club members joining us.

Just a few days later on a similarly beautiful Brisbane Winter Day, we took public transport to Lutwyche, where we joined the Walkway along Kedron Brook. We followed the Kedron Brook Walkway to Shaw Road. This is really an important spot in the annals of Brisbane history – if you are interested in that sort of trivia. This has been the home of the Valley Hockey Club for more than eighty years.

We continued along the Walkway with Kalinga Park on our right, and crossed to the north side of Kedron Brook to view the cairn commemorating the mining of coal in the area, for it was here that supplied black coal to the Railways and Virginia Brickworks from 1895 to 1905.

The bulk of the walk concluded at Toombul where we enjoyed our morning tea stop, in a café that had been converted from a former grocery shop. One small business taking over from another. This does seem to be part of mod-



The Group record their crossing of the new Koorinal Drive Bridge.

ern Brisbane. The good businesses – restaurants, grocery shops and the like – survive – the less good go under. We then took public transport to Hamilton where we enjoyed the walk down Racecourse Road and took in the many boutique shops. Lunch stop was at the Hamilton Hotel.

After lunch, we took a short walk to Brett's Wharf, where we had a reality relaxing Rivercat trip down to Northshore, then back to the Regatta stop, where we caught our bus home.

Some days later still, eight Club members and visitors took a walk of just under the four kilometres in length around the Pooh Corner through the Bushland Reserve at Wacol. Several koalas have been released into the high-quality area among the gumtrees since 2023. The University of Queensland is focused on re-establishing a healthy population of koalas. We took the opportunity of inspecting ruins of the sewerage treatment works which were in operation until the 1960s – guess what? – hence the name Pooh Corner. Yet again we had to satisfy the fourth principal aim of Probus at the end of our walk – we enjoyed morning tea at Lumbr Café at Sumner.

Apart from the healthy side of our planned walks, we do find this is an ideal way of fossicking out those odd little bits of trivia that make up the culture and are nestled in the history of this city we all love.

"If you are seeking creative ideas, go out walking. Angels whisper to a man when he goes for a walk."

— Raymond Inmon

THE GAP

Dinosaurs of Patagonia

This Wednesday the "Fabulous Four" – or we should say "Three" this time, because Jennifer had to cry off – visited the Queensland Museum to see the Dinosaurs of Patagonia Exhibition.

Patagonia is a region comprising all of southerly Chile and Argentina and sixteen dinosaur skeletons are on display – and we enjoyed inspecting them all thoroughly! The skeletons on display are casts shaped from the fossils, or constructs of the missing parts of the skeletons.

Most of the finds were pretty complete but smaller bones were often missing.

Often the skull was missing as it is relatively small and at one end of the animal. Máximo, the Titanosaur, on prominent display, is a cast of the herbivore sauropod. He was around forty metres long and seventy-seven tonnes in weight when fully grown.

One other that particularly interested us was a meat-eater. Carnotaurus was a lightly built carnivore about seven to eight metres in length long and around two metric tonnes. Two others we saw were much lighter and around just two metres high – just a baby really, and much better looking, usually friendly, unless I have transgressed.

We rounded up with a surprisingly nice aubergine lasagne at the Museum Café before heading home, once again having learned much. We are very lucky to have such a well curated Museum – and, of course, we do have Winton just on our doorstep here in Queensland for those interested in such things.

Has your Club submitted an article for The Probian recently?

OK! OK!
Perhaps it is time.



