

The Probus Club of Holland Park Central



PO Box 5151 Mt Gravatt East 4122
Meetings: 9.30 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. every third Thursday of the month.
Venue: Newnham Hotel, Newnham Rd, Upper Mt Gravatt

<https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/hollandparkcentral/Home>
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August 2023 Issue No 180

The HP Source – It's a bottler!



Richard's Rambles

Greetings to members.

A quick reminder of our Birthday Bash coming up on Thursday 17th August. Make sure you are there by 9.30 to 10. We are looking forward to a different type of meeting.

Another reminder of the suggested lunch at the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron on Wednesday 11th October at noon to celebrate Probus Month. RQYS has a great atmosphere and is one of my favourite places for lunch.

Please register for this event if you are interested. Also advise if you need help with transport to get there. It should be a fun afternoon.

To get back to "rambling", after Julie and I came back to the mainland from Tasmania, we headed down the Great Ocean Road. This is regarded as the largest war memorial in the world. It was built by soldiers when they returned after serving overseas during WW1 as a memorial to all those who died or were wounded during the war. It starts at Torquay, and heads down the coast in a south easterly direction through Lorne, Wye River, Apollo Bay and Bell's Beach. These are all very beautiful little spots on a very windy road in a very rugged part of Victoria.

Once the road turns north east you travel through quite a bit of scrub before coming back to the coast near the Twelve Apostles. Unfortunately there are only eight Apostles left and some are only half Apostles due to erosion and collapse. The Apostles are rock formations in the ocean. I'm sure more will be born in the future, but this will take some time. I certainly won't be around when that happens.

The only drawback at the Twelve Apostles is the number of tourists. Even in the off-season there were hundreds and hundreds milling around, taking selfies and generally getting in the way.

As we travelled further west, the tourist numbers decreased and the vista was amazing. There was London Bridge, The Razorback, The Grotto and Loch Ard Gorge. All incredible edifices and very few tourists. The boardwalks out to the viewing areas were in excellent condition and easy to traverse.

I think that's enough "rambling" for today. I'll keep some more up my sleeve for next month.

See you at our 15th Birthday Bash.

Richard



Every person in South Korea suddenly became a year younger after law changed last month. It follows new laws requiring the use of the internationally recognised way of counting age. Until the change, people were deemed to be a year old at birth, or 9 months, taking into account the time in the womb.

AUGUST

Sunday 6th **Coffee and Chat** Pacific Golf Club. 10.00am.

Wednesday 9th **Lunch** TBA.



Thursday 17th **Monthly Meeting** Celebrating our 15th anniversary with Entertainment by John and Marina and birthday cake.

Newnham Hotel. 9.30am.

SEPTEMBER

NOTE: Sunday 3rd- coffee morning postponed a week due to Father's Day.

Wednesday 6th Lunch TBA.

Saturday 9th **Brisbane City Pops Orchestra** "Golden Memories" –

Church of Christ Kenmore Community Centre, 41 Brookfield Road, Kenmore. Cost \$26 – PAY BY AUGUST MEETING Lunch available at café on-site.

Sunday 10th **Coffee and Chat** Pacific Golf Club. 10.00am.

Wednesday 13th **MAMMA MIA** the musical, Lyric Theatre, QPAC, South Brisbane. 1.00 pm. \$79. Limited seats available. Bookings closed.

Thursday 21st **Monthly meeting** Newnham Hotel 9.30am.

More to come

OCTOBER

Sunday 1st **Coffee and Chat** Pacific Golf Club. 10.00am.

Thursday 19th **Club meeting**, Newnham Hotel 9.30 am

OCTOBER is Probus Month. The committee is looking at possible options to celebrate. More details and date to come.

NOVEMBER

Saturday 4th **Brisbane city Pops Orchestra** "An Afternoon in Vienna" –

Church of Christ Kenmore Community Centre, 41 Brookfield Road, Kenmore. Cost \$26 – PAY BY OCTOBER MEETING. Lunch available at café on-site.

