

October 2020 Issue

# The Queensland Probian



Your perfect island holiday  
awaits...  
discover Norfolk Island

The logo for Uplift tours and travel features the word 'Uplift' in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the words 'tours and travel' are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the tagline 'Innovative. Inspiring. Unique.' is written in an even smaller, black, sans-serif font. The logo is set against a white background with a yellow sunburst effect behind the word 'Uplift'.

**Uplift**  
tours and travel  
Innovative. Inspiring. Unique.

See page 11  
for details of  
this amazing  
package

# Surround yourself with people who see retirement as the start of a great adventure

The Village residents share some of their photos and activities



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Line dancing	 Gym	 Library	 Bowls	 Billiards	 Yoga	 Picnics
 Ukulele classes	 Art classes	 Puppy dates	 Book club	 Darts	 Chess	 Board games
 Biking	 Lunch dates	 Family time	 Cinema	 Choir	 Happy hour	 Boules
 Gardening	 Tai Chi Qigong	 Craft	 Water aerobics	 Table tennis	 Monthly BBQ	 Coffee dates

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The Village Redcliffe  
3204 1884

The Village Taigum  
3865 8120

The Village Coorparoo  
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the  village  
RETIREMENT GROUP

**I do remember distinctly being advised by an erstwhile Probian telling me, early in my career, that no-one ever reads an Editorial – so Heaven knows what he's making of this column!**

Anyway! If you are reading it, you have well and truly received your October issue and are reading it in some format or other – whether on the Probus Web site, as a pdf version received from your Secretary, or even in a printed version that your Club has persuaded a local MP to run off for you. Anything is possible in this great fantastic world of ours.

One thing is sure and that is that we are going to have to make a decision as to the future format of this magazine of yours to stay in digital format or to go back to the old printed version. Both, I know, have its supporters and each has very good reasons in their favour. 70+ pages or 30+ pages - a cost of \$14,000 or one of \$2,000. The decision is there to be made eventually. You letting us know what you feel would be a good guide, of course!

As far as the number of articles received is concerned, I am getting by quite nicely, despite the smaller number of pages available – but then not all that many clubs are really in action. Certainly, if we stick to a digital format, the emphasis is going inevitably to be on quality and on articles that show clubs being active - clubs really enjoying Friendship, Fun and Fellowship to the full - but that won't be a bad thing anyway.

I do regret that there are so many clubs from which we never hear – on the other hand, there are at least a couple that could make up an issue of Probus almost on their own. More power to their elbow, say I. I continue to love the input of the Club Newsletter Editors, whose work I frequently see – here is some real talent and humanity out there in that field and clubs do owe then a deep sense of gratitude for bolstering them up in these difficult times.

One thing of which you can feel sure and that is that PAQ

is working hard behind the scenes – planning for a scenario in which some sort of normality will prevail once again next year. The possibility of the popular Ecumenical Church Services, Golf and Bowls Days are being planned for – so too is a full range of Information Days, perhaps in May, June and July catering for the training of club officials that most clubs seem to have been looking for.

The important thing, of course, is that clubs explore to the full all possibilities of being active. There must always be the distinct possibility that clubs, who are not active and enjoying themselves and having something of a programme will tend to lose members.

I am not being gloomy in this respect, and isn't it a wonderful thing that the month of October has been declared, along with being Seniors month, Probus month – this fact alone must open lots of doors and create all sorts of possibilities. You will have heard more of this from other sources, I am sure!

PAQ is looking keenly at the possibility of creating new clubs in those areas where the demography suggests that there could be possibilities of these – it is interesting that there are still areas with thriving Rotary Clubs but no Probus Club – this must bear a thought surely!

Whether yours is an old club or very new one, the message must be, enjoy being active and stay safe. All clubs must look very seriously at developing a Covis Safe Plan - particularly where meetings are held in places that do not have their own Safety Plan. Have a good look at the suggestions put out by PAQ for ways to develop such a plan for each club to develop. Not only does this make sense – it is a legal requirement



**Peter Rogers - Editor**

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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 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

Norfolk Island  
Uplift Tours & Travel



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The Probuss 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 Probuss clubs throughout Queensland, without in any way infringing on their autonomy.

Probuss is an association of retired and semi-retired people who join together in Clubs, the basic purpose of which is to provide regular opportunities for them to keep their minds active, expand their interests, and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends. The word PROBUS is an amalgam of the words "PROfessional" and "BUSiness". All PROBUS clubs are sponsored by Rotary clubs but, on formation, are autonomous.

## ADVERTISING RATES - EFFECTIVE 1 JAN 2020

These rates are based on complete copy being emailed to rob.neary@paqnetwork.com.au. Advertising deadlines are at least one week before editorial copy deadlines, which are December 1, April 1, July 1 and September 1. Magazine issue dates are February 1, May 1, August 1, and October 1.

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# President's Report October

## Club Meetings & Activities

Many of you have been experiencing the increased restrictions of late which have hampered our opportunities to meet in the safety of both open and closed spaces. However, I'm heartened to hear from a significant number of our clubs that they have been able to restart their meetings in venues that have a Covid Safe Plan. I look forward to the restrictions being further eased in October, and beyond, and would encourage all club members to move to restarting their Probus activities if possible and in a safe environment. Clubs may have to consider allowing members to wear masks for their protection and be vigilant in terms of working in a Covid Safe way. Over the past months I have done considerable research into Covid Safety and would recommend that you meet only if you have a safe environment in which to do so. We cannot afford to allow complacency to drift in to our meetings and activities – this disease is too ready to take advantage of lax behaviour.

### PROBUS Day

October 1st is marked as the United Nations Older Persons Day and PAQ is certainly behind the PSPL move to make this an annual day for Probus throughout Australia and in particular, Queensland. I am pleased to hear that Brisbane City Council is to light the Victoria Bridge on the night of October 1st this year in the Probus colours of blue and yellow. Toowoomba and Maryborough have also agreed to light up council buildings and assets for Probus Day. I'm sure if all clubs were to write to their local councils and ask for local council buildings which are lit at night to be turned blue and yellow for next October 1st, we will have quite a promotional tool to base a membership campaign for clubs upon. Our Queensland Director, Judith Maestraci, has been contacting Brisbane City Councillors promoting Probus day and our PSPL CEO, Silvana Martignago, has also been writing to Federal members promoting Probus, October 1st as Probus day with the result that both have obtained social media space on councillor and member Facebook pages. Why not add your club's support to your Facebook page.

## Ecumenical Services

Your PAQ Management Committee has also met twice since the pandemic started and has begun planning for 2021. Currently, we have planned to have three Ecumenical Services in Brisbane – northside, westside and southside - and would encourage club management committees to support these. These services are more akin to the "blessing of the fleet". However, in Probus's case it's a "blessing of the Club Presidential collar". We're hoping that our Probus Choir will again be able to perform at these Ecumenical Services and will provide details in the coming weeks to all clubs. Unfortunately, in regional Queensland, the number of clubs in a particular area is often small and this makes organising and running these events locally difficult from Brisbane. However, in areas where there is a concentration of clubs, such as the North Coast, South Coast, Darling Downs and Wide Bay, clubs may like to begin their new management year by organising such a service locally. It's a great opportunity to meet with and talk to those in nearby clubs.

### Inter-club Events & Activities

PAQ purpose in the beginning was to organise activities which would bring clubs together and offer opportunities for inter-club participation. This MC is still committed to that ideal but is currently reviewing its commitment to the Annual Bowls day and Golf Day events. These have been not as well attended as they had been in the early years of PAQ and we have had some difficulty getting clubs, which have more people than PAQ, to take on the organisation. PAQ needs your club's help if these activities are to be held in 2021. I invite you to submit new ideas for other events that would encourage inter-club activities. Many clubs play board games, mah-jong, and similar activities; perhaps these could be used as the basis of an event. I'd appreciate your sharing any ideas to achieve this inter-club sharing.

### Information Days 2021

Your PAQMC has been doing preliminary planning for a series of Information days. Feedback from last year's



(2019) series suggests that clubs want more time in groups related to MC positions e.g. Presidents & VPs, Secretaries, Treasurers, Outings & Activity officers, and others committee positions. Of most importance to clubs is the issue of getting people to accept nominations for MC positions as well as getting members to support outings & activities that use bus transport. PAQ believes that these should be priority topics and is interested in any current club member who would be willing to chair a session as a co-ordinator / chairperson. It would be helpful to their understanding of the issue and running the session if they have served in that capacity in a club. PAQ is committed to sharing the information from these sessions and will circulate the information to all clubs.

Clubs in regional areas are not forgotten and will need to be prepared to work with PAQ in setting days and dates as it is anticipated that we will have a "road show" to cover non-metro areas. Obviously, dates will have to be set to enable travel to be simplified between venues and which may not align with your club meeting days/week. Please advise me if your club would be willing to host an Information Day – PAQ will contribute to the funding for the day.

### In Conclusion

Our parents endured much harsher conditions through the depression, the World Wars and we are asked to stay safe – be it at home or when we move out of home. I look forward to the restrictions eventually being relaxed totally and Probus able to operate freely. Until then, take care and stay safe.

Regards

Rob N

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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# CLUB TOUR OPTIONS FOR 2021



## QLD'S SOUTHERN OUTBACK - 10 Days

Unique Aussie outback experiences unfold beyond Roma & Charleville to Quilpie, Eromanga, Thargomindah & Cunnamulla. Dine under the stars, meet Cooper the dinosaur & follow the outback Silo/ Watertower art trail plus more.



## A BIG WEEK OUTBACK IN LONGREACH & WINTON

6 Days / 5 Nights

Enjoy our iconic Australian outback towns of Longreach and Winton. Experience the natural landscapes and all its legendary attractions and much more.



## CAIRNS & COOKTOWN

9 Days / 8 Nights

Escape the winter and join us in sunny North Queensland exploring Cairns, Green Island, Kuranda Village, Atherton Tablelands, Mossman Gorge, The Daintree, Cooktown and Port Douglas.



## WHITSUNDAYS TO THE NORTH MAGNETIC ISLAND OPTION AVAILABLE

10 Days / 9 Nights

Travelling through the Whitsundays enjoy the coastal towns of Mackay, Sarina and Airlie Beach before heading North to Townsville.



## CAPRICORN COAST DISCOVERY & GOURMET EXPERIENCE

6 Days / 5 Nights

Discover this beautiful and diverse region encompassing Yeppoon, Rockhampton and all on the door step of the Southern Great Barrier Reef.



## HERVEY BAY & FRASER ISLAND GETAWAY

4 Days / 3 Nights

Travel to Hervey Bay and discover the Story Bank Mary Poppins Museum, enjoy a whale watching cruise and explore the wreck of the Maheno at Fraser Island.



## GOLD COAST & NORTHERN RIVERS

5 Days / 4 Nights

Visit the golden beaches of the Gold Coast, including highlights such as Byron Bay, Northern NSW, Gold Coast Hinterland and so much more.



## HAMILTON ISLAND

5 Days / 4 Nights

This tour to Hamilton Island won't disappoint, explore the Great Barrier Reef, Whitehaven Beach as well as a visit to Airlie Beach for a Whitsunday Crocodile Safari Tour plus more.



## STANTHORPE THE GRANITE BELT TRAIL

4 Days / 3 Nights

We visit Kingaroy, before travelling onto Stanthorpe - a famous winery and national park region, before heading to Tenterfield - the birthplace of Australia.



