

PROBUS CLUB OF DARWIN INC #355594

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Darwin North Inc

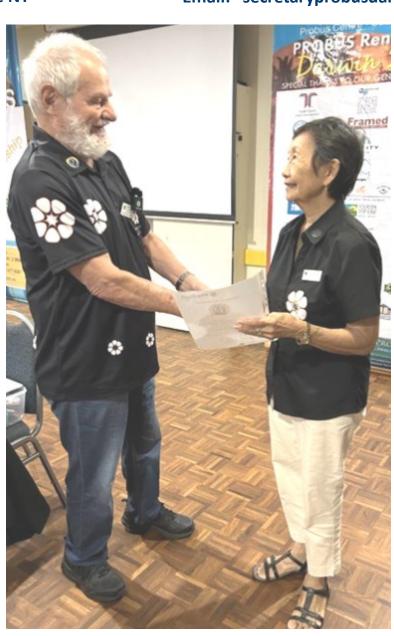
The Probus Club of Darwin Inc. is not for profit and non fundraising. It is non sectarian. Its objects are to stimulate thought, interest and participation in activities at a time of life when it is easy to become complacent and self-centred.

August Bulletin Volume 19 Issue 5

PATRON
His Honour Professor the
Honourable Hugh Heggie AO PSM
Administrator of the NT

PO Box 40452 CASUARINA NT 0811 Web Page: www.darwinprobus.org

Email: secretaryprobusdarwin@hotmail.com



Elaine receiving her 15 year membership certificate

Meetings begin at 10:30am and are held on the first Wednesday of each month **Next meeting**

Tracy Village Social and Sports Club Wednesday, 7 August, 2024
10:30am - General Meeting

Tony's Titbits

he dry is here and not only is it bringing beautiful weather but also a bumper growing season for gardeners. Here at Tiwi Villas my neighbour

Elaine has a beautiful display of roses, who says you can't grow roses in Darwin. And here in my own garden, after three years of failure, a magical crop of tomatoes has appeared. I guess perseverance pays.

Here in Darwin, over the past week or so, we have





Here in Darwin, over the past week or so, we have been enjoying the sound of Pitch Black. A few of us watched the Mindil Beach Flying Display from the cliff top opposite the Cool Spot. It was spectacular, a couple of the fly overs were so low that you almost felt you could reach up and touch them. A couple of us also attended the RAAF open day on the Saturday and it appeared as if half of Darwin was there also. It was an interesting show with lots of planes, Helicopters and lots of associated equipment. Not being an aviation buff, I divided the planes into two main categories, on one side there were lots of very big planes and on the other side there were lots of very little planes. There could have been more food stalls but otherwise an enjoyable experience.

Unfortunately, the Combined Clubs' Dinner Dance will not be held this year due to being unable to coordinate the venue, the entertainment and the dates. But do not despair it is only postponed; it is hoped to hold it in May of next year. But lots of things are coming up. A group of some thirty people are off to Timor

in mid-September, which should be a fun trip. Annual Probus Day occurs on the 4th of October, an opportunity to socialise with members of the other Probus clubs in the top end. And, of course, a float in the City of Darwin Annual Pageant to showcase Probus to the wider community. The Travel Committee is looking at a number of options for next year. The most immediate of these is the 12-day Essential Vietnam and Cambodia tour. More on this later.

A verse from Rainbow Wish, by Jane Bradshaw.

When the storm has abated, Behold the breathtaking sight, A rainbow dips across the sky, Shimmering miracle of hope, A perfect, heavenly smile...

