



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

November Bulletin

Volume

20

Issue

8

PATRON

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

PO Box 40452

CASUARINA NT 0811

Web Page: www.darwinprobus.org

Email: secretaryprobusdarwin@hotmail.com



Enjoying Probud Day morning tea at Pearl Leisure Centre

Next meeting

Tracy Village Social and Sports Club

Wednesday, 5 November, 2025

10:30am - General Meeting

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

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



President's Perspective

2025 is proving a busy year for the members of the Darwin Probus Club. We are busy building memories.

Do you remember we adopted a new constitution and accepted the Standing Resolutions some months ago?

Do you remember that we celebrated our 40th anniversary in September with wonderful fellowship, food, music and laughter? Even our patron, His Honour the Administrator Professor Hugh Heggie, found it hard to leave the party.

Do you remember the nine new members we have welcomed and made feel welcome to our club this year, asking them to join some of our activities? Do you remember the gardens you have visited, from suburban beauty to the Administrator's fine garden, the coffees, the meals, the books, the craft, the conversations, the 10 pin bowling scores? Probus is just the right place to be, to add to our memory library

The 2025 memories have not concluded until you come to our Christmas party which will be held at the usual venue, Silks, in early December. See you there.

All this leads to my comment when people ask "How old are you?" or "When were you born?". I counter with "I don't count the years, I count the memories."

Thank you all for the memories

Cheers
Lyn



Guest Speakers

Peter Hopton

"25 years Before The Mast"

**A brief history of the
Australian Merchant Navy**



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



Previous guest speakers from Aunty's Free Feeds are looking for some help.

If you can please bring in paper grocery bags to the meeting, this will help with food distribution and be very much appreciated.

The bags will be collected from our meetings.

November at at Glance

Event Date	Meeting/Event
Mon Nov 3– 11:00 am	Book Club at Cas Club coordinator Bev Barnes
Wed Nov 5 - 10:30 am	General Meeting, Tracy Village
Fri Nov 7 14, 21, 28 10:15 am	Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes
Wed Nov 12—10:30am	At ..Trailer Boat Club—Christmas theme Bev Aitken coordinator
Tues Nov 18—11:00am	Writing group at Cas Club - coordinator Ron Ninnis
Wed Nov 19—10:00am	Meet for coffee at 10:00am at Caramello Café then 10 pin bowling at 11:00am coordinator Shirley Porte
Wed Nov 19— 6:30pm	Dining Out at Loong Foong Restaurant, Rowena McHugh is contact.
Tues Nov 25—1:00pm	Games at Pearl Retirement Village, Coordinator—Maxine
Fri Nov 28—9:30am	Coffee Lovers at Boardwalk, Cullen Bay. Contact is Robyn Wright ph 0408 811 620

Board Games

Come and join us playing your favourite Board Games at Pearl Recreation Centre. Lots of challenges and fun.

25 November 1:00pm

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator



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



November Dining Out

Loong Foong Restaurant

87 Woods Street, Darwin

19 November, 2025 6:00 for 6:30 pm

Contact - Rowena McHugh ph 0413 289 555



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Account : Probus Club of Darwin Inc

BSB: 633000

Account Number: 226771376

Darwin South
Rotary



Supporting
Our Community

FOR SALE

**Rum and Brandy Fruit Cakes,
Steamed and Baked Puddings**

Traditional Rich Fruit Cake

Tin
\$22.00



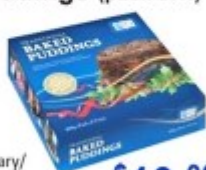
**1 Kg traditional
Steamed Pudding**



\$22.00



**Traditional Baked
Puddings (pack of 4)**



Box
\$20.00

\$10.00
(4 pack)

Contact:

[facebook.com/Darwin.South.Rotary/](https://www.facebook.com/Darwin.South.Rotary/)

Contact:

Name: Jim Wright

Mobile: 0419 090 852

Jim will have cakes etc available at the next meeting.

Christmas Lunch



Silks Restaurant

3 December 2025,

11:30am

**Cost: \$65:00 Probus Darwin members
\$75:00 non members**

Buffet lunch
door prizes

Bookings and payment
by 24 November



Coffee Lovers!



**BoardWalk Café, Cullen Bay
9:30am November 28**

Contact

Robyn Wright ph 0408 811 620

Writing Group



October meeting

We met at the Cas Club as usual. Our 7-minute write-up was on the topic "A gust of wind".

The next topic we chose is based on the photos below. You can write on either a sunrise or a sunset. The story can be loosely inspired by the photo, or if you like, you can base the story on what you see in the photo.

All contributions accepted: just email.

Good writing!

Ron Ninnis, Coordinator



November Anniversaries

Mick and Dianne White
Alan and Pam Utting

November Birthdays

Molly West
Mavis Leo
Jenny Darben
Jackie Knight
Colin Beard
Barry Darben
Sue Wright
Bronwyn Russell
Annabelle Lawfore
Mick White

Hope you enjoy your special day



Out and about in October

GARDEN CLUB



The October meeting of the Garden Group was organised for the salubrious surroundings of Government House overlooking the wonderful Darwin Harbour. Due to the venue several of our friends from other Probus clubs joined us to share the joy.