## SUNSHINE COAST SENSATION

6 Days / 5 Nights

Enjoy the vast scenery and coastal towns on the Sunshine Coast. With visits to Australia Zoo, an Everglades Eco Cruise, the Sealife Sunshine Coast Aquarium and exploring Noosa plus more.



## TANGALOOMA MORETON ISLAND GETAWAY

4 Days / 3 Nights

This package has it all, idyllic sunsets, pristine beaches, endless sand dunes, close encounters with Dolphins, Fish Feeding, Whaling Tour and more.



## NORFOLK ISLAND EXPERIENCE

8 Days / 7 Nights

Norfolk Island offers so much history, culture and beauty and is just a short flight from mainland Australia. The locals are so friendly and welcoming, this stunning Island awaits you.

Contact our friendly Franchisees for all enquiries and a detailed itinerary.

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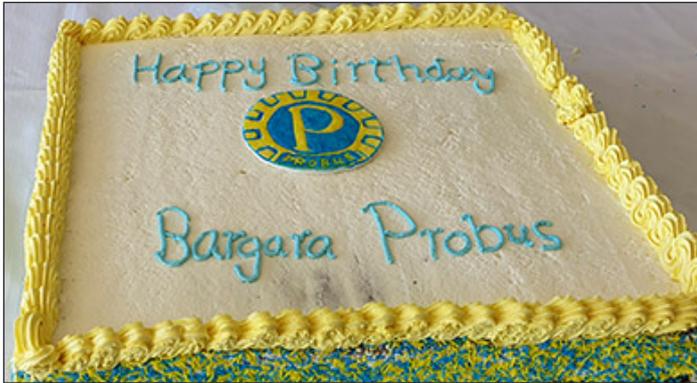
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## BARGARA AND DISTRICT

### Yet another birthday to celebrate

How wonderful to get together again. President Val Watson welcomed us all to the August General Meeting, our first meeting for five months.

Numbers were limited to forty-eight to abide by Covet restrictions, and we had the opportunity to celebrate our



*Our Twenty-Ninth Birthday Cake*

Club's Twenty-Ninth Birthday with a special cake for morning tea.

Monthly Newsletters have kept members informed and the Sub-Clubs who do such a wonderful job of organising morning teas, lunches, the Book Club, our Sunday picnic and Cards and Games have remained active, adapting to the changing times.

These monthly gatherings bring together like minded groups and have been of vital importance in keeping the Club alive during recent months.

To support Queensland, a group of fifteen members took the train to Cairns for a twelve-day holiday, finishing with some time on Magnetic Island. A great time was had by all.

We plan to hold our annual Car Rally in October, and it is hoped to combine this with a Friendship Day like the one that was cancelled last November.

We are unable to invite visitors to join as at this time but, hopefully, we will soon be able to welcome new faces. Stay safe and well.



*Our Group in Mossman Gorge, North Queensland*

## CHAPEL HILL

### Tours and Outings in Covid 19 times

While physical tours have been out of the question, our Tours Coordinator found some interesting virtual tours for our members to enjoy, including ones of the Keukenhof Gardens in The Netherlands, of Ostia Antica, the ancient port for Rome, and of an African safari.

Then some members became creative and, by learning new skills, created a movie, using Movavi software,

of the club's first away trip to Norfolk Island in 2009. Digital photos, hard copy photos and video were all incorporated to make a ten-minute video, so we could re-live that interesting and fun-filled trip.

How to get it out to members meant learning the process to set up a private You-tube channel. That was a great success and another movie created by one of our members on a drama-filled trip to Yamba in 2017, when ex-Cyclone Debbie saw us stranded overnight, part of the way home, was put up on You-tube and again enjoyed by our members.

The newest movie, due for release in late August, is on a road and rail trip to Hervey Bay and the Town of 1770 in 2016.

This has proved challenging, due to the huge number of digital photos and video of a spectacular day of whale-watching at Hervey Bay, Lady Musgrave Island visit and an LARC trip up to Bustard Head, among other fascinating places.

We hope we will be able to go back to actual tours soon, but it has been great to have these ways to enjoy virtual tours and to re-live Probus tours with our friends.



*Pancake Breakfast at Emily Bay, Norfolk Island*



*Ex-Cyclone Debbie tried to put a dampener on our Yamba trip activities but we managed.*

## BRIBIE ISLAND

### The International Criminal Police Organization – ICPO-Interpol

One of the most fascinating talks that we have ever had was the one about the International Criminal Police Organization, more commonly known as Interpol. It is an inter-governmental organization, and currently has a hundred and ninety-four member countries. Its Headquarters is located in Lyons, France and it also has several Regional Offices and Liaison Officers attached to organizations such as the UN at its office in New York and the European Union in Brussels.

Each member country sets up a National Central Bureau and can send a delegation to the General Assembly, held annually in a country chosen by its members. Interpol is governed by an Executive Committee, elected by the General Assembly to ensure that the General Assembly decisions are implemented and to prepare topics for discussion by the General Assembly.

The Secretariat in Lyons is headed by a Secretary General, who is responsible for the day-to-day running of the organization and its business of international co-operation.

On an historical note, the first International Police Congress was held in Monaco in 1914. The organization went through several name changes over the years and its development was interrupted by the two World Wars. The Headquarters was set up in Paris in 1966 before moving to Lyons in 1989.

According to the terms of Article 2 of its Constitution, Interpol's aims are: "To ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in its member countries and in the spirit of the Declaration of Human Rights".

Article 3 of the Constitution adds: "It is strictly forbidden for the Organization to undertake any intervention of a political, military, religious or racial character".

Interpol issues a number of colour-coded international notices at the request of National Central Bureaus as a tool for use by law enforcement agencies around the world. There are Red Notices for wanted persons,

Green for warnings and intelligence, and Yellow for missing persons, Orange for an imminent threat, Blue for additional information, Purple for Modus Operandi and Black for unidentified bodies. There is also an Interpol-UN Security Council Special Notice relating to groups and individuals subject to UNSC Sanctions.

Interpol is not a supranational Police Force. It does not have officers flying around the world assisting local police officers to solve ordinary crimes. However, in more recent times, they have created two types of specialized teams: an Incident Response Team comprising experts in various fields who can assist local authorities with matters such as victim and/or suspect identification in the event of a terrorist attack or an international disaster, and, a Major Event Support Team that can, when requested, assist law enforcement in countries, which are about to host major events, such as the Olympics or international visits made by Heads of State or important dignitaries.

A couple of recent examples of the deployment of the Incident Response Teams are the January 2019 bombing of an hotel complex in Nairobi, when twenty people were killed and dozens injured and the April bombing of churches and hotels in Sri Lanka where two hundred and fifty people were killed and hundreds injured. In both cases, requests for assistance would have come from those countries. This is the only way in which Interpol can play such a role.

Interpol can also help to co-ordinate major operations, where a number of countries are involved, through its Command and Co-ordination Centre in Lyons. It maintains data bases covering crimes from Corruption to



*The Interpol Headquarters at Lyons*



*The Interpol Logo*

War Crimes, providing valuable information to international law enforcement. These data bases can be accessed by all NCB's, via Interpol's secure network system to assist them in countering international organized crime.

Australia is a member country of Interpol being represented by the Australian Federal Police. As a member of that organization, our speaker was seconded to Interpol, initially for two years in Paris, then after two years back in Canberra, a further eight years in Lyon. The position he held there enabled him to travel to many locations around the globe with the aim of facilitating international cooperation between law enforcement and bodies such as the UN, the World Customs Organization, and various Governmental and NGO's.

## KINGSTON

### BBQ and Presentations in the Park

On Tuesday 11th August Kingston Probus Club met at the Lake Street Park located at Slacks Creek for a barbecue. Luckily the weather was sunny with a brisk breeze. It certainly was wonderful to gather in these surreal times we now find ourselves living in.

Twenty members received a Foundation Member Induction Certificate with their name badge attached. These certificates were presented by Rob Neary, President of the Probus Association of Queensland, and our President, Marlene Sheedy, and our Secretary, Val Turner. Photographs were taken by Jeni Neary, Rob's wife, and both had travelled from Toowoomba to be with our club and meet the Kingston group. Rob was able to give very sound advice from his knowledge and experience gained in Probus. Jeni was so friendly and mingled with our members.

Five guests joined with club members for the jolly get together and camaraderie felt at the barbecue. Our Secretary's husband Richard was chief chef. Our menu consisted of tasty salads which accompanied sausages, chicken and meat patties with desserts to follow.

Four members sent their apologies as they were not able to be present



*Kingston Club BBQ in Park*



*Kingston Club President Marlene, Secretary Val with PAQ President Rob*

on the day. A short meeting followed; our President told us that a new meeting place had been found. The venue is Gould Adams Park Community Centre.

Our President as well as our Secretary are to be commended for the

time and effort taken to secure a meeting place for our future meetings in Kingston. We meet on the 1st September to continue and renew our getting to know one another.

**Catherine Keel**

## EMU PARK

### Loye and Merv bid farewell

A Bar-B-Que in Bell Park was the setting to allow Probus Emu Park club members to farewell Loye and Merv Hewitt, both inaugural club members, who will be moving back to Theodore at the end of August. President Alf Klerkx thanked Loye and Merv for their assistance and support and wished them all the best for the future, before presenting them with a Certificate of Appreciation. Other members then presented the couple with a book on the Singing Ship, along with a framed photograph of that Emu Park icon to remember us by.

Both Loye and Merv, or "Gunny" as he is known, have had a long and active involvement in their community, wherever they lived, but more recently, since retiring and moving to the coast, with Probus Emu Park. Loye is a past President but has also held many positions within the club over the years. Before moving to Emu Park, Loye was involved in the Theodore Show Society and the Visitors Information Centre. Although Merv had been busy raising cattle, he was also involved in Local Government, becoming



*Merv, Loye and Alf*

ing Deputy Mayor in the Banana Shire Council, as well as serving on numerous other boards and committees too numerous to mention. A bridge over the Dawson River named after him is a testament to his dedication to the community.

President Alf, having overseen the cutting of the cake, declared all formalities and speeches over and concluded by thanking everyone for their attendance at Loye and Merv's farewell.

**Ty Tarlington**



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## GOODNA-SPRINGFIELD

### "What have you been doing?"

Our AGM for 2020 took place at our March meeting. It saw some movement in positions, with many of our previous Committee either taking on the same position or taking on another position in the new Committee.

And what a welcome the new Vommittee has had! It has had to take the difficult decision to cease temporarily all activities, for the sake of the health and safety of our members.

Of prime concern has been that most of our members have been completely isolated from all social contact during this time. We are sending out Newsletters, in an effort to hold the Club members together. We have asked members to submit short articles, with perhaps a photograph, to relay to other members how they are handling the extra time afforded them by their isolation. We have entitled this: "What have you been doing?"

This is in addition to our members' Facebook Page. We have also sug-



*Our new Committee forced into early action*

gested that members phone or email other members to keep in touch socially.

We did manage to fit in one social activity before our hiatus in Club activities. That was our morning tea Get-Together at the Brookwater Golf and Country Club. Delicious, freshly-made scones were the order of the day, as we chatted and caught up with one another.

Our January outing was a visit to the movies to see "Little Women" followed by lunch at the Beach House at Springfield Orion. As we usually, members, who were not able to attend the outing, were welcome to



*Michelina, our 100th Member, being inducted*

come along and meet us for lunch afterward.

This was very different to our February outing to the Police Museum in Roma Street, and, for further variety, we tried a new venue for our February lunch outing. The Redbank Plains Tavern, which had an enticing arrangement of food, seems to have been well received.

We are proud to have inducted Michelina, our one hundredth member, into our club in February.

