



# PROBUS CLUB OF DARWIN INC #355594

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Darwin North Inc

The Probis 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.

November Bulletin

Volume

18

Issue

8

**PATRON**

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

PO Box 40452

CASUARINA NT 0811

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

Email: [secretaryprobisdarwin@hotmail.com](mailto:secretaryprobisdarwin@hotmail.com)



## 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 November, 2023**  
**10:30am - General Meeting**

## Janet's Jottings

**W**OW what a busy and fun Probus month this October was for most!!  
The International Theme for Probus month being "Good Friends, Great Times and New Adventures". Did we achieve this??

What a joy to see so many members participate with good humour and talent at our combined Probus day morning tea held at Pearl Leisure Centre. With the magic of Bill Roy and the Pearlers sharing their love of music, the Probus members were singing and dancing through the morning.

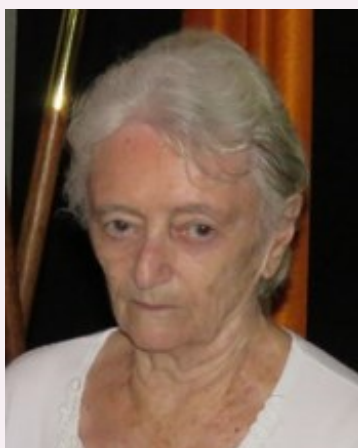
Then onto the Fun in the 40's Dinner Dance where we were entertained by the Andrew Sisters and our members of all four Top End Probus Clubs.

So many went all out to dress up for the night, stepping back into that era, you looked fabulous! We danced the night away, oh my feet.

The next major event for our club is our Christmas Party in December to be held at Silks. Some of our members are heading on their trip to Norfolk Island and will miss out but we look forward to hearing and reading their tales and seeing photos. More information in the Bulletin.

On a sadder note, our condolences to Doug Steven on the loss of Molly, we will all miss her Doug. Also we think of those who are not faring so well with their health and haven't been able to join us. You are not forgotten.

See you all soon,  
Cheers  
Janet



## Vale

### Molly Steven

19 July 1936—  
5 October 2023

*Farewell to Molly, a much valued friend and club member since December 2019.*

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

*Rest in Peace Molly*



**November**  
**GUEST SPEAKER**

## Meghan Bailey

## Jade Neave

Meghan and Jade work with Menzies School of Health Research, in the Rheumatic Heart Disease team. Rheumatic heart disease is rare in most wealthy countries, but affects children in remote communities in Australia and in Timor-Leste at extremely high rates. Tragically, as a result of the disease, children can develop severe heart failure requiring open heart surgery, and sadly some die.

The current project is funded to mid-2025, and during the presentation Meghan, in the project management role, and Jade, as research assistant will share information about RHD and how the Menzies RHD research supporting communities to detect and treat Rheumatic Heart Disease .

# Interest Groups

## November at a glance

Event Date	Meeting/Event
Wednesday Nov 1 - 10:30am	Meeting at Tracy Village
Friday Nov 3 - 10:15 am	Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes
Monday Nov 6—11:00 am	Book Club at Cas Club, coordinator Bev Barnes
Wednesday Nov 8- 10:30 am	Next garden club at Bunnings on Bagot Road, coordinator Bev Aitken
Monday Nov 13 - 8:30am	Golf
Wednesday Nov 15- 10-:00 am	10 pin bowling. Start at Caramello Café at 10:00 then move on to Kingpin at 11:00am. Coordinator Chris Kuhn
Wednesday Nov 15- 6:30 pm	Dining Out—Tracy Village
Saturday Nov 18 5:00pm	Christmas Pageant
Tuesday Nov 21 - 11:00am	Writing group at Cas Club coordinator Ron Ninnis
Friday Nov 24—9:30am	Morning Tea at Foreshore Café. Coordinator—Rowena
Tuesday Nov 28—1:00pm	Board Games at Pearl. Coordinator Maxine Dienelt

### GARDEN CLUB

35 wonderful gardeners went along to Pearl Retirement Centre where they were treated to a presentation by Pat Rasmussen on a plant named Dorstenia or mattress button plant. We were then entertained by Ed talking about the much smaller number of mangos available this year. The group then went along to Silks for a great lunch.

