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FEBRUARY 2025 EDITION

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# The Queensland PROBIAN

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## COVER PHOTO

Trade Travel



**Volume 37 Number 1 – February 2025**  
Published quarterly and distributed free to every member of clubs affiliated with the Probus Association of Queensland in February, May, August and October.  
Print Post Approval Number 437333/00067.

# S T R E T O C

Trade Travel .....	Front Cover
Living Choice Australia Parkwood Resort..	Inside Front Cover
PAQ Regional Liaison Officers & PAQ Committee .....	2
PAQ President AGM Report Summary .....	3
PAQ's New Web Site .....	3
Trade Travel Tours .....	4 & 5
Granite Highlands Maxi Tours .....	9
Uplift Tours & Travel Tours.....	10 & 11
The Village Retirement Group .....	13
Fox & Hounds Country Inn.....	15
Ipswich Heritage Tours for Probus Clubs.....	18 & 19
APT Luxury Travel .....	21
Buderim Ginger Factory .....	23
Grand Pacific Tours – NZ Travel Specialists.....	25
Alex Gow Funerals.....	27
Probian Readers Competition .....	27
The Probian Quiz - A .....	29
Promoting Your Club – ideas from PAQ .....	30
Task Tamers – Downsizing & Relocation Specialists .....	31
PAQ Talk and Travel - Ideas from clubs.....	34
K.M. Smith Funeral Directors .....	35
Jarvis Finger's Take 10.....	36
Nomination Form for PAQ Management Committee .....	Inside Back Cover
AGM & Delegates' Notice of Meetings .....	Back Cover



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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.

## ADVERTISING RATES Effective 1 AUGUST 2023

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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 - FEBRUARY 2025



**Here we are again at the beginning of another Probus Year. Just where did last year go? Perhaps we didn't notice it slip by with all the work the PAQ committee have been doing lately.**

Since my last report in October, we continued to open new clubs with the able assistance of Merv Richens, Judith Maestracci and Barry Smith. PSPL does a tremendous job in getting all the information out there via Facebook and newspapers (when available) and this has resulted in great numbers coming to the interest meetings that have been held in to date. We saw Gatton Club opened in early October with the majority of the preparation work for this club being done by Rob and Jeni Neary – thank you both. Logan Village was our next new club, with a tremendous result of foundation members. Following on the last club to open last year was at Arundel and again a tremendous result with the number of foundation members. Merv and his team worked tirelessly to get these clubs established.

In this new year we will be look at clubs for Raceview and Norman Park before March and the AGM. There are several others in the pipeline for after March 2025. Did you

know that we even had a club opened at Port Douglas via zoom – the way of the future?

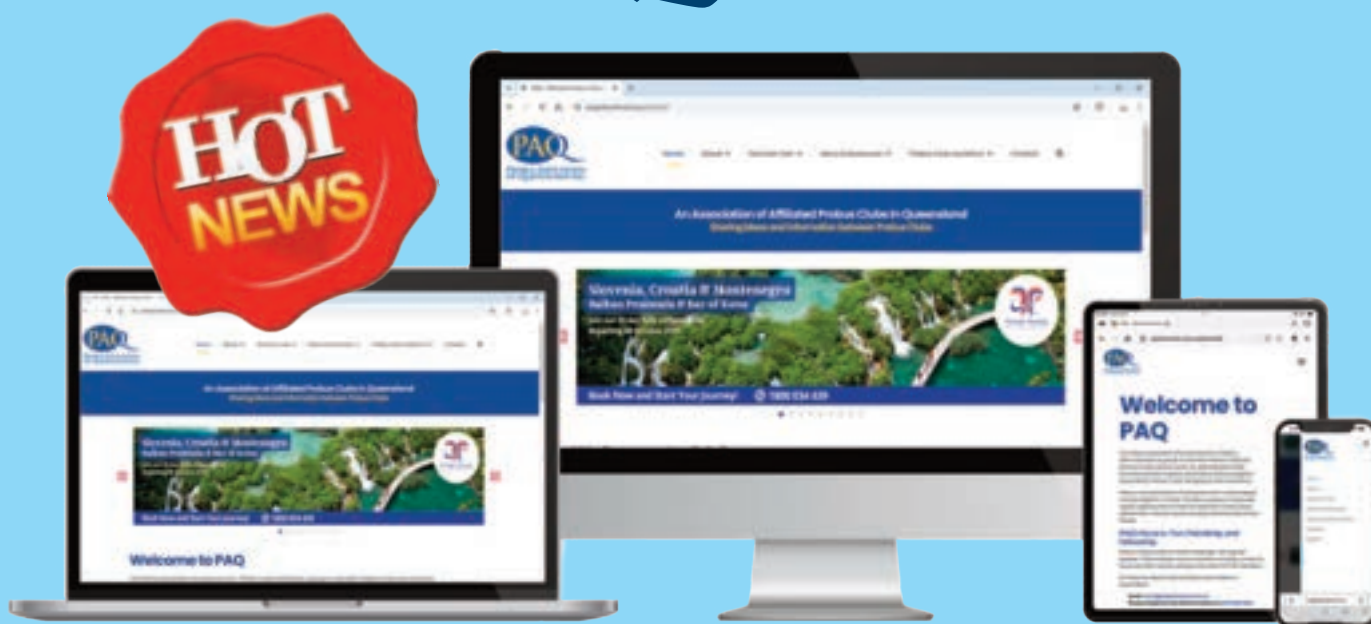
As March is looming up on us, I hope that you have all been working well with your succession planning so as to have a smooth transition.

Some members will complete another year and others will be taking up the position for a first time. I wish you all well and look forward to a great Probus Year. In 2025 we are planning workshops and seminars and these dates will be forwarded to the club secretaries so please make sure that we have the correct email address for your club. Remember our state AGM for PAQ is on the Friday 14th March at Mt Gravatt Bowls Club commencing at 10am sign in from 9.30am – please, where possible, have members come along to this meeting. It will be great to see new and old faces.

Thank you and wishing you a great Probus year in 2025

**Carwyn Arnold - President**  
**0477 645 645**

## NEW PAQ Website



PAQ's Communication Officer, Rob Neary, has been working on the development of a new web site which is far more responsive to various devices used by Probus members to visit the site and will content more useful material for PAQ's clubs to use. The current web site is built using an older "engine, Joomla, and so the new site will be upgraded to the latest version of Joomla and plug-ins, which might not work, retired. Marketeam, a Brisbane specialist

Joomla web site creation company has been engaged to remove any errors inhibiting the current site, update Joomla to the most recent version and then to work on the development of the new web site. The new PAQ web site will be "more friendly" to phone access than the current site because of the move to a responsive template for the site. PAQ will announce the "go live" date to clubs along with a guide to the new site.

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Departure 29 October 2025

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## CURRIMUNDI

### A Day Trip to Bribie Island

The members of the Currimundi Probus club boarded the bus bound for Bribie Island. Denise our trip coordinator had put in an order for good weather and it came through.

Our first stop, Beachmere Park for morning tea. It was good to stretch the legs and after a cuppa and a piece of cake we were off again. Next stop The Abby Museum, which houses artifacts collected by the late Rev John SM Ward; a short video explained the journey and hardships faced before the collection found its home in the purpose-built Abby Museum. It's an amazing collection with so much to see.

Our next destination was The Butterfly House, a magical place, where the butterflies fly, feed and breed in the safety of an out-door sanctuary filled with their favourite plants. It had such a calming atmosphere; the staff were so friendly and full of knowledge they held our interest as we walked around admiring the butterflies that were so delicate and beautiful.

With tummies rumbling we headed to Bribie Island Surf Club for our lunch. All members said they enjoyed their meals, there were a few comments about needing a nanna nap after eating, but no time for that, we boarded the bus once again, our next and final stop the Bribie Island Art Gallery. The Bribie Island Community Arts Centre is an eclectic collection of arts and crafts, it also houses the Woodcrafters and Gem and Fossicking club. Its full of items from local artists and crafters who foster creativity in the local Bribie area. There was plenty of items to look at and admire. With a few purchases in our bags, time to head for home.

It was an enjoyable outing and a good time was had by all.



*Morning Tea*



*Butterfly House visit*

## GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA

### A Driving Adventure – the Garden City Probus Club Car Treasure Hunt

Our club has a great way to explore the small towns and villages of the Toowoomba area – a car-based treasure hunt in which the goal is to get all of the questions answered correct-

ly not beat the clock. Over 20 Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club members have signed up for this great adventure

Our treasure hunt was a great success. Kicking off from Newtown Park in Toowoomba, our intrepid explorers followed the clues to discover regional pubs along their way to our final stop, Glengallan Homestead.

We asked members to find something quirky on their travels, and it doesn't get much quirkier than a

horse and buggy well out of its era sighted in Clifton.

Our winners got 64 of 66 questions answered correctly on our local trivia questionnaire\* and won gold medals & model cars - prizes worth treasuring!

A great time was had by all, and it was a great way to explore our local area, meet some locals and enjoy good old fashioned country hospitality. \*no divorce proceedings were initiated post-treasure hunt (yet).



*Rudd's Pub Nobby*



*Horse and Buggy in Clifton*



## CURRIMUNDI

### A 25-year Celebration.

The members past and present of Probus Club of Currimundi Combined came together for a momentous occasion, their 25-anniversary celebration. The event was a joyous affair filled with laughter and much reminiscing.

