



# 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 19

Issue 2

**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](http://www.darwinprobus.org)  
Email: [secretaryprobusdarwin@hotmail.com](mailto:secretaryprobusdarwin@hotmail.com)



## Happy Mothers Day to all our lovely ladies



**Next meeting**

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

**Tracy Village Social and Sports Club**  
**Wednesday, 1 May, 2024**  
**10:30am - General Meeting**

## Tony's Titbits

As I sit writing this missive I am preparing to fly to Adelaide tomorrow. My grandson Kym is celebrating his 21st birthday at Hahndorf on Saturday 20th. Are not Grandkids wonderful.

It is with fear and trepidation that that I leave my garden at this time. The dreaded Papaya mealybug invaded the Tiwi Retirement Village some weeks ago and the results have been devastating. The victims so far include Paw Paws, Frangipanis, Hibiscus and Crotons. No doubt others will follow. They also attack vegetables such as beans, cucumbers, and tomatoes. They are extremely fast and can completely cover a plant in less than a week. Sad.

It is time to remember and thank Tracy Village for their support over the years. They set up the room for us, provide tea and coffee and clean up afterwards. All at no cost to us. Whenever possible we should support them by staying for lunch after the meeting. Also please swipe your card whenever you visit.

The Travel Committee have been working hard this year on our behalf. Thanks to Bronwyn and team. First off the rank will be a trip to Crab Claw Island, by boat, on the 15th June. From personal experience this is a terrific trip, and the lunch is excellent so come and join us for a fun day. Coming soon, a further day trip and maybe longer trips or cruises later this year or early next year. The Social Committee have also been busy pencilling in great places to eat and to have coffee for most of the year. Thanks to Patti and crew.

A Meeting of the Hub, made up of members from the four Probus Clubs in Darwin, will be held in early May. This will be looking at such issues as the 50-year celebration of Probus in Australia and the Seniors Expo. The idea of having another themed dinner dance will also be canvassed, particularly after the success of the "Fun in the Forties" event last year.

More seriously, Vale Alan Moy. Alan was a member of this club for 10 years. Alan moved into the Tiwi Retirement village early last year and was a member of the social scene turning up every Friday for drinkies. Alan had the uncanny ability of being able to turn a short story into a long one. He will be missed.

A verse from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: A psalm of life.

Let us then, be up and doing, / With a heart for any fate; / Still achieving, still pursuing / Learn to labor and to wait.

Slainte

Tony



## Vale

### Alan Moy

2 May 1939—8 May 2024

Sadly we say goodbye to Alan, a quiet, dignified man, a man of many interests and a great conversationalist.

Alan had been a supportive member, involved in our Probus Club since November 2014.

Sincere and heartfelt condolences are extended to Alan's family on his passing.

Rest in peace Alan.

Management and Members of Probus Club of Darwin

# Interest Groups

## May at a glance

Event Date	Meeting/Event
Wednesday May 1 - 10:30 am	General Meeting at Tracy Village
Friday May 3 - 10:15 am	Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes
Monday May 6 - 11:00 am	Book Club at Cas Club coordinator Bev Barnes
Wednesday May 8- 10:30 am	Garden club: Bunnings, Palmerston, coordinator Bev Aitken
Friday May 10—5:00 pm	Friday Drinks at Greenhouse Cafe
Wednesday May 15—10:00am	Meet for coffee at 10:00am at Caramello Café then 10 pin bowling at 11:00am coordinator Chris Kuhn
Wednesday May 15—6:30pm	Dining out at Tim's Surf and Turf
Tuesday May 21 - 11:00am	Writing group at Cas Club coordinator Ron Ninnis
Tuesday May 28—1:00 pm	Board Games at Pearl - coordinator Maxine Dienelt
Friday May 31—9:30 am	Morning Tea—Henbury at Casuarina Village

## GARDEN CLUB

26 garden club lovers enjoyed our morning at Antz Plantz nursery, thank you Anthony for a great talk on the beloved MEALYBUG



### Papaya Mealybug

Originated in Central America with 1st specimen collected in Mexico in 1955

Now it has spread to Texas and California and is expected to infect all of the southern US within a few years. It recently turned up in Guam, Sri Lanka and now Darwin (July 2023).

