



# PROBUS CLUB OF DARWIN INC #355594

**Sponsored by Rotary Club of Darwin North Inc**

The Probud 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

**August**

**Volume**

**21**

**Issue**

**5**

**President—Mary Verus**

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**Secretary—Trish Greenfield**

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**PATRON**

**His Honour the  
Honourable David Connolly  
Administrator of the NT**



**Next General Meeting**

**Wednesday, 5 August**

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

**PO Box 40452 CASUARINA NT 0811**

**Web Page: [www.darwinprobus.org](http://www.darwinprobus.org)**

**Email: [secretaryprobusdarwin@hotmail.com](mailto:secretaryprobusdarwin@hotmail.com)**

*Many thanks to the office of Khoda Patel MLA, member for Casuarina, for the printing of our bulletin this month.*



## Mary's Musings

Well it is a beautiful Darwin Show Day. The weather is simply gorgeous. Unfortunately I will not make it to the Show this year. Thank you so much to all who have commented on my limp. I have had a fracture in my foot for some time which I am dealing with without the ordeal of an operation. However, the idea of wandering around the Showground was overridden by a quiet day at home.

As many of you know Peter Pusterla passed away recently. He was a lovely man who was always willing to volunteer for our Club. I am sure Gwenda will be putting more of Peter's story in the Bulletin. I am so happy to say that there were 20 -30 of us at his funeral which shows the esteem that he was held in.

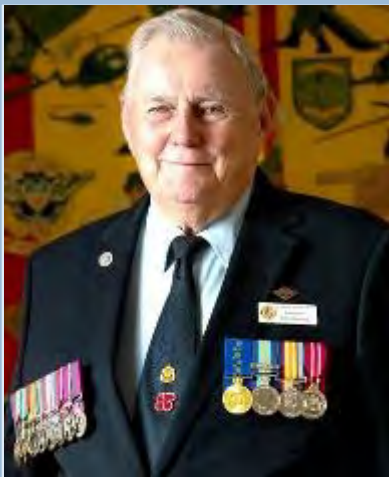
Our Kununurra trip is coming up very soon. I am not a member of the Travel Committee but I did attend their recent meeting and I can tell you that those ladies work hard and have organised what I think will be a wonderful trip. Everything from the bus, accommodation, lunches, dinners and day trips. They deserve a huge vote of thanks.

I attended our Dining Out dinner at the Sailing Club recently and we really did have a wonderful evening. We just couldn't believe the crowd for a Wednesday night. There are so many tourists in town.

Please come along to the PROBUS Clubs' Sport's Challenge next Wednesday from 10 – 12 at Tracy Village Club. You will definitely have a lot of fun and you may even surprise yourselves.

The year is moving on. When I write my Musings for September the Sports Challenge and the Kununurra trip will be done and we will be talking about PROBUS Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Have a great month!  
Regards. Mary Verus



## Guest Speaker

### Bob Shewring OAM GAICD

Bob will be talking to us about his work in bringing veterans bodies home from Vietnam . And in particular one he brought back to Darwin for burial at Adelaide River cemetery.

Bob is on The Northern Territory Minister's Advisory Council - Veterans Affairs which provides high-level and strategic advice from the community to government on matters pertaining to veterans.



## August Dining Out

### Silks Darwin Turf Club

Fannie Bay

19 August, 2026 - 6:30 pm

Contact Maxine Dienelt 0424 283 537

# August at a Glance

| Event Date                            | Meeting/Event                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed July 29 10:00am                   | Combined Sports Day at Tracy Village                                                                                   |
| Mon August 3 11:00 am                 | Book Club at Cas Club      coordinator<br>Bev Barnes                                                                   |
| Wed August 5— 10:30 am                | General Meeting at Tracy Village                                                                                       |
| Fri August 7, 14, 21, 28,<br>10:15 am | Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each<br>Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes                                               |
| Tues August 11—<br>11:00am            | Writing group at Cas Club - coordinator<br>Ron Ninnis                                                                  |
| Wed August 12—<br>10:30am             | Garden Club— Humpty Doo Community<br>Gardens—coordinator Wendy Darwin                                                  |
| Wed August 19—<br>10:00am             | Morning Tea at 10:00 at Café Mount 8848<br>then proceed to 10 pin Bowling at<br>KingPin at 11:00am coord Shirley Porte |
| Wed August 19—6:30pm                  | Silks Darwin Turf Club, Contact Maxine<br>Dienelt ph 0424 283 537                                                      |
| Tues August 25—<br>1:00pm             | Board Games at Pearl Recreation Centre,<br>Coordinator— Maxine Dienelt 0424 283 537                                    |
| Fri August 28—9:30am                  | The Gully (Aquascene)<br>Contact—Rowena McHugh 0413289555                                                              |



## Vale Peter Pusterla

1 March 1933—16 July 2026

Peter was a deeply valued member of Probus Club of Darwin since 2007 and will be very much missed by many club members. He served as Treasurer and President and was a Life Member. Peter willingly involved himself in a range of club functions and activities, was a great listener and contributed thoughtfully to making sure the club ran successfully.

