



# PROBUS Global Newsletter



# Vale

## Shirley Roberts



Shirley was instrumental in developing the Probus Global organisation, an umbrella fellowship group for worldwide members. This was vital during the pandemic; 2020 regularly found Shirley coaching new overseas comrades and local members through Zoom call technicalities, ensuring families and friends stayed connected.

Shirley, thank you for everything: the joy and laughter, the grace and good humour, the boundless care. We will miss you, all of us.

Probus Global Team

## Inside this issue ZOOM Mtg 1st Oct



## A Word from our Acting President

Welcome to our September Newsletter and we wish to thank the many PROBUS GLOBAL members from around the world who contributed to one of our communication tools, our newsletter.

We had some unfortunate news since our June addition. Shirley Roberts, the first President, and Stephen Campbell, a founding member of PROBUS GLOBAL passed away, and Derek Treagus, a member of our management team had to resign due to health issues. We will miss the leadership and commitment they had to PROBUS GLOBAL.

We continue in our effort to structure PROBUS GLOBAL to be the voice of PROBUS members around the world, and we did add Marlene Pearce to the management team. In near future, we plan to add to the management team as we are in process of recruiting from a number of countries.

We have recently instituted a number of new programs, on our website for your enjoyment, we have Weekly Question, submit your answer and comment, and following week you will receive your input on topic from around the world. This week's question is: "Who, Living or Dead, or Fictional would you invite to your ideal dinner party?"

We have also instituted a Country or Regional Coordinator program, a method to establish communication within your country or region, and we have three countries where the position has been filled. We had our first meeting on September 14th. Marlene Pearce, our new

management team member and Canadian Coordinator chaired a very successful meeting with members from across Canada and a number of international guests. See Marlene's report on the coordinator program and recording of the meeting is on our website. We are looking for additional Coordinators in other Countries or Regions, if you would like to communicate with fellow PROBIANS in your area and with members around the world, we have a position for you.

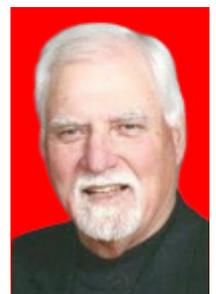
Our most recent program, THE ARM CHAIR TRAVEL Coordinator has just been kicked off, and the first country is Wales, with Robert Scott and Rufus Adams being your host. Robert is a long time PROBUS GLOBAL member and Rufus is his Welsh speaking cohort. We are working out the logistics and this exciting program will appear soon.

Not to be forgotten, is the October 1st celebration of PROBUS Day with a Virtual meeting on the Zoom platform that day. More information attached.

PROBUS members from around the globe are looking forward to when we can all return to in person meetings, virtual fellowship has been a great experience, which will continue to be part of the PROBUS program, but in person club meetings is where fellowship is at its best.

Regards and  
stay safe.

Richard Furlong  
Acting President





## Women's PROBUS Club of White Rock and South Surrey, BC Canada

After many months of members communicating with each other via Zoom for meetings and Mini Club activities; excluding outside picnics during the summer, our club is gearing up for our first in person "Meet & Greet event on September 29/21! Not only will this be a chance for many of our 84 members to see old friends and catch up on the latest. We

will also be meeting at a new time (10:00 am) and at a new community venue - the Rotary Fieldhouse.

For our first meeting, an "Afternoon Tea" theme, paid for by the club will be featured with finger sandwiches and desserts.

Future meetings will include a program with speakers and an optional lunch to follow. Our Management Committee is also excited about offering new and interesting day trips and events to attend throughout the Lower Mainland as well as new Mini Clubs for members to

join! Of course, all activities will be in accordance with the BC Provincial Government COVID Protocols and Gathering Rules. An exciting way to launch a new year of PROBUS engagement and fellowship!

Irene Dahl  
Vice-President



## PROBUS Club of Port Perry, Ontario, Canada



At just over 5 years old, the PROBUS Club of Port Perry (Ontario, Canada) has 335 members. It's a mixed club drawing from a community population of around 25,000. Despite a significant reduction in Club activities during COVID, the Club has enjoyed a renewal rate of over 90% both last and this year and has added 30 new members.

Prior to COVID some of the more popular aspects of the club included:

- A break time at membership meetings that had free beverages and food which was fully funded by a 50/50 draw and included a wonderful homemade snack and dessert selection created by our members.
- An extensive array of interest groups (35) plus 25-30 social and travel opportunities each year including those sponsored by ourselves and ones that were also jointly sponsored or piggybacked on those of other neighbouring PROBUS

clubs. This doubled the number of such opportunities we were able to offer to our membership with almost no additional work on our part, and it helped meet the minimums often required by activity providers.

Our Zoom membership meetings during COVID include both a short presentation (15-25 minutes) and a main presentation (50 minutes) plus a "meet the speaker" Zoom Breakout Room. The club also uses Zoom to conduct management team meetings as well as social and interest group activities such as virtual travel throughout the world, trivia games, euchre, wine tasting, book clubs, current event discussions, art sessions, acting classes, cooking together, dinner events, etc. Due to the timing uncertainty about when the COVID restrictions will be reduced and members are fully comfortable with in-person meetings, we'll be increasing our Zoom-based functions for the coming fall and winter.

