



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

September

Volume

21

Issue

6

President—Mary Verus

Phone: 0439 891 473

Secretary—Trish Greenfield

Phone: 0421 708 161

PATRON

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



Next General Meeting

Wednesday, 2 September

**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

Email: 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, August is almost over but what a month it has been. Of course we had the wonderful Darwin Festival. I didn't get to any shows this year but I went into Festival Park twice simply to soak up the electric atmosphere and enjoy the entertainment on the free stage.

This is also the month that we get to celebrate ourselves. It is Senior's Month and I truly hope many of you have participated in some of the wonderful events that have been on for us. I sadly couldn't attend the Senior's Morning Tea this year as I was in Kununurra but I have seen many familiar PROBUS Darwin faces in the photos. It looks like once again you all participated 100%.

Speaking of Kununurra I don't know where to begin. I saw the most majestic landscapes and waterways. I ate good meals until I was bursting. Our Bus Driver/Guide Mel was just wonderful. She was a mindfield of information and was truly interested in our stories. Her driving was faultless. After driving up the hairpin road to the Five Rivers Lookout at Wyndham I would recommend her to any Touring Company.

I must give thanks to those who were so involved with this trip and I hope I haven't missed anyone out. Bronwyn, Di, Trish, Judy, Bev, Nancy, Janet and all the people who pre-baked slices, muffins etc for the journey. During the days we were on the road Di did an amazing job of co-ordinating 33 Seniors on and off the bus. She had endless patience reminding people of the times they had to be there and what meals they had ordered. Judy was so organised with the food. It saved us so much time not having to buy food on the way there and back. We each received a separate container of salad and she accommodated all of our dietary requirements. There were lost bags, a few falls (nothing too disastrous) and a few other things but really we had the most wonderful time.

Lastly it was remiss of me not to thank Jim Wright last month for the wonderful job that he did co-ordinating our Friendship, Fellowship and Fun Games on 29th July. Those of us who attended had a wonderful time. These things don't happen without volunteers putting in many hours getting them organised. I know Jim was disappointed with the smaller number of people who attended this year but lets hope for more in attendance in future. Thank You Jim.

Have a great month! Regards. Mary Verus



Guest Speaker

Ben Haythorpe

Senior Manager - Advocacy & Community Engagement of AANT

Years Ahead is a presentation designed to give tips and advice for seniors around how to safely maintain their driving and mobility. This program is delivered by the different motoring clubs around Australia and is new to the NT. The program is presented by AANT as a community service and as part of its commitment to road safety.

The presentation focusses on many important issues including road rules, vehicle safety, health issues and mobility planning

September Dining Out



Darwin Waterfront

16 September, 2026 - 6:30 pm

Contact Rowena McHugh 0413 289 555

September at a Glance

Event Date	Meeting/Event
Wed Sept 2 10:30am	General Meeting at Tracy Village
Fri Sept 4, 11, 18, 25, 10:15 am	Craft Group at Cas Club. (Occurs each Friday), coordinator Bev Barnes
Mon Sept 7 11:00 am	Book Club at Cas Club coordinator Mary Greenup
Tues Sept 8—11:00am	Writing group at Cas Club - coordinator Ron Ninnis
Wed Sept 9—10:30am	Garden Club at Adina Poole's place, Knuckeyes Lagoon. coordinator Wendy Darwin
Wed Sept 16—10:00am	Morning Tea at 10:00 at Café Mount 8848 then proceed to 10 pin Bowling at KingPin at 11:00am coord Shirley Porte
Wed Sept 16—6:30pm	Fiddlers Green, Waterfront, Contact Rowena McHugh ph 0413289555
Mon Sept 21—10:00am	Information session with Jenni Law
Fri Sept 25—9:30am	Café Central, Rapid Creek, Contact—Robyn Wright ph 0408 811 620
Tues Sept 29—1:00pm	Board Games at Pearl Recreation Centre, Coordinator— Maxine Dienelt 0424 283 537
Fri Oct 2—10:00am	National Probus Day—Pearl Recreation Centre

Women Health Week Walk, Talk & Morning Tea



**Heart
Foundation**
Walking

When: Thursday 10 September Walk: 8.30 am

Morning Tea: 9am to 10.30am and guest speaker from Dietitians NT

Meet: Origin Café, the Darwin Waterfront

RSVP by 4/9: email Julie-Anne at julie-anne.overell@heartfoundation.org.au, ring 8982 2709 or

link here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1997441190370?aff=oddtcreator>

You will also receive a Jean Hailes for Women's Health tote bag, with helpful resources on supporting women to live healthier lives and Heart Foundation goodies.

