



Probud Association of W.A. Inc.  
Patrons: His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM  
Governor of Western Australia and Mrs Dawson



# NEWS & NOTES

THE VOICE OF PROBUD IN THE WEST

## WELCOME TO THE DECEMBER 2023 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES

*This newsletter is private & confidential, for Probud use only and not to be used for any other purpose.*



Another year is passing and as the coming Christmas and New Year holiday season wraps us in the arms and fuzzy festive spirit, the PAWA Committee extends the spirit of Christmas to our WA family of Clubs.



May the coming year bring positive transformations, simplified structures, and a renewed sense of togetherness. Just as the magic of Christmas brings people together, so too should we come together to reconsider and reevaluate the way clubs operate. It's an opportune time to simplify roles and responsibilities, fostering a sense of unity and collaboration. The essence of the season encourages us to embrace simplicity and genuine connections, mirroring the approach that Clubs should adopt.

**The PAWA Committee was fortunate to have the PSPL Board Chair, Michael Ransom, attend our last Committee meeting and he shared his views about the future of Probud. His view was that it is important that Probud Clubs embrace innovation and commit to adapting to new ideas and technologies to enhance members' Club experience.**

Most of us are comfortable with how we do things within our Clubs, but we must always be cognisant of complacency – it may be working now but what about in a few years' time. There is an old song about "the times they are a changin'" so we also need to accept change and remain flexible and relaxed in our approach to change. Christmas teaches us to adapt with joy and optimism, and by embracing change with a positive spirit, we can create adaptable and relaxed environments that are not only effective but also enjoyable for all our members.

**One of the changes looming on the horizon is the proposed changes to the "standard" PSPL Probud Club Constitution which, from the snippets provided, suggests a new era of adaptability by offering increased flexibility. However, coupled with this strategic shift is that it will place the onus squarely on individual Clubs to align their Standing Resolutions to evolving needs. It challenges them to engage in thoughtful self-regulation whilst maintaining adherence to both the WA Associations Act and the eventual Constitution. PAWA will be providing advice and guidance to WA Clubs on this matter.**

Amidst the season's cheer, we need to consider the potential impact of an increase in PSPL capitation fees. Clearly, the immediate reaction within Clubs will be to increase membership fees. However, a balance must be struck to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for all members, so it is crucial to explore innovative solutions like fundraising rather than resorting to fee hikes. Fundraising not only fosters community engagement but also distributes the financial burden more equitably.

**In fun, friendship, and fellowship – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.**

**Ralph Sirmulis, President**



## YOU CAN HELP

PAWA is always looking for enthusiastic members to join the Committee to help formulate ideas and initiatives to support our family of WA Probus Clubs. Everyone has ideas so why not put them to good use for the benefit of all WA Probus Clubs?

If you want to contribute by joining the PAWA Committee, please contact the PAWA Secretary, Pauline, [PAWASecretary@gmail.com](mailto:PAWASecretary@gmail.com)

### PAWA ADVISORY PSPL Constitutional Review

Some clubs have raised questions regarding the **Constitutional Review** currently being undertaken by PSPL.

As outlined in the PAWA October News and Notes the first stage of the Review is to seek feedback from clubs about proposed changes to the Preamble and Articles of Accreditation. This stage will conclude on 15 December 2023. As you know when a Probus Club is formed it adopts the PSPL Preamble and Articles of Accreditation which together comprise the Standard Probus Club Model Constitution.

Changes to the Preamble and Articles of Accreditation cannot be made unless 25% of clubs agree to the proposal. In this regard, the stated intention of the Review is to afford clubs greater flexibility to manage their own affairs through their club's Standing Resolutions. Constitutions adopted by Western Australian clubs must be compliant with the provisions of the WA Associations (Incorporation) Act 2015.

**The early interest and involvement by clubs in this Review is valued but given the current stage of the process, it would be premature to modify your existing Club Constitution.** PSPL has stated that once they have feedback to the Preamble and Articles of Accreditation, they will be sending out a Model (= example) Constitution and Standing Resolutions.

**PAWA will keep clubs updated as PSPL provides further information.**

Mal Wauchope, PAWA Committee

### REMEMBRANCE DAY at GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Two PAWA committee members were invited to attend the Remembrance Day celebrations at Government House on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November. It was a very moving ceremony, with a welcome to country and a welcome by the Governor, His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson, AC APM.