The celebration was honoured by the presence of several special guests, which included Terry Landsberg, Councillor for the Sunshine Coast; Jim Lombard, President of the Caloundra Rotary Club which was the sponsoring club and Andrew Wallace, member of the House of Representatives.

In their remarks, the council members acknowledged the vital role the clubs play in building a strong vibrant community.



*Cutting the Probus Club 25-years cake*



*Guests at the 25th Birthday function*



*Members enjoying the special celebration of 25 years*

## DALBY & KINGAROY

### Dalby and Kingaroy Probus Clubs Meet

On Thursday 17 October 2024, 20 members of the Combined Probus Club of Kingaroy travelled to Dalby to help celebrate Probus Month.

28 Dalby Probus members joined the celebrations at the Windsor Hotel.

The event room was decorated - from gold and blue tinsel and garlands to Probus balloons and two pull up banners advertising Probus. Dalby Probus Club kindly provided a wonderful cake to help celebrate this event. There was much friendship, fellowship, fun and food.



*Probus Cake*



*Cutting the Cake provided by Dalby Probus Club*



*President Warren (the Combined Probus Club of Kingaroy) and President Siene (Dalby Probus Club)*

## BURPENGARY

### Probus Month at Burpengary Probus Club October 2024

As a lead up to Probus Month, our local Member, Terry Young, put in a Seniors Expo at St Columban's High School. There were some 100 odd stalls and displays of which The Burpengary Probus Club had a display. This was manned by Jenny Mazzer our Club's Secretary and Kevin out Club's Welfare officer. This was a great day with many enquiries, and we distributed 43 show bags as well as Probus Information material and balloons. There were over 1,000 attendees with guest speakers and workshops.

PAQ, offered incentives in the form of grants to support the Clubs for Probus Month. Our Club was successful in acquiring these grants and was able to utilize to the utmost the various activities in promoting the Burpengary Probus Club. All in all, we believe we will induct 4 new members at our next meeting. Thank you PAQ.

The Burpengary Probus Club advertised our Probus Club Meeting theme that would be "Hawaiian" and members did not disappoint. We forwarded invitations to the local men's shed who came along with some of their toys and presented one toy as a raffle prize and presented a 10-minute mini talk on "The Men's Shed".

Many of the members dressed for the occasion. Three ladies and one gent were the winners who were judged by the members of the men's shed. All received a Probus Pen

In a presentation Case. We also cut the Probus Cake, which was cut by Tony and Judy Kent who were two of the Charter members.

In our Club, we are excited that we have many members who love to volunteer for positions supporting the executive management team. At our meeting I was privileged to present The Probus Month certificates to all our volunteers for Probus "Celebrating Community and Fellowship". These were well received.

Following a lovely morning tea of sandwiches and cake, President Allen introduced HeatherJoy Campbell, The Happy Demic, who for 35 minutes, had all the members laughing, dancing and clapping. This was so amazing to have everyone enjoying themselves. Allen presented HeatherJoy with a show bag of Goodies and a certificate of appreciation.

To wrap up the day's program was the drawing of the raffles, and one item was the donation of a wooden toy truck that was donated by the Men's Shed. Thank you to The Members from the Men's Shed. The meeting concluded at noon and that was followed by lunch at the Burpengary Tavern where 30 members enjoyed a lovely lunch.

It is so wonderful to be part of a

Region where there have been many opportunities for Clubs to join for Fun, Friendship and Fellowship. The Redcliffe Probus Club invited us to join them for a B-B-Q, at Newport Park. Unfortunately, this had to be postponed due to wet weather.

The Pine Rivers Probus Club joined our Club for a Coach trip to Woongooroo Winery at Mt Archer. This was a wonderful day of wine tasting, musical entertainment and a wonderful lunch. Thank you, Pine rivers, for inviting us along for the ride. This is part of our joint program between both Clubs will be part of in the next 12 months when each club will present three each bus trips to various areas.

On Tuesday 29th October, the Burpengary Probus Club invited prospective new members and guests to join us for morning tea at the Stella Rosa at Morayfield for morning tea which commenced at 9:30 am. It was great to see so many attend these morning teas which are held on the fifth Tuesday of a month. Thank you, Gloria, for being our hostess. The Club always displays our Club Sign and hands out brochures. This Tuesday we had an enquiry and gave out our brochures.

As a continuation of Probus Month, The Redcliffe Probus and Burpengary Probus Clubs have combined with Trade Travel to the Grafton Jacaranda Festival from 6 -9 November. This will also be a wonderful time for Fun, Fellowship and Friendship.

## BOWEN

Our Bowen Community, if you ever visit us, is very laid back. Each year, during the winter months, we have an influx of "Grey Nomads" some of whom attend our meetings. At our age, their lifestyle seems too good to be true so we try to emulate it by having our Annual General Meeting in March and having the committee's picture taken in August. (at least for this year). We think our camera was removed from our meeting area by someone unknown.

That is not to say we have not been busy trying to fulfil our Mantra of Friendship, Fellowship and Fun, each of our committee members have jobs to do during Meetings such as serving tea morning tea to those wobbly on their feet. We are constantly looking for new places to visit. Bowen does not have many eateries but we alternate them when we can. Because of the cost of bus hire, and the distance from place to place, we are limited to trips out of town.



*L to R Back Annette Doyle, Pat Sullivan, Bronwyn Schwarz, Jill Willcox, Dawn Ramage, Caroline Meredith, Front: Dulcie Heron (Secretary) Lorraine Maltby (President) and Maxine Todd (Treasurer).*

Also, because of the size of Bowen, some of us are volunteers on other committees around town so frequently meeting up is inevitable. As our membership average age this year is 82, the ladies in the photo have

earned a medal for keeping it all together but those in the elder age have done their "bit" years ago.

We are currently having a membership drive, with new members joining soon.



## INNISFAIL

### Mena Creek, Wai Young & PROBUS Month Celebrations

Innisfail Probians have been very active with a lunch dine out on a glorious day in August at the Mena Creek Hotel just over the creek from the well-known Historic Paronella Park. This was followed by an evening meal in September at the Wai Young Chinese Restaurant. Both these venues were well supported and the Probians were spoilt for choices and well looked after. It was a great time to catch up and enjoy the Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

A special thanks to the management and staff at both these venues

and most importantly to our Probian dine out organisers Margie Johnston and Rhonda Thomas. They leave no stone unturned in organising our events and this is greatly appreciated by our members. Well done ladies!! It is the time of year when the temperature along with the humidity in the Far North increases sending our southern travellers back towards home.

17 members travelled to Mission Beach and joined the Mission Beach/El Arish club for the Probus Month October lunch celebrations at the Mission Beach Resort on Thursday 3rd October. It was well organised by the Mission Beach/El Arish Club. A great fun day and time was had by all.

Our monthly meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of every month at 9am at the Innisfail RSL. If you're up

this way and would like to attend a meeting or event contact Secretary Marianne 0429 653 775 or probus-clubofinnisfail@gmail.com you will be made most welcome.



Members enjoying Wai Young Restaurant dine out



More of our members enjoying lunch at Mission Beach resort



Members sharing lunch at the Mena Creek Hotel

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as per itinerary

### HIGHLIGHTS

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



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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  
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Breakfast Bush Walk



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## MACGREGOR

### The QMIR Berghofer Research Centre, Herston

The 1940's was a period of quandary for Australian, as it became so obvious they were facing the dilemma as to whether it should populate or suffer the consequences of never becoming a world force. Australian started to accept migrants from post-war torn Europe.

At that time, even though Australia had good medical research being conducted, migrants who came to Queensland left finding it was too difficult to live here. Queensland's climate is not replicated anywhere in the world and it had, at that time, all the problems associated with Dengue fever, Ross River, Q fever, Cane fever, Malaria and even Polio.

A group of scientists approached the State Government saying they felt they felt capable of making an impact and that they were able to raise the necessary funding for their work

All they would require was a suitable building. The government

agreed and that is the way the work proceeds today with the Government still supporting the building and necessary administration. Every cent gained through donations goes to research. The government provided an old US Army hut, left over from WWII, unlined, unfinished, and full of asbestos. It proved to be a good start. One of the early and important discovery in the 1950s was the discovery that Salmonella that had posed an ever-present threat at the time was spread by cockroaches.

If we move on to the 2000's, we find that three new buildings have been constructed over time. One is a sixty-four bed trial facility, with the others being fully devoted to research. There is also a car park.

The dedicated team of over a thousand scientists, staff and students research hundreds of diseases and conditions within the areas of Cancer Research, Mental Health and Neuroscience, Infection and Inflammation, and Population Health, in more than sixty specialised laboratories. Laser technology, capable of giving information quickly pulling lots of data on various diseases, has been found an

invaluable tool. Constantly, discoveries, that are proving game-changers in relation to cancer, melanomas, dementia, heart diseases, with the latest one, asthma, are being made.

Typical of such is Treatment A2 - a study of hookworms. It was found that these pests have something that helps digest gluten. To manage this, the responsible scientists sought people who had high anaphylactic responses to gluten. These people were given hookworms and after a week, they gave them a speck of pasta.

The subjects were terrified. The centre had people standing by. There is a protein in the hookworm which it secretes when it takes in blood. At the end of that experiment nine out of the ten "guinea-pigs" refused to give their worms back. They were able to eat gluten. Without further ado, the scientists went to work in that field. They have a related protein they feel holds much promise.