We've also greatly expanded our newsletter and website by adding a lot of interesting original content to the usual updates. Most of this new monthly content on a wide variety of subjects comes from our Club members (about 15-20 members contribute to each newsletter issue).

If we had to opine on why we've

seen continued success during our first five years, and as well during these past 19 months of COVID, it's likely due to at least several key factors:

- Constantly ensuring that a wide range of social activities, travel opportunities, interest groups and meeting speakers is offered to our membership who really enjoy learning, social opportunities and new experiences in a mixed club format.
- Particularly during COVID our much-expanded newsletter and website with constantly refreshed original content have become critical communications vehicles to stay in touch with our members and to help keep them engaged.
- But more than anything, having a very strong volunteer cadre and innovative management team has been the key to our success. In a typical year we'll have 60-70 volunteers running the Club's various activities. Even during COVID times when most programs have been quite limited, we still have 25-30 volunteers serving Club members, and our high membership renewal rate is a testament to the exceptional work of our volunteers.

Tim Casey President  
PROBUS Club of Port Perry  
September 2021



## Brentwood Bay, British Columbia Probus Club, Canada

Our Club meets at the local seniors' centre; not a bad match when you stop to think about it, eh? Since Covid19 shuttered the doors against some 75 members gathering face-to-face for fulsome meetings, the executive has done its best to maintain camaraderie in a variety of ways.

We have continued, via Zoom, with our monthly speakers on the usual potpourri of topics ranging from electric vehicles to The Battle of Britain to money laundering ... many of these specialists from beyond the traditional special guest catchment area. Virtual meetings have been complemented by periodic Zoom "socials" where a dozen or so of us have signed in to discuss a plethora of "sujets de jour" and share much good humour. Rounding out the trilogy of remote learning/entertainment "connectors" has been the regular electronic publication of the Club's Bulletin. This missive always includes a message from our President, Ken Marsh, and offerings from different members on matters both erudite and frivolous.

As with the general meetings, our spin-off interest groups took a body blow with the advent of Covid's arrival. Among the first to resume, with stringent caveats, were the Book Club (remotely) and the Walking Group (in

the flesh). The latter actually walked to the end of the universe one day ... or, at least, that's what the sign said at the rural farm gate we passed!

Our "Y" chromosome only Club has traditionally offered members and their spouses enticing monthly field trips within the Saanich Peninsula. For example, the most recent one was to Coachwerks, a business that restores luxury vehicles for luxury prices. However, my personal favourite remains an invitation to Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt Dockyards. Here, we were given a tour of one of Her Majesty's patrol frigates and even accorded a harbour cruise ... which amounted to turning the vessel stem to stern while on board while the crew continued "swabbing the decks" and doing other more substantial maintenance matters.

Roger Boutilier Brentwood Bay Probus Club member

## PROBUS Communication Committee District 2, Ontario, Canada

In January 2017, Richard Furlong, who was then Director of District 2, an area located north of Toronto in Ontario, Canada, brought the presidents of all the local PROBUS Clubs together to discuss how we could work as a team to share ideas and resources. Out of that meeting was born the PROBUS Communication Committee, a group of 8 Clubs, with Brenda Andrews as the first chairperson. When Brenda later became the Director of our district, I

took on the role of chairing this group. We initially agreed to meet 3-4 times a year to share our best practices. Since the pandemic began, we have been meeting virtually much more often as we all try to find ways to keep our Clubs going and our members engaged. Now we are working together to plan the reopening of our Clubs when that becomes possible. In the meantime, we have all been there for each other during this difficult time, sharing our ideas,

experiences and suggestions for the future. Our more technical members have supported all of us as we transitioned to online meetings and events. All our team members (now expanded to 10 Clubs) have found that we have gained so much from participating in this group. Sharing best practices and ideas has made us all better and we have all benefited immensely from working together.

Cathie Vincent

*New on the  
Probus Global  
web site!  
Have you  
added your  
opinion?*

### One Question



A question every week to make you think. Answers and comments the following week. Just for fun.

### QUESTION?

Once a week or so, we will pose a question. The answers will be shown the following week. This is just for fun. Enjoy!

**Who, living, dead, or fictional would you invite to your ideal dinner party?**

Type your answer here?

Submit

Previous questions:

What is your favourite comfort food?

See the answers

What song takes you back? Where does it take you?

See the answers



## Probus Ireland - A quick update from Ireland

Well most Clubs would normally close for the Summer Months, and during Covid all Clubs were keeping in contact since March 2019 with its members by Phone, Text, Whats App, Zoom, open air meetings and also in draughty Rooms!

We sent out the Guidelines from Probus Australia as a " helper" to the Clubs and we got a very positive response, thanks Probus Australia.