Can only be spread on live plants due to the short life cycle. Plants include Paw Paw, Avocado, citrus, Hibiscus, Frangipani to name a few.

Females are yellow rather than white and can spread to cover an entire plant almost overnight.

The mealybugs attach themselves to plants and suck out chlorophyll and inject toxin into the plant.

### Control

- Remove plants and destroy them.
- Pest oils and soap
- Systemic insecticides

Next meeting on 8 May at 10:30. at Bunnings, Palmerston

.Bev Aitken—Coordinator ph 0412 196 032



Probus Club of Darwin  
May Dining Out

15 May, 2024 6:30pm

Tim's Surf and Turf  
10 Litchfield Street, Darwin

Contact person is

Maxine Dienelt  
ph 0424 283 537



Thank God its Friday

10 May 2024, 5:30pm  
Greenhouse Café, Nightcliff  
Just turn up

What nine letter word in the English language is still a word when eight letters are removed, one by one?

# Profile



## Karin Promchinwong

I came to Darwin in 1997 and started working with the Department of Health

In 2000 I also worked in security working at the Darwin Airport and the Defence Department. through private Security contractors

During this time I also met and married my wonderful husband Prasarn, hence my Thai surname.

Finally after 22 years working at CDC in the Tuberculosis and Leprosy clinic has left me feeling a little lost. My position in admin has been a rewarding and fulfilling time of my life and I miss my work colleagues.

Now retired I look forward to my next new and exciting chapter of life thanks to my friend Mary Verus, who most of you know, and is a member of Probus. Mary took me under her wings and introduced me to Probus and so here I am, ready to enjoy all that Probus offers.

## May Birthdays

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
Robert O'Connor**	Trish Greenfield



## May Anniversaries

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

Hope you enjoy your special day



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# Out and about in April



At our April General Meeting



Do you need help with that word?  
The word is 'startling'.  
Now in what order are the letters  
taken away, one at a time, to make  
a new word each time?"

# Out and about in April



Quite a conversation

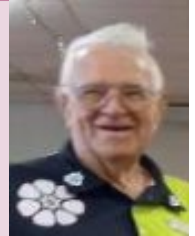


Andrew receiving his 20 year membership certificate

## Ken Cohalan OAM

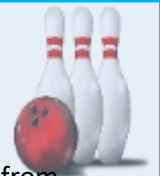
### Seniors Snippets

- **Boost to funds for over 65's**—NTG Senior card will increase to \$550 from Jule under the NT Senior Recognition Scheme.
- **Senior Garden Competition**—Keep Australia Beautiful advised they do not have the funds to operate the competition in 2024. Is it possible for the 4 Probus Clubs or another sponsor to assist in organising/running the competition?
- **Visa Card Fraud**— \$2.2bn was lost from credit card scams in 2022-2023
- **Stay on your feet**—falls are preventable
  - build your balance
  - strengthen your legs
  - check your medicines
  - reduce alcohol
  - check your eyesight
  - wear safe footwear
- **Aged Pension**—effective 20 March an increase in aged pension subject to your assets.



## TEN PIN BOWLING

Again, after the usual delicious goodies at Caramello we moved on to the Bowling Alley where more people were ready to bowl.



We had a very large turnout of 21 people. It was good to have Ros Pocock and Colleen Cordon join us from Charles Darwin Probus. Also good to have Marrara Probus represented by Cheryl Sedgwick and Bev Alford.

Richard Dempster continued his winning streak with a score of 117. Nancy wasn't far behind with 114 and Janet came next with 112. Chris, Ed and Anne H and Cheryl managed to stay in the 100's. Ed was much happier with his score of 103 this month. Bev was the only scorer in the 90's. Robyn, Ros, Colleen, Molly, Robyn Moo, and Elaine scored in the 80's.. Anne O'Connor and Lyn Barlow managed to score in the 70's with Mara and Henrietta bringing up the rear with their scores in the 60's. Brian and Maxine were our chief supporters this time around.