What started in a dilapidated Army hut seventy years ago is rendering Queensland and Australia a place in the lofty echelons of the world's field of medical research.

## BEAUDESERT

### PAQ Probus Month Grant

The Probus Club of Beaudesert hosted an information morning during Probus Month on 2 October 2024. Community groups were invited to attend to find out what Probus is all about. Special guests were the Mayor of Scenic Rim Council and the Member for Scenic Rim. Guest Speaker, Carwyn Arnold, President of Probus Association Queensland, provided a comprehensive overview of Probus in Australia and Probus Global.

Thanks to a Probus Month Grant from Probus Association Queensland, the Club purchased Probus bags and presentation folders, and convention name card holders. This enabled professional looking information packs to be put together which included a welcome letter from the President, Probus leaflets and a special newsletter edition outlining what the club does. This was all presented in a Probus folder inside a Probus bag. Each visitor was also given a Visitor Name Badge which made them feel part of the group.

Attendees were entertained by members of the U3A Ukelele Group and a special 40th anniversary cake was cut by Carwyn Arnold, PAQ President, 3 new members who were



*Cutting the Cake*

inducted at the October meeting, and a life member appointed. Two visitors were also lucky enough to win the lucky door prizes.

12 visitors attended the October meeting and resulted in 6 new membership applications.

Surplus bags, folders and convention name card holders will be used at future meetings and promotional stands.

*Right: Presentation material*





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## GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA

### Our Club Turned 3 on Probus Day 2024

Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club celebrated its 3rd birthday with a day of fun and friendship culminating in lunch. Members and friends enjoyed a party with the theme of "Celebrations" during which everyone enjoyed a number of word games, games of skill and some fun. Our 3rd Club Birthday/Probus Day function was a Celebration about Being Probus People with a fun day for 49 members and 11 guests who we hoped may be potential members. Guests all received a gift bag with club application forms, club newsletters and Probus chocolates etc. A highlight was the induction by our President, Jan Handy, of Basil Dooley, our 58th member.

After a quick Power Point presentation of the past year's activities, outings, inductions and a 20% growth in membership, the fun began with a series of games. Our Outings organiser, Barbara, challenged members to find out a What's in the Handbag guessing game about what she had inside her handbag – which had been cable-tied to stop members opening it. Everyone enjoyed a number of word scrabble quiz games, games of skill and some plenty of fun. Finally, a table-by-table Costume Design Exercise in which each table group was given 4 toilet rolls to dress their volunteer (some of whom were men!). Much mayhem, hilarity and ribald comments ensued before the final judging!

The club's "Hidden Heroes", that group of members who quietly go about setting up the meeting venue, providing the morning teas each meeting and other tasks needing to be done to make a successful club were presented with a Hidden Heroes Award Rosettes to wear to acknowledge their valuable contributions and thanked by all present.

Everyone received free tickets in the Multi Draw raffle of wine, food and other goodies. A light lunch was then shared by all. Our PAQ grant was used to subsidize the materials for the games, print invitations and materials for the Probus Gift bags for guests and to add to the Multi Draw raffle prizes. Acknowledgements and a thank you was made to each of the following sponsors: Highfields Woolworths for \$50 Chocolates, Trevor Watt MLA for 2 bottles of wine; and David Janetski MLA for a Gift basket of Goodies.

If you're a senior, retired or semi-retired, and living in the greater Toowoomba area and would like to join in some fun, friendship and fellowship, contact the Garden City Toowoomba Probus Club on 0409 726 845 and talk with our Membership Officer, Jeni Neary OAM.



Barbara with her Handbag  
Guessing Game



New member Basil Dooley  
being inducted by President  
Jan Handy



Club Hidden Heroes



Winners of the Costume Design exercise

## NEW FARM

### Whale Watching

We had 12 Participants who experienced a magnificent day on the water of Moreton Bay on the Tangalooma Flyer out of Brisbane. There were many sightings of whales and absolutely fabulous weather conditions.



Whale Watch Group



Whale seen from the Tangalooma Flyer





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## Christmas in July 2025

Carols, Crackers, Turkey & Winter Woolies

2 course lunch: Duo Main for all alternate drop dessert.  
Tea & Coffee Station extra \$3pp

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## SHERWOOD

### Guest Speaker – Steve Titmus & Club Activities

Our September Guest Speaker was Steve Titmus, father of Olympic Gold Medal Winner Ariane. Steve and family had just returned from the Paris Olympics and began his presentation with films clips of Ariane's swimming events including winning gold for the 400 metres freestyle, 200 metres relay; and silver for 800 metres. "The atmosphere in the 20,000 seat stadium was electric, and the build up to the winning 400 metres was enormous, a world awaited event."

The shallow 1.6 metre deep pool (not 2 metres) with underwater wash prohibited world records except champion French swimmer. The ability to get 20,000 spectators into the arena in a short time was impressive, partly due to 200 ushers of the 800 ushers for the games.

To unwind at 11.00pm each night they adjoined to Irish Pub across the road. The story of the POD (Parents of Dolphins) jacket worn by parents of gold medal swimmers was interesting. There was a system to prevent accommodation, restaurants and cafes charging above normal prices, a 75,000 euro fine and shut down if caught. Exception was the highend 2,500 euro per night accomodation increased to 7,500 euros. Steve didn't benefit as they booked 12 months ahead at 1,000 euros per night with the rule coming out 6 months later – probably then 350 euros per night.

Steve gave us his thoughts on the venues that should be built for Queensland 2032 Olympics which should be built with future use in mind.

As part of our Probus month celebrations, members enjoyed lunch celebrating "The King's Birthday" at Buranda TAFE College. We 'dressed up' for the occasion honouring the red, white and blue for England. Alison Newcomb provided a lovely bottle of prosecco as a prize for the best hat and judged 'yours truly' the winner. Our "Royalty Quiz" was well received and our winner got 10 out of the 18 rather difficult questions correct.

It was a fun day of friendship and fellowship as we trav-



*Seafarers Mission Lunch*



*Kings lunch*

elled to and from Buranda by coach. We toasted Probus at our meeting and enjoyed a special cake.

A Tour of the Port of Brisbane was an eye opened from the Observation Deck giving us great views of all the port and its actions. Our guide explained in detail its origins and how the port operates today. We boarded the bus and drove around all aspects of the port, with our guide explaining all the exports, imports etc. 4 ships in port, all unloading, so quite the experience. We then paid a visit to the Seafarers Mission where Heather Turner (our guest speaker at November meeting) welcomed us. Our time there over lunch allowed us to see firsthand 'how the mission operates with the seamen popping in to get some supplies and souvenirs and enjoy a bit of time on land.

**Joan Coghlan OAM**  
**Publicity Officer**

## HOLLAND PARK

### Probus Day Celebrations

Life is Great in the Sunshine State HPIP Games - Get fit, have fun and create.

Despite thunder clouds in the background, it was a great Qld day. The day's activities were organised by Lorraine Williams and Ros Haydon and members came dressed for the occasion. The day was officially opened by President Ken Goodwin and the Day's official anthem lead by Bob Wright

and the Banana Benders Band heralded the start of events. Fields were measured out ready for Pineapple Bolle' and Tennis Ball Toss. Age was no Barrier to being a champion as John Davies at 95 demonstrated with his "ball toss in one".

Members then proceeded to demonstrate their creative talents creating a poem and Art work to promote their part of the State. – The Beaches, The Great Barrier Reef, The Outback and The Rainforests before presenting to our members. Winners were announced and teams present-

ed with a Champions certificate. Undeterred by the failure of the Park's Bar B Que and a hastily borrowed one, our creative crew sprang into action.

Member Barbara Lucas came to the rescue and rushed home laden with Onions and Sausages cooked them up and eventually everyone had a great lunch and were able to head for home just before the storms rolled around.

For friendships great in the Sunshine State - Today its sunshine is smiling for you!





## REDCLIFFE CITY MIXED

### Christmas in July meets dine out in Toogoolawah

As we set off driver Warren keeps us entertained and informed. Everyone is enjoying the beautiful countryside as we zoom through Caboolture. Then, and this where the story really starts folks, just outside Woodford, but before our morning tea stop, the bus pulls to the side of the road and without a word driver Warren gets off. We sit somewhat bemused; perhaps it's a call of nature; or maybe he has taken early retirement; or worse, he has been abducted by aliens; or even worse, he has joined a rock'n'roll band and gone on a world tour. We could imagine the headlines "bus load of Probians, late for Christmas lunch." The very worst is feared.

Just as Ross was asking for volunteers for a search party, up pops Warren. Apparently, we have broken down. That is the bus, not we Probians. Warren outlines his plan to get us to Christmas lunch before New Year. He has called head office and they are sending out a replacement coach. Big sighs of relief all round and the decision is made to have morning tea right there and then by the roadside. Normal service is resumed: bunch of people by the side of the road in various Christmas garb, drinking tea, coffee or a sparkling wine, eating cake and lovely Christmas tree-shaped shortbread biscuits.

Oh, by the way, did I tell you about the breakaway group. This is where the story gets really interesting. A contingent of brave souls, led by Bruce Glover, had decided to travel in their own armoured vehicles: a Tesla, a BMW and a Mercedes, to Toogoolawah. They planned to meet up with us for morning tea at Woodford. So, a call was made, and they diverted to our road-side pit stop. This turned out to be a blessing in disguise because in one of their cars had the very tool needed to fix the bus...hooray!

