

August 2020 Issue

The Queensland Probian



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OF QUEENSLAND INC.



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I came to Probus a bit of a "new chum" and somewhat through the back-door. I had not joined, nor been invited to join Lions or Rotary or any of those.

Indeed, I came to Probus almost by accident. A neighbour mentioned to me that a new Probus club was to be sponsored by the New Farm Rotary Club and that people were to be invited to an Interest Meeting to look into the viability. Somehow, this seemed a good idea to my wife and me. Perhaps we would meet new people – this despite the fact that we had lived in New Farm for approaching twenty years.

So, I became a Foundation Member and, apparently also inevitably, Treasurer, even though I wasn't sure whether the credit column fell to the right of the debit one or vice versa! Mind you, I did become Editor of the Probian with a similar lack of background – is there any co-relation – or is it just that I find it difficult to say "No", when I see a gap to be filled?

What I have found in Probus is, however, that the selected bases in of "Fun, Friendship and Fellowship" – forget about the fourth one – must, if adopted, surely lead to a happy and successful life. Perhaps the key is that each needs to be accompanied by a sense of humour – even a sense of the ridiculous.

It is these principles that have, I believe, been retained and built upon in this trying period of time, when the normal face-to-face socialisation has not been possible.

I am fortunate in that, as Editor, I do have the opportunity to look in on, not just the support that has been coming to clubs and individuals through the aegis of PAQ, but even more importantly through the efforts of the clubs themselves and the energy and care that has been generated through the persistent drive of such as Newsletter

Editors and those who have driven the Phone Trees that have flourished. They are to be congratulated for their sheer dogged brilliance and for the way they have sustained and even further developed the spirit of Probus and the health of individuals within our Association.

One thing we can be sure of and that is that society in many ways is not going to return exactly to the practices of yesteryear after this virus retreats. What about the Probian? There is much thought that is to be given to its future. It will continue – it has to continue as the voice of PAQ and the affiliated clubs – but in what format – we now will persist with a .pdf version until at least the October issue. It is easy and cheap to produce and distribute – certainly the shortcomings of diminished advertising revenue has been overcome. As Editor, I do regret the fact that, inevitably, it is shorter – being limited to something like 28 pages. This means that not all articles can be included with priority being given to shorter ones, if only to give as much a coverage as possible to contributors. The luxury of being able to give inclusion to longer (those of 300- 500 words) interesting articles has gone. Nor can I guarantee that all clubs that contribute will receive at least publication of one of their submissions.

The digital product that we have developed is a good one – but the question is "Is this the way of the post-virus age?" Perhaps clubs can give some thought to this and the direction we should pursue.

Peter Rogers - Editor



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PAQ Mission Statement

The mission of the Probud 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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*Tourism and Events - Queensland
Jordan Robins*



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

Probis 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 August



For many of us, this is how the world looked by the middle of March.

What is fascinating for me is that by the end of June, most Probus clubs had "grasped the nettle" and were continuing to make considerable efforts to keep in touch with their membership and look after their members' well-being by involving them in some mental and / or physical activities involving the members to keep them in touch.

It is acknowledged that Australians are creative in adversity and the past few months have demonstrated that. We have had clubs adopt new technologies such as Zoom to keep visually in touch with members, hold picnics in the park with members bringing their own chair and food and enjoying Queensland's autumn weather as well as "phone trees" where club management committee

members phoned a small group of members once a week, fortnight or month and then swapped the list around so that the members received calls from another MC member.

Congratulations to all of those clubs that have made the effort to do something. We must continue to keep in touch with our members. What has also been heartening has been to hear of clubs inducting new members into their midst during this time. Well done. PAQ is also, under the guidance of Merv Richens (RPDC) and Brian Gilmore (PAQ Treasurer and IPP), running a foundation meeting for the new club of Pimpama. Great job everyone who's involved with this new club.

The next months will also be a test for clubs. With the relaxation of restrictions in terms of numbers in a venue, clubs will have to face the prospect of coping with physical dis-



tancing requirements. Of more importance though, are the requirements for respiratory health. This might mean no air conditioning or fans in buildings as we come into summer. Research is pointing to the importance of protection from microdroplets (1-5 microns or a 1/20 of the width of a human hair) which apparently can float in the air for some time. This impacts on our having speakers, speaking with one another in close proximity and even to those clubs that sing. No doubt the Health Department is considering these risks too.

In the meantime, Probus needs to continue. Probus an important means in our lives of overcoming that sense of isolation and separation from families. The challenge of all Probian is how to make the best of the freedoms we have and I suggest more fun with members, less officialdom, more fellowship opportunities and a whole lot of friendship at our gatherings – socially distanced of course.

**Regards and stay safe.
Rob N**

WHAT HAS COVID 19 GIVEN ME

In these uncertain times, waiting and watching from home, I found myself wondering what the people in the rest of the world were doing? How were Probus clubs in other countries dealing with this situation?

Well there was only one way to find out and that was to reach out and see if I could chat with clubs overseas. I began by chatting via Zoom with 5 overseas clubs and emailing 3 others.

My first contact was with a club in Padstow, UK. My coffee group invited them to join in our Zoom coffee meeting on Sunday each week at their 10am and our 7pm. It gave us all a

great insight into how Probus is conducted in the UK. They were astonished at what we were doing to keep in contact with our members and the support we are given by both PAQ and PSPL and were very grateful when I forwarded many of our newsletters and activity sheets.

The other clubs contacted around the world were from Netherlands, Japan, Spain, Ireland, USA, and Canada. Each of these clubs indicated that they were not receiving the support we get here in Australia and New Zealand. The main reason being they don't have great "Umbrellas of Support" like we do. Basically, they are established, pay a registration fee each year and then left to their own

devices and survive as best they can. Very few of the clubs I talked to had tours, holidays, afternoon teas, short bus trips and their meetings were mostly lunches with meeting procedures and the occasional guest speaker.

This made me sit back and look at what we all take for granted as a norm: to receive the support and advice from our "two Umbrellas of Support" – both PSPL and PAQ. We don't realize just how lucky we are as Probus clubs and how important that support really is.

Thanks PSPL and PAQ for being there for our clubs.

**Carwyn Arnold
Mt. Gravatt Pacific Probus Club**

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As always, we are here, we are excited and we are committed to providing you with the very best travel advice and service long into the future as the world slowly but surely returns to normal. Please feel free to contact as per the below details and we look forward to hearing from you.

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PARK RIDGE

Our Bribie Trip

The day started off early, as we were to be on the road by half past eight. We were warmly welcomed by Carolyn Smith, the Outings Co-Ordinator, and introduced to other members of the Springwood Club. Once on the road, we headed north on the Gateway, and it was so nice to be able to sit back and look at the scenery.

Our first stop was at Donnybrook and Noela's Garden, where we had morning tea. Noela and her husband John are proprietors of this venue, a



Lovely colour in Noela's Garden

ten-acre, very well established, gardener's delight. Noela does all the baking, and I can vouch for the fact that her sponge cakes were as light as a feather.

After morning tea, we were then invited to inspect the grounds, with John as our guide. He was a fountain of information. He certainly loved his plants.

Next stop was the Butterfly House at Bongaree. This is a not-for-profit community project, run entirely by volunteers, aimed at bringing the community together and to promote the butterfly population on Bribie

Island and beyond. The Founder of Butterfly House, which was opened to visitors in June 2017, is passionate about his butterflies and gave a very interesting talk about the life-cycle of butterflies and the work of the volunteers, who are helping to keep up the population of more than fifty thousand butterflies with the extensive breeding program.

Lunch at The Deck Bistro at Pacific Harbour Golf and Country Club was a very peaceful sitting on the deck overlooking the manicured grounds.

All in all a relaxing day with happy people. Who could ask for more?



Stand still and you'll pick up a hitchhiker

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.

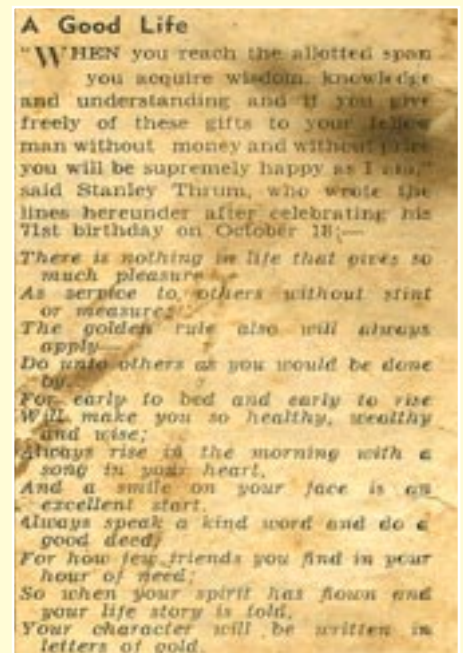
It is in excellent condition although the pages have aged to a brownish hue. I seldom refer to it but recently I did, in order to determine a correct pronunciation as it is a Self-Pronouncing Edition.

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



The auction of canned goods

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



A Good Life

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



The well-deserved recipients of Life Membership Certificates

HOPE ISLAND

We just beat the Shut-Down!

We were delighted to present Life Memberships to three of our Foundation Members recently. All the recipients have been mainstays of the Club since its inception and all have held a wide variety of Committee roles. Club members were unanimous in recognizing their contribution and we were all pleased that the presentation could be made before the coronavirus shut-down.

The presentation of their Life Membership certificates made by President Julia Robbins to Barbara Taylor, Marilyn Katz and Trevor Raatz was applauded heartily by members present.