Slainte Tony



August Guest Speaker

Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO

Australian Honours and Awards

Interest Groups

August at a glance

| Event Date | Meeting/Event |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Friday August 2 - 10:15 am | Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes |
| Monday August 5 - 11:00 am | Book Club at Cas Club coordinator Bev Barnes |
| Wednesday August 7 - 10:30 am | General Meeting at Tracy Village |
| Wednesday August 14- 10:30 am | Garden club at Deck Chair Cinema. Coordinator Bev Aitken |
| Friday August 16—5:00 pm | Friday Drinks at Greenhouse Cafe |
| Tuesday August 20 - 11:00am | Writing group at Cas Club coordinator Ron Ninnis |
| Wednesday August 21—10:00am | Meet for coffee at 10:00am at Caramello Café then 10 pin bowling at 11:00am coordinator Chris Kuhn |
| Wednesday August 21—6:30pm | Dining out at The Jetty. Contact is Maxine Dienelt |
| Tuesday August 27—1:00 pm | Board Games at Pearl - coordinator Maxine Dienelt |
| Friday August 30—9:00am | Morning Tea—Café Central |

Morning Tea

Friday, 30 August, 9:00am Café Central Rossiter Street, Rapid Creek

Contact Bev Whitby Ph 0407 053 903

GARDEN CLUB

Many thanks to Jenny Parish for allowing us to wander around her lovely garden and providing hospitality for the 36 garden lovers in attendance.



Our meeting finished up with lunch at Silks.

Next meeting, Wednesday, 14 August, 10:30am at the Deck Chair Cinema.

.Bev Aitken—Coordinator ph 0412 196 032

Probus Club of Darwin

August Dining Out

21 August, 2024 6:30pm



Darwin
Contact person is
Maxine Dienelt
ph 0424 283 537



Thank God its Friday

16 August 2024, 5:30pm Greenhouse Café, Nightcliff Just turn up

Ken Cohalan OAM

Seniors Snippets

- Aged Care new Act to come into force next year. To include greater transparency, improved food nutrition, 24/7 nursing and increase in care provider wages.
- Aged Care —is being reviewed. Encouraging seniors to get services in their homes. Book an appointment with an Aged Care Specialist Officer at Darwin Service centre. Call 1800 227 476
- Services for Seniors—5 pages of contacts that might be required by seniors, available from Dept of Territory Families and politician offices.
- Pitch Black—14 aircraft and 4,400 personnel from 20 nations will be in NT from July 12 to August 2. There will also be 3 Navies aircraft carrier from Italy in the Harbour.
- Minister's Advisory Council for Senior
 Territorians—Ken attended a meeting on 3 July, first of 4 meetings in the year. Please advise him on may matter you wish to have raised in this forum.

Table Tennis Interest Group

\$5— 3 hours including bat and ball hire.
Organised by Charles Darwin Club.
Contact Chris 0429171326.



A Proud Territory Business for over 35 years



TEN PIN BOWLING

After a very pleasant time at Caramella for coffee we proceeded to Kingpin for a very enjoyable game. Thirteen players made up three teams and were spurred on by the support of Maxine, Sue, Peter, Bill and Shirley.

Ron went into the lead with a score of 27 in round 2 and stayed in first place for the entire game. Mollie, Tony, Janet and Cheryl in pursuit. In round 3 Ron had a strike which gave him an impressive lead scoring 47 especially as his bumpers were not up throughout the game. Betty came next with 35 and Mollie 30. Ron scored 83 in round 6, Betty and Mollie tied in second place on 60. From then on Mollie took second place.

Final scores Ron 107 (1 strike), Mollie 104, Betty 99 and Janet 98. Bev, Robyn, Tony, Elaine, Nancy and Cheryl all achieved scores in the 80's.

Next month we meet up again on Wednesday 21 August. Hope to see you then.

Chris Kuhn Coordinator



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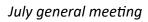
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Out and about in July