Bring along your friends, colleagues or family, and show your support for the women in your life. You will also have the chance to win a \$50 Heart Shop gift voucher as well as a \$50 adult membership to the Darwin Waterfront.

We look forward to walking with you.

Member Travels—Switzerland, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Turkey

I arrived back in Darwin on the 19th October 2025, after a really wonderful seven-and-a-half-week trip to Switzerland, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Turkey. Some of the most special time was spent with my son, Peter, who did a student exchange to Slovakia, and his partner, Tida.

The Swiss Alps were really quite beautiful and Prague certainly lived up to its reputation of being a very beautiful city. The architecture, colours, multiple sculptures and paintings on the buildings were quite lovely. Hundreds of people gathered, on the hour, in the Town Square to watch the procession of disciples on the astronomical clock. Installed in 1410, it is masterpiece elsewhere, had him blinded.

I loved the work that had been done in many of the cities and towns in Slovakia since communism. Gone were many of the grey, ugly communist blocks and dismal surroundings to be replaced with painted and decorated ex-communist blocks, large, attractive parks and plazas with flower beds.

As the Czechoslovakian government welcomed the Germans in WW2, the beautiful, very old pastel-coloured buildings with detailed sculptures and murals adorning their facades were left unscathed. The Nazis were not welcomed by everyone and a large partisan movement was a vital force against the Nazi occupation, launching a number of major uprisings that caused much disruption to the Nazi plans.



Tatra Mountain track



Ex-grey Communist blocks



Ex-grey Communist blocks



a masterpiece of technology for its time. Legend has it that the city councillors, fearing the creator would recreate his Waltzing Matilda

I joined a Trafalgar tour in Turkey, and, as on tours, one gets to see a very sanitised version of a country and it is not until you leave the tour and start travelling on local transport into the suburbs and meet the local people that you get a more realistic view of the country. Instead of the modern prosperous country portrayed, I found people sleeping on cardboard in the underground and old women begging. There were five million Syrian refugees in Turkey, a lot of newcomers for any country to handle. The outer suburbs were typical Asian, with long rambling stores selling a large variety of goods, streets that specialise in specific products and rubble and broken footpaths that pedestrians have to navigate, often walking on the road. We had a very knowledgeable Australian/Turkish guide. He was a real character of the 'mother hen' variety. If anyone dared to intrude on our group as we went through turnstiles, "Excuse me, this is a private tour. You don't belong with us, join another queue." If anyone tried to listen to his spiel. "This is a private tour; you don't belong here." On another occasion we had been trapped in a lift for about 8 minutes with a voice repeating, "Do not panic, help is on its way." Someone called the guide and we were out within 2 minutes. He was very loyal to Turkey so Turkey has the best olive oil in the world, Turkey had the best figs in the world, Turkey is the best.... became a mantra with the group. I used to check it on the internet. Sometimes he was right, sometimes he was wrong.



Travertine Terraces

Member Travels—continued

The tour was comprised of mainly Australians or Americans and good company. We covered quite a bit of western Turkey as well as the popular sites in Istanbul. Gallipoli is very much a part of Australia's war history, the Traver-tine Terraces were really spectacular as were the volcanic geological structures in Cappadocia. Ephesus was really interesting as it is referenced many times in the New Testament



Gallipoli



Cappadocia Fairy Chimneys



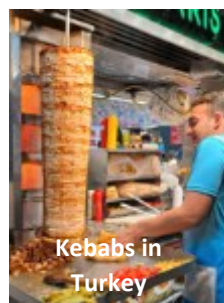
Ancient Library at Ephesus



Turkish Delight in Turkey



Chimney Icecream
in Prague



Kebabs in
Turkey



Cheese Fondue
in Switzerland

I find the most outstanding experience I have in visiting another country is staying with local people, and being introduced to local culture, apart from a tour. I belong to an organisation, SERVAS, where this is possible, so stayed with strangers in Turkey and a couple in Switzerland who took me for a day outing into the mountains and then a cruise along Lake Luzon. I met Peter's host family and friends in Slovakia and a friend in Prague took me to stay in a country cottage where the host played and sang Waltzing Matilda on his guitar for my benefit. In Prague I stayed with an expatriate American couple who had bought the top half of a five-story apartment block, demolished the roof and built themselves a luxury, modern home that has appeared in a House and Garden type magazine.