Well! Let's hope that we are soon back among friends to continue our ethos of: Fun, Friendship and Fellowship!

## HERVEY BAY CITY MIXED

### Down but certainly not out!

The Mixed Probus Club of Hervey Bay City has been down but not out for the past six months. Even though we have not been able to meet in a General Meeting, or even for outings, we have kept in touch through email. A wonderful communicator, Sue Heg-

gie, has kept the ball rolling around the members by initiating a chatty, newsy style email to all members. Sue writes of the everyday occurrences in her life and invites others to send in comments, which Sue then relays in her next mail out. Jokes abound, and interesting videos and puzzles keep the house-bound members in touch with each other.

Last week, our Social Director, Daphne Terrell, organised our first luncheon, and it was such a pleasure to meet up again with old friends at a

spacious venue, with the most superb view over the ocean. The Waterfront Restaurant is built over the water, and the ocean was sparkling through the open windows over the Bay. Social distancing was observed and it was a sight to see – all these elbows flashing, instead of the usual hugs all round.

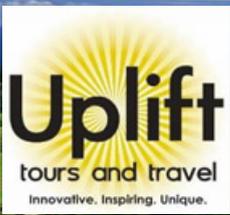
We are most fortunate in Queensland to have virtually no COVID-19 so there was little anxiety and much relaxed chat and laughter. We can't wait for the next one!!



*Maxine, Melinda, Val and Ann enjoy a long awaited catch up.*



*The view from the window was extraordinary and low tide provided a pageantry of colour and texture.*



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- ✓ Island Culture tour
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- ✓ Night as a Convict
- ✓ Convict Settlement tour
- ✓ Glass Bottom Boat
- ✓ Behind the Hedges tour
- ✓ Sound & Light Show
- ✓ Ghost tour
- ✓ Museum Pass



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## INDOOROOPILLY

### Bush Walking group - Litchfield Track

We had eight walkers for our walk for June. It was nice to see some new faces in the group. The Litchfield Track starts from the Gold Mine picnic area and runs along the top of Mount Coot-tha, roughly parallel to Sir



*And who's tail-end Charlie?*

Samuel Griffith Drive and comes out just near the car park for the Summit Café/Lookout. The track is three kilometres each way and is flat to undulating. It is graded but not well signed.

We parked at the Gold Mine Picnic Area, then walked along the track through the beautiful eucalypt forest to the Lookout. We had a break to look at the view of Brisbane and then

retraced our steps back to the Picnic Area. We enjoyed morning tea from thermoses in the winter sunshine. Some of the group also did a short side trip on the Ghost Hole Track. This track took us to an abandoned gold mine that was worked up until the 1950s, and the remnants of an old wooden bridge and a dam.

**Warren Freeman**



*The pause that refreshes*

## MT GRAVATT PACIFIC

### Probus in the Park

On Wednesday 17th June, twenty of our club members ventured into the Broadwater Park in Mansfield to witness the induction of three new members. Val and Richard Smetheram and Jen Noble were welcomed into the Mt Gravatt Pacific Probus Club on a beautiful sunny day amongst the trees. Club members were invited to attend with "Bring your own chair and Morning Tea".

Catherine Wagner, our President, inducted the new members and then we all had a great morning catching up with each other.

The opportunity to see members

face-to-face was a great feeling.

We have four more members to induct and will no doubt be doing that in the park again.

Our club is also holding Zoom meetings with the Sunday Coffee Group, but this has extended into an evening Zoom meeting with an English club in the UK. Padstow Probus is a coastal club and like many of us have big problems with membership numbers and are worried about their existence after COVID-19. They are an All Men's club and their numbers are dwindling rapidly.

We have been able to send them some of our literature we use for membership drives and the like. We discovered that they do not have an "Umbrella Association" such as our PAQ nor do they have the big umbrella of PSPL.

Once they are formed they are then on their own to grow as they see fit. Many clubs in the UK seem to have a cap of fifty members and have a separate morning, when wives and widows of past members can come along for the coffee meeting. Their meetings are mostly luncheons with General Business, lunch then an occasional Guest Speaker.

It has been interesting to listen and watch the reaction of the two Padstow members, who join us on Zoom each Sunday, when we talk about the things we do here in Australia in our Probus Clubs.

You get a very different view about Probus and it really makes you appreciate all that we have here in Australia and the great leadership and assistance we receive from PAQ and PSPL.



*Members gathered for a day in the Park*



*Jen Noble, and Val and Richard Smetheram receive their membership certificates from President Catherine Wagner with strict distancing observed.*

## SUNNYBANK

### Ipswich – its history, its beauty and a great place to visit!

Thirty-seven of my fellow Probus members joined me, for a tour of the Workshop Rail Museum at Ipswich. Our first stop was on the verandah of the Visitor's Centre at Queen's Park for Devonshire Tea, then it was on to the Rail Museum. Here we were given a detailed description of the history of the Workshop by one of the volunteer guides. We then went inside the Museum where there were more than fifteen larger-than-life exhibits and lots of hand on activities. It's well set up with a children's interactive indoor playground, train simulators and a model railway.

The North Ipswich Railway Workshops, established in 1864 was the first railway workshop in Queensland. The old boiler shop houses the Museum. For most of its hundred and thirty years, the North Ipswich Railway Workshops have employed more than fifteen hundred people at any one time, with a maximum of more than three thousand just after the Second World War, this making it the State's largest employer at that time. They were an essential adjunct to Queensland's first railway line which was constructed from Ipswich to the Darling Downs. The first section of this line, from Ipswich to Grandchester, opened in 1865. The line between Ipswich and Brisbane was completed in 1875. The first workshops were also built in Ipswich on the southern end of the present site. Construction materials and the first locomotives used in Queensland were imported from Britain and arrived by ship in Brisbane, and then were brought to Ipswich by paddle-steamer. The site was the centre of rail construction, maintenance and technology for Queensland's rail industry. The workshops were initially required to carry out assembly and maintenance only. In 1865, the workshops built its first item of rolling stock, an engine truck. Ten wagons were built in 1866. The Workshops advanced rapidly and, in 1877, built its first locomotive, an A10 class constructed mainly from existing spare parts. The workshops would eventually build two hundred and eighteen steam locomotives, the last being a DD17 class in 1952. In its time, thirteen thousand carriages were produced at the Workshops. The rebirth of the site in 2002, as a world-class rail museum, made it the oldest continually operating railway workshops in Australia.

After lunch, it was on to the Ipswich Nature Centre, in Queens Park, which has been in existence for eighty years.



Steam engine no. 444



Rose Jaman, Barbara Corser and Carmel Wilcox looking right at home on board the train



A wagon used for transporting timber from local forests

A rotunda built in 1891 is the entrance to the Centre. Here, we were able to view a range of our native wildlife among the lush landscaped gardens and exhibits that have been created to represent local bushland and flora communities. This Centre is the only free zoo in South East Queensland. We walked down the shady boardwalks past exhibits housing Australian animal species like wombats, emus, dingoes, wallabies, kookaburras, goats, a peacock and black swans and further on to rare animals such as quolls, and a nocturnal bilby exhibit. There are many wild free-roaming native animals and here you can see water dragons, ducks, rainbow lorikeets and fruit bats hanging in the trees, near a vibrant rainforest bird aviary which was alive with colour and sound.



The main entrance to the workshop at the rear of the building

# Explore the best of the Heritage City

Queensland's oldest provincial city, Ipswich is steeped in history. The town is the birthplace of rail in Queensland and once was in the running to be the state's capital which led to the construction of some magnificent heritage buildings and churches.

## 1. Visit the planes at the RAAF Amberley Aviation Heritage Centre

The centre is packed full of aviation and military historical exhibits. You can walk around and get up close to a famous F-111 or see a WW11 Boston Bomber. There's also a Cairbou airlifter, Sioux and Iroquois helicopters.

## 2. See some of Ipswich's greatest heritage sites

Ipswich Heritage Bus Tours take in some of the city's most iconic sites including the grand St Mary's Catholic Church which was built in 1874. The tour also takes you past some of Ipswich's most well-known heritage homes and estates.

## 3. Stop into one of Queensland's oldest parks for morning tea

Queens Park is one of the state's oldest parks, one of the monuments goes right back to 1864. It is home to a café, Japanese gardens, Environmental Education Centre, the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre, a free zoo and much more. Book a delicious morning tea on the wide shady verandas at either the Visitor Information Centre or Queens Park Café to fuel you through the day.

## 4. Take a stroll through the Ipswich Nature Centre

While you're in Queens Park, it would be a shame to miss the Ipswich Nature Centre, where you can wander through for free, or book an animal encounters tour for a small fee. The tour gives you a behind the scenes look at the work the nature centre staff do for conservation.

## 5. Grab lunch at the Pumpyard

Inside a former technical college that opened in 1901 now sits a funky brewhouse and restaurant called The Pumpyard Bar and Brewery. It's here at 88 Limestone St that 4 Hearts Brewing produce award winning craft beers. Our tip is to order a lunch platter and beer tasting paddle and spend the afternoon in the heritage precinct.

## 6. Taste gourmet ice cream

While you're at 88 Limestone St, wander down to Ungermann Brothers ice cream to taste some of their creations. Sit in retro blue lounges and listen to electro-swing music as you tuck into salted caramel, bacon and pecan ice cream, look out for Dutch Spice, carrot cake and finger lime flavours.

## 7. Spend the afternoon learning about trains at The Workshops Rail Museum

The Workshops Rail Museum was once the workplace of more than 3000 railway workers. Now visitors enter via a historic Timekeepers building to the boiler shop where restored trains and carriages keep the past alive. There is also an onsite café.

## 8. Jump onboard a steam train

The Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway sees trains leave a restored station at Swanbank and drive up to Bundamba and back. Step back in time on the restored heritage carriages.



Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway

## 9. Head over to Cooneana Heritage Centre

Cooneana Heritage Centre houses historical photographs, memorabilia, artefacts and mining displays that showcase the rich and diverse history of Ipswich. Explore Jim Donald House, a Workers Cottage, which has been restored and furnished to reflect the period and see an olden time classroom complete with wooden desks and slates.

## 10. Finish the day with dinner and beer tasting at the Prince Alfred Hotel

The Prince Alfred Hotel is one of Queensland's oldest and most iconic pubs, and this year it turns 175 years old. Inside the award-winning hotel are three dining spaces, including Char'd where red claw and steak are the signature dishes. The Tap'd Bar's claim to fame is having 72 beers on tap, making it the largest craft beer bar in the southern hemisphere.

For more information visit [DiscoverIpswich.com.au](http://DiscoverIpswich.com.au) or call the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre on (07) 3281 0555.



 **St Mary's Catholic Church**

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## MACGREGOR

### Excuse me, Guv'nor, how abaht a Lamington?

When MacGregor visited Government House it was certainly quite a change from our usual venues. Due to a reported shortage of parking spaces, Margaret wisely opted for car-pooling.

170 Fernberg Road is in the leafy suburb of Paddington and is a heritage-listed, State-owned residence, surrounded by fourteen hectares of estate, it is an important Queensland landmark and is steeped in historical, cultural and environmental significance. 'Fernberg', meaning "a distant mountain", and named thus by the original German owner, wealthy Brisbane merchant, Johann Heussler, was built in 1865. It was purchased in 1911, by the Government, for the princely sum of £10,000 and has been the home and workplace of Queensland Governors ever since. For a place that receives literally thousands of guests and visitors a year, one could not say the entrance is exactly signposted for easy access.