CLUBS Talk and Travel

Jeni Neary OAM has 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
QIMR Berghofer Institute of Medical Research	Clare Blake	The Gap
Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School	Michelle Bond	Algester and Districts
The Lady Vanishes	Sally Eeles, Producer and Writer	Beaudesert
War History of Mt Coot-tha	Janet Spillman	Bellbowrie and District
The House That Mary Built, Bedourie 1880s	Dr Thom Blake	Goodna-Springfield
Nolan's Meats – Production and Operations	Amy Atkinson	Gympie
U3A – University of the Third Age	Rod McLary	Holand Park Central
History & Grounds of Government House	Judith Anderson, OAM	Indooroopilly
Health Provider Fraud Section, Medicare	Paul Hamilton	Algester and Districts
Adventures in Africa	Brian and Sue Bassett	Buderim Mountain
UQ Research Computing Centre	Jake Carroll	Bellbowrie and District
Australian History – 1770 to 1901	Dr Christopher Reynolds	Carindale
Brisbane Botanic Gardens	Dale Arvidsson, Curator	Kallangur
Hand Made Puppets	David Hamilton	Mt Gravatt Pacific
Forty Years on Radio	Gary Thorpe, FM station 4MBS	North Brisbane
AI and the Human Mind	Professor Bruce Young	North Blackall Range
Life of a Luxury Yacht Chef	Lisa Mead, Author and Chef	Kenmore Gardens
ABC Breakfast Radio	Craig Zonca and Loretta Ryan	Sherwood

Outings	Topics, Locations, Activities	Club
6 Day Trip	Train to/from Townsville, Magnetic Island, Charters Towers	Algester and Districts
4 Day Bus Tour	Yamba and Surrounds	Carindale
Day Tour	Port of Brisbane and Brewdog Brewery	Sunnybank
4 Day Trip	Lightning Ridge	Indooroopilly
Bus Trip	Moreton Bay Boat Club, Scarborough Lunch	Bellbowrie and District
Day Trip	Australia Zoo and Warrior Restaurant Lunch	Buderim Mountain
Tour	QPAC – Backstage Tour	Carindale
Day Trip	Beenleigh Rum Distillery and Harrigan's Irish Pub	Beaudesert
Day Trip	Roma Street Parklands Tour and Lunch	Capalaba
Night Tour	Haunted History of Toowong Cemetery	Indooroopilly
Tour	City Hall and Museum of Brisbane	Holland Park Central
Day Trip	Woongooroo Winery Estate - Hidden Gems, Kilcoy	Sunnybank
Train Trip	Train to Landsborough and Lunch at Landsborough Hotel	Mt Gravatt Pacific
Tours	Suncorp Stadium and XXXX Brewery	North Brisbane
4 Day Trip	Dorrigo, Bellingen, Yamba and Ballina	Kenmore Gardens
7 Night Trip	Melbourne Cup P & O Cruise	Redcliffe City Mixed
Tour	Brisbane Motor Museum, Banyo	Springwood
Day Bus Trip	Quinalow, Yarraman and Blackbutt	Toowoomba City
Tour	Maleny Botanical Gardens and Bird World	Tewantin
Boat Trip	Breakfast Creek Hotel and City Cat to West End	Wellington Point

Other Probus Club Meeting Themes

Loud Shirt Day, Holly Jolly Dress-up Day, Red Theme Day, Going to the Races Day, Beach Bums, Ethnic Dress Day, Spring Fair, Bring and Buy Fair, A Short Play at meetings, Bush Poetry Day, Western Garb, Spring Hats, Easter Bonnets, Christmas Elves, Hot Socks, Shipwrecked, Book Titles, Movie Titles, United Nations Day, Bastille Day, High Teas, Members' Market, Sod Off Winter, Family History, Chinese New Year, Games Day with Other Clubs, Top Hats and Tiaras, Beach Time, Green & Gold Australia Day, Past Weddings, October Fest

BULIMBA

We certainly have enjoyed getting into the full spirit of Probus

As we approach the six-month mark since our inception, the Club has gone from strength to strength in a way designed to fill a need in our community for social interaction and engagement for those of us who are retired, semi-retired and soon-to-be-retired. To accommodate the growing interest, we have raised our Membership Cap twice since March and it sits currently at a hundred and twenty, which is the comfortable seating capacity of our meeting place.

Despite our infancy, we have engaged in some interesting activities and been an appreciative audience for some outstanding Guest Speakers. We owe this in large part to the experience and personal relationships of our Speaker Seeker, Suzanne, who has drawn on her contacts to attract the high calibre speakers which are programmed right through to June next year.