Richard Cleave

BLOGS: KEEPING IN TOUCH VIA THE SOCIAL MEDIA – ONE WAY TO DO IT

Mary Wilson

Members of The Probus Club of Holland Park Central received a two-page blog, every other day, during isolation. It was our club's way of communicating with them and keeping them in the loop. As a result, it was suggested I write about it, because the thought was that clubs could produce blogs in tandem with monthly newsletters, as another way of communicating with members.

So, what is a blog? A blog is an informal communication, as distinct from the formality of a newsletter. The word itself comes from "web-log", diary style texts or posts on web pages. Personal ones usually contain short sharp stories, cameos, comments and humour, and until 2009, blogs were the work of a single individual. Now blogs are used by businesses as an informal promotional tool.

The ones I produced were supposed to be intermittent but isolation does unexpected things to people, and once I started, to my surprise, it just flowed - from personal observations about the passing of time, the benefits of isolation and strange things that trigger memories, to memes, comments on global affairs and trivia to smile at. Indeed, I could have produced one daily. (In speech it would have been called "running off at the mouth"). The strange thing is that isolation allows time for introspection, the result of which leads to the discovery that very often the mundane is not so mundane after all. For example, who would have thought that I, a punctuality freak, don't even wear a watch these days and that I'd write about its strange and liberating effects? (Yet I am still punctual! ☺).

Of course, some of our members also contributed short items, a few jokes and the occasional comments as well. So while it was a personal effort, supported by the committee, members had the opportunity to have their say.

I spent much time reading so I could write informed items of interest, and while I certainly gleaned a good deal of pleasure in producing it, by far the greatest pleasure came from the various bits of subsequent communication I received from the members.

It showed not only that they appreciated the effort, but they actually read the articles! Yay! Many even became involved. Some entered into a debate about articles, others commented on their experiences of something similar to what I had written, others led me to further references. Unfortunately, now that we are back to a monthly newsletter, the number of emails I get has fallen significantly. (I miss them).

To return to the idea, there is a belief that quite a few Probusians are still somewhat cautious about returning to activities, even if social distancing is observed, yet they still wish to keep the threads of Probus friendship alive. It is possible that a monthly newsletter may not be adequate communication to fan the flames of warmth and friendship for these people, and the occasional phone call from a member may fall short also.

However, a (say) weekly blog, maybe produced by different people in the club, could do the trick. A bit like what we call a "five-minute spot" in our club and others call a cameo talk or a member's talk. A personal blog, written in a conversational style, showing the writer's personality seems to be what keeps the home fires burning. (It did the trick in our case). And if members are happy to tell their stories, comments and observations but feel their writing skills are inadequate, someone could "polish up" their contribution. Then again, a single person could take it on for a while and get as much enjoyment in its production as I did.

Isolation brought to clubs many innovations such as on-line meetings, or, in our case, an AGM via email. Blogs could form a part of a stable of communications which clubs could adopt while "close-up and personal" meetings are not permitted. And the key to the blogs is the personal touch.

KAWANA WATERS

Our bus trip to Cherbourg

This was to be a "Mystery Trip" and the guesses started soon after take-off!

Our first stop, for morning tea, was at the Alford Recreation Park, Gympie, in the deep shade and near the flood-level indicator. For those members who had not seen this before, it was a shock to see just how deep some of the flood-levels have been.

On the road again and the countryside was wonderfully green, and all the dams were full, after our recent rains. We passed through the historic towns of this area – Kilkivan, Goomeri and into Cherbourg. And this was our mystery destination.

Bernie, of the "Skill Centred Café", supplied us with a lunch of either fish and chips or quiche and salad, both of which were delicious. Then we moved on, well-fed, to visit the Ration Shed Museum. We were given a great introduction to the history behind the creation of Cherbourg, and its current governance. The timeline posts on the walls of the Ration Shed were fascinating and the DVD was quite confronting, especially to those who had no idea of this period of Australian history.

Elder Uncle Eric Law, assisted by Joanne, did a wonderful job of passing on their history with a passion. Uncle Eric is a Wakka Wakka Elder, retired teacher, Vietnam veteran and Ration Shed Committee Member. In 1983 he was the first appointed Superintendent of Cherbourg. He was, deservedly, made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

It was a very long day but the general comments have been that Cherbourg was an example of some of our very hidden history.



The Ration Shed Museum



Elder Uncle Eric Law and his assistant, Joanne, held us entranced.



The beautiful country-side after life-saving rain



Our group on arrival at the destination of our well-planned Mystery Tour



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*Architectural concepts pictured.

EVERTON AND REDCLIFFE CITY MIXED

Congratulations to our Centenarian Ed May on reaching a wonderful Milestone

Foundation Member of the Everton Probus Club and Member of the Redcliffe City Mixed Probus Club. Thomas (Ed) MAY was born on 8th May 1920 in Brisbane.

In 1985, Ed was invited to attend an Interest Meeting sponsored by the Mitchelton Rotary Club with the aim of creating a Probus Club in the Everton area. The move was successful and the Club was duly inaugurated with Ed as a Foundation Member.

From then on, Ed was an active participant in the life of the Everton Club. In 1993, he served on the Management Committee, following which he took on the role of Vice President in 1994, with the task of coordinating the monthly trips and extended trips. In 1995 he was elected President.

In 2010, Ed proposed that the Club update its history now that twenty-five years had passed. Having had considerable experience as a Technical Author, he volunteered to update the existing Club history booklet. Ed said: My concept for the booklet was to record information about who we are, what we do, and how we do it, in a readable form. I wanted it to be a historical booklet, rather than a history booklet

He concluded, "This Probus booklet has almost taken over my life dur-

ing recent months. However, on reflection, I realise that Probus had already taken over a fair amount of my life anyway –twenty-five years of it."

After completing this booklet, Ed and Del had to relocate their home and chose BallyCara Residential Aged Care Retirement Village at Scarborough.

Ed and his wife, Dell, who passed away in 2010, continued their involvement with Probus by becoming members of Redcliffe City Mixed Probus Club in 2006. Ed became a much respected and active member of this Club, participating in the quarterly program of the Moreton Bay Inter-Club Bowls Competition, entertaining on his ukulele at Club functions and always delivering on the pineapple for BBQs. He has been the speaker for Club General Meetings on numerous occasions. His story telling is quite a gift. This, together with his writing skills, was a reason for him being a member of the Sub-committee to write the twenty-year history of the Club with a book published in 2018.

On 8 May, Ed celebrated his hundredth birthday. Unfortunately, he was in Wesley Hospital at the time but they provided a cake, balloons and a



Ed May receives Certificate of Appreciation from the President John Sharman for the production of The Probus Club of Everton Updated History.



Ed at home with his family on his birthday

private outdoor space for the family to gather. Due to COVID19 regulations only ten could attend. Four generations however, were represented.

Ed has now taken up residence at Regis, The Gap, but continues to be a non-active member of Redcliffe City Mixed Probus Club.

Seb Casalaina (Everton) and Sue (Redcliffe City Mixed)

FRASER COAST - HERVEY BAY COMBINED

Green for ever!

On 17th March, Fraser Coast-Hervey Bay Combined held their Annual General Meeting and election of their new committee. As usual, the meeting was held at the Boat Club in Urangan. As it was St Patrick's Day, members were asked to wear something green.

Outgoing President, Gina Taylor thanked her committee for their hard work during the past year and spoke about the highlights of the year.

The incoming President is Malcolm Taylor, so there was much hilarity when the Chain of Office was handed from Gina to Malcolm.

After the meeting, members adjourned to the Seaside Restaurant to partake of a typical Irish meal, including Irish Stew, Guinness Stew and Corned Beef, followed by delicious desserts.



Incoming President, Malcolm Taylor with outgoing Gina Taylor



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



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WHITSUNDAYS

We are a busy club - and an active one!

A while ago now, one of our highest Monthly Activity club attendances was a visit to Finch Hatton Gorge, which included a choice of two walks. Largely because of the success of this adventure, it was decided to create a new position of Active Outings Organiser to accommodate the more active club members. Considering that the Probus philosophy is based on being active, it was felt that we all needed to improve our fitness by "getting off our bottoms"! Most of the Active Outing events do require average fitness and ability level. We do, however, arrange events for the less active members. We commonly have a morning tea or lunch following the activity, as a reward for doing such a good job!

Last year we held several local Active Outings including a walk along our beautiful Coral Beach, Shute Harbour, attending a Golf Clinic at the Cannonvale Driving Range and an Aqua Aerobics Class at the Proserpine Swimming Pool. Out-of-town activities have included a beautiful walk at Cape Hillsborough to Wedge Island at low tide and a walk from Dalrymple Point in Bowen to North Head Island Lighthouse along an exposed sand spit during one of Bowen's lowest tides of the year. Only bad weather held us back from what would have been a wonderful activity along The

Hydeaway Bay Beach walk.

This year was meant to start with a positive fitness outlook by attending a public Outdoor Yoga Class, while enjoying the view of Abell Point Marina. However, once again the weather intervened.