Back on the bus, short ride to Woodford and a very much needed stop for the call of nature. Even this turned out to be special event. 40 Probians, one toilet equals a long



*What do you do when the bus breaks down - have morning tea of course*



*Finally arrived at the Toogoolawah Hotel*

queue. Some of the men, who shall be nameless, disappeared into the bushes for a spot of irrigation.

Onwards to Toogoolawah with no further dramas, into the hotel, drinks and great conversation. The food was a little disappointing, but who cares. The competition for best Christmas outfits was won by Elizabeth Davidson and Jim Whittle - well deserved. The journey home was gloriously uneventful.

Another great day/dine out thanks to Sue and Ross Gray, Maree Butler and Donna Kahlert. Three cheers.

**Graham Norman**

## STANTHORPE

### Club Activities

We've had some interesting speakers this year from Clair Blake from QMIR Berghofer Centre who gave us an interesting talk on the research happening at the Qld Institute of Medical research, to last month's speaker Liam Boundy from NBN speaking about staying safe on the internet, especially being SCAM aware. Made us all go away and have a good hard look at what we were doing on the World Wide Web.

In May, we had a trip to the Celtic Festival in Glen Innes and were joined by three members of the Tenterfield Probus Club. Members enjoyed the day listening to the many pipe bands & enjoying a variety of Celtic music & dance until the weather turned nasty and we had to call it a day. July is our traditional Mid-Winter Feast. Being in Stanthorpe, with its chilly winter days, we always enjoy this day with great food & wine at one of our local venues; this year was at the refurbished Ballandean Tavern.



*Clare Blake from QIMR*



*Liam Boundy from NBN*



*Some of the members attending Celtic Festival*





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Enjoy a Devonshire tea on the lovely veranda at the Visitor Information Centre with landscaped gardens overlooking the HMAS Memorial. Take a two hour guided walking tour of the Ipswich Nature Centre and surrounding Queens Park. Get an up-close encounter with our furry and feathered locals, then lunch at your choice of selected venues. [From \\$40pp.](#)

## **Queensland Museum Rail Workshops Tour**

Take morning tea and a tour at Queensland Museum Rail Workshops. Lunch at a restaurant inside a beautiful heritage building that is now home to Jets Leagues Club. Visit the Ipswich Art Gallery or Ipswich Nature Centre in the afternoon. [From \\$45pp.](#)

## **Guided Walking Tours**

Follow a knowledgeable guide through one of our conservation estates to experience wildlife and breathtaking views in a whole new light. This tour needs a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 24 people. [From \\$30pp.](#)



CBD Heritage Tour



Animal Encounters Tour



Guided Walking Tours





**Japanese Tea Ceremony**



**Marburg Tour**



**Local Ipswich Producers Tour**

### Japanese Tea Ceremony

Enjoy a guided tour of Nerima Gardens to interpret key design elements that infuse both the Australian and Japanese cultures. Arrive at the tea house to view the Japanese tea ceremony, a traditional cultural activity involving the ceremonial preparation and presentation of Matcha tea.

Guests will have the opportunity to participate in the ceremony. This tour needs a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 people. **From \$45pp.**

### Marburg Tour

Start with a delicious morning tea in the grounds at The Soul Nook Collective, a beautiful boutique set inside an old church. Discover the town of Marburg and visit Scotland Yard Antiques, Special Branch Collective, The Black Museum and the quirky community library. Enjoy a tasty lunch at the Marburg Hotel, and a special talk about Marburg's history from the Rosewood Scrub Historical Society. Add on a fun trip to the EWE Nique Hobby Farm for an extra \$10pp to hand feed the animals and hear stories from farmer Dave. **From \$50pp.**

### Arts Mural Trail Tour

Start your day with morning tea at a local cafe before meeting a guide and undertaking a 1.5 hour guided walking tour along the Ipswich Central Street Art Trail. Stop for lunch at Stony Creek Brewing. Enjoy free time to visit the Ipswich Antique Centre and Top of Town boutiques. End your tour with a viewing of the Ipswich Art Gallery's collection and touring exhibits. **From \$50pp.**

### Local Ipswich Producers Tour

Experience a delightful tasting platter and morning tea at Ipswich Visitor Information Centre. Sample local produce from olives to coffee and even honey comb. Then enjoy lunch at The Prince Alfred Hotel to try their menu packed full of local produce.

Afterwards indulge in sampling gin and brandy from Imbibis Craft Distillery. Meet the maker Jason Hannay and hear the passion behind his award-winning spirits. **From \$75pp.**

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## NEW FARM

### Ten years Old and still growing

A feeling of excitement had been developed well before the Meeting on 19 November as news of the preparations being made by the Management Committee and volunteers crept out- including the fact that we were to return to the good old days and have lunch in the quadrangle outside the Hall. In fact, early arrivals were met with a swarm of volunteers preparing the Hall in a full array of blue and gold.

For the Foundation Members and other old-timers, the feeling that Helen Derbyshire, our much-loved and lamented Foundation President was here and looking down with her usual smile of approval was with us.

The Club is still very much a young entity – in fact, on 19 November we were exactly ten years and one day old – compared to those having enjoyed twenty, thirty years of life already, but it has in these short years created an atmosphere of its own and is very much a “New Farm” Club, whatever that may be taken to mean.

Come 10am, President Tom called us to order, welcomed those in attendance – no fewer than 82 out of the 99 current members – not bad by any measure. And we did have a very special visitor, Judith Maestracci, Qld Director of PSPL. With her usual style – and to the delight of members – she presented the Club with a Ten-Year Certificate from PSPL.

As we have become accustomed to, we were treated to a great Guest Speaker - Professor Belinda Beck, from the School of Health Sciences and Member of the Menzies Health Institute Queensland at the Gold Coast Campus of Griffith University – and also, even more significantly maybe, Director of the Bone Clinic in Coorparoo, the home of a special Exercise Program, Onero, an evidenced program of exercise specifically designed to prevent osteoporotic fractures.

Then, of course, came Morning Tea that NF Ritual that, because of the 4fs it generates, has been claimed to be the main reason that some of us come to meetings. Enough of that! When we were enticed back into the Hall, we did have a somewhat foreshortened Business section that included notice that we do have some ten would be members on the Wait List and the even more reassuring news

from the Treasurer that, despite his alleged holiday in the Bermudas, we are still financial.

Then, what we had all been waiting for the Celebration of our Anniversary. Preparations had included well photographed special highlights of the past years and delightfully prepared and presented accounts of some of the main features of those years, including a tribute to Helen, given with real respect and love. She was a person who was a model for us all and one still sadly missed.

Each of the original members – sixteen there at this meeting of the nineteen still keeping their membership was presented with a named badge and a PAQ Certificate of Appreciation signed by PAQ President Carwyn Arnold – the gesture from PAQ was well appreciated and received.

And so, to the Quadrangle to complete the celebrations in full Probus style – lots of chatter and great sandwiches – and a splendid cake! What better way to finish off a day to remember?

And perhaps no better way to look to the future than with an extract from Helen's last address: “I believe the Club is for all to share our experiences, enjoy the fellowship and company of new friends and, most importantly to assist one another as and when the need arises, particularly in times of illness or grief”.



## LOGAN VILLAGE

### New Club in Logan Village

The first meeting of the Logan Village Probus Club on 16 October was well attended with 52 Foundation Members joining on the day.

The club has a very enthusiastic and capable Committee who are working diligently through all of the necessary administration tasks regarding accreditation, incorporation, setting up a bank account, and so on.

The Club will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Lions Community Hall, Wharf Street, Logan Village from 10:00 – 12:00. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Logan Village Probus Club Secretary, Angela Philbey, via email [loganvillageprobus@gmail.com](mailto:loganvillageprobus@gmail.com) or phone 0418805809.



Management Committee with RLO Barry Smith. L-R: Foundation Committee: Cherylyn Hitchin, Wendy Lockhart, Wendy Roberts, Grahame Roberts, Angela Philbey, Sharon Squires, Sandi Wex, Thelma Draper, Barry Smith





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### DAY EVENTS 9.30AM – 2.30PM

#### Thursday 27 February

The Brisbane Golf Club, Yeerongpilly

#### Monday 3 March

Kedron-Wavell Services Club, Chermside

#### Tuesday 4 March

Maroochy RSL, Maroochydore

#### Tuesday 11 March

Fitzys Loganholme, Loganholme

#### Wednesday 12 March

Southport Sharks, Gold Coast

#### Wednesday 19 March

Oaks Hotel Toowoomba, Toowoomba

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

### DAY EVENT 10AM – 1PM

#### Tuesday 18 March

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## KENMORE GARDENS

### UN BEL DI

In recognition of Probus Month and Seniors month 2024, the Probus Club of Kenmore Gardens decided to take the initiative and seek a Seniors Month Grant from the Queensland Government. Our goal was an ambitious one to replace the guest speaker part of the October Meeting with a concert featuring a professional opera soprano, a tenor and a piano player presenting a range of duets and solo performances from operatic favourites to operettas and contemporary musicals. If successful, our intention was to livestream the performance to clubs around Australia.

