



ANZAC
SQUARE



The *October 2022 Edition*
Queensland
Probian

Commemorate Remembrance Day at Anzac Square Memorial Galleries - see page 13



Celebrating QLD Seniors Month!

SPRING *Garden Day*



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Come along for garden tours and talks, displays and stalls including orchids, potted plants and flowers. Enjoy a Devonshire tea or BBQ lunch on the terrace. Lucky door prizes and raffles!

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The Queensland PROBIAN

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

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COVER PHOTO

*Lance Bombadier Greg Meller Picks a
Poppy following the Anzac Day Dawn
Service at Gallipoli, 2004*



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TBA

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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 "BUSi-ness". All PROBUS clubs are sponsored by Rotary clubs but, on formation, are autonomous.



President's Report - OCTOBER 2022

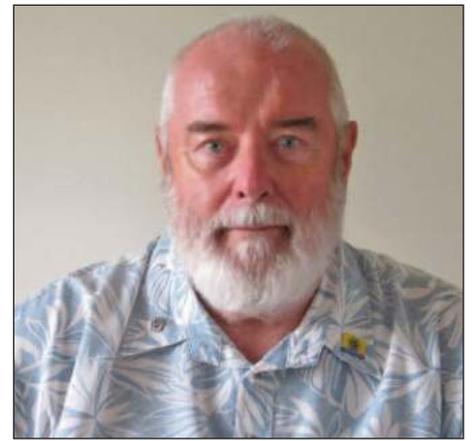
Congratulations to Merv Richens (PSPL Board Rotary Liaison Member) and to Annette Richards (Regional Liaison Officer – Redlands Region) on their successful groundwork to start the new Victoria Point Probus Club. The Victoria Point Probus Club will be the 5th new club in Queensland during the past year – a record not matched by other states or territories. The PAQ Management Committee members also provided additional support for these clubs to start. A special thanks also goes to Col Sutcliffe for his invaluable help in getting both Arana Hills & District Probus Club started and for his contribution towards Victoria Point starting. Thanks Col.

PAQ is looking to start more new clubs in 2022-2023 as the demand for the fun, the fellowship and the friendship that Probus Clubs offer is certainly out there in the community. Many seniors realize that how isolated and lonely they are and they're looking for ways to overcome those concerns. Probus is, indeed, a great way to make new friends.

Seniors Month will also be an excel-

lent opportunity for Probus Clubs to "get out there and market Probus". The lesson from the commercial world is that you can never stop advertising and marketing your product or company - unless you want it to disappear. These days, social media is an important tool for clubs to use. Facebook and Instagram seem to be the two most popular with our demographic and I would encourage clubs to start a Facebook closed group or Instagram group for their clubs.

On another matter, planning for next year's MC should be on the minds of those who hold the reins in their club. Research shows that you need to start looking now and planning for succession. What is alarming is the very small number of clubs that have a succession plan in place. In surveys of MC positions, a number of MC members reported that they were "thrown into the brink" and "offered little to no help" in taking on their role. It's no wonder members don't wish to take on the tasks if this is the message from the incumbent. Clubs need to have a plan to mentor people after they have accepted the chal-



lenges associated with taking on a committee role. PAQ can't emphasize enough that one of the best ways to "soften the blow" is by having members assume "assistant" roles to the key positions. Succession Planning is NOT simply about finding a replacement – it's about ensuring that your club continues.

PAQ is also looking for Probus members to assist in its management. If you have a love of Probus and would like to have an impact, consider joining the PAQMC in 2023. Let's keep on growing Probus - for everyone to enjoy the fun, the fellowship and the friendship.

Regards,
Rob N.



We demystify the Probus jargon for you

Probus in Australia and New Zealand is administered by **PSPL = Probus South Pacific Limited** often just called Probus.

In Queensland, there is the **Probus Association of Queensland** known as **PAQ** and it is an association for the Probus Clubs in Queensland.

PAQ has volunteer Probus members serving as advisors to clubs in regions. These advisors are called **Regional Liaison Officers** or **RLOs**.

These **RLOs** also serve as **PSPL Ambassadors** and also work to promote inter-club sharing of information, such as trips and outings as well as worthy club guest speakers.



PAQ is looking for a special person & you could be it!

The Probus Association of Queensland offers support to its affiliated clubs through **Regional Liaison Officers (RLO)** who are Probus members prepared to share their experience and knowledge of Probus with clubs in their region and offer advice when asked.

Currently PAQ is seeking RLOs for the Northern Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast regions.

If you'd like more information and to discuss what's involved in the position, contact either

David Harris on 0412 917 246

or email: david.harris@paqnetwork.com.au.

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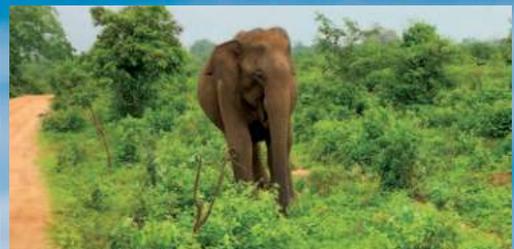


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MACGREGOR

A Family Connection . . .

A pleasant, unrealized sidelight to MacGregor Probus's outing to the Queensland Art Gallery and the Gallery of Modern Art (QAG), on the 12th of November, for two Exhibitions, "Two Sisters - a Singular Vision" and "Show me the Way to Go Home", was that we had connections to both, through one of our members.

The first was due to the varied examples of the Gallery's acquisitions shown in "Vision", through the patronage of the Mittelheuser sisters.

The connection was that they were cousins of June Blake's late husband, Alan, and also that some of the works by Mavis Ngallametta, the artist featured in the other Exhibition, were acquired for the State, a consequence of the sisters' continuing remarkable generosity and fund-raising.

Thirteen of us met at the Gallery. The COVID regulations in place slow what was once an easy, no fuss entry. We proceeded eventually, however, into both Exhibitions, following a talk by Jean of the significance of her links to the sisters, their history, younger lives, their move to Brisbane and how their successes resulted in them ultimately becoming benefactors to the State.

Jean still has family interaction with Cathryn, Margaret having passed on in 2013.

Bundaberg-born and daughters of canegrowers, both grew up to follow illustrious careers. Margaret was the first female partner in an Australian stockbroking firm and Cathryn was an eminent plant physiologist and science educator.

Both were appointed as Members of the Order of Australia (AM), for their many achievements and commitment to further advancement of women, particularly redressing historical inequities in gender representation of the Gallery's holdings: furniture, indigenous art, ceremonial poles, baskets and other artifacts among their over a hundred donations and bequests.

We were impressed at the variety and quality of the works and how they were so lovingly curated by the Gallery. An exhibition of jewelry pieces, in the form of brooches, by various jewelers, reflected Australia's gold-fields in the 1880-1915 period. Described as "peculiarly Australian", picks, shovels and windlasses were crafted at the time, in miniature, of gold, with nuggets and jewels encrusted.

The pottery, by painter and ceramic artist Anne Dangar, is beautiful, modernistic and striking, while baskets by Yvonne Koolmatrie and the silk-coated wire bags of Elisa Jane Carmichael only added to the experience as one marveled at their intricacy and subtlety.

The collection, as we saw it, is a fitting tribute to both sisters, not that we previously had had any inkling about them or their connection with us. Jean was as surprised as we to get her invitation, and we thank her for her recollections and input.

On to the other collection, several galleries of the works of Mavis Ngallametta (1944 - 2019) that is adjacent to "Vision" are hung. The subtle lighting the Gallery is known and famous for highlight them to perfection.

Mavis came late to the Art World. Only in 2008, at the age of sixty-four, did she begin to create the large canvases this Exhibition covers and she is renowned for. Born in Kendall River country, in West Cape York, she lived the traditional Kugu life, until her family moved to the Presbyterian mission in Aurukun, when she was five. There was, sadly, no other information of her upbringing.

She first encountered vibrant acrylics at the Wik and Kugu Art Centre and began painting stories and reminis-

cences of her homeland. In time, she progressed to painting with pigments she gathered from important sites, including white clay, ochres, etc. She travelled extensively, longing to return to her traditional country, flying over and taking inspiration from it, then committing it to her highly-sought canvases.

As to the title of the show? Mavis loved to sing and this was her favorite. One of the State's most esteemed Seniors, she won many National awards. She is remembered for a rich legacy of art and culture. This Exhibition is her first and she would no doubt be thrilled at its quality and treatment.

So, after all that "kulcha", it was time to retire to the dining room and talk about what we had seen, which we always do with alacrity and aplomb.

Many thanks to all who came and to Margaret for the great suggestion and organizing it. The Exhibitions are on until the 21st of January, free and well worth the visit.

John Perry

MACKAY LADIES

Happiness and Sadness at the same time

Mackay Ladies Probus Club recently celebrated its Thirty-Fifth Anniversary with a luncheon held at Mackay City Bowls Club. A good roll up of members and their partners attended. The cake was cut by Inaugural and Life Member Beryl Woodman and Val Dawson. Val has been a member of Mackay Ladies Probus for twenty-seven years.

Unfortunately, just days before our luncheon, one of our Inaugural Members, Rowena Hart, passed away at the age of ninety-five. Rowena was an active member right up to the time of her death. Visitors to Rowena while she was in hospital were told of the happy memories she had of the time she spent in the Club. R.I.P, Rowena. You will be sadly missed.

Kath Windsor



The Cutting of the Cake

Join us for a guided tour through the Brisbane Communications Museum

Explore the world of communication technology from the telegraph to today's modern networks

The museum has several hands-on exhibits including working manual and automatic systems which have been lovingly restored by our ex PMG, Telecom and Telstra employees. For fun or accuracy, test your hand at our Morse Code machine which is linked to a computer screen, listen to the Talking Time clock and more..

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WE MIGHT JUST BE TALKING TO YOU!

Do you realise how volunteering for a position for your Club's Management Committee can be so beneficial not only for your club but for you personally?

We all know that a number of Clubs are experiencing difficulty getting Members to stand up and be counted when that time comes round once again. If their members could only realise how rewarding being involved in the management of their club it can be.

On reflection, having been a Probus Member for just on twenty years, I have recently come to the realisation that I have not only enjoyed the fun and friendship Probus can offer, but how Probus may have physically and mentally stimulated my life. I sincerely believe that if you volunteer for a position on the Management Committee of your Club you, also, will discover how rewarding it will be.

