

# Durham Central PROBUS Club Newsletter: March 2022



## 2021 – 2022 Executive Officers:

**Tom Reed,**  
President

**Patti Mavins,**  
Vice President and  
Newsletter Editor

**Doug Byers,**  
Past President

**Tricia Cadieux,**  
Secretary

**Tom Anderson,**  
Treasurer

## Committee Chairpersons & Other Positions

**Jackie Bathe,  
Janet Good &  
Judy Roebuck,**  
Social Committee

**Catherine Frost,**  
Special Interest  
Groups

**Laurie Jones,  
Sylvia Hughes,**  
Speakers

**Paul Dionne**  
Membership

**Heather Anderson  
& Sue Mackinnon,**  
House Committee

**Connie Nelson,**  
Web Master &  
Archivist

**Mary Ann Bridge,**  
Member at Large

**NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY, March 17, 10 AM**  
**Online meeting via Zoom**

## President's Message

*"GET THAT **SPRING** IN YOUR STEP"* from your Management  
Team!



Mother Nature is such a tease and, yes, fickle! As I compose my message, it is sunny and 17 degrees...for now. Just a taste of Spring, however short-lived, was a welcome respite from the last three months.

Your Management Team met, reviewed, edited and confirmed our plan to reopen to face-to-face meetings this April. The requirements for attending are included in this month's newsletter. Please review them prior to the meeting.

I am making an appeal to all of you to consider taking on a role on next year's Management Team. The positions available are listed in this month's newsletter. If you are interested and/or want to learn more, please contact our president for next year, Patti Mavins, or Doug Byers, the Nominating Committee Chair.

Catherine, Chair of our Special Interest Groups and Janet, Judy and Jackie, Co-Chairs of our Social Committee are eager to get our activities packed with opportunities. April would be a great month to start. Let them know of your interest. The time is nigh to re-acquaint ourselves and to become the fully active club as we were BC (Before Covid). We are all looking forward to seeing you face-to-face and eye-to-eye in April. As Humphrey Bogart said, "Here's looking at you Kid!"

Our March meeting is on St. Patrick's Day, so sport your best green attire! A Spring bonnet will work too!

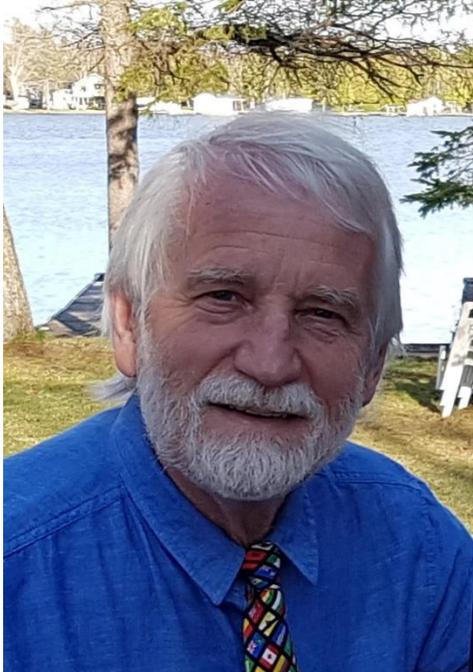
On behalf of your Management Team, best wishes,

*Tom*



## March 2022 Speaker: Lars Henriksson, Honorary Consul General

### *'Ontario and Sweden - Almost the Same!?'*



There are many similarities between Ontario and Sweden; Size, Population, Economic Environment, Lifestyle to mention a few. Lars will discuss these and talk about the numerous roles he has played in trade links between Canada and Sweden and also Sweden as a tourist destination.

Lars Henriksson has undergraduate degrees from University of Gothenburg and Karlstad University in Sweden. He studied at The University of Alberta in Edmonton on a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship, graduating with an MBA in 1979. In 1982, Lars returned to Canada for a position with The Swedish Trade Council in Toronto, eventually becoming Deputy Trade Commissioner. In 1991, Lars founded his own consulting firm, Norditrade Inc, specializing in international trade development between Scandinavian and North American companies.