Without the benefit of the grant, the initiative wasn't economically viable so the project was put on the backburner indefinitely. And there it stayed for a few days only until the Committee, encouraged by the desire to provide an uplifting experience during probus Month, decided the project had to go ahead!

Concurrently one of the Committee



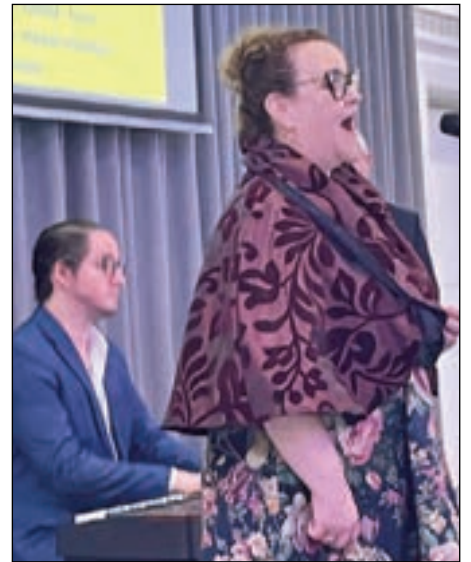
Bernard singing "Nessun Dorma"

members, Publicity Officer/Webmaster/Newsletter Editor, Chris Czarkowski, mentioned our dilemma to a local business, Just-in Time Electrical, owned by son Justin. A very generous sponsorship was immediately arranged, and a decision was made by the Committee to proceed with the event.

Members Brian Stewart and Kaye Reichmann resumed discussions with D'Arne Sleeman whose musical background was considered perfect for the role of musical director and lead performer for this unique concert concept. The musical program was soon settled, and negotiations concluded. Discussions with Just-in Time Electrical saw the sponsorship arrangements rapidly agreed. Available funds for national streaming were not available so the ambitious plan to involve Probians from around the country were deferred to another time.

With almost 100 members and guests present our commissioned concert, "Un Bel Di - One Fine Day" was held at the Jindalee Hotel Grand Ballroom on October 2nd, 2024. D'Arne was joined by colleagues Bernard Wheaton and Mark Connor a well-known Tenor and Pianist respectively. Bernard and Mark are well known music professionals, and D'Arne and Bernard have taken part in over 50 Opera Queensland productions over the as well as countless joint performances around Queensland.

In the intimate room - the term Grand Ballroom may be a little exaggerated - the plan was for everyone to



D'Arne Sleeman providing wonderful entertainment

experience close-up the magic of stunning operatic and contemporary musical performances. And nobody was disappointed. The song list included well known favourites from Verdi, Mozart and Puccini. With no one further than 12 meters from our performers the magic of Un Bel Di from Madama Butterfly was pure bliss from D'Arne, and Bernie's delivery of Nessun Dorma was flawless. Showcasing his talent Mark performed one of Liszt's compositions.

Completing the program with "All I ask of You" from Phantom of the Opera and "Time to say Goodbye" our Trio left the audience in awe at their amazing talent and the beauty of their music. What a superb day for everyone. Happy Probus and Seniors Month.

by Brian Stewart

## MARYBOROUGH COMBINED

### Regional Friendship Concert

Probus Month started off with our Regional Friendship Concert organized by Gympie Club at Hervey Bay RSL. There was tremendous support from all the Clubs with many and varied items to entertain everyone. In keeping with the theme 'Golden Moments', members of our Club, under the guidance of 'Wendy Wiggle' decided to select some Wiggles songs with references to something golden - Hot Potato (including 'mashed banana'), Rock-A-Bye Your (golden brown) Bear and D.I.N.G.O. song ('his fur is golden yellow'). Our moves might not have been as polished



Wobbles in Action

ished as the real Wiggles, more like our chosen stage name 'The Wobbles'. It was all about having fun and we certainly did that. Our Club also scooped the pool with 3 raffle prizes being won together with Di as the Best Dressed Woman and Suli, as the Best Dressed Man.

At our monthly meeting we recognised some of our members, Tony,

Wayne, Trevor & Bob, with an 'Unsung Hero Award' for their assistance over a long period of time, which is often behind the scenes.

Our Outing for the month was to the Brolga Theatre to see Music of the Night Production, a tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber music and other West End Musicals. An outstanding show which everyone enjoyed.





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## 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

## MT. GRAVATT / RUNCORN

### Travel to Kangaroo Island & Murray Princess

During the cool month of August, 26 members of the club travelled to the beautiful Kangaroo Island and then on to a wonderful cruise on the "Murray Princess". We were blessed with wonderful and very knowledgeable driver-guides on the mainland and Ki. After a night at Victor Harbour, we took the ferry over to Ki for two incredible days of sightseeing. Highlights included Seal Bay, the Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arc, Clifford's Honey Farm, Raptor Domain and visits to the national parks that were devastated in the 2020 bushfires where thousands of hectares of bushland and thousands of animals were destroyed.

After two wonderful day we were whisked away by bus and ferry to the wonderful cruise on the "Murray Princess." What a pleasure it was to be on this fine paddle-wheeler which is the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. We were treated to wonderful service and fine food by the 28 crew. Sights were ever-changing as we sailed slowly upstream on the mighty Murray from our departure point at Mannum. Memorable highlights included the visit to the Sunnydale Woolshed, evening riverside BBQ and the Ngat Ngat historical aboriginal site.

A final day of sightseeing around Adelaide ended our wonderful tour.



## INDOOROOPIILLY

### 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, Chapel Hill 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 technology,

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





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## CAIRNS WEST LADIES

### Our Club

Introducing the Cairns West Ladies Club to all readers of The Queensland Probian. The Club was formed in October 1990 and was sponsored by the Cairns West Rotary Club. Despite a decline during the 'COVID' period when numbers dropped, it has increased the numbers to 32 who all enjoy the Fellowship, Fun and Friendship which is a keynote for Probus Clubs everywhere.

Monthly entertainment is a feature of Meetings by the great mental stimulation and often lots of laughs offered by the wide variety of topics presented by Guest Speakers, some of which have recently been drawn from Local Government, Community Organisations, Business & Legal fraternities, Health/Care & Culture to name but a few.

Although Club Fund Raising is not part of Probus philosophy, many Club Members assist their personal choices of other Community Organisations in various avenues with their activities.

These extra volunteer roles also provide much interest for many other members.

Recently Members enjoyed a 'Seniors Week of Celebration' sponsored by the Cairns Regional Council with a wonderful performance and lunch presented at Cairns Performing Arts Centre.

The event also featured numerous stalls presented by a wide variety of services to 'Senior' citizens. The C.W. Ladies Probus Club members were heavily involved by the



*President, Lyn Williams and Councillor Trevor Tim from Cairns Regional Council.*

entertainment offered and operating an information Stall with many brochures and items towards the benefits to be gained from Probus Membership.

Following the recent success of our Club's Grant Application towards developing community interest in Probus Membership a Standard sized Banner was purchased to assist with publicity.

This Banner is now used at the entrance to Club Monthly Meetings Venue as just one step towards making the public aware of PROBUS and how Membership can be of Benefit to the whole community.

**Contributed by the Secretary – Patty Davie.**



*Innisfail members enjoying their Fish & Chips*

## INNISFAIL

### Fish Luncheon

A glorious November day greeted 45 Innisfail Probians for their annual outdoor fish luncheon get together in a local park underneath the shade of huge rainforest trees on the banks of the Johnstone River at Innisfail.

Fish & chips with a variety of side salads followed by cake were enjoyed by all. As the Fish Depot is next to the park we were spoilt as the meal was within a short walking distance and delivered to us.

It was a great time and atmosphere to catch up and enjoy the Friendship, Fellowship and Fun of fellow Probians.

A special thanks to Probians Margie and Rhonda and all helpers for organising this great day. Well done to Josh and the Fish Depot staff it was greatly appreciated.

## KENMORE VILLAGE

### Our Display at Kenmore Village Shopping Centre Promoting Probus

Members of the 'Creative Group' of our Club were at the Kenmore Village Shopping Centre during the first week of October which is both Seniors week and the start of Probus month. They helped to showcase one of the many different activities our Club offers, and to interest visitors to the Centre in joining our friendly Club which meets in the Library Rooms conveniently located in this Shopping Centre.

Our members were able to attract the attention of passers-by on their way to the shops, the post office or the library located in the Centre, while they worked at the Club's display area on their particular craft. The white Probus bags were a convenient way to further advertise Probus and were used to hand out leaflets about Probus and our Club. Included in the bags was a small craft item,



*Dealing with enquiries on the stand*

so visitors would have a reminder of Probus month. More importantly our display hopefully raised the visitors' interest so they will want to find out more about our Club.

To that end, they were encouraged to sign up to receive information about our upcoming October meeting or future activities.



## HOW WELL DID YOU READ YOUR PROBIAN MAGAZINE?

**Win 1 of 4  
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\$50 Gift Cards**

Answer the following questions from the articles and information in this edition, then send your entry to:

[probiancomp@paqnetwork.com.au](mailto:probiancomp@paqnetwork.com.au)  
**Subject: PROBIAN COMPETITION,**

Entries will be accepted until 5pm on 28 February 2025. Please ensure that you include mailing details for postage. (See conditions below).

