



The Queensland Probian

MAY 2025 EDITION

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NEW

Probus Clubs in Queensland 2025

Probus Club of Taigum

Sponsor PAQ - Formed from an interest meeting held on 1st April, 2025 at Fitzgibbon Community Centre, 545 Roghan Rd, Fitzgibbon QLD 4018.

Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month.

As with other recent clubs, most promotion was done with Facebook Advertising, and 33 people had registered their interest in attending.

42 people attended on the day and of these 15 people paid and signed up as members, and fortunately we were able to form a full Management Committee. A number of others attending indicated that they would join at the May meeting. President: Linda Finnis Secretary: Kristine Curtis



Taigum Probus Club Management Committee.

Probus Club of Raceview

PAQ Sponsor. - Formed 03/02/2025
resident Marilyn Macquire Secretary: John Gaudry



Raceview Probus Club Management Committee.



Participants listening to introductory presentation about Probus.

Probus Club of Norman Park

Sponsor PAQ - Formed 14/02/2025
President: Jennifer Harding Secretary: Rex Carrick



Prospective Members at meeting.



Norman Park Probus Club Management Committee.

Probus Club of Arundel

Sponsor PAQ - Arundel Probus Club held their second meeting and all went well. Six new members were inducted making a total of 45 Foundation members.



Foundation Meeting of Arundel Probus Club



Probus President Ron Jones with Rotary Club of Parkwood President Ro Linton after the meeting

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 Tourism



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PAQ Mission Statement

The mission of the Probus Association of Queensland shall be to advance Probus as a vibrant community organisation for retired and semi-retired people by sharing ideas and information, coordinating multi-club opportunities for friendship, fellowship and social interaction, and assisting PSPL and Rotary with the formation of new clubs.

The Probus Association of Queensland Inc. (PAQ) is administered by a group of volunteer Probians. PAQ was formed to help, advise, assist, co-ordinate and initiate activities between Probians and Probus clubs throughout Queensland, without in any way infringing on their autonomy.

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

ADVERTISING RATES Effective 01 May 2025

Covers	\$750 full page only
Inside front/back cover	
.....	\$600 full page only
Run of pages inside..	\$450 per full page
Half page.....	\$350 horizontal only
Quarter page	\$200

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President's Report - 2024 - 2025

Well, we are finally able to hold our AGM for 2025, and what a great year we have had the privilege of being a part of. My thanks firstly must go to all of the management committee with whom I have had the opportunity to work. Without your wonderful assistance and undying support many of the events we have held would not have occurred nor been as successful as they were.

As volunteers you give that extra time without hesitation and I am truly grateful for having the chance to work with each and everyone of you. You certainly help make my position as President a lot easier. Many of you are RLO's as well and have done a marvellous job within your regions.

Throughout the year we have opened new clubs with PSPL doing all the ground work and driving the Facebook advertising, collating the number of attendees, finding venues in the areas where the research shows that a new club would be beneficial to the seniors of that area. The clubs formed in the past year are Teneriffe, Bulimba, Moorooka, Norman Park, Logan Village, Gatton, Arundel and Port Douglas.

My huge thanks go to Merv Richens, Judith Maestracchi, Barry Smith and Mark Illingworth for their dedication to seeing these clubs get off the ground.

It is not always a straight forward motion of getting the important positions of the executive filled so that the club can be formed, accredited and then incorporated. In fact, one could say it was a "little like extracting teeth" – but I also appreciate that each person at the foundation meetings were hearing about Probus for the first time and a little hesitant at volunteering for a position.

However, each of those 8 clubs are now up and running – some with a reasonable number of new members and a few with smaller numbers, but they are all operating well and will continue to be supported by their RLO and PAQ along with PSPL.

In relation to the workshops offered to Queensland clubs; the attendance has been good and we held smaller groups at these events as that is what the evaluation sheets told us the clubs would prefer. I have to agree that the exchange of information at these smaller workshops is much better with no one person taking dominance at a group discussion, allowing them to be more open.

Unfortunately, we have had 4 clubs close in the last twelve months, and surprisingly they weren't necessarily small clubs. One club had almost 100 members, but they were still unable to get an executive committee together.

What I did find interesting was that none of these 4 clubs have attended workshops in the past 3 years, so succession planning was not part of their natural agenda within the club.

I was approached on Wednesday as to when I would have the listing of the upcoming workshops/seminars for 2025 ready – "Don't you just pick out some dates and bingo the workshops are advertised on those days?" Oh, if only it was that easy! There is a lot of logistics that goes into working out a timetable for the year; sorting region by region; what days members would be available in a week,

and which weeks of the month. I then have to consider when our RLO's would be available to assist, as I can't run these without their assistance. The hardest part after sorting all of that out is finding an available venue at a reasonable cost on the dates I enquire about. This is the final step before listing the dates, venues, cost, and whether the workshop is face to face or a zoom meeting.

It is always important to remember that any member of a Probus club can attend these workshops/seminars, and I encourage other club members to attend, as it gives them a different insight into the aspects of Probus they are unaware of.

The zoom workshops are mainly offered to the northern clubs that are difficult to get to within a day. However, this does not mean that the zoom workshop is exclusively for these clubs – if a club is unable to attend a local workshop, then they could join in on zoom to get the same information.

Clubs this year will be sent a timetable with all workshops/seminars listed, and the application form will be generic and therefore used to attend each and every training event. I hope this will simplify matters and make it easier for all.

If your club has not updated PAQ with the executive names and contact details, then please do so as soon as possible after your AGM.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my now two-year tenure in the position of State President and I am constantly learning more about Probus as we travel along. I suppose the greatest learning curve has been the instigation of the new generic constitution for our clubs. It is a much clearer constitution and far easier to understand for everyone. Your clubs will have received this information about the new constitution and possibly be in the process of adopting it and sending paperwork through to the Office of Fair Trading

Again, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for your support, your trust in us as a committee, and your willingness to contact us if you have a question/situation that you need clarified. Remember that we are NOT THE PROBUS POLICE, but we are here to help where we can and if we can't get the answer for you, we will direct you to someone who can help.

Please remember that we are all volunteers and as such you will have noticed that the PAQ phones are not "manned" over the weekend. Roughly from 7pm Friday until 8am Monday we turn them off, but you can always leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as is possible for us to do so.

I thank you all for having given me the opportunity to lead the PAQ committee for another year and allowing me to gain so much from this position. I wish all clubs a prosperous Probus year with lots of fun, fellowship and friendship to look forward to in 2025/26.

**Carwyn Arnold - President
0477 645 645**



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Bob Rogers PAQ Awards

2025

The Probus Association of Queensland has established the Bob Rogers PAQ Award to honour one of its founders and to recognize his legacy of extraordinary contribution, achievement, and commitment which permeated all his activities both within Probus and within the community at large.

This award recognizes a Probus member who has demonstrated the spirit of Probus beyond meritorious service within their own club and/or through outstanding extended and extensive service in both the advancement and expansion of Probus and brings recognition to Probus from the community at large.

Bob Rogers PAQ AWARD *Above and Beyond Award*

Presented to:

Brian Gilmore



The Probus Association of Queensland wishes to thank Brian Gilmore for his continuing support of Probus in Queensland through his efforts as PAQ Management Committee member in 2015-2017, President of PAQ in 2017-2019 and Treasurer in 2020 to 2025. Brian was also involved in the ACT Probus Association before moving to Queensland.

Brian's greatest contribution was the re-establishment of good working relationship with Probus South Pacific Limited and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations.

Brian has participated in the formation and establishment of new Probus Clubs in the South-East Queensland regions during his time in Probus. Brian has been an active member of Algeester Probus Club in which he has held membership and continues to be an advocate of the Probus philosophy of getting seniors to "get out there and enjoy themselves" through the fun, friendship and fellowship Probus Clubs offer.



Bob Rogers PAQ AWARD *Above and Beyond Award*

Presented to:

Barbara Tobin



Barbara Tobin is a Probus member with amazing commitment to the Probus Association of Queensland as a member of the PAQ Management Committee since 2019. Barbara has continued to promote Probus extensively in Brisbane Metro North region as Regional Liaison Officer – Brisbane Metro North Region.

Barbara's contribution has been well beyond her meritorious service within her own Probus Club and has included the organisation and management of district activities and meetings for Probus Clubs as well as her efforts in the formation and establishment of three (3) new Probus Clubs in the South-East Queensland region. Barbara has had, and continues to have, a significant and enduring impact on both the regional and state-level presence of Probus.



Bob Rogers PAQ AWARD *Above and Beyond* Award Presented to: **Peter Rogers**



The Probus Association of Queensland wishes to thank Peter Rogers for his continuing support of Probus in Queensland through his efforts as editor of the Queensland Probian magazine from 2017 to 2024.

Peter is a Probus member who inspires a high level of commitment, sets a standard for others to both aspire to and follow and has made a significant impact on Probus in Queensland. His contribution is beyond any meritorious Club service Peter has performed with his own Probus Club and will have a lasting effect on the Queensland Probian magazine and Probus.



Bob Rogers PAQ AWARD *Above and Beyond* Award Presented to: **Lorelle Pacello**



Lorelle Pacello is a Probus member with amazing commitment to the Probus Association of Queensland as a member of the PAQ Management Committee since 2018. Lorelle has served as Minute Secretary for the association as well as promoting Probus extensively in Brisbane Metro North region as Regional Liaison Officer – Brisbane Metro North Region.

Lorelle's contribution has been well beyond her meritorious service within her own Probus Clubs and has included the organisation and management of district activities and meetings for Probus Clubs. Lorelle has had, and continues to have, a significant and enduring impact on both the regional and state-level presence of Probus.



INNISFAIL 40th Birthday Celebrations

On the 8th February heavy rain and flooding did not deter 40 Innisfail and Mission Beach/El Arish Probus Members and partners from attending Innisfail Probus 40th Birthday luncheon celebrations held in the function room at the Kurrimine Beach Motel.

MP Shane Knuth was a special guest. Innisfail President Carolyn Broom welcomed everyone and informed members of how, when and where Probus first started and the history of the Innisfail Probus Club.