Several of us parked downhill from where we thought the entry was and walked up to it, looking up an ominously-steep driveway, as we neared the imposing gates. We all made it, eventually, and were individually checked in by the immaculate guards – immaculate both in attire and manner. Our guide for the day was a delightful lady, Judith Anderson, who had been CEO of the Queensland Ballet from 1998 to 2010 and had worked at Government House for six years thereafter, before retiring. The other guide was Anne Bailey, who arrived, slightly flustered, after a long drive from Caboolture. What a great thing to do to come there all that way, just for us!

Morning tea, which was unexpected but very welcome, was provided in the Investiture Room, where the Awards are presented. Copies of State medals are encased and some available to touch. It was a silver service affair. Two young ladies, similarly immaculately-attired, fussed over us, and the Lamingtons and tiny cakes disappeared faster than the tide at Sandgate.

The Governor's Press Secretary gave us a brief rundown on what we were to see, mentioning that we were

to soon meet the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC. He breezed into the room and greeted us in his best warm and friendly manner. In his short but interesting talk, he told some of the history of the house, of its previous gubernatorial "tenants" so to speak, of how each First Lady had left her mark and about his favorite memorabilia. One of these is a 2015 Grand Final football, signed by Jonathon Thurston and the victorious Cowboy team. This takes pride of place in the Library, which contains much of the aforesaid treasures and personal items. The plans and drawings of the original house, which was built in three sections, as the need arose, are on the Library wall. Several other sites were in the running for the Vice-Regal dwelling, but were never needed.

Our tour began at the original front door, where the coaches of the day alighted, past some doors we could not see into and, soon, we moved into the Formal Dining Room, which seats twenty-four. Works by Margaret Olley adorn the walls. We saw many works by other famous artists during the tour, all on loan from the Queensland Art Gallery. They are rotated sporadically. The table and chairs were made in Toowoomba by a father and son team of craftsmen and the room was actually two rooms, in its original incarnation. A sample of its napery and china and glass was set to show us the formality that surrounds a meal there. The carpet was commissioned from and made in Scotland, part of the refurbishment undertaken in 1989. The kitchen is downstairs. It must be no fun to serve from there and it is used at least fortnightly, we were told. Up some stairs we went and then were ushered into the huge formal lounge, used weekly, but full of beautiful furniture and art. We had to keep moving and soon reached the aforementioned Library. Then it was time to move back to the first floor, to view the imposing current entrance and art works of long-past kings and queens. These were pictures of Queen Victoria's children and their children, huge canvases, with their subjects posed in full regalia such as once were stan-



*Our group with tour guides, Judith Anderson and Anne Bailey, and Gavel, the Governor's Guard Dog*



*Looking at Government House from the Guard House entry*

dard in regal residences. This practice went out of favor as costs became prohibitive and are no longer done.

In 1882, John Stevenson MP purchased Fernberg and commissioned the addition of a fine frontage to the building. He also installed a fine huge stained glass window depicting Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland, on the main internal stairway of the house. It is still there, although the front of the house, as it was then, has now become the western wall, through which we had entered, via the original front steps. This is probably the memory that will most stay with me as a lasting reminder of the magnificent building. It is breathtaking!

It was time to go and the "house" dog, a three-year-old Alsatian that had failed Police School saw us off the premises. Named "Gavel", in celebration of the Governor's previous occupation, it sat regally near the Security Station. When we wanted to pet him the security chief took him to get his uniform fitted before pictures and a pat -- a nice gesture. All in all it was a lovely morning.

Thanks to Margaret, Judith and Anne, the Governor and his staff, all the drivers and everyone at the house.

## COOROY

### Tiring – Yes! But we're having fun

What a trying few months it has been!

Probus Cooroy, in caring for the senior element of the community, has embarked on a plan that hopefully will encourage people to get out and enjoy the company of others.

It all began in June when a BYO lunch was held in the Noosa Botanic Gardens to investigate the possibility of getting out and enjoying ourselves, while complying with the current restrictions.

Those members present agreed that a trial run of a July meeting be held in the Gardens, and it was most enjoyable.

Since then, the meeting venue has been the Cooroy RSL. This has convenient parking, all-season weather capacity and wonderful morning teas. President Ivy Carter can finally wear her chain of office with pride.

New member Phyllis Blacker certainly felt encouraged, along with others, to enjoy a time of fun, friendship and fellowship.

Since then, there has been a monthly morning tea, lunch and other organised activities for members and guests to enjoy.

A recent group outing at the Kin Kin Black Ant Café served up delicious and nutritious meals from an extensive menu.

## FRASER COAST-HERVEY BAY COMBINED

### Historical Tour of Maryborough

Some members of our club availed themselves of a trip to Maryborough in a cavalcade of private cars. Organized by ex-President, Brian Frederiksen, who spent most of his life in Maryborough, the trip was an eye-opener for many of our club members.

Maryborough was one of the early ports, even before Queensland became a State. After gold was discovered in Gympie, the Port of Maryborough exploded with activity. Rural lots were created, and immigration was encouraged.

With the promise of land, Europeans flocked to Maryborough. Merchants set up business, banks were established and churches built. The Walker Brothers from Victoria set up their Factory and Foundry, manufacturing locomotives, trains, ships and later Warships.

This company still provides employment for many, trading non-stop for the last hundred and fifty-three years. Sugar growing and timber are still major employers.

The beautiful old colonial-type homes abound in every street. Many residents take pride in their homes, and they are beautifully maintained even today.

To finish the tour, members had a picnic lunch at the Ululah Lagoons.



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### HISTORY

Originally the Sussex Arms in Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent on the Pantiles built in the 1700's and closed in 1987. The interior that surrounds you including much of the memorabilia, Bars, Pews, Paintings, Beer Taps, Fire Place & Wooden Dividers were all placed into 5 shipping containers and shipped down under to Wongawallan.

Not until 2007 was the Sussex Arms, now resurrected as The Fox & Hounds, formally open to the public again as a true English pub some 300 years later, serving true English Ales.



**We look forward to seeing you soon!**

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Now let's see... an article for The Probian about our Club's latest guest speaker...



It's a great way to share with fellow Probian's!

## CARSELDINE

### Carseldine Probian's Meet Again

After many months of isolation, Carseldine Probian's met again, this time at the Virginia Golf Club on 18th August. The prime mover for this gathering was Robin Bechly, who generously funded the morning tea, and whose eightieth birthday fell on the following day. The Probian's assembled on the Golf Club Terrace on the bright Brisbane winter's day, conforming to strict Covig-19 regulations, enforced by Bev Culverhouse and her 1.5 metre pool noodle! We maintained "Social Distancing", or were chastised by "The Enforcer"!

The attentive Club staff ushered us in to the dining room and to the suitably spaced tables with seating for only six at each. Once settled, we enjoyed coffee, served in disposable cups, and sandwiches, followed by birthday cake. Five Probian's, who attended, had a birthday in August. In addition to Robin Bechly, Jan Boon, Marjorie Hillier, Derek Hall, and Ron Peters also have August birthdays. Several Probian's spoke of their friendship and acquaintance with Robin, our host for the day, and his many contributions to the club.

All too soon, it was time to depart. The general feeling of the attendees was that the day was an enjoyable success and more activities, with appropriate Covid-19 allowances, should follow soon. Mention was made of a whale-watching outing that Wendy hopes to organise for the 15th September. Expressions of interest were requested.

## TOOWOOMBA CITY

### We're looking good

Toowoomba City, along with the rest of Australia, was in lockdown for quite a few months, and we all missed the friendship and fun that comes with Probus meetings and outings.

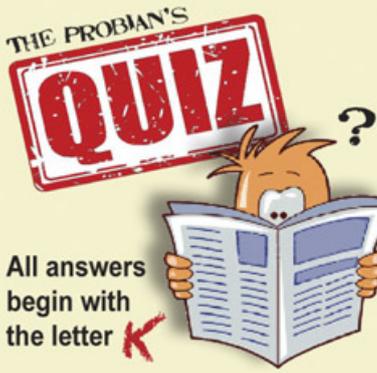
In July, the lockdown restrictions eased a little, and we were able to undertake our first outing. Our newly elected Social Coordinator, Wilma Laughton, along with the help of long-time member Sue Fraser, organised a lunch outing to the Murphy's Creek Tavern. This proved a popular choice, as over forty-five members attended. Chad, the Manager of the Tavern, provided an excellent Covid-safe venue and an excellent lunch was had by everyone. Thank you, Chad and staff.

In August, one Sunday morning, we also had breakfast at the Burke & Wills Hotel

Our monthly meetings are now held at the Sunset Super Bowl and the Management has bent over backwards to provide a Covid Safe environment for our members. Our thanks must go to them for their patience and hard work.

Toowoomba City members, who appear to be a resilient lot, are really looking forward to the year ahead. Four new members have recently been (or about to be) inducted.

**Celia Waldron**



All answers begin with the letter **K**

1. What term for a school comes from the German for 'children's garden'?
2. What traditional Japanese garment is secured by a sash called an obi?
3. Which camera company was founded by George Eastman in 1888?
4. What is the name of a major desert in southern Africa?
5. Who wrote *The Jungle Book* and *Kim*?
6. What is the national airline of the Netherlands?
7. Which animal feeds mainly on eucalyptus leaves?
8. What name is given to the fortified citadel in the centre of Moscow?
9. What is meat of Middle East origin, sliced off a rotating vertical spit, called?
10. Theo is the first name of which television detective, portrayed by Telly Savalas?
11. Which major conflict was fought from 1950 to 1953?
12. Who are the makers of Corn Flakes?
13. What title was given to the German Emperor?



1. Kindergarten. 2. Kimono. 3. Kodak. 4. Kalahari. 5. Kipling (Rudyard). 6. KLM. 7. Koala. 8. Krimlin. 9. Kebab. 10. Kojak. 11. Korean War. 12. Kellogg's. 13. Kaiser.

## SPRINGWOOD

### A Magic Moment to Remember

A long time ago, one April in the nineties, I travelled to Turkey. We had a pretty extensive itinerary planned, but the highlight was a visit to Gallipoli to attend the Dawn Service on Anzac Day. The Governor General was going to be there, with many politicians and people of high esteem.

So in the wee hours of that very chilly morning, busloads of freezing bodies arrived at Anzac Cove and we positioned ourselves in what we believed to be the best viewing spots and waited in anticipation for what was, hopefully, to follow. We waited and waited and waited some more,

The sun rose and still we waited, but still no sign of the Governor General, Bill Hayden. He did eventually arrive but the sun had well and truly risen by then.

One very poignant moment occurred while we waited when two young men climbed a cliff behind the Cove and stood, each with a flag fluttering in the breeze, one Australian, one New Zealand.

After visiting memorial sites of some other countries we arrived at Lone Pine for the ceremony to find much chaos, as it had been closed to

the general public, only the polities, dignitaries and their friends were being allowed to attend, and this was not going down very well with the large crowd of young people and old Diggers, most of whom had travelled great distances to be there for that ceremony.

The young ones laid down across the road in protest, with the intention of stopping the cars of the Governor General and those of high office to prevent them from getting to whatever social function was next on their agenda and there were signs that it could become a bit nasty due to the large number of armed Turkish militia milling around in the background.

Then, when all seemed to be at stalemate, like Superman, the only remaining politician, Bob McMullan appeared and came to the rescue and saved the day. He apologised, listened to the complaints from the crowd, and said that he would be willing to stay and conduct a ceremony of sorts.

So up we all went, and what a wonderful and moving ceremony it turned out to be. Bob McMullan spoke, the oath was read by a young student with Australian flag wrapped over his shoulders and the Last Post was played by another on the didgeridoo.