Sunday 5th **Coffee and Chat** Pacific Golf Club. 10.00am

Thursday 15th Club meeting Newnham Hotel 9.30am

DECEMBER

Sunday 3rd **Coffee and Chat** Pacific Golf Club. 10.00am

December 14 **Christmas Lunch**, Newnham Hotel, (note one week earlier than our usual meeting).



The Northern Territory government's plan to turn 100,000 hectares over to large-scale crops such as cotton and its support for onshore gas extraction (fracking) is threatening the world's largest intact tropical savanna. Wildlife

ecologists and conservation scientists claim the area is a region of immense cultural, environmental and economic value. It is home to the World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park and rich biodiversity. A group of ecology and environmental scientists claim that rather than relaxing regulation to support development, we need to urgently overhaul Australia's grossly inadequate environmental laws and safeguards, which also lack enforcement. The extensive land clearing will accelerate habitat loss and will all but guarantee failure of the Australian government's [zero extinctions](#) plan.

Our national airline, Qantas, has slipped in ranking from the top five (for the past decade) to 17th place. It is attempting to scramble up the ladder again. One new initiative to be introduced by the end of next year, is tracking of baggage through its app. Customers will be able to track where their bags are, on their phone, in real time. Virgin Australia has already commenced trials for digital bag tracking on flights between Brisbane and Sydney, but not in real time. Passengers receive push notifications through its app, informing them once their luggage has been successfully checked in and when it arrives at the destination. At this time, Apple AirTags remains the most accurate method for real-time monitoring of personal belongings.



Several intrepid HPC Probians went by bus for a Christmas in July lunch at the Coolum Beach Hotel. We had a very comfortable ride up to Rothwell where our shuttle bus met up with the main Cross Country Tours bus with many other potential revellers. The bus was decorated accordingly, as were the bus driver Paul and host Julie. This bus was just as comfortable as the feeder bus and it took us to Golden Beach for a very tasty morning tea/coffee together with appetising nibbles of biscuits, caramel slice and ginger snaps. We then headed up to Coolum for lunch. All the while, Paul and Julie entertained us



with quiz questions and jokes (some very funny and some sad old "DAD" jokes). On arrival, we were shown to an area that had been reserved for us and we had a meal of turkey, ham, roast vegies, cranberry sauce, apple sauce and gravy. The food was quite tasty and certainly very enjoyable. Desert was alternate drop of plum pudding or pavlova and cream. More than enough. Julie and Paul organized a couple of quizzes during the lunch break as well, and after coffee/tea we headed home. Again, we had a number of jokes and quizzes on the bus and a comfort stop at a servo. In all, a very enjoyable and entertaining day.

Richard M.



History is full of examples of women on the frontlines, from Viking warriors whose remains were uncovered in the 19th century, to cross-dressing American civil war soldiers – and the 800,000 to a million women who fought for the Soviet Red Army during World War II.

Ironically, the Russian military now fighting Ukraine has no combatant women in it, but Ukrainian women were ready to fight when Russia invaded last year, and there has not been much fuss about it (see photo above). One of women's primary motivations to fight throughout history has been patriotism, but not much is written about them, and their heroism tends to be ignored.

Since 2019, de-ageing in film is here. For example, Harrison Ford first played Indiana Jones 42 years ago in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Now, at 80, he is again playing the iconic archaeologist's role for the fifth time. With the use of AI, Ford has been digitally de-aged to appear in his 40s. In films where both a young and an old version of a character is required, (such as for flashbacks) there is no longer any need for two actors. The same one plays both, with the aid of digital enhancement. ... And we are only at the start of Hollywood's next big adventure.

Well, it worked. The 10 am start for the coffee and chat saw about 20 car spaces available on arrival. However, all the spaces closest to the club rooms were taken, meaning it was a two minute walk to the front door. About a dozen of us enjoyed our cuppa' and chat.