Next Meeting, Wednesday 8th November, 10:30am at Bunnings, Bagot Road

Bev Aitken—Coordinator



### November Dining Out Tracy Village

Wednesday, 15 November. 6:30pm  
Contact Bev Whitby for any changes  
Ph 0407 053 903

### Board Games

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

Tuesday, November 28, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator

### Morning Tea

Friday, 24 November at 9:30am

Foreshore Cafe at Nightcliff

Please let Rowena know if you are attending Ph 0413 289 555

### Thank God its Friday

November 10 and 24, 6:00pm

Greenhouse Café, Nightcliff

Just turn up



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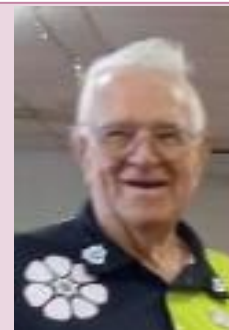
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### Ken Cohalan OAM

#### Seniors Snippets

- **Probus Day** - Great morning tea get together at Pearl Retirement Village. Members from the 4 Top End Clubs attended and each club provided some entertainment and great fellowship. Many thanks to the organisers.
- **Thanks to Marrara Probus Club** - for the presentation of Life Membership to Connie and myself. I am pleased to be past president and Life member of each of the 4 Top End Probus Clubs.
- **Age Pension** - increase from 20th September 2023. Single age pensioner \$32.70 per fortnight to \$1096.70 and a couple increased by \$24.70 each member \$826.70. .
  - Pensioner earning per year have been increased by \$4,000 to \$11,800
  - Assets limit has been increased by \$11,000
  - You need to check this information email [www.servicesaustralia.gov.au](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) or call at Centrelink Office Darwin
- **Terminology** - if born between 1946 - 1964 you are Baby Boomer  
 if born between 1965 and 1979 then you are generation X  
 if born between 1980 and 1994 then you are generation Y  
 if born between 1995 and 2010 then you are generation Z



#### Craft Group

What a hoot! Wish you were here enjoying the stories of these talented ladies.

We meet every Friday at the Casuarina Sports Club at 10.15am. Don't be alone, come and join us. You are always welcome.

Stay happy. Happy Crafting Bev Barnes—  
Coordinator Ph 0434 866 226

# Probus Darwin—Travellers on the move

## The Spice Islands with Peter Siebert

When Coral Expeditions (Cairns) advertised a 'new diverse voyage to explore the Spice Islands and the fabled islands of Raja Ampat, through the Republic of Palau and the small remote islands of Micronesia'

([www.coralexpeditions.com/au/destinations/papua-new-guinea/darwin-guam-16-nights](http://www.coralexpeditions.com/au/destinations/papua-new-guinea/darwin-guam-16-nights)) – Darwin to Guam. I said to Libby 'this was the trip' – as it bought together several interests and curiosities which I had developed over the years.

Firstly – the Spice Islands – I sailed past Banda on my first DSC Darwin-Ambon yacht race ('Free-n-Easy' – John and Betty Wilkins) - my studies of the European search for easy access to the rich spices by the likes of Magellan ([www.worldhistory.org/article/1872](http://www.worldhistory.org/article/1872)) and the later Spice War ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=goJB07ixzhI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goJB07ixzhI)) instilled an urge to 'eventually' visit this group of islands. In Ambon I visited the Gull Force WW2 cemetery ([www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/alliesinadversity/japanese/ambon](http://www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/alliesinadversity/japanese/ambon)) and, as my father and an uncle had served, over the years I read about the Japanese and Allied conflicts in the region. A visit beckoned. Finally, a slide show by DSC yachties Roger and Claude Collins of their scuba dives in Raja Ampat, which they declared as the best reefs and fishes they had encountered, cemented the decision to book the voyage.



Libby and Peter

Away - 'Coral Adventurer' slipped at 0900 Tuesday 22 August from Fort Hill wharf. Soon after departing we all assembled in the Bridge Lounge for the safety brief, crew and expedition team introductions. The lounge was to become our 'second home' as all lectures, workshops, demonstrations, movies, daily recaps and pre-caps of the next day's activities were conducted in the lounge. Our cabin was on deck 4 where we had level access aft to the free seating Dining Room, the aft deck and stairs to the lower deck where the Explorers (landing craft) were loaded and lowered into the water. The two Explorers could accommodate all 90+ passengers.