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Dining at the Bowls Club



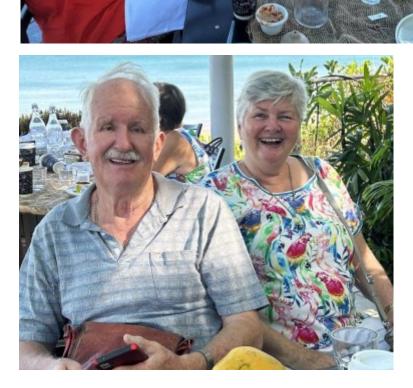


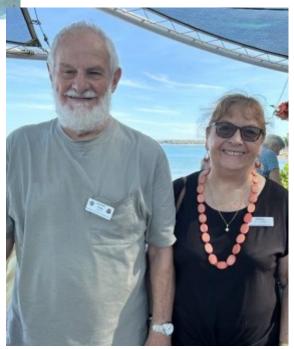
Out and about in July



Breakfast at the Trailer Boat Club to celebrate Territory Day







My Time in Papua New Guinea

By Sue Wright

Having completed my teacher training in Melbourne, Victoria, I married Ron Wright in January 1965, expecting to live on farms in the South Gippsland area, maybe do a bit of teaching and bring our children up in lovely country communities. Well, surprise, surprise, I had just completed my mandatory first year of teaching (studentship rules) when Ron applied and was accepted for a job as a Field Officer with the Department of Lands, Surveys and Mines in the Territory of Papua New Guinea as it was known back then. Papua was an Aussie Territory and New Guinea a United Nations Trust Territory. I



was to join him when housing became available. This was 1966.



After a short stint in Port Moresby, Ron was sent to Rabaul, New Britain Island and my cousin, a Methodist missionary there sponsored me to stay with them whilst waiting my housing.

Ron's first assignment was to go to an outpost called Matanakunai, one and a half days by coastal trawler around the coast from Rabaul, to try to survey, using compass and chain,

the tribal boundaries of 2 small tribes, the East Nakanis and the Makolkols. The government's plan was to buy any lands suitable for some sort of primary industry to be set up, to help the economy along. This was fairly rugged country as it was on the edge of the Baining Mountains. It was an isolated spot, only accessible by boat. He was told he could set up camp with his team of labourers in an old plantation house, near the beach. It is my opinion, looking back, that he was probably sent there because, being a newbie, he had no idea about what it would be like, whereas the other field officers did and refused to go there. The plan for my housing in Rabaul fell through and my cousin was about to return to Australia so my only option was Matanakunai. Being young and considering myself to be adaptable and having camped a lot with the Girl Guides, I thought I would cope, if just for a short while.

Well....when I got there, it was a bit of a shock! The so called "house" had no shower or toilet, just a bench, a sink and camp stove in the small kitchen recess, no power, a dining room and a bedroom with no privacy, there being louvre windows on 2 sides — one of my first tasks back in Rabaul for a short break after a month or so was to purchase a hand operated sewing machine and run up curtains. Ron and the labour line constructed an outdoor toilet and shower recess from native materials. The Nakanai Village was about 400 metres up the beach. But the beach was grey sand with massive sand flies. There was not a shop in sight and no health facilities, no roads and the only communication with the outside world was by 2 way radio or boat.

Since we were the only expats most of the time there, it was important to get along with the locals, so learning Pidgin English was a priority. We bought fresh vegetables for them and also, because they had no medical facilities and Ron had a first aid kit, we treated their minor needs. The labour line were from tribes all over T.P.N.G – Aitape, Manus Island, Maprik, New Ireland, Rabaul and one from West Irian. Most days those from the coast went fishing for us and we had awesome meals of crayfish, barracuda, trevally, Spanish mackerel, coral trout or whatever. When there was no fish we had to use tinned meat or fish, there being no fridge.

The labourers had to get along with each other and also the villagers, which they did. Back then, they

were paid with rations, which was a good thing, since there were no shops. Up the coast was a plantation which had a trade store, but you could only get there by boat. The manager was a bit of an odd bod, but he was kind enough to invite us up there now and again and come down to see how we were going. We would travel up there by Ron's 10ft aluminium hull with an outboard motor.

The Nakanais and Makolkols usually tolerated each other, but one time they had a serious disagreement. Not sure why, but Ron and a visiting Forestry Officer had to go and quell both parties, especially the Makolkols who were storming around and swinging their long handled axes around their heads.

Fortunately they all calmed down.

On one occasion we were visited by a group of Japanese executives who wanted to see whether it would be viable to set up a paper pulp mill in the area. They brought the most amazing array of camping equipment with them and camped nearby us. The folk from the Nakanai village, about 400 metres down found them fascinating, as at dusk they took their bath, which was a 44 gallon drum filled with water, at the top of the b each with a fire under it. They would let it get very hot, jump in the drum to get a sauna like



effect, then wrap their lower body in a towel and run down to the

water's edge and jump into the sea. The locals used to sneak up and hide behind the palms on the edge of the beach to watch. The bush telegraph always let them know when this ritual was about to begin.