Before moving to Brisbane in 2012, I served time as both Secretary and President of a Club in Canberra as well as being Newsletter Editor. I also served as President

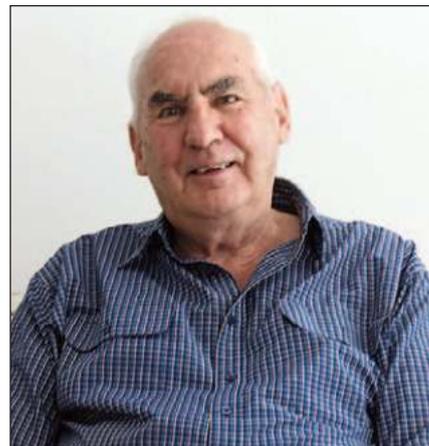
and Secretary of the Canberra Association. On arrival in Brisbane, my wife and I started looking for a new Club to join and felt I just wanted to be a Member and just sit back and enjoy all the social activities of my new Club at Algester.

I soon came to the realisation that I missed the enjoyment and stimulation of being on the Management Committee. In 2014, I agreed to accept the position of President at Algester and did the same the following year. I have also been Editor of the Clubs Newsletter for the past eight years. This has also given me a lot of enjoyment, and assisted in keeping up my computer skills, along with searching for items that reflect fun and friendship.

In 2015 I joined the PAQ Committee. Then in March 2017 was appointed President of your Association. During the following two years, we managed to get a Memo of Understanding signed between PAQ and Probus South Pacific. This, I believe, has had a huge impact, showing how we can better all work together for one goal and that is to grow Probus in Queensland.

In March 2017, I was appointed Treasurer and now in my third year, I continue in that role.

I feel it is very important that if all



members are willing to share their knowledge and experiences, it is amazing what we can achieve together. We all come from different backgrounds, we all have had different experiences in our past working lives, and have different skills.

By working together, however, we can all make a difference, and we can all make our clubs prosper into the future.

So please consider standing for your Club's Committee in the year ahead. I can assure you from my experience you will be well rewarded.

**Brian Gilmore
Past President/ Treasurer PAQ**

BELLBOWRIE

An authentic Christmas in July

A traditional Christmas is generally portrayed as being held in the depths of winter with a log fire burning. That's exactly what we got in late July at the Birches Restaurant, Mt Mee.

The morning commenced with a prompt ten-o'clock bus departure for forty-three Probus members from the Club followed by a long ride up some beautiful but winding road within the D'Aguilar Mountain Range, overlooking the Glasshouse Mountains.

Mt Mee is a small hamlet with a school, a few buildings and a lovely restaurant, perched on the top of Mt Mee. The Birches Restaurant has a nice ambience with a central log fire which was very welcome, as it was rather cold up there!

Our pre-ordered lunch arrived once everyone settled in, with the sound of Christmas Carols in the background. The Christmas-themed meal was beautifully presented and enjoyable. Then it was soon time to mingle and



Lots of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship here!

catch up with other members.

After we left Birches, it was a quick detour down the road for about a kilometre to the Dahmongah Look-out. There were anxious moments here, as the bus reversed into a park to enable a turnaround. Memories of last year's bus adventures at our pre-

vious Christmas in July were front of mind with many of us.

The trip home was just as spectacular as the journey up in the morning, but a lot quicker as it was all downhill.

Our thanks go to Roger and Geraldine for organising this very enjoyable day.

BRISBANE NORTH

Our visit to the Queensland Institute of Molecular Bioscience

The day started with a morning tea at Guyatt Park overlooking the Brisbane River. The fruit cake and date and walnut loaf proved very popular and a good start to the day. Upon arrival at the IMB, we were guided through the impressive building to a lecture room, and, following an informative session on the latest IMB Research, we split into three groups, donned our lab coats and goggles and entered the laboratories. It was fascinating to see our World-leading Queensland Scientists up close.

As an aside, we were advised early on that all photos of our lab visits had to be approved by scientists, in case

they inadvertently captured 'secret scientific stuff'.

Sooooo, we learned the way to become a scientist. First stage - coat over arm as we strolled through the corridor. No reputable scientist walks around in their lab coat. The real ones don't even take them out of the lab - easy to keep them sterile that way. Second stage - put them on just after you've washed one's hands in the special area beside the "Lab Lift". I must admit that I did manage one last sneaky photo even though I knew visitors aren't allowed to take photos in the labs. Sometimes, just being cheeky does give a thrill. The third stage was when we were taken further by our volunteer Scientist Guide, who assured us that we were looking very scientific in our buttoned lab coats and goggles, with our hands in pockets or clasped together so we don't

inadvertently contaminate anything.

Professor Craik reckons that one of his dreams is to produce an anti-obesity peptide Cyclotide in marketable quantities. He would grow it embedded in the potato plant, and everyone could eat as many potato chips as they liked and never get fat again! They are, on the more serious level, experimenting on plants in partnership with European Universities. They've already had positive results with eco-friendly pesticides. The lab we were in contains their plant experiments. Just imagine if undeveloped countries could grow their anti-biotics and medicines in bulk and you just eat it as part of your meal. Takes healthy eating to a new level.

Eventually even all this top-level scientific stuff starts to pall and we went off to find the wonder food available at The Gap Tavern for our lunch.



Guyatt Park and Morning Tea – a good start to the day



Entry to the QIMB

CHATSWORTH-CARINDALE

The Gold Coast Car Museum

Members of the Club took the day off in mid-June to visit the Gold Coast Motor Museum in Upper Coomera. Located in a rural setting, the collection of old cars makes for a wonderful Museum to visit and inspect.

We enjoyed the ease of walking around the collection of cars and admiring the extraordinary restoration and maintenance of the vehicles, many of which are nearing one hundred years old, and reading the history of the cars and their production companies. For many, it was romantic reminiscence back to their first car. There were many conversations to be heard about the sequence of cars thereafter, how things have changed from the "too small to get into" to "ones too large for my garage". Many wonderful memories.

We certainly enjoyed the comfortable surroundings and outdoor area of the Museum before a relaxed and well-organised lunch at the Hope Island Tavern. We almost had it to ourselves!



Andrew and Nola are just about to take off in their Model T Ford!



So many delicious cars to reminisce over!



John Masson could get used to this sort of service!

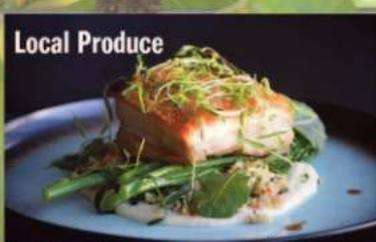
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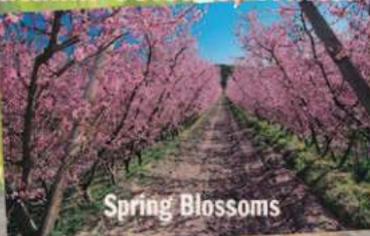


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PARK RIDGE

Our Tropical Fruit World Discovery Tour

On a very chilly Friday morning, thirteen members of the Club met at the bus stop near the Jimboomba Hotel ready for our next adventure in the company of the Beaudesert Club. We climbed into the warm interior of the coach and headed to Beaudesert to meet up with the Beaudesert members who would be joining us.

We set off for Tropical Fruit World, located in Duranbah in NSW via the back road and saw the beautiful green countryside on the way down and avoided the busy highways and heavy traffic. It was a lovely relaxing ride, although a lengthy one. Fortunately, we pulled into a Service Station to refuel and there was a dash by some members on the bus for the Ladies Room. We had a very early start to the day and the stop was much appreciated.

Upon reaching our destination we were treated to a delicious morning tea of muffins and scone before enjoying a fully guided tour of the orchards by a tractor train and stopping along the way to crack open and eat the beautiful Queensland nuts and the bananas that were grown on the property.

The property was purchased by Robert and Valorie Brismead in 1972, as a run-down small small-crop farm that had been given over to grazing. Bob was fully aware of the land's fruit-growing potential, however, and the location offered breath-taking view of the Tweed valley to the west and the Pacific Ocean to the east. Surely, good ingredients for the Tourist Industry.

The family plan was to grow tropical fruit on the red soil hills, while pre-



Two sad faces – who could resist them?

servicing areas of the original forest and the natural beauty of the land. Bob started planting lots of avocados. He also enlisted the enthusiastic help of his children, and, together, they nurtured orchards of custard apples, bananas, mangos, lychees, guavas, macadamias, papaya ...

The collection grew, and over the years the plantation became a fascination for an endless stream of visiting friends and family. And so, "Avocadoland" opened its gates as a tourist attraction for the first time in 1983.

They have an abundance of Fuerte Avocados, the original Avocado. This Mexican variety grows perfectly in the Tweed. The Fuerte (meaning "strong" in Spanish) Avocado was discovered in Mexico in 1911 and was imported into California to become the foundation of the avocado industry there and to become the most desirable avocado to eat.

In 1941 the Fuerte Avocado was imported from California to be planted on a part of this farm, then known as the Duranbah Experimental Plot. When the avocado industry was launched in Australia during the 1970's, Fuerte was the foundation of the new industry in Australia and the variety that everybody wanted. Avocado connoisseurs still insist that Fuertes are the best tasting avocados. Besides having a creamy flesh with a hazelnut flavour, Fuertes have the highest oil content of all avocados hence the best flavour.

It is now almost impossible to buy this "original avocado" in the shops throughout Australia as they have a soft, delicate skin which has proved to be too fragile for the supply chain. So, the market generally, opting for durability rather than taste, has abandoned "the original avocado." Fuerte avocados are still grown on this farm eighty years after they were brought here from California. They are now an heirloom, but still the best!

Next stop on our tour was the Animal Farm, where we were able to feed the sheep, goats and donkeys with the food provided on condition that they all got their fair share of what was on offer. The sheep were greedy and would nip your hand in the process of taking the grain if you didn't hold your hand flat. The miniature goats were very cute and were more polite than the sheep. The donkeys were very standoffish and aloof



We're aboard and on our way

and weren't that keen on being fed in this way, but by the look of them they certainly weren't deprived.

We continued on our way and climbed aboard the boat that was moored on the waterways and spent a leisurely time cruising and looking out for turtles and so on, and finished at a hut in a bush location where we were told about the local trees and their uses by a staff member.

Then it was back on board the tractor train and back through the orchard to another location where we were given a talk on the fruits that were set out on the table for us to taste or to take with us to have later. Next on the programme was a short walk back to the main area where the coach was parked.

Before we boarded the coach we took advantage of the bargains in the shop, full of dried fruits and leaves used for cooking or for medicinal purposes and a lovely range of skin-care products derived from the fruit grown on the property. We bought up big in the fresh fruit market as well as buying the Fuerte avocados at \$10 for a bucket of 15. What a bargain!!!