A really wonderful day that I shall always remember.

**Natalie Cadiz**



*Soldiers sheltering and at rest in the trenches*



*The tree on Gallipoli Hill*

## KENMORE VILLAGE

### Our visit to the Chung Tian Temple

Right here, in the Brisbane suburb of Priestdale, is Chung Tian Temple; a peaceful Buddhist retreat with buildings in the Chinese palace architectural style of red and gold. These are the traditional colours associated with Emperors. The whole is protected by gargoyles and statues, each with their own life message. The Venerable Abbess Miao Lai, like most of the nuns at the Temple, is Taiwanese.

The gardens contain plants thought to represent peace, a signature Bodhi tree and feature eighteen Arhat statues - figures that have transcended rebirth and possessing supernatural powers. Of the buildings, there is the striking multi-storey traditional Chinese Pagoda with three Halls of Worship, a museum full of ornate Chinese art works and artefacts, and a Lotus Treasury Room, where mirrors are thought to reflect the Buddha nature of those who look in.

Julie, our energetic and enthusiastic guide for the day, had a marvellous story of how, after breaking her back by slipping on a small drop of water, she came to the Temple to learn meditation. At one stage she couldn't walk and was on heavy medication. Now, after learning to live with the pain, use meditation and accept where her life is now, she is an acting guide and teaches Art at the Temple. The great news is she is free of all medication.

After our introduction and information about the Temple, we all headed to the Water Drop Teahouse. The Teahouse plays a key role in that the Chinese were the first to discover tea-drinking in 9BC. The Water Drop Teahouse was surprised - no one had told them to expect twenty-three of us! To their credit in no time at all hot savouries, tasty biscuits, coffee or tea was ready. Julie also organised a tasting of the Oolong Tea, which, much to our surprise was shared with us as part of the Tea Ceremony. Usually this costs an additional ten dollars but, as way of apologising, this fee was waived. We enjoyed the Ceremony - where a miracle happened! At the beginning of the Ceremony, one is to sit tall on small wooden stools and become aware of breathing - deep in through the nose, hold, and slowly out through the mouth - for three

minutes. This was the quietest our group was for the whole day! That was the miracle!

After visiting the Meditation Hall with explanations of the different hand positions of the Buddha, lunch was on the agenda.

More surprised staff - they weren't expecting us either! However, this gave us an opportunity to visit the Pagoda and the three Halls of Worship, where small plaques, from floor to ceiling, have a Chinese inscription of those whose ashes are here. The ashes are held in urns on the above floors. The higher up the Pagoda, the more expensive it is. The donor, who gave seven million dollars to purchase and build the temple, has the top floor of the Pagoda for his family. Each Hall was different and the Buddha was sitting in a different pose. Everywhere was quiet, serene and peaceful. Any-



*And Christmas is always a time for celebration as well*

one can choose to have their ashes placed here. And, here was the Tree of Wishes.

Special fried rice had been prepared for us, again as an apology. The simple vegetarian food was delicious.

All good tours end in the Gift Shop and this was no exception. It was also a Museum containing ornate and beautiful statues, books, jewellery and so on.

All too soon, it was time to head home after a most enjoyable day.

**Dorothy Bunzli**

## *Come In, Spinner!*

John Perry



*"FOREVER YOUNG", the sign said, up the road a little bit.  
It advertised Retirement Homes, for those of us "less fit".  
It showed a loving couple, who still had lots of teeth,  
And talked about the benefits of life there, underneath.*

*There were swimming pools, gazebos, even parks for walking frames!  
In the background, bent-back bowlers, intent on hard-fought games.  
'ENSUITE', it said, "Sweet", said I, "Much less further in the night . . ."  
And a shiny "BIDET..-something" . . . all looking very white.*

*'SHORT WALK TO SHOPS', "BUSES CLOSE", it gets better all the time,  
"ON ONE LEVEL": No more steps, my tired legs to climb.  
This all sounds beaut. I'll make a call . . . after my nanna nap.  
GREAT PRICE! BARGAIN! . . . Hang on . . . there has to be a trap.*

*Two hundred grand, no more to pay, it looks and sounds too cheap . . .  
Of course . . . I should have twigged, as I listened to the beeps.  
A message said, "Manager here. Sorry, not right now at my desk.  
You have reached lovely 'Sleepy Acres' . . . in the peaceful town of Esk!"*

## NEW PROBUS CLUB FOR TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

The birth of any new club is not without challenges but Tamborine Mountain Combined Probus Club “had them in spades”. The first interest meeting was set for March 4th this year, only for Covid-19 lockdown to restrict all gatherings. Another interest meeting was then rescheduled for August 12th but advertising had not been placed in time and so the interest meeting was again rescheduled for September 9th.

Over 40 interested Tamborine residents came to the meeting on Wednesday 9th September at Club Tamborine to find out more about Probus and to establish a new Probus Club on the mountain. The new President, Christine Stewart, welcomed 30 Foundation Members into the new club. PAQ President, Rob Neary, PAQ Treasurer, Brian Gilmore, and RDPC Merv Richens were on hand to form the club and establish its foundation management committee.

Like all new clubs, the new Tamborine Mountain Combined Probus Club is seeking more like-minded Tamborine residents to join them in some fun, friendship and fellowship. The club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Club Tamborine at 10am. Contact President Christine Stewart for more details.



*President Christine addresses the meeting*

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## COOMERA VALLEY

**We're getting back into the action –and enjoying it!**

The BYO picnic on Hope Island went very well with forty-six members attending. The weather was perfect, luckily missing the rain the week before.

It was wonderful to see the happy

faces of members getting together again after weeks apart.

There was lots of fun, friendliness and fellowship with members catching up with each other. We had some games such as “grass’ bowls for

members to play but I think everyone was too busy talking and catching up!

Our next activity is mini-golf at the end of July, where we can break up into small groups and keep our social-distancing like with the picnic.



*We're right into the spirit of things.*



*Ready to get into it!*

## INNISFAIL

### Our Cobbold Gorge Trip

On a recent trip, thirty-nine Probus members, families and guests from Innisfail and Mission Beach Clubs travelled by coach to Cobbold Gorge and Undara Caves for five days of friendship, fellowship and fun. Cobbold Gorge is four hundred and twenty-eight kilometres west of Innisfail.

Leaving Innisfail at 7 a.m. on a fresh clear sky morning, there was excitement in the air, as we drove up the picturesque Palmerston Highway. Our first stop was a welcoming morning tea laid on by President Ron Rankin at the Mt Garnett Golf Club. We continued on for a lunch break at the Georgetown Roadhouse, where we were overwhelmed by service and hospitality. The final leg to Cobbold Gorge gave our coach and members a good shake up, as sections of the unsealed, corrugated road reminded us we were in the Outback. After settling in, "Happy Hour" was required to wash the dust away and then followed an enjoyable evening meal and early night, as it had been a long day and breakfast was at seven the next morning. For us Northerners, early mornings were a little cool, but the days were glorious.

Days two and three started with tours of Cobbold Gorge and Robin Hood Station - a working cattle station. A short bus trip and walk through the Gorge landscape was complemented by a well explained "Show and Tell" leading to the top of the Gorge. Here crossing a glass bridge with views of steep Gorge cliffs and the water below was a breathtaking experience. Then, it was down into the Gorge, where we boarded electric-powered boats for a seven hundred and fifty metre travel through a narrow passage, with views of tree-lined rocky cliffs, the underside of the glass bridge, ferns, fish, fresh water crocodiles and a variety of bird sounds. It was so peaceful and relaxing - a true photographer's paradise. Located as it is on a working cattle station in the dry Outback, this Gorge is a hidden gem and has to be seen to be believed.

A bus tour of the Station involved a stop at a large dam known as "Dinner Creek Dam". In such a dry desolate area, it has never dried up and is a continual water supply to the livestock and other wildlife on this Station. Then on we went to a very large well-designed cattle yard, which included undercover feed storage, self-feeding and water troughs, trees and galahs. A relaxing informative session and a welcoming refreshment break followed. We were invited to walk amongst an Outback garden with a large variety of healthy plants, fruit and vegies.

Back at the Gorge, members had free time and the walkers among us could choose any of the four well-defined tracks with various gradients to take in Nature's beauty - or simply relax around the village. Some members chose to go on a helicopter trip around the Gorge Station area. Activities were planned to follow the evening meal. In one of the games, President Col had no idea at guessing the name on his head - "The Queen". He's been trying to hide ever since.

Day four saw us back over the teeth-shaking road heading back towards Georgetown. It was really only a short distance to the Ted Elliott Mineral Collection incorporated in the Georgetown Information Centre Building. This exhibit is unbelievable - a must see. From here it was off to



*Probians on Cobbold Gorge Glass Bridge - Fay Stephens in foreground - note the footwear so the glass is not scratched.*



*Bruno Bandiera, Lou & Mary Zahra, Bev Bandiera & Fay Stephens enjoying evening meal time at the Mt. Surprise Bedrock Village*

Mount Surprise Hotel for lunch. Another great meal and only a short distance to Joe & Jo's Bedrock Village Caravan Park - our final o'nite stop and the tour to Undara Volcanic Caves. A bus tour to the Caves led us to see an array of colours and shapes left behind by the molten lava. Steps and rails made it easy to go into the dark underground where coldness was felt. It was a great experience knowing what happened there so long ago.

Our last night together was filled with so much laughter and trip memories. It was very evident we didn't want this trip to end. So, following another great meal and hospitality, we gathered at the back of the Park around a camp fire to have a sing-a-long and spin a few yarns courtesy of Joe, his guitar and Park residents. It was a great night and fitting climax to a fantastic group of Probians and a well organised trip. These outback tourist destinations are doing it tough with drought and now the COVID virus. Not having seen a coach for many months, they were overwhelmed and so pleased to see us treating us in a way that had to be seen and felt to be appreciated.

Our final day saw morning tea at the Kalkani Crater shelter. Lunch at Innot Hot Springs Hotel was welcome before the final leg back home to Innisfail.

A special thanks to Bev and Bruno Bandiera for organising this fantastic trip and to Coach Drivers Neil and Desley for coach entertainment and a relaxing safe return trip.

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## REDLANDS

### We're struggling along – but enjoying the struggle.

Like many other Probus Clubs, we have not had a General Meeting since March. We tried using "Zoom" for our April and May Committee Meetings. We did, however, have a few technical problems. We were able to hold our June Committee Meeting at my home, as we only had six in attendance including me, and, for our July Committee Meeting, we were allowed back into the Redlands RSL, not into our normal meeting room, but into the Restaurant area, and it worked out fine. We could not, however, have our July General Meeting in the Function Room, where we normally hold our Meetings. It was our original plan to have our General Meeting there, followed by a Luncheon in the Club's Restaurant. It was to be a Special Meeting to celebrate our Fortieth Year Anniversary, this actually being on 15th April 2020. We were sponsored by Cleveland Rotary Club on that date in 1980. Anyway, as we could not hold the meeting, as we had planned, the RSL allowed us to hold a small meeting in the Restaurant, prior to having lunch, as we had several presentations to make.

The first of these presentations was that of a Special Certificate from PSPL to celebrate our Anniversary, that presentation being accepted by Presi-



President Dennis Head receiving the PSPL Certificate from Elwyn Hodges

dent Dennis Head and made by Elwyn Hodges, a Past President of Cleveland Rotary Club, a Former Rotary 9630 District Governor and the Current President of Toondah Probus Club. One of the most important presentations was the awarding of Life Membership to Denis Pickwell. He joined the Club in 2004, serving two terms as President, one in 2008 – 2009 and the other in 2015 – 2016. He also was on the Management Committee for many years and held many other positions within the Club.