We were entertained by the band 'Infinity Duo' who covered a wide range of back ground music and songs suitable for our members. Our laughter started with jokes from Alan Curtis. Appetites were satisfied with a great main meal including sweets. A 'lucky door' and 'raffle prizes' were well supported.

A highlight of the day was the presentation of a 40th Birthday Certificate from PSPL presented by MP Shane Knuth to President Carolyn. This was followed by the cutting of



40th Birthday Certificate from PSPL presented to President Carolyn by MP Shane Knuth

the Birthday Cake performed by 2 of the longest current serving members Bev and Bruno Bandiera. It was a great day to renew friendships and make new friends. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

A special thanks to our dine-out ladies Margie Johnston and Rhonda Thomas, Marian and Lance for organising the cake, raffle and lucky door and to our hosts Merv, Yvonne and Karen for their hospitality and making this event enjoyable and one



Bev and Bruno Bandiera cutting the 40th Birthday Cake

to remember, it was greatly appreciated. Meetings are held at the Innisfail RSL at 9am on the 4th Thursday of each month where morning tea and guest speakers are highlights. Dine-outs, trips, movie matinees and other social events are always being organised.

Come and join us you will be made most welcome. For further information contact the Secretary on 0429 653 775 or email probus-clubofinnisfail@gmail.com

BRIBIE ISLAND

Life Membership Awarded to Ron Lett - unwavering service to others!

Ron Lett has been honoured with Life Membership for 20 years of dedicated service to our club, the Probus Club of Bribie Island. Over the years, Ron has held various key positions, including President (2015/2016), Secretary (2006, 2008), and Tours Catering Officer, where he has been involved in organising and executing club events like BBQs and morning teas. His contributions span 19 years of catering and 16 years of helping with morning tea. Ron is particularly admired for his commitment to supporting the club's oldest members, providing hospital transfers and hosting birthday parties. His unwavering dedication makes him a deserving recipient of the Life Membership.

Ron's remarkable compassion and unwavering commitment to our community have earned him the distinguished honour of Life Membership, celebrating his two decades of dedicated service to our club, the Probus Club of Bribie Island. Over the years, he has taken on a variety of pivotal roles, including his esteemed tenure as President during the 2015/2016 term, along with serving as Secretary in both 2006 and 2008, and as Tours and Catering Officer.

His leadership has been vital in the planning and execution of numerous club events, from BBQs that bring members together to delightful morning teas filled with camaraderie and laughter. Ron's contributions have indeed become a cherished tradition within our club.

Beyond the organisational aspects, Ron has demonstrated profound care and concern for our club's oldest members. He has tirelessly provided



President Pam Bearce and Ron Lett

essential hospital transfers and warmly hosted birthday celebrations, showcasing his genuine commitment to fostering a supportive environment. His steadfast dedication and heartfelt service undoubtedly make him a truly deserving recipient of Life Membership, a testament to the lasting impact he has made on all of us.

Congratulations Ron!

ALEXANDRA HEADLAND

Club Birthday

Some members of Alexandra Headland Mixed Probus Club enjoying their 34th Club Birthday Lunch in March, the cake being cut by some of their longest-serving members of the club.

Photo right: Rita Isherwood, Peter Herrmann, Joan Lewis, Daphne Jeffrey, Kay Manthei and Gabrielle Donaldson



Judith Maestracci and new life member Lorraine Cunningham.

ROCHEDALE

Rochedale Birthday & Life Member Award

At our July club's 16th birthday meeting we had the great pleasure to have Judith Maestracci the past Chairman of PSPL with us to make the award of our newest life member, Lorriane Cunningham

This was a difficult decision for the subcommittee to make as there are so many members of this club that contribute so much to its success. Lorraine gave a very warm and heartrending impromptu speech on receiving this honour and particularly talked about the long-term support of her husband, Alan, in everything that she does.

NORTH BLACKALL

20th Anniversary Function

Our club celebrated its' 20th Anniversary on 14th February 2025. Our inaugural meeting was on 11th February 2005. Of our current membership, six members are Foundation Members – Our President, Alan Boyle, had great pleasure in presenting each of them with a Founding Member Badge.

We celebrated with a "Cutting the Cake" ceremony provided by Councillor David Law, Sunshine Coast Councillor, who has done so much for our club.



L to R – Barry Brady, Colleen Brady, Margaret Boyd, Cyndi Mitchell (behind our President), Heather Lewis and Allan Lewis. Our President Alan Boyle is presenting badges.

REDCLIFFE CITY MIXED

Tour in Sri Lanka - Extracts from a Trip Report by Lynda Misso

On Tuesday, 18 March, we set off from Brisbane Airport for a journey like no other. Seventeen of us flying to Sri Lanka with our fabulous Aussie host, Belinda from Trade Travel.

After our long flight, including a short connecting stop in Singapore, we arrived in Sri Lanka safe and sound (albeit a bit tired) around 11:30 pm local time. At the airport, we were met by our local host, Mario, who helped gather our bags and ushered us to waiting transport for our short trip to the Jetwing Blue Resort in Negombo for two nights.

Almost two weeks of touring and exploring lay ahead which would cover much of the country and be filled with rich local history, culture, ancient landmarks and fascinating sights, whilst staying overnight in 5-star resorts. Here are just a few of the highlights:

- A visit to St Annes Montessori School where we shared our home-brought gifts for the children while they entertained us.

- Watching large numbers of elephants leisurely bathing in a river. It

was great to see these majestic animals in their own environment.

- A trip to Sigiriya Rock in central Sri Lanka – site of an ancient fortress and city that was built in the late 5th century.

- Visiting the ancient cities of Anuradhapura and Parakrama Samudraya with their many temples and Palaces - all rich in Buddhist history and culture. We were also introduced to wood carving and shown some very amazing pieces. For a mere \$US 250K, we could have brought home a full-size elephant carved out of a solid piece of wood.

- Kandy, where we stopped at the Randell spice gardens for a very interesting talk on all things spice and a chance to sample more local food which was becoming the norm - rice and curry for breakfast, lunch and dinner. We also visited the most important shrine in Sri Lanka, the Buddhist Temple of the Tooth.

- The hills district, home of the Ceylon Tea growing industry. This included a visit to a tea factory, where the tea growing and manufacturing pro-

cesses were explained. The factory employs 700 women including 400 in the fields, each picking a minimum of 10 kg of tea leaves per day.

- Yala, where we ventured into jeeps for a wildlife safari. This was through a national park where we were fortunate to see many animals including Elephants, deer, peacocks, mongoose, crocodiles, water buffalo and a great variety of birds.

- Galle, another city steeped in history, with cobblestone streets, a Dutch museum and church, and Galle Fort - all UNESCO sites.

- Our last stop, Colombo. This was a totally different landscape from the sprawling resorts and spas, and wide-open nature we had become accustomed to. This is a smoggy, high-rise city with unbelievable traffic. After a city tour and late hotel check-out, it was time to head to the airport and say goodbye to amazing Sri Lanka.

This wonderful trip was organised by Redcliffe City Mixed Probus Club's Special Tour Director, Susan Kenrick, in conjunction with Trade Travel.



On Safari at Yala National Park



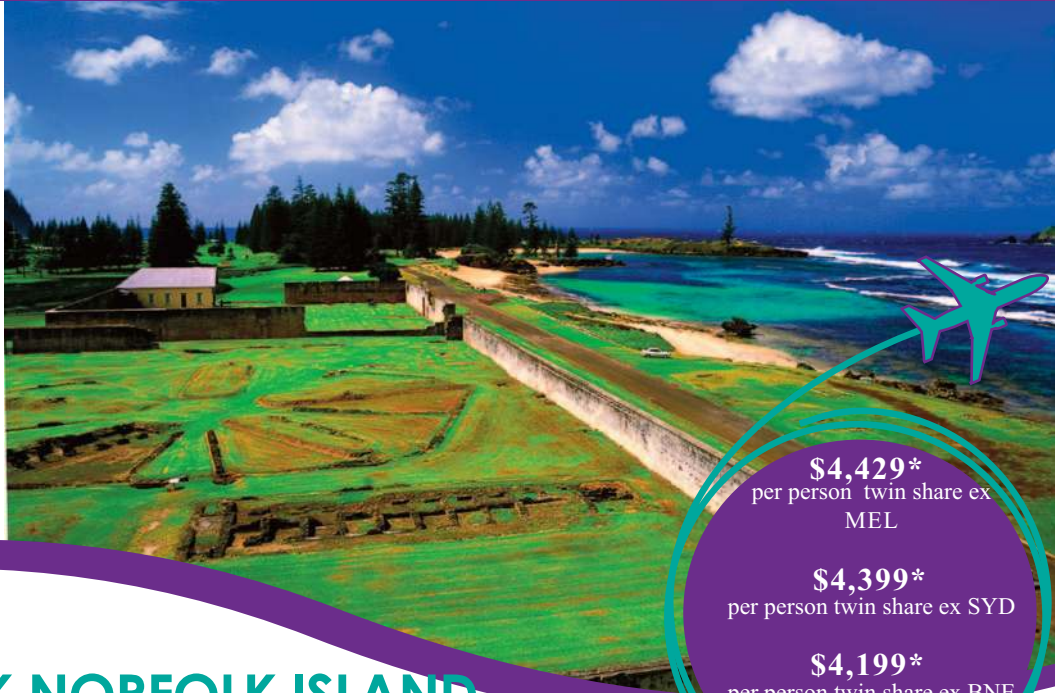
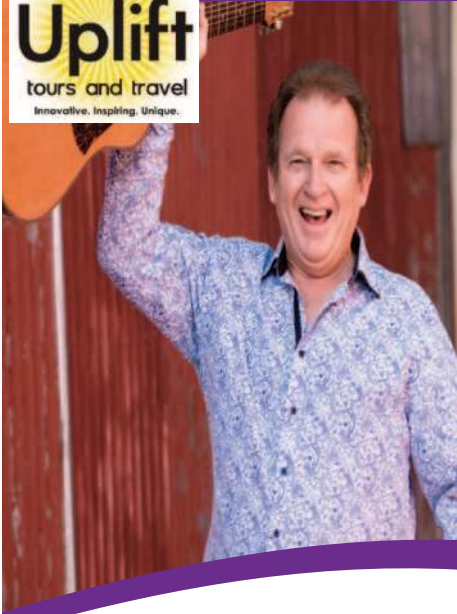
Di Cope and Wendy Kelly at Galle Old Town on a hot and humid afternoon



Don't Mind Us - Just passing through to have a bath in the river



A rare chance to relax - Di Cope, Pauline and David Ralph sipping cocktails at one of the hotels.



