



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.

May Bulletin

Volume 18

Issue 2

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

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CASUARINA NT 0811

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Next meeting

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

Tracy Village Social and Sports Club
Wednesday, 3 May, 2023
10:30am - General Meeting

Janet's Jottings



It has been a busy month for some with holidays, travel, volunteering, Easter and bus trips.

Thank you Bronwyn for organising our bus trip to Batchelor museum , the Adelaide war cemetery, Nurses memorial and lunch at Adelaide River pub and all the info along the way. It was so relaxing to sit at the back of the bus for a change and not have to organise this trip. The Museum has expanded greatly since I was there, Jan Hill has done a mighty job. The War cemetery lawns and gardens were ship shape ready for Anzac Day. Thank you all for a good day and good company.

Just to let you know we have purchased two new computers for our Bulletin Editor and our Secretary so they can continue their work unhindered. Bob is well into his research on a lapel microphone for our meetings.

I was intrigued by the information our last guest speaker from the Seafarers Mission gave. It was an eye opener to what life on some cargo ships and some cruise ships have for their workers. Thanks Jenny Parish for organising a box for our meetings to contribute toiletries and beanie's etc to go to the Seafarers Mission for distribution as needed to the sailors.

More interesting speakers have been booked for the year to keep us informed.

Have a safe and smiling month!

See you at our activities this month.

Cheers

Janet

May Birthdays

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Alan Moy | Robert O'Connor |
| Sheena Short | Colleen D'Arcy |
| Richard Dempster | Robert Scott |
| Barb Pollock | Janet Elliott |
| Julian Jong | Renzo Giuliani |
| Allan Mitchell | Shirley Porte |
| Anne O'Connor | Margaret Egglestone |
| Julie Doherty | Ron Ninnis |

May Anniversaries

Patti and Garry Jacobson
Ken and Connie Cohalan
Anne and Robert O'Connor
Bob and Kay Schulze
Lynette and John Ponter



Hope you enjoy your special day

May

GUEST SPEAKER



Terry Lawler

Carbon Offset/ East Timor/ Volunteer

Interest Groups

May at a glance

| Event Date | Meeting/Event |
|----------------------------|--|
| Monday May 1 - 11:00 am | Book Club at Cas Club, coordinator Bev Barnes |
| Wednesday May 3 - 10:30am | Meeting at Tracy Village |
| Friday May 5—10:15 am | Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes |
| Wednesday May 10- 10:30 am | Garden Club at Bunnings, Palmerston coordinator Bev Aitken |
| Tuesday May 16 - 11:00am | Writing group at Cas Club coordinator Ron Ninnis |
| Wednesday May 17- 10:00 am | 10 pin bowling. Start at the Caramello Café at 10:00 then move on to Kingpin at 11:00am. Coordinator Shirley Porte |
| Wednesday May 17- 6:30 pm | Dining Out at Darwin Bowling Club, Fannie Bay |
| Friday May 26—9:30am | Morning Tea at Boat Shed, Cullen Bay. Coordinator Patti Jacobson |
| Tuesday May 30—1:00pm | Board Games at Pearl. Coordinator Maxine Dienelt |

Morning Tea Boat Shed, Cullen Bay

Friday, 26 May at 9:30am

Please let Patti Jacobson know if you are attending ph 0430 457 552



May
Dining Out
Darwin
Bowls Club
Fannie Bay

Wednesday, 17 May. 6:30pm

Contact
Janet Elliott for any changes Ph 0432 154 306

GARDEN CLUB

A great day at Allora Gardens with 24 garden lovers attending. Always a great atmosphere with the plants, garden features and lovely surrounds. Thanks to Estelle for the assortment of plants to giveaway, including the infamous Bat Plant. Gayen conducted a question and answer session. Then it was off for a great lunch at Midways.



Next meeting Wednesday 10 May 10.30 am at Bunnings, Palmerston.

.Bev Aitken—Coordinator

Board Games

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

Tuesday, May 30, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator



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

It's the little things that make a big difference.