To celebrate our Anniversary, a Special Birthday Cake was made and cut by Terry Murray, a Past President 2010 – 2011. Terry is also a Life Member of the Club and the oldest serving Active Member He joined the Club in 2001. Interestingly, Terry was President at the time of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Club.

The next presentation was to Peter



Denis Pickwell received the award of Life Membership from President Dennis Head



Terry Murray cuts the Birthday Cake with President Dennis Head looking on.

Evans, who won the "Flower of the Month" PAQ Photographic Club Competition for May, his entry being of a beautiful orchid. The final presentation, and a very special one, was to Terry Murray and his wife Iris for their sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.

Forty members attended the luncheon and enjoyed a meal of roast beef and vegetables.

## NAMBOUR

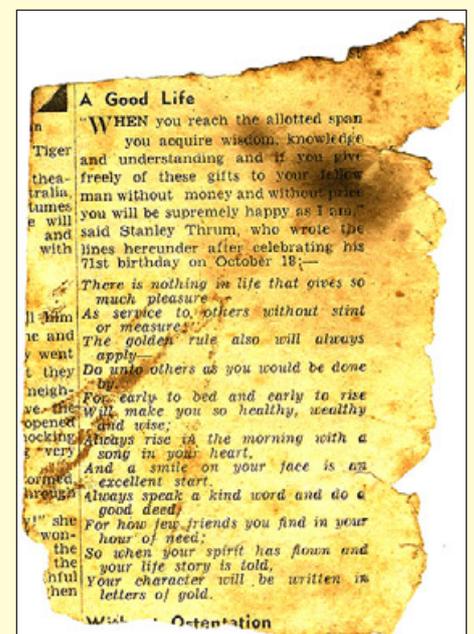
### An Old Relic

For most of us who experienced the war years as children, it is of interest when we come in contact with anything relating to that dark period in our history.

Some years ago I was involved in removing the ancient linoleum from the floor of a little run-down cottage. Between the floor and the linoleum were layers of newspaper dated from that period. Amongst a number of dictionaries on my computer desk is a Webster Popular Illustrated Dictionary printed in 1938 that I found in a second book shop many years ago. It is in excellent condition although the pages have aged to a brownish hue. I seldom refer to it but recently I did, in order to determine a correct pronun-

ciation as it is a Self-Pronouncing Edition. As a result, I discovered a small piece that had been torn from a newspaper. The publication and the exact date cannot be established. There is a short article on both sides of this piece of paper, so it is not known which article was of interest to the person who placed it in the book, but the advance of the Japanese into Malaya and the East Indies is mentioned in one article. This would indicate that the newspaper was printed somewhere during late 1941 to early 1942. I thought the article regarding the "Auction of Tinned Goods" gives an interesting insight into what often transpired in that time period. As for the gentleman reaching 71 years, which was considered a lifetime back then, for those of us in our eighties and nineties it is a distant memory.

Don McGlusky



A Good Life

## BRIBIE ISLAND

### An Adventurous Nine Years

Shirley and I were married in October 1970, in Swan Hill, North West Victoria. On the 1st of January 1971 we headed off from Victoria to Western Australia towing a twenty-three foot caravan – big for those days – and set up camp in a Council Park in Esperance. I was working as the surveyor on the upgrade of the nickel train line from Kambalda to Esperance. Near the end of March my company wanted me back in Melbourne to start an "Identification Survey" for a proposed Northern Freeway on a section of Bell Street in Coburg near Pentridge Jail - an extremely complex piece of road. There was a measure of culture shock as we came from sunny and hot W.A. to Melbourne winter. In early June, 1971, I got a phone call from CRA, a large mining company, inviting me to 55 Collins Street - its Head Office - for a job interview. The interview consisted of an introduction and then was told they had a job for me with Bougainville Copper Ltd. (PNG) and when could I start? I went home and got the atlas out to see where we were going. I flew out of Melbourne on the 1st of July via Sydney, Brisbane to Port Moresby – another culture shock – from a Melbourne winter to the HOT and HUMID Tropics - stepping off the plane was like walking into a brick wall. So, it was on to Bougainville, where we stayed for ten years 3 and three months.

Shirley followed two weeks later, when our house was finished. Coming from Melbourne winter to working in thirty-five degree temperatures and ninety to ninety-five per cent



The Beatson's first Bougainville house

humidity was a challenge. Working as a surveyor on Bougainville was "different" to say the least - real tropical bush, average rainfall of 5.5 to 6 Metres a year, a river full of crocodiles, an active volcano forty kilometres from the mine site, and almost daily earthquakes, I slept through a 7.9 quake, learnt Pidgin. If you didn't work in the rain you would never get anything done. The humidity played havoc with our survey instruments. Being as it was such an isolated place back then, we still have many Mates/Friends that are almost like family. Both our kids were born on the island in 1973 and 1975, and we really enjoyed our time there before getting a Company transfer back to Queensland, at the start of the Tarong Coal Mine and Power Station near Kingaroy in November 1981.

Dave Beatson

## I Love This Land, Australia

By Troy Gerdes



*I love this land Australia, it's coursing through my veins,  
But I gotta tell ya, mate – I like it better when it rains.  
The countryside is dying, and there's just no end in sight,  
And, just to rub the salt in the wounds, the Bush has just caught alight.  
The landscape is on fire from Brisbane to the Gong,  
And everyone's asking: "Where the hell did we go wrong?  
But we can get through this one, if we help each other out,  
'Take care of your neighbour. That's what Aussies are about.  
The rain is going to fall again, the good times will return.  
But living in Australia, means at times it's going to burn.  
So if you need a helping hand, just give a mate a call.  
We're all here to help you out and catch you when you fall.  
The RFS, the SES, the Fireies and police,  
All put their lives upon the line to help to keep the peace.  
So hats off to these heroes and thanks for all you do  
And I hope when this is over, we can make it up to you.*

*With thanks and acknowledgements to Roy Gerdes, Armidale 2019*

## CURRIMUNDI COMBINED

### Our trip to the Stanthorpe Apple & Grape Festival

On a sunny Wednesday early in March, luckily before the days of social distancing and isolation, twenty-three members of our club climbed aboard the bus in Caloundra for a five-day tour to the Granite Belt.

The bus was alive with excited chatter as we headed to Esk, for our first morning tea. Our lunch stop at Gulgallen Homestead, near Warwick, included a tour of the homestead and a glimpse into the life of the early pastoralists of the Darling Downs. An afternoon stop at Jamworks gave us the chance to stock up with locally produced yummy preserves before continuing on through Stanthorpe and across the border to Tenterfield. This was to be our home base for the next few days.

We spent the next two days exploring the Tenterfield - Stanthorpe region in a leisurely manner, with our coach driver, Eugene, giving us an excellent commentary.

In Tenterfield we were treated to a very interesting talk and video about the history and features of this lovely town.

We then had time to explore the Henry Parkes Museum and sit at the table where he first proposed his ideas for Federation of the Australian states. Then followed a visit to the

renowned Tenterfield Saddler, and to the old Tenterfield Railway Station for a delicious morning tea in a vintage rail motor parked at the station. The enthusiastic volunteers shared lots of snippets about the early days of rail travel here.

Still on a railway theme, we travelled back into Queensland for lunch at the old Wallangarra Station, where rail travellers between Sydney and Brisbane used to change trains. Lunch was followed by a fun-time at the Rumbalara Winery, where we pretended we were wine connoisseurs, and tasted several different vintages. We arrived back at the motel in Tenterfield in time for a lively Happy Hour and Trivia session, the latter being fiercely contested by opposing teams.

Our next day took us past the ancient cork tree and on to Storm King Dam, which was still very low at that time, then to Aloomba Lavender Farm, where we relished lavender scones.

The tour continued to Washpool Soaps, the Mt Marlay Lookout lunch at the Blue Pot Pantry, a drive through Girraween National Park, a stop at Ballandean Estates winery and back to our motel for another Happy Hour and Trivia Session before dinner at the local Bowls Club.

Saturday morning saw us at Sutton's Apple Cidery for morning tea, followed by a drive through the apple orchards to Castle Glen to sample their liqueurs, then lunch at Stanthorpe Cheese Factory. We spent the

afternoon and evening enjoying the Apple & Grape Festival. Stanthorpe was abuzz with street performers, decorations, street stalls, food stalls, a big Arts and Crafts market, and lots of happy people.

The highlight was the Street Parade with the Town Crier, colorful floats, Pipe Bands, Brass Bands, school children and perhaps the ones who brought the loudest applause – the fire fighters.

After the parade, there was the Grape Crush, performed by some energetic volunteers in bare feet. Finally there was fireworks to round out the evening.

We were very impressed with the way the people of the Granite Belt, who have been doing it tough through terrible bushfires and drought, were so resilient and able to put on such a great Festival.

Everywhere we went, people told us how much they appreciated that we had come and supported local businesses. It was great to be able to talk with the local people.

Hearing their stories of how they have been affected by drought and bushfires really helped us understand.

Our trip home the next day included stops at the nostalgic Pringle Cottage in Warwick for morning tea and at Bestbrook Mountain Resort for lunch. Altogether this was a very enjoyable trip, with lots of laughs – fun, friendship and fellowship.

**Ros Carlsson**

## NEW PROBUS CLUB - PIMPAMA COMBINED PROBUS CLUB

Prior to the corona virus pandemic hitting, plans were in place to establish a new Probus Club in Pimpama with a meeting of interest planned for Thursday 19th March.

When the virus struck naturally those plans had to be put on hold, however we continued to stay in touch with prospective members and on Thursday 25th June, 20 prospective members got together at Bim'Bimba Park at Pimpama.

The Association was represented by Past President Brian Gilmore along with Rotary District Chairman Merv Richens. Others in attendance included Douglas Geekie, Immediate Past Chairman on PSPL, and Michael Crandon (State Member for Coomera) Michael spoke about the need for a club like Probus in the area and offered his support.

Those in attendance were all keen to see the new club established.



*New MC members – Dawn Stubbs, President, Secretary: Kaye Koch, Treasurer: Helen Sexton, Membership Officer, Colin Gard, and Guest Speakers, Colleen Garard.*

A new date was set for the Interest Meeting to establish the new club at Pimpama Tavern on Thursday 23rd July and on that date, Pimpama Combined Probus Club was established.

## Zigzag to safety

Advice for your next jungle tour... Crocodiles and alligators are surprisingly fast on land.



Although they are rapid, they are not agile; so if you ever find yourself chased by

one, run in a zigzag line. You'll lose the predator every time. Hopefully.



# TAKE 10

## Items of passing interest

Compiled by Jarvis Finger  
Kenmore Millennium Probus Club

### Groucho Marx...

"Age is not a particularly interesting subject. Anyone can get old. All you have to do is live long enough."

"I intend to live forever – or die trying."

### Did you know?

In ancient Egypt, priests plucked every hair from their bodies, including their eyebrows and eyelashes.

A sneeze travels out of your mouth at over 100 mph (160 kph).

The electric chair was invented by a dentist.

Lightning strikes the earth 100 times every second.

Earth is the only planet not named after a god.

### A backwoods tale

Just before Christmas, Jim and Eddie are out hunting for turkeys when Jim collapses and drops to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are glazed. Eddie gets out his mobile phone and calls emergency services.

He gasps, "My friend Jim is dead! What can I do?"