JAILHOUSE ROCK NORFOLK ISLAND

HOSTED BY RODNEY VINCENT
2 - 9 OCTOBER 2025

You are invited to join Rodney for a fabulously entertaining week on Norfolk Island and enjoy a variety of songs from the good old days. Rodney Vincent will take to the stage to perform two big Jailhouse shows. There is plenty of time for you to enjoy beautiful historic Norfolk Island with entertaining tours, stunning vistas, delicious seasonal cuisine, time to shop and explore. With friendly locals and lots of laughs along the way, you do not want to miss Jailhouse Rock in 2025! Be sure to bring your favourite Rock N Roll shirt for a memorable finale! Book soon either online or call us to secure your place!



\$4,429*
per person twin share ex MEL

\$4,399*
per person twin share ex SYD

\$4,199*
per person twin share ex BNE

\$650**
Single Supplement



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17 - 26 OCTOBER 2025

Due to popular demand Go See Touring invite you to join us on a 2nd departure to travel to picturesque Tassie for 9 nights/10 days of exploring Tassie and enjoy all the beautiful scenery Tassie has to offer. We shall play croquet with Tassie friends at some lovely croquet clubs along the way. So, grab your mallet and join us for this wonderful trip which is packed full of inclusions and promises lots of laughs, new adventures and friendships. Book now either online or call us to secure your place as space is strictly limited!

ATAS Accreditation No: A10619

\$5,495*
per person twin share ex BNE

\$5,295*
per person twin share ex SYD

\$4,995*
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- All airport taxes
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- Full breakfast and dinner daily on the island (including a variety of themed dinners)
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ALGESTER

Celebrating 45 years of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship

On 7 April, the Algester Probus Club with over 90 members, guests and quite a few Past Presidents came together to celebrate our 45th anniversary.

Our early days: In early March 1980 it was agreed by the members of the Rotary Club of Salisbury that it would sponsor a new Probus Club in Salisbury. Soon after that on 2nd April 1980 the first meeting of the Probus Club of Salisbury was held with 10 members. At that time, it was a men's only club. The Probus Club of Salisbury was the first Probus club to be formed in Brisbane. Initially, the club met in members' homes. However, by the time the membership had grown to 19, they managed to secure a meeting room at the Salisbury Senior Citizens Club.

In late 1990, the club decided to relocate to a more populated suburb to attract new members due to declining membership. Algester was chosen as it was a relatively new suburb at the time. Algester Sports Club was approached and it was agreed that the club could meet there free of charge. Of course, this meant the club needed to change its name from the Probus Club of Salisbury to the Probus Club of Algester and District.

The first Meeting at Algester Sports Club was held on 1st October 1990, with a grand total of 14 Members.

On 19th June 1991 it was decided that ladies would be admitted into the club as members. The club became incorporated on 14th November 1995. Over these past 30 years we have had 29 Presidents for varying periods.

At our recent event we were pleased to have a number of special guests. Carwyn Arnold, President of Probus Association of Queensland and Emily Kim, Councillor for Calamvale, Brisbane City Council. This was culminated with a surprise visit by the Easter Bunny who handed out Easter eggs to our members as part of the celebrations.



Carwyn Arnold, President of Probus Association of Queensland and Emily Kim, Councillor for Calamvale, Brisbane City Council and Algester Management Committee members cutting the birthday cake



Four new inducted members with President Kevin

Both speakers highlighted the evident community spirit in the club. Our club continues to go from strength to strength. 45 years is a great achievement.

We have very healthy membership numbers and, those new members who have joined in recent years have been warmly welcomed. Algester Probus is a very special club which espouses the Probus motto of Fun, Fellowship and Friendship. Bring on our 50th anniversary.



BULIMBA

The Club's First Anniversary – Break Out the Balloons & Cake

The inaugural year for Bulimba Probus Club has been a great success. The vital initial phase to set up the Club administratively and financially was successfully completed. To achieve this so rapidly, we drew heavily on the prior experience and knowledge of our current Treasurer (Ailsa) and Secretary (Jenny).

A variety of special interest groups were initiated and now meet regularly (Mah-jong, Book, and Stitch). The first meeting of the newest group, Walking, was very rudely interrupted by a party-pooper, Cyclone Alfred!! The golf group will get under way shortly without interference by Alf

and are enthusiastically planning weekly games. We have had some very successful outings and drinks and dining as well as very well attended Xmas in July, Port of Brisbane tour, Behind the scenes at QPAC and several others. Our guest speakers have been well received, and we presently have bookings well into 2026 for our meetings.

In March, we had over thirty people on the waiting list, some for several months. The most recent committee meeting approved a motion to increase club capacity. The membership limit has now been raised to 130. With some folks not renewing annual membership, we now have 124 members and none waiting. This has meant that we normally have 75-90 members at each meeting. We look forward to another year of events and member interactions at meetings and special interest groups.

Photo above: Typical meeting.

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LOGAN VILLAGE

Guest Speaker on "Betelgeuse"

David Ilsley, Foundation Member of the recently established Logan Village Probus Club, was the March guest speaker at the club.

He spoke about some of the wonders of the universe and enthralled members with amazing facts about the history and future of the earth, the sun and our galaxy.

He talked about how the nearby star, Betelgeuse, is expected to explode as a brilliant supernova any day now, the internal mechanism of a supernova explosion, and the stupendous properties of the resulting neutron star, a teaspoon of which would weigh a billion tons.

David's presentation was based on the PowerPoint 'Random Facts about

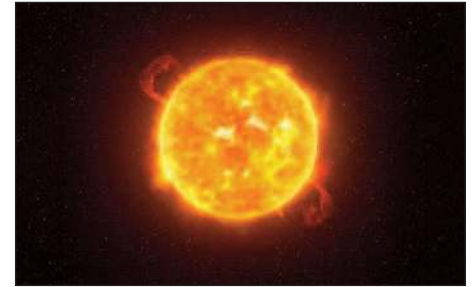
Space', one of about 50 slide shows in the 'Space Facts' section of his website m1astronomy.com. David has been fascinated by the universe since he was a child. He ran an astronomy club called 'The Dark Side' at Canterbury College in Southeast Queensland where he taught for many years.

The Dark Side at times had over 100 members. He developed the website there. David has also presented on astronomy at the Beenleigh Probus Club and would be happy to speak at other clubs in the Brisbane – Gold Coast area.

The Logan Village club is now working on plans for a star-gazing night and a trip to the Brisbane Planetarium.



David Ilsley at the March meeting of the Logan Village Probus Club



Red supergiant star, Betelgeuse



Visit to Monsoon Aquatica Coral farm

FRASER COAST – HERVEY BAY

Bundaberg Visit

How lucky can you be! Members of the Fraser Coast-Hervey Bay Combined Probus Club managed to dodge both the floods and the cyclone, enjoying a fabulous few days at the 'Burnett Heads Lighthouse Holiday Park', near Bundaberg in March.

Perfect timing for a perfect getaway. The trip was packed with fun activities, including lively games of Finska, a scenic cruise on the 'Bundy Belle', delightful wine tasting and a hilarious best dressed competition featuring outfits sourced from op shops.

If that wasn't enough, they also managed to squeeze in a visit to 'Monsoon Aquatics', Australia's largest coral farm at the Port of Bundaberg. A wonderful time was had by all.

KENMORE VILLAGE

Club Activities

We started off 2025 with our New Years Day Soiree at Oxley Common. Our President, Royce Allan, cooked sausages and salads and bread were supplied by the club.

One of our members, Murielle Ahern, turned 100 on 22 January.

While we celebrated her birthday at our Christmas lunch in December, she was seen on TV receiving her telegram from King Charles. Every third Tuesday of the month Sylvia McNeilly arranges a lunch – either the Reserve or One Table.

On 28 January a group of members visited the Asia Pacific Triennial Exhibition at GOMA. The aim of the artists' work was to make their people

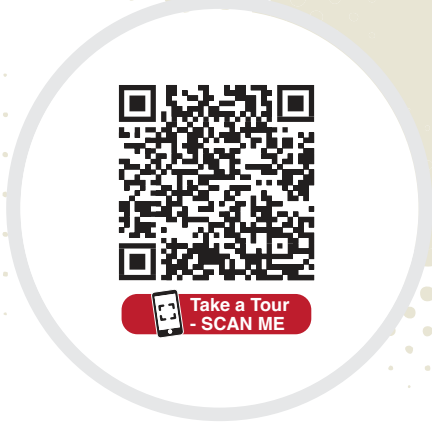
proud of their heritage and to encourage them to learn the past ways of their people. On Tuesday 25 February a group of Probians visited the Queensland Museum to view the exhibition entitled "Discovering Ancient Egypt", which came from the Dutch National Museum of Antiquities in Amsterdam – fascinating, and even mummies were displayed (but no photographs).



Muriel Ahern and daughter - Christmas party



February lunch at the Reserve



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2 course lunch: Duo Main for all alternate drop dessert.
 Tea & Coffee Station extra \$3pp

\$42pp
WEEKDAYS
\$46pp
WEEKENDS

All events are based on group bookings and are subject to availability
 2 course lunch alternate drop main and dessert inclusive
 Tea & Coffee station extra \$3pp

Please call for menu options and details
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CHAPEL HILL

Tour of the Anzac Memorial Galleries

On Wednesday 9th April, 18 members of the Chapel Hill Probus club toured the Anzac Memorial Galleries situated in Anzac Park just below the War Monument with its Eternal Flame. The galleries are Queensland's preeminent War Memorial, expertly staffed and curated by the State Library.