Regis Home Care Darwin, 11 Creswell Street Tiwi
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regis home care

Ken Cohalan OAM

Seniors Snippets



- **Phone Scams** - a number of phone messages re: Post Office parcels, Centrelink payments and requests from MyGov asking for personal information regarding pensioner increase.
- **Senior Recognition Scheme** - currently \$500 to seniors over 65 years, COTANT are trying to get it increased. Registered before end June. The Scheme also includes drivers licence renewal, \$1200 per year for electricity \$800 per year water, \$200 per year council rates and \$502 every two years for glasses.
- **Non Toxic Safe Weedkiller** - Recipe 2 ltrs Vinegar, half cup Salt, 2 tblsp of detergent, stir well to dissolve. food colour can be added to help to identify what you have sprayed.

Other Senior Matters -

- Senior Month Grants \$2,000 application to be forwarded by 23rd April..
- Senior Expo - run by COTA NT. Probus Clubs will have a booth and Palmerston Probus is organising it this year. Saturday 27th May from 9am at Marrara Netball Centre.
- Senior Garden Competition – Heimo Schober CEO KAB will be running the competition once again I will be assisting and Probus Clubs are keen.
- Expressions of Interest Minister Advisory Council for Senior Territorians.

Craft Group

There were 7 of us this morning. What a real hoot. Didn't stop talking and laughing and not understanding why there is such disharmony in our amazing country and it only took the seven of us to solve all of the problematic issues, while slaving over a hot crochet hook/knitting needles and wiring tools.

You are always welcome to come and join this happy group every Friday at the Casuarina Sports Club at 10.15am. We have all the answers

Stay well. Be happy just Crafting along.

Bev Barnes—Coordinator Ph 0434 866 226



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Probus Darwin—Travellers on the move

During January and February this year I had a wonderful holiday travelling in Europe with my daughter and her family. Our travels began with a long journey to England, via Perth and Dubai with several hours spent waiting in airports. Recovery two days were spent in England then back to the airport for the next leg of the journey to Iceland in the hope of seeing the Northern Lights.

Our first day was spent looking around Reykjavik, walking through the snow and ice, trying not to fall over, looking at the Harpa Concert Hall, walking on the frozen lake and visiting the Church of Hallgrímur. The next day saw an early start to do an island tour taking in an erupting geyser, the frozen Gullfloss Waterfall and lava canyon. The sun didn't rise till around 10am so the light in the park was really eerie but very beautiful. Arriving back from the park we went to a geothermal pool—a wonderful experience. Unfortunately we missed out on the Northern Lights—there was too much cloud cover.

Back in England we spent a great week staying near Oxford, in my nephew's home, originally built in King Henry VIII's time and exploring the local areas as well as seeing some of the sights of London. One different activity was being part of the taping of an episode of Britain's Got Talent. That week sped by all too quickly and we then found ourselves on the Eurostar heading across the channel to Paris.



First stop Disneyland and of course going on as many of the rides as possible through the day. Fortunately the queues were generally quite reasonable, and the Disney experience, as always was magical.

Our first day in Paris coincided with a marathon being run on Champs Elysee so we were able to experience seeing the Arc de Triomphe without cars—a whole different story once traffic resumed. We did many of the touristy things in a week—the Eiffel Tower, up to the top of the Arc de Triomphe, Sainte Chapel stained glass windows, a cruise down the River Seine, the Wax Museum, champagne breakfast, and lunch at MonMarte, the Louvre, Musee d'Orsay, Orangerie Museum, a ride in a hot air balloon and lots

of rides on the metros.

Then back on a train to Chur in Switzerland, ready to catch the Bernina Express across the Swiss Alps. This proved to be a beautiful journey—a lovely sunny day with the snow sparkling on the mountains and reflections in the rivers clear. A quick stop in Milan and finally to Venice.

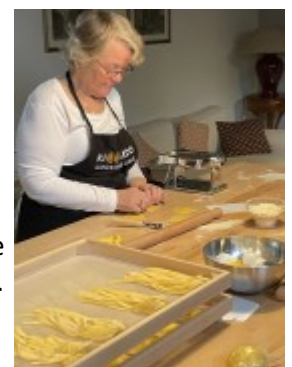


Venice was in the midst of carnivale—lots of masks, costumes, confetti, a wonderful vibrant place, but so many stairs on the little bridges over the canals. One place of great interest was the Leonardo Da Vinci Museum—full of his wonderful inventions, many of them interactive. It was really amazing



to see the breadth of his interests over a relatively short period of time. A gondola ride rounded out our time in Venice.