Members of the Probus Club of Darwin extend sincere and heartfelt condolences to Peter's family at this time of loss.



## Writing Group

### July meeting

**We will now be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month.**

**We met at the Cas Club as usual.**

We met together at the Cas Club, and enjoyed a little FFF. We read out what we had written for the previous month, and listened to the comments about each piece. We also practiced our writing skills with the usual exercise where we write for 7 minutes. This time the topic was "The Op-shop find".

Our topic for the coming month was chosen, which is "A book I have read". Anyone can send an email to us with their story. The story can be any gender: a comedy, a tragedy, a poem, a conversation, a radio play, or whatever you like.

**Anyone can contribute**

**Give it a go and Have fun**

Ron Ninnis, Coordinator

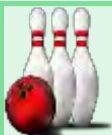


## GARDEN CLUB

The drive to Berry Springs Mealworms farm was well worth it. Mealworms are insects and we now know how to identify male and female. If you want mealworms to feed your chickens or birds you will find Donna at the Fred's Pass markets every Saturday. They also have wooden cutting boards, cacti and a selection of plants for sale at a reasonable price. I think we need to visit Donna and Travis again sometime.

Our next meeting will be at the Humpty Doo Community Gardens, 85 Challenger Circuit. They are part of the Village Green.

Coordinator—Wendy Darwin ph 0437 910 388



## TEN PIN BOWLING

A large group enjoyed coffee at Cafe Mount 8848 before our monthly ten pin bowling session at King Pin. We welcomed back both Coleen and Ros from the Charles Darwin Club after several month's absence. 15 keen players split into 4 teams cheered on by Maxine, Sue and Bill.

From the start 3 lanes experienced mechanical problems, 2 when play was halted when balls got stuck at the back but more seriously one team's scores went haywire - scores were mixed up and Ros was unable to finish as the lane shut down after round 9. All 3 in the team were given free game passes for next time as compensation.

Ed, Molly, Ron, Henrietta and Ros all started well with only a couple of points between them. Molly was in the lead from the beginning with Ron and Ed fighting it out for 2nd place from round 3 onwards. Final scores Molly 120 (5 spares) Ron 105 (no bumpers) and Ed 98. This month spare/strike totals are:- 18 spares and 3 strikes.

We meet up again next month on Wednesday 19 August - hope to see you then.

Shirley Porte, Coordinator

## Member Profile

My name is Chrystine Graham and I was inducted into Probus Club, Darwin last week. I have been attending various groups and Club meetings since April this year, so I have managed to get to know more of you with every meeting I attend. At the last meeting, I was asked to say a little about myself to hopefully make it easier for you all to get to know me.

I have been living in Darwin for the past two and a half years and I must say that I absolutely love living here. Moving to Darwin from SA definitely was the best move. The people in the NT are wonderfully friendly and the lifestyle is laid back and very community minded, which suits me very well.

I moved and live here with my daughter and her two children, whom I help to look after so my daughter can earn a living to support the children as she is now a single parent. I have a son and another daughter who live down south. I am grandmother to four at the moment but my other daughter is expecting another child.

My hobbies are gardening and painting which I thoroughly enjoy amongst other interests as well. My working background is reception duties, plus other various roles such as jillaroo, farm hand and shopkeeper when I owned a corner shop in Plympton SA for 4 years.

It has pleased me very much to be welcomed into the Probus Club by such a friendly and caring group of people as you all are and I look forward to the future with the club and to getting to know you all even more.

Thank you  
Chrystine.



## Craft



This beautiful Diamond Art picture, completed by Chrystine. This is a stunning piece of work. Clever lady.



Another beautiful blanket made by Wendy Dawin. Stunning.

## Welfare Support Karin Promchinwong



has offered to undertake this role for the club. Ph 0429 474 779

## August Birthdays



**Gelita Shapcott**  
**Henrietta Dempster**  
**Elaine Prosser**  
**Wendy Darwin**  
**Ron Lawford**  
**Nancy Lay**  
**Fred Marrone**  
**Mary Verus**  
**Tony Errity**  
**Robyn Wright**  
**Rexine Lamshed**  
**Lyn Barlow**  
**Maureen Burr**  
**Rita Cluley**

*Hope you enjoy your special day*

### Seniors' Snippets

#### Ken Cohalan OAM



- \* **Your rights in Aged Care**— There have been a few changes— Statement of Rights. To make your own decisions to be respected and feel safe, older people also have the right to communicate their needs and preferences.
- \* **Jacana Energy**—NT's main energy retailer has revealed thousands more customers than previously thought have been affected by delays in billing due to rollout of smart meters.
- \* **Private Health Fund**—Medibank Private is worth paying a visit if you are changing health funds. We received a deduction for unused services.