Clubs in the North are already beginning to meet and in the South, we are seeing a slow return to actual meetings also.

People are still very nervous of the Virus, so are proceeding with caution.

On a general front, we had extremely good weather over the summer months and the "Staycation" - Staying at Home in Ireland programme promoted by both jurisdictions was hugely successful in rescuing the Tourist business for the last few months.

One of the biggest problems was the lack of "Loos" as Pubs, Restaurants/Tea Shops were closed, Hotels were like "Fort Knox" to get into, so the Local Authorities were "caught with their Pants down" - very badly. As outdoor & indoor dining and hotels are now getting back to some normality, things are improving.

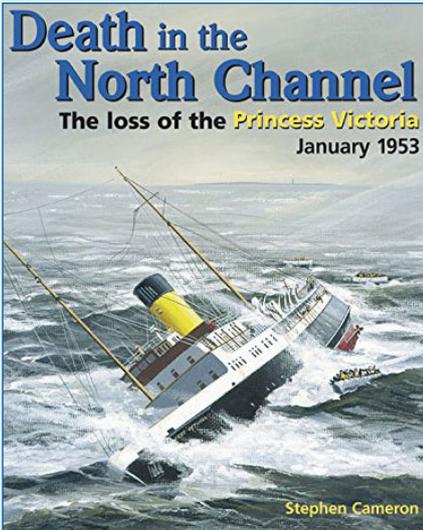
Night Clubs, still not open Probus Ravers very disappointed!!!.

To all our Probus friends around the world, keep safe and look after yourselves.

*Aodh Bourke and Sam Crowe*

Probus Liaison Officers - Rotary Ireland

ProbusIreland.com



## Newtownards Probus Club, Ireland

Just to let you know we resumed weekly coffee mornings since the end of July in the local golf club (Clandeboye). At our monthly lunch meeting in August we had a very interesting talk by Dick Milliken, a member of the very successful 1974 British and Irish Lions rugby team which toured South Africa. Sadly the 2021 Lions team which was playing its final tour match in South Africa a few days later narrowly lost its match against South Africa. Next talk is by a local historian on the Princess Victoria disaster (a car ferry ship which perished in a terrible storm on the Irish sea in 1953). It's great to be meeting again on a regular basis. I believe all our members have been vaccinated but we're having to be very careful because covid infections are at a high level in Northern Ireland at present.

Victor McElpatrick (President)



## Probus Club of Holland Park Central, Queensland, Australia

We, in Queensland (Australia) have been exceptionally lucky in having been able to control COVID to the extent that Probus meetings and outings have continued without much disruption at all. However, our hearts are with other states and countries where this has not been possible. Older people are generally considered Neanderthals as far as technology goes, but judging by a plethora of Probus newsletters from places not as lucky as Queensland, most clubs have mastered Zoom meetings with élan.

It is also amazing to read reports of how the older (Probus) population has been able to innovate and adapt to local hardships and have managed to continue the fun, friendship, and fellowship offered by Probus despite COVID set-backs. Who said "oldies" are not flexible, resourceful or inventive? We are inspirational and the diversity of ingenious solutions to restricted meetings and activities has been awesome! Hats off to us – it is hard to keep us seniors down!

Mary Wilson.





## Probus Club of Springwood, Queensland, Australia

Thirty-six members of the Probus Club of Springwood recently celebrated their annual "Sod Off Winter" dinner at the home of Past President Raghbir Kalsi, who presented a menu with the title "Totten Close Curry Palace". Raghbir, is of Indian Sikh heritage, and although being born and growing up in Kenya, has carried on his love of Indian curries and prepared a delicious range of entrees, mains and deserts.

The "Sod off Winter" dinners were commenced by a former President of Scottish descent who claimed the people in Scotland had a feast of curries at the end of winter to welcome spring.

Merv Richens

*Left: Alicia and main course  
Right: Raghbir, Carla & Alicia with curry pot*



## Reminiscence of Performance of Probus club of Hyderabad, India

On the eve the celebration of 23rd. Anniversary of the club we recall the contributions of our founding members and the dedication they served the club. Some of our members are no more with us and we pay our tribute to the departed souls.

Our main objective of fellowship and intellectual stimulation of our members has achieved its purpose. The club organized talks of versatile subjects by eminent speakers with animated discussion. In addition to usual talks on health-related subjects covering most of the medical disciplines the club organized talks on non-medical subjects like 1) The art of living 2) Hypnosis 3) Indian culture across the seas. 4) Modern sciences and Vedas 5) Romance with music and poetry. 6) Evils in political and social structure etc.

We also organized the workshop on the subject of "Generation Gap" involving demographic speakers and the members of the Interact club of our sponsoring Rotary club. An interesting talk on Human Rights of Senior citizens was organized with great success.

Several visits to industrial units like Tupperware, Biscuit making factory as well as reserved forests with animals were undertaken. A visit to the premier business school ISB was worth remembering.