Over the years, Lars has held numerous positions in the Swedish-Canadian community, including being Chairman of The Swedish-Canadian Chamber of Commerce. In February 2002, Lars was appointed Honorary Consul for Sweden in Ontario by the Swedish Government. Since 2016, he has been reappointed five times, as Honorary Consul General. As Honorary Consul Lars has worked to promote Sweden in the areas of culture, urban sustainability and to increase co-operation between Ontario and Sweden.

Lars has been an active member of the Rotary Club since 1986, serving various roles including President, Centennial District Governor, and RI President's Rep. Currently, Lars is a District Grant Sub-Committee Chair as well as a member of the District's Membership Committee. He is also involved in the international Club Visioning Program, including introducing the Program to Rotary Districts in Sweden and Norway.

## Return to In-person Meetings Commencing April 21 2022!

We are delighted to announce that, after reviewing your input, your Management Team have agreed that the April 21 club meeting will be conducted **in person** at the Oshawa & District Shrine Club!!! We are so excited to be able to see each other in person again!

Of course, we are putting strict measures in place in order to provide you the safest environment possible in these times. Regardless, we recognize that



some members may still remain hesitant to attend in person in April. Please attend when your comfort level is met.

Please note the following requirements to attend our first face-to-face meeting. These will mirror the requirements issued by our neighbouring Oshawa PROBUS Club.

1. Members must be fully vaccinated to attend our first meeting. This protocol will be reviewed on a month-to-month basis. Our members' safety and comfort levels are paramount.
2. Upon arrival, you will be required to **provide proof of vaccination**. Two tables will be set up at the entrance to the hall to accommodate this.
3. All attendees must wear a mask at all times, except when eating or drinking.
4. Please do not use the coat racks. Instead, take your coats with you to your seat.
5. Seating will be in table format, but there will only be 6 people per table, not 8 or more.
6. **Coffee or tea will not be served at this meeting**. If you require a beverage, we ask that you bring your own.
7. There will be a short break prior to our guest speaker but no food will be served.
8. Please do not attend if you have any Covid symptoms or been in contact with anyone with the virus over the last ten days.
9. **No guests** are to be invited to this first in person meeting.
10. **Please wear your name tag**.

Your management team looks forward to seeing you at the April 21 meeting. Doors will open no earlier than **9:30 AM**.

## Membership

With the nice weather just ahead of us and the restrictions being lifted, I think it is safe to say that we are all hoping for a quick return to normalcy. The management team would like to think that your return to normalcy will include the many activities, events and interest groups associated to your PROBUS membership.

As most of you know, our membership year starts on May 1<sup>st</sup> and extends to April 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year. Despite a considerable increase in our costs to host in-person events this year, we are pleased to be able to maintain our current level of renewal fees at \$30. In early April you will be receiving an email to renew your 2022-2023 membership. No action is required by you at this point.



As mentioned in the previous month's newsletter, our club is open to accommodate new members. With restrictions being lifted, we are expecting new members to start joining. If you do have any family members or friends who may have an interest in joining our club, please do not hesitate to direct them to our website [Durham Central PROBUS Club - Home](#) or contact us at [dcprobusmember@gmail.com](mailto:dcprobusmember@gmail.com) if they have any questions. Please note that our club does not require member sponsorship for a new applicant to apply for membership.

The management team has appreciated your continued support of our club through some difficult and challenging times over the past couple of years. Our hope is that you will continue to support the club into the future, and we look forward to seeing you in-person real soon.

Please take care and stay safe.

*Paul Dionne*  
Membership Chairperson

## Join the Management Team!



Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on May 19, when we will elect or acclaim our Management Team for the following year. We have a number of positions opening up on our team as current members step down or move on to another position. All PROBUS clubs rely on volunteers for these positions, so we hope that you might consider volunteering to join the team and help shape the future direction of the Club.

The Management Team holds a planning meeting once a month and each position has various duties to perform throughout the month. Being a member of the team offers many opportunities to interact with other members and is in itself, fun and rewarding. Why not give it a try?