See you next month—May 15 at 10:00am.

Chris Kuhn Coordinator

## Literature, Lunch and Laughter

We were a happy, enthusiastic group of six avid readers..

Titles discussed were:



### Discuss May

#### *Home coming by Kate Morton*

Mystery thriller, a story depicting the power of motherhood, truth and love. Christmas in the Adelaide Hills 1959.

#### *Lola in the Mirror* by Trent Dalton

Big hearted, gritty, magical and moving, set in Brisbane.

*Through the Glass Ceiling to the Stars* by Eileen Collins  
Memoir of a trail blazing aviation pioneer.

We meet on the **First Monday of the month at Casuarina Sports Club at 11.am** and if you enjoy reading we are always happy to welcome new members!

### Next meeting—6 May 2024

Stay well. Stay safe, and read with gusto.  
Beverley Barnes

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## Morning Tea

Friday, 31 May, 9:30am

At Henbury at Casuarina Village

Contact: Patti Jacobson, ph 0430 457 552

Here's a little help:

1. Startling.
2. Starting.
3. Staring.

# Bits and Pieces

Thank you for making me feel so welcome at the April meeting. Scams and Australian Consumer Law, Consumer guarantees for goods and services are a couple of huge topics.

I trust people enjoyed the session, found it to be informative and learnt a bit about NT Consumer Affairs.

I recall one of the questions was regarding nuisance phone calls. You can request to be added to the "Do not call register" if you think the call is coming from a legitimate Australian institution. If one is unsure, it may be more advisable to not answer the call in the first place. It is suggested to not respond to spam and scam text messages or phone calls as by reacting to them only confirms that your phone number/email account are still valid

Here is the link to the Do not call register; <https://www.donotcall.gov.au/>

Please feel free to contact myself or our NT Consumer Affairs call centre should you have any queries.

Janine Mitchell



## Craft Group

Another happy band of busy hands creating beautiful pieces of craft. We now have five ladies doing Japanese Saschiko stitching. Thank you Elaine for introducing this most enjoyable art.



This baby floor rug is a work in progress. Had better get a wriggle on. Baby boy will need this come June.

Nobody needs to feel alone. You are always welcome to join us every Friday at the Casuarina Sports Club at 10.15am. We are always interested in learning new

## Travel Group

### Upcoming travel events

**Crab Claw Island—cruise and seafood lunch, Departs Cullen Bay Ferry Terminal at 10:30am on 15 June.**

### Cruise - Queen Elizabeth

#### More info:

Cunard Q431C, 10 nights Darwin to Fremantle (balcony) \$4427 - 26 Oct to 5 Nov

Cunard Q431A, 8 nights Sydney to Darwin (balcony) \$3719 - 18 to 26 Oct

No vacancies for balconies. \$8600 for twin with balcony. There are 5 groups going from Probus.

### Ideas in the planning and consideration stage include Vietnam cruise/tour

11 days. **Hello World - The Magical Mekong Cruise**

or

**13 or 15 -Day Wonders of Vietnam, Cambodia and the Mekong**



# Can you help??

A couple of requests for assistance have come through to the club this month. Have a look and see if you might like to are/or able to help

## Volunteer Reading Program

Driver Primary, are seeking volunteers to help raise the literacy skills of the students throughout the school, from Transition to Year 6. This would possibly be through an "adopt a granny/grandpa" program.

We are looking for adult community members who can go to the school on a regular basis, and share a book with their amazing students. This can involve either listening to a student read or reading to students either individually or in small groups.

Our goal is to ensure that every student has the opportunity to read with an adult on a daily basis, in order to improve their reading levels.

The volunteers would need an ochre card. The cost of this can be reduced by obtaining a volunteer form from our front office, cost approximately \$8.

For further enquiries or to follow this up and volunteer please either contact Nicola Cameron at Driver Primary or our Secretary Jill Kuhn.