When all the goodies were safely packed away, we headed to the Kingscliffe Bowls Club for lunch. Sandy, the Tour Operator from the Beaudesert Club, had already pre-ordered our meal, so we were able to be served our lunch shortly after arriving. This was perhaps very fortunate as the Club was extremely popular and quite crowded. The meals were much appreciated after our busy morning, as were the cold drinks from the bar.

Time was getting on, and it was decided to head for home, so it was all aboard and, unlike the babble of chatter on the way down, it was a very quiet trip home, as I think a few of us had a nap on the way back.

Thanks to Sandy's great organizational skills we had a fantastic day with great company. Thanks Beaudesert Probus.

Carol M



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

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Who will you stop to remember?

State Library of Queensland invites you to reflect on the bravery and sacrifice of Queensland's servicemen and women and discover ways to commemorate Remembrance Day at home and in person at Anzac Square Memorial Galleries.

At 11am on 11 November 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. The allied armies had driven the German invaders back, having inflicted heavy defeats upon them over the preceding four months. With their armies retreating and close to collapse, German leaders signed an Armistice, bringing an end to the First World War.

This historic moment—commemorated in Australia as Remembrance Day—attained special significance in the post-war years; with allied nations observing one minute's silence on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month in remembrance of those who have served, died, or suffered in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations.

Australia's involvement in the First World War exacted a heavy toll in death and injury with the highest casualty rate of the Allied forces. Many Queenslanders laid down their lives; with no previous or subsequent war making such an impact. Of the 58,000 Queenslanders who served in the First World War, over 10,000 of them died; their bodies buried or lost near where they fell.

Opened on Remembrance Day—then known as Armistice Day—in 1930, Anzac Square is the State war memorial of Queensland. It was borne from a grieving society, searching for a place to remember loved ones who never returned home from service. It also represented the courage of the men, women and children who remained at home and laboured in support of national defence in wartime.

Anzac Square is the accomplishment of a nation's gratitude. It was paid for by individual donations from ordinary people—who themselves were facing difficult times in the years between the First World War and the Great Depression—but who felt compelled to make a sacred contribution towards an unpayable debt.

Today, Anzac Square is still the place where Queensland remembers. Located in Brisbane's CBD, with the spectacular Shrine of Remembrance and Eternal Flame burning at its heart, Anzac Square provides permanent recognition for those who have served our nation and preserves their legacy by offering a hallowed space to reflect on their bravery and sacrifice.

Beneath the Shrine, visitors of all ages can embark on an interactive journey from the First World War to today inside Anzac Square Memorial Galleries – a free exhibition curated by State Library of Queensland. The Memorial Galleries will be open from 10am—4pm on Remembrance Day for patrons wishing to commemorate in person or place a poppy in honour of Queensland associated battalions, regiments and other units.

Visitors during the week of Remembrance Day can also delve deeper into Queensland's war history on a free, 45-minute guided tour of the Memorial Galleries, exploring the history, traditions, and heroes who exemplify the Anzac Spirit and underpin this important day. Some of the stories you'll hear on this special tour include Francis Henry Staunton (a shearer from Richmond who served in Gallipoli and the Western Front), Beryl Pender (a superintendent in the Women's Land Army during the Second World War), and Alex Garlin (a national serviceman with the Royal Australian Navy). Bookings are essential. Visit our website to secure your place.

Commemorating from home? Visit our website from 1 November and follow the prompts to have a free poppy placed on your behalf inside the Anzac Square Memorial Gallery of your choice. Online visitors can also help document the story of Queensland by tagging and commenting on State Library collection items, as well as preserving their own memories by uploading personal images and stories through Explorer.

Following in the footsteps of Queenslanders past and present, who have been coming to Anzac Square for almost a century to commemorate Australia's service community, is a wonderful way to honour and uphold the Anzac spirit. Experience the quiet solitude of Queensland's preeminent war memorial and gain a greater understanding of Australia's military past at Anzac Square Memorial Galleries.

Anzac Square Memorial Galleries is open 10am—4pm, Sunday to Friday, closed Saturdays and public holidays (excluding Anzac Day).

Scan the QR code or visit anzacsquare.qld.gov.au to discover more ways to commemorate Remembrance Day at home and in person.



Visit the place where Queensland remembers

Gather your friends and embark on an interactive journey from the First World War to today inside Anzac Square Memorial Galleries.

To book your free group tour, contact our friendly team on **0466 922 259** or email anzacsquare@slq.qld.gov.au



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A group of Australians departing New Guinea at the end of the Second World War, 1945, 31553, John Stanton Davis Mellick Archive, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

SPRINGWOOD

A visit to Tankride

We arrived at Tankride with military precision.....well not really, but it sounds good!

We were met by Tim Wood, the owner and passionate collector. Morning tea was enjoyed before Tim began his fascinating story about how Tankride evolved. He had us all enthralled with his information and engaging stories about his dream as a young boy to own his own tank – well, he has certainly done that and more! His display of military equipment is incredible, and I believe he is “living the dream”.

Bill “volunteered” to showcase some of the memorabilia, mainly a helmet, and a machine gun belt and balanced a 20lb shell (decommissioned!) on his lap. He certainly did it in style!

Tim had so many interesting stories to tell and we could have listened to him for a lot longer, but then it was time to have a closer inspection of some of the displays. Barry and Allan climbed into a Centurion tank. They both agreed it was rather “tight” inside. Lorraine climbed into the Saracen tank for a better view. Tim even had a red Ferrari on display that he had built from scratch. Alicia said she would rather have had a ride in the Ferrari than a tank!

The troops were gathered around and eleven people decided to go on a Gamma Goat ride, and what a thrill it was! Tim loaded them up and off they went up hill and



Off on a Ride

down dale. We spectators could hear the laughter and shouts in the distance. There may be a few sore muscles from holding on during the speedy and bumpy ride. They all had a ball.

What a great time we all had and one that we could highly recommend. Tim certainly exuded enthusiasm and passion for his collection which I am sure will only grow. He obviously has a very understanding wife!

Off we went to lunch at the Green Frog Hollow Cafe and all agreed that it was a great day out. Some would like to return for another ride!

“Tanks” for the experience, Tim.

Carolyn



Lorraine looks at home in a tank!



A cuppa's always welcome wherever we are!

KAWANA WATERS

Another of our regular monthly dine-outs

Our most recent dine-out was our opportunity once again to come together in friendship and enjoy a meal together. This occasion saw us dine at the Wildflower at Mercure Birtiny. Although they were very busy – and this is generally a good sign, up here on the Sunshine Coast - the

food and service were very good. We interspersed the meal with a trivia quiz on Australia with Coral and Bronwyn both getting twenty out of the more than set thirty questions correct.

Mike Matthews



We're just enjoying being together.



These monthly dine-outs are always a chance to relax and enjoy good food and good company.

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SUNNYBANK

A Visit to that Quirky Winter Festival in Warwick

Our interest in Warwick's "Jumpers & Jazz in July" was piqued by an article that appeared in the May Issue of The Qld Probian. We thought that we would brave the cold and stay in our caravan, but unfortunately we'd left it a bit late to book a powered site anywhere. Having power to run our heater was a must! We were, however, in luck, as friends in Killarney offered us a sheltered spot on their three-acre property, complete with power and a toilet nearby. For the first two days of the Festival, the weather was atrocious - bitterly cold with driving wind and rain. Late Friday afternoon, we ventured into Warwick's CBD to view the Tree Jumper Exhibition - over a hundred trees and other structures wrapped in charming woolly creations and textile artworks. That night we attended the Jumpin' Jazz Laneway Party which, because of the inclement weather, was moved from the laneway beside the Warwick Town Hall to



The Mayor was suitably dressed as he extended a warm welcome.

inside St Mary's Community Hall. Here we enjoyed the performances of the UQ Big Band and then Angela (The Voice) Fabian. We had tickets to go to the Killarney Bonfire Night on the Saturday, but that got postponed due to the Showgrounds being too wet and muddy. Sunday was a lovely sunny winter's day, perfect for the Grand Automobile Display on Palmerin St. There were close to three hundred vehicles, from vintage to classic, muscle cars and motorcycles. These could



Now that's a bike any boy would love!

be admired as you listened to live jazz emanating from three different stages along the street.

We are returning to Warwick this weekend to attend the rescheduled Killarney Bonfire Night and enjoy the Picnic in The Park finale on Sunday. The Festival is spread over ten days with so many different things to see and do. If you haven't yet been, put it on the list for next winter - it is well worth a visit!

Sue Perkins

TOONDAH

Our Tour of Vivid Sydney

The tour from Trade Travel was well organised and the bus very efficient. Although we had atrocious weather, several highlights stood out from the windy and cold conditions. The Old Quarantine Buildings had a very interesting history that was very well presented by our guide. It is a beautiful site with excellent views. Having just been through COVID with its lockdowns and quarantine as we had been, it must be said that we were aware of amazing similarities between our time and that of the Quarantine Station, but the current arrangements were infinitely better than they had in those days. The showers and living quarters were very cold and primitive and the fumigation chamber for lug-

gage belonged to another world. The processes, however, were surprisingly similar. And you have to wonder how they beat the likes of Smallpox, Spanish Flu with a relatively rudimentary set of drugs.

Whilst some of us had visited the Opera House previously, the guide was interesting and the comments on the construction of the building showed that the design had several shortcomings in the acoustics department which have been expensive and are still on going. The winds were very strong around the Wharf area and one person got blown over, so most of us went for a hot drink in one of the cafes.

Another highlight for us was the trip up the Parramatta River on a City Cat Ferry. We caught the Ferry at Circular Key and travelled the length of Sydney Harbour up the Parramatta River

to Parramatta City, where we were met by the President of the Parramatta Historical Society dressed in full costume of that period. She looked just wonderful in her long dress, bonnet and basket complete with the wet weather cloak she needed, as the wind was very cold and cutting. The lady was a wealth of information. She mentioned that, in the early days, the only way up the river was in a rowing boat that transported people and produce between Sydney Town and the fledgling town of Parramatta. Apparently, all crews were instructed that they must carry a spare set of oars in case the women wished to help with the rowing!

The View Hotel was aptly named, because it had excellent views of the Harbour Bridge.

Overall, a well worth while tour. A very busy time.