February's activity was a members only, Come and Try Pilates Class held at our place, one enjoyed by all. To add to this, we drove to Bowen to complete the Mother Beddock Loop, a 4.7 kilometre moderate walk taking a couple of hours to complete, passing several beautiful beaches along the way. We started from and finished at Horseshoe Bay Café, then enjoyed a delicious lunch. After setting up

two Croquet Courts and a Bocce Court last month, simple rules were explained and members enjoyed the games to the point that three of the members have decided to organise monthly games during our Dry Season, starting from April! The Club agreed to purchase a Croquet set prior to this event, and we borrowed the other sets from members. This month has seen a combined outing



Fun on the Driving Range



A cuppa at the nineteenth hole?

with the Morning Tea Group, starting the day by walking along our magnificent Bicentennial Boardwalk from Airlie Beach to Cannonvale, then enjoying a treat at a local café.

Ultimately, the aim was to "plant the seed" and encourage members to try new activities, as well as become more active. "If we don't use it, we'll lose it!"

Judy Horner

SALISBURY EAST

And a-Caravanning we shall go!

Let's paint the picture. Christmas Eve, Air Conditioned Falcon, Caravan on loan, with my late-wife and three children all under 9. Townsville and Cairns here we come.

Before we got out of my street, I hit an overhanging branch and broke the glass on the light on the outside of the Van. At the morning-tea stop in Maryborough, I opened the hatch on the roof to let in a bit of fresh air. Back on the road and five miles out of town, I am flagged down by a passing car to be told that the hatch, still open, was curled up and about to fly

off. Returning to Maryborough I found a panel-beater to do a temporary repair, and then returned to Rocky for our overnight stay.

The next day, Christmas Day, on to Mackay. Half way across the Marlborough strip, not much better than a desert in those days, we got a flat tyre on the van. No problem, as I was assured by the owner of the van that Falcon tyres were fitted. Not so. Leaving the van jacked up, we all go – as it in air conditioning of course, it must have been about 120 F in the shade - ten miles to the only servo, with fingers crossed hoping that he is open and that he has a tyre to suit. Thank heavens! He was able to help us. Cost a bit extra for service on Christmas Day, but that's life. A bit of car-sickness later in the day coming

down the Range into Sarina, but we made it to Mackay by night fall.

The next week was great and we all enjoyed Townsville and Cairns. The electric side of the refrigerator packed up in Townsville, but that was only a minor hiccup. We still had gas. We now looked forward to three days at Scarness on the beach near Maryborough on the last leg home. Just to cap off a perfect holiday, my daughter became ill with a high fever and severe headache. We rushed home instead of that stopover and, by midnight, she was admitted to intensive care with Viral Meningitis. She fully recovered, and, believe it or not, we planned another venture or adventure. So, two years later, we headed south.

BELLBOWRIE

A very promising year is ahead – despite all hurdles

Bellbowrie Probus Club has enjoyed a wonderful commencement to the year with the Club's first meeting held in February and even though the Covid 19 Virus is keeping many at home, the quorum number, which was required for the Club AGM, was managed and a successful AGM was conducted in March.

The Club has a very enthusiastic new Committee and there is no doubt lots of wonderful outings and events will be enjoyed by members this year.

Laurie Black is the Club's new President, who, we are sure, will enthuse all Club members with his leadership. Laurie and his wife Helen have been recognized for their community work in the Pittsworth area, where they lived before relocating to the Western Suburbs of Brisbane. They were both



Our 2020 Committee

awarded OAMs in the recent Australia Day Honours List - Laurie for outstanding Community Service, particularly in Primary Industries, and Helen for outstanding Community Service, with particular reference to the local Hospital. Another member, David

Landers, was, this week, the recipient of the Moggill/Mt Crosby Lions Club Inaugural Brian Farrow Medal for Outstanding Service to the Club. Congratulations Laurie, Helen and David. Our Club is extremely fortunate to have such wonderful members!

TARINGA

The Launch of a new teacher in the late Sixties

One of our members recently outlined his early career as a teacher in the Department of Education. His experiences were in stark contrast with today's young teaching graduates, because of the number of country centres he was sent to, the frequency of his transfers and the isolation of the schools he worked at. Many city dwellers would not have heard of Quamby, Columboola, Boondooma, Bowenville and Freestone.

Brian's story began in the mid-sixties, when, after graduating from Kedron Park Teachers' College, he taught for two years at Zillmere State School.

He was noticed by a visiting School Inspector and was asked to go to a one-teacher school at Quamby, about thirty miles north-west of Cloncurry. When attendance dropped down to five children, all from the one family, the school was closed. He was then posted to Columboola State School, near Miles, where he spent the next three and a half years. In 1972, he married and was then transferred to a one-teacher school with a married-Headmaster's residence at Boon-

dooma, sixty miles from Kingaroy. Later, in December 1975, with his wife and, by then, two young sons in tow, the family was transferred to Freestone near Warwick.

They spent a wonderful year there before being moved to Bowenville, 20 miles east of Dalby. This was another good school, with three teachers, and saw the arrival of another son born at Dalby Hospital in 1978!

The shifting continued and, after two years, they were transferred to the Miles State School that was to become a stand-alone Primary School, as a new High School had been built in the town. This was a big job but a very satisfying one. A fourth son was born at the Miles Hospital. That makes seven schools in approximately twelve years.

At many of these small schools, a lot of the administrative and cleaning duties were carried out with the assistance of Brian's wife. They were a team and the current notion of "List of Duties" was not part of their vocabulary. There was a job to be done and



Columboola School, 1969, thirty-four children, seven Grades, one teacher

they performed it with a minimum of fuss.

In 1984, in Brian's own words, "We were transferred to Wilston State School in Brisbane – a wonderful transfer to a school I always desired to be in charge of. I spent twenty-two years in a school that I enjoyed – great teachers, students and parents/carers. I was so glad I was always able to maintain the good reputation that the school had on the Northern side of Brisbane."

Brian has been retired for thirteen years. He enjoys a busy retirement and is an active member of Taringa Probus.

Janette Bruce

SUNNYBANK

Ipswich Bus Trip

Thirty-seven of my fellow Probus members on a trip to the Workshops Rail Museum and the Ipswich Nature Centre.

Our first stop was for Devonshire tea on the verandah of the Queens Park Visitors Centre. It was then on to the Rail Museum, where we met our guide and learned the history of the Workshops. Established in 1864, the North Ipswich Railway Workshops were the first Railway Workshops in Queensland and the oldest continually-operating Railway Workshops in Australia. The old boiler shop now houses the Museum, and we had nearly ninety minutes to explore there the old engines, carriages, a model

railway, train simulators and a children's interactive playground.

Our next stop was the Prince Albert Hotel, where our pre-ordered lunch and drinks were promptly served. Coffee was a little slower.

After lunch, we headed back to Queens Park to visit the Ipswich Nature Centre, which has been in existence for eighty years and is the only free Zoo in South-East Queensland. The entrance to the Centre is via a rotunda built in 1891. The shady boardwalks meander through lush landscaped gardens that have been created to represent local bushland and flora communities. The exhibit houses Australian animals like wombats, emus, dingoes, wallabies, kookaburras, red-tailed black cockatoos, and black swans.

In the Nocturnal Exhibit area, we

saw quolls and a bilby. There was even an opportunity to touch a live snake and lizard. There are also many free-roaming native animals, such as water dragons, ducks, rainbow lorikeets and fruit bats hanging in the trees near a Rainforest Bird Aviary that was alive with colour and sound. Unfortunately, the high temperature meant a number of animals were curled up in the shade of their shelters and not so easy to spot.

The walk around was quite long, but the volunteer rangers allowed frequent stops, accompanied by an excellent commentary on all the animals. Despite the hot weather, we all agreed this was great outing organised by Penny, our Day Tours Coordinator.

Warren Green

SPRINGWOOD

Noela's garden and the Bribie Island Butterfly House

Our Springwood group was joined by four members from Park Ridge and two from Mount Gravatt Pacific Probus Clubs, on our trip to Noela's Gardens at Donnybrook and the Bribie Island Butterfly House,

Noela greeted us cheerily on our arrival and ushered us into her Café, where she had prepared a delicious and tantalizing morning tea.

Then completely sated, we embarked on a tour of the gardens led by John, Noela's husband, who provided many tips and lots of advice for the gardeners amongst us.

Because of some recent rain, the gardens put on a very colourful display of flowers and greenery.

Back on the bus, we headed to Bribie Island where we were greeted at the Butterfly House by Ray, who played an integral role in the creation of the site. Having viewed the displays of the caterpillars in their various stages, it was then for us into the Butterfly House itself. On entering the house, a sense of calm and serenity is felt seeing hundreds of butterflies happily going about their day in a peaceful environment. Scattered amongst the unique displays are also some humorous and thought-provoking anecdotes on life.

Then came lunch, of course, for more eating, frivolity and chatter before boarding the bus once again for our homeward journey.



Part of our group entering the gardens



Lost in the beauties of Butterfly House



 The Workshops Rail Museum

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MARYBOROUGH

A Good Start to the Year

2020 started with a nice lunch at Whale Bay Asian Cuisine at the Marina, Hervey Bay attended by forty-four members. It was good to catch up after the Christmas break.

In February, President Allan and Kay hosted a barbeque at their home. Although it was a dreadfully hot and humid day, over fifty members

enjoyed good food and yummy sweets.

Our AGM and Changeover Meeting was held at the RSL on 11 March, when Rebecca Moller was inducted as our President for 2020-21 by Regional Liaison Officer Pam Carlson. Members and guests then enjoyed a delicious meal and lots of socialising.

Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus, our Committee has made the decision to stop all club activities until

the end of May when we will reassess the situation. That is very disappointing for our Tour Director Gloria who had some great activities planned. We hope some of them will be able to go ahead later in the year.