We promoted a DAY CARE CENTER that organized indoor games for the seniors, weekly visit of one our Probian (Doctor) to check the health profile of seniors and also the computer classes in addition to talks by eminent speakers. The dedication of one of our Probian brought this centre to the national level for its admirable work for the benefit of the elderly and won him the national award. We pay our tribute to him for his relentless efforts for the cause of the seniors.

However, there has been some setback of our growth due the COVID endemic since no physical meeting could be conducted. Without losing time our president Dr. Rau switched over to ONLINE ZOOM meeting framed interesting versatile program in each meeting. Talks by the members of their favourite subjects, childhood incidents of the members, humorous episode of individual member, display of hidden talents of Probian, Citation, Quizzes and skits consisted the list of our program. One notable introduction in the program was TAMBOLO

game at least once a month was a runaway success. The COVID endemic had another good benefit to our club. Online attendance and participation of lady Probian showed a marked increase and the Probian exhibited their innovative ideas for entertainment We have a WHAT's APP group and postings by the members multiplied manifolds.

It seems that we have to compromise our life style for such time the COVID menace continues.

Ram Mukherjee  
Probus Club of Hyderabad

**Just as the graveside service finished, there was a distant lightning bolt accompanied by a tremendous burst of rumbling thunder. The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there and it's His problem now."**

## FERRING PROBUS CLUB, England VISIT TO SULLINGTON 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021



After 16 months of 'lockdown' and being unable to meet, the Ferring Probus Club was finally able to restart its monthly meetings on the 14<sup>th</sup> July. To celebrate the occasion a visit was arranged to Sullington, a small village in West Sussex not far from the town of Storrington.

The club not only celebrated its recommencement, but also used the occasion to meet its new lady members. This was the first-time ladies had been able to become members since the club's inauguration in February 1982.

The visit to Sullington commenced with a two course Lunch, served in The Old Workshop café, and hosted by the owner Gail Kittle. During Lunch, members were able to chat and share fellowship together. They also welcomed members who had joined them for the trip, from Probus Clubs in Littlehampton and Arundel.

Following Lunch, a visit to the Old Rectory Gardens had been arranged. The gardens were open under the National Gardens Scheme. Members were introduced to the Head Gardener Mark Dixon who showed the group around the gardens, explained the various areas of planting and was able to answer questions put to him. The warm sunshine added to the enjoyment of seeing the vast array of flowers and shrubs.

To conclude the visit, afternoon tea of homemade scones and cakes were enjoyed. This was

kindly served by members of Sullington Church, once again in The Old Workshop Café.

The visit proved to be a great success and new friendships were made with the visiting Probus Club members. Thanks go to David Saunders for arranging an enjoyable visit.

We now look forward to our next outing which will be on 10<sup>th</sup> September, when club members will enjoy a meal and a cruise around Chichester Harbour.

Would you like to join the Club?

Meet new friends? Enjoy an outing or social activity? A monthly lunch in convivial company? Contact the Club Secretary, Roger Lovell, email: [rmlisnow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rmlisnow@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone 07802 951 061. Roger will provide further information and send you an application form.

Diary dates

5 October

Coffee morning at St Andrews Church Hall all welcome 10:00 - 11:30

20 October

Members' lunch at Worthing Indoor Bowls Club 12:15 for 12:45



the secretary Graham Smith; as is often the case, these roles are now reversed!

The guest speaker at the meeting was Stephen Smith, the "Rotherham Rumpole", who gave a light-hearted talk about his life as a Barnsley Solicitor.

The secretary calculated that the 50th anniversary will be in March 2025 and the 2000 meeting will be approximately 2061 and he wished future committees well in pursuit of those goals.

## Probus Club of Meltham, England

Formed in 1975, all club meetings were numbered, so on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018, club members gathered to celebrate the 1000<sup>th</sup> meeting at a luncheon in a local hostelry overlooking "Last of the Summer Wine" countryside.

We are a men's club of 74 members, and the cost of the event was subsidised by the club, which attracted approximately 100 attendees. The chairman at the time was Anthony Wadsworth, and





Until the Pandemic, when the world changed, I was a Guide at the Battle of Britain Bunker in Uxbridge UK. It was from this historic site that the defence of London and the South East of England was directed during World War 2. It was a cornerstone of what became known as the Dowding System, a fully integrated defence and interception system that was so pivotal to success. I would give two lectures a week to visitors from all over the world, quite understandably as non UK pilots made up some 20% of pilot numbers in the Battle.

When Covid struck, the Bunker was one of many sites to close and I considered how best to keep this story alive as well as (hopefully) providing some interest and a reason for clubs and societies to meet and to maintain contact and companionship, which I regarded as truly important during those dark lockdown days.

I therefore put together a talk about the Battle, which would cover not just the politics, the phases and the outcome, but would try to bring the story to life by the inclusion of some of the personal stories of pilots who fought in some of the key engagements.