Head gardener, Dermot, led the charge along the shaded walkway of the Western Terrace and the sloping pathway of the Eastern Terrace, ably assisted by his offsides David, charged with the responsibility of ensuring no old legs were left behind.

Dermot gave interesting snippets of developmental history and showed a few dated photographs, including a 100 year old photo of the large banyan tree, now estimated to be about 130 years old.

Dermot has been on the gardening team for about 30 years, most of it as head gardener and the development during that period is simply breathtaking. What was overgrown land overshadowed by large invasive trees is now beautifully shaded gardens stocked with thousands of ground covering and low growing plants. A special item of interest was a row of Chinese origin cycads about 7 years old with spreading feathery-leafed fronds, not at all what we envision when we think of cycads.

After a wonderful tour we were then able to adjourn to the residence to be welcomed by His Honour and partake of morning tea. A good morning.

Report sent in by Ron Wright in Bev's absence due to illness.

Next garden club at Trailer Boat Club .

Bev Aitken—Coordinator ph 0412 196 032

The Administrator of the Northern Territory

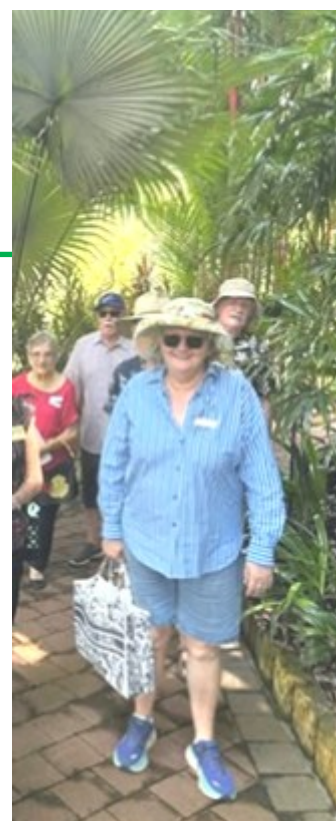
 His Honour and Ms Jones recently welcomed members of the Probus Club of Darwin for a guided tour of the Government House gardens.

Led by our Horticulture team, the group explored the tropical grounds and learned about their history, design and ongoing care. The team are passionate about their work and take great pride in sharing the gardens with Territorians.

Probus is a non-profit organisation that fosters friendship, learning and active engagement in later life. As Patron, His Honour was pleased to host the group and looks forward to future events with Probus members.

Thank you to the Probus Club of Darwin for your visit and for your contribution to community life.

As reported on Facebook on the Administrator NT page



Out and about in October



Member contribution

GOTHENBURG- NOT JUST A ROAD - sent in by Ron Wright

We are all familiar with Gothenburg Crescent in Stuart Park but probably only half of us know of the significance and history.

Darwin- February 1875

Magistrate Edward William Price placed his wife Minna and children aboard the steamship Gothenburg at Darwin wharf for them to sail to Adelaide to arrange education for their children (5 children according to Northern Territory Dictionary Biography, 6 according to the passenger manifest, 5 according to the family tree)

On 24 February, wet season, no GPS, no weather forecasts, the Gothenburg ran aground on the Great Barrier Reef near Bowen and sank with 22 survivors in lifeboats and between 98 and 122 people drowning (poor record keeping), the whole of the Price family being in the latter group.

How long before the news got back to Darwin? How long before Edward knew he was a widower and childless? What would this do to the mental state of a devoted husband and father?

Nevertheless, life choices needed to be made, Edward remained in Darwin and was installed as the 4th Government Resident (Administrator) in Darwin for the South Australian government from 1876 to 1883.

Credited with being the instigator of the Darwin to Pine Creek railway, reconstruction of the termite damaged sections of Government House, establishment of nurseries, trials of sugarcane and coffee, observing the arrival of the first cattle to the NT and a myriad of other developments in rural and remote areas, he eventually left in a poor state of health, ironically on the SS Bowen. Such was his regard in the Chinese Community that it organised a parade for him beginning at Sue Wah Loong's store.

Darwin-2025

Travelling to Adelaide?- Stuart Highway, bitumen all the way, check in with the family each evening using satellite technology.

A bit more leisurely? Try a cruise ship, GPS navigation, weather reports and communication all available through satellite technology.

In a hurry? Travel 3.5 hours by air, satellites again an enabler.

Darwin a bit hot? The air conditioning at Tracy Village might even be a bit chilly as Edward's great grand-niece sits quietly knitting through a Darwin Probus Club meeting, a link of 150 years with the Territory.

How things have changed over that 150 years.

The great grand-niece? ----Sue Wright

(for further on this topic [The Gothenburg: 150 years on from one of Australia's worst maritime disasters](#))



Gothenburg Crescent with Darwin in the background



Gothenburg

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.