In the meantime we have advised our members to stay in touch with each other as much as possible and to check on the welfare of those who might be less active.

Joy Harris



Lynette, June, Stan and Adele enjoying their BBQ lunch



2020-21 President Rebecca Moller with Past President Allan and Regional Liaison Officer Pam Carlson

BARGARA DISTRICT

We're just about there!

During this difficult time, our Club has endeavoured to keep in touch with members through and caring for each other through phone calls, email and social media outlets.

Clubs have received regular updates and helpful information from our parent body Probus South Pacific Limited.

Now that we are starting to see some light at the end of the tunnel our Committee is planning our return to some of the social contact that is so important to us all and, while keeping within the staged guidelines, small steps are being taken to start bringing members together. These will centre on outdoor activities such as picnics in the park.

We will mark our twenty-ninth year with our Club Birthday in August. This is always an important event on our Club calendar and, this year, will be an outdoor, catered affair marking the first major function since the suspension of Club activities in March.

Our annual Car Rally will also take place in September, testing our skills. A fun day out for all those who participate. It is unfortunate that the two Club trips planned for this year had to be cancelled. Hopefully they will be reinstated next year.

Our Book Club continues to function and our Games players are starting to come together in small groups at home. As restrictions ease we will be able to increase our numbers. Things are looking brighter and Bargara Probus will continue to flourish within our community. Information about our Club is available from our Membership Officer, Alan, he may be contacted on 0400 839 753.

IPSWICH

Our initiative

The executive Committee talked about the suggestion made by PAQ as a way of keeping the Fun, Friendship and Fellowship operating in this time of social distancing and was thought to be a good idea and I was given the job. The next step was to find some volunteer Ringers, so I sent an email to all the Members who have a computer requesting participants. Very quickly I had seven enthusiastic colleagues.

They were allocated six or seven letters of the alphabet from our Contact List, called a "section", to ring the first week ending on the Friday. The next week they are to ring the next section, so that they are not talking to the same people all the time. The ringer then sends me a brief report on what was discussed and then I go through all the reports and condense it down to a page and a half article and email and post it out to the Members, We have twelve who are not on line).The next week the procedure is repeated and so on.

After the first couple of weeks it was thought that perhaps members were becoming bombarded with all these emails that included "Keep in Touch" and the Active Retirees E-magazine from PSPL and those very entertaining activity sheets from PAQ. So we asked the Members to vote "Yes" for a fortnightly sheet or "No" for a weekly issue - the result was overwhelming for the affirmative - fortnightly. However the phoning system stays the same to keep the contact happening weekly.

I've had no complaints so far which is encouraging.

Gary Seymour



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Sydney Short Getaway

9 – 12 February 2021 (Escorted)

\$1,999pp share twin / \$499 single supp

Lord Howe Island

25 April – 1 May 2021 (Escorted)

\$3,990pp share twin / \$495 single supp

All About Norfolk Island

15 – 22 May 2021 ex Brisbane (Escorted)

\$2,535pp share twin / \$205 single supp

Cook Islands Pacific Paradise

11 – 19 June 2021 (Escorted)

\$3,859pp share twin / \$755 single supp

New Zealand South Island Delights

14 – 22 March 2021 (Escorted)

\$4,695pp share twin / \$1,400 single supp

Palm Cove

12 – 19 May 2021 (Escorted)

\$3,350pp share twin / \$755 single supp

Samoa Bowls Carnival

28 May – 5 June 2021 (Escorted)

\$3,599pp share twin / \$695 single supp

Yulefest in the Blue Mountains

19 – 23 July 2021 (Escorted)

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2021 Tour Snapshot

Jailhouse Rock on Norfolk Island

13 – 20 November 2020 ex Sydney (Escorted)

\$2,955pp share twin / \$495 single supp

New Zealand South Island Delights

14 – 22 March 2021 ex Brisbane (Escorted)

\$4,695pp share twin / \$1,400 single supp

All About Norfolk Island

15 – 22 May 2021 ex Brisbane (Escorted)

\$2,535pp share twin / \$205 single supp

New Zealand Xmas in July

25 July – 2 August 2021

\$4,185pp share twin / \$950 single supp

Xmas on Norfolk Island

22 – 29 December 2020 ex Brisbane

\$2,180 pp share twin / \$305 single supp

Stunning Singapore

2 – 9 May and 5 – 12 September 2021 ex Brisbane (Escorted)

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Norfolk Island Xmas in July

10 – 17 July 2021

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SHERWOOD

Our Australia Day Picnic

The weather was hot and steamy, but that didn't discourage forty-three of our members from attending our annual Australia Day Bar-B-Que at Alexander Clark Park, Loganholme.

There was a wide range of activities on offer: Quoits, Bocce, Pick-up Sticks and Dominos just to name a few together with lots of different sporting styles. The Egg & Spoon race was popular, with June excelling and being the overall winner – all that walking and long legs were unbeatable! Raghbir's flare with bocce was also very impressive! All this was before lunch and highly contested.

There was lots of delicious food for everyone to enjoy. A quick shower of rain while we were eating did cool down things a little but didn't prevent our "Big Bash" competitors creating their own memorable cricket moments after



Alicia and Roger doing a great job on the BBQ

lunch. Sybil was an outstanding wicket-keeper!

Lots of laughter and good times were shared by everyone again. Thank you and well done Alicia for organising another very enjoyable Picnic and also to her many helpers.

Carolyn



Holland Parkers looking quite transported with delight



Inside a glasshouse of seedlings



The perils of farming – the search for water!

HOLLAND PARK CENTRAL

A great day at Pohlman's

On an overcast morning, a group of us organised carpooling for a trip to Pohlman's Nursery. Pohlman's is the largest wholesale nursery on the eastern seaboard, operating on a hundred and fifty acres, and employing up to a hundred and eighty people. It propagates and nurtures vegetables, herbs, flowers and trees principally for the Queensland and NSW markets

On arrival, a delicious Morning Tea awaited us in the Nursery's retail area. As soon as we finished, it was our turn to hop on for the half-hour ride around the glass-houses, propagating areas, and mountains of potting mixes and plants. The glass houses are so large, that conveyor belts operate between each row of seedlings. Their roofs and walls are computerised in opening and closing to optimise the sunlight and breezes for the specific plants that are there at the time. One very large area, appropriately called "colours", had trays of seasonal flowers of so many hues that it took our breath away.

Pohlman's is a family business, and the guided tour on the train was conducted by the son of the Founder, so he was very knowledgeable.

A most enjoyable and informative day, but why is it that the ride home always seems longer than the getting there?



Quite an expanse of colourful plants!

THE PROBANS QUIZ



All answers begin with the letter J

1. What cartoon mouse partnered 'Tom' the cat?
2. Which actor plays Wolverine in the 'X-Men' film series?
3. What brand is synonymous with hot tubs?
4. What Biblical character has come to be known as an archetype of the wicked woman?
5. Who is the two-faced Roman god who looks to the future and to the past?
6. What nationality was record-breaking athlete Usain Bolt?
7. The maxilla and mandible bones form what part of the body?
8. What large member of the cat family shares its name with a luxury car company?
9. 'Oh! what fun it is to ride' is from which well known song?
10. Which book of the Bible has the shortest name?
11. Who is the wife of Punch, the puppet?
12. What type of orange is named after an Israeli port?
13. Which Shakespearean character says "Wherefore art thou Romeo"?
14. What Indonesian island is also a computer programming language?



1. Jerry, 2. Jackman (Hugh), 3. Jacuzzi, 4. Jezebel, 5. Janus, 6. Jamaica, 7. Jew, 8. Jaguar, 9. Jingle Bells, 10. Job, 11. Judy, 12. Jaffa, 13. Juliet, 14. Java.

INNISFAIL

The Club's Thirty-Fifth Anniversary Celebrations

On Tuesday 11 February, eighty Innisfail Probus Members attended their Thirty-Fifth Birthday luncheon celebrations held in the Russ Hinze building at the Innisfail Showgrounds.

Innisfail President Col Ritchie welcomed Probus members from Innisfail and Special Guests, Probus Regional Liaison Officer Faye Peters and the Innisfail Rotary Club President, Sam Pagano. Member Richard Rees gave an informative talk on the Club history over the past thirty-five years, including details of the formation on the 28th February 1985, with men only. The ladies were welcomed in 1996 to form a Combined Probus Club. Del Pennefather was the first lady President in 1998.

Some of the highlights of the day included the presentation of two Thirty-Fifth Anniversary Congratulation Certificates and the cutting of the Birthday Cake. Firstly, Regional Liaison Officer Faye Peters presented

President Col with a Thirty-Fifth Anniversary Certificate and Letter from the Probus Association of Qld, this was followed by Rotary President Sam Pagano's Thirty-Fifth Anniversary Certificate presentation from Probus South Pacific to President Col and Secretary Marianne Pearce. President Sam spoke about the foundation of Probus and its connection with Rotary. It's always interesting to hear the history of how clubs are initially formed. Faye informed members this was her final duty as Liaison Officer, as she and husband, Graham, were going to enjoy a more relaxed lifestyle. The cutting of the birthday cake was performed by four of the longest current serving members. These were Lena Dodds (4/1996), Del Pennefather (6/1996) and Frank & Loy Cazzulino (8/1997). Congratulations are due to them all!

A special thanks must go to Cheryl Scott and daughter Clare for an enjoyable light-lunch, followed by a birthday cake and fruit. It was a great day of fun, friendship and Valentine cheer.