1. Which club has an influx of "Grey Nomads?"

2. Which two Probus Clubs went whale watching?

3. Which Club celebrated Probus Month at a local retirement village clubhouse and enjoyed some trivia and poetry?

4. Which of our advertisers offers a cruise on Milford Sound as part of a tour in a 20-business class seat coach?

5. Which of our advertisers offers good old British songs for a sing-a-long and where are they located?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Probus Club

### Conditions of entry

- The competition is open to financial members of a PAQ affiliated Probus Club only.
- All entries received will be placed in a draw.
- The first correct entry drawn will be awarded the first prize.
- The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into in regard to any aspect of the competition.
- Late entries will not be considered.
- The winner will be notified by phone and the answers and winner's name will be published in the next edition of The Qld PROBIAN.
- In the unlikely event that there is no declared winner, the prize vouchers will be added to the money for the competition in the following edition of the magazine.

**WINNER will be emailed after drawing and voucher posted to address listed above**



## It makes good sense to plan ahead

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## IPSWICH PAQ Grant

We, the members of the Probus Club of Ipswich Inc, are a happy and active group of semi and fully retired seniors, ranging in age from our sixties to nineties. At present we have a membership of fifty-eight. As with most Probus clubs, we are always looking for ways to attract members, particularly younger ones.

Therefore, when PAQ advertised for clubs to apply for a \$200.00 grant to be used for promotional materials, we applied. We were both pleased and grateful when we received one of the grants and used the funds towards the purchase of a personalised club banner.

We display this banner on the footpath outside our meeting venue each month and take it with us on our monthly outings, when appropriate.

Thank you, PAQ, for making this possible.



*Members showing off our new banner*

## GYMPIE

### Chance of a Lifetime - Highway Bypass Walk

In the early days of our great country, towns sprung up, usually near some useful feature. Often it was a river where the settlers could get water. In the case of Gympie, it was a gold rush and planning was a little haphazard, or non-existent, and the town sprung up in Nash Gully, quite near the Mary River. The town with its saddlers, butchers, pick and shovel suppliers and pubs established along the gully, and this became the main street. The road north to Maryborough and eventually south to Brisbane, led travellers, logically, right into the main street.

This road became the main road from the capital to the north and all traffic came through what we now call Mary Street. Down the hill from either direction, and up and away. This worked, but as time went by was not ideal, so the main road, now called Bruce Highway was built just a few streets away and over time was adorned with lots of sets of traffic lights and of course service stations.

This arrangement worked quite well for a while, but as traffic volumes increased, it became obvious that a new road was required. It is a simple concept. However, in practice, there are many steps and a great deal of hurdles. First, we have to agree that the need is there, decide which route, or which side of town to put the road, political and financial considerations,



*Probus Group along for the walk*

environmental, flooding and heritage issues, then land acquisition and engineering planning. All that and more before it is shovel ready. Then it has to be built. Is it any wonder it takes quite a while?

Now the 26km stretch to the east of Gympie nears completion and opening day is imminent. Our community was invited to walk along a section of the new work recently. This is a chance of a lifetime, because if you have to walk along this road after it is opened, you are in some sort of trouble!

A group of Probians took advantage of the offer and went for a walk to marvel at the engineering and workmanship of the finished product. Well done to everyone involved in bringing this project to fruition.

**Maurie Wright**



*Tall People entertainers on the day*

## WIDE BAY PROBUS REGION

### Friendship Concert on Probus Day, 1st October 2024, in Hervey Bay

The concert was hosted by Gympie Probus Club and attended by almost 200 Probus members and friends from the seven regional clubs.

After morning tea and a chat, the show started. Most of the entertainment was provided by Probus members with

a little help from some professionals. It was truly a variety concert that contained "a bit of everything". Acts included YMCA, The Wobbles (think The Wiggles), Rocky Horror Show, Bush Poetry, a comedy sketch, some poetry, a Jazz Duo and our local country singer, Graeme Jensen.

The audience had a great time laughing with, and sometimes at, the entertainers and we saw lots of happy smiling faces.

This concert is held every two years, so we are all looking forward to the next one.



*Concert Audience*



*Pam Carlson PAQ RLO  
Wide Bay Region*



## THE PROBIAN'S QUIZ

All answers  
begin with  
the letter **A**



1. Who was the hero who died from an arrow to the heel?
2. Who was Queen Victoria's husband?
3. Who was the first murder victim in the Bible?
4. What do we call a member of the Church of England?
5. What was my first name?
6. What is the Arabic word for God?
7. In mathematics, what name is given to a section of the circumference of a circle?
8. What is the Dutch-like language of South Africa called?
9. What is the capital city of Turkey?
10. What does Popeye have tattooed on each of his arms?
11. Cortés conquered which civilization in 1521?
12. Which fruit is one of the main ingredients in guacamole?
13. What is the largest artery in the human body?
14. What first name was shared by writer Chekhov and composer Bruckner?



1. Achilles. 2. Albert. 3. Abel. 4. Anglican.  
5. Adolf. 6. Allah. 7. Arc. 8. Afrikaans.  
9. Ankara. 10. Anchor. 11. Aztecs.  
12. Avocado. 13. Aorta. 14. Anton.

## REDCLIFFE CITY MIXED COMBINED

### WATAWIEH YORLYE - Hello, how are you?

Two hours flying time east, and an hour ahead, but with close to 800 years of history – Norfolk Ailen hosted us for a week. The language is a mix of Bounty (Old English) and Tahitian developed by Pitcairn Islanders who brought it with them when Queen Victoria granted them Norfolk. Early history of the island is unclear, but it was populated by Polynesians – reason for their departure unknown.

The military and penal settlements followed – evidenced by gracious buildings in Quality Row, Kingston and the forbidding ruins of the jail all built of local stone. Life was exceptionally harsh for prisoners: no fresh food, 12 hr days of hard labour and overcrowded cells. The majority of them finished up in a canvas bag with a wooden cross and the sand dunes taking over their burial places. Some headstones in Kingston Cemetery tell the story of soldiers slaughtered in revolts and infants dying a few days old.

Nowadays, on the island burials are free, a bus could be named after you and 100 pine trees are planted when a 100th birthday is celebrated. Also, on the plus side, no snakes, spiders and no fresh water. With a speed limit of 50kph or lower there is little need for traffic lights but cars give way to everything else on the road especially cows that graze on the verge. Watch out for the ones with tape on their tails. No street lights either – all part of being a Gold Level Dark Sky site to

avoid distracting many varieties of migrating and nesting birds, particularly Green Parrots and Boobooks, which can also be threatened by feral cats and chickens. Just as there is no public transport, children get their motor bike licence at 15, and there are few street numbers – identification is often by description – red roof or "leeke roof."

Most things are imported on the island, air freight is costly and a supply ship only lays off shore every 27 days to be unloaded by lighter. The island endeavours to be self-sufficient with home grown meat and vegetables, great fishing and the adoption of dry ice production techniques, Tesla storage batteries and a desalination plant. The island still struggles to maintain its political independence, buying education and health packages from Queensland and fuel from Fiji, but with no local council administration the Commonwealth appoints an administrator and a federal representative based in the ACT the local push for levels of independence is still strong as evidenced by NIPD – Norfolk Island People for Democracy.

We shared meals with "commandants", "convicts" and residents, as well as a special pyjama-clad 5 am breakfast of croissant and champagne to watch the opening of the Olympic Games. We also shared shopping experiences, walks, reading glasses and viruses while also solving a murder mystery.

Special thanks to Lauren, Susan, David and John {Cheese}, Baunti and Pinetree Tours and our safe travels in "Archie, Foxy, Ralph and Maria."

**Rosemary Levack**



*The Club's resident tractor enthusiast, Robert Broadbent checks out the local models*



*The ladies up early to watch the Olympics opening ceremony*



## CABOOLTURE

### Celebrates PROBUS Day

On Monday 21st October, members and prospective members of the Caboolture Probud Club gathered at the Beachmere Sands Resort Beach House to celebrate Probud Day. The event was an opportunity to honour the values of friendship, fellowship and fun that the Club holds so dear. It was a day filled with laughter, delicious food and reflection, offering a perfect balance of entertainment to open discussion.

After morning-tea, the mood was set for a time of fun and light-hearted entertainment with a couple of parlour games .... solving Rebus Puzzles and then answering Family Feud questions. The games were competitive, with small prizes awarded to the winning players.

The celebration continued with a wonderful spread of food: freshly made sandwiches, pizza, and a Celebration Cake were served, with the cake (symbolizing the joy of gathering together in celebration of the Club's Probud spirit) being the highlight of the hour.

To bring a thoughtful close to the celebration, members participated in a quiet session of reflection. The purpose of this session was to consider the values that Probud embodies, such as: Fellowship: The importance of building and maintaining strong social connections. Friendship: Cherishing the friendships formed within the Club; and Fun:



*Caboolture Probud group*

Embracing joy and laughter through shared experiences. Members shared personal comments, highlighting how being part of the Club has enriched their lives through social interaction, support, and companionship.

The Probud Day Celebration at the Beach House was a resounding success. From the delicious lunch to the entertaining parlour games and the reflective quiet session, the event perfectly encapsulated the spirit of Probud. Members left the event with smiles on their faces and a renewed sense of belonging to a Club community that values connection, enjoyment, and mutual support.



*Member talking to visitor at stand*

## BEAUDESERT

### Shopping Centre Promotion

Probud Club of Beaudesert members donned our very bright high vis vests for an information stand at the Beaudesert Fair Shopping Centre on 26 September.