The following positions will be opening up in May. The incumbents will be happy to train and offer ongoing support to any newcomers to the positions. A link to the job description for each position has been provided. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Doug Byers at [dougbyers@rogers.com](mailto:dougbyers@rogers.com) or Patti Mavins at [patti.mavins@rogers.com](mailto:patti.mavins@rogers.com)

Treasurer - [Treasurer.pdf \(durhamcentralprobus.ca\)](#)

Vice President - [Vice President.pdf](#)

House Committee Chairperson - [House Committee.pdf](#)

Newsletter Editor - [Newsletter editor.pdf](#)

Communications Coordinator - [Communications Coordinator.pdf](#)

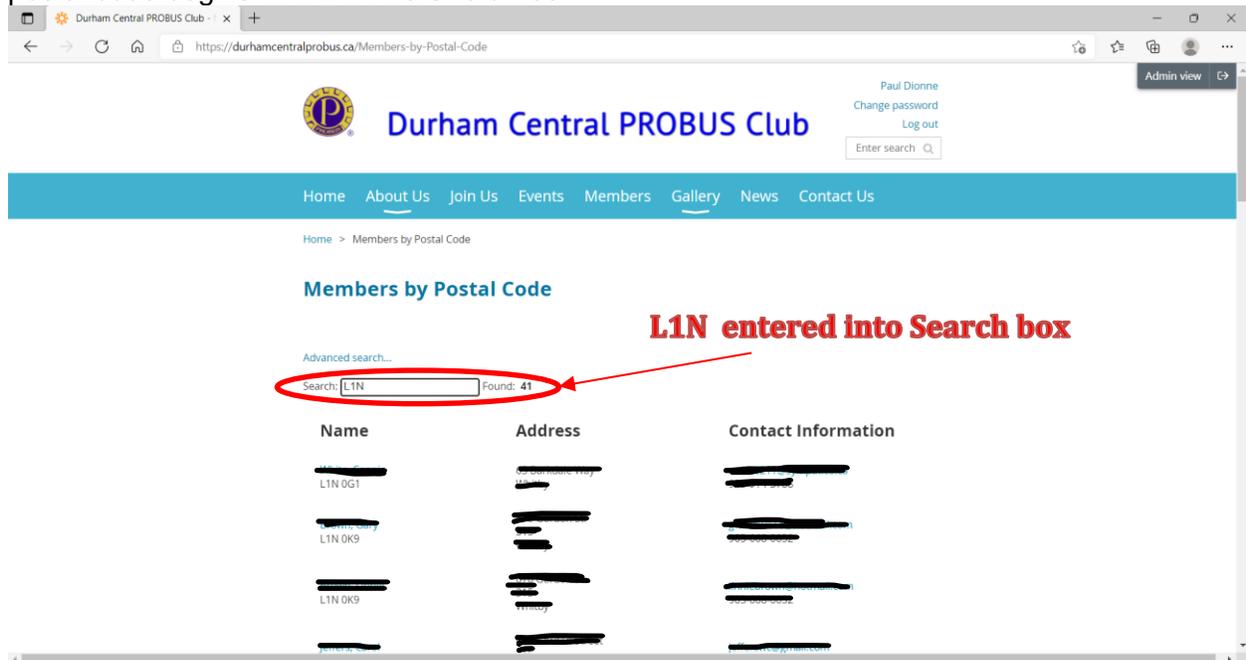
Member at Large - [Members at Large.pdf \(durhamcentralprobus.ca\)](#)

# Website Tips and Tricks

## Lives Near Me:

Looking for a friend to walk with? Share a ride or coffee with? Perhaps you can find that friend by logging into our website's Members page and selecting the Lives Near Me link. The Lives Near Me link will provide you with the ability to search for other members who may live in your neighborhood or near you, as the members' list is returned sorted by postal code. You can quickly narrow the list of members displayed by using the search feature on the first 3 digits of a postal code.

In the webpage example below, L1N was entered into the search box. 41 members whose postal code begins with L1N were returned



As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we will be covering a different website feature each month. If there is a particular website feature you would like us to cover, please drop us an email at [durhamcentralprobus@gmail.com](mailto:durhamcentralprobus@gmail.com) or [dcprobusmember@gmail.com](mailto:dcprobusmember@gmail.com).

## Join our New Facebook Group!



We now have our very own DURHAM CENTRAL PROBUS Facebook Group. Let's get SOCIAL in a FUN, FAST, and FRIENDLY way to meet other members, make friends and see what is happening and available.