Talasea baby

The paper pulp idea never took off, but nowadays there is a big fishing resort just along the coast from Matanakunai and a logging enterprise up the coast a bit. And there are even a few

connecting roads.

After Matanakunai (9 months) West New Britain, Cape Hoskins, Talasea and Kimbe. Still out stations, but with more facilities and some limited power but no phones or large stores. Supplies still had to come in by post or by plane. Talasea and Hoskins had grass air strips. We even had tennis courts and social life. Our first child, a girl, was born in Talasea in my neighbour's place as she came early. Number 2 child, a son, was born in Rabaul as I made it to the hospital.

Finally we had postings to 3 different towns, Wau, Wewak and Port Moresby, where our 2nd daughter was born. We worked for 21 months then had 3 months leave which was always welcome. I returned to Australia in December 1973 with my 3 children following a car accident in which my leg got badly broken and needed specialist treatment. We were t-boned at a cross roads by an unlicensed local in an unregistered vehicle. He said that he had thought he had put his foot on the brake, but it turned out to be the accelerator.

When I think about this season of my life I have mixed feelings. Certainly we were always made to feel welcome. The people of PNG were grateful to us Aussies for stopping them from being over-run by the Japanese. It was a good time to go home though as Independence was just round the corner and we would not be needed. Then Ron finished out his 8 year contract and got a job as a Pastoral Inspector with the NT Lands Department and we arrived up here in Darwin just in time for Cyclone Tracy!

Tracy Village
Social and Sports Club
The home of
Probus Club of Darwin Inc.



Board Games

Come and join us playing your favourite Board Games at Pearl Recreation Centre.

27 August, 1:00pm

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator

Bits and Pieces

Literature, Lunch and Laughter

Today was another interesting meeting with lively conversations.

The Was Nurses By : Anthea Hodgson

Review .Thoroughly enjoyed by one member with a second still reading and enjoying the read.

The Remarkable Mrs Reibey by Grantlee Kieza

Review. Thoroughly enjoyed by those witho read/listened to this book. One member scored it a 3/5

Wifedom by Anna Funder

Review: Enjoying and still reading.

One member did not enjoy the style of writing, while another review was, Difficult to read and is an awful

book.

Death at La Fenice by Donna Leon Review: Nobody read this book

Read July and discuss August

Apples Never Fall OR Big Little Lies by Lian Moriarty

Table for Two by Amor Towles

Dancers on the Sea by Gabrielle Samson

Read August and discuss September

Mrs Winterbottom takes a Gap Year by Joanna Nell

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

The Woman in Cabin Ten OR One by One by Ruth Ware

Read September and discuss October
Heard the Owl Call my Name by Margaret Craven

The Magician by Collins Tobin

At the Foot of the Cherry Tree by Alli Parker

We would love to welcome new members to our happy group of avid readers. We meet at Casuarina Sports Club, first Monday of the month at 11am. Stay well. Stay safe and happy reading. Beverley Barnes

Travel Group Upcoming travel events

The NT is always busy at this time of the year and the travel group has a few things happening.

Thirty people are booked to go to Dili on 13 September with some trips planned to explore a bit of Timor Leste as well as have some free time. If your name was on the original list, you will have been contacted and know that you are part of this journey. Janet is the contact for this trip.

At the end of October there are 4 cabins booked to leave Darwin on the Queen Elizabeth docking in Freemantle after 10 days of cruising.

March will bring some options. Tony has a group looking to visit *Cambodia and*Vietnam leaving on the 9th March. If you were on the original list, you will have been contacted by now to confirm your interest.

There will an option for a small group to go to **Sri Lanka** mid-March and Bronwyn is working this trip out.

If you are not interested in overseas travel we are planning a day trip to **Dundee Beach** on about 10 February. An opportunity to celebrate the wet season (we hope!)