The MC played the grand piano, with performances by the St Georges College choir, a violinist, and a soprano and poetry readings by both the Governor and Mrs Dawson.



*The PAWA AGM will be held on Friday 22nd March 2024.*

*Time: Registrations start at 9.45am for the AGM at 10.30am*

*Venue: The Bendat Basketball centre, Ellis Room,*

*201 Underwood Avenue Floreat WA 6014*

*A formal invitation will follow in the New Year.*

**LET US HEAR YOUR VOICE.**



#### **AFTERNOON TEA at GOVERNMENT HOUSE**

It was delightful to see so many Probus Club representatives at the Government House afternoon tea on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November and to have the opportunity to meet up with other club members.

His Excellency, the Honourable Chris Dawson, AC APM, welcomed everyone and mentioned how Probus Clubs play an important part in the community.

The PAWA President, Ralph Sirmulis, thanked the Governor and also said a few words about our motto of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship. We then adjourned for a very enjoyable afternoon tea which was provided by Government House.

Thanks are extended to Helen Hardy, PAWA Treasurer, for the work she undertook to plan this outing for one hundred Probiars. It was a great success!



The old PAWA website has reached its use-by date and has been updated.

It will be launched in January together with a new-look PAWA logo.

This is the first stage only. In the second stage, we hope to offer our Clubs member-only access to key documents and correspondence as well as the capability to register for events and activities, and make payments, online.

If your Club has a website or Facebook page and you would like to have a link to that site on the PAWA webpage, please advise the PAWA Secretary ([PAWASecretary@gmail.com](mailto:PAWASecretary@gmail.com)) with the details/address of your site.

**Stay tuned.**  
[www.probuswa.org.au](http://www.probuswa.org.au)





## Probus Club of Dawesville held a buffet lunch to celebrate Probus Month.



“All other clubs in the immediate area were invited to attend, and we had good attendance from 3 other local clubs as well as our own membership. The event was a great success, with members of the various clubs mixing together and having a fun time.”

**Bill McCreadie, Secretary, Probus Club of Dawesville.**

## NEW GUEST SPEAKER

### ANDREA EDMONDSON



What do you do when it starts to be difficult to look after your home or after yourself? There is support available. But where do you get started? You might think “I don’t need this.”  
If it is not for yourself, we may know someone that might need help?  
....A friend, relative or a neighbour that is struggling who still would like to stay in their own home.

I am the community development officer working for **Cura In-home Care** a small home care provider. We provide care to clients across the Perth metro area. We have a very good social program for our clients with outings, exercise classes, educational talks specific to ageing, coffee catchups and more. Cura provides a Volunteer Visitor Scheme for those that need companionship.

In my role I regularly help people to apply for an aged care package, this gives me profound insight in the system and how it works. I would love to get an opportunity to share this knowledge.

In my presentation I provide detailed information about the help available, the different packages, support within those packages, domestic support, social support, equipment like rails, walkers etc.

I can explain the different ways to apply for an assessment.

- Fees that might be applicable under the different schemes.
- An overview of the support that can be received.
- How to get started applying for support.
- And very important, what kind of questions to ask when looking for an aged care provider.
- I can as well provide supportive brochures to get more detailed information.

**Andrea Edmondson.**

[andrea@cura-inhomecare.org.au](mailto:andrea@cura-inhomecare.org.au)

Mob: 0456 582 081

## PROBUS MONTH CELEBRATION - OLYMPIC GAMES

Kath and Anne catching up.



BOULES was popular.



On October 30th the **Glengarry Probus Club** held its inaugural Olympic Games to celebrate Probus Month. Glengarry members were joined by a contingent from **Kallaroo Probus Club** at The Nodes Park, Hillarys. A Piñata did not stand a chance with Jacqueline Cooper beating it to death to expose the lollies it held within its body. All enjoyed the sweets.

Members and visitors brought their best game faces along with their picnic lunch and jovial dispositions.

Games in motion were Boules, Skittles, Quoits, and a Ball Skills game this was all topped off with an egg and spoon race with fierce competition between the Glengarry and Kallaroo Probusians.

The day was capped off by a visit from the Coffee Truck which was gratefully accepted.