Innisfail Rotary President Sam Pagano presenting Congratulation Certificate from Probus South Pacific to President Col Ritchie and Secretary Marianne Pearce



The cutting of the Thirty-Fifth Birthday Cake by Lena Dodds, Del Pennefather, Loy and Frank Cazzulino, who together represent a total of sixty-nine and a half years of membership of Probus



Probus members Del & John Beare in the true spirit of Valentine



Innisfail Probus Members enjoying the Thirty-Fifth Birthday Celebrations luncheon.

WARWICK COMBINED

Our Oakey day-out

Thirty Club members and fourteen friends from the Rose City Probus Club set off at 8am for a day trip to Spring Bluff and Oakey.

We headed through Toowoomba and turned off up the mountain side to Spring Bluff. We enjoyed our morning tea in the beautiful surrounds of the café and the Railway Station.

Well satisfied, we headed down the new By-pass to Oakey, where we visited the Oakey Army Air Museum. We were met by Scott, a former Army Aviation Officer, who was our guide for our visit.

Scott gave us a full description of the difference between the Air Force and the Army Aviation Force and the different roles each has played in our history. We looked at the different types of aircraft they have on display and Scott gave a detailed description of the workings of each one. We even



Spring Bluff Station in all its beauty



What date would you put on this one?

got to go into the back of a troop-carrier helicopter.

Then it was back into Oakey to the RSL for our pre-ordered lunch. After our leisurely two-course meal, we

headed for home just as the storm was blowing up.

We arrived home safely with all commenting on how much they enjoyed the day.

CHAPEL HILL

Our Cross-River Rail Experience Centre Tour



Excellent audio-visual displays were a feature

Earlier this year, forty-nine Club members visited this Centre located in the City. The Cross River Rail Experience Centre was set up to show people what this large infrastructure project was about and its potential to change Public Transport in Brisbane.

The Cross River Rail will provide a 10.2 kilometre rail route with 5.9 kilometre twin underground tunnels creating a second route through the City area. New underground stations are to be built at Woolloongabba, Albert Street, Boggo Road and Roma Street and there will be upgrades to eight other stations.



Listening attentively as the information flowed on

Dedicated pedestrian links to the Royal Brisbane Hospital from the Exhibition Station and to Princess Alexandra Hospital from Boggo Road will greatly improve access to these major hospitals. A large Entertainment Centre is planned over the Roma Street Station site and this will replace the Boondall Entertainment Complex.

Very up-to-date technology made this project come alive with a two hundred and seventy degree theatre, interactive information panels and virtual-reality goggles to help visitors better appreciate the project's scope and benefits.

Barbara Alexander

EMU PARK

Exploration May 2020 Style

The Virtual Tour" for this month is a visit to Echidna Chasm in the Bungle Bungle ranges of Purnululu National Park in Western Australia.

The walk starts by going up the boulder-strewn bed of Piccaninny Creek, between two hundred metres high red cliffs, approximately thirty metres wide. As you go up the Gorge, the wall gradually narrows. Along the bed of Rocky Creek, Livistonia Palms grow in what seems to be solid rock. These palms also grow on clifftops. After about two hundred metres, the walls have closed in to about five metres wide and the walkway is partially blocked by a vertical wall that contains a number of deep grooves. An opening of about one metre allows further access, but the walls become even closer until they are a little wider than shoulder-width. Noonday sun lights up the chasm dramatically. The name of the chasm comes from the Aboriginal Dreamtime Legend. The story goes that an echidna was trying to escape a cockatoo that was pulling out its quills. It tells how the palms are the quills that were pulled out, and the rock grooves at the head of the gorge show where he was desperately scratching to get further in for protection.

A wonderful sight, but a good level of fitness is needed. Otherwise Google it, and you will see photographs and other details.

Bevan Scott

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STANTHORPE

Our Bus Trip to the "Outback Spectacular"

Eighteen excited Probus members set off for a fun-filled two-day "adventure".

The first stop was a morning tea break at Aratula, where we were treated to a delicious spread of sandwiches and cakes.

With full bellies, we clambered back onto the bus and headed for Norwell, Stapylton, Cabbage Tree Point and then Pimpama, for a surprisingly detailed explanation of the operation of Gold Coast Tiger Prawn farming in the region.

To avoid any future outbreak of the White Spot disease, we were all encouraged to use only local prawns when fishing. We learnt the last outbreak was caused by the use of overseas and imported bait. Lunch was at Jacobs Well. Many of us chose to purchase our lunch at the local bakery, where they serve the biggest sandwiches filled with all kinds of delicious options.

After lunch, we headed to our accommodation at Coomera, and



A happy band of travellers

had the option of resting before the show or accompanying Keith on a short tour of the Gold Coast. Following our tour and a view of the ocean, we got ready for the "Outback Spectacular" show.

We had excellent seats for the show. A three-course meal was enjoyed by us all, while we watched

the fabulous show, which was filled with Aussie humour.

The next day, we headed to Harbour Town for some "Retail Therapy". Despite the heavy rain, we still managed to grab some bargains before we headed to Yatala Pies for lunch. Everyone had a wonderful time on the trip.

MT OMMANEY

Photographic Club

Covid-19 does not dampen our photo enthusiasm and here are some results of Wimal and Anna passing the time.

We all agree that you make the photos your own liking. However, there are some tricks to make them more beautiful. A simple, effective technique is to take photos against the light, backlighting or "Contre-Jour" are effective ways to add sparkle to your shots. If, of course, you like this kind of thing).

Wimal applied this very effectively in the Hibiscus. This works exceptionally well in portrait-photography.

Note how Wimal managed to "isolate" the flower from the background. A wide aperture (large F Number, 2.8 or 4 instead of 11 or 16) also tends to blur the background and make the subject "pop out" as shown in the bougainvillea below. To gain this affect do it manually or use "A" priority on your camera.

Anna also went for a walk, as she puts it, out to the veranda and back again and took the colourful photos of flowers as we can see. Flowers are stationary objects, so we can take all the time we need to choose our position and set the scene properly. In this area it is always possible to work with a tripod.

Both Anna and Wimal caught some living creatures on camera. Particularly interesting is the effect of the cat's eyes. Perhaps that all we need to do to get fabulous photos - go out in the garden and catch such "Wildlife "on Camera.

You'll soon be absolutely amazed at what goes on in your garden. If you really look!

You probably do not like spiders, but looking closely and watching them for a while is also fascinating. Then there are many butterflies around at present, as Wimal has shown us.

I have included some small shots I took from our veranda just letting it all happen in front of me. These are all taken from the one spot while the light was fading. To maintain a high shutter speed I had to open the aperture as required, hence the fuzzy background.