Pauline, our tour guide was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about her subject. The tour began in Anzac Park where Pauline outlined the features of the park, including the three pathways, the statues, the artworks and even the trees and plants. We learnt that Brisbane's Memorial was the first of its kind in Australia. The flame was lit on Armistice Day in 1930 marking the dedication of the Anzac Square Memorial. We also learnt that the two flights of stairs leading up to the memorial numbered 19 and 18 respectively to signify the year of the Armistice.

Then we proceeded to tour the galleries themselves starting with the World War One Gallery, followed by the World War Two Gallery and finishing in the third gallery which covered more recent wars and events. All three galleries are filled with memorial plaques and numerous interactive displays, some of which our guide highlighted to elaborate on their importance and to introduce us to a variety of fascinating personalities.

The tour lasted almost an hour and a half, extended by the many questions asked and comments made by our interested members. The time we spent on the tour only covered a small fraction of the material available and this venue is well worth a return visit. The tour was preceded by



In Anzac Park



In the WWII Gallery

most of the group gathering for coffee and the day was completed with a very satisfying lunch at a Thai restaurant.

If you haven't visited the Anzac Memorial Galleries before, it's an experience not to be missed.

CHATSWORTH CARINDALE

Five Days in Melbourne

In late March, 41 members of the Chatsworth-Carindale Probus Club enjoyed five days in Melbourne; the large group had a wonderful time away with Trade Travel.

Staying at the historic Victoria Hotel in central Melbourne, we unpacked once and had day-outings through which we visited superb aspects of Melbourne and its surrounds, many of us had long-wanted to do.

Firstly, we had lunch at the iconic

MCG, toured the facility and explored the Australian Sports Museum bumping into The Don and DK Lillee along the way.

At Drysdale, we caught the famous Q Train for the ride along the Bellarine Peninsula to Queenscliff, enjoying an amazing 5-course degustation menu, there and back.

Time at the Shrine of Remembrance, the Eureka Sky Tower and the International Flower and Garden Show in Carlton Gardens filled another day before returning to the buzz and activity around the Victoria Hotel, built in 1880.

Another highlight was the ride on

the Puffing Billy Steam Train from Belgrave to Menzies Creek Station in the Dandenong Hills and lunch at Sky High restaurant with superb views of Melbourne. On our final day we travelled to Mount Macedon, viewed the Macedon Memorial Cross overlooking Australia Felix and visited Forest Glade Gardens with its remarkable collection of antique furniture and porcelain gathered over many years by Cyril Stokes, then left for future generations to enjoy in his own home. Remarkable.

A most enjoyable and fascinating time in Melbourne and regional Victoria.



Chatsworth Carindale Probus Club at Cyril's amazing antique collection.



Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show.

GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA

2-Day Trip Showcasing Stanthorpe

Fifteen members thoroughly enjoyed their two days in the Stanthorpe region on 18 and 19 March. Eugene, our bus driver from Granite Maxi Tours, shared much of his knowledge of the history, agriculture and culture of the Granite Belt.

All of us discovered new areas, businesses and treasures of the region: be it sampling wines at Robert Chandon, liqueurs at Castle Glen, truffle products, cheese at Stanthorpe Cheeses, fruit pies at Suttons Apples, venison at the Granite Belt Brewery and platters of Italian dishes at Anna's Restaurant. We ate very, very well!

New knowledge was acquired by everyone: at Aloomba Lavender Farm on growing and distilling lavender oils; at the Truffle Discovery centre on growing and harvesting truffles; at Washpool watching handmade soaps being made; at Jamworks sampling jams, chutneys and sauces; at Stanthorpe Cheese sampling a variety of soft and hard cheeses; and imbibing exotic liqueurs in the vast sampling rooms at Castle Glen. Granite Maxi Tours provided an initial itinerary which we were able to amend to



Stanthorpe touring group at Mount Marlay.



Visit to the Truffle centre with Ray explaining the different types of truffles.

ensure we most of the tourism offerings in the region: food, agriculture, craft and history. Overnight at The Vines motel was comfortable and convenient for our evening stroll to Anna's Restaurant. Member feedback was very positive from everyone!



A visit to Washpool Products to see how soaps are made.



A visit to Castle Glen to discover the many tastes of liqueurs, spirits and beers made there.

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Old Courthouse – Ipswich Musical Theatre Company



Ipswich Little Theatre

Enjoy theatre performances in the Heritage City!

Did you know you can enjoy fantastic theatrical performances in heritage spaces around Ipswich? Both the Ipswich Little Theatre and Ipswich Musical Theatre Company perform in converted historic spaces, one previously an incinerator and the other an old courthouse.

Enjoy a show in the historic old courthouse

Ipswich Musical Theatre Company is based inside a heritage-listed former courthouse built in 1859.

In 2001, Ipswich Musical Theatre Company (IMTC) was founded and the courthouse which was unused at the time became their headquarters. It is now the venue where all their shows are rehearsed. Some of these are performed here for the public, while others, especially larger productions, are staged at Ipswich Civic Centre.

There is space for 80 patrons to enjoy a show inside the old courthouse and a special group price is offered for bookings of 12 or more.

The next production from IMTC will be *Come From Away*, an incredible Tony Award-winning musical that tells the true story of a small town that welcomed

7,000 stranded passengers in the wake of 9/11. See the show at Ipswich Civic Centre from 13–21 September.

In March 2026, *Ladies in Black* will be on stage. Based on Madeline St John's bestselling novel, the brand new Australian musical is a coming-of-age story filled with heart. It tells the tale of a young woman working at a Sydney department store in the 1950s and the lives of the life-changing women she meets there. With music by Tim Finn (Crowded House) and script by Carolyn Burns, *Ladies in Black* has quickly become a favourite of theatre-goers around Australia for its wit and undeniable charm.

Find out more about the
Ipswich Musical Theatre Company at
ipswichmusicaltheatrecompany.com.au



Incinerator Theatre – Ipswich Little Theatre

Discover Ipswich Little Theatre

The Ipswich Little Theatre stage is located inside a converted incinerator. It was originally used to burn waste and opened in 1936 as the Ipswich Municipal Incinerator. It's also renowned for being the only building in Queensland designed by Walter Burley Griffin, who also designed the city of Canberra.

Luckily, after it was decommissioned in the early 1960s the Ipswich Little Theatre convinced council not to demolish the historically significant building and in 1969 it became their home.

Inside there is seating for 80 people to enjoy the Little Theatre's performances.

Coming up this year, *The Perfect Murder* will be in season from 14-31 May. This story centres around Victor Smiley and his wife Joan, who have been married for nearly 20 years. Victor secretly loathes Joan more and more each day and Joan is bored by Victor, whose snoring drives her mad. As their marriage reaches crisis point Victor decides there's only one way to get Joan out of his life forever, but he's about to get a nasty surprise as he's not the only one with murder in mind!

Secret Bridesmaids' Business, a funny play about serious issues like truth, loyalty, denial, sex, love, the meaning of marriage, female friendship and the plight of the modern woman with a biological clock, in season from 17 September – 4 October.

Then *Waiting For God* will be in season from 19 November – 6 December. This play is based around Bayview Retirement Village where battle-axe extraordinaire Diana Trent conspires with new resident Tom Ballard to give the conniving manager his comeuppance through a hilarious conspiracy with unexpected heart-warming results.

Find out more information about the Ipswich Little Theatre at ilt.org.au

Planning a trip to Ipswich?
Call the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre on 3281 0555.

 **IPSWICH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE**

discover
Ipswich
.com.au



GYMPIE

Hunter Valley & Port Stephens Visit

Gympie Probus Inc recently held its Annual Meeting and the election of new office bearers for 2025/26 was conducted. The 80 plus members and guests in attendance celebrated the beginning of the new Probus year with a generous and tasty roast meal followed by sweets. All enjoyed a good belly laugh as the party games were played and just prior to completion of the day everyone joined in a rousing rendition of the National Anthem.

Part of our super start to Gympie Probus 2025 year was a coach tour to Hunter Valley and Port Stephens. Some highlights which all enjoyed were the must do wine tasting experience in the Hunter, sumptuous treats at the Hunter Valley Chocolate Company, the impressive museum at Urala, a morning of dolphin watching at Port Stephens and just to finish that day, a wonderful 4WD beach buggy drive to Tin City. Stockton beach provided photographers with much spectacular content and the expansive rolling sand dunes were quite amazing providing a spectacular scenic backdrop.

We were treated to a guided tour of Kurri Kurri, the town of murals, walked



Gympie Probus touring group at Port Stephens



Incoming President Gay Lohse and immediate Past President Tim Frodsham



Gympie Probus Inc Elected Office Bearers for 2025/26

the stunning Hunter Valley Gardens at Pokolbin and visited the great Slim Dusty Centre at Kempsey. So much was packed into the 6-day tour and all days interspersed with special morning teas, tasty lunches and even tastier evening meals. Although the weather was not as sunny as it could have been the few showers did not dampen our band of enthusiastic travellers on board. The happy group of

travellers always gathered for pre-dinner afternoon drinks to discuss the often highly amusing happenings of the day. A wonderful tour with great accommodation and five-star evening meal offerings.

We thank Gympie Probus Members Bevan and Judy for organising the tour, our Guide Bruce and Driver Bryce.

Carolyn Wright



Toowoomba City New Committee for 2025 Dressed for St Patrick's Day with President Ian Speers



Easter Bonnets - Mya Thomas Di Speers Leanne Fitzgerald and Carmel Beaumont Best hats

TOOWOOMBA CITY

Toowoomba City Outings

Our Probus Club seems to be working extremely well with quite a few new members being inducted and we have now reached the exciting figure of over 100 Members. December saw the end of a fun filled social year. January saw the start of 2025 with a meal at Thai On High. Always a relaxed and enjoyable way to start the year.

In February, our fantastic and hard-

working social convenors had arranged another meal at the Ballymore Rooms with musical entertainment. March saw the Change-Over with President Anne Marie handing over to Ian Speers our new President for 2025/2026. Another great time was had by our members. Our new committee is more or less the same with the exception of our new President and life Member Gary Fraser inducted as Junior Vice President.