Our group at Old Government House, Parramatta



The view from our hotel room at View Hotel

NORFOLK ISLAND BOUNTY WEEK

6 - 13 JUNE 2023

On the 8th June each year, for local Pitcairn descendants and locals alike, a celebration takes place in remembrance of the day their Ancestors arrived from Pitcairn Island. Some Bounty Day traditions may have changed over the years, but it's like a wonderful step back in time! As well as giving you a great introduction to Norfolk Island, a holiday around Bounty Day is unique and something that will stay etched in your memory forever.



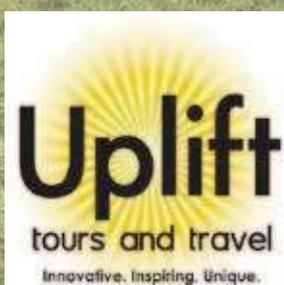
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- * Night as a Convict
- * Indulgence tour
- * Convict Settlement Tour
- * Glass Bottom Boat
- * Return airport transfers
- * Half day Island tour
- * Island Fish Fry
- * Progressive Dinner
- * Sound & Light Show
- * Cyclorama
- * Breakfast Bush Walk



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Discover Ipswich's charming heritage sites, art and nature reserves with a fully inclusive group tour available through the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre.

CBD Heritage Tour

Indulge in a delicious morning tea in Ipswich and a 1.5 hour guided heritage tour with knowledgeable tour guides on board your bus. Take in the Heritage City with iconic buildings and homes and then lunch at your choice of selected venues. **From \$35pp.**

Animal Encounters Tour

Enjoy a Devonshire tea on the lovely veranda at the Visitor Information Centre with landscaped gardens overlooking the HMAS Memorial. Take a 1.5 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 \$35pp.**

Railway Workshops

Take morning tea and a tour at The Workshops Railway Museum. Lunch at 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 \$35pp.**

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.



 Animal Encounters Tour



 Railway Workshops



 Japanese Tea Ceremony



 **Guided Walking Tours**



 **Marburg Tour**



 **Local Ipswich Producers Tour**

Guests will have the opportunity to participate in the ceremony. This tour needs a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 people. **From \$40pp.**

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 \$40pp.**

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 \$45pp.**

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 Dovetails or Pumpyard Bar and Brewery. 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 workshop and morning tea at Tranquil Tea House. Learn the art of brewing tea, and then 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 \$60pp.**



 **Arts Mural Trail Tour**

\$150-\$650 REBATE OFFER

Probus clubs bringing groups of 10 or more paying participants to Ipswich are eligible to apply for an Ipswich Groups Rebate. Visiting groups can receive a rebate of between \$150 and \$650 per visit based on qualified spend in the city.

For more information about the rebate program and the group experiences available in the City of Ipswich:

Phone: (07) 3810 7448

Email: tourismgroups@ipswich.qld.gov.au

Web: DiscoverIpswich.com.au/groups

Please note: The Ipswich Group Tour Rebate Program is coming to a close. Rebates through this Program will only be available for eligible group tours conducted by 30 June 2023 with a corresponding application submitted by 30 July 2023.

Bookings for tours usually require a minimum of 20 people and can be booked Monday-Friday. For bookings call (07) 3281 0555 or email info@discoveripswich.com.au

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INDOOROOPILLY

Tour of the Ipswich Railway Museum

Sixteen members went on the tour, with most of us travelling by train to Ipswich, followed by a short bus ride to the museum. We arrived just in time for a welcome morning cup of coffee.

I noted that there was a small majority of males in our group which differs from the general club membership, reflecting, perhaps, the traditional male interest in things mechanical.

I personally jumped at the opportunity to go as I have had a long interest in trains, and I was certainly not disap-

pointed. We initially met with Ken, a volunteer guide, who gave a highly informative preliminary talk about the museum, outlining the history of the Workshop. He complemented his introduction with many amusing anecdotes from over the years.

The Museum forms part of the Railways Workshop complex with rolling stock maintenance continuing as it has done since the nineteenth century. This makes it one of the oldest continuously operating facilities of this type in the world. After a leisurely lunch at the Museum café, we then had around an hour-and-a-half to explore the many exhibits.

I, personally, had several "Michael Portillo" moments, when I could

closely examine the numerous giant steam locomotives preserved there. The range of rolling-stock was impressive.

Some brought back long memories of the old carriages pulled by steam locos that were part of my formative years in Brisbane. There were extensive displays of the various workshops from earlier times.

Work in those days was hot, noisy, and often dangerous. How things have changed! You don't need to be a train buff to appreciate this impressive collection. If you have not been and this was my first visit then this is a must for your bucket list.

Ralph Cobcroft



A Beyer Garratt Locomotive 1950 – in service well within our memories



Our group excited in anticipation

MT OMMANEY

Queensland Day Barefoot Bowls at Mt Ommaney

June 6 is an important day for us Queenslanders and one that we at Mt Ommaney try to celebrate in a different way each year. In case you don't know this is the date on which Queen Victoria signed the Letters Patent in 1859 to establish the Colony of Queensland, thus declaring it separate from the Colony of New South Wales. Governor Bowen arrived in Brisbane on 10 December 1859 to read the Proclamation. Queensland used to have a public holiday on 10 December 1959 to mark the Cente-

nary of that auspicious day in our history. In recent years, most celebrations have been undertaken on 6 June.

Sixteen Club members turned out this year, in their maroon colours, on an overcast and cool day, to celebrate Queensland Day 2022 with Barefoot Bowls at Jindalee Bowls Club. A competition was organised with hit-up teams of pairs and triples.

While many bowls were sent down short of the mark, our President Chris showed a promising style in her delivery and there was quite some discussion after each "end". Coaches Carol Cosgrove from the Jindalee Bowls Club and our own Ian Koch, a Jindalee Bowls Club member, provided

useful tips. Competition was keen and some teams came from behind to pip the leaders at the post on the last end.

When the Domino's Pizza delivery arrived, enough was reckoned to be enough and we quickly adjourned to the temporary Clubhouse to enjoy our lunch and the hospitality available from the Bowls Club.

It was an enjoyable and active day on which we all learned new things and maybe gained a few new skills – Carol was kind enough to say that some of us showed a degree of promise!

Maybe we'll go back for another day sometime!



We're getting better we think!



It's always good to get together whatever date it is!

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NAMBOUR PROBUS 90

The Club enjoys a day in the Noosa Hinterland

Mother Nature smiled on us and turned on a perfect day for our trip in the Noosa Hinterland with our first stop being the Amrita Meadery set in a beautiful tranquil park.

This boutique meadery was quite impressive with colourful bottles of mead, handmade gifts, local works of art, beeswax for furniture and drinking mugs hand crafted from ox horns.

Our hosts, Andy Coates and Nicola Cleaver, made us very welcome. After leaving their respective careers, they are following in the footsteps of Andy's grandfather who had been making mead in Australia since the early 1940's. The art of making mead goes back some eight thousand years to Medieval Times. The tasting session saw a variety of flavours and styles all of which we eagerly sampled followed by a brisk trade in purchases.

Then it was off to the Weis Artworks. "Amazing and innovative" is the only description that comes to mind. This beautiful property with its lush gardens housed an incredible array of artwork. These were the most amazing structures made from old, abandoned pieces of farm machinery



Mac Chapmone showing off the instruments made from old machinery at the Weis Art Farm



Some of our members picking fresh strawberries at Cooloola Berries Farm

and various other sources. Some were decorative, some were imaginative, some were useful and some were musical, producing various tones and timbres when touched or tapped or strummed, but they were all fascinating to see and left us to wonder at the imagination of their creator.

Lunch time beckoned and, after a very pleasant drive through some scenic country, we arrived at the Cooloola Berries Farm and Café and a warm welcome.

The lunchtime menu consisted of extremely generous serves, but some of our group even managed to fit in a strawberry dessert.

The offer to pick your own berries was very tempting and some pickers took to the field. Jason and Kim, our hosts operate the farm as a family business and welcome tours, functions and visitors. After lunch, Jason took us on a tour of the farm imparting knowledge about the different types of berries and growing techniques.

Despite our huge lunch, we all enjoyed browsing through the berry patch, picking and eating the sweetest sun-warmed berries.

This had been another most enjoyable day that left us with lingering memories of the sweet taste of honey mead, vine ripened strawberries and heaps of good fellowship.

Bill MacKenzie

CABOOLTURE

Christmas in July with the Club

On Friday 22nd July, a merry band of Probus members travelled along a winding road up the mountain range,

through rain and wind up to a little village called Mount Mee, where we attended a lovely little restaurant called "The Birches Restaurant". Well, the drive may not have been as pleasant as it could have been, but the restaurant was lovely and the people were very hospitable. We settled

down to a very nice two-course "Christmas Lunch", and enjoyed one another's company, as well as the two musicians who played some Christmas and period music.

Many thanks must go to Jenny and others who were instrumental in making this lunch an enjoyable outing.



It was good to see the fire going in the centre of the restaurant.



Being able to have a chat after a good meal just adds to the enjoyment.

INDOOROOPILLY

Our Tour of Government House

Have you ever wondered what it's like to live and work in that rather imposing old white house surrounded by secure fences and trees on the hill at Paddington? Eight intrepid members of our club braved the rain and the cold of a July morning to find out just what it's like inside Queensland's Government House.

We were greeted very hospitably by our friendly and knowledgeable guide whose identity will hopefully be revealed when his application for membership of our club is processed soon.

Interestingly, the house was built in three parts over several decades. The first was in 1865 as a private residence, then the second section in the 1880s. At that time the house was still in private hands. The final part was in 1937. All three blend together somehow to form a harmonious whole. It has been home to the Governor of Queensland since 1910.

On entering the house via the Investiture Room, we watched a video of welcome presented by the current Governor, Her Excellency Dr Janette Young, generally does this in person, but she was overseas at the time of our visit. She stressed particularly the role of Government House as the house of the people of Queensland. We were fascinated by the variety of medals displayed and which are presented in the ceremonies of the Australian Honours Awards. The Victoria Cross, though elegant, seemed much smaller than I had imagined, and belied the enormity of the task that goes into earning it.

We saw the formal rooms which are used the Governor

in her role of Head of State and the Queen's representative in Queensland.

We went into the office where she works each day – work entailed in such as meeting the Premier and Ministers to discuss details of legislation provided for her assent and where she receives official guests, such as representatives of foreign countries and other dignitaries from inside and outside the State.

The rooms were very impressive with a magnificently tiled entrance, patterned Axminster carpets, Waterford crystal chandeliers, chairs upholstered in fabrics decorated with embroidered flowers of Queensland, and beautiful tables made in various Queensland woods.

There was an aura of calm and beauty in the rooms themselves, enhanced by lovely vistas of the gardens through the windows.