Floral beauty – Wilma and Anna

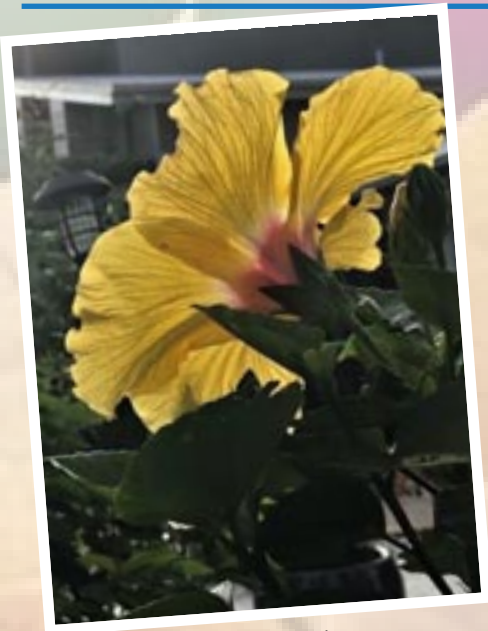


Floral beauty – Wilma and Anna

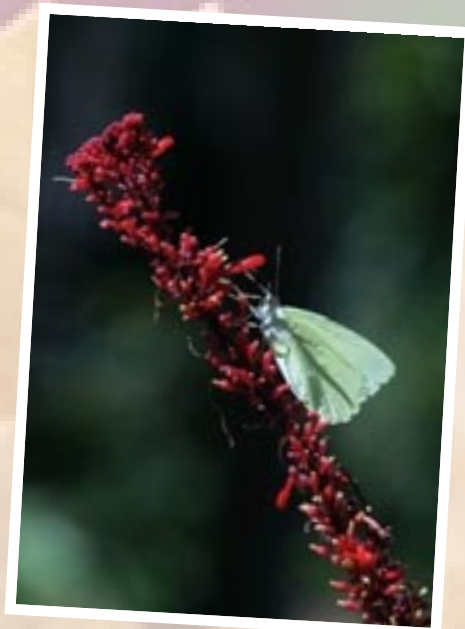


Floral beauty – Wilma and Anna

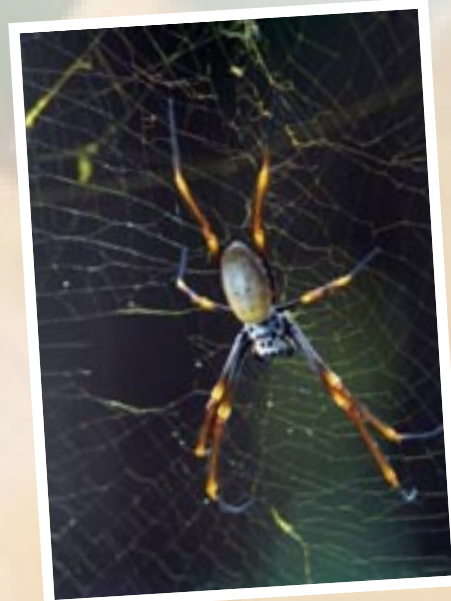
Hans



Hibiscus -Wilma



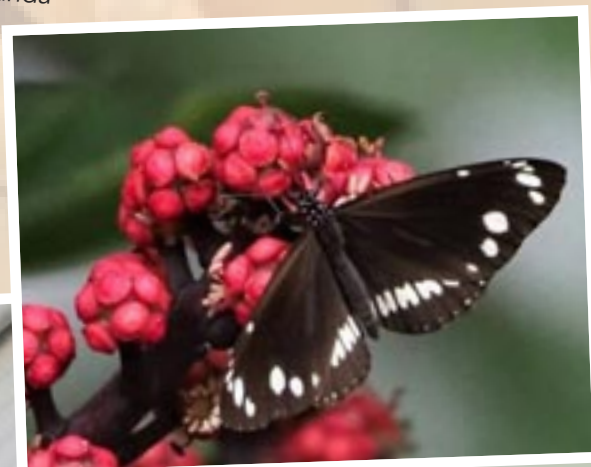
Insect caught from the veranda



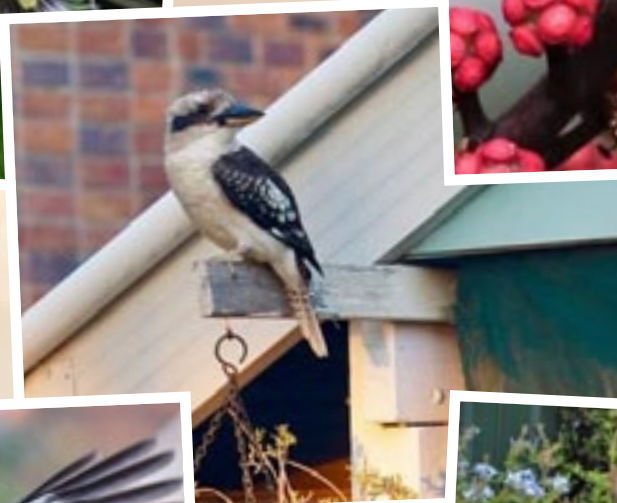
One does have to look for it with camera ready.



Floral beauty – Wilma and Anna



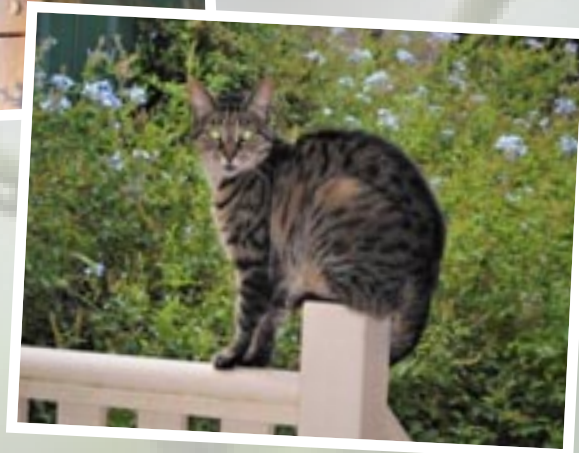
A beautiful butterfly shot



*Garden wildlife



A study in motion



The cat with the shiny eyes

INDOOROOPILLY

Our Visit to the Margaret Olley Art Centre

We might have been a small band, but there was nothing small about our enjoyment of yet another great day out.

Our outward trip took us off the Motorway at Coomera for a drive through the awe-inspiring scenery of the Gold Coast Hinterland. There were views in every direction, as our capable driver Ron wound us up and

down the hills and valleys.

We lunched in the Christmas Shop at Flutterbies Cottage Café at Tyalgum, NSW. Fifteen years ago, Flutterbies established a hub of eateries and relaxation around the old baker and butcher shops. They are now set up in the back yard...a mysterious bazaar-like experience that our shoppers were loath to leave.

The Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Art Centre has views in several directions to the wide river-valley of the Tweed. More than half of us had visited the Gallery before, but

we were all enthralled as our enthusiastic guide, Pamela, took us through the Galleries and the Exhibition Fresh which showcases recent acquisitions and the lino-block prints of the multi-layered, cluttered and visually fascinating rooms of Margaret Olley's home and studio... then on to the "real thing": the reconstruction in real space of a number of her rooms and contents, so familiar as subjects of her prolific paintings.

Our time was all too soon over.

Article by Tricia. Photo by Jacob



Tricia and Neville obviously enjoying the Margaret Olley Museum



Our group at the Margaret Olley Gallery and Museum

MT OMMANEY

There's Trouble in the Village

Janette Horchner



*There's trouble in the Village.
Mrs G is really down.
She's threatening to storm the gates
And go out on the town.*

*We've told her that it isn't safe,
But will she listen? No.
She says she's out of chocolate
And she really needs to go.*

*And Maisie's feeling quite annoyed
Her man can't come and visit.
She told us it's platonic,
But be honest Maisie, is it?*

*She's worried if he can't get in
And she cannot get out,
He'll meet some other OAP
(There's a lot of them about).*

*Now Fred can't go out walking
And he really likes his grub.
If he can't get any exercise
He'll end up a little chub.*

*And Evie's cat is peeing
On her neighbour's prized begonia.
She's angry and is ready
With a bottle of ammonia.*

*There's trouble in the Village,
And the people aren't amused.
There's no cafe, bar nor hair salon.
The bowling green's not used.*

*It's fair to say they're twitchy.
I don't hear a single laugh.
It's not much fun cooped up all day
Just with your better half!*

*Some of us had coloured hair
Which now is turning white.
The manicures have disappeared:
Not a well-groomed nail in sight.*

*But the things that matter still remain,
like kindness and respect
The friendship that we all enjoy
Couldn't possibly be wrecked.*

*So the trouble in the Village
Doesn't actually exist.
It's only that the friends we've made
Are really, truly missed.*

*We'll all come out the other end
Maybe better than before.
And trouble in the Village
Won't be trouble anymore!*

Slow down

The local council could not afford a speed camera, so they put up a sign saying: *Slow down. Old People's Home.* It had no effect.

At the next meeting they decided to play on paternal instincts and put up a sign: *Danger – Children at Play.* The result was no discernible reduction in traffic speed.

Then the chairman had a brain-wave and suggested they try a sign saying: *Nudist Colony.* The result? Vans and lorries now crawl through the village.



Bountiful Barbie

If the standard Barbie doll were life-size, her measurements would be 39-23-33. And she would stand 7 feet 2 inches (219 cm) tall.



Ooops! Did I say that?

"Would you please excuse Gordon's absence because he has a cold which comes and goes. Yesterday it came."

– Parent's note to teacher

Heads down!

Scientists tell us that the moon is moving away from the earth at a tiny, although measurable distance of 4cm every year. Really?

Do the maths and you will clearly see that 85 million years ago the moon would have been orbiting the earth at a distance of about 10m from the earth's surface. This would explain the death of the dinosaurs; the tallest ones, anyway.

TAKE 10

Items of passing interest

Compiled by Jarvis Finger
Kenmore Millennium Probus Club

Cricket!

Doing his lolly

BRITAIN'S public school toffs were shocked in 1991 by a brawl between a headmaster and his school team's coach at an under-13s rugby game.

Disciplinarian Richard Letts, headmaster at the £12000-a-year Oakley Hall School in Gloucester, wrestled with coach Ronnie Hakin in an attempt to stop him criticising the referee and shouting at his team.

The referee ended up abandoning the game. Afterwards the headmaster admitted his actions 'had been silly'.

"On reflection, it was rather undignified," Letts said.



Pigs to you too!

Eddie was driving down the road and met a car coming the other way. Although there was room to pass easily, Eddie forced the oncoming car to slow down, and wound down his window and shouted "Pig!". The other driver looked in his rear view mirror and swore back at Eddie.

Then his car hit a pig.

In memory of

There are Australian companies that will (for several thousand dollars) take your loved one's ashes, compress them into a synthetic diamond to be set in a ring, pendant or bracelet for you to wear.



Answer to Probian Puzzler: Today is 1 January. On 30 December, two days ago, Mary was 7. Yesterday, 31 December, was Mary's birthday when she turned 8. This year Mary will turn 9 (on 31 December), so next year (on 31 December) Mary will be turning 10.

Fantastic Foto #21



Look out below!

Having a hit-off on a New York skyscraper under construction, 1932.

Probian Puzzler

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

The day before yesterday, Mary was 7 years old. Next year, she'll turn 10. How is this possible?

George Burns...

"By the time you're eighty years old you've learned everything. You only have to remember it."

"I smoke 10 to 15 cigars a day. At my age I have to hold on to something."

A final point to ponder

We do not remember days; we remember moments.

Did you know?

Emus and kangaroos cannot walk backwards, and are on the Australian coat of arms for that reason.

American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served first class.

The longest bout of hiccups lasted nearly 69 years.

The name for Oz in the *Wizard of Oz* was thought up when the creator, Frank Baum, looked up at his filing cabinet and saw A-N, and O-Z, hence 'Oz'.

Aaaa... chooo!

If you sneeze too hard you can fracture a rib. If you try to suppress a sneeze you can rupture a blood vessel in your head or neck and die. If you keep your eyes open by force they can pop out. Enough to put you off sneezing!