We are off to the Port of Brisbane in April and are pleased to announce

that we have quite a few combined outings with other local Probus Club in April and May. It is no wonder our numbers are increasing with all our monthly activities.

First Monday our monthly meeting, the third our social activity and the fourth our popular Coffee & Chat. This enables us to have a quick cup of coffee - or linger longer (!) and have lunch to really chat with friends old and new.

Celia Waldron Historian

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ALGESTER & MACGREGOR

Kingaroy and Gympie Trip

Some 35 members and guests of the Algester Probus Club and the Macgregor Probus Club had a wonderful bus trip to Kingaroy and Gympie for a 3-day/2-night stay.

Highlights included a visit to the Cobb & Co Museum Toowoomba, followed by a lunch at the Old Crow Hotel and a visit to the Crows Nest soft drink factory. Then onto our overnight accommodation in Kingaroy via a stop at the Peanut Van. The weather was glorious and the countryside very green after all the rain we have had over the past few months. The food on offer was unbelievable. "What great country hospitality".

On day 2, we travelled onto Murgon where we visited the Dairy Museum. A very interesting village and you guessed it, more delicious morning tea treats on offer. Then onto Goomeri for a stop at the Goomeri Bakery for lunch. They did not disappoint. A big shout out to Jack who got out his guitar and played a few tunes at the luncheon.

We then headed into Gympie for our accommodation for the night. Our last day, a true highlight was travelling on the Mary River Rattler Steam Train. What a wonderful journey back in time. The volunteers were so friendly and knowledgeable. The scenery beautiful even with some soot hitting us in the face. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience with lots of chatting along the way. Then onwards home after a delicious lunch at the Gympie RSL.



Our group about to board the Mary Valley Rattler.



The Rattler.

A big thank you to our trip organiser, Liz Dutton for all her hard work. Our members and members from the Macgregor Probus Club all appreciated her hard work. Thank you to Bill from Mount Gravatt Coaches for safely getting us all around. Looking forward to future outings.



Members enjoying the foreshore at Tangalooma Resort



Members enjoying exploring the Tangalooma Resort

SANDGATE

Tangalooma day cruise

Forty-seven members departed Holt Street Terminal for a 1½hr bumpy ride to Tangalooma. We enjoyed swimming in the clear waters of the bay and in the swimming pools, walks along the paths of the resort and on the beach. Our \$25 vouchers provided lunch and most of us added coffee, cake or ice-cream. Some of the ladies found the Resort Shop for some retail therapy. Our trip home on the Flyer was smoother and we were back at the terminal about 5.30pm. Everyone appeared to have enjoyed a relaxing day.

CARSELDINE

Woodworks Museum & Interpretive Centre at Gympie

Carseldine Probus Club Inc. members had the pleasure of travelling north to the Woodworks Museum & Interpretive Centre located at 8 Fraser Road, Gympie. The Woodworks Museum officially opened on the 23rd of March 1984, was established to provide a refuge for the history of the forest & timber industries. It was built as a joint venture between what was then known as the Department of Forestry & the Queensland Museum.

On arrival we were met by the volunteer staff who separated us into 2 groups of 12 to ensure that everything that we needed to see was achieved. One of the highlights was visiting the steam-driven sawmill, where we witnessed a steam engine with a separate boiler. The mill machinery is

driven by flat belts, originally stitched leather strips, then of rubberized fabric, running on pulleys. The drive from the mill engines goes to the main shaft, then via separate belts to the mill machines. The frame saw imitates mechanically the action of the man-powered pit saw.

The next point of interest to see was a genuine Blacksmith Shop, where Murray a volunteer demonstrated by manufacturing some decorative ironwork. The other group was taken through the Woodworks Museum, this museum was built chiefly from rough-sawn tallowwood & spotted gum. The construction reflects the bush-style architecture that follows the rolling topography of the site, resulting in a multileveled building with a sunken demonstration pit & exhibition area. The mezzanines above the pit provide excellent vantage points to watch live demonstrations. All those working on site are either volunteers or paid employees of Private Forestry Service Queensland.

John O'Brien



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GARDEN CITY TOOWOOMBA

Full Steam Ahead to Clifton!

A misty morning greeted 148 Probus members from 3 Toowoomba clubs and a Sunshine coast one on Thursday 3 April. Nambour Probus 90, was on one of its annual 7-day camps, this time to Crows Nest on the Darling Downs, and had organised a steam train trip from Toowoomba to Clifton. They had also invited fellow Probians from Toowoomba City, Graden City Toowoomba and Pittsworth-Southbrook clubs to join them. Heavy rain on proceeding days receded to an overcast but pleasantly warm Downs Autumn Day.

Members gathered early at DownsSteam headquarters in Drayton and toured the Goods Shed where the oldest steam engine built in Queensland is being restored by volunteers; wandered around their railway station with its memorabilia; and admired their gardens which win

regularly during the annual Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers competition. Our carriages too were being slowly restored and feature many photographs of railway history across the Downs.

A leisurely journey from Drayton through Wyreema, Cambooya, Greenmount and Nobby brought us to Clifton, a thriving small agricultural town on the way to Warwick. Matt Scullian, country music singer of Tamworth fame, moved between the carriages entertaining us with his unique Aussie songs as we travelled to Clifton.

On arrival in Clifton, the large group was split: one third going to O'Shanley's Hotel, with its Irish collections, another to the Clifton Arms Hotel and the rest by bus to the Clifton Bowls Club. Everyone at each of the venues enjoyed their lunch; and especially



Matt Scullian Country Music Singer entertained us on board

the opportunity to meet and mix with Probians from other clubs. The slow train trip home saw quite a few having a gentle doze?

Many thanks to Ian Pascoe from Nambour 90 club for organising the whole wonderful experience!



DownsSteam train with carriage heading to Clifton



Garden City Toowoomba Passengers Sheryl and Mary

LOGAN VILLAGE

Bridging the age gap at Logan Village

The Logan Village Probus Club had its inaugural meeting on 16th October 2024. The club has over 70 members and is growing with 36 years separating our youngest and oldest members. We have members spanning three generations:

- The Silent Generation, born between 1928 and 1945. Generally older and retired with a sense of duty and camaraderie due to exposure to war during their upbringing.

- Baby Boomers, born between 1946 and 1964 during the mid-20th Century baby boom. By this dating, the youngest of them will turn 61 in 2025. This was a time of economic prosperity and rapid technological progress.

- Generation X born between 1965 and 1980. Sometimes described as growing up in a consumer culture watching parents work long hours to pay off their homes. They generally want a balanced work-life and are self-reliant. After an outing to Government House in February, members had lunch at the Paddo Tavern. After lunch some of our younger members helped our senior members get connected to the club members' private Facebook Group. This had a great outcome with members being able to share photos of their day out.



Logan Village Probus Club members, Tracey (left) and Frank (right), our youngest and oldest members, having some fun after lunch at the Paddo Tavern in February.

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GYMPIE-WIDGEE

Wide Bay Ecumenical Service 2025

Our club was formed in 1989. The Gympie Probus Club was well established by then, so because half of our members at that time were from the adjoining town of Widgee our club was formed as a combined club & named for members from both municipalities. Hence, our hyphenated name.

Now in our 35th year, we started off our celebrations for 2025 on Australia Day (or the 27th, as Australia Day fell on a Sunday) with a champagne breakfast. A rather healthy cuisine of a sausage sizzle, damper, cake, lamingtons, and a fruit platter. All washed down with an ample supply of champagne. Apart from our members, we had two visitors from Cooloola Coast Probus, friends, and prospective members. Member Jan Maudsley, played the piano with some old favourites, and the event was held on the veranda of the secretary's house in Gympie. A great way to start off the year to reconnect with old friends and make the acquaintance of new ones.

This event was followed by our annual Ecumenical Service held at the Wesley Church, Gympie on 10th February 2025. Our club holds this service every year & all Wide Bay Probus clubs are invited to attend. We had members from Gympie Probus, Cooloola Coast Probus, & Maryborough Probus. Fraser Coast Hervey Bay Probus were unable to attend due to a last-minute hitch. The sermon was conducted by Rev. Gary McClintock and was a lively discussion involving members from the attending clubs. It also included a blessing of the Presidents Collars worn by the presidents of the attending clubs. A reinforcing & spiritual occasion, it was followed by a lavish morning tea supplied by the church auxiliary.

An enriching start to the New Year. We meet again on the 26th of February for a morning tea, then we look forward to our AGM on the 10th of March which will officially start the new Probus Year. A wonderful association with fantastic people.

Norm Breen



President Gympie-Widgee, Ian MacGregor, welcomes all Probus Clubs



Congregation Ecumenical Service



Champagne Breakfast- Australia Day 2025

LOGAN VILLAGE

Guest Speaker – Living in Saudi Arabia

A general interest meeting to establish the Logan Village Probus Club was held in October 2024. In three short months the club already has 70 members. The club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Logan Village Community Hall in Wharf Street from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Our inaugural guest speakers at the January meeting were Foundation Members, Grahame and Wendy Roberts, who shared their experiences about what life was

like for them as a family living in Saudi Arabia in the late 1980s and again in the mid-1990s.

Dressed in traditional Saudi attire, Grahame spoke about his experience in the working environment and Wendy spoke about her experience living in an apartment in a guarded compound and what everyday shopping was like for her. They lived in Saudi Arabia for four years with their seven-year-old daughter. They also brought along a number of artefacts for members to look at.

Visitors always welcome. Enquiries to loganvillageprobus@gmail.com or phone the Secretary, Angela Philbey, on 0418 805 809.



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Answer the following questions from the articles and information in this edition, then send your entry to:

probiancomp@paqnetwork.com.au
Subject: PROBIAN COMPETITION,

Entries will be accepted until 5pm on 6th June 2025. Please ensure that you include mailing details for postage. (See conditions below).