To join, just follow the Facebook link on our website's Members page. To access the Members page on our website, you may use the following link: <https://durhamcentralprobus.ca/page-7745>

Our Facebook page is a great way to meet and make friends in addition to our meetings and events. And if you like, introduce yourself when you join. We'd love to see each other's faces. Be silly. Be serious.

Looking forward to making this a great part of our social club for the enjoyment of our members.

Be well.

*MaryAnne*

## Social Events

Our last trivia session was held Wednesday, March 9 at 7 pm. Our winners were:

- 1st place - Helen and Deryk Read
- 2nd place (tied) – Frank and Mary Kelcey
- 2nd place (tied) – Mike Ford

Thank you to all who participated over the last few months. I think we are all a little bit smarter!!

We have reserved Landmark theatre in Whitby for a private screening of the NEW DOWNTON ABBEY FILM, “A New Era”.

The official trailer released reveals plot details and a sojourn to the south of France- where Lady Violet (Maggie Smith) says, “Years ago, before you were born, I met a man and now I have come into the possession of a villa in the south of France.” Also, a wedding takes place and a film is being produced at Downton.

This is must-see event for all Downton fans and, even if you haven't watched the series, it is a stand-alone film. Or - perhaps this announcement gives you time to binge the series on Netflix!

**Date:** Wednesday, May 25 at noon

**Cost:** \$13.63 per person

Remember this is a private showing. It will be popular, so sign up as soon as you get your emailed invite. We need a minimum of 50 people so have asked Oshawa Probus to join us. You can ask a non-member spouse, partner or a family friend to attend if you wish.



## Community and Other Virtual Events:

Looking for some services and activities outside of our local PROBUS offerings? Check out these suggestions:

1. Check out these free online events offered by Eventbrite:

### **The War That Made the Roman Empire**

How was Octavian, with his weaker forces, able to beat Mark Antony and Cleopatra? Find out the incredible story of the Battle of Actium.

Free online event on Wed, Mar 16, 2022, 12:00 PM EDT

[https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-war-that-made-the-roman-empire-tickets-287883295687?utm\\_source=eventbrite&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=newsletter\\_editorial&utm\\_content=loc.101740717.r2022\\_10&utm\\_term=ebemnsuserinsight&ref=ebemnsuserinsight&afu=394607747865&rank=2&recommended\\_events\\_quantity=15&aff=ebemnsuserinsight](https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-war-that-made-the-roman-empire-tickets-287883295687?utm_source=eventbrite&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter_editorial&utm_content=loc.101740717.r2022_10&utm_term=ebemnsuserinsight&ref=ebemnsuserinsight&afu=394607747865&rank=2&recommended_events_quantity=15&aff=ebemnsuserinsight)

### **How to Sketch Flowers!**

Join Emily as she runs through her process for sketching flowers in her sketchbook!

Free online event on Wed, 16 March 2022, 15:00 – 16:00 EDT

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-sketch-flowers-tickets-265418653337?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

2. Whitby in Bloom is offering their ever-popular free online gardening seminars again this year. You can read about them and register for the ones that interest you on this page:

<https://www.whitby.ca/en/play/whitby-in-bloom.aspx>

1. **Perfecting Your Perennials: Hosted March 16, 2022, 7 pm**

In this presentation, we focus on perennial plants used in a permanent garden. Topics covered include the ideal conditions for various plants, the many colours and sizes available in both flowers and foliage. We also cover the where and when of planting, pruning, adding or removing to make your perennial garden beds a thing of wonder.

2. **Super Easy-Care Succulents: Hosted March 23, 2022, 7:30 pm**

Presentation/slides of the different kinds of Cacti and Succulents. How to use these drought-tolerant plants to design easy-to-care-for and eco-friendly arrangements for centrepieces, wedding and party favours, and more.

3. **Mix and Match – Plants and Shrubs for Pollinators: Hosted April 27, 2022, 7:30 pm**

Native plants and shrubs provide many ecological benefits and a great deal of beauty. In luscious combinations they can take your garden to new levels.