NORTH BRISBANE

The Club's visit to Kilcoy and the Woongooroo Estate Winery

An early rise saw forty of us at Kedron Wavell for our bus trip, with Dan, our trusty driver, to Kilcoy. We arrived at Yowie Park for morning tea and met our guide and host for the day, Phil Close, who also owns the Woongooroo Estate Winery where we would have a wine-tasting, lunch and be entertained.

First, we explored Yowie Park with its own Yowie, several re-purposed buildings including the Craft Market, the Hall of History, the Courthouse Art Gallery and the modern Visitors Centre.

Our informative tour of the town and surrounds followed. Sixteen hun-

dred people live in Kilcoy with all amenities catered for – Hospital, Primary and High Schools, Social Clubs and so on. The historic and beautiful Post Office was the old Cobb & Co. Staging Post.

The major employer in Kilcoy is Global Products, otherwise known as the Abattoir. Alas! The only remaining bank, the ANZ, closed its Kilcoy Branch a week after our visit.

We just beat the rain to arrive at the Winery for our wine-tasting and Bush Poetry. It caused much hilarity.

After lunch, more wine-tasting – the reds this time along with a sing-a-long and more hilarious poetry, while the rain poured down.

We remained completely dry and happy. Alas, the rain stopped us enjoying the Senior Gumboot Throwing!!

Thank you Geoff for organising another great day and thank you Phil



A few of us checking out the Yowie

and Gail for your warm hospitality. Luckily, the Yowie didn't make an appearance at the Winery, perhaps because of the rain.

Chris Kirton



Yowie Park and its lake



Inside the Hall of History

DALBY

Our early history explored

Peter Taylor who designs and manufactures Microwave Receivers is the Manager of Stealth Micro Systems. At a recent meeting, he was our Guest Speaker. He is very interested in the historical past of European settlement in our area. Using a metal detector and searching through old rubbish dumps, he has discovered some very interesting objects. At the old, now abandoned, Greenbank Station, a few kilometres out of Dalby, he unearthed an 1853 Crimean War medal lost by some poor unfortunate many years ago. It polished up very well, and we greatly admired it, as it was passed around. Another unusual

relic we were shown was a 1797 "Cartwheel" penny. The early Colony of NSW was beset with financial difficulties and trade was facilitated through a mix of international coins, barter and rum. In 1797, eighteen thousand Cartwheel Pennies were sent to the Colony. The name "Cartwheel" derives from the heavy rim found on the coins. So Australia had its first official currency system. To ensure that the coins entering NSW were not taken out of the Colony, the Governor issued a proclamation that effectively doubled their face-value within. The penny was worth two pence but only in NSW.

Peter then concluded his interesting talk with a map of Dalby in 1853. What a difference, compared to the town of today.



Barry Griffiths presenting a gift to our guest speaker Peter Taylor.

BRIDGEMAN DOWNS

Cotton Picking

As a child of about eleven years of age, I was invited by my mate, Don, to pick cotton on his father's farm. Once there, we pulled up stumps and headed with our sacks to the cotton paddock. Now picking cotton by hand is really some-thing you don't want to experience. It is monotonous, back-breaking, hot work.

I was offered some guidance, on how to pick the cotton from the cotton-bolls and place it in the bag, which I was to pull along the ground. Don's enthusiasm and confidence enveloped me. In a few minutes, I would be on a mission to make oodles of loot. Don picked cotton in the row beside me. We kept up a steady flow of conversation, as we worked our way down the rows. After an hour or so, my back began to hurt something fierce. The sun was almost overhead, and the heat was getting to me. There was not a breath of air. I noticed that Don's energy and eagerness for the task in hand was also beginning to flag. I soldiered on. An abundance of self-pity had to be suppressed. At the end of what seemed a "row without end", this tortuous activity stopped. Although we had only picked a half-sack each, the aches and pains seemed to permeate every muscle in our bodies. The decision to quit, there and then, was an easy one. It was abundantly clear to me that cotton picking was for the birds. Slinging our cotton sacks over our shoulders, we trudged back to the farm shed.

On the way Don was seized by the ludicrous notion that we could pull a swiftie on his father. We could place a house brick in each of our bags, before the weigh-in. His father would never realize he was being duded by this ruse. We would be honing our entrepreneurial talents. We were about to discover that there is a huge fault-line between reality and such nonsensical thinking. Don's father knew what a half-filled cotton sack should weigh. He was no fool.

Taking a closer look inside each bag, he soon discovered the bricks. We were well and truly sprung. "Whose bright idea was that?" he inquired.

Our cunning ploy was treated with much derision. The storm, we thought we could not weather, did not eventuate. We were given a good-natured lecture on honesty and



Was this me? - (Acknowledgement to the writer's Google Pinatrest account)

told not to "try this on" again. During the lecture, we squirmed uncomfortably. Beneath the veneer of annoyance, we sensed that he was not going to obsess about our behaviour for more than a few minutes. After reflection on the incident, it was decided that we would not come up with any more half-baked ideas to make easy money - not for any time soon.

**Arnold Lovaas – Resident Raconteur –
Bridgeman Downs PC**

GOODNA-SPRINGFIELD

What do we do with ourselves?

When we come to retirement age, there are options. We can choose to sit around the house feeling sick of ourselves, and of everyone and everything around us - or we can make the choice to joyously head forward into this new life before us. Many of us choose the route of spending our kids' inheritances and heading off into the wide blue yonder to see what the world and our country have to offer. Others are happy to enjoy the fruits of their labours after many years in the workforce, or homemaking and choose to participate in crafts, gardening and other enjoyable pursuits. What could be missing from those paths could very well be the element of social interaction with peers. This should remain very important in all our lives, and Probus clubs can be just the outlet for this side of ourselves.

When asked by all and sundry, "What have you been doing?", do we need to have some considered time to think whether, in fact, we have been doing anything of import or are we able to detail the functions and outings that we have been involved in? Probus membership offers opportunities for these interactions. If you are a traveller, homecoming is always a looked-for part of the holiday, and returning to Probian friends is a treasured part of that homecoming. For those whose health takes a turn, support from a strong friendship base can be a contributing factor to a return to health. The activities offered by our Probus clubs are many and varied and, if you have the attitude of eager participation, then your tenure in the club will enjoyable and fulfilling.



Ready for picking - (Acknowledgement to the writer's Google Pinatrest account)

NAMBOUR 90

From Christmas Lunch at "Secrets" to our AGM by the Pool

Nestled in the rainforest and overlooking the picturesque Baroon Pocket Dam, "Secrets on the Lake" at Montville offered a great venue for our members and partners to celebrate Christmas and to round off a year filled with interesting activities and outings

Some members chose to take a stroll through the beautiful gardens. The tinkle of a small waterfall, signalled a welcome to a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon. We entered through the magnificently carved "Tree of Dreams" doors leading into the Art Gallery. This features works by local artists and covers a wide range of styles. Then, it was out to the deck overlooking the lake for our lunch of traditional Christmas fare and great fellowship. Brightly wrapped Christmas cakes and puddings were much sought after Raffle Prizes. If the noise emanating from the deck was any indication, everyone was having a wonderful time.

What a difference a few months can make!

Unfortunately, our Changeover Lunch planned to be



Lachlan and Robyn McIntosh and Bob and Ann Hungerford enjoying the delights of the "Secrets on the lake" Restaurant

held at the Palmwoods Hotel, after the scheduled AGM, had to be cancelled. As all positions on the Executive had been filled, however, and there were no incoming nominations, the Club decided to hold a special "Extraordinary" Meeting of Management Committee members to signal the way to brighter days ahead.

Bill MacKenzie

CARINA AND DISTRICT

We were going well – but then!

Our year started off very well with lots of plans and excitement ahead.

Our Christmas Lunch was a great success with good food, good entertainment and good fun, fellowship and friendship.

Our first meeting of the year in January had an Australia Day theme where we honoured our country. Our Guest Speaker was a representative from nbn. He gave us an interesting talk about the process. Many members had questions for him. We were lucky that he did not bring "Nicole"! We were all sick of hearing from her!

Our outing for February was our yearly visit to one of the Inner City's beautiful hotels, where they have a

sea food luncheon once a month. As usual, this was a great array of mouth-watering sea food with lots of lovely salads and desserts also. February continued with a very good Guest Speaker – a representative from Angel Flight.

He told our members of the great work this organisation does for people in remote areas needing to access medical appointments and treatment in the city. The huge number of flights undertaken by the volunteer pilots each week bringing sick people into cities from rural areas is amazing as is the number of the volunteers on the ground, who meet the planes and drive people to their appointment

and then return to the flight home. A wonderful organisation for our remote people.

March continued with our outing for morning tea on St Patrick's Day, where several members were "in with the theme" and dressed in green or orange. Lots of fun for us.

Then reality hit – no more Probus outings. All meeting, outings and our week long trip were all cancelled. Our Club was in recess along with all other clubs and other organisations. We have all missed seeing our friends and enjoying our outings.

Trying to keep in touch with our members has been through keeping the newsletter going with articles, puzzles and jokes. We are all looking forward to getting back to our enjoyable activities as soon as we can. The main thing for us all is to keep well.



Our group enjoying the sea food lunch



The group on St Patrick's Day morning tea in their green or orange

INDOOROOPILLY

Travellers' Tales

Five years ago during travels in Europe we arrived at our B&B at Cascais, one Friday afternoon. Cascais is a wealthy area on the coast outside of Lisbon.