1. Which club has the most articles in May's Probian?

2. Which advertiser is offering a Jailhouse Rock tour & to where?

3. Which club organised the DownsSteam trip and how many other clubs joined in?

4. Which clubs attended the Ecumenical Service in 2025?

5. In which city is the Little Theatre located and in what?

Name: _____

Postal Address

Phone: _____ Postcode _____

I am a member of _____ Probus Club

Conditions of entry

- The competition is open to financial members of a PAQ affiliated Probus Club only.
- All entries received will be placed in a draw.
- The first correct entries drawn will be awarded the prize.
- The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into in regard to any aspect of the competition.
- Late entries will not be considered.
- The winner will be notified by phone or email.
- In the unlikely event that there is no declared winner, the prize vouchers will be added to the money for the competition in the following edition of the magazine.

WINNER will be emailed after drawing and voucher posted to address listed above



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COOMERA VALLEY

New Management Committee for 2025

Our club resumed in February 2025 anticipating another fun filled year. We were able to hold our AGM in March when the effects of Cyclone Alfred were still being felt. Fortunately, our venue was unscathed but our numbers were reduced as some members were still experiencing problems associated with the cyclone.

The new committee was duly elected with minor changes from last year and following on from the meeting (after our new President, Ann Dwyer, presented the committee to the meeting) our Change Over Lunch was held at Helensvale Tavern where those who could attend enjoyed the fun. Fellowship and food!



New Management Committee for 2025

LOGAN VILLAGE

Logan City Council Community Benefit Fund Grant – Probus Branded Banners

A big thank you to Councillor Nathan St Ledger, Division 4, Logan City Council, for awarding the Logan Village Probus Club a grant to purchase Probus branded banners. We can now “fly the Probus flag” in the community to promote our club. The pull up banner and tear drop banner were used for the first time at our 19th February meeting.

No-one had any excuse for not finding our meeting

venue with the tear drop banner flying outside the community hall and new members were able to be inducted in front of the pull up banner.

The pull up banner was also used at an information stand at Woolworths Logan Village on 21st February. President Cheryl Hitchin and Secretary, Angela Philbey, had the opportunity to talk to many locals about Probus and give away Probus bags.



Promo stand, Woolworths Logan Village



President & Secretary LV Probus Club at promotional stand Woolworths



Foundation members with new banner



Our two oldest members George Finn and Jean Nicholson

TOWNSVILLE

Celebrating the Club's 40th Birthday

In March the Probus Club of Townsville celebrated its 40th anniversary. We made presentations to our recent past presidents, Wendy Schibrowski and Graham Fudge, and our two oldest members George Finn and Jean Nicholson. We had guests from the Ingham and Thuringowa Probus Clubs and Rotary.

Sue Gardner

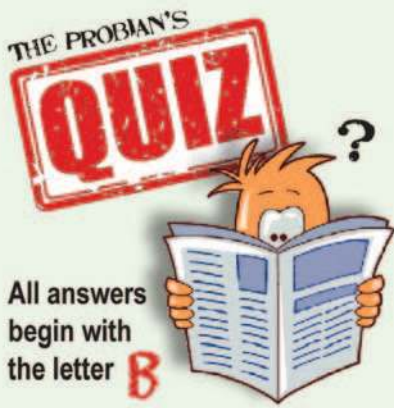
ROSE CITY WARWICK

Club Activities 2025

We were asked what our Club has been doing for December 2024, January, February and March of 2025. Our Club does not plan many activities over the summer holidays in consideration of our members having family and travel commitments. Our busiest member is our Local Events or Dining Coordinator Maree. She has efficiently arranged our accustomed dining out event on the first Wednesday of the month, on the same day as our committee meetings, as well as organising morning tea during our monthly meetings. We started December with a meal at the local Chinese Restaurant. Then we held our annual Christmas Lunch following the December meeting where we were entertained by trivia. There was a lunch arranged at the Stockyard Hotel in January where generous meals were served. February saw members travelling to the Railway Hotel at Allora to enjoy generous, well presented, meals. At our February meeting we were wonderfully educated about how a Defibrillator operates, and what to do about a snake bite, by Clifton Ambulance Service. Management Committee nominations were also received.

Members gathered for Lunch at the Condamine Club on the first Wednesday of March. Then our March meeting saw the Annual Meeting where a complete Committee was elected. We welcomed members from Rotary Warwick and Rotary Sunrise to preside over the election of Officers. This meeting was followed with members gathering together to dine in the Bistro. The previous meal at Chung Hing Chinese was so enjoyed that members met there again on the first Wednesday of April. Then at our April meeting we were entertained by a talk from our local MP James Lister, who spoke about his life and the challenges of managing family life at the same time as being a Parliamentarian.

Our 50 plus members continue to enjoy each other's company where many friendships are formed, and we get to meet each other twice a month at Probus. Many of us are looking forward to meeting with a wider group of Probus Clubs at Pittsworth on the 15th May.



1. The star sign Taurus is represented by what animal?
2. What is the German word that meant "lightning war"?
3. I am a diagonal-moving chess piece. What am I called?
4. Who was Dagwood Bumstead's wife?
5. Complete the title of the Rimsky-Korsakov work: 'Flight of the'?
6. In 1985, I became the youngest winner of the men's singles title at Wimbledon.



7. Which Pacific atoll was the site of nuclear tests between 1946 and 1958?
8. What was the ancient city with hanging gardens?
9. Audrey Hepburn played Holly Golightly in what 1961 movie?
10. Which omnipresent leader in George Orwell's 1984 lends his name to a reality TV show?
11. Australia's most easterly point is Cape?
12. What is the male singing voice between bass and tenor?
13. What is the nickname for Mumbai's film industry?
14. Who were The Fab Four?

1. Bull. 2. Blitzkrieg. 3. Bishop. 4. Blondie. 5. Burntbees. 6. Becker. 7. Bikini. 8. Babylon. 9. Breakfast at Tiffanys. 10. Big Brother. 11. Byron. 12. Bartone. 13. Bollywood. 14. Beatles.

INNISFAIL

Luncheon at 'Babinda State Hotel' and Movie

It is difficult to organise outings in tropical Far North Qld during the monsoon season. The Innisfail Probian members thoughts are with fellow Probians and southern residents during the testing times of cyclone 'Alfred'.

A sunny March day greeted 56 Innisfail Probus Club members who travelled 20 minutes to the north Sugar Town of Babinda. They were welcomed by Babinda State Hotel staff for a well organised lunch. Members

were overwhelmed with service and appreciated the way they were looked after as the variety of food was delicious. A great time to catch up and socialise. President Carolyn welcomed everyone and thanked the chef and staff and a special thanks to our dine-out ladies, Margaret and Rhonda, for organising this special day, well done ladies! Following lunch 38 members then went to a private screening at the Babinda Munro Picture Theatre to see the movie 'Widow Clicquot' which was about a visionary who took a small business and built a champagne empire. Thanks to Fred Lizzio for this special viewing. A great day was enjoyed by all.



Frances Lagana, Judi & Richard Rees and fellow Probians waiting for the movie to start.

MARYBOROUGH COMBINED

Visit to "Sister Act" at the Lyric Theatre

With Cyclone Alfred hovering off the coast our Tours Team had to make the decision as to whether we should take a chance on our planned trip to Brisbane Lyric Theatre to see 'Sister Act'.

Hoping Cyclone Alfred would delay his arrival, we set off early in the morning, stopping for lunch at Blue Infusions at North Lakes before arriving at Southbank in time for the matinee and with light rain starting to fall. We thoroughly enjoyed the show, great storyline, music and costumes. Our overnight accommodation and meals were at the Brisbane International Virginia where we were served a buffet dinner and then some of our members entertained with an impromptu sing-a-long.

With all boats docked in preparation for the cyclone, we were unable to do the morning tea cruise on the river so we had a leisurely drive to Theebine Hotel for lunch instead.



Enjoying some refreshments and lunch at the Theebine Hotel on the way home.

CLUBS Talk and Travel

Jeni Neary OAM 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
Zig Zag Railway, Australia	Max Barton	Redcliffe City Mixed
Australian War Nurses	Philip Castle	Mt Ommaney
Second Chance – DV and Homeless Women	Kathleen Noonan, Journalist	Wellington Point
Dementia Australia - Carer Pathway	Kara Compton	Holland Park Central
Back of Beyond	Jenny Old, Author	Arundel
Beyond Barriers	Barry Cinzio	Beaudesert
Australian Animal Memorial Organisation	Nigel Allsop	Algerter and Districts
It's in the Mail	Rod Preston	Bellbowrie and District
Military Nurse Experiences	Wendy Taylor, RSL	Carseldine
Angel Flight	Mauren Johnson	Chermside
The First Fleet	Denis Smith	Meadowbrook
Personal Care for the Aged	Lee Matthews	Goonellabah
Crime Stoppers	David Hansen	Kenmore Gardens
Brisbane Airport Corporation	Peter Doherty	Indooroopilly
Great Barrier Reef Foundation	Anna Marsden	Bellbowrie and District
Splashdown	Russell Smith, Adventurer	Gympie
Red Cross Emergency Redi	Beth Elliot, Red Cross	Mt Gravatt Runcorn
Swamp Cartoons	Gary Clark	Mt Gravatt Pacific
True Crime Writing	Megan Norris	Loganholme
Birds Around Brisbane	Dr Jim Butler, Author	Hamilton

Outings	Topics, Locations, Activities	Club
Day Trip	Commissariat Store and Pancakes Manor Lunch	Holland Park Central
7 Cruise	New Guinea Encounter Cruise	Redcliffe City Mixed
Walking Tour	21 st Century Brisbane Tour with Brisbane Greeters	Mt Ommaney
Bus Trip	Woongaroo Estate Winery Kilcoy	Algerter and Districts
Bus Trip	Killarney and Queens Mary Falls	Beaudesert
Day Trip	Cruise to Tangalooma	The Gap
Bus Trip	Mount Tambourine Coffee Plantation	Bellbowrie and District
Train Trip	Steam Train Trip Drayton to Clifton and Irish Hotel Lunch	Toowoomba City
Tour	Redlands Museum	Springwood
Bus Trip	Port of Brisbane Tour	Capalaba
Guided Tour	Memorial Galleries and Anzac Square Brisbane	Carindale
Bus Trip	Woodworks Museum and Interpretive Centre, Gympie	Carseldine
6 Day Tour	Outback Pioneers - Unleash Longreach	Sunnybank
Tour	Mounted Police Training Centre Moggill	Chermside
5 Day Tour	Hunter Valley and Port Stephens	Gympie
Tour	4MBS Radio Station	North Brisbane
Private Tour	Newstead House and Lunch at Breakfast Creek Hotel	Hamilton
Bus Trip	Naughty Little Kids Farm and Lunch at Boonah Golf Club	Chermside
4 Day Trip	Stanthorpe and Tenterfield	Indooroopilly
Tour	Redlands IndigiScapes Centre	Loganholme
2 Day Tour	Food, Agriculture, Wine Highlights of Stanthorpe	Garden City Toowoomba
6 Day Trip	Canberra Floriade and Southern Highlands	Indooroopilly



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SHERWOOD

Club Happenings in 2025

We had a great start to the New Year heading to Oxley Common to enjoy our New Years Breakfast feasting on bacon, quiche, sausages, toast, muffins, champagne, orange juice, tea and coffee and great fellowship. At our January meeting, President Martin inducted 5 new members adding to our membership.