Following Indonesian customs clearance in Ambon we were escorted into Banda Neira on Friday morning by two kora kora war canoes. Our first snorkel/dive was on the coral gardens regrown on the 1988 lava from the active volcano Gunang Api. After lunch we were welcomed by dignities and with local guides toured the Dutch colonial town— including the Belgica Fort. An early morning bird walk, village walk and climb up to the Hollandia Fort and nutmeg plantation finished our visit. My first mission accomplished!

Continuing northwards we sailed to Misool Island in the southern part of Raja Ampat. Cruising in the Explorer amongst the limestone rock formations; climbing up a steep path for an overview and then snorkelling in

the pristine waters with colourful fish and corals we verified Roger and Claude's summation of the area.

The next day saw us in Sorong, capital of Southwest Papua, for a cultural morning with the local Moi Tribe dance performance, inspection of habitat conservation and witness the release of captured birds from the illegal animal trade back into the wild. Having dispensed with the 'tourist' bit we departed for Helen Reef, Palau (Micronesia) – crossing the Equator on the way. The reef is a submerged atoll with a small sand island in a large managed conservation marine zone. To disembark close to the sand island one of the ship's Explorer's led the ship in (this certainly was a groundbreaking 'new' voyage for Coral Expeditions!). Two rangers live on the island to protect the turtle breeding site and deter poachers. Snorkelling within the atoll was superb.



Band a—welcome dance by schoolgirls

# Probus Darwin—Travellers on the move

The following afternoon, Thursday 31st August, we went ashore to meet the 8 inhabitants of Sonsorol Island ([www.sonsorol.com/history](http://www.sonsorol.com/history)). Four of the locals guided us around the village and we discussed island life with them – truly tourism far removed from the ‘standard way’! Overnight we continued onto Palau and in the afternoon disembarked for an afternoon bus tour of the Palau International Coral Reef Centre and the Belau National Museum. On this tour we learnt that the abundance of marine life has made Palau one of the world’s premium scuba-diving locations. The next morning we were to observe this with a day of snorkelling – first amongst the freshwater jellyfish and in the afternoon in a magnificent setting where we went to three sites to observe giant clams; schools of colourful fish close to shore with sharks passing through the schools and then an area with various corals and multiple fish species.



Raja Ampat - view and Libby

Another day at sea saw us at Yap where we spent the half the day snorkelling and then on a city tour visiting a traditional village and examining their collection of their stone money (rai), carved discs of calcite up to 4m in diameter ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rai\\_stones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rai_stones)). Although Yap was a Japanese naval base and air station during WW2 the installations which included underground fortifications were not seen because of the distance from town.

Early Tuesday morning ‘Coral Adventurer’ anchored off Mogmog Island, in the Ulithi Atoll. The Master (Captain Matt) went ashore to meet with the High Chief to request permission for passengers to visit and tour the village. We then landed and in small groups were shown the village and discussed lifestyle matters – very different to our lifestyle and interesting to learn about. No passengers opted to stay!

Our last shore excursion was landing on the uninhabited Soral Atoll. Under the guidance of a Soral Ranger we walked the beach observing monitors raiding turtle nests and devouring the eggs; waded in the shallows or engaged in bird watching. Later some transferred to an adjacent island for more bird watching.

Next morning, Thursday 7th September, we disembarked at Yap and flown by Coral to Cairns – no, we never got to Guam.....but that’s another story. The ship’s next voyage was to Toyko.

## Update from the Darwin Probus Travel Committee

The committee has discussed a number of suggestions put forward by club members for travel in 2024 and 2025. At this stage they are being investigated for feasibility. Some suggestions include:

- ◆ Dili October 2024 experience (Timor Leste), looking at 4-5 days, possibly in March.
- ◆ Mudgee—too expensive and now off the list.
- ◆ Sri Lanka tour/cruise and Cambodia and Vietnam cruise/tour. These two activities are currently being investigated.
- ◆ Kununurra Full Moon Experience.



Tracy Village Social and Sports Club

The home of  
Probus Club of Darwin Inc.



LAUGH, DANCE AND CEILIDH ON  
BEGINNERS MOST WELCOME!