Among our notable speakers have been:

- Emeritus Prof Roly Sussex OAM, renowned linguist and raconteur, who regaled us with his humorous approach to Australian English.
- Gary Thorpe, OAM, General Manager of radio 4MBS FM. Gary described the amazing program developed by 4MBS called Silver Memories that has been designed for people living in Aged Care, with a particular focus on people with Dementia. This evidence-based program has been subject to academic research, and shown to improve multiple measures of quality of life for its participants, including a dramatic reduction in peer-to-peer violence.
- Ramon Epstein OAM, Australian Paralympic Weightlifter and Powerlifting Coach, and aa Bulimba local. Ray's story is one of great inspiration, whose presentation was made possible by a personal relationship with Suzanne. His moving account of progression from Paralympian to 'hard-nosed' Coach was summed up in rhyme by one of his devoted athletes. There wasn't a dry eye in the room.
- Dale Arvidsson, Curator at the Brisbane City Council Botanical Gardens, brought the gardens to us with an array of 'show and tell' plants that are in flower at the moment. Dale was an articulate and engaging speaker whose presentation enticed us to tour the three Botanical Sites with a guide.
- In September we will be treated to the husband and wife dynamic duo of Stan and Wilma Perkins, giants in the realm of World, Oceanic and Australian Masters Athletics. Both athletes and coaches in their own right, they have chosen to give back to their sport by stepping into various roles as administrators. Their stories are of high achievement, dedication, sacrifice, altruism and generosity.

Colleen and Sharen began their Outings and Tours with an informal 'Meet and Greet' in our local Vic Lucas Park on the foreshores of the Brisbane River. It was an opportunity to get to know some of our new members (and their dogs) in a casual and relaxed setting. Although the weather wasn't the perfect Autumn Day we've come to expect, we think we'll be doing more of this over the coming months.

They have also organised an outing to the junction of the



All aboard for our cruise down the Brisbane River.

Bremer and Brisbane Rivers aboard the "Lady Brisbane". This posed a different perspective for passengers as they cruised past wildlife and landscapes not usually accessible other than by water. The barbecue-lunch aboard was enjoyed and new friendships formed in a peaceful cruise on a splendid sunny June day.

Next up was at Ormiston House for a Christmas-in-July themed High Tea. It was a glorious winter's day and all enjoyed the camaraderie and festive spread in the beautiful historic homestead, staffed entirely by volunteers.

Our Special Interest Groups are beginning to form. The

first of these was off to a quick and popular start at the Bulimba Golf Club for some tips on how to play Mahjong. Wendy is sharing her knowledge and skill among the keen players. Our Book Club has discussed its first book "The Book Seller at the End of the World", which led to some interesting perspectives on the life of author Ruth Shaw, who now resides in the Manipouri region of New Zealand's deep south. After an uneventful early life, Ruth suffered some personal traumas which led her to exploring rather unorthodox and interesting jobs in exotic locations. The next book is "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus, followed by "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese and "Lola in the Mirror" by Trent Dalton. Quite the line-up of reading pleasure to take us through to the end of the year.

We have many more ideas for groups and we're relying on our talented and accomplished members to bring their

passion to other members.

At our September meeting, we're repeating our highly successful allocated seating plan first deployed in June. Initially somewhat tentative, most members thoroughly enjoyed being randomly seated next to new faces. Vice President Di conducted a 'speed friending' game which encouraged members to answer prepared questions while the clock ticked.

Whilst enjoyable, its primary purpose was to reinforce our ethos of a fun and friendly club. Its success is evident by the willingness of our members to share coffee with and sit next to people they've never spoken to before and to form new acquaintances. I've heard of some wine drinking groups that have blossomed from this speed friending session. What a result!

It's certainly been a very busy few months setting up our new Club but with hard work comes great reward and our popularity (and waiting list) is testament to that. To our Probus friends across the river at the brand-new Teneriffe club we wish you all the best as you begin the journey to establishment.