Great speakers at our three meetings including Andrew Jones from Crime Stoppers; Loan Chow gave us great advice on Effective Estate Planning; and Debbie Brittain, a Project Officer in the Learning team at the Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) in Brisbane and QAGGOMA's Art and Dementia Pro-

gram Lead who was awarded a prestigious Churchill Fellowship to investigate global best practice in Museum Programming for people with dementia. Debbie talked us through her 8 weeks of travel and study through USA, Canada, Ireland, UK and Denmark. Our groups are all enjoying their respective meetings; as did those members who visited Multi Cap (Monte Lupo) and saw first-hand the work of this centre which is one of the most highly regarded disability service providers in Queensland and northern New South Wales.

Member Pat Hurney was awarded a Moreton Volunteer Award for her 18 years of dedication and work on our committee and in the community. Thank you, Pat, from our members.

Joan Coghlan OAM



Dorothy Eyears congratulates Debbie Brittain by presenting a certificate of Appreciation.



Members visiting Multicap to hear and learn about that organisation's work.



Pat Hurney displaying her Moreton Volunteer Award

BRIBIE ISLAND

What's Happening at Probus Bribie Island?

It's been a lively few months at Probus Bribie Island! We've balanced the serious with the social, starting with our Annual General Meeting and a recent recruitment drive at the local

shopping centre and weekend markets. Of course, it hasn't all been business. The fun side of club life has been in full swing with regular BBQs and special morning teas - always a hit with members. Our weekly "hit and giggle" tennis sessions continue to attract those keen to stay active, and for those who prefer something a little more relaxed, a new social cof-

fee group is in the works - perfect for a caffeine fix and a friendly chat.

Looking ahead, we're excited for our upcoming bus trip to Pomona to enjoy a silent movie followed by lunch at the Cooroy RSL. And later in the year, we're planning a getaway to beautiful Magnetic Island.

There's always something happening at Probus Bribie Island



Promoting the club in our local shopping centre.



Members catching up over a great lunch at the Cooroy RSL

Wattle Bloom

Walks and Talks in Queensland

By the time you are reading this article, wattles will have commenced blooming in Queensland, and some will continue to bloom through to the end of September.

From early July to mid-August 2025, Wattle Bloom Walks will be conducted through the Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens in Brisbane. If you are interested in joining a walk, please contact Mike Gilmour (details below) for more information. Additionally, if you are interested in Mike's talk, 'Wattles, Symbols and Myths', please give him a call. The talk will stir your childhood memories and your patriotic emotions.

Some interesting information about wattles follows:

Prominent Queensland Wattles

Prominent varieties of wattles in Queensland include the Queensland Silver Wattle (*Acacia podalyriifolia*); the Brisbane Golden Wattle (*Acacia fimbriata*); the Zig Zag Wattle (*Acacia macadenia*); the Erapah Wattle (*Acacia fimbriata* var. *perangusta*); the Mulga (*Acacia aneura*) and the Glory Wattle (*Acacia spectabilis*).

Our National Floral Emblem

The Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) is Australia's National Floral Emblem. It grows profusely in areas around Canberra and in the Southern States. While formal recognition was granted in 1988, wattle, in all its varieties, has been recognised from early times by indigenous people and European settlers as the floral symbol of Australia. A sprig of wattle was often included in letters.

Our National Colours

Green and Gold Australia's National colours match the wattle colours, which are on prominent display when wattles are blooming. In August 2032 during the Olympic Games in Brisbane, the Queensland wattles will be blooming with their green and gold.

For further information please contact: Mike Gilmour, President, Queensland Wattle Association.

Email: wattleday.qld@gmail.com

Mobile: 0416 185 153



Welcome to the Upgraded PAQ Web site – www.paqnetwork.com.au

The screenshot shows the PAQ website homepage. At the top left is the PAQ logo (PROBUS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC.). To the right is a navigation menu with items: Home, About, News & Resources, Probus Club Locations, Members Area, and Contact. Below the menu is a blue banner with the text: "An Association of Affiliated Probus Clubs In Queensland" and "Sharing ideas and information between Probus Clubs". The main content area features a large banner for "the village RETIREMENT GROUP" with the text "Don't retire for good. Retire for great." and "Independent Retirement Living at its best". A "Learn more" button is visible in the banner.

PAQ has undertaken a review and redevelopment of its web site to bring information to its affiliated clubs. The interface has changed and *access to the Member's Area has changed.*

The screenshot shows the "Welcome to PAQ" page. The navigation menu is the same as in the previous screenshot. The main heading is "Welcome to PAQ". Below this is a paragraph: "The Probus Association of Queensland Inc. (PAQ) is administered by a group of volunteer Probians. PAQ was formed to help, advise, assist, co-ordinate and initiate activities between Probians and Probus Clubs throughout Queensland, without in any infringing on their autonomy". Another paragraph follows: "Probus is an association of retired and semi-retired people who join together in Clubs. The basic purpose is to provide regular opportunities for them to keep their minds active, expand their interests, and try to enjoy the fellowship of new friends." The section "PAQ's focus is : Fun, Friendship, and Fellowship." is highlighted. Below this is a paragraph: "Probus Clubs conduct monthly meetings, with a guest speaker. Clubs arrange various activities including, lunches to tours and other various outings and events for their Members." A section for enquiries follows: "For enquiries about clubs and how to join Probus in Queensland:" with contact information: "Email: mail@paqnetwork.com.au" and "Please telephone the PAQ President on 0477 645 645". A note at the bottom states: "(For existing Probus Club Members using the PAQ Website, please note that details about how to access to the Members area can be obtained from your Club Secretary)".

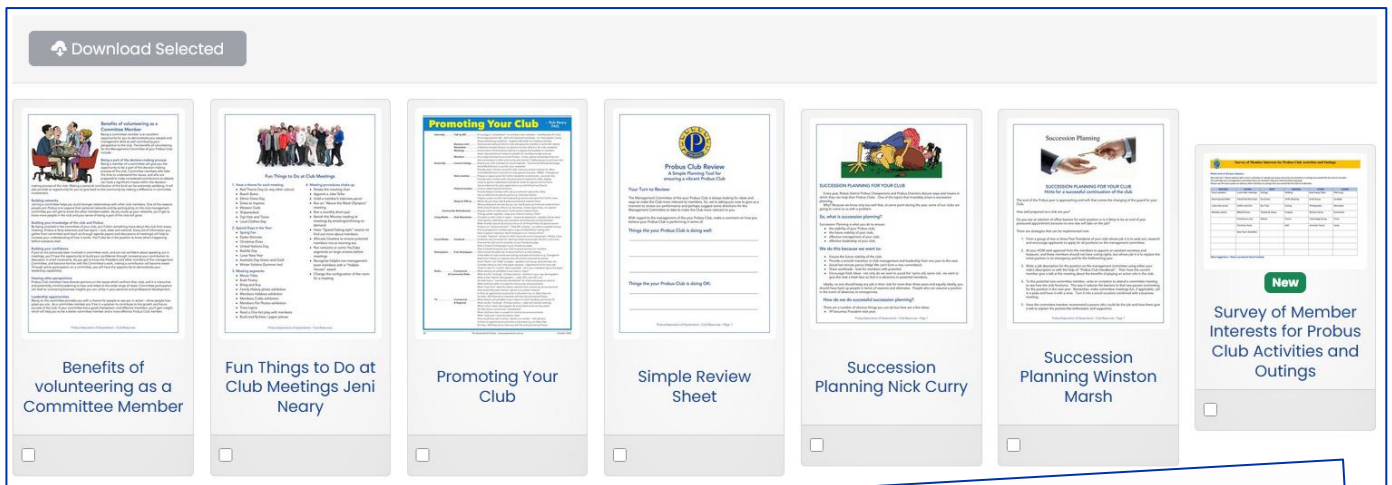
Many of the Menu options will take you to an information page, others will present you with choices:

This screenshot shows the "About" dropdown menu. The menu items are: "About PAQ and Probus", "Probus - What Is It", "PAQ Management Committee", and "PAQ Regional Liaison Officers".