**ST. ANDREWS CEILIDH**  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2023  
7.00 pm till 11:30 pm  
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Stokes Street, Parap



*With the Arafura Scottish Country Dancers*  
Music by St. Andrews Ceilidh Band and the Darwin & District Pipes & Drums  
Enjoy the Robbie Burn's traditional Toast to the Haggis

Entry - \$35.00- strictly cash only, children free  
Includes supper, tea, coffee & water.  
BYO and a plate to share.

Supported by the Top End Folk Club and the NT Community Benefit Fund



For more information  
contact Mara: 0438 842 138

# Out and about in October



# Out and about in October



Probus Day proved to be very special for Secretary Lyn Barlow as she received her life membership award from Minister for Seniors Lauren Moss MLA. Lyn was quite overwhelmed. Marrara awarded life membership to Ken and Connie Cohalan.

The 4 Probus Clubs of the Top End combined to celebrate National Probus Day with a great get together and morning tea at Pearl Recreation Centre. Lots to celebrate with the youngest club—Marrara celebrating their 5th birthday, and each club providing entertainment for members to enjoy. And we finished the morning with a great rendition of the Hokey Pokey with many joining in.

Bill Roy and the Pearlers provided music for a sing a long; Darwin Probus presented 2 skits—poem "The Man from Ironbark" and a rendition of the song "Seven Little Girls sitting in the back seat with Fred". Palmerston Club presented their version of Roald Dahl's "Little Red Riding Hood", Charles Darwin some jokes and Marrara the history of their first 5 years.

Patrons for Marrara Club—Kate Worden MLA and Palmerston—Lia Finocchiaro MLA and Minister for Seniors Lauren Moss MLA assisted in cutting the cake with President of Marrara, Jeff Mosel.





# Out and about in October



7 little girls sitting in the back seat with Fred.



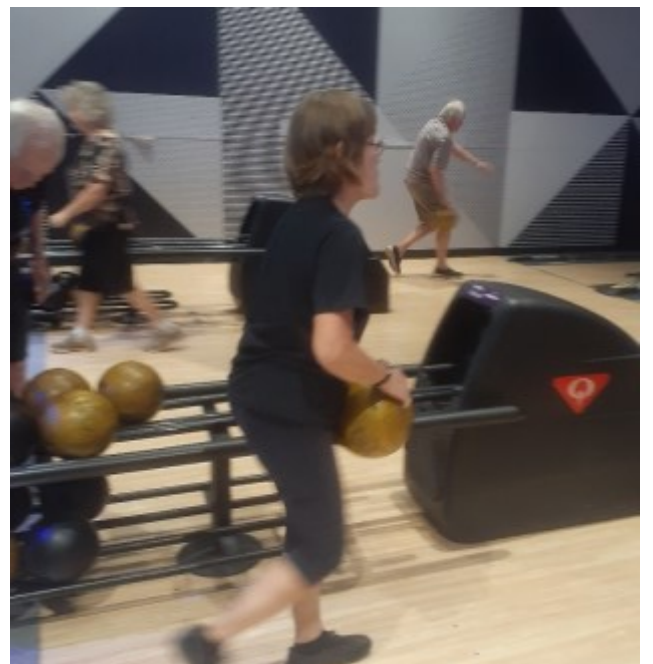
Doing the Hokey Pokey



Judy celebrated her birthday



Morning tea before 10 pin bowling.





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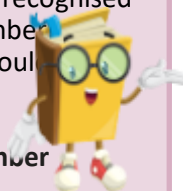


### Literature, Lunch and Laughter

Always good to meet with like minded friends to discuss various selected book titles and authors

#### Books read September and discussed October

- **Demian** by Herman Hesse. Not read by most. Found it difficult to relate to and drawn out
- **Kane and Abel** by Jeffrey Archer All agreed this book is a good read and is recommended.
- **Lessons in Chemistry** by Bonnie Gamus Thoroughly enjoyed by all who read the book. Up hill battle women endured in the work place to be recognised as an intelligent, educated, capable member of society. Determined lady to break the mould. read and highly recommended.



#### Books to read October and discuss November

- **Bel Canto** by Ann Patchett
- **Mightier than the Sword** by Jeffrey Archer
- **Prodigal Daughter** by Jeffrey Archer

We meet on the first Monday of the month and new members are welcome to join us at the Casuarina Club where we meet at 11 to discuss books. eat, drink and be merry.