Day tripping is returning to the social committee so start thinking about some ideas.

Fun times ahead

Watch this space!

Bronwyn

Can you help?

As there is so much need at present for items to help the Mission to Seafarers to assist the mariners coming in to Darwin it has been decided to keep the collection boxes going for a while longer.

If you are able to help out, the following items are most needed:

Toiletries—soap, razors, toothbrush and paste

Clothing—smaller size underwear, t shirts, socks and beanies.

The boxes will be at the next meeting and the items taken into the Mission.



Heart Foundation Walking

Foundation
Mondays, leaving from
Casuarina Square, near the K Mart car centre
at 7:30am

For further details, contact Janet 0432 154 306

Writing Group

A group of four eager writers met at the Cas Club to read out our previous masterpieces, to have a 7- minute "write-up", and to choose the next writing topic.

For the "write-up", we had an exercise to write down words starting with the letters in CAS-

UARINA, and to choose words that were connected to Casuarina. It sounds easy, but it wasn't, but everyone had a good laugh.

We chose the next writing topic which is: - " Paint a picture in writing "

The idea here is to make a story zing by using descriptive words. To hear rustling leaves, smell fragrant flowers and see a sun setting over a tranquil lake. It is also called the "show, not tell" method of writing, and is commonly used by well known writers.

Anyone is invited along to our next meeting at the Cas Club. The meeting is always on the third Tuesday of the month at 11 am. Enjoy a good cheap meal after the meeting too. Next meeting 20 August

Ron Ninnis, Coordinator



Marmalade

A short story by Beverley Baker, Probus Writing Group

I am Baker by name, but neither cook, preserver or baker by inclination. However, I get by.

By contrast, my mother in law was an efficient, homely personification of all four of the above.

Even in the 1970's my M-I-L, who lived in a then outer suburb of Melbourne, cooked in and on a fuel stove. Mrs B produced her old style, but superb food offerings on this heavy doored and lidded, coal brickette fuelled stove.

On a visit from Darwin in the early 1970's, Mrs B decided that she'd teach me how to make marmalade. I soon discovered that this was a much more time and labour intensive process than I imagined and that it required all of the small kitchen space available.

Not only oranges and sugar had to be on hand. Appropriately sized chopping boards, knives, cooking pots, stirring spoons, plus cleaned and sterilised jars and tops were to be at the ready. Ready, I was soon to learn, being many hours hence. Oranges had to be weighed, cleaned, peeled, cut, deseeded-all 'just so'. The task of preparing the fruit appeared to take ages. Then the resulting orange mess had to be simmered, not boiled, to soften the orange bits to a correct consistency, stirring often to prevent catching or burning. This simmering and stirring seemed to take forever. Meanwhile sugar was weighed in readiness to be added at the right moment (or hour!) This magic time was finally achieved. The fledgling marmalade had then to be vigorously boiled, stirred and skimmed, to achieve jelling and prevent burning. The time of perfection occurred at a time instinctive only to my M-I-L. Prior to this, spoonfuls of potential marmalade were periodically ladled from the cooking pots and onto a saucer to check on taste and jelling consistency. Finally

it was deemed that the marmalade was 'there'. Next came the marmalade cooling, spooning into jars, wiping, sealing, labelling, storing and lastly the long clean-up of the kitchen. It had been a long day.

I was given a jar of marmalade for my contribution to the preserving process. But the memory of this marmalade marathon have lasted longer.

I admired Mrs B. Her patience, expertise and mastery of the housewifely arts on such a primitive stove were amazing.

But I didn't return to Darwin as a conserve convert. In those days in Darwin fresh fruit was prized and savoured. Not to be processed and put into jars. If marmalade was desired, it could be bought at a supermarket. Anyway I prefer muesli and yogurt, rather than toast and marmalade for breakfast.