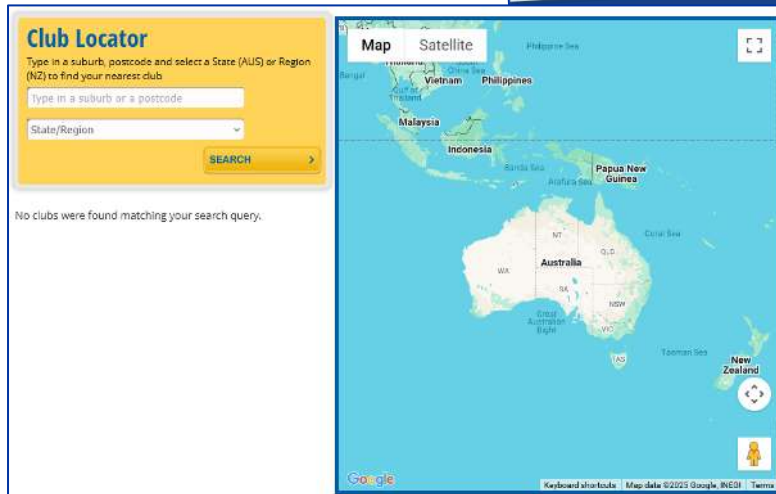
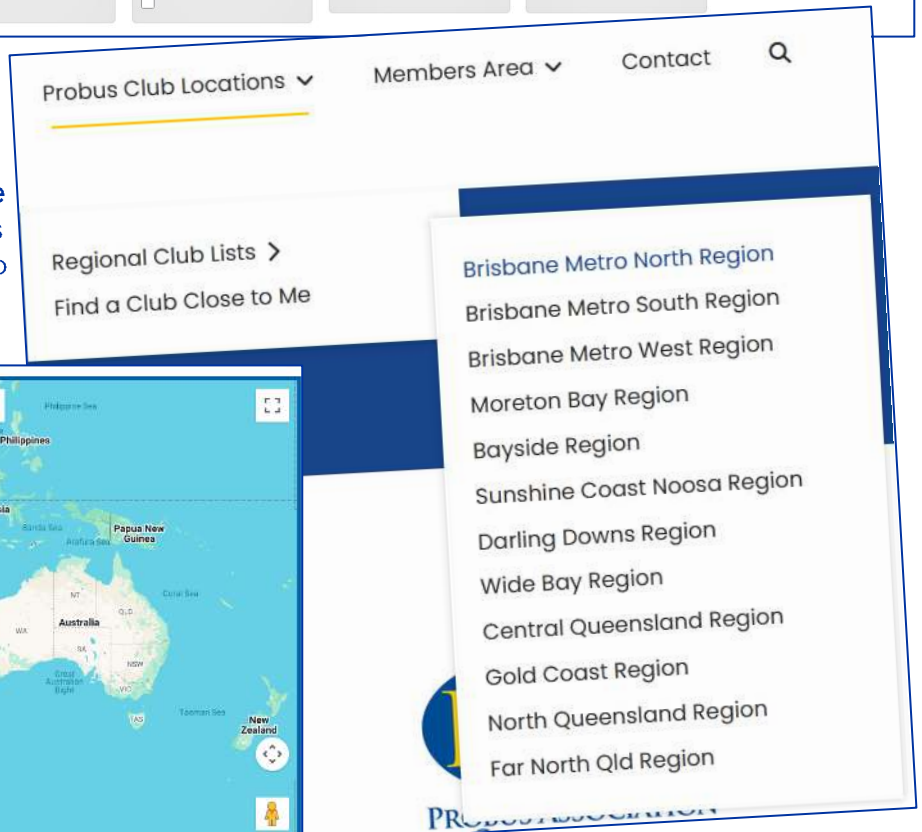
This screenshot shows the "News & Resources" dropdown menu. The menu items are: "Club Anniversaries", "PAQ Club Resources", "PAQ Queensland Probian >", and "PAQ Talk & Travel >".

This screenshot shows the "Probus Club Locations" dropdown menu. The menu items are: "Regional Club Lists >" and "Find a Club Close to Me".

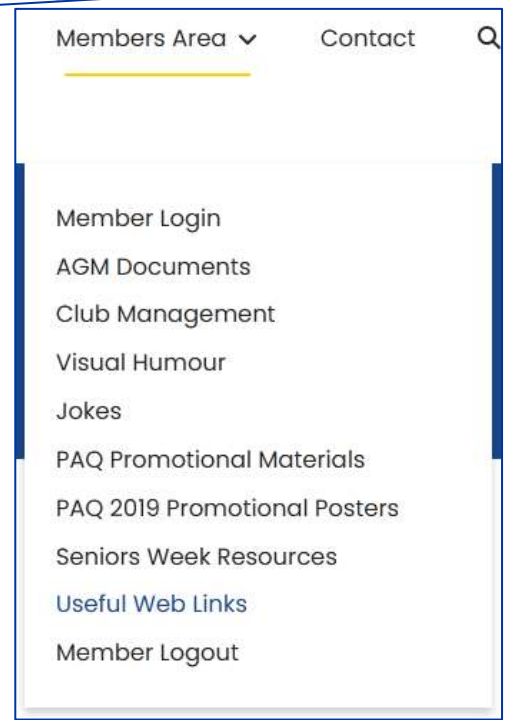
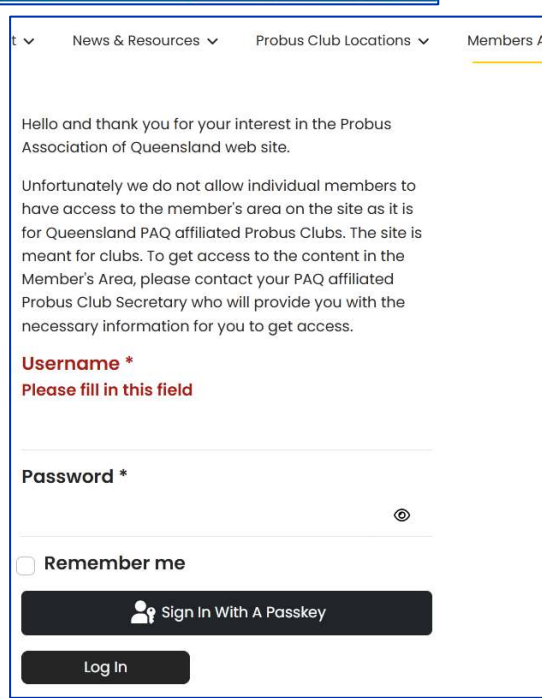
The News and Resources menu will give access to documents which may be downloaded or printed:



Selecting **Regional Club Lists** opens the PAQ Regional lists of PAQ affiliated clubs in Qld.
 Selecting **Find a Club Close to Me** opens Probus South Pacific Limited's Club Locator page and allows you to find any Probus Club in Australia or New Zealand



To login to the **Members Area** you need your **Club's PSPL Number** and the **Password – sent to your Club Secretary**.
 Note: The Members Area is designed for your Club Management Team members and to provide resources for your Probus Club.
 Probus Members have access to the PAQ web site's public menu items.



Beautiful dreamer



Stephen Foster died in New York City on 13 January 1864 – alcoholic, penniless and consumed by loneliness and debt. He was known as ‘the father of American music’, famous for over 200 songs including *Oh! Susanna*, *Camptown Races*, *Old Folks at Home*, *My Old Kentucky Home*, *Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair*, *Old Black Joe*, and *Beautiful Dreamer*.

He is said to have died with a purse carrying less than 40c and a scrap of tatty paper reading “Dear friends and gentle hearts”. He was 37 years old.

But his melodies linger on.

NY-Lon

Nylon was patented by a Du Pont Chemical Research team in 1937. It has been said that the name *nylon* is composed of *ny*, for New York, and *lon*, for London – the two cities where it was developed.

Within a year the first nylon stockings went on sale – and, of course, there was soon a run on them.

Fantastic Foto #4



First household vacuum cleaner, 1901...

Storing it could have been a problem!

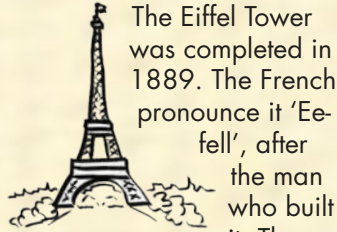
Answer to Probian Puzzler: The three-letter word is TOU. Hence, 'WOO, TWO and TOW'.

TAKE 10

Items of passing interest

Compiled by Jarvis Finger
Kenmore Millennium Probus Club

Don't look up



The Eiffel Tower was completed in 1889. The French pronounce it ‘Ee-fell’, after the man who built it. The British call it ‘Eye-full’, no doubt because if you stand beneath it and look up at the pigeons, that’s what you get!

Probian Puzzler

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

Name the three-letter word that can have each of its letters substituted by W, so spelling a different word each time.

Under the bed

Canadian typist Chamber Landis had often had her leg pulled about her unusual Christian name. But worse was to come.

She married Vancouver salesman Les Potts.

crikey!

TALES OF THE AMUSING, ODD, AND OUTRAGEOUS

Fire! Fire!

ONE DAY there was a fire in the main tent of a travelling circus. The fire spread to nearby fields of dry grass and then began to burn ferociously towards a village in the valley below.

The ringmaster yelled: “Someone must tell the people about the fire! Tell them to run for their lives! Someone has to get down there and tell them that they’ve got to evacuate right now!”

Tumbles, the clown, still in full costume, heeded the call. He jumped on a bicycle and rode down into the valley to sound the warning.

He pedalled up and down the streets yelling at people: “Do something! Run for your lives! The fire’s coming! There’s a fire coming this way! Your town is in the path of the fire! Run for your lives!”

Run for your lives!!
Run for your lives!!



Unfortunately, the people just stood along the side of the road and applauded the clown. The more Tumbles screamed, the more they clapped. The more he yelled his warnings, the more they cheered him. They didn’t take him seriously, they later admitted – after all, he was dressed like a clown.

True story, so we’re told.

Where'd it come from?

Mad as a hatter: Hatters were often mad. They treated the felt from which old top hats were made with lead and arsenic to make it smooth – and the fumes of both affect the brain.

News: Journals – the papers which reported gossip and scandal before proper newspapers were established – often were marked N.E.W.S., showing that they got their information from all points of the compass.

Mother's milk

The advantages that mother’s milk holds over other forms of milk have never been better stated than in the schoolgirl’s alleged answer to a domestic science question, as reported in *The Observer*:

1. It’s cleaner.
2. It’s cheaper.
3. The cat can’t get at it.



Ooops!
Did I say that?

“CHALLENGE! We believe that Michael Harvey, author of 1,500 short stories, is the prolific story writer of all times. If any other writer, living or dead, has equalled this record, we shall be pleased to hear from him.”

– *World’s Press News*

A final point to ponder

There’s a tendency to associate ageing with loss and decline, and things that aren’t desirable. But experiencing all that there is to experience in life – whether that’s at the age of ten or thirty or fifty or eighty – is what life is all about.

– Scientist Jay Olshansky

We believe a Prearrangement should be done over a cup of tea, not over the internet.

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