On arrival in Darwin, Qantas announced, "A warm welcome to Darwin". I don't know whether that was meant literally or just a welcome to Darwin comment. It was a very literal meaning. Daily maximums continued to be above 34 degrees with high humidity and nights about 27 degrees. Whoever invented air conditioners certainly did mankind an enormous favour.

Judith Medley

Board Games



Come and join us playing
your
favourite Board Games

at Pearl Recreation Centre.

Lots of challenges and fun.

29 September 1:00pm

Maxine Dienelt—Coordinator

CURBY'S NT
Engraving, Trophies and Giftware

Trophies and Awards
Sporting • Corporate • Novelty • Custom Made
Engraving and Printing
Industrial • Personal • Laser • Rotary • UV Print
Giftware
Personalised Engraving • Drinkware • Accessories
Badges
Name Badges • ID Cards

A Proud Territory Business for over 35 years

info@curbysnt.com.au
(08) 8948 2110



Probus Club of Darwin Bank Account Account : Probus Club of Darwin Inc
BSB: 633000 Account Number: 226771376 Bendigo Bank, Nightcliff



Writing Group

August meeting

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

This time we met at Casuarina Village Shopping Centre, because the Cas Club was holding a morning with entertainment for Senior's Month. The Shopping Centre was just across the road, and much quieter. Unfortunately, the cake shop was not open.

We practiced our writing skills by writing for 7 minutes about the topic "At the hairdressers", where we did not know beforehand what topic would be chosen.

The next month's topic is "How are you today?", a common way of greeting someone, and starting up a conversation. Anyone is invited to send in their contributions. Sounds easy - just write about a conversation you have just had.....

Anyone can contribute

Give it a go and Have fun

Ron Ninnis, Coordinator



GARDEN CLUB

The Humpty Doo Community Garden committee is an inspiration. Yvonne and Susan are hard working, committed gardeners striving to involve the local people of all ages. From school children to first time gardeners, to experienced gardens. They have lots of community functions and working bees where people can have fun, learn gardening skills and to socialise. If you would like to be a part of the Humpty Doo Community Garden ph 0416 083 245

Our next meeting on Wednesday, 9 September will be morning tea under a very large Banyan tree at Adina Poole's home—10 Fiddlers Lane, Knuckey's Lagoon—second turn on the right past Crocodilus Park. Bring your chair, mug, hat and plate to share if you feel like baking.

Coordinator—Wendy Darwin ph 0437 910 388



TEN PIN BOWLING

Due to the Kununurra trip and the morning tea at Government House ten pin bowling numbers were considerably less than usual. Bill and Shirley had coffee with Ron and Sue at Cafe Mount 8848 .

We proceeded to Kingpin where 1 team of 4 players were cheered on by Sue and Bill. Dawn a new Probus member of the Darwin Club joined us for the first time. Ron went into the lead in round 2. Shirley took over from round 3- 6. In round 7 Mara and Shirley tied on 65, Ron and Dawn following close behind. In round 8 Mara, Ron and Shirley tied on 73, Dawn 72. Ron then raced ahead by ten points. Final scores Ron 99, Dawn 98, Mara 91 and Shirley 86. An exciting and very close game.

Totals this month - 10 spares and no strikes.

We meet up next month on Wednesday 16 September

Shirley Porte, Coordinator

Welfare Support

Karin Promchinwong



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



Coffee Lovers!

CAFÉ CENTRAL
at Rossiter Street
Rapid Creek

9:30am 25 September

Contact
Robyn Wright

Ph 0408 811 620

Seniors' Snippets

Ken Cohalan OAM

- * **Jacana Energy**—well worth getting their Energy Efficiency Guide
- * **Seniors Voice Magazine**—August edition has some good information on Medical, financial and Seniors Month.
- * **Aged Care Home Support**—I understand that the current system is under review.
- * **Member Biographies**—Charles Darwin Probus has a book Fellowship, Friendship, Fun with 17 member biographies by Jennie Bennett PhD and Palmerston Probus has Territory Tales by Sandra Richardson. Very interesting reading.



September Birthdays



Dawn Walker
Bev Whitby
Pam Hibbert **
Diane Lunn
Grant Rowe
Rowena McHugh
Peter Siebert

September Anniversaries

Anne and Ed Howard
Molly and Ray West *

Hope you enjoy your special day

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.



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.

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.



PSPL Information Workshop

Presented by Jenni Law, Board representative for SA and NT

Jenni is running a workshop on 21 September, starting at 10:00am at Tracy Village if you are Interested in finding out more about how Probus Clubs are organised.

Please RSVP to Bonnie Morrison at
iainponnie.3@bigpond.com if you wish to attend.