August Birthdays

August Anniversaries

Earl and Wendy James

Gelita Shapcott*

Henrietta Dempster **

Elaine Prosser ***

Wendy Darwin *

Russ Swan **

Ron Lawford

Garry Jacobson

Nancy Lay

Mary Verus Lexene Burns Tony Errity Robyn Wright Rexine Lambert

Lyn Barlow

Maureen Burr ***

Bob Schulze

Rita Cluley



Hope you enjoy your special day







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Craft Group

Another morning of friendship and laughter. We welcomed Pam, a visitor from Adelaide and promptly set her to task. She was a natural and started stitching a sashiko square.

We meet every Friday at the Casuarina Sports Club at 10.15am. New people, new ideas, are always welcome.

Bev Barnes



How Territorian are You?

Territory Day Quiz

- 1. Are there more saltwater crocodiles or camels in the Northern Territory
- 2. On what date did the bombing of Darwin begin?
- 3. Which town is closest to the Devil's Marbles?
- 4. What is the official Northern Territory bird emblem?
- 5. What is the name of the ghost that allegedly haunts East Point?
- 6. 1994 film Priscilla Queen of the Desert saw a group of actors playing drag queens climb which Territory in full drag?
- 7. The capital of the Northern Territory is Darwin. What was it known as previously?
- 8. How many gorges make up Katherine Gorge and in which national park would you find it?
- 9. Territory artist Albert Namatjira was born in which community in 1902?
- 10. What is the largest island in the Northern Territory?



10. Melville Island

9. Hermannsberg

8. 13 gorges in Nitmiluk National Park

7. Palmerston

6. Kings Canyon

5. Poinciana Woman

4. The wedge tailed eagle

3. Tennant Creek

2. 19 February 1942

1. Camels—there are bout 300,000 to 100,000 crocodiles

Answers

Thank You

Probus Club of Darwin very much appreciated the provision of a grant from NT Government Minor Community Grants, used to subsidise a trip on SeaLink Ferries.

The grant assisted 49 Probarians to make the journey from Cullen Bay, by ferry to go to Crab Claw Island.

On arrival at the Island, members were treated to a delightful, sumptuous seafood lunch.

Overall a wonderful day, helped very much by the reduction in cost making it possible for so many members of the club to take the trip.

Management Committee Probus Club of Darwin

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 2 August 2000 Held at the Darwin Bowls Club

Present: Messrs Dally, Simmons, Blackmore, Plew, Chin, Washington, Taylor, Kerr, Upton, Steven, Thompson, Johnstone, Roberts, Dimery. Scott, Dr Short

Apologies: Bromich, Fisher

Welcome: Mr President extended a warm welcome to

visitors Bert Sayer of Busselton WA.

Minutes: The meeting adopted the Minutes of the

previous meeting.

Correspondence:

Inwards—Probus Club handbook

Outwards—Mike Rennie Asst Dist Governor Rotary, Rotary Clubs of Darwin, Darwin North, Darwin Sunrise and Litchfield

Treasurer: Opening balance \$372.66, Receipts \$55.00. Expenses \$86.30. Closing balance \$341.36

General Business: .U3A Darwin Inc booklet—Mr Thompson spoke on the Booklet "Cyclone, Floods and Flaming Furies—Darwin from 1940 and that the booklet may be purchased for \$10 a copy.

Resignation: Jack Larcombe tendered his resignation due to health reasons.

Guest Speaker: Ms Kay Cook. She and her family initially intended spending 3 years here but so far have stayed 20. She is active in Red Cross and other organisations. Her father is a member of the Probus Club. Kay is in charge of the Seniors card section with a staff of 2. Ms Cook explained all the benefits which may be available to members. Books, pamphlets were distributed to members. Grants are available to some Clubs.

Meeting closed at 11:05am.



PRIVACY STATEMENT

The information collected in relation to members shall be held in accordance with the information privacy principles contained in the Privacy Act (Privacy Act, Australia 1998). Each Probus Club shall ensure that it complies with such information privacy principles and shall not disclose any such information, except in accordance with the Privacy Act.

INSURANCE

All financial members of the Probus Club of Darwin Inc. are covered by Probus Insurance. Insurance covers members, visitors and guests whilst attending or participating in a recognised Probus activity function or meeting (age restrictions may apply). Prior conditions may be taken into consideration.

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