



NEWS & NOTES

THE VOICE OF PROBUS IN THE WEST

Patrons: His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM, Governor of Western Australia and Mrs Dawson

WELCOME TO THE JANUARY 2024 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES

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



As Clubs approach the selection of the new management committee for the 2024/25 term, it's important to remember why many of our members are members of Probus. Most members are drawn to our clubs for the sheer enjoyment of fun, friendship, and fellowship, making it important to steer clear of burdening individuals