Next meeting—Nov 6, 11:00am at Cas Sports Club

Stay well, stay safe and happy reading, Bev

### 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.

### November Birthdays

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Molly West         | Colin Beard**     |
| MaryAnn Bin-Sallik | Barry Darben      |
| Mavis Leo          | Sue Wright**      |
| Jenny Darben       | Bronwyn Russell   |
| Jeanette Graham    | Annabelle Lawford |
|                    | Mick White**      |

### November Anniversaries

- Mick and Dianne White  
Lyn and Michael Martin



Hope you enjoy your special day





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## Golf


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



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**Heart  
Foundation**

## 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

## TEN PIN BOWLING


Caramello's was a hit this time with fourteen members fronting up for something delicious. Even more members turned up when the bowling started with a total of 21 attending the bowling venue.

Maxine led the group with a great score of 118 followed by Roz with 113. Janet just managed to hit the century with 104. Ed wasn't far behind with 97 and Fred managed to stay in the 90's. Lyn, Ron, Tony, Anne O'C scored in the 80's. Peter, Elaine, and Molly were close together in the 70's and Mara, Chris and Anne Howard fought bravely to stay in the 60's. Several members chose not to use the side barriers so will be interesting to see if they do the same next time.

It is a fun morning and again we invite you to come along. Please feel free to just come and cheer the others on if you don't want to break your thumbs in the ball sockets. My wife has this fear, so she leaves it to me.

See you next time, Wednesday 15 November 2023

Chris Kuhn



## Congratulations

Mary Verus  
has been nominated by Anglicare Australia for a Volunteering Certificate of Appreciation. She is invited to the 2023 NT Volunteer of the Year Awards to receive it.



## Writing Group

We had a short meeting where we read out our stories on last month's exercise, discussed topics as far reaching such as the names of the Apostles, our health statuses, and also wondering if it is possible that writing backwards would improve our writing.(probably not)

The 7 minute write-up was on the topic: "Just do it!" As usual we had plenty of laughs.

The new topic for the coming month is: **"A White Christmas"**

The next meeting is : **Tuesday 19th November at the Cas Club at 11 am** for some more enjoyable FFF and afterwards a good cheap meal for those who wish to stay on.

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



### Carry On written by Marilyn Roberts (Darwin Probus Book Club)

Ee our lad, what a carry on.

With the 'evocative ee' this in dialect became a typical North Yorkshire saying. The 'evocative ee' is a traditional means of demonstrating sympathy, remonstrating, praising, delighting, denigrating and generally anything else ending in 'ing' dependent on the message that is being given and anything else you want it to be, often with an exclamatory overtone.

It usually is attached to an identifier such as 'our lass', 'our June', 'our mam' or such to ensure ownership and relationship of the person being ee'd.

Ee our Jean, fancy doing that!

Ee our Jean, what an honour!

Ee our Jean, how could you?

I feel sorry for Jean but a lot of the ees are very affectionate and are certainly better than 'oy you'

But let's not mention the thee's and tha's, it's sufficient that the 't' has taken over the role of the definite article.

And carrying on is what most of Yorkshire people do and sometimes this is expressed externally by gestures and often judgement attached to the 'ee'.

Ee what a carry on (to-do), a lot of owt about nowt.

Ee our Marilyn, why did you write this?

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Sell: \$20.00



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Sell: \$20.00

### Traditional Baked Puddings

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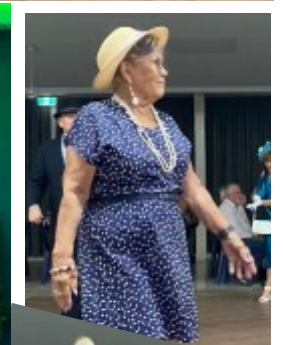
Sell: \$10.00

Jim is trying to organise for a Rotary representative to be available at the meeting with cakes and puddings.

Alternatively there will be an order form available and deliveries will be made.

## Fun in the 40's Night Dinner Dance with The Andrews Sisters

A night filled with laughter, singing, dancing, competitions and the excellent performance of the "Andrews Sisters". Many folk made the effort to dress in the style of the 1940s. This was an event attended by members of the 4 Top End Probus Clubs.