Out and About in August



Out and about in August



Several club members joined 500 Top End Seniors for the Seniors Morning Tea hosted by the NT Government.






Get stronger today

Are you recovering from illness or injury? Or wanting a more active life? No matter your goals, our classes and allied health services are the perfect fit for people aged 50+ and are tailored to individual needs.

1800 852 772
SouthernCrossCare.com.au

11 Waratah Crescent, Fannie Bay
 Southern Cross Care (SA, NT & VIC) Inc,
 ARBN 129 895 905, South Australia, liability limited

**New centre
Now open!**

Better for life[®]

Get busy Living!

Greenfields Living are the operator of two unique Independent Living Communities, committed to providing safe and secure Retirement Villages for over 55s.

What are you waiting for! Leave the gardening and maintenance to us and enjoy your retirement.







Private Appointments Available
BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

 Find us on Facebook

 **1300 669 755**

 enquiries@greenfieldsliving.com.au

 greenfieldsliving.com.au



**GREENFIELDS
LIVING**



Regis feels right

Home Care

Are you looking for Home Care in Darwin?

At Regis, our Home Care team supports you through change, helping you stay independent and comfortable in your own home.

Pop into our office for a friendly chat and free consultation.

Regis Home Care Darwin
 11 Creswell Street Tiwi NT 0810
 08 8920 2430

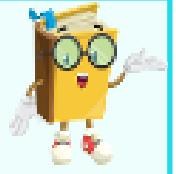


regis.com.au | 1300 998 100



Literature, Lunch and Laughter

August 2026



6 of us met for Book Club today, great discussions. Lovely lunch and more banter. A very enjoyable time. Bev announced she would be standing down as coordinator and asked Mary to take over the role. Bev has been the coordinator since the inception of The Book Club, she will still be a part of the group.

Many thanks to Bev for all her work over the years.

Read July discuss August.

Flesh. Or All that man is. By: David Szalay

Flesh

Anyone that read did not find it enjoyable. "Very strange book" were some of the comments. Would not recommend

All that man is

One person read this. Did not enjoy and would not recommend it.

Good People By: Patmena Sabit.

One person read. Liked it a lot once she got used to how she organised the people. Great glimpse into their culture.

The Long night By: Christian White

All readers were disappointed. Jumped around. Difficult to follow A very dark story line, very violent in places.

Last one out By: Jane Harper

Set in a dying country town. Couple trying to find missing son. Found murdered Slow moving very detailed. Another reader felt there was too much detail. Parents grieved in different way. Another reader really enjoyed the book.

Read August discuss September

House Rules. By: Jodi Piccoult

Mother Mary comes to me. (Biography) 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: Aimie K. Runyan

Yesteryear. By: Caro Claire Burke

Read October discuss November

The best kind of beautiful. By: Francis Whiting

Force of Nature By: Jane Harper

Bye Bye Baby or The Chocolate Tin By: Fiona Mc Intosh.

Next meeting on 7th September at 11am at the Cas Club. New readers welcome. Happy reading everyone.

Mary Greenup Coordinator





National Probus Day

Top End Probus Clubs will gather together to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of PSPL in Australia.

Friday 2 October 2026

10:00am—12:00

At Pearl Retirement Village Recreation Centre

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea.

Bill Roy will be providing musical entertainment.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Extracts from the Minutes 4 September 2002

Held at the Bureau of Meteorology, Casuarina

Present: Messrs Steven, Washington, Dimery, Raby, Plew, Kerr, Martin, Taylor, Roberts, Simmons, Upton, Penhall, Chin, Bromwich,

Apologies: Fisher, Blackmore, Dally, Johnstone, Scott,

Visitors: D Greentie

Visit to Meteorology Bureau: Members assembled at the Bureau Office at 10:00am and were welcomed by John McGuiffie and Melissa Fitzgerald. The gathering divided into 2 groups. Ms Fitzgerald briefed each group on various aspects of weather forecasting warning systems around the world. Pamphlets were distributed.

Mr McGuiffie guided alternative group to an upper floor where members viewed instruments and computers in action. It was most interesting to see volcanic ashes/powder in a glass jar. Members asked many questions of the 2 officers..

President Steven thanked the officers for their kind cooperation.

Minutes: Minutes of previous meeting were circulated and confirmed.

Correspondence: Probus News No 78, Chief Minister Seniors Advisory Council, Hear and Now Magazine.

Outwards—Nil.

Treasurer's: Report Opening balance \$606.96
Receipts Nil, Expenses 7.65, Closing balance \$599.31

The meeting closed at 11:46am.



**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.