I've now delivered around 40 of these talks to UK organisations - Probus, Rotary, U3A, Historical Societies and even a Vintage Car Club, and they have been very well received. But it was not until I was contacted by Dick Furlong who suggested that I address Newmarket Probus, that I realised that, of course, Zoom has no international boundaries.

Dick helped with the logistics, including the careful calculation of time differences and the talk proceeded smoothly and from feedback, was much enjoyed by all. In a truly visionary approach, Dick invited fellow members from UK, South Africa and Canada in a total audience of around 75.

Since Dick's initiative, two further Probus Clubs in Canada have been booked and recently, Nick French from Probus South Africa, suggested a talk for his members. Unsurprisingly Nick galvanised demand, so much so that we had to give two talks on the same day to a combined audience approaching 150 members.

These initiatives, instigated by Dick and followed up so effectively by Nick have, I believe delivered a number of clear wins for us all.

I charge no fee but ask for a Charitable Donation, so that some key charities, which are truly struggling, have benefitted, not just in the UK but in Canada and South Africa;

Membership meetings have been continued during difficult and dark times, making a real difference to members who find contacts with their colleagues

such an important part of their lives;

An important story has been told about one of the most challenging and pivotal periods in our history.

For me, as well as those important deliverables, I have been privileged to talk to such wonderful people, who never fail to impress with their courtesy, friendliness and commitment. Many of them have stories to share about fathers, mothers, grandfathers and so forth, and for a few, direct experience of watching enemy aircraft being met by our own, over where they were living at the time. It is an absolute pleasure for me to hear some of these human stories, so rich in emotion and detail, which bring the whole thing to life.

It is a terrific initiative, bringing together members from all over the globe, listening, enjoying each other's company, and contributing to such an important story. Giving these talks is an absolute pleasure.

Best regards  
Chris Leworthy  
christopher.leworthy@gmail.com  
07778147974

NATIONAL SENIORS DAY  
OCTOBER 1

**Dignity  
in aging  
matters.**



federalretirees.ca

National Association of Federal Retirees / Association nationale des retraités fédéraux

**National Seniors Day - Canada**

<https://www.federalretirees.ca/en/news-views/national-seniors-day>



## Banchory Ternan Men's Probus Club, Banchory, Scotland

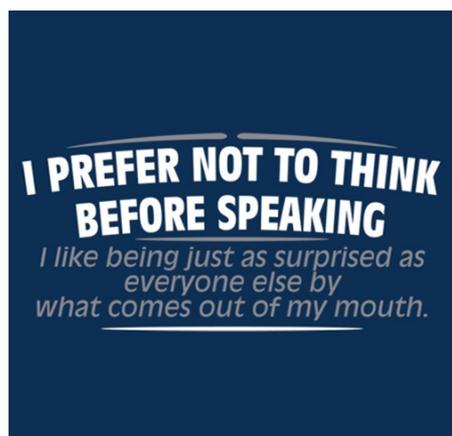


We have been meeting on 'Zoom' since April 2020 and this has been a good move. Although not all of our members have taken part, for one reason or another. We are 44 members strong and, on average, 50% have joined us at each meeting.

We are a relatively small club in numbers and agreed to approach our Banchory Ladies Probus Club with a view to joining forces. We are at present in the process of negotiating with the ladies, with a view to joining us on 'Zoom' initially and amalgamating with them officially when we do meet up together again..

I am aware that some clubs in the UK are back to holding their meetings in the venues they met in before Covid. We haven't as yet, and one reason is that the hall we met in is unsuitable, due to the ventilation aspect. Another reason, and the main one, is that the majority of our members don't want to chance meeting in the outside world at present. Although all the restrictions have been lifted, apart from masks in shops, public transport, etc.. The Covid numbers are high again, hospital admissions, deaths, and our members are not convinced that it is safe enough to venture out, yet.

We are making approaches to a location which is larger



We are more commonly known as 'Banchory Men's Probus Club'. The 'Ternan' came from a 'Saint Ternan' who formed a settlement here in the Middle Ages and his name is added to the title of most of our organisations, Probus, Churches, etc.

I thought I would what our club here in Banchory has been / not been, doing lately in these still worrying Covid times.



to cope with our hopefully greater numbers, and has all the ventilation, etc., necessary.

One activity we have started up again is walking. We meet once a week and have three walking groups within our club. The 'A' Team who walk 10 – 12 miles; the 'B' Team who walk 4 -5 miles; and the 'C' Team, of which I am a member. We don't walk, apart from crossing the car park into the hotel for coffee every Tuesday!

Some time ago I registered with 'Probus Global' ('PG') and it is worth saying again 'It was the best move I ever made as I have made many new friends through the facilities available on the 'PG' Website. It certainly does make the world a small place when you have an organization such as this at your fingertips. The information that is to hand, together with the fact that their Webmasters are so efficient, friendly and helpful, really makes the world your Oyster'.