## FREE Scottish Country Dancing sessions

in

August-Seniors Month



Scottish Country Dancing

At the Masonic Hall  
Stokes Street, Parap

Sundays - 10:00am—12:00

Sprung wooden floors

Qualified teacher  
Fun, active, friendly

Ring Mara for more information—ph 0438842138



### Coffee Lovers!

**THE GULLY CAFÉ**  
at Acquascene

**9:30am 28 August**

**Contact**  
**Rowena McHugh**  
**Ph 0413 289 555**

### Table Tennis Interest Group



Every Thursday 9.00 am—11.00 am  
 \$5— 2 hours including bat and ball hire.  
 Organised by Charles Darwin Club.  
 Contact Chris 0429171326.

Probus Club of Darwin Bank Account  
 Account : Probus Club of Darwin Inc  
 BSB: 633000 Account Number: 226771376  
 We now bank at the Bendigo Bank in Nightcliff

### Aunty's Free Feeds

If you can please bring in paper grocery bags to the meeting, this will help with food distribution and be very much appreciated by Aunty's Free Feeds. The bags will be collected from our meetings.



# Out and About in July



## Out and about in July





**PEARL**

## Get stronger today

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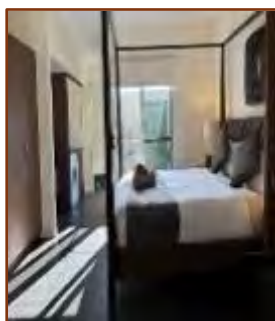


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# Member Travels

## My Broome Trip – 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026



In 2020, I was to have a birthday celebration with my family in Broome, but unfortunately, Covid-19 hit. Here I am six years later, thanks to Jim. The flight to Broome via Kununurra was good with no issues.

On arrival, our self-contained apartment was large and well-appointed, which was a pleasant surprise.

Since there were good kitchen facilities, but no Restaurants at the Resort, we went on a shopping trip for food and drinks.

Our first venture was a tour to Willys Creek Pearl establishment, where various stages of Pearl production were introduced. I was given a pearl oyster shell to look after while we moved between the various stages, culminating in me getting the opportunity to harvest the Pearl contained in the shell I had been carrying.



The Pearl proved to be a bit special as it had notable gold colouring - quite rare for this area. After being valued (and cage-mounted) the pendant was my birthday present from Jim. I'm just one lucky girl!

The next evening, Jim and I went on a Sunset Camel Safari along Cable Beach. I was nervous initially because I do not like heights, but I eventually relaxed and enjoyed the experience. I have to say my rear end was a tad sore afterwards.



It was lovely to take various taxi rides and a bus tour around Broome, stopping at a number of significant sites along the way.



Some 50 years ago, I had a brief stopover in Broome, but this time I was pleasantly surprised at how the town has developed while retaining some of its old-world charm.

A dinner at the Cable Beach Club Resort and Spa was sumptuous and the wine delightful.

Sadly, on Monday morning, we packed our bags and headed to the airport for the flight home after a great birthday holiday in Broome. I am very grateful to Jim for this

wonderful fulfilment of a "bucket list" desire.

*Ivy Pearse*



## Board Games

Come and join us playing your favourite Board Games



at Pearl Recreation Centre.

Lots of challenges and fun.

**28 July 1:00pm**

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator

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# Mary River

## Mary River Wetlands Tour – Wednesday 24 June 2026

*Submitted by Janet Fries*

Nine Probians met at Tracy Village Social and Sports Club, where we were greeted by our tour guide and driver for the day.

The first stop was **Fogg Dam**, where we saw a couple of crocodiles on the dam wall, and abundant birdlife. We made a brief stop at the **Corroboree Park Tavern Roadhouse** before continuing to the Mary River.

While cruising along the river, a number of both saltwater and freshwater crocodiles made appearances, as well as many different species of birds. A delicious lunch of fresh meat and salad was served on board and enjoyed by everyone as we travelled along.

All in all, it was a great day, with excellent wildlife sightings, good company, and beautiful scenery.



## Literature, Lunch and Laughter

July 2026



9 of us met for Book Club today, great discussion Most of us stayed for a lovely lunch and banter. An enjoyable time.

### Read June discuss July

**The Girl who told the truth.** By Catherine Hokin

Disappointing read by 2 readers. Set during WW2, story did not hang together, far fetched in places. Only 2 stars out of 5.

**The Fall of Giants.** By Ken Follett

Bev and Jane both read. He did a lot of research for the novel. This is a good WW1 historical novel. The battle parts were a bit long winded. Second story line of Welsh vi9llage coal miners going to war with the Lord of the village was informative.