All this probably conceals the fact that behind the scenes of formality and tradition, there is a great deal of activity and work in the background to enable the Governor to perform the quite demanding job of not only carrying out the legal and symbolic duties of the Head of state but also of creating an atmosphere that demonstrates very well the role of the people's house as the Governor highlighted in her welcome video speech.

It was a lovely visit to a gracious old home, with an overlay of symbolism, a touch of interest for the sticky beaks among us, and a feeling of people being welcome here. I was pleased I went.

Lynne McPherson

PLAY

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THE PROBIAN'S QUIZ

All answers
begin with
the letter **S**



- 'Basking', 'Mako' and 'Goblin' are all types of what animal?
- What is to sun as *lunar* is to moon.
- What surname is shared by a child-care expert and a 'Star Trek' character?
- Who was leader of the Soviet Union through World War II?
- Which gladiator led a slave uprising against the Roman Republic in 73 BC?
- Which Vatican chapel's ceiling was famously painted by Michelangelo?
- During Prohibition in USA, what name was given to establishments that illegally sold alcohol?
- What was the name of the Spanish city where Rossini portrayed Figaro as a barber?
- Thailand's former name was...?
- What Apple web browser is also a Swahili word for an African wildlife trip?
- In terms of population, what is the largest city in China?
- Bert, Ernie, Elmo and Big Bird are characters in what long-running children's TV series?
- 'Galaxy' is a series of mobile phones made by what Korean electronics company?

1. Shark. 2. Solar. 3. Spock. 4. Stalin.
5. Spartacus. 6. Sistine. 7. Speakeasy.
8. Seville. 9. Siam. 10. Safari. 11. Shanghai.
12. Sesame Street. 13. Samsung.

BRIBIE ISLAND

A Talk delivered on the history of the Oyster Reef history, covering its decline and restoration

The Club felt privileged to be able to listen to a talk from Dr Ben Diggles who spoke to us recently on the decline and restoration of Oyster Reef history, with a particular focus on the health of Pumicestone Passage in Moreton Bay.

Ben is the Director of Digsfish Services Pty Ltd, which specializes in the health and welfare of aquatic animals and their environment in Greater Brisbane.

The company does extend its services across Australasia.

We learned that while the local Indigenous population has fished the area for generations, using methods which maintained the natural marine environment, in 1824 Europeans entered the area and after that date South-East Queensland was opened up to settlers. By 1895, signs of environmental damage to water quality was evident and by 1960 Marteiliosis disease (QX) was evident in local oysters.

Along with similar diseases, QX damages the digestive system of Sydney rock oysters and mud-dwelling worms.

Shortly afterwards, in 1966, Lyngbya Bloom (blue-green algae) was evident – caused by the increasingly acid-sulfate soils due to urbanization pollution.

A massive fish-kill in the year 2,000 drew the attention of marine biologists and scientists to increase research to find what, if anything, could reverse the damage to the marine environment.

Ben and his colleagues' research has gone back, not only to find the basic causes of the loss of aquatic life in our area but to seek solutions to reverse the damage.

In nature, marine shellfish form part of the natural environment at the end of their life cycle.

After European settlement in Queensland, however, oyster shells were removed from the waterways and used as a road base.

Further damage since the late nineteenth century has been caused by dredging and disruption to natural water flows in the surrounding areas and the health of seagrass, shellfish and other marine animals has suffered. In the 1890s, Sydney Rock Oysters were abundant and local oyster farms around Ningi were producing up to 1,890 tonnes of oysters per season.



Dr Ben Diggles PhD

Research suggests only around four per cent of the original oyster beds remain with no baby oysters evident.

As an answer to restoring our local waterways and fish stock, Ben's team are collecting oyster shells and, after disinfecting them against the spread of disease, returning them to the water to create artificial reefs.

The foundations of these reefs are established by a small wall of Besser Blocks filled with oyster shells that over time bind together.

Gradually, plankton at the bottom of the food chain gathers and starts the process of cleaning the water. This, in turn, attracts fish and other marine animals.

The establishment of these reefs is only one aspect of many of Ben and his colleagues' research projects.

His high-quality presentation kept us, however, enthralled by his enthusiasm and his knowledge of his subject area and was very well received by our Probus audience.





President Bob De Lange addressing the gathering

WATERLOO BAY

We are twenty-five years young!

The year was 1997 and the Rotary Club of Wynnum and Manly looked into forming a Probus Club. The first meeting was in August and Rotarian Jim Brittain became President. So the Probus Club was formed and we took off.

Over the years, the Club has always maintained a wide range of activities and speakers from all walks of life. To name just a selection of the speakers the Club has enjoyed: there was a Dr. Fred McKay who took over the RFDS from John Flynn, Charles Chichester a former RAF member from England, Sarah Petchel, a competitor in the Invictus Games and we should not forget the like of one of our own members, Al Taylor, who spoke about his collection of eight thousand 78rpm records. Each year, our Club has shown its respect to the services personnel with an ANZAC Service led by one of our members. The Club has been involved in a range of outings from ranging all the way from picnics, to visits to various places in and around Brisbane. We've had trips to regional areas, together with trips away to other States like Tasmania and nearby countries such as Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand together with Presidents and Past Presidents Lunches. Members have enjoyed assisting with and hosting PAQ Friendship Days.

All in all it has been a busy time but very enjoyable twenty-five years. So, on Thursday 25 August this year, the club celebrated twenty-five successful years.



Members at the luncheon

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PAQ is looking for a special person & you could be it!

The Probus Association of Queensland offers support to its affiliated clubs through **Regional Liaison Officers (RLO)** who are Probus members prepared to share their experience and knowledge of Probus with clubs in their region and offer advice when asked.

Currently PAQ is seeking RLOs for the Northern Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast regions.

If you'd like more information and to discuss what's involved in the position, contact either

David Harris on 0412 917 246

or email: david.harris@paqnetwork.com.au.



Photographed with our Craft Group are Councillor Paul Bishop and Councillor Wendy Boglary.

BIRKDALE PROBUS CLUB 1ST BIRTHDAY

We have had an exciting first year at Birkdale Probud. We already have 122 members, who are actively involved in more than 20 Events and Activities.

We celebrated our 1st Birthday on 21st September with a wonderful fruitcake and a cup-cake for each member.

The cakes were made and decorated by our talented "Craft Group" members.

Councillor Paul Bishop and Councillor Wendy Boglary supported our Club in its start-up and were our guest speakers on the 21st.



Birkdale 1st Birthday Crowd

GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA CELEBRATES 1ST BIRTHDAY

30+ Garden City Toowoomba members attended a special Birthday Meeting on 5th October - the club celebrated its first birthday.

Renown rose expert Bev Linden spoke to members about the history and types of roses and Lorraine Schiller - a club member - then explained the layout of the State Rose Garden in which the club has its meeting place and took some members for a guided tour.

The club then enjoyed a BBQ lunch and of course, a birthday cake.

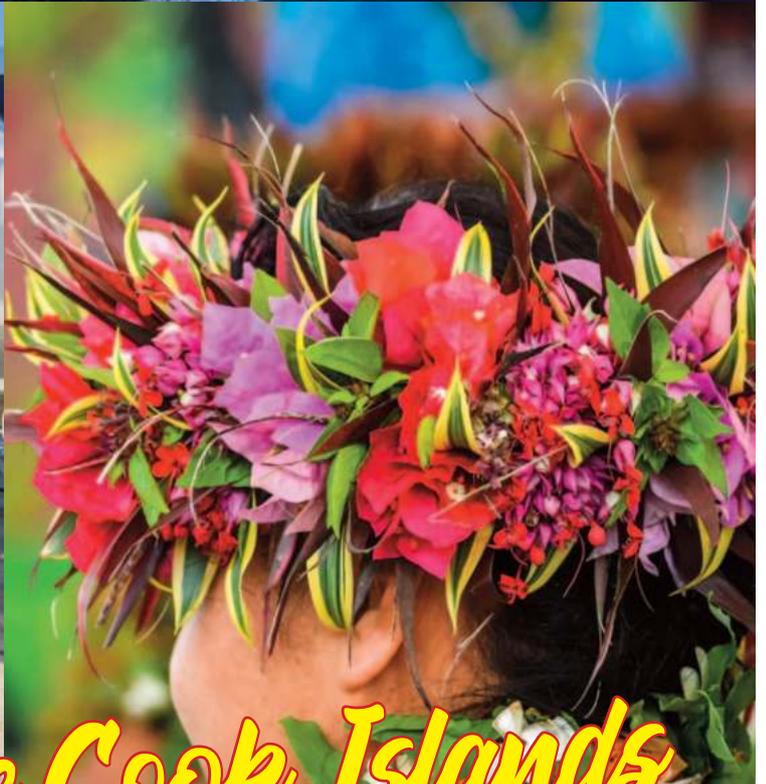
RIGHT: Bev Linden speaking about roses

FAR RIGHT: Club's Birthday Cake





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PARK RIDGE

Christmas in July on The Mountain

Our day started out full of promise with clear sunny skies and not a sign of rain as we boarded the coach at the Park Ridge bus top. Everyone was keen to go and had arrived early to make the most of the day, so after a head count to make sure all were present we started on our way. Bruce, our driver, was a careful driver and paid great attention to the winding road up the mountain. The scenery was lush and green and as we got closer to our turnoff Bruce pointed out the locations where several cars had been washed down the mountain in the deluge of water from the rain they had experienced.

When we reached the Hotel we were met by Joy, our President, who had driven up and brought all the raffle prizes with her. Those who could, helped with the gift baskets and took them inside the hotel and out through the back to the Grand Marquee where our tables were set for lunch.

Before lunch we had time to wander through the gardens and admire the view of the surrounding hills.

Vicki, the manager, informed us that the grounds were not at their best due to the amount of rain and the extremely cold weather they had been experiencing but we still enjoyed walking around and checking out the plants.

On our way back to the marquee we were surprised to find this beautiful peacock hiding in the gardens. You really had to look hard to see him, even with his bright colours; as he sat so still he could have been a statue.

We arrived back to the marquee to be greeted with tea and coffee and delicious fresh baked shortbread.

It wasn't long before lunch was served and silence reigned as we all did justice to the beautifully prepared meal. While taking time for our meal to settle, before desserts were



And here's the very welcoming and famous St Bernard's Hotel.