Lorraine Johnson, a native plant expert and author of many gardening books, will enlighten you as to how to design plantings that will be eye catching and a natural habitat for birds, bees and butterflies!

4. **Trees – A Wise Investment: Hosted May 25, 2022, 7:30 pm**

Jeff McMann will touch upon tree selection, pruning needs, maintenance of trees, benefits of trees, climate change and the LEAF programme. A well landscaped property can increase the value of your home by 5%.

3. **Enjoy a Free Movie Screening at Whitby Public Library**

Visit the Whitby Public Library on Tuesday, March 22 at 7 p.m. to attend a free screening of the documentary "**SHORELINE: The Paddle Against Plastic**", an inspiring film that follows Rochelle Byrne as she embarks on a 430km paddle journey across Lake Ontario to raise awareness about plastic pollution. A live question and answer session will take place with Rochelle following the screening. **Space is limited, register now.**

4. **Check out the Latest Offerings from Prairie Theatre Exchange, Winnipeg, Manitoba:**

### **Places We Go - A live-action animation about one girl's tenacious spirit**

Created by Hazel Venzon & David Oro | Digital; *A U 'N I TOGETHER* production

**March 1 - 31, 2022, Run Time: 30 minutes**

Grace lives in Manila, Philippines; her mother works in Winnipeg, Manitoba. *Places We Go* follows a day in Grace's tsinelas (slippers) in an adventurous attempt to bring her Nanay (mother) back to Manila.

Vivid illustrations bring to life the separate worlds of mother & daughter. Inspired by Venzon's cousin who was separated from her family for 10 consecutive years, *Places We Go* shines light on the tenacity of the human spirit.

What began as an oral story for children is now a live-action animation for any age, near and far - told in both Tagalog and English.

**Stream for FREE:** <https://www.pte.mb.ca/performances/places-we-go>

### **A Dance to the End of the World - A cautionary tale for modern times**

by Thomas Morgan Jones | Digital; Directed by Soheil Parsa, Illustrations by Josh Murdock

**March 14 - April 10, 2022, Run Time: 60 minutes**

A time of plague, in a time before modern technologies. A horribly contagious and deadly disease is spreading across the country. Quarantining is taking its toll on the populous. There are those who are willing to pay any price for protection from the sickness, and those who will take advantage of that desperation for their own gain. A father is desperate to protect his young daughter but becomes entangled in a priest's plan to use the plague for profit. And the angel of death is witness to it all. But amidst the despair, the girl and the angel strike their own deal -- a deal that will set one of them free.

This gripping play will be presented as an audio drama, accompanied by a stunning digital book of illustrations for each scene by local Indigenous tattoo artist Josh Murdock. Listen to the play, explore the book of art, or enjoy them together!

**Stream for FREE:** <https://www.pte.mb.ca/performances/a-dance-to-the-end-of-the-world> .

## **Special Interest Groups**

We are starting 2 new groups **Hand and Foot card game** and **Bid Euchre**

If you are interested in either of these, please send me your name within the week. Space will be limited as members will be meeting in their homes.

As we resume meeting in person, please check in this newsletter for updates or contact the leader of your group to get information.

Send me any ideas you have for an interest group and I will help set it up.

Take care and I hope to see you at our meeting in April.

Catherine [c.frost@sympatico.ca](mailto:c.frost@sympatico.ca)



## Call for interest in a Gardening Group?

Do you like to putter in the garden, dig in the soil and wander around nurseries? Or do you love flowers, shrubs and all things green and enjoy visiting and admiring gardens? How would you like to join a gardening group with like-minded members and share your plant passion with each other? Some of the activities a gardening group could do: We could go on day trips to visit gardens, like the Botanical gardens, the Humber Bay Butterfly Garden or High Park during cherry blossom season. There are free gardening and plant arranging workshops that we could attend at nurseries and at the local libraries. Several local municipalities offer garden tours of residents' gardens. The group members with gardens could exchange seeds, plant cuttings and share gardening tips with each other. There is no shortage of garden-based activities to do!