**James** By Percival Everett

Helmy and Margaret read, Jane started but did not finish. All enjoyed but a little boring in places, other areas full of humour. Related story of slaves speaking their own language.

**I will find you** by Harlen Coben 6 people read the book, 5 enjoyed, Robyn would recommend, Cheryl though it was a brilliantly told story. I did not enjoy at all. Found some of the storyline unbelievable.

### Read July discuss August.

**Flesh** By: David Szalay

**Good People** By: Patmena Sabit.

**The Long night** By: Christian White

**Last one out** By: Jane Harper

### Read August discuss September

**House Rules** By: Jodi Piccoult

**Mother Mary come to me** By: Arundhati Roy

**Nobodies Girl** By: Virginia Guiffrie

**The Uncommon Reader** By: Alan Bennett



### Read Sept discuss October

**Broken Horses** By Brandi Carlyle

**Small Things** By Claire Keegan

**Mademoiselle Eiffel** By Aimee K Runyan

**Yesteryear** By Caro Claire Burke



Next meeting on

3rd August at 11am at the Cas Club.

New readers welcome. Happy reading everyone.

Mary Greenup for Bev Barnes

2026

### *Seniors Morning of Entertainment*

Friday August 21 10am—12:30pm

Darwin High School in the Tank: 10 Atkins Drive, The Gardens

RSVP's open 20 July and close 14 August

Guests must register to attend via Compass Tix

<https://compassstix.com/e/pg79ibykuo> and tickets are limited to the first 250 Seniors to register.

Event parking is available on the covered basketball court next to the Tank.



# ❁ FRIENDSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FUN GAMES 2026 ❁

Laugh, Connect & Play – Join the Fun with the 4 Top End Probus Clubs!

**Date: Wednesday, 29th July 2026**

**Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm (Noon)**

**Venue: Tracey Village Sports & Social Club, Tiwi**

No running, jumping, twisting or strenuous exercise – just side-splitting, light-hearted games for all!  
Hilarious group activities, Gentle competitions, Loads of laughter and new friendships

**Games include:** \*Stack of Nuts \*Corn Bag Toss \*Suck It Up \*Key Ring Collection \*Thong Throw  
\*Stacked Dice \*Hoop Ball \*Tic-tac-toe \*Golf Pong \*Face Cream

## Why You Should Come

Cold water, tea and coffee provided,

Bring along a plate of morning tea to share

Why not stay for lunch and drinks with your friends after the games?

Don't miss out on a fantastic morning of genuine connection and pure enjoyment. Whether you're a long-time member or brand new, everyone's welcome!

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 7 August 2002

Held at the Darwin Bowls Club

**Present:** Messrs Steven, Fisher, Roberts, Plew, Upton, Maidment, Raby, Simmons, Blackmore, Penhall, Dally, Scott, Washington, Dimery, Martin, Chin, Bromwich,

**Apologies:** Taylor, Johnstone, Kerr,

**Visitors:** Daryl Greentie, Tamworth; Perc Hose, Warrnambool, John MacDonald, Lou Marchant, Mike Rennie, Andrew Leo, Darwin.

**Minutes:** Minutes of previous meeting were circulated and confirmed.

**Correspondence:** Directory of Probus Clubs 2002/2003, Bank Statement, Probus Centre papers, Insurance Scheme

**Outwards—Nil.**

**Treasurer's:** Report Opening balance \$627.11 Receipts Nil, Expenses \$20.15, Closing balance \$606.98

**Forward Planning:** Mr Plew reported on draft program: September meeting—visit to Meteorology Office in Stuart Highway or Casuarina—to be confirmed. October meeting—Ms Ann Kemp—Diabetes Assoc.

**Guest Speaker:** Mike Rennie of Nightcliff Rotary Club and the next incoming District Governor elect of Rotary in NT.

Mr Rennie spoke about his encounters with officers of the Probus Centre, recognising that there were problems amongst the membership of the Probus Organisation and that there may be a breakaway of the Victorian sector.

A general discussion of Probus Clubs in general ensued with Mr Rennie indicating to do his best to resolve the situation. It was reported that in Tamworth there were 5 Probus Clubs for a population of 35,000.

President Steven thanked Mr Rehhe.

The meeting closed at 10:50am.



**Tracy Village  
Social and Sports Club**

**The home of  
Probus Club of Darwin Inc.**



## Heart Foundation Walking

The regular walking group is on Mondays, leaving from Casuarina Square, near the K Mart car centre at 7:30am

For further details,  
contact Janet 0432 154 306

### 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.

### DISCLAIMER

This Directory of Members is for the exclusive use of members of the Probus Club of Darwin Inc. and should not be made available to Non-Members. The information contained in this publication is "Private and Confidential" to Members and is not to be used for any other purpose.