Here we are tucking in to a real Christmas feast.

brought out, we drew the four winning tickets for the raffle prizes. The first ticket out belonged to Frank, and doesn't he look happy. Second draw was won by Joan who claimed the lovely basket donated by Cr. Linus Powell which was filled to overflowing with goodies. Our third winner was Diana and the fourth prize was claimed by Lorraine. I hope they all enjoyed their baskets.

Next we were treated to very tasty desserts and we finished off our meal with tea and coffee.

Then to our delight Vicki, the Manager, came in leading two of the beautiful St Bernard dogs which the hotel is renowned for. They are such huge placid dogs, not prone to excitement as you can see, and everyone was drawn to them. The dogs received lots of pats and they were very well behaved for the photo opportunity with our members.

We had a happy and relaxing day at St Bernard's and the staff were attentive and pleasant and made our day very special.

It was time to get on board the coach and take a trip to Gallery Walk to explore and shops before we headed for home. Although the weather had been sunny and warm all day as we approached Gallery Walk the weather turned chilly and a few drops of rain started to fall. But that did not deter our valiant shoppers who battled on regardless and secured their purchases of chocolate, fudge and one astute shopper bought a beautiful technicoloured coat which she has since worn to the ballet and it was commented on by another theatre-goer.

We then headed for home, thankful that we did not have to drive down the mountain, and thankful that Bruce our driver was so capable.



MT OMMANEY

Our trip to Mt Tamborine for a pleasurable "Christmas in July" trip

There were sixteen members and friends of the Club who set off with Trade Travel in mid-July for our three-day trip to celebrate Christmas in July at Tamborine Mountain. The ever-punctual Probians and their friends enabled Coach Captain David to have us leave Mt Ommaney ahead of schedule.

The threatened rain on day one failed to materialize. Trade Travel hosts Greg and Andrew joined us at our first port of call, the Australian Military Museum at the Kokoda Barracks, Canungra. We were given an insight as to how Military Intelligence was gathered and our host, a serving officer, recounted some of the most well-known feats of Intelligence which have contributed to turning the course of modern warfare. The Barracks and the streets throughout were all named after the many theatres of war where Australian troops have served.

We were ready for our "light" lunch and wine tasting by the time we arrived at O'Reilly's Canungra Valley Vineyard. After a most enjoyable repast we were able to enjoy the company of the Alpaca farm animals who roamed about the property.

Despite a showery day, we set out next morning for a walking-tour of the splendid Mt Tamborine Botanic Gardens.

They have an enthusiastic volunteer group that keeps the gardens in tip top shape by dint of their weekly program. Rain held off for our walk along the Skywalk that presents an excellent up-close view high in the rain forest. We were treated with Don and Judith to the walk through the Mt Tamborine



Don and Judith exploring the area and across the Cantilever Bridge along the Rainforest Walkway



And here we are tucking in to the Christmas repast.

Botanical Gardens and on the cantilever at the Rainforest Walkway. The dense growth of the rainforest was a real point of interest as pointed out by the team. The Gallery Walk did not have many visitors on what then became a foggy day, but we did enjoy the light lunch and the expected shopping amid the village atmosphere. We capped off the afternoon with a visit to the Mt Tamborine Distillery with tasting and purchasing of their product. We watched with admiration as Lynda and Greg from Trade Travel skilfully skooled it at the Distillery, this to the obvious encouraging amusement of Vivienne.

With the weather closing in, we then retired to our motel to rest up

and prepare for our Christmas Dinner in July at St Bernard's Hotel next door to our lodgings. There, we appeared in our Christmas dress and enjoyed a sumptuous Christmas dinner.

Our last day took us to the Boutique Tamborine Mountain Coffee Plantation, where we sampled coffee and enjoyed morning tea. Our hosts then gave us an overview of how they harvest, roast and package the coffee beans.

We lunched at the quaint "The Manor" before returning home mid-afternoon.

This was, indeed, a very enjoyable short break right on our door step.

Barry Read

BILLS WATER TROUGHS

On my recent trip through small country towns in New South Wales and Victoria, I noticed many towns had concrete water troughs in varying states of disrepair. Each trough was inscribed

It wasn't until I saw a trough incorporated in some street art in Urana, NSW that my interest was piqued enough to do some research and, with the help of Wikipedia, I discovered that Annis and George were English immigrants who met and

married in Brisbane in 1882. They subsequently moved to Sydney and, with George's brothers, established successful manufacturing businesses. The couple remained childless and demonstrated a great love of animals. Annis died in 1910 and George in 1927. George willed that an estimated £70 - 80,000 be placed in trust for animal welfare purposes, including -

"..construct and erect and pay for horse troughs wherever they may be of the opinion that such horse troughs are desirable for the relief of horses and other dumb animals

either in Australasia, in the British Islands or in any other part of the world subject to the consent of the proper authorities being obtained."

Initially, the troughs were individually designed but by 1930 a standard pre-cast concrete model was in use. It is believed that by the end of World War II approximately 700 troughs had been installed throughout Australia and another 50 overseas. With the advent of motorised transport, the demand for water troughs declined and the trust funds were redirected to other animal welfare purposes.

HOLLAND PARK CENTRAL

Our morning at the Police Museum

Eight of us started the day off by meeting at the Chez Nous Café on Roma Street for a preliminary coffee before walking over to the Queensland Police Museum.

We were warmly welcomed and led to a small theatre where we had a short introduction to the Museum, followed by a seventeen-minute video. The video was entitled "The Tale of

the Taxi and the Dog" and outlined the true story of the murder of a taxi driver in Southport in 1952 and the subsequent arrest and conviction of "Slim" Halliday. Halliday's dog was used as a part of the evidence – but the dog had to be exhumed and taken to the taxidermist first! The dog is still on display in the Museum.

We were then free to wander through the many displays. Of particular interest were exhibits and stories of both solved and unsolved murders in Brisbane dating back to the 1950s.

Other exhibits included memorabilia from the very early days of these up

to the present time and some showing the modern technology used in solving crimes.

After a leisurely look through the many displays, we returned to Chez Nous for lunch.

The café was bustling but efficient, with many affordable meals from which to choose.

All in all, it had been a pleasurable start to the day with Fun, Friendship and Fellowship well in evidence as usual in Holland Park Central Probus Club gatherings – large or small.

Mary C.

SPRINGWOOD

The Royal Flying Doctor Service

Club members recently had the privilege of hearing the history of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and of the work they are now doing, as told by Val Marlowe, their Relationship Manager.

In mid-July, 1917, Dr Joe Holland received an emergency call in Perth that his help was urgently needed to save the life of a critically injured man up in far-north Western Australia. The man, Jimmy Darcy, a stockman on a remote property, had been gravely injured when his horse rolled on him in the course of a cattle stampede. His companion had carried him on a wheelbarrow for eighty kilometres over the rough track to Halls Creek.

There, the local Postmaster, Fred Tuckett, with the guidance of Dr Holland and operating via Morse code performed an operation with a penknife and morphine on the internal injuries of the stockman.

Dr Holland had no alternative then to travel from Perth to Derby by cattle ship, a trip taking six days, then to Halls Creek by car and then by horse for a further six days. Unfortunately, the man died just a matter of hours before Dr Holland reached Halls Creek.

It was, as a result of this, however, that the Rev. John Flynn, at the time Head of the Presbyterian Outback Mission, learning from a young Army pilot that "aviation could well be useful" as a means of relieving the remoteness of the Australian Bush.

It took him a further ten years to make his dreams come true and he was helped in this by Hugh MacKay, of McKay Harvester fame, who left two thousand pounds in his will for an "aerial experiment" enabling Flynn to get his Flying Doctor Service into operation. In 1927, he and Hudson

Fysh, a founder of QANTAS, to operate an aerial ambulance from Cloncurry. QANTAS was the first to assist by leasing aircraft and pilots from the Cloncurry base in 1928, and later Charleville. Part of the service provided was initially by telegrams being read over the air. Reception and transmission from the Outback stations was by means of Pedal Radios. It was first known as the "Aerial Medical Service", but people would say "Here comes the Flying Doctor" - and it soon came to be renamed the "Royal Flying Doctor Service".

Outback Stations have now largely been provided with "Medical Chests" that may be used for minor emergencies with instructions being given by wireless.

No one in Queensland is more than two hours from help. The service now also flies GPs, Dentists and specialists, generally on a pro-bono basis, to Outback towns for general check-ups, because of the absence of GPs in these areas.

Another initiative started by The "School of the Air" - now "Distance Education" - was first started by the RFDS and has its main base in Longreach.

In Queensland there is a new facility and base being developed at Brisbane airport, which is open to visit by groups by such as Probus, but only six people at one time.

Typical of the resourcefulness of the service and its large voluntary medical staff is the story of a baby being born on an aircraft and the pilot noting the coordinates in latitude and longitude, and the altitude, as the time and place of birth.

One important point made by the speaker was the importance of the RFDS to city folks who are considering travelling west of Toowoomba or any remote places in Queensland. If they become ill or involved in a car accident, it will be the Royal Flying Doctor Service that comes to their aid.

INNISFAIL

What to do in the Far North when the weather doesn't cooperate

What to do on a somewhat damp and dreary winter's day in Far North Queensland? Simple, take a drive up to the sugar cane town of Babinda, Queensland's wettest town, grab a beer and some fantastic pub grub in

the historic Babinda State Hotel, and then go watch a movie at the iconic Babinda Munro Picture Theatre, full of atmosphere and complete with old style canvas double and triple deck chairs.

That's what we did for a day out in early August, and what a great day it was. Great food was enjoyed in an authentic, historic pub whilst reminiscing about how times were when we were in our youth. Even the film, 'Promised', at the Picture Theatre,

took us back in time to the '50's when arranged-marriages were not that much of a rarity even in Australia. Whilst one or two of us might have felt our age a little, we all enjoyed our peek at the past!

Our thanks to the Babinda Hotel for a great meal, and the Munro Theatre for providing a private screening especially for our Club, and more thanks to our organiser, Frances Lagana, for arranging it all.