If joining a gardening group interests you, please contact Catherine at [c.frost@sympatico.ca](mailto:c.frost@sympatico.ca)

## Book Club – “The Chicklits”:



In February we met to discuss the book, “Truth be told. My journey through life and the law” by Beverley McLachlin. This autobiography of the first female chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada was an extremely interesting and timely read, as we were reading about the development of Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedom at the same time as the demonstrations in Ottawa.

Our March book is “The Vanishing Half” by Brit Bennett. It is the story of identical twins who run away from a small southern black community together at 16 and then separate to pursue very different lives.

[patti.mavins@rogers.com](mailto:patti.mavins@rogers.com)

## DC Wanderers:



The DC Wanderers enjoyed many walks in February despite the cold temperatures and snowy/icy conditions. Our newest walk was the trail running near Oshawa Airport where we met a four-legged friend along the way. Picture attached. Other walks included Whitby Shores and Oshawa Creek going towards Lake Ontario.

We meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. weather permitting. Please contact Pete Jones at 905-431-4668 or [barbandpete@rogers.com](mailto:barbandpete@rogers.com) if you are interested in joining the group.

## Fibre Friends:



Fibre Friends continue to be busy through the winter months with all things “fibre” and continue in the spirit of giving with donations of knitted and crocheted items to support those in need in our community.

Our next meetings will be Wednesday, March 23 at 1:30 p.m. and Thursday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Jane and Barb look forward to chatting with everyone and finding out what our friends have on their needles and hooks!

## Golf Group:

### Almost time

I hope all of our golf members are getting their clubs out and brushing off the dust. The weather is now changing and soon the courses will start to open. We are all looking forward to a good season and hope to golf by the end of March or at least early April.

We golf 18 holes at various golf courses on Fridays. If anyone is interested in joining us, please email me.

For more information e-mail Tom at [tlacma99@gmail.com](mailto:tlacma99@gmail.com)



## PROBUS PEDAL POWER (CYCLING) GROUP



Cycling season is almost here – with some cooperation from the weather, we should be on the trails by late March or early April. Make sure you are ready!

Please contact me if you would like your name added to my email list. You won't hear about our rides unless you are on the list! There is no limit on numbers, nor any obligation to come out every week. John Patté –

[gangler@live.ca](mailto:gangler@live.ca)



## Pickleball

Looks like we have enough players for outdoor playing. Radio Park courts will be opened and nets will be up mid April. We will work out the day and times as a group. New members welcome. Linda - [linmar322@gmail.com](mailto:linmar322@gmail.com)

## Downhill Ski and Snowboarding Club

What a great ski season this has been. Though our homebase was Brimacombe, we also skied at Horseshoe and Mount Saint Louis Moonstone in great conditions. The snow was such a gift!

Sadly, our snow season is coming to an end. Thank you to all who participated in our ski season this year. Wishing you all a great summer and I hope to see you in January 2023.

Yours in snow....Laurie

## Poet's Corner

### *Olympiad*



They brighten up the darkest days  
and change the world's routine.  
The supple strength and beauty  
of our youth with joy is seen.  
The nations rhythm, grace and hope  
displayed with power and skill.  
Lifetime practice, patterned drill,  
conditioned, bending, testing will.

The games evolved from sound foundation  
shared by many a decent nation.  
The competition clean and true  
reflecting values all pursue  
in friendly sport the torch passed forth  
promoting culture, careful thought and teaching  
truths that we support.

We're more alike, the best survive  
hands stretched across what would divide.  
The goal acknowledged, raised to last  
a friendlier world than now or past.

**Patricia Bayley**

## Member Care



The care of and compassion for our PROBUS Club members is an important feature of a vibrant club. While we all hope our members remain in good health, from time to time, members are in need of our support. “If I’d only known” is a statement we would like to avoid. Please inform Sylvia Hughes, in charge of Member Care, of any circumstances where a member of the club needs our support. Please provide as much detail as possible while being sensitive to the wishes of her or his family. Sylvia will send out the appropriate notice to the club and express appropriate wishes to the member and family on behalf of the club.

**Durham Central PROBUS Club:** [Click Link to Durham Central PROBUS Club website](#)

**PROBUS CANADA Website:** [www.PROBUS.org](http://www.PROBUS.org)

**PROBUS Global website:** <https://probusglobal.org/index.html>