Nicola Cameron

Ph 8935 9000

[nicola.cameron@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:nicola.cameron@education.nt.gov.au)



Beanies, shawls or square blankets are needed for our many homeless people .

They are donated via Sunset Soup Kitchen or Auntys Free Feeds.

They need kid's sizes as well as adult. The beanies and blankets are

always very much appreciated. It will get cold during the night for the rough sleepers and they seem to have more cold nights than usual currently.

Please contact Lyn Kelso at Friendly Pools Coconut Grove, [8948 4288](tel:89484288) or just drop your items there.



## For Mission to Seafarers

Sheila and Elaine from the Probus Marrara craft group have made the bags shown to the left, for the Mission to Seafarers. A big thank you to the ladies for all the time and effort as well as to all the people who have donated fabric, cottons and zips

In addition the group members have made:

- 42 various size zippered bags from toiletry size to larger ones that would hold clothes.
- 2 knitted beanies
- 22 scrunchies
- T shirts, handkerchiefs
- Socks and toiletries.

Thank you so much ladies for your great support to this group.

All donations welcome so bring them along to the next meeting. This is an ongoing collection.

# Out and about in April



## Heart Foundation Walking

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

For further details, contact Janet 0432 154 306

## 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.



## Writing Group

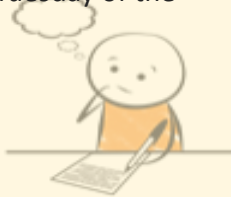
At the monthly meeting at the Cas Club, I was the only member of the writing club there. Bev and Wendy were away, and Sheila was sick. So, I have set a new writing topic, and also had time to finish writing it, which just goes to show it does not take long to write.

The new topic is "Geckos". It seems as if everyone in Darwin has a story about these friendly little lizards.

Please find my Gecko story later on in the newsletter.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 21 May at 11 am at the Cas Club. (Always on the third Tuesday of the month.)

Ron Ninnis, Coordinator



Can you continue removing a letter to create a new word until you have only 1 remaining.

Answer will be available at the meeting..

Sent in by Lyn Barlow



It is the lap of luxury: to lie in a hammock on the porch at home, just after a brisk morning walk. With a cup of hot frothy cocoa in one hand.

And just staring up at the ceiling, just resting and watching the geckos above me. They are always there, occasionally glancing my way, then snapping their heads around to watch an insect land, or to watch a neighbouring gecko sneaking up behind them.

You can watch them hunting. A little switch of the tail and they will creep up closer to the fly or moth, eyes now completely focused. A patient wait, and, if they are lucky they can then rush to be right behind, then SNAP !

Much of the time, they are waiting around, keeping a lookout for other geckos. I have seen a staring competition, which I imagine was between two rivals of the same size. They circled each other, with tails flicking to the side. Then one turned away- and that was the end of that confrontation.

I have also watched a large gecko and a smaller one, where the smaller one ran off after a few minutes of being crept up on by the larger one.

At the end of each encounter, there is always the tail flicking and a clicking sound, which I translate as: "He He, see you next time. "

The louder sounds are in the night-time just before dawn. I imagine this is when the insects and geckos are both at their peak. The voices are sometimes strident and wake me up.

Living under the porch ceiling are also monitor lizards, usually tucked in the roof pylons. I know that they are watching when all the geckos are silent.

Most of the time, we mind our own businesses, all three species living together under the porch. But one day, I was gardening right next to the porch - just pulling some weeds - and sitting down on the ground to get a good angle to pull the weeds out. From behind me I heard a rustle, and one of the larger monitors ran up my arm to grab an insect at the base of the grass roots. Its legs were cold, but I hardly had time to notice- after grabbing its prey, it scuttled away.

Since that day, we have been calling the large monitor Monty. He seems to like the name.

By Ron Ninnis

## Board Games

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

**30 April, 1:00pm**

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator



## Golf

Contact

Jeff Mosel ph 0422 187 263



## 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.



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# Out and about



Judy celebrating her 80th birthday. Congratulations



Barb with the walking group at White Rock/ Yankee Pools. Barb was game to go in the water despite the cool 25<sup>o</sup> morning.