Through 'PG' I have been invited to many Probus meetings throughout the world and have found that, although the clubs have no central governing body, which none of us have, in many countries. Probus clubs have been formed to spread information and help all the clubs in their 'web'. I think the organisational skills of all the persons involved in those



'umbrella' clubs are phenomenal.

Communication in these clubs is first class, and it emphasises the importance of having Coordinator programs. It is great to see how other countries Probus Clubs are structured and their communication systems. These 'umbrella' clubs are 'staffed' by members dedicated to extending friendship and bringing clubs together.

Having had my eyes opened to what is happening through the Probus world, I realise that we in Scotland / United Kingdom have a bit of catching up to do.

I look forward to the day we have our Probus Scotland / Wales / England / Ireland / United Kingdom, Probus clubs set up, and can benefit from them, as does the rest of the world from theirs.

I am not able to do very much in the way of organising any of the relevant web sites etc. but would certainly be available to assist anyone who could take on this work.

Take care everyone. Kind regards

Stan  
Stan Thomson  
Secretary  
Banchory Ternan Men's Probus Club  
Scotland  
Tel. No: 01330 825098  
Mobile : 07854 987656  
Email : stanthomson@hotmail.com



## PROBUS BELGIUM's attempts to restart activities in 2021

Thanks to a relatively high degree of vaccinations the government has gradually reduced the stringent measures since June. At present approx. 71.5 % of the entire population has been fully vaccinated, although there are differences by certain areas or cities. Nevertheless the D variant has picked up contamination and there is a fear for a fourth wave coming up in September.

*What has this meant for the PROBUS clubs in the country?*

As of July several clubs cautiously started to organise physical meetings again, and building up confidence. By early September most clubs have been organising dinners, bbq's, some ventured to set up an excursion, others caught up in handing over the presidency symbols.

We are being informed of an increased number of new members, sometimes three at a time. Jubilee's are being scheduled!

Some clubs are already catching up on delayed collective excursions within Belgium or into France. Walks and bike rides

have been quite prominent in the PROBUS ranks this summer.

It is rewarding to witness the enthusiasm on faces, in communication, in "drive"!

A serious drawback has been the horrendous floods in the south and east of Belgium which occurred in July, with a heavy toll of human casualties and billions worth of damage to houses, schools, communal buildings. Huge numbers of families still do not know where they will be able to make house this winter; water, gas and electricity distribution cannot be restored yet, even for months ahead. In these circumstances a number of PROBUS clubs could be facing

difficulties to return to "normal" activities.

Conclusion: confidence and caution are prevailing; enthusiasm is high, PROBUS BELGIUM is back on track and ready to have fun, build up friendship and enjoy the fellowship!

Gauthier De Brabandere  
President of PROBUS BELGIUM

## Probus Global – Regional Coordinator

PROBUS Global is recruiting members to act as Regional Coordinators for the Clubs in their countries. The goal is to increase communication within their country, and to have this activity coordinated on a global basis, through PROBUS Global. Members from Ireland, South Africa and Canada have already committed to this position. If you have an interest in submitting your name as a Coordinator for your country, please reply to Acting President, Richard Furlong, at [furlongrj@rogers.com](mailto:furlongrj@rogers.com).

The first Regional coordinator meeting was held in Canada on September 14th, a recording of the meeting is available on our website.

The following are the proposed duties of a Regional Coordinator:

- Promote Probus Global
- Ensure members know the benefits of the Probus Global website
- Maintain communication with all Probus Global members in your region
- Distribute Probus Global Newsletter
- Encourage members submit articles to the Probus Global quarterly newsletter
- Encourage participation in Probus Global virtual meetings
- Report activities to Probus Global International Coordinator
- Distribute Probus Global information to all Probus Global members in region
- Communicate regional updates
- Maintain data base for all clubs and Probus Global members in region
- Encourage regional Probus Global member meetings
- Attend Regular review meetings with other regional coordinators
- Encourage and facilitate communications between members in the region and members in other countries/ regions.





## West Melton Combined Probus Club, New Zealand Christchurch Arts Centre Restoration Tour

We were blessed with sunny weather for our visit to the Christchurch Arts Centre to view the restoration work done on the damage that occurred during the earthquakes in 2010-2011.

Our Host was able to explain the extent of the damage that had occurred and how the stone masons and other artisans had worked to replicate the original buildings with their details such as towers, roofs, gargoyles and the like.

The stone masons have been sourced mainly from England, many of them now settled in Christchurch with their families, and with good prospects of work with the Art Centre completion and the rebuilding of Christchurch Cathedral.

To complete the restoration of stages three and four, the Art Centre Trust need to raise a further 30 million dollars. The 290 million dollars already spent proves on inspection to be money well spent, and we are fortunate to have these heritage buildings preserved for our enjoyment and that of future generations of Cantabrians.

Donations to their restoration fund are gratefully received at [artscentre.org.nz/support](http://artscentre.org.nz/support).

Our visit concluded with lunch in the Bunsen Café.