The operator says, "Calm down, I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead."

There is a silence, then a shot is heard.

Back on the phone, Eddie says, "OK, now what?"



Ooops!  
Did I  
say that?

The school's summer festival was supported by 800 parents and friends last week. The event began with the drowning of this year's Summer Princess, Susan Franks.

– School newsletter

## Paperclip resistance

German troops occupied Norway during WW2. In 1940, students at Oslo University started wearing paperclips on their lapels as a non-violent symbol of resistance, unity, and national pride.

Why the paperclip? Many people incorrectly believed that the inventor of the paperclip was Johan Vaaler, a Norwegian man.

The problem was, he didn't really invent the item we call a paperclip, which was around and very popular throughout Europe (and known as the Gem) before Vaaler came up with his own design.

Despite this, a 23 foot tall statue was erected in his honour in 1989 (even though it is the Gem version).



## Probian Puzzler

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

There is this one man who killed his mother, was born before his father, and married over 100 women without divorcing. Yet he was considered quite normal by all of his acquaintances.

How could this be so?

## More Hitchcock horror

Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* was the first American film to show a toilet on screen. It was also the first American movie in which we hear a toilet being flushed.

## A final point to ponder

*The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly and just not think about your age.*

– Lucille Ball

## crikey!

### TALES OF THE AMUSING, ODD, AND OUTRAGEOUS

#### The parrot

A MAGICIAN who went by the name of Magnifico was sailing the Pacific shortly after World War II, entertaining the passengers aboard a luxury liner.

With each amazing feat of magic, a parrot belonging to the captain and chained to a nearby perch, would squawk, 'Faker! Faker!'

No matter what Magnifico did – rabbits out of hats, vanishing doves, disappearing goldfish bowls and all – the parrot would criticise his act and repeatedly cry, 'Faker! Faker!'

The magician and his parrot critic became bitter enemies.

On the final night of the voyage, so the story goes, the magician promised the audience that he would perform a trick that would out-Houdini Houdini. The wand was waved, the 'woofle dust' was sprinkled — and 'woofle!!'...

At that very moment the ship hit a floating mine and it was blown to pieces.

Next morning, aboard a make-shift life raft, the parrot was perched at one end, the magician at the other.

Finally the parrot hopped over, and said: "Ok buddy, you win. What the devil did you do with the ship?"



Faker!  
Faker!

## Fantastic Foto #22

Alabama, November 1954: Ann Hodges was napping on her couch when a softball-size meteorite broke through the ceiling, bounced off a radio, and hit her in the thigh, leaving a football-shaped bruise.

She is the only person ever to be struck by a meteorite, which is now in the Smithsonian natural history museum.



When he was born, his mother died in labour, he was born of!), and he was a priest who married 100 couples!

Answer to Probian Puzzler:



# Purchasing a camera and getting started

**When the subject of cameras is mentioned, I am often met with this response: "Oh, I don't need a camera. I have my iPhone".**

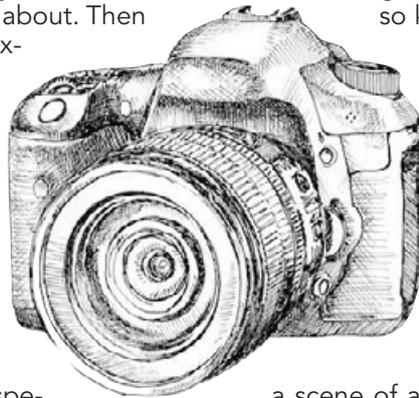
I won't engage in the iPhone/camera debate. Suffice to say that if one is happy to view one's photos on an iPhone screen or upload them to Social Media then that is fine.

Now to cameras. Generally speaking, there are three levels to choose from. There are small pocket-sized ones which have a useful fixed zoom lens, usually ranging from wide-angle to medium-telephoto. I always have one of these in my "Man Bag" for when out and about. Then it often proves very handy for that unexpected photo-opportunity. The next level is what is referred to as "Bridging Cameras". These are much larger and have much more powerful fixed-zoom lenses and contain more sophisticated technology than a pocket-model. They are called "Bridging Cameras", because they fit half way between the pocket-models and the top of the range Digital Single Lens Reflex and Mirrorless cameras that can be coupled with any number of lenses designed for specific uses such as Portraiture, Macro, Sports Action, Natural History, Photo-Journalism and the like, for optimum results.

These are used by serious amateur and all professional photographers. Personally for travelling, I carry two high quality Bridging Cameras, which fit into a small camera bag and are light enough to carry for long periods without becoming a burden, as my DSLR gear most certainly would.

These cameras give me a range from ultra-wide angle to super-telephoto and produce very good results. One's purchase should be based on the following: the amount of use, the nature of the use, the ease of use to operate, carrying-convenience and, most importantly, one's budget. The price range is extensive for all three levels. A few basic

but important tips when taking a photo may include the following: Always remember the word KISS" which stands for "Keep It Simple, Stupid". Too much extraneous matter will detract from your intended subject of interest. This is where your zoom capability could prove useful by enabling you to pull a subject of interest in and make it the dominant feature. We read a book from left to right and though we may not be conscious of it we also do the same to a scene. Many photos are ruined by the horizon-line not being straight. This is starkly obvious in seascapes, so keep your horizon straight.

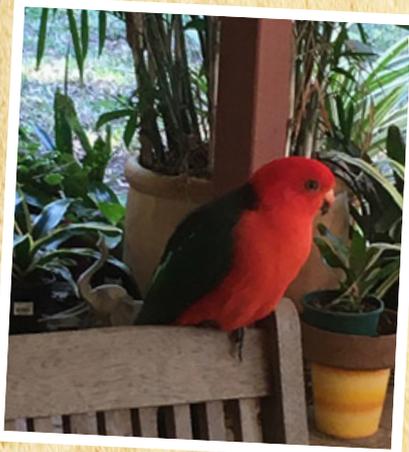


Do not place the horizon of a landscape or seascape in the centre of the photo, but always placed above or below. It is up to you to decide which you prefer. When taking a photo of a subject such as a monument, it helps to have someone stand beside it if possible. The known size of a person gives the viewer an indication of the size of the main object. Many a photo can be vastly improved by just a small amount of colour. I was photographing around Uluru (Ayers Rock) and was looking at a scene of a waterhole with lovely reflections of the surrounding vegetation in the water and the rugged surface of the rock in the background. To me the scene was lifeless. Suddenly a lady wearing a bright yellow coat appeared some a hundred meters away. I enticed her to walk towards me slowly, while I took a number of photos resulting in one excellent one. That splash of yellow made that scene.

When taking a landscape, look for something that will lead you into the scene such as an old fence or a bush track or a hedge commencing somewhere around the bottom left-hand corner area which will lead your eye through the picture. Changing your position relative to your subject often produces interesting results. Walk around it and see how the light and shadows change. If possible try a higher or lower angle.

**Don McGlusky.**

# Bird Photography



Bellbowrie Probus Club -  
KingParrot - Jackie Lack



Forest Place Probus Club -  
Buff Banded Rail



Forest Place Probus Club -  
Noisy Miner



Bellbowrie Probus Club -  
Stella's regular kookaburra  
visitor - Stella Herber



Gympie-Widgee Probus Club -  
Norm Breen - Caught! King Parrot  
stealing my tomatoes.



Mackay Probus Club -  
Kooka at Home -  
Mavis Braithwaite



Redlands Probus Club -  
Kookaburra - Club Member



Sunnybank - Mother and baby Noisy Miner -  
Warren



Yeronga Probus Club - Rosella  
at O'Reilly's crumbs in claw -  
Bronwen Mitchell

## GYMPIE

### The Wide Bay Region is being active and enjoying good Fellowship

Most clubs in the Wide Bay Region have been in lockdown since February, but we are beginning to see sign of awakening now. Some activities have, however, already been possible in a COVID-safe manner. Some members of Gympie Club have participated in a Mature Driver Refresher Course. Most Probians have held their driver's licence for, well, some time, and over the years, cars, roads, and traffic change, without mentioning that we change, as well. The course, held at Roadcraft, Gympie, was highly informative and included some classroom instruction, some driving around town looking at some the quirky Gympie roads and some time on the Facility Test Track in our own cars. Everyone who did the course said they came away a better driver.

Although we are in lockdown, the days keep rolling on, and that means birthdays still come along. Wide Bay Liaison Officer, Pam Carlson, recently celebrated her birthday with friends at Tin Can Bay. Another long-time member, Marjorie Head, celebrates her birthday on the same day.

A long-time member of Gympie Probus Club, Bevan Day, was surprised and delighted to receive the Gympie Region Senior Citizen of the

Year Award. Bevan, and his twin brother, Kevin grew up on the family farm at Kanyan and attended Theebine State School. When his parents retired, Bevan took over the property, known as "Day Dawn", and, with his wife Janell, raised their family and worked the dairy farm.

As lots of Probians will know, the community spirit experienced in these small country centres is extraordinarily strong. Bevan was a member of Junior Farmers and says his involvement with this organisation taught him lots about confidence and public speaking. He was involved with the local school P&C, and is still involved with Theebine Hall, the Church and is President of Rosendale Tennis Club. He is chairman of the Theebine Rural Fire Service and was local Fire Warden for thirty years. As well as the above, Bevan has always been a tireless community worker and is always on hand to help anyone in trouble, as well as for the working bees, functions and events that make the local community what it is. A life well lived.

Congratulations Bevan. A very well-deserved award.

The very first gathering of Gympie



Bevan Day, Gympie Region Citizen of the Year 2020



A happy group enjoy Devonshire tea with strawberries at Cooloola Berries.

Club members for six months, was morning tea at Cooloola Berries. It was great to see smiling faces and hear the chatter once again. We had a glorious late- August day and everyone was in good spirits. The scones and strawberries were delightful. So, what a set up for a typically friendly Probus function. After morning tea, we were able to pick our own strawberries or simply purchase some from the shop. Lots of people took fresh berries home. We all hope we can continue to enjoy similar gatherings and stay clear of the virus.

## MARYBOROUGH COMBINED

### We're together again – and it's great!

Like all clubs we closed down due to COVID19, so it was with great delight that we held our first function since our AGM in March.

President Rebecca Moller invited all members to a "Soup & Sweets" Day to be held at her home on 18 July. With plenty of outdoor garden area, the club provided tables and sanitizer, while everyone brought their own chairs, bowls, cutlery and cold drinks.

Several of our members brought crockpots full of delicious soup and others brought containers of yummy sweets. Bread rolls and coffee were also available. It was a perfect winter's day and about fifty members enjoyed being able to socialize again, while following the new protocols.

Our next function is a "Let's Get Physical" outdoor activity at Ululah, where, once again, everyone will bring their own chairs, morning tea and lunch. President Rebecca will show us some tai-chi moves, and there is a lovely walking



Members enjoying the fresh air

path around the area. We have also had our first meeting this month, August, with the help of the Maryborough RSL, who have provided us with many guidelines for being able to return to meeting in a safe way. We will continue to follow their advice, so that we can resume our monthly meeting.

Joy Harris

## THURINGOWA COMBINED

### We are "good to go" – and are going

In March, at our AGM, we welcomed our new Management Committee. Not for one moment did we think we would not meet again for quite some time. Fortunately, and we thank our lucky stars, on March 16th we were able to celebrate Graham and Ros Burgess's Golden Anniversary at a luncheon held at the Mercure. This was a truly lovely and happy occasion enjoyed by our Probus family and our guest, Mayor Cr Jenny Hill, who took time out from her busy every-day Council life to join us. Departing from lunch, our happy group could only ask "What now", but our Management Committee assured them we would do whatever we could to keep in touch and keep everyone well-informed of all the rules and regulations as they come to hand. Like all the Probus Clubs it was a busy time cancelling and postponing planned outings and setting up new virtual ways to have fun.