One of the many floral displays to which we were treated

Taking the risk

Composer Irving Berlin just wasn't prepared to take the risk. He left a little song he'd written locked away in a trunk for three years – he felt it just wasn't good enough. Then he chanced his luck and released it – and it sold in North America alone over 6 million copies of sheet music and 140 million records! The song's name? ... *White Christmas*.

Never too old

Michelangelo was 71 when he painted the Sistine Chapel.

John D. Rockefeller was making \$1 million a week when he died at age 97.

Albert Schweitzer was still performing operations in his African hospital at age 89.

Winston Churchill, at 70, addressed V-E Day crowds, standing on top of his car to speak.

Golda Meir was 71 when she became prime minister of Israel.

George Burns won an Oscar at 80.

Benjamin Franklin framed the US Constitution when he was 81.

Charlie Chaplin was still directing movies at 76.

All of which goes to show that you're never too old!

TAKE 10

Items of passing interest

Compiled by Jarvis Finger
Kenmore Millennium Probus Club

I thought I told you what to do...

It was the staff assistant's first day on the job. Handing the new staffer an industrial stapler, the supervisor said:

'I'll get the photocopied pages of this report in the right order and then, when I nod my head, you staple it.'

The assistant did exactly as he was told – and it took the supervisor half an hour to get his toupee off.



Probian Puzzler

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

P _ O _ E _ T

Place single letters in the blank spaces.

Four common words fit the above pattern. What are they?

Fantastic Foto #2



Some guys just don't know when to stop...

Answer to Probian Puzzler: The four words are poorest, protect, protest, protect.

The perfect circle

The medieval Italian painter Giotto Di Dondone had a reputation for being able to draw a geometrically perfect circle freehand, every time, any size. What's so clever about that? you ask.

Just try it yourself!

crikey!

TALES OF THE AMUSING, ODD, AND OUTRAGEOUS

I quit!

FROM 1875, Queensland's colonial prison on St Helena Island in Moreton Bay had a one-teacher school to cater for some 30 children of warders stationed on the island. And over that time, the government appointed four teachers.

As the second appointed teacher, John Brown was not happy with his posting to the island prison. It took him only three months to resign. He found his situation at St Helena intolerable. He disliked being 'deprived of the same freedom that teachers in outside schools possess'. He objected to being called a 'warder'.

Then the final straw... In 1883, Brown wrote:



"I am not comfortable in any way here, as I cannot get my cooking and washing done in a manner suitable to my tastes. I am sure that any person outside can imagine what my clothes must be like after being worn by a prisoner who is thoroughly inexperienced in the art!"

Uplifting experience

When the first elevator/escalator was installed in Harrods, London, in 1898, a member of staff was posted by the store to offer complimentary brandy to those shoppers who felt faint after the ordeal of riding up this new 'moving staircase'.

So quick off the mark

Late one afternoon, a general practitioner, returning from a house-call in an English village, somersaulted his car end-to-end twice. Incredibly alive and unscathed, he staggered over to a nearby cottage where he knew he could ring the garage.

The good lady of the cottage was just putting down the phone. "Oh, doctor," she said when opening the door, "I've only just called your house. How good of you to come so quickly. There's been an accident outside."



Ooops!
Did I say that?

Brisbane's *Courier Mail* reported some time back that a reader spotted a Murrays Australia bus advertisement in the Yellow Pages. The company apparently hired out coaches for sporting and social events, conferences, and school 'executions'.

Did you know?

If all the world's seas evaporated, they would leave enough salt behind to cover the whole of the United States to a depth of 2.5 kilometres!

A final point to ponder

We can complain because roses have thorns; or we can rejoice because thorns have roses.

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We think she would be very proud of today's K.M.Smith.

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Thank you for the marvellous job of helping me to move from Dudley Street to Durack village. You were real pros: got it all done (packed, unpacked, tidied, organised) in record time besides being helpful and kind to me! You put things in perfect places in the house and I take pleasure in finding them.

All best to you all. If I ever have to move again, I beg you to be there.

Cheers, Francie



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