Damaged Christchurch Cathedral - above.  
Restored Clock Tower - below - with new top stonework

We started our tour at the original Christchurch Boy's High School building, with Jenny Stuart as our tour leader and were taken through the building and shown how it had been repurposed, with many local artists working and selling their products from what used to be old classrooms.

The first building to be restored was the Registry in 2013. Fourteen more buildings have reopened since, providing homes for galleries, museums, boutique retailers, eateries, event venues and more. One building in stage two to be completed in April of particular interest was the Observatory Tower building, which is going to be part of a boutique hotel.

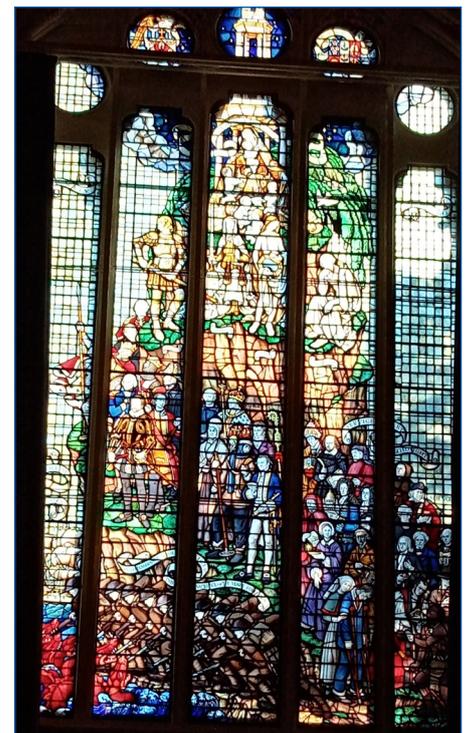


**Reinforced Building- awaiting restoration.**

On the right is: The memorial window at Canterbury College (now the Arts Centre), Christchurch. The artist was an Englishman, Martin Travers, and the whole window is in the shape of Britain.

The memorial stained glass window commemorates the staff and students from the University of Canterbury who fought in the First World War. Over 400 staff and students served throughout the war, of whom 98 were killed and over 20% wounded.

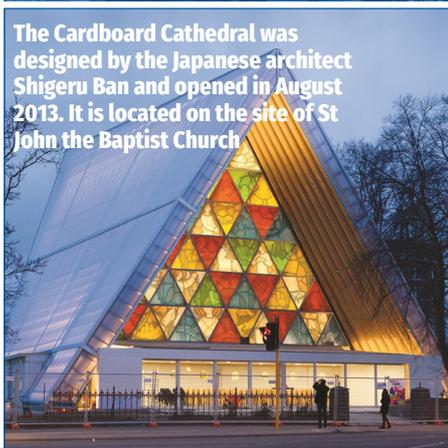
The image (from the top) depicts the mother of Humanity, with her babies representing the future generations. Famous historical people are standing on an island of civilization, around this is the sea of chaos, the Roman numerals date the war (1914 - 1918) and the mass of famous historical figures represent Truth, Justice, Courage and Humanity. The ship on the left of the image is HMS Resolution, which Captain James Cook commanded. At



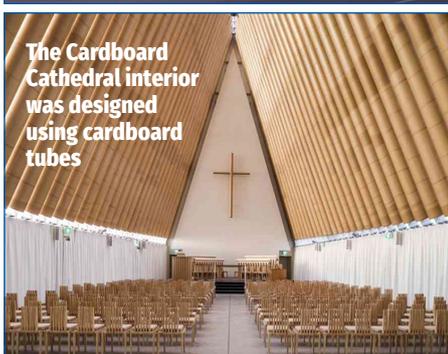
the bottom New Zealand soldiers can be seen fighting hydra monsters which represent Brutality and Ignorance



The Cardboard Cathedral was designed by the Japanese architect Shigeru Ban and opened in August 2013. It is located on the site of St John the Baptist Church



The Cardboard Cathedral interior was designed using cardboard tubes





A little bit of  
humour



## More Laughs to Stay Sane.....



**This Is the Reason Why You Should Not Wait Until Retirement:- to Travel!**

### Life in 2021 .....

1. The dumbest thing I ever bought was a 2021 planner.
2. 2019: Stay away from negative people. 2021: Stay away from positive people.
3. The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house & their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!
4. This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her dog. It was obvious she thought her dog understood her. I came into my house & told my cat. We laughed a lot.
5. This virus has done what no woman has been able to do. Cancel sports, shut down all bars & keep men at home!
6. I never thought the comment, "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6-foot pole" would become a national policy.

### PERSONAL ADS FOR SENIORS

#### FOXY LADY

Sexy, fashion-conscious blue-haired beauty , 80's, slim, 5' 4" ( used to be 5' 6" ).

Searching for sharp-looking, sharp-dressing companion. Matching shoes and belt a plus.

#### LONG TERM COMMITMENT

Recent widow who has just buried her fourth husband, looking for someone to round out a six-person plot. Dizziness, fainting, shortness of breath not a problem.