Our next stop was in Perugia and an overnight stay at the Chocolate Hotel, its claim to fame being the breakfast buffet featuring all things chocolate - a truly amazing feast. Perugia is an old medieval town built with arched stairways and piazzas framed by churches and a reminders of the past including Rocca Paolina, a fortress built in the 1540s. Then on to Florence with its magnificent architecture, museums, gelato and leather. Caught the local bus for a view over the hills of Florence.



Our last train journey took us to Rome and more wonderful history with the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, the Pantheon and Trevi Fountain, the very extensive and beautiful gardens of Villa Borghese and the zoo which houses species of animals that are endangered. We ended our time in Rome with a fun

cooking class learning how to make fresh pasta and fillings then consuming our efforts for lunch.

Our European holiday over it was off to the airport for the long journey back to Darwin via Dubai and Brisbane. All in all a busy but fantastic time had come to an end.

Gwenda Smallacombe

Probus Club of Darwin—outing to Adelaide River

Friday morning some 27 Probarians set off for the wilds of Batchelor and Adelaide River. After picking up a couple of rural dwellers at Coolalinga we were away. It is always nice to have someone else to do the driving and have the elevated view of the countryside that a bus provides.

On arrival at Batchelor Museum, we were greeted by three very nice ladies, and made very welcome. We were shown around the area, which included a couple of dormitories. Lots of photos and stories of the Uranium mining which had taken place at Rum Jungle in the fifties and sixties. The accommodation appeared comfortable, for the period, although whereas the ladies had single rooms the men had to share. Lucky ladies.

We were then provided with tea and coffee and had a look around the admin building which was airconditioned. As we headed off one of our group was heard to remark that the ladies must have had a wow of a time with all those available miners.

Off to the Adelaide River Pub for lunch. Surprisingly the pub carpark was full of tourists, one would have thought it was the dry season. Reserved seating had been set up for us, very handy. The food was good and the service speedy. My fish and chips were excellent. After lunch we set off for the Adelaide River War Cemetery. This is truly an impressive place, so well set out and maintained. Lots of pictures and stories associated with the bombing of Darwin and other places during the second world war. One of our group, Elaine, who had lived in Stasinowsky Street in Darwin, placed a flower on the grave of Jennie Stasinowsky who was killed in the post office, and whom the street is named after.



One of the rooms has been reproduced to show what the bedrooms looked like in the 1950s and 60s.



Adelaide River War Cemetery



Nancy Lay, Janet Elliott, Bronwyn Russell, Rowena McHugh

This Memorial to Nurses (Military and Civil) on Haynes Road, Adelaide River is close to the entrance to the wartime No 119 Australian General Hospital (AGH). The AGH was relocated from Berrimah shortly after the first bombing of Darwin in February 1942. Funding and placement of the memorial was co-ordinated by Janie Mason, Curator – NT Nursing Museum, Charles Darwin University.

The development of the Adelaide River township and area as a rear headquarters and logistics base was accelerated in March 1942. The relocated AGH consisted of 22 nursing staff and 50 patients. Sidney Williams huts, tented wards and facilities were quickly provided. Shortly afterwards these



facilities were shared with the US Army Airforce and the pre-war cattle handling spur line was upgraded and a second line and siding built for medical evacuee trains.

Over the war period the 119 AGH area also accommodated the No 107 AGH and a number of associated medical units. To January 1945 the hospital rail siding had over 160 ambulance train arrivals, carrying in excess of 11,700 patients. With hostilities moving northwards there was little need for a remote hospital and the area reverted to its pre-war use and was abandoned in the mid-1970s. Today only odd scraps of metal and the wreck of the ambulance train receiving station can be found in the undergrowth beyond the Memorial to Nurses.

The trip was fun, social, instructive, and invigorating, if a bit sticky, and fulfilled all the tenets that Probus is about.

Many thanks to Bronwyn and her team, for arranging it and thanks to Bronwyn for your informative and fun commentary as we travelled along, one would almost think that you were once a tour guide.

Reports contributed by Tony Errity, Peter Siebert, Rowena McHugh



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PEARL

Literature, Lunch and Laughter

What an amazing group of people to spend special time with. There were eight like minded, avid book readers at today's get together.