There are roughly [22 million jars of Vegemite](#) manufactured in the original Melbourne factory every year. According to the Vegemite website, around 80% of Australian households have a jar in the cupboard. Vegemite first hit Australian supermarket shelves in 1923, but it took a while to find its feet. Marmite, manufactured in the UK was difficult to get due to the war, so a home-grown yeast spread, using



brewer's yeast hit the Australian market. A thicker, stronger spread than the original Marmite also included vegetable extracts. Australians were wary, until the marketing department gave free samples with other Kraft-Walker products, and in 1930 a limerick competition also helped. But it was WWII that put it on the map. With its long shelf life and high levels of B-vitamins, the armed forces used it in their ration packs. The clever advertising, pictured left, linked Vegemite with Australian

nationalism. Buying Vegemite was an act of patriotism and a way to support Australian troops overseas. The *Happy Little Vegemites* jingle was launched in the early 1950s, first for radio and then later used in the 1959 television ad. On Vegemite's centenary in 2023, the unassuming spread is now firmly cemented as an Australian cultural icon. Love it or hate it, Vegemite is here to stay.

A few members joined another Cross Country Bus tour and enjoyed the lovely weather and beautiful scenery in the Numinbah. After morning tea at Hinze Dam at Advancetown, we travelled south and stopped at Buck's Farm shop at Chillingham. We saw some exotic fruit and vegetables, and beauty products created from farm produce such as finger limes. Across the border we travelled through fields of sugar cane, past the Condong Mill to the Chinderah Tavern for a generous sized and delicious two course lunch.

Lorelei



We now recognise that women's sport can be just as exciting as that of men. It is revealing to look back on the media coverage of women's sport, particularly for international soccer. For example, the 1970s media coverage of 'soccerettes' was filled with patronising sleaze. Not all media

LEGGY, dark-eyed Jamie-Michelle Rosmar belies any contention that soccer is an unfeminine game.

She moves like a gazelle on the field and walks like a model off it. She wears her hair in two dark braids when she is playing — and they shake vigorously when you suggest to her that soccer is no game for ladies.

"Soccer is everything."



coverage has treated sportswomen with respect. The first recognised international soccer game for women between Australian and NZ was in 1979. The women wore ill-fitting, borrowed men's uniforms. There was little press coverage but what there was, had headlines such as "Gorgeous goal getters" and "Fashion on parade at Australian titles". Women's sport was, mostly belittled, trivialised and sexualised in the little media coverage they received. Coverage had recurring themes around



appearance, fashion, body parts, sexual attractiveness, implied sexuality

and photos suggested their skills were more about dance than soccer. New Zealand coach Dave Boardman rejected the label his charges were "butch types". Players were asked to apply make-up after training for photographers. One article said they were "easier on the eye" than their male counterparts. Player opinions didn't matter. It was their male coaches who were the ones interviewed. The articles are a toxic time capsule of sexism, misogyny and veiled homophobia and they remind us just how difficult it was for women and girls to navigate a safe space for themselves in soccer and other sports, in the eyes of the public.

The club was pleased to receive a \$500 gift card from Aveo following the members' visit to the retirement village. It was one of the village's promotional programs before the end of the financial year.

The Prime Minister wants Aussies turning off smart devices, particularly phones, for five minutes every day, and wants it to be as habitual as brushing teeth before bed. It is a small way to safeguard against escalating cybercrime threats. The old IT joke about 'switching it off and switching it back on' to fix tech issues can be profoundly effective in averting cyberattacks, say tech experts. Constantly running applications and processes in the background of devices provide an opening for cybercriminals to invade privacy and extract personal information, such as financial details, identification documents, or in extreme scenarios, the device's camera. Rebooting tends to disrupt these operations, although won't necessarily help in cases of stolen passwords or targeted attacks. It will, however, decrease potential cybercrime vulnerability.