Out and About in October



Probus Day at Pearl Recreation Centre



Out and About in October



Literature, Lunch and Laughter

6 of us met for Book Club today, great discussion and a lovely lunch to follow for those who stayed.

Read September discuss October

The Boy in the world or 4 letters of love— by Niall Williams

Review: No one read 4 Letters of Love. Helmy found the Boy in the World an enjoyable read, story around a boy looking for his father and a nun is helping him.

The Bath Conspiracy—by Jeannie M Adams

Review: A disappointing read about a husband and wife, very frivolous revolving around eating and shopping.

We Solve Murders—by Richard Osman

Review: Trish enjoyed this and found it different to his other books. Mary enjoyed but found sound of it farfetched in some aspects.

The Other Boleyn Girl—by Philippa Gregory

Non one able to find this book.

Read October discuss November

The Wife and the Widow—by Christian White

Intermezzo—by Sally Rooney

The Remarkable Mrs Reiby—by Grantlee Kieza

Hamnet—by Maggie O'Farrell

Read November discuss December

The Elgin Conspiracy— by Julia Golding

The Ledge—by Christian White

The Woman—by Kristin Hannah

When you are mine (bk 1); White Crow (bk 2) - by Michael Rowbottom

Read December discuss January

My sister and other lovers by Esther Freud

The Rush by Michelle Prak

The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery

We meet at the Casuarina Sports Club every first Monday of the month at 11am. Next get together on 3 November.

If you enjoy reading, this is the golden opportunity to join us and share your reading experiences. Stay well and stay safe and happy reading.

Mary Greenup for Bev Barnes, Coordinator



TEN PIN BOWLING

Our regular pre-bowling get-together took place at Caramelo's enjoying coffee, cakes and other delicious pastries before heading off to the Planet for some more serious ten pin bowling fun on the lanes.

Molly, Ed and Alan took the early lead knocking down 50 pins for a three-way tie before Ed started to draw away with some excellent spares. Colleen from Charles Darwin group closed the gap on Ed using the bumpers with great skill to eventually win with 106 pins ahead of Ed on 101.

Other notable scores were Molly on 98 pins, Tony and Alan on 97 pins, Nancy and Anne O'Connor on 93 pins. The group result for this week was 3 strikes and 26 spares.

November 21 will be the final event for this year, meeting at Caramelo's for a coffee and pre-game chat at 10am with bowling at the Planet commencing 11am.

Join in the spirit by wearing a Christmas shirt or some bling.

Maxine Dienelt, Acting Coordinator.

YOU'RE INVITED!



MISSION TO SEAFARERS DARWIN INC

Visit by:

MtS The Venerable Dr Peter Rouch & Sue Dight

Secretary General MtS - Regional Director Australia PNG

CHURCH SERVICE - ST LUKES ANGLICAN

PALMERSTON 9AM

Cnr Priest and Gray Streets

MEET AND GREET - TRAILER BOAT CLUB 5PM

Join us for nibbles, and a chance to chat with Peter and Sue. Hear about the MtS internationally and nationally.



FOR MORE INFORMATION - IAN @ 0412072839

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Welcome

Two new members were
inducted into Probus Club of
Darwin on Wednesday,
1 October



Janet Fries



Fred Marrone



Xmas Appeal

If you wish to
contribute to the
Salvation Christmas Appeal, bring
along non perishable goods, or gifts
to our next meeting.

Ian Dawson will collect any
donations on behalf of the Salvation
Army. Donations of cash are also
welcome and will be
receipted.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 7 November 2001

Held at the Darwin Bowls Club

Present: Messrs Thompson, Dally, Plew, Washington, Simmons, Steven, Johnstone, Kerr, Dimery, Raby, Scott, Fisher, Taylor, Penhall, Bromich, Short, Chin,

Apologies: Roberts, Upton, Blackmore,

New Member: M Maidment

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

Correspondence: Inwards HH Administrator acceptance for Xmas lunch, Dept Arts/Museum, Queensland Probarian, COTA Report

Outwards—Invitation to HH Administrator

Mr President spoke on the COTA Report and a fuction hosted by the Chief Minister at Parliament House recently when Mr Austin Asche was the guest speaker.

Treasurer's: Report Opening balance \$530.07, Receipts \$20, Expenses \$20.10, Closing balance \$529.97

General Business—Mr Raby introduced guest speaker Alasdair McGregor OAM as guest speaker. Spoke about the job and functions of a magistrate, mandatory sentencing, cost of court procedures, indigenous and non indigenous offenders, every trial to be judged on the day, functions of judicial officers public prosecutors and parole board, the appeal system. JP sits in bush court, workers compensation court, power of the Magistrate.

Xmas Lunch—Xmas lunch function to take place at the Darwin Trailer Boat Club on Wed 5 December 2001. Please advise Treasurer if you are going.

Meeting closed 11:17am



Welfare Support

Karin

Promchinwong

has offered to under-
take this role for the
club.

Ph 0429 474 779

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.