Books read March and discussed April

- **In Cold Blood** by Truman Capote—review: Good read. Would recommend. Left lasting impression.
- **Hades** by Candice Fox—review: OK read. Enjoyed. Too violent and stopped reading.
- **The Devil in the White City** by Erik Larson—review: Thoroughly enjoyed. Most members were unable to obtain this book..
- **Later** by Stephen King—review: Great read



Books to read April and discuss May

- Trespassers by Louise Kennedy
- Nothing ever happens here by William Brusky
- The Fortunes of War by Jackie French
- Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel

Should you wish to join this amazing group of readers come along on the first Monday of the month at 11:00am

Next meeting—1 May, 11:00am at
Casuarina Sports Club

Stay well, stay safe and happy reading, Bev Barnes

TEN PIN BOWLING

We had a good turn up with 14 people. They were Janet Elliott, Maxine Dienelt, Shirley Porte, Bill Porte, Elaine Mackrow, Anne O'Connor, Chris Kuhn, Anne Howard, Ed Howard, Peter Wendell, Richard Dempster, Henrietta Dempster and Nancy Lay.

Elaine made top score for the day with 108 and was closely followed by Henrietta and Richard with 107.

Morning tea at Caramello's on Sabine Road at 10:00am then on to KingPin for the game at 11:00am.

Next get together is on Wednesday
17 May 2023

New members welcome to join us in a fun morning



Chris Kuhn

Vale

Paul Boothby

24 October 1948—28 March 2023



Farewell to Paul, a much valued friend and club member since March 2014.

Sincere condolences extended by Probus Club of Darwin members to Christina and family.

Rest in Peace



Heart Foundation Walking

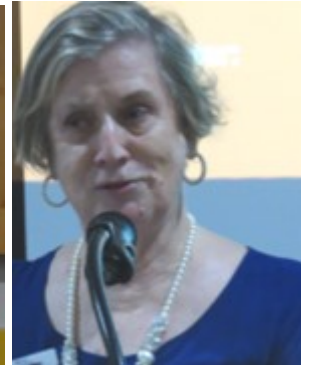
Mondays, leaving from Casuarina Square, near the K Mart car centre at 7:30am

For further details, contact Janelle 0438691163

Out and about in April



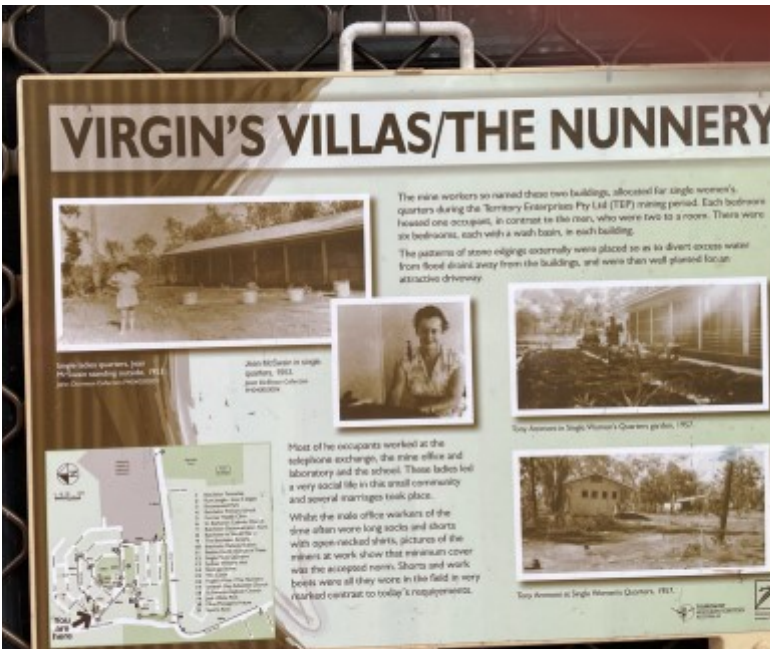
April general meeting—induction of Barb Pollock as a new member. Guest Speaker—Ian McDonald from The Mission for Seafarers.