Members talked to locals and handed out Probud bags with information on when and where we meet, and what we do. It was great to spread the

word on what Probud is all about. Information leaflets were also given away to promote our special Information Meeting on 2 October.

Two people registered their interest in joining Probud and one attended the 2 October meeting.

It was an excellent opportunity to put the Probud "brand" out in public thanks to grants received from Probud Association Queensland for our high vis vests and promotional bags and presentation folders.

## BURPENGARY

### Christmas Party 2024

Our Probud Club Celebrated our Christmas Party at Nort's Leagues Club on 26 November where 70 of our members and guests enjoyed a wonderful morning of entertaining.

The program began with our General monthly meeting. This was followed by three lots of Trivia Questions conducted by President Allen who awarded all the prizes. Every one received a prize. Just before lunch, we watched a slide show of "The Year that was". This included some 200 slides including our Combined Tade Travel and the Redcliffe/ Burpengary Probud Grafton Jacaranda coach trip. A lovely Christmas lunch was served, followed by the Best Dressed and some 30 Raffles. The remainder of the day consisted of Community Singing, singing Christmas Carols led by the President who also sang a couple of Solos. The day concluded singing Jingle Bells and We wish you a Merry Christmas. President Allen prepared a slide show presentation wishing everyone a Happy Christmas filled with Fun, Friendship and fellowship.

**Allen Collishaw - President - Burpengary Probud Club**



*Members around Christmas decorated table*



*Members dressed for the Christmas lunch*





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## NORTH BLACKALL RANGE

### Guest Speaker – Atiah Bell on Recycling

Thank you so much for having me at your meeting today. I have included the link to the Material Recovery Facility videos below. If you could please share these with your group members it would be greatly appreciated

'Amazing maze of machinery': inside our recycling wonder | Sunshine Coast Council

Some of the questions asked by members are also answered below:

Q. How are fires within the landfill controlled?

A. Fires on the surface of the landfill are controlled by the compactor running over the flames. This method puts the fire out quite quickly. However, if the fire becomes large, there are always water supplies on site.

Fires within the landfill cell (under the pile) won't happen as there is no oxygen within the landfill pile. The air is pushed out with the compactor as the waste is added to the cell.

Q. What happens to the material once it's gone through the Material Recovery Facility?



Recycled Products

A. The bales of sorted material are sold to individual manufacturers. Within these different factories the glass, steel and aluminium are melted, the paper is pulped and the plastic is shredded or made into pellets.

The products are then turned into new items. Examples pictured below:

**Atiah Bell**  
Environmental Consultant

## BEAUDESERT

### Fun Over 50s bus trip to Boonah



Beautesert members in front of the Diamond Class Fun Over 50s Bus

On 2 August, Probus Club of Beautesert members had an outing with Diamond Class Fun Over 50s. Driver Greg, and his wife Lyn-dall, were gracious hosts and looked after the 16 members very well. They drove to Boonah via Rathdowney and home via Wyaralong Dam. They had 90 minutes to have morning tea and do a spot of op shopping in Boonah.

After that they visited Mt French to capture the magnificent views. A number of members took some great photos from Mt French Look-out that were published in the September newsletter.

The 4-hour trip was complementary in a very comfy bus. Upon return to Beautesert, members were all handed a voucher for \$100 to be used on a trip to be booked before the end of October this year.

## CAPALABA

### Like Captain Ahab, we kept our eyes out for the whales

Ten adventure-seeking Club Members decided to take the Ferry to Straddie.

The weather was perfect and the sea was like glass as we left Cleveland.

The bus fares were only 50c and we arrived at Point Lookout in about an hour – a relaxing trip.

Whether as we looked out from the viewing platform or as we strolled along the Gorge Walk, there were lots of splashes beyond the Headland that caught our eye.

You do need binoculars though to see the whales clearly.

Everyone agreed it was a terrific experience – just seeing the whales frolicking at sea on a summer's day is comforting and the numbers continue

to increase. While some of us completed the Gorge Walk, two of us took the longer walk around the Headland to make the most of the day.

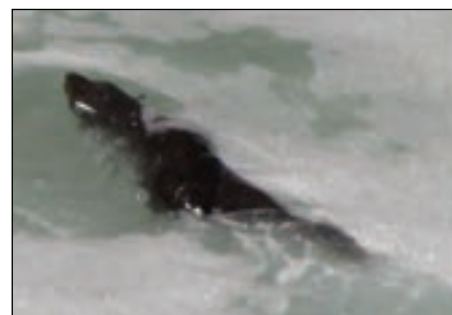
Thanks must go to Linda for organising the outing and making sure we understood the timetables to avoid missing the transport services – there's quite a long delay in the early afternoon.

If you go over, don't forget to have an ice cream at one of the local cafes.

Our tame photographer captured some great photos of the whales in action, and a seal, with his quick reaction! Most of us just concentrated on the landscape and wildlife.



Whale Breach



Seal

Editor



## BEAUDESERT

### We're in uniform to promote Probus

The Club were delighted with the news that it had received a grant of \$200 in from the Probus Association of Queensland to be used for promotions. We purchased twelve high-vis vests in various sizes for Members to wear when out and about doing promotional work.

The town of Beaudesert celebrated its one hundred and fiftieth anniversary (B150) this year. Our Club was invited to have a Promotional Stall at the B150 Family Open Day at the Beaudesert High School on 20 July. Unfortunately, our vests were not available in time for the event, but not to be deterred, our Publicity Officer dressed up in bright yellow and blue and got lots of attention from visitors.



*Committee members modelling the hi-vis vests at our 7 August meeting*

We staged a very colourful information stand, gave out twenty Information Packs and talked to members of the community about what Probus is all about.

The vests were available just before our August meeting, so Committee members got the opportunity to

model them on the day. They definitely stand out.

Members are looking forward to wearing them at two Pop-Up Information Stands planned for the Beaudesert Fair Shopping Centre in September and October.

**Angela Philbey**



*Members dressed for Probus Day Luncheon*

## BRIBIE ISLAND

### Probus Day Luncheon

The Probus Club of Bribie Island celebrated Probus Month in style at the Bribie Island Retirement Village clubhouse which became a festival of blue and gold as members and tables were adorned in Probus colours. The special morning tea was a great opportunity to highlight what Probus is all about and that is FUN, FRIENDSHIP and FELLOWSHIP.

Members, savoured homemade treats, tested their knowledge with a little trivia, enjoyed rather humorous poetry readings, lucky door prizes and more.

If you like to make new friends, enjoy listening to interesting guest speakers, go on outings and explore new interests and hobbies – then why not come along to one of our meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Bribie Island RSL. There is so much to choose from when you become a member of our Probus Club.

## BOWEN

Earlier this year, the members decided we needed a computer for the Secretary as well as the one used by the Newsletter Producer.

The Secretary was instructed to apply for a Grant. To secretaries in other Queensland Clubs, do not be discouraged if you don't win after getting quotes and contact numbers etc. to apply and not hear anything more. Try other avenues like we did. I applied to our Queensland Parliamentary Member for Burdekin, Dale Last, thinking he may be able to help.

These leaders of the community know more people than this one member of Probus. As it happens, the Abbot Point Operations at Abbot Point were ready with a round of Community Funding Grants to offer. Consequently, Dale forwarded our application over to Abbott Point Operations who accepted our request. We did not have to find software or security or anything for the computer. A couple of meetings later, Susan Brown a representative from Abbott Point Operations, presented us with the computer, mouse, pad, and a sturdy bag to store it in.



*Bowen Probus secretary, Dulcie Heron(left) being presented with a new Computer by Susan Brown from Abbott Point Operations*

We are very grateful for this gift, as, being a pensioner and having an ageing computer myself, we now have a current version of Microsoft 365, as well lots of space to store our meeting minutes and other important documents for posterity.

# CLUBS Talk and Travel

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

Topic	Virtual Speaker/Speaker	Club
Outback Pioneers	Richard Kinnon	Algester and Districts
Online Scams and Password Protection	Liam Boundy, NBN Specialist	Garden City Toowoomba
The Crazy Craftsman	George Philbey, Leathersmith	Beaudesert
Great Barrier Reef Foundation	Helen Marsden, MD	Bellbowrie and District
Volunteer Marine Rescue	John Jacobsen	Holland Park Central
Puppeteer/Vocalist Qld Entertainer	David Hamilton	Algester and Districts
AI and the Human Brain	Prof Bruce Young & Jean Young	North Blackall Range
Bowen Orbital Spaceport	James Gilmore, Gilmore Space	Bowen
Cyber Safety and Security	Dt Sgt Ian Wells, Fraud Squad	Hamilton
Zoonotic Diseases – Links Animal & Human	Dr Diane Shehan	Indooroopilly
Active Ageing Matters	David Hagger	Kenmore Village
Emergency Medicine	Emeritus Prof Gerry Fitzgerald	Mt Gravatt Pacific
Age Well .. Love Life	Kylie Currey, Niagara Therapy	Mackay
Caring Cuisine	Paul Hobbs	Mt Gravatt Runcorn
Guide Dogs Qld Centre	Liz Jeffrey, Philanthropy Co-Ord	Garden City Toowoomba
Crime Stoppers	Andrew Jones	Sherwood
Remaining Wrecks in Moreton Bay	Ian Boulton, Maritime Museum	Springwood
Kids in Human Trafficking	Nerile Sowter, Destiny Rescue	Toowoomba City