Having fun



Kath and Kay playing Quoits



Deidre playing skittles



**Complacency** can mean the demise of your once vibrant club. You may find your membership may decline, as members start to lose interest.

PAWA concerns itself with the fostering of better clubs and does this by holding **informative workshops** during the year.

Workshops are an especially interesting and valuable tool to get together with other clubs and like-minded people. There is an opportunity to ask questions and hear what other clubs do successfully in regard to outings, membership, and activities.

Probus Clubs are all run differently according to their Management Committee but basically are on the same page, encouraging Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.



## GETTING A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



**Almost all Clubs seem to struggle to find members who are willing to take on a role on the Management Committee.**

**Perhaps we need to do a better job of “selling” the roles so here are some helpful hints.**

### **Top reasons people don’t volunteer**

- “I don’t have enough time.”
- “I’ve had a bad experience in the past.”
- “I don’t need another commitment right now.”
- “I inquired about helping out, but never heard back.”
- “I haven’t been asked.”

### **Acknowledge the negatives about being involved on a committee in the past.**

- “an improved transition process with better explanation ... rather than ‘sink or swim’ approach.
- “I had very little handover ... this was my first time on the Management Committee ... I was given a box of documents .”
- “I wish somebody had given me a job description.”
- “There was no file handed on, just the Minute books”.
- “I inherited several boxes of documents, booklets, leaflets, etc. ... I’ve rarely needed to look at them.”
- “I wish I had been told truthfully how much time would be required to devote to the job.”

### **Sell the job – emphasize the WIFM (What’s In It For Me) – not the tasks**

- Benefit of being on the Management Committee ... “was getting to know all of the members and being part of a team”
- “It is not that complex”
- “I gained greater computer skills”
- “I have built up a wealth of knowledge about Probus and gained many close friends.”
- “Just the pleasure of working with the Management Committee group.”
- “I was able to get to know my fellow Probians much better and more quickly.”
- “Having the opportunity to impact on the health of the club and the enjoyment of its members.”
- “The satisfaction of contributing.”
- “A feeling of belonging.”

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO CLUBS CELEBRATING IN DECEMBER

**Probus Club of Woodlands Inc.**  
**Esperance Probus Club Inc.**

**24 Years**  
**26 Years**



## THE PROBUS CLUB of BOORAGOON Inc.



On 8th November, members and partners of the Booragoon Men's Club enjoyed a most enjoyable picnic at a beautiful local recreation park.

As we had recently suddenly lost our Outings Officer, Merv Peters a long-term active member and an ex-president, stepped up and organised a sausage sizzle at Kadidjiny Park.

Kadidjiny Park is a spectacular park. Almost four hectares in size and located in the heart of Melville.

It provides an excellent children's playground, free barbecues, and a large amphitheatre with ample space for people to relax and enjoy the facilities.

It is located on the old Melville Primary School site which was redeveloped to install a 9.5-million-dollar park which opened to the public in late 2010. The weather was perfect, and we relaxed under excellent shade trees.

Left to right: Fred Strauss, Peter Anstis, Merv Peters



Merv and his two other "chefs" Peter and Fred (our Secretary and Membership Officer in real life) worked tirelessly over hot barbecues.

Dessert comprised delicious sponge cake, but I doubt that it was baked by our chefs.

Mel Austin





# Southern Sojourns in 2024

Escape the hustle and bustle of the city this summer and immerse yourself in breathtaking natural landscapes and enchanting small towns of our Southwest. Take in invigorating pristine forests, crystal clear natural waterways and rejuvenate yourself with delightful fresh local produce and country hospitality.

## Collie River Valley

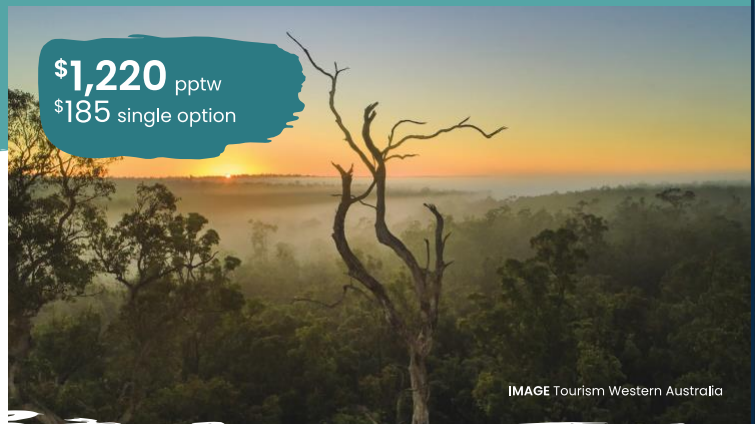
4 Days | 26 to 29 February 2024

### Highlights

- Collie Mural Trail
- Wellington Dam Mural
- Coalfields Museum
- Collie Art Gallery

### Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- 8 meals
- 3 nights' accommodation
- Tours & attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader & Coach Captain



\$1,220 pptw  
\$185 single option

IMAGE Tourism Western Australia

## Delightful Denmark & Picturesque Pemberton

7 Days | 5 to 11 March 2024

### Highlights

- Greens Pool
- Lunch at The Lake House
- Chocolate, truffles & preserves
- Walpole Wilderness cruise
- Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre
- Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk
- D'Entrecasteaux National Park
- Manjimup Timber & Heritage Park
- Donnelly River cruise
- Lost Lake wine tastings

### Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- 15 meals
- 6 nights' accommodation
- Touring & sightseeing
- Professional Villa Tour Leader & Coach Captain



\$2,320 pptw  
\$370 single option

IMAGE Tourism Western Australia

## Majestic Southern Forests

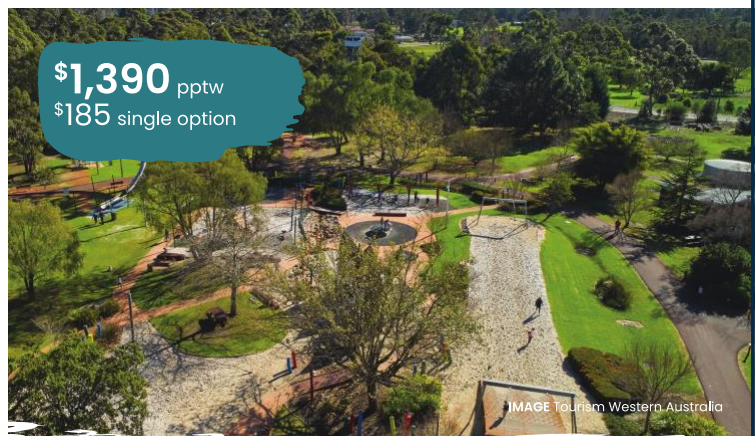
4 Days | 12 to 15 March 2024

### Highlights

- Pemberton Tramway Co
- Beedelup Falls & Bicentennial Tree
- Manjimup history & heritage tour
- Donnelly River cruise
- Dingup Homestead
- Manjimup Timber & Heritage Park
- Northcliffe

### Inclusions

- Pre/post transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- 8 meals
- 3 nights' accommodation
- Tours & attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader & Coach Captain



\$1,390 pptw  
\$185 single option

IMAGE Tourism Western Australia

### YOUR FULLY INCLUSIVE, ESCORTED TOUR INCLUDES



#### Transfers

Courtesy pre and post home/hotel transfers (Perth/Mandurah metropolitan areas)  
A country collection service is also available



#### Transport



#### Accommodation



#### Meals



#### Attractions



#### Tour Leaders



#### Local Guides

Terms and conditions: All Villa tours are fully escorted, depart from Perth and tour prices include courtesy home collection (Perth and Mandurah metro only), most meals and attractions. Tours are subject to change. Full terms and conditions can be found on [villa.com.au](http://villa.com.au) or ask us to send them when you call.

1800 066 272

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# PAWA

The Voice of  
WA Probuss Clubs

*Come along to a committee  
meeting and give us your ideas  
to ensure that PAWA is an  
effective voice of WA Probuss  
Clubs.*

Contact Secretary Pauline Dunning  
for an invitation to attend.  
[pawasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pawasecretary@gmail.com)

**Our PAWA Committee venue has  
changed.**

**We meet at the Melville Recreation  
Centre  
431 Canning Highway Melville.  
Enter via Stock Rd.**

**1st Thursday of every second month.  
(In January we meet on the second Thursday.)**

*NB: On alternative months,  
PAWA meets via Zoom.*

*Website: [probuswa.wordpress.com](http://probuswa.wordpress.com)*