Garden Club at Allora Gardens



Out and about in April



Adelaide River trip



Book Club



ARCHIE 100



A Century of the Archibald Prize

To be held at the Museum and Art Gallery of NT

15th April to 25th June

Don't miss out on a stunning exhibition! (Cost about \$10)

Lexophile' sent in by Hugh Roberts

Although not in the dictionary, it is reported that 'Lexophile' describes a person who loves sentences such as, "You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish," and, "To write with a broken pencil is pointless."

An annual competition is held by the 'New York Times' to see who can create the best original Lexophile. Some of this year's submissions:

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

He had a photographic memory, but it was never fully developed.

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Table Tennis Interest Group

Every Thursday 9.00 am—11.00 am



\$5— 3 hours including bat and ball hire.

Organised by Charles Darwin Club. Contact Chris 0429171326.

Golf

Probus Golf at Gardens.
Second Monday of the month.
Contact Jeff Mosel ph 0422 187 263



Writing Group

We met together to discuss writing amongst other things.

We had a 7-minute write-up on the topic: "I'm so sleepy...", which gave totally different results, which is usual. I guess that it shows that everyone thinks differently, even though we like to believe that everyone is more or less the same.


Cherie brought along some books which gave pre set writing topics, so we discussed some of these before deciding on next month's topic—"It's alright to be silly"

We discussed different styles of writing including telling yarns. We discussed also writing from different points of view, and how this would make a good exercise for a future topic.

Anyone can have a go, and everyone and every style is welcome. After all, the whole idea is just to write. The next meeting is **Tuesday 16th May at 11 am at the Cas Club**. (always the third Tuesday of the month). Come and enjoy Fun, Friendship and Frivolity. And you can also stay for a good cheap meal after.

Everyone is welcome, but it is best to see me at the next Probus meeting.

You can check out the stories on <https://tinyurl.com/y8839h8b>



Ron Ninnis, Coordinator



2023 Seniors Gardening Competition will be judged differently this year, to encourage engagement and participation by Top End Seniors in the wonderful world of gardening. We've removed the previous usual categories of Best Small Medium Large and Rural Gardens, and this year in 2023 we're looking for those very 'special' and 'unique' gardens . If your garden is special or unique, if you're extremely proud of your garden, if your grand children simply love your garden, then please register and let the judges know what's special about your garden, so it can be judged and assessed under this new awards criteria.

A great presentation at our April meeting.

A request for volunteers and donations to help with a range of activities was made by Ian McDonald



Jenny Parish has offered to provide a donation box at the next meeting for any of the following items that you feel you may like to bring in.

The Mission to Seafarers have suggested the following items would be most useful :

- Men's toiletries—razors, toothbrush toothpaste, combs, toiletry bags, soap
- Beanies, Socks, Underpans

As these men are from Asian communities they are smaller in stature and need small to medium sizes in clothing.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 5 May 1999

Held at the Darwin Sailing Club

Present: Messrs Plew, Simmons, Washington, Dally, Thompson, Larcombe, Fisher, Roberts, Johnstone, Kerr, McLaren, Bromich, Chin,

Apologies: Dimery, Taylor, Thompson, Blackmore,

Visitors: Doug Steven

Minutes: The meeting adopted the Minutes of the previous meeting.

President extended a welcome to visitor Doug Steven

Correspondence:

Inwards—His Honour The Administrator

Outwards—Darwin City Council Library

Treasurer's Report: Bal \$320.20, Receipts \$40, Expenses \$98.30, Bal \$261.90

Council of the Ageing (NT) - COTA—At 10:25 Mr McLaren addressed the meeting on the role and activities of COTA in the NT.

COTA is an independent incorporated association which celebrates 30 years of establishment on 21 August 1969. COTA has established a modern office in Nightcliff Community Centre. COTA is a membership based organisation which is governed by a Board elected bi annually.

Guest Speaker—Mr Rink Van Der Velde who addressed the meeting. He came to NT in 1955, He joined the Water Resources Branch in 1958. Initially recorders were set up in top end rivers and data maintained of water flow, drilling underground bores for stock routes. The Water Act controls the drilling of bores. Members had many questions of Mr Van Der Velde around radioactive materials, state of Katherine's water and mineral content in gold mines. Maps and charts of the Feb 1998 Katherine floods were displayed.

Close: Meeting closed 11:30am.

**Welcome
New
Member**



**Barb Pollock
was inducted
at the
meeting on
5 April 2023**

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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