Geoff Duffield

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
Rocks in the Head	Stephen Dobos	Kenmore Village
Why We Need IT Passwords	Mike Timms	Holland Park central
Langbourne novels – Southern Africa	Alan Landau	Redcliffe City Mixed
Centenary Suburbs Historical Society	Caroline Hamilton	Mt Ommaney
Mission Possible Volunteers	Gail Harrower	Sunnybank Hills
Royal Flying Doctor Service	Val Marlow	Arana Hills District
An Alternative View on Climate Change	Professor Ian Plimer	Bribie Island
Our Rainbow House, Zambia	Alison Ray & Mary Matandiko	Beenleigh
Beyond 2000 and Wildlife	Michael Beattie RSPCA	Currumundi
Consumer Rights and Scams	Bob Walker	The Gap
Awesome Women in Construction	Amanda Bulow CEO	Salisbury East
Printing Your Own Histories	The In House Group	Bellbowrie and District
Strategy. Policy and Performance, Queensland Police Service.	Tracy Linford, Deputy Commissioner	Bribie Island
Corones Hotel Charleville Restoration	Fran Harding	Goodna Springfield
Bowen Chamber of Commerce	Bruce Hedditch	Bowen
Angel Flight	Alexandra Sollner	Caboolture
Cross River Rail	Dan Dennis	Hamilton
Mysteries of the Mail	Rod Preston	Indooroopilly
Lone Pine Sanctuary Koalas	Kayla Ousley	Paddington
Mother of Olympians, Kate and Bronte	Jenny Campbell	Kenmore Millennium

Outings	Topics, Locations, Activities	Club
Tour	Q Camel Dairy – Glasshouse Mountains	Redcliffe City Mixed
Cruise	Pumicestone Passage	Toondah
3 Day Trip	Phantom of the Opera & Sydney Highlights	Redcliffe City Mixed
Day Trip	Boonah Bunjurgan Estate Winery & Dugandan Hotel lunch	Alger and Districts
Day Trip	Tropical Fruit World – Kingscliffe NSW	Beaudesert
7 Day Tour	Longreach and Winton	Sherwood
Day Tour	Port of Brisbane	Holland Park
4 Day Tour	Coffs Harbour and Bellingen	Beenleigh
Day Trip	Law Courts and Police Museum	Caboolture
Day Trip	Kumbartcho Sanctuary, Eaton's Hill	Carseldine
4 Day Trip	Hervey Bay and Fraser Island	Currumundi
Day Trip	Awassi Cheesery Grantham	Goodna Springfield
Day Tour	Noosa Hinterland	Park Ridge
4 Day Tour	Gympie and the Gympie Rattler	Kenmore Gardens
Guided Tour	Suncorp Stadium	Indooroopilly
Tour	Walkabout Creek Discovery Centre	Kenmore Village
Day Tour	Scenic Rim	Mt Gravatt

Other Probus Club Meeting Themes

Loud Shirt Day, Holly Jolly Dress-up Day, Red Theme Day, Going to the Races Day, Beach Bums, Ethnic Dress Day, Spring Fair, Bring and Buy Fair, A Short Play at meetings, Bush Poetry Day, Western Garb, Spring Hats, Easter Bonnets, Christmas Elves, Hot Socks, Shipwrecked, Book Titles, Movie Titles, United Nations Day, Bastille Day, High Teas, Members' Market, Sod Off Winter

HOLLAND PARK CENTRAL

Our Club Conquers the Covid-19 Travel restrictions

Eighteen excited Probus members were certainly looking forward to what promised to be a fun-filled six-day adventure on the Murray river on the "Proud Mary" in South Australia –and that's what it proved to be.

Our hard working Tour Director, Kay, had researched the trip and decided we could overcome the travel obstacles imposed by Covid-19 and just "Do it". It was an outstanding success. The Travel Gods were smiling on us.

On a cool morning, we were picked up from near our Club, transported to the Brisbane Airport, and before we knew it, our Travel Agency was collecting us from the Adelaide Airport for an excellent tour of the City, before transferring us to our coach-drive to Murray Bridge. We all had proper border passes and were processed quickly.

We boarded the "Proud Mary" for a short cruise to our first overnight stop at Mannum, where, next day, we toured the most interesting Mannum Dock Museum and the historic township.

On board, our meals were all first rate and one night we were able to celebrate Vice President Bob Otto's eightieth birthday with a delicious strawberry cake.

We were the first Queensland Probus Club to enter South Australia for this cruise, since the Covid-19 restrictions began in March. The crew were excellent and efficiently handled the many challenges raised by staying Covid-Safe.

Every day was a new adventure, and we were enthralled with the awesome natural beauty of the river and its ever changing scenery of spectacular cliffs, flora and birdlife, especially the pelicans that followed the vessel every day, often riding the ship's wake just for fun!

There was a comprehensive and diverse daily tour program, and we really appreciated the welcome received from the local communities, guides and volunteers at riverside towns. One night, our ecologist and coach driver took us searching for southern hairy-nosed wombats, spotting seven of these endangered animals.

Over the next few days, we enjoyed a great variety of onshore activities. We drove around orange and almond orchards, historical museums, and marvelled at huge lagoons teeming with birdlife. On a shore-side walk, we saw an historic aboriginal canoe tree and later toured the



Our Captain telling us of the secrets of the river



The boat shrouded in moonlight at Big Bend



On an after Golden Eco-Tour

Ngaut Ngaut Aboriginal Conservation site. Here, adventurous souls climbed the two hundred and seventy steps for excellent views of the huge lagoons across the river.

A real highlight was an afternoon "Eco Cruise", aboard a river-tender exploring the magnificent bush scenery and fernery growing along the base of the cliff-banks of Big Bend. Huge red river gums guard the banks of small creeks in this special area of the Murray. Afternoon sunlight painted the eighty metre high cliffs orange, and the reflections bathed the river surface with golden light. It was a sight to remember.

The upstream end of our cruise was at Blanchetown Lock before returning to moor at the "Sugar Shack". We marvelled at the cliffs that were floodlit by the Proud Mary. Under a stunning full moon, the chef and staff cooked up a fabulous bush barbecue. We sat around a blazing campfire on the banks of the river with a local entertainer, who led us in a night of singing and fun.

At the end of the cruise, our coach driver took us for a relaxed ramble along the beautiful Reedy Creek Environmental Park and Gorge. We also visited the Mypolonga School where the students sell gifts to visitors and learn practical maths skills in managing their own bookkeeping and finances.

We thoroughly enjoyed this tour showing that Covid-19 travel restrictions could be overcome. Over the six days, we all had a chance to get to know each other a lot better, affirming the Probus spirit of Fun, Fellowship and Friendship. We are an active Club and are staying connected.

Greg Haydon

GYMPIE

The Gympie tour out West

A group of members of the Club recently took part in a five-day coach tour in the areas of Chinchilla, Miles and Roma under the supervision of tour guide Bruce Drysdale. We visited historical sites and gardens such as that of the Taabinga Homestead, the Bell Biblical Gardens and Jimbour House and that was only the first day. Overnight was in comfortable lodgings in Chinchilla.

The group enjoyed Devonshire Tea at the realistically presented Miles Historical Village Museum before heading to enterprising local folk who had prepared a delicious paddock-to-plate hot lunch. Then it was on to Roma where we checked in for two nights of evening meals and lodgings. Next day, we visited the Roma Sale yards for an informative and educational insight into the realities and complexities of the cattle industry. We took time to stroll through the Heritage-listed Heroes Avenue lined as it was with iconic bottle trees in Central Roma. But we hadn't yet had enough fun for that day. All took in a stunning sunset, whilst sipping a pre-dinner red or white beverage perched high on a local cattle property, the owners of which hosted our evening meal – glorious!

After all Roma had to offer, Condamine was looking its absolute best after considerable rain and took our fancy for the next adventure where we consumed a super Farm-



We're a happy bunch of trippers.

house Morning Tea situated in a leafy garden setting. We moved on later, after much chatter and laughter, to a tasty picnic lunch enjoyed in a sunny and warm Chinchilla park. The weather treated us kindly. Our sleepy heads were restored in Pittsworth but only after the usual camaraderie over drinks, followed by delicious dinner. On day five, and with more than adequate breakfast spread, we were on our journey home.

We paused in Toowoomba for morning tea and a walk through Laurel Bank Park then it was on through the mighty Food Bowl area of Gatton and surrounds. All agreed it was a very worthwhile and fun travel experience and without exception looked forward to the next trip, wherever it may be.



Up and away! We're ready for it!

SUNNYBANK

We really did enjoy our Christmas in July

Our trip was on a perfect South East Queensland winter's day of brilliant sunshine and barely a breeze - conditions which lasted the whole day. Rita must have some special ethereal connection to enable such perfection. Arriving at Runcorn by half past eight, your correspondent thought that he might be among the first to arrive, but no, almost last as usual. With a few seats left on the bus (oops, rather coach) we departed at nine o'clock and headed down the Mt Lindesay Highway towards Mt Tamborine.

An hour later, the coach pulled into a service station, which many of us thought was for diesel. No, it was a comfort stop. It was reported, however, that with only two "stalls" per gender (to use the probably correct term

for once) the time spent was probably a little longer than expected. We then proceeded to Mt Tamborine, bypassing the Bearded Dragon Hotel at the beginning of the climb up the mountain.

Morning tea was at the Mt Tamborine Botanical Gardens, with the descent down a twenty degree slope in first gear and additional braking, there were a few wondering how this was going to go! (No, Gigi, you were not the only one bothered by this). Coffee and tea with cakes were supplied, while we were perhaps even more involved in seeking sunshine to help to warm us up. Proceeding to the lunch venue up the same road was much easier. The gardens seemed to be taxpayers money well spent.

On the way to St Bernard's Hotel, there was time to check out the cuckoo clocks, as well as the craft shops, while some may have found a local

tavern for a brief liquid lunch before the real one.

At St Bernard's, our tables were in a large marquee which we shared with some other groups. One table was moved out of the brilliant sunshine to a cooler location. Only in Queensland would we need to do that in winter. The forty-seven of us in the coach were joined by the six members who had driven to the venue.

The meals were excellent and the conversations continued in the sunshine on the balcony. The view to the Gold Coast on such a clear day was sensational and probably exceeded the magnificent country scenery on the drive up the mountain. The return trip was via Yatala and the Gold Coast Highway. It was a greatly enjoyable day - thanks Rita. Now it's over to Carol for the real Christmas celebration in December!

Keith Brodie

BRISBANE NORTH

Things just seem to haunt the inexperienced traveller.

When travelling overseas, there are lots of unexpected things that can happen. These events can cause great hilarity when you think back on them.

My first event was on my very first trip overseas. Alan and I were heading to Taiwan with a stop-over in Hong Kong. I checked into a Grand Hotel and, when handing over a credit card, I was informed that the card had expired. Alan, in his wisdom, had cut up his new card and carried the old one..... it took a call home to have a new one sent over.

So, it was off to Taiwan. As a first-time traveller, I was not in the know as to what to carry in my wallet. Well, that night, I had my purse picked by two very crafty girls. Oh dear! I had every card known in my wallet. It took two weeks to recover new cards as replacements. Nowadays, I carry: Medicare, Driving license and credit card in my wallet and a spare duplicate cards in a secret hiding place.