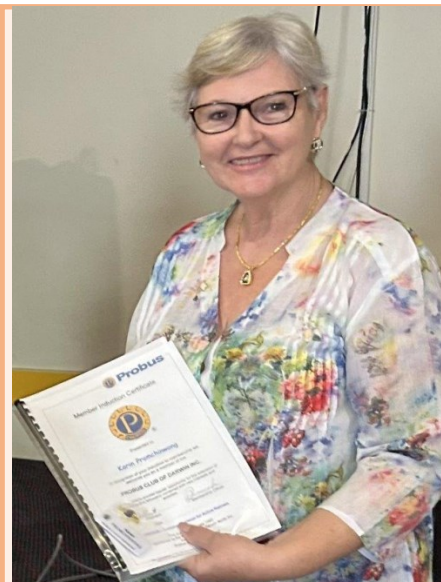


Nancy with the walking group on a trip to Robyn Falls. Plenty of walking and rock hopping.

Get ready to embark on a thrilling musical journey with The Darwin Chorale's latest production, "Heroes and Villains." Making a welcome return is the beloved character of Alfonso Disney, who is enjoying the quiet life when things take an unexpected turn as a kidnapping sends shockwaves through the beloved animated universe. Join us for an unforgettable performance filled with suspense, laughter, and toe-tapping tunes from Shrek, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Encanto, Toy Story and many more as we explore the complexities of heroism and villainy in the magical world of the movies!

Visit <https://www.darwinchorale.org.au/booktickets> to buy your tickets now!!

A promotional poster for a musical production. At the top, it says "Darwin Chorale and CDU Academy of the Arts present". Below this is a film strip graphic that curves across the poster, featuring various Disney characters including Woody, Buzz Lightyear, Elsa, Shrek, the Incredibles, and the Hunchback of Notre Dame. The title "HEROES &amp; VILLAINS" is written in large, white, serif font. Below the title, it says "Matinee &amp; Evening | 5, 6, 7 &amp; 12, 13 July 2024" and "Charles Darwin University Theatre". At the bottom, it says "Tickets available from www.darwinchorale.org.au". Logos for Charles Darwin University Australia, Nexia Edwards Marshall NT, UniPrint, and Darwin Chorale are at the bottom.



## Member Inductions

Welcome Karin and Peter,  
inducted as new  
members of Probus Club of  
Darwin at the April meeting.

**Karin  
Promchinwong**



**Peter Russell**



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

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 3 May 2000

Held at the Darwin Bowls Club

**Present:** Messrs Dally, Thompson, Johnstone, Steven, Roberts, Blackmore, Kerr, Plew, Washington, Scott, Dr McLaren, Chin, Bromich ,

**Apologies:** Larcombe, Taylor, Simmons, Fisher, Dimery

**Visitors:** Frank Upton, David Pegum, Gavin Hayhurst

**Welcome:** Mr President extended a warm welcome to New member Mr Malcolm Scott

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

#### Correspondence:

**Inwards**—Probus News March/April 2000.

**Outwards**—Probus Treasurer not present so no report

**General Business:** Mr Plew spoke briefly on the new NT Electoral Boundaries as reported in the press.

**Guest Speaker:** Gavin Hayhurst of the Australian Taxation Office. He spoke about the GST

Due to begin on 1 July 2000. All businesses will be affected by the GST. Some services such as water are exempt. Consumer market forces to prevail. The Government anticipates the new tax to generate 15 billion dollars in the first year.

Mr Hayhurst presented a paper relating to PAYG for Investment Income for members information. Mr Hayhurst answered numerous questions.

Meeting closed at 10:55am

## Guest Speaker



Due to a number of requests to  
"finish the story"

### Ron Wright

will continue with his

### Exploits in New Guinea

**For those who may have missed the first part of this story and to everyone who wants to be able to fully appreciate everything this story brings it is well worth reading the booklet that has been sent out.**

**Jill emailed out the booklet— Mokolkols on 9 April.**

#### 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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