The Coronavirus may have disrupted our daily lives, meetings, and socials but it did not stop us from keeping in touch and maintaining our friendships. We temporarily changed our motto from Fun, Friendship and Fellowship to Stay Safe, Stay Well, and Stay at Home.

Each day, our clever members consistently made us laugh with their wonderful attachments of puzzles, jokes, and video clips. Some of these were so clever and some so beautiful it bought happy tears to our eyes. Our Buddy system worked wonders, as members were grateful to receive a call and have a chat. Anzac Day was hugely different for all of us, and, although we missed going to the Dawn Service, many of our members took part in Driveway and Patio Services.

As soon as stage three came into effect, we were "good to go", with our well-designed Covid-19 Social Plan. Due to social distancing, plus the normal rules and regulations, we can no longer use the Function Room at Tom's Tavern for our meetings, so the management has kindly set the tables in correct positions for us on their Terrace. As a trial run and to familiarise ourselves with this new outside area, we decided to meet for lunch on 20th July, our first social gathering since mid-March. This was a fantastic reunion with fifty-two members attending and happy to see each other again. Members were well informed of all the rules and regulations, and I am pleased to say the set-up on the Terrace worked well. We were now ready to have our first General Meeting.



A great turn-out – the gang's happy to be together again!

On 3rd August, our first General Meeting since Covid-19 came into our lives. I was most impressed at how smoothly our meeting went considering our new area, our new Committee and all the rules and regulations. We inducted three new members into our club, and I am confident Bev Murdoch, Marion Milton and Pamela Palma will enjoy being part of our Probus family.

Later that month, we thoroughly enjoyed lunch in the gardens of the Heritage Tea Rooms, and I am proud of the number of members, who made the trip up the Range to help support our locals. The Heritage Tea Rooms began its life as the Eureka Hotel being built in 1865. The heritage-listed building remains one of the few slab-sided inns left standing in Australia and is the oldest building of its type in North Queensland.

We have several outdoor socials planned for the rest of the year and our members are once again enjoying Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.



## Our Covid-19 Disaster

By Linley Kennedy

*Probians have isolated here in Brisbane town.  
A virus has made us separate and left us feeling down.  
Our humour has sustained us as we struggled through this plague,  
We've isolated, strained our brains ... we're getting rather vague.*

*When turning on the radio or TV all we hear –  
"There's Covid-19 everywhere and we must all keep clear".  
A metre and a half they tell us, that's the gap to use –  
A precious thing, that measure-tape, we can't afford to lose.*

*But socialising's coming back, we'll share your company,  
Jeanette Young said the rules have eased and you might soon be free.*

*As long as there's not more than ten people in your house,  
You'll distance still from everyone, except of course your spouse.  
The good news is – some fifty friends can gather at your wake,  
And anywhere within our State, vacations you can take.  
But not outside our border, say to Europe or the States,  
We have to stay in Oz and visit rellies and our mates.*

*We fancy -free Probians can't fly or sail or cruise,  
Since that damn virus came to town – well baby, I've got news!  
Things won't get back to normal till we get a safe vaccine.  
We pray that Covid-20 won't replace Covid -19!*

*And if we do the proper thing, which Anna's "made quite clear",  
We Probus members will see you for meetings late this year.*

## SALISBURY EAST

### Barb tells as it was with TAA back then.

Being based in Brisbane we did a lot of flying out west and up to North Queensland. My favourite trips were on Fokker Friendships on the Milk Runs. These runs took all day, going from Brisbane out west finishing in Longreach or Charleville, north up the coast to Townsville and west to Mount Isa, with many stops along the way. I have a very vivid memory of flying to Gove, a very long day and arriving home to the news that the Prime Minister had been sacked.

Longreach was always a great trip, as we were away for five days, staying in Townsville and Longreach for two nights. The people in Longreach often invited us to their properties for dinner, invariably corned beef and mashed potato, served in the old fashioned dining room - just wonderful. We sometimes had time to ride horses and look around the property.

On one trip to Mount Isa, we had a day off after twelve hours on. We went off to the lake for a picnic. Mount Isa looked like a moonscape in

those days outside the town. While we were enjoying our lunch a pelican took a liking to one of the girl's coin purses and swallowed it. We were fascinated watching the purse go down its throat sideways. Imagine having to tell the bank that a pelican swallowed my purse with all my cards inside.

On a trip to Charleville, we had a lot of turbulence. I was busy pouring coffee. In those days, we had a large pot of coffee in one hand and a mixture of carnation milk and water in the other. A decent bump hit and I rested the pot on the top of the seat in front and the milk spilled onto the head of a sleeping passenger. Later, he would have wondered why his head was so sticky. -the joys of flying out west in the heat.

Everyone was always friendly and we got to know our passengers during our long day bouncing up and down to all the stops on the way.

On one of our trips coming into Brisbane we had a very rough landing. As I walked down the aisle, I noticed a passenger holding a helmet on his lap. I asked if I could borrow it. I proceeded to the cockpit once we were landed, opened the door and

wearing the helmet said "Boys I'm glad I had this on." Everyone had a laugh including the passengers. That wouldn't happen today.

Looking after my virtue on a trip to Darwin, I was asked by the Captain to come to his room for a drink. I decided to be cautious and said "Oh no! You come to mine." Immediately I realised that was worse, so got other crew to join me in my room. All was well - virtue intact.

Darwin was wonderful. We often went to Fanny Bay for swims. That was prior to Cyclone Tracy. I was based in Melbourne when the cyclone struck and I flew to Darwin several times to evacuate the residents.

There were mothers and children, looking shell-shocked with little or no belongings as they scrambled onto the plane. The city was an absolute disaster. I am always glad to see it is back to its beautiful self again these days.

Yes, these were indeed days with a difference - but what memories I have and I certainly wouldn't have changed anything about them.

**Barbara Burnes**

## NAMBOUR 90

### A Time to Catch Up

On a very blustery but sunny day in July, fifty-two members of the Nambour 90 Club gathered in the picnic area at Wappa Dam to enjoy some fellowship for the first time since the Covid 19 lockdown. The large picnic area, complete with barbeque areas and picnic tables, proved an excellent place to meet with lots of room for social distancing. Commencing at 10.00am and originally planned as a morning tea, it was interesting to note that most people had also packed a lunch and lingered on into the early afternoon just enjoying being together again.

Throughout the period of restricted contact, the club has remained very positive with strong leadership. Club President Ian encouraged all members to communicate through email and share stories about themselves, family, holidays, adventures and interests. Tales of historical interest were sent in by descendants of some of the local pioneering families. Through

this medium we really learned a lot about each other. And we stayed in touch.

Our Club Secretary, Alistair, and Activities Officer Lachlan have put in a great deal of time keeping up to date with changing restrictions and liaising with the Palmwoods Bowls Club to ensure that our first normal meeting, after three months, would comply with all the Covid 19 regulations for gatherings. The Palmwoods Bowls Club had everything set out perfectly to accommodate seventy-two attendees. Chairs were all spaced 1.5 metres apart. A large area was set aside to allow for seven separate areas for members to sign in, ensuring there was no crowding in any one particular space. Morning tea on the spacious verandas was also very well organised.

The August activity of a Car Observation Rally was a great success with forty-two participants. This activity was spread over two days to allow the venues providing food and entertainment to comply with the restriction on numbers.

After morning tea at the Wongoroo



*Jan Warne admiring ribbon display at the Linville Hotel watched by Jan and Graham Goody*

Estate Winery, the trail wound through the Somerset region. Leaving one minute apart, participants had five pages of points of interest to find. Arriving at Linville Hotel for lunch each person wrote their name on a ribbon, which was attached to a fence making a very colourful display.

Lunch time was filled with good food, and entertainment with wine tasting, a bush poet, a singer and a trip to view the llamas. Everyone voted this a great day out and thanks go to Elaine Wells for suggesting this activity.

# CLUBS OUT AND ABOUT

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
Royal Bombay Yacht Club	Col and Di Graham	Carseldine
Empire Air Training Scheme	Dr Tony Brady	Brisbane
Life Flight Toowoomba	Amy Luhrs	Rose City Warwick
Spotify – Stay at Home Music Kit	Qld Symphony Orchestra	Kenmore Village
Zoom talk – NBN Optimisation	Ray Krebs, NBN Community	Springwood
Zoom talk - Under the Lino	Caylie Jeffrey	Indooroopilly
Energy for the Future	Mike Cavenor	Bribie Island
TAA Back Then	Barbara Burnes	Salisbury East
Channel 7 Weather Man Experiences	Tony Auden	Mount Gravatt
Radio and Charity CEO Memories	Peter Rookas	Toowoomba West
Young Care	Belinda Macintosh	Salisbury East

Sharing Activities	Topics, Locations, Activities	Club
Virtual Tour	Echidna Chasm in the Bungle Bungle ranges of Purnululu National park in Western Australia	Emu Park
Virtual Tour	Brisbane CBD Public Art	Brisbane
Virtual Tour	Abrolhos Islands of West Australia	Emu Park
Small Group Chat	Our First vehicles – Mine was an Austin A40	Albany Creek
Isolation Armchair Traveller	Sharing Photographs from Member Overseas Trips	Bridgeman Downs
U-Tube Fishing	Fishing the Wild – Northern Territory	Albany Creek
Park Picnics	Calamvale Park, Slaughter Falls, Kawawatha Forest	Algerter, Brisbane, Sunnybank
Family History	Searching with Ancestor.com	Mackay Combined
Surfing the Web	Website - startsat60.com – for all things senior	Bribie Island
City Walk	Kangaroo Point, Botanic Gardens, Old Government House	Brisbane
Competition	Limerick Competition – the Best and the Worst	The Gap
Competition	Jigsaw Games and Cryptic Crosswords	Indooroopilly
Competition	Member Garden Photos	Toowoomba West
Bush Walk	Litchfield Track, Mt Coot-tha	Indooroopilly
Expo	Spring Craft Expo	Rose City Warwick
Newsletter Article	Writer of the Month – Member's Personal Stories	Rose City Warwick
Suburb Walk	New Farm Park Historical Walk – Gerard Benjamin	Indooroopilly
Craft and Chat	Group Knitting, Jewellery, Craft	Kenmore Village
Probus Quilt	35 Squares each with a story about the maker	Mount Ommaney
Phone Tree	Weekly chats among club members	Mission Beach, Springwood
Self-Drive	Cobbold Gorge	Innisfail
Self-Drive	Tinchi Tamba Wetlands	Redcliffe Mixed
Self-Drive	Chung Tian Temple, Priestdale	Kenmore Village
Self-Drive	Ipswich Railway Workshop Museum	Sunnybank
Self-Drive	Carselmaine Fourex Brewery	MacGregor
Self-Drive	Stanthorpe Apple and Grape Festival	Currimundi
Tour	Highfields Pioneer Village	Toowoomba West
Self-Drive	Pittsworth – Support a Local Drought Township	Highfields
Tour	State Library, Brisbane	Holland Park central
Tour	Twinnies Pelican and Seabird Rescue, Sunshine Coast	Mt Gravatt



# THE verge

BURLEIGH G.C.

## EMBRACE FULL TIME LIVING

The Verge at Burleigh G.C. sets a new standard in retirement living on the Gold Coast.

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\*Architectural concepts pictured.