Duty Roster

Chair; Richard R; **5 Min spot:** N/A; **Greeters:** Heather and Bev C;
Treasury: Ron and Jill



More often these days, scammers are hiding in plain sight, says the ACCC, which also warns of fraudsters impersonating well-recognised websites in Google search results. Scammers paying for a Google ad can have their scams concealed in the "sponsored links" section on Google search results. The ACCC advises caution towards scam websites masquerading as reputed brands. Scamwatch encourages users to scrutinise the website address to confirm its authenticity. To safeguard against these scams, Scamwatch suggests paying close attention to website URLs and looking for red flags such as unbelievably cheap prices. A conspicuous lack of contact information on a website can also indicate a fraudulent site.

Club members will find an interesting article about Jill's current trip attached to the end of this newsletter.



Australians are being warned to keep an eye out for counterfeit money circulating around the country. The notes have a paper texture, therefore are thicker and the security window shows visible defects, having been glued on. Legitimate currency should also have the Australian Coat of Arms near the top right when held up to the light. Diamond-shaped patterns, forming a star, can also be found printed inside a circle on both sides of legitimate banknotes. The black and shaded areas on the banknotes are printed with a special raised ink that can be felt with your finger. So if dealing with notes, take some care. To date, the fakes have appeared in Darwin and two places in Queensland.

Reminder: The club is attempting to have cashless transactions, so payments for meetings etc., with credit cards or EFT would be appreciated.

A letter from Joe Kelly MP invites Probus members to a [business and community] networking night at The Ukrainian Club of Brisbane in Holland Park on August 11, 5.30-7p.m. More details are available from Secretary Margaret or your Editor.

A Sydney librarian recently discovered a misfiled lost gem in the stacks: Virginia Woolf's own copy of her first novel, *The Voyage Out* with handwritten notes for revision. It was in the rare books stacks, at the University of Sydney, purchased in 1979. Woolf's story grapples with self-discovery and satirises Edwardian life. It almost finished her writing career. She struggled through years of drafts, eventually abandoning the first version in 1912. Her ideas on colonialism, women's suffrage and gender relations were considered too dangerous for a first-time novelist. The book was published by her half-brother in 1915. Woolf's first novel straddles the conventions of realism inherited from the 19th century and the new, experimental fiction of the 20th. The Sydney text tells an important part of this story.

Birthday meeting: Please arrive between 9.30 and 10 am. Coffee will be on tap. 10:00-10:15 – Welcome – inductions – presentations; 10:15 – 10:30 Quizzes, games and trivia; 10:30-11:00 – morning tea and cutting of the cake; 11:00-12:00 – Entertainment by John and Marina. Happy Birthday to US! We are 15.



AT MY AGE, A TRAIL OF CLOTHES LEADING TO THE BEDROOM MEANS I DROPPED THEM ON THE WAY FROM THE DRYER.



A friend suggested putting horse manure on my strawberries... I'm never doing that again, I'm going back to whipped cream.

"The starting pay is \$40,000. Later it can go up to \$80,000."
"Great", I said. "I'll start later."



When chickens communicate do they use foul language?

Tip: Save the business cards of people you don't like. If you ever hit a parked car accidentally, just write, "Sorry" on the back and leave it on the windshield.



When I get a headache, I take two Panadol and keep away from children just like the bottle says.

2023/4 Office Bearers
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Committee: Barrie Percival, and Ron Fox. **Helpers** (not on committee): Bill – Membership, Mary W – Newsletter, Lyn – welfare/prizes, Richard R – Speakers
Bank a/c: Probus HPC, BSB 064112 a/c 10186858

Last week I was helping my partially deaf nan move home, and I kept on finding wads of money pushed down the backs of chairs and stuffed into rolled-up socks. When I asked her why she'd done this she said that her financial adviser had told her that she should put her savings into socks and chairs.

Three Stages of Life

1. You don't want to sleep but you have to.



2. You want to sleep but you can't.



3. You don't want to sleep but you do.