One should always carry a spare set of clothing in one's cabin. During one trip to Italy that turned out to be a disaster all the way from Brisbane to Italy ended up lasting thirty-two hours. Then, when we arrived in Italy, we had

no luggage. It took three days to recover it. When it finally did arrive, one case was wrapped in gaffa tape. This was the start of eight weeks around Europe. Luckily we were staying with Alan's daughter, so I could at least borrow a fresh pair of Knickers.

If you have travelled in Europe, you will know there are steps everywhere. Getting on and off trains is a problem in itself. I usually played "the poor old lady" and usually did find someone to help me. One time we were on a train and needed to stow our luggage. Alas! There were no racks available. Sandra's daughter was putting us on the train to go to Venice aboard a very crowded train. Sandra put her case down and a man started yelling at her. Fi was still, fortunately, on the platform and Sandra called out to her begging for help. Fi put her head into the cabin and asked the man what the problem was. Apparently, Sandra had put her case in front of the toilet door and there was a nun in there.

One should always, in addition to all the things already mentioned, carry small coins in Europe and Asia. You usually have to pay for entry to toilets. I only had a note in one place and was pretty desperate. The man on the door was so excited to get such a sum of money that he walked me in, opened the door and ushered me unto the cubicle. I did have the thought that perhaps he was going to

stay with me for my visit. The best toilets were in Florence. The public toilets was quite a large building. One put a coin in the door and it opened – a bit wet but perfectly clean. Now – how to settle in? – place one's handbag somewhere safe, drop jeans, being careful not to let the legs droop onto the wet floor. One almost had to be a gymnast. Then, all that done, it was a question of how to flush. Oh! There is a big black button on the wall. Push. The flush worked. Now to wash one's hands. Another button – but I didn't stand far enough back. Oh well, there are worse things than a wet face and dress, I suppose. And by that time we had already decided that the most important thing to take was a humble washbasin stopper!

As an aside, however, one of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really does get the adrenaline running and pumps up the old heart. At my age it was sometimes needed to keep me going. And sometimes I did feel myself in Vincible. But life and travel continually showed me that I was not ..and still am not. People do keep telling me I'm in Denial but I'm positive that I have never been there before. So far, anyway, I have never be in Continent, but my Travel Agency says it's on my list for the future still to come. So, here's to more and more travel.

Ros McDonald

KAWANA WATERS

Our May bus trip to visit the camels at QCamels

Our Coolum Coaches drive took us on a scenic route to QCamels at Glass House Mountains. Some twenty-five members were on the trip to enjoy an interesting visit to QCamel, Australia's

premium supplier of Certified Organic camel milk products. It is owned and run by a Brisbane family and their dedicated team of wonderful staff.

QCamel was the first dairy in Australia to produce premium pasteurised camel milk and they are proud to bring you nature's healthiest milk. Lovingly made, using ethical, organic and sustainable farming prac-

tices, their camels are pasture-fed in a no-cull environment where we share the milk with calves.

After the visit we travelled to Montville and had an excellent lunch at the Montville Cafe.

Anna Firmin

BELOW: Camels are like cows – they seem to love staring at you



SHERWOOD

My Bucket List

In early May, I flew to Cairns for an eight-day coach tour of the Savannah and Gulf Country in North Queensland. Our first stop was lunch at the Nerada Tea Plantation on the Atherton Tablelands. Nerada Tea is Australia's largest tea growing producer. We then continued to Mareeba for the night.

The next day, we travelled 225 kilometres to the Undara Lava Tubes, which were created some 190,000 years ago when 23 cubic kilometres of lava flowed along a river bed for 160 kilometres, making it the world's longest lava flow from a single volcano. The lava tubes can only be viewed on a guided tour, and our guide led us through two of the tubes/caves. It's an extremely interesting place to visit. We then drove to Georgetown for a two night stay.

Next morning, we were up early for the drive to Cobbold Gorge. Set amongst rugged sandstone formations, the gorge narrows to two metres wide in some spots. This narrowness indicates that Cobbold Gorge is the youngest known gorge (maybe a mere 10,000 years old) in Queensland. On arrival, we joined a 4WD bus for a short drive and walk to the waiting boats. Our cruise guide told us about the spectacular gorge as the electric- powered boat moved silently along. At times we had to keep our arms inside the boat, as the gorge was only just wide enough for the boat. The next day, we left Georgetown for the 320 kilometre drive to Karumba on the Gulf of Carpentaria. That afternoon, we took a two hour Ferryman River Cruise on the Norman River. On board, we enjoyed a cheese and vegetable platter, fruit platter and fresh prawns. There was also a great variety of drink. The boat made its way towards the open Gulf waters at Karumba Point, where we observed the sunset. The next morning, we journeyed to the Les Wilson Barramundi Discovery Centre & Hatchery, where we Warren Green participated in a barramundi feeding. Everyone was given a small fish piece to dangle over the side, as the barramundi launched themselves out of the water and gobbled down the fish.

We then drove to Critter's Camp - a rail-stop where tourist charters catch the Gullfander train. The Gullfander travelled through Savannah scrubland with glimpses of a billabong through the trees and over a river crossing, while the driver related the train's history. The 22 kilometre ride was at a neck-rattling speed of 40 kilometre an hour and took 75 minutes. I loved it. We then drove 70 kilometres back to Karumba for another night.

After breakfast, we drove to Normanton, where we stopped at the replica of a huge 8.6m saltwater estuary crocodile. It is the largest croc ever captured in the world. The unlucky croc was shot on the MacArthur Bank, Norman River in July 1957. After morning tea, we continued on the longest day of the trip, 382 km down the Matilda Highway to our next destination of Cloncurry. We stopped for lunch at the Burke & Wills Roadhouse, named after the route taken by the ill-fated explorers. Unleaded fuel was \$2.369 and diesel \$2.420.

Cloncurry is a rural town in north-west Queensland and is the birthplace of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, as well as the destination of the first Qantas flight. The next morning we visited the John Flynn Place Museum, which pays tribute to Reverend John Flynn and his team. We followed Flynn's footsteps in the creation of the RFDS in Cloncurry in 1928, and the resulting improvement in the quality of life for rural Australians. Finally back in Mt Isa, I spent three days with my daughter before my return to Brisbane. For me, the Gullfander and Cobbold Gorge were highlights of the holiday.

Warren Green

BELLBOWRIE

Christmas Couplets in July

*We all met at the usual spot
And left at 10am on the dot.
Nothing would turn this bus around
Xmas in July was mountain bound.
Up Gap Creek bumps and s-bend curve
Some prayed aloud, "Driver keep your nerve!"
Then down way past The Gap State School
Where Wally built their swimming pool.
Busy Samford - A big surprise.
So many cars and enterprise.
A weave through timeless Dayboro Town
Where buildings' dated history found.
It's then the Mt Mee climb began
With our bus driving rally man.
Hills and dales and cliff side view,
Till bus backed into Birches doo.
Bon-bons pop and glasses clink.
Party hats on. Another drink?
As Roger tried not to catch on fire,
Xmas fare served to our desire.
Turkey, ham, roast pumpkin to boot.
Custard, pudding, moist full of fruit.
Chris and Daryl both sighed relief,
No Christmas carols in restaurant's brief.
Then Dee counted the toilet stairs,
While Martin scoured our lolly shares.
The band was thanked, the time had come.
Embrace the wind. Head back – begun.
A final look at Glasshouse view.
All braved outside by frozen few.
A trip arranged by R & G.*

Jeff White



We're full of the Christmas spirit

A few truths for your grandchildren

When your Mum is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.

Never ask your 2-year-old brother to hold a ripe tomato.

No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.

Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.

You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.

The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

Probian Puzzler

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

From the outside it is a green house. Inside the green house there is a white house. Inside the white house there is a red house. Inside the red house there are lots of babies. What am I?

Think and smile

I wondered why the cricket ball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Terminal Illness: Getting sick at the airport.

It cost 7 million dollars to build the *Titanic*, and 200 million to make a film about it.

Odd names they have given their children: Hazel Nutt, Phil Hole, Anna Sassin and Doug Graves.

Did you know?

Back in 1999, Google's founders were willing to sell their product to Excite for under \$1 million – but Excite turned them down. Today Google is approaching over \$200 billion in value.

Answer to Probian Puzzler:

A watermelon.



TAKE 10

Items of passing interest

Compiled by Jarvis Finger
Kenmore Millennium Probus Club

Cricket!

TALES OF THE AMUSING, ODD, AND OUTRAGEOUS

Primary-schoolers only

CHECK out these people who achieved fame despite never having attended high school...

Andrew Carnegie (industrialist and philanthropist), Charles Chaplin (actor), 'Buffalo Bill' Cody (scout and showman)

Noel Coward (playwright and composer), Mark Twain

(humorist and writer),

Henry M. Stanley (explorer),

John Philip Sousa (composer and bandleader),

Charles Dickens (novelist),

Isadora Duncan (dancer),

Thomas Edison (inventor),

and Claude Monet (painter).



'Buffalo Bill' Cody in action



Ooops!
Did I
say that?

A stolen motor vehicle was recovered at the corner of Linden Street and Hillside Boulevard on Thursday. The car was intact except for its missing vinyl top, front and rear seats, air bags, dashboard, transmission engine and both license plates...

– US newspaper

A scientific question

Why did the physics teacher break up with the biology teacher?

There was no chemistry.

Fantastic Foto #30

Prohibition Raid, Detroit, 1929

Illegal alcohol, discovered by Prohibition agents during a raid on an illegal distillery, pours out of upper windows of a three-story shopfront.



I don't feel old.



Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement village were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: "Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?"

Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby."

"Really!? Like a newborn baby!?"

"Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants."

Yesterday

Beatle Paul McCartney woke up one morning with the tune to *Yesterday* swirling in his head –



but not the lyrics...

"Yesterday, All my troubles seemed so far away..."

The placeholder

words he worked with initially were: "Scrambled eggs ... oh, my baby, how I love your legs ..."

Zzzzzz....

Daddy reads some bedtime stories to make little Johnny fall asleep.

Half an hour later mummy opens quietly the door and asks: "And, is he asleep?"

Little Johnny answers: "Yes, finally."

A final point to ponder

A new day: Be open enough to see opportunities. Be wise enough to be grateful. Be courageous enough to be happy.

– Steve Maraboli



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Organise

Preparing to make your move seamless.

Step 3
Coordinate

Coordination of all the tasks to prepare for your move.

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

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

Cheers, Francie



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