#### SERENITY NOW

I am into solitude, long walks, the ocean, yoga and meditation. If you are the silent type, let's get together, take out our hearing aids and enjoy quiet times.

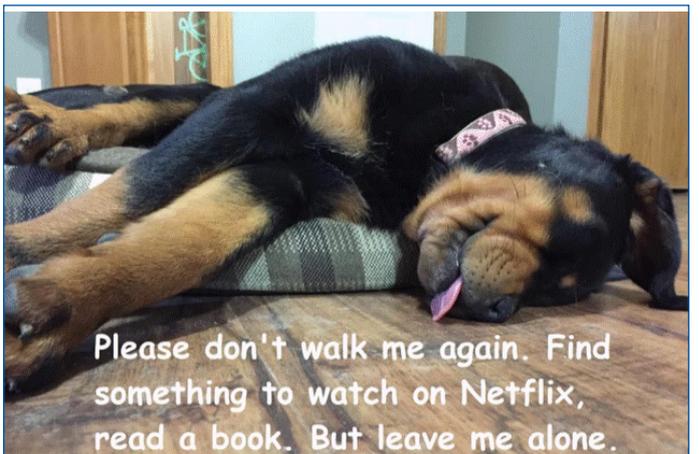
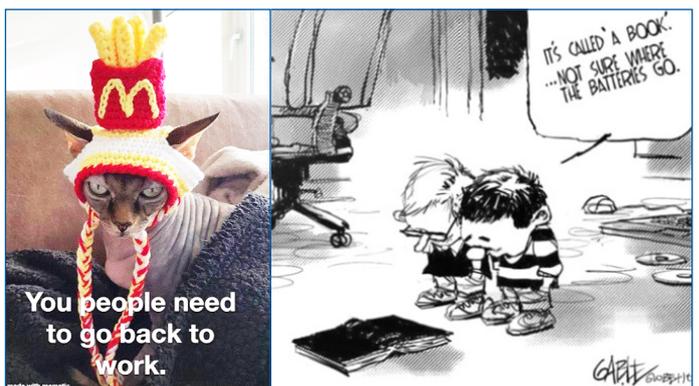
#### WINNING SMILE

Active grandmother with original teeth seeking a dedicated flosser to share rare steaks, corn on the cob and sticky toffee pudding.

### New High School Teacher

After retiring, a former Sergeant-Major in the Australian Army took a new job as a high school teacher. Just before the school year started, he injured his back. He was required to wear a light plaster cast around the upper part of his body. Fortunately, the cast fitted under his shirt and wasn't noticeable when he wore his suit coat.

On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. The smart-ass punks, having already heard the new teacher was a former soldier, were leery of him and he knew they would be testing his discipline in the classroom. Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk. With a strong breeze blowing it made his tie flap. He picked up a stapler and stapled the tie to his chest. Dead silence. The rest of the year went smoothly.



### The Vaccine...

The vaccine should be tested on ALL politicians first.

If they survive, the vaccine is safe.  
If they don't, the country is safe.



Explore the *Probus Global Web site* - there's a mountain of interests catered to in the many pages on the site. Join in a forum, participate in one of the many meetings, invite Probus Global members to your meeting or just chat with fellow Probians from around the world. Probus Global has a lot to offer - *why not explore the web site now* - [www.probusglobal.org](http://www.probusglobal.org)

## Meetings and Presentations

Visible to Members Only

If your club would like to invite members of PROBUS Global to one or more of your meetings, please [contact the webmaster](#).

|                                      |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>VideoChat Every Sunday</b>        | Mon Sep 06 2021 00:00 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>Kirkcaldy, Scotland</b>           | Wed Sep 01 2021 19:00 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>St Catharines</b>                 | Tue Sep 14 2021 23:30 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>Bradford</b>                      | Tue Sep 14 2021 23:45 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>PROBUS Global Canada Regional</b> | Wed Sep 15 2021 04:00 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>Kirkcaldy, Scotland</b>           | Wed Sep 15 2021 19:00 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>Newmarket Canada</b>              | Wed Sep 15 2021 23:30 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>Durham Central</b>                | Thu Sep 16 2021 23:45 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>Zero 4 Club</b>                   | Mon Sep 20 2021 20:00 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |
| <b>PROBUS Global: PROBUS Day</b>     | Fri Oct 01 2021 22:00 (Australian Eastern Standard Time) | <a href="#">Add to Google Calendar</a> |

### October 1 PROBUS Global



PROBUS Global invites everyone to a Zoom meeting celebrating **PROBUS Day** around the world.

October 1 has been declared by the United Nations as [International Day of Older Persons](#).

PROBUS Clubs around the world have chosen this day to celebrate PROBUS and promote club activities and events in their communities.

Australia led this initiative with [great success in 2020](#) and is continuing to do so in 2021. Rob Neary, President of PROBUS Queensland will tell us about the events of the day.

To get your invitation to join the celebration of PROBUS DAY , PROBUS Global members and non members can join by going to following link.

<https://probusglobal.org/Meetings>