We needed clothes washed, but our B&B had no laundry facilities. We were directed to a laundry several streets away. It was not coin-in-the slot self-service but an old style laundry. The lady who served us spoke as much English as I spoke Portuguese but, on the back of the docket, she wrote 1:30. We assumed, incorrectly, that that meant that our clothes would be ready after 1:30pm the next day.

We duly returned that Saturday afternoon to find the laundry closed. We were flying out of Lisbon to Manchester at 8:00 am on the Monday morning! There was no phone number at the laundry or on our docket and our host at the B&B could find no way to contact the laundry owners. What to do? After discussion with our host, Jao Paulo, we left the docket and the money for our clothes with him and the arrangement that we would contact him when we returned to Australia several weeks later to



At our B&B in Cascais



A typical street in Cascais

send payment to ship the clothes home.

While in the UK, we emailed to let him know we were still alive and remind him of our agreement – No reply. When we arrived home, we emailed him asking the cost of sending our clothes to Brisbane – No reply.

We phoned many times – the calls rang out.

Two weeks later we emailed again – Still no reply. At this stage we all but gave up.

Several weeks later, out of the blue,

we receive an email from Jao Paulo with the cost of shipping our clothes back to Brisbane and his bank account number. It was much more than I expected, over \$200 AUD as I remember.

Could we trust him, particularly after the long delay? Was it just throwing more money away? In the end we decided to transfer the money and three to four days later our clothes were delivered - all nicely washed.

Bill and Judith Thomson

BRIBIE ISLAND

A Hundred Years of Service Recognized

Not terribly long ago, a sharp-eyed member at the Club spotted that one of our family, Assistant Treasurer Dan Latham, had racked up twenty years of service, without the occasion being recognized.

Further examination of our records revealed that Life Member Keith Hayman had not been presented with a Long Service Certificate, when he achieved twenty years of service in 2016. It was the same with our two Non-Active Members. To make matters worse, none of the four had received a Twenty Year Probus Pin.

We could also add our 2008 President, Mark Sunter, who had been presented with his Long Service Certificate in March 2019. In total, a hundred years of service to our Cub needed to be recognized.

So, President Ian Yoxall held a special Presentation Ceremony for our Life member and the Assistant Treasurer at the Bribie Island RSL in December. Here framed certificates were presented and the three who were able to attend the function were also presented with the Probus Twenty Year Pin.

Ian's decision to present our two Non-Active members, resident at the Bribie Cove Aged Care Facility caused a



Life Member Keith Hayman, Past President Mark Sunter, President Ian Yoxall and Asst Treasurer Dan Latham with their awards

minor sensation at the home. Staff specially prepared one of the smaller lounge rooms and ensured that both residents were located there together, together with family, who later expressed their deep appreciation that their loved ones had not been forgotten.

Les Edis

ANGEL FLIGHT

Established in April 2003, Angel Flight Australia is the initiative of Bill Bristow AM, an experienced business- man, pilot and proud winner of the Australian of the Year Award - Queensland 2005.

Angel Flight is a charity that coordinates non-emergency flights to help country people trying to deal with the triple trouble of bad health, poor finance and daunting distances.

All flights are free and may involve patients travelling to medical facilities anywhere in Australia.

Angel Flight is unique in the fact that all flights are conducted by pilots who volunteer their time and aircrafts to assist rural Australian's receive medical treatment that is not available in their home town. Angel Flight pilots do not carry aeromedical staff or medical equipment, so they do not act as an alternative to the Royal Flying Doctor Service or Air Ambulance.

With the assistance of our 1000+ active volunteer pilots and drivers, Angel Flight has completed over forty-seven thousand flights and forty-five thousand drives since its inception in 2003.

Angel Flight can assist both children (including infants) and adults providing they meet the guidelines. All minors must be accompanied by an adult who can assist with entry, exit and any other needs of the child.

To meet Angel Flight's guidelines passengers must be medically stable, ambulatory and physically able to enter and exit a small aircraft without assistance from the volunteer pilot.

Angel Flight is an exceptional charity in that they do not have a fundraising department or budget and do not engage commercial fundraising or marketing agencies to fundraise on their behalf. Eighty-seven per cent of its revenue is spent directly on the coordination and delivery of its service, and the remainder is spent on administrative overheads such as rent and electricity.

If you think that you may benefit from Angel Flight's service or know of someone who may require assistance, please contact the office on 07 3620 8300.



Angel Flight volunteer pilot Steve and volunteer driver Maurie pictured with two Angel Flight passengers.



Angel Flight prides itself on providing help where help is needed.

BARGARA

We're getting on the ball!

We are starting to gather in small groups, and it is so good to see each other after four months.

A lunch for twenty-four members in mid-June was followed by a Card Afternoon and a Beach Picnic to finish off the month.

All were well attended and we certainly kept in line with restrictions.

We will continue these small group activities throughout July, while our Committee completes arrangements for a Club Birthday Celebration in August. This is proving to be a challenge as is any arrangement for General Meetings, but we do hope it may be possible by September.

Members continue to keep in contact and support each other throughout this difficult time keeping the Probus spirit alive.

HOPE ISLAND

Before the Lights Went Out

Probus Hope Island was fortunate to be able to hold our AGM in early March before the COVID-19 restrictions began.

Returning President Julia Robbins and members of the new Management Team all ready for the year ahead. Sadly, we have not been able to hold our regular meetings and activities since then but are optimistic that the Club will be able to meet again in September. In the meantime, we have kept in touch with our members by continuing to produce our monthly Bulletin and with regular email updates.

Richard Cleave



We were all ready!

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	Speaker	Club
Under the Lino (Zoom Talk)	Caylie Jeffrey	Indooroopilly
Mater Hospital's History and Research	Greg Beard	Kenmore Village
Safe Driving from Department of Transport	Kirsty Birgan & Graham Smith	MacGregor
History of Modern Breakfast Cereals	Darryl Hall, SSDA	Springwood
Life Flight Toowoomba	Amy Luhrs	Rose City Warwick
Empire Air Training Scheme	Dr Tony Brady	Brisbane
Optimising your NBN (Zoom Talk)	Ray Krebs	Springwood

Activities	Location	Club
Visit	<i>Canal Creek Memorial commemorates the 31 Australian and US armed services and support personnel, men and women, who died in the December 1943 crash of a Douglas C47 aircraft. Due to a fire in one of the engines the plane crashed near this site while attempting an emergency landing. This crash is the second worst air disaster in Australia's history.</i>	Emu Park
Tour	<i>State Library, Brisbane with a guide to architecture characteristics, computer facilities, Reading Room and White Gloves area for precious items. It is a hub for research, corporate and social functions (even weddings), education, exhibitions, cultural events, children's activities and much more.</i>	Holland Park Central
Visit	<i>Brisbane Plant and Garden Expo – annually in March at Rocklea Showgrounds. Educational talks and plant stalls.</i>	Indooroopilly
Walk	<i>Brisbane Boardwalk – Kangaroo Point, Maritime Museum, Riverlife Adventure Centre, Story Bridge, City Botanic Gardens and old Government House</i>	Brisbane
Tour	<i>Anzac Square – Post 1945 Gallery, memorial plantings, Daphne Mayo's Relief, WWII Gallery with 16 touchscreens for information/photos of external battles and internal responses. Ten percent of Queensland's population enlisted - 104,340 in number</i>	Kenmore Village
Festival	<i>Granite Belt Apple and Grape Festival every March</i>	Stanthorpe
Walk	<i>Oxley Common walk – two hours along Oxley Creek</i>	Sunnybank
Website	<i>Startsat60.com - access to countless aspects of daily life, ranging from travel, health and financial tips to general coverage of retirement activities and ways to amuse oneself</i>	Bribie Island
Virtual Speakers	<i>Club members sharing armchair travel & life experiences, book reviews, photographs, craft and cooking recipes</i>	Bridgeman Downs
Competition	<i>Members Limerick competition</i>	The Gap
Bush Walk	<i>Litchfield Track, Mt Coot-tha - starts at the Gold Mine Picnic Area on Sir Samuel Griffith Drive and runs along the top of Mount Coot-tha to just near the car park for the Summit Café</i>	Indooroopilly
Phone Tree	<i>Members allocated others to call regularly to check health</i>	Mission Beach
Tour	<i>Twinnies Pelican and Seabird Rescue, Sunshine Coast</i>	Mt Gravatt
Probus Quilt	<i>35 Squares each with a story about the maker</i>	Mount Ommaney
Clayton's Meeting	<i>Spontaneous picnic in nearby park – BYO Chair & food</i>	The Gap
Tour	<i>Awassi Sheep Farm and Cheesery</i>	Toowoomba West



Celebrating Queensland seniors

This year more than ever people need something to celebrate, in the safest way possible.

For the first time in its 60-year history, Queensland's annual celebration of seniors will be a virtual celebration, with some physical events.

During the nine days of celebrations people of all ages and backgrounds will be coming together, however we can, to celebrate the many contributions older people have made and continue to make in our communities.

Join us in celebrating Saturday 15 – Sunday 23 August 2020. Find events at qldseniorsweek.org.au

This year we are highlighting the diversity of older Queenslanders through a people powered project called Together: the stories of us.

It is without doubt that we are living in an interesting time due to the COVID pandemic. But we are not alone.

Together we are supporting one and other. Together we are learning new skills, and ways to keep in touch. Together we are aiming to inspire, celebrate, and stay socially connected even when we are physically distanced. Together we will thrive.

By sharing our stories we can connect, find aspects of ourselves in others and of others in ourselves. We all have stories and that is what brings us together. Share your story today at qldseniorsweek.org.au.