## Toowoomba and its Carnival of Flowers

Sent in by Majella Graham

Bev Aitkin and myself independently went to Toowoomba to enjoy its Carnival of Flowers.

The idea for a Floreal themed carnival was brainstormed in 1949 by Toowoomba City Council members to celebrate and promote the increase in economic activity following on from the hardships of WW2 and to capitalize on Toowoomba's long held reputation as a "Garden City"..



In 1950 a 3 mile parade led by a bullock team, was watched by an estimated 50,000 crowd. Now it attracts 300,000.

Bev watched the parade but I was a week behind her and ambled with my grandgirls in the inaugural "Teddy Bears Picnic" parade..

September's weather offers clear blue sky's, perfect to stroll through numerous parks.

- ◇ A photographers dream!
- ◇ Other activities are;
- ◇ Wine and food weekend
- ◇ Free outdoor Cinema Nights
- ◇ The Cobb and Co Museum, a permanent building.
- ◇ "Carnival Bus Tours' operate from Brisbane throughout September.

Toowoomba endures strict water restrictions, so it's a credit to It's Council members , staff and residents to offer local and tourists access to a carefree and uplifting display of joy!



Each year Probus Club of Darwin participate in collecting items to donate to the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal.

Non perishable foods and other items as well as gift items can be brought along to the **November** meeting.

Member Ian Dawson will take the items to give to the Salvation Army Appeal.

This collection is usually very well supported by our members and very much appreciated by the recipients.

Donating to the Salvation Appeal is a voluntary activity



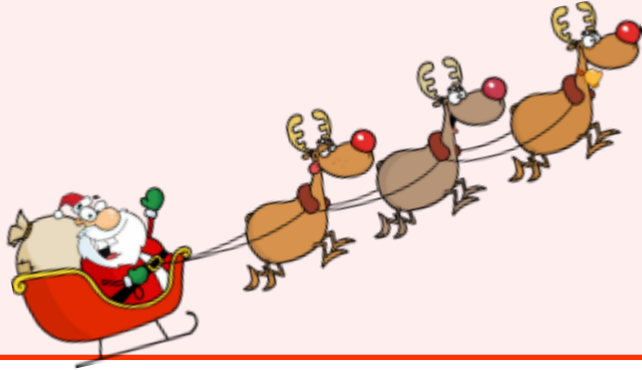


Probus Club of Darwin

# Christmas Lunch

Silks Restaurant

Wednesday, 6 December, 11:30am



Cost: \$55 members, \$65 non members

Bookings and payment need to be finalised by 22 November



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 3 November 1999

Held at the Darwin Sailing Club

**Present:** Messrs Plew, Fisher, Dally, Thompson, Dimery Washington, Thompson, Giese, Roberts, Kerr, Steven, Johnstone, McLaren, Taylor, Chin, Dr Bromich Simmons

**Apologies:** , Blackmore, Larcombe, Penhall

**Visitor:** Mr Ray Taylor, Ludmilla.

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

**Correspondence:**

**Inwards**—His Honour the Administrator, Rights on Show Art Award, Tambling Report, Senator Crossin Newsletter, COTA Annual Report.

**Outwards**—Dr Neil Conn, Darwin Sailing Club, NTU Library, Submission to Mr Snowdons Office

**Treasurer's Report:** Bal \$282.15, Receipts Nil, Expenses \$7.65, Bal \$275.50

**Christmas Lunch**—Meeting informed that Xmas Lunch on 1 December has been finalised. Patron Dr Conn and Mrs Conn have accepted invitation. 3 course lunch \$22 per person.

**Guest Speaker**—Mr Mike Taylor, born in England. He lived 14 years in a village, remembered King George V Silver Jubilee. After WWII outbreak, at age 16 he joined the merchant navy, sailing first on an old coal burner. Wages were £10 a month including danger money. He later sailed around Canada then North Africa then transferred to US Liberty ships until 1946. Soon after he came to Australia, worked for Red Cross in Victoria, involved in social welfare work amongst Aborigines in country areas. He later settled in NT. In recent times he became involved in Youth Hostels both in Australia and internationally.

Meeting ended 11:00am.

## 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.

### 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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