Outings	Topics, Locations, Activities	Club
Day Trip	Commissariat Store and Pancakes Manor Lunch	Holland Park Central
10 Night Cruise	New Guinea Encounter Cruise	Redcliffe City Mixed
3 Day Bus Trip	Crows Nest, Yarraman, Kingaroy, Gympie	Algester and Districts
Day Tour	Watercress Creek Olives and Limes	Bellbowrie and District
7 Day Tour	Glamping at Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo	Buderim
Day Tour	Brisbane Airport and City Cat Ride	Capalaba
Tour	Cross River Rail Experience Centre	Carindale
4 Day Tour	Hunter Valley Christmas Lights Spectacular	Capalaba
Day Trip	Fernberg, Government House, Mt Coot-tha, Planetarium	Carseldine
Tour	Queensland Parliament House	Holland Park Central
Train Trip	Regatta Hotel Lunch, Toowong	Goodna-Springfield
Tour	Behind the Scenes at QPAC	Hamilton
Day Bus Trip	Caloundra via Esk, Kilcoy and Woodford	Toowoomba City
8 Day Tour	Kangaroo Island and Murray Princess Cruise	Mt Gravatt Runcorn
5 Day Train Trip	Townsville, Magnetic Island, Charters Towers	Algester and Districts
Day Trip	Summerland Camel Farm	Mt Ommaney
Tours	Suncorp Stadium and XXXX Brewery	North Brisbane
4 Day Bus Trip	To Dorrig District – Lookout Mountain Resort	Kenmore Gardens
Tour	Indigiscapes Centre, Redlands	Springwood
Tour	Queens Wharf Precinct	Sunnybank

## Other Probus Club Meeting Themes

Dress to Impress, Did You Know Segment, Red Theme Day, Beach Bums, Ethnic Dress Day, Spring Fair, Bring & 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, Loud Clothes Day, Members Hobby and Craft Exhibition



*We're celebrating*  
**140 years**  
*of family tradition.*



*Our Founder: Kate Mary*

*A*t K.M.Smith, we value family traditions, and this year we get to celebrate our own. A 140 year tradition of caring for families and loved ones in their time of need.

Our business was founded in 1883 by Kate Mary after her husband John passed away, and her legacy of ensuring that everyone has access to affordable and respectful funeral services, no matter what religion, is still at the core of K.M.Smith Funeral Directors.

From our earliest days of horse-drawn carriages, to our current fleet of luxury vehicles, we've seen the evolution of funeral services over the decades, and our commitment to exceptional care and surprising affordability has remained steadfast.

We look forward to building on our heritage over the next 140 years, and we'll continue to enshrine all the values that Kate Mary embodied.

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

**K.M.SMITH**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS since 1883

*For you... we think of everything*

Phone 3252 2031 or visit [kmsmith.com.au](http://kmsmith.com.au)

### The years pass...

As Probians, the fact that there are far fewer decades in front of us than behind us may lead us to reflect on the following....

When people say we look "Great", they no doubt add under their breath.... "for your age!"

We could have four decades of clothes in our wardrobe – which we never wear.

When we have a night out with a few mates, we're usually home by 9:30 pm. Next year, it will probably be closer to 8:30 pm.

Remember when your Mum would say: "Wear clean underwear in case you GET into an accident". Now we tend to take clean underwear everywhere in case we HAVE an accident!

Our kids may have inherited some of our bad habits..... but our grandchildren are perfect!

We now tend to read the Obituaries in the *Courier Mail* before we read the Comics page.

But old is good in some things: old songs, old movies, old times, old friends...

### Fantastic Foto #3



Snowstorm at North Dakota, USA, March 1966.  
The snow drifts were 10m high!

Answer to Probian Puzzler:

INSOLENT, TREMBLE, SALVAGE, BEDSIDE  
The seven words are FACILITY, PARTY, EXTERNAL,

# TAKE 10

Items of passing interest

Compiled by Jarvis Finger  
Kenmore Millennium Probus Club

## Cricket!

TALES OF THE AMUSING,  
ODD, AND OUTRAGEOUS

### The unopened envelope

IN THE AUTUMN of 1741, an old man shuffled aimlessly back to his lodgings in London. An illness a year or two earlier had left him partly paralysed. Now it seemed there was little left for him in life.

As he despondently entered his room, he caught sight of an envelope which had sat on his desk, unopened, for days. Idly he picked it up and took the sheets of paper from it. They were accompanied by a letter asking him to set the enclosed words to music.

The old man was about to toss the bundle aside – but something in the words stirred his heart. Spellbound, he sat down and began to write.

For nearly four weeks he hardly left his desk. But in those 24 days, the world was to be given what is arguably the musical masterpiece of all time – for the old man was George Handel, and the music was his *Messiah*.



And the moral of the story? Success in life is almost totally dependent upon drive, focus, and persistence, and the internal power to overcome procrastination, lethargy, setbacks, or despondency. Handel and his *Messiah* showed us that.

### Wise words

"Information found on the Internet is not always accurate."

– Abraham Lincoln

### Take a little longer

When nothing seems to help, remember the stone-cutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it.

Yet, at the hundred-and-first blow, it will split in two, and you will appreciate that it was not the one blow that did it, but all that had gone before.



### Attracting the flies

It has been claimed that Leonardo da Vinci 'once painted a picture of dead fish so real that it attracted flies'!

(Actually, he had used fish oil when mixing the ingredients for the paint.)

### Probian Puzzler

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

Squeeze a different Roman numeral into each word below to create seven new words. No mixing needed.

FAULTY PARTY  
ETERNAL INSOLENT  
TREBLE SAVAGE BESIDE

### Sensational Siamese



Chang and Eng Bunker, the most famous Siamese twins, were born in 1811. Anatomically conjoined, bound together at their breastbones and sharing a common liver, they married two normal sisters, Adelaide and Sarah Yates, in North Carolina in 1843.

They fathered a total of 21 children. Imagine!



Ooops!  
Did I  
say that?

### Memo to Staff

After morning tea, empty the tea-pot and then stand upside down on the kitchen sink.

– Office noticeboard

### A final point to ponder

*The past is history,  
the future is a mystery,  
this moment is a gift – that's  
why it's called The Present.*



PROBUS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FOR OFFICE 2025-2026



**Nominator (1)**

Name:

I .....

of the Probus Club of .....

Nominate: .....

for the position of \*

☐ President

☐ Secretary

☐ Treasurer

☐ Committee Member (9)

(\*Tick one)

of the Probus Association of Queensland Inc. until the Annual  
General Meeting in 2026

Signature of Nominator:.....

President/Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer

Date:.....

**Seconder (1)**

Name:.....

of the Probus Club of .....

Signature of Seconder.....

President/Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer

Date: .....

**Nominee (2) & (3)**

I .....

Probus Club of.....

accept the above nomination

Signature: .....

Date:.....

- (1) Must be an Office Holder of the Nominee's Probus Club
- (2) Rule 14(6) Not more than two club members from each member club shall be eligible for membership of the management committee. The eligibility requirement of two members from each club applies notwithstanding a club member holding membership in more than one member club. Each management committee member has one vote at management committee meetings within the scope of authority determined by voting delegates of the Association at a general meeting. A member of the management committee does not necessarily need to be the voting delegate of the member club and therefore would not vote at Association level at the general meeting of delegates.
- (3) Rule 15A(7) Nominations may be called from the floor of the Annual General Meeting in the event that insufficient nominations have not otherwise been received to fill all positions on the Committee. Such nominations to be accompanied by a nomination form completed in accordance with Rules 15A(a) and (b) and handed to the Association Secretary thirty (30) minutes prior to the commencement of proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

(PAQ Constitution)

This nomination form MUST be accompanied by a resume for each candidate, limited to 300 words, to include personal details, Probus Club history, PAQ history, and their vision for the future of PAQ.

Committee Members will be allocated one of the following roles: Public Relations Officer; Website (ICT Coordinator); Registrar; Editor Qld Probian; Regional Liaison Officer or other roles, and accept the responsibility for performing the duties associated with these roles.

A position statement outlining the roles and responsibilities of each position is available on the PAQ website or from the Secretary.

The closing date for nomination forms is:  
5.00pm, 21st February 2025.

Completed nomination forms and resumes must have been received by this date.

Mail to:

The Secretary, Probus Association of Queensland Inc.,  
PO Box 1425,  
CARINDALE QLD 4152

Copies of this Nomination Form are available on request from the PAQ Secretary or may be downloaded from the PAQ website [www.paqnetwork.com.au](http://www.paqnetwork.com.au) at the PAQ Management Committee tab.



## NOTICE OF MEETING

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the PROBUS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC.  
will be held on  
**Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Venue: **GEEBUNG RSL, 323 Newnham Road GEEBUNG 4034**

You are hereby advised that the Annual General Meeting of the Probus Association of Queensland shall be held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at the Geebung RSL building at 323 Newnham Road Geebung.

This AGM shall commence at 11am following the Delegates' meeting which will commence at 10am.

Morning tea will be available from registration time of 9.30 am.

All delegates and visitors to be seated by 10am.

All apologies to be sent to the Secretary at  
[mail@paqnetwork.com.au](mailto:mail@paqnetwork.com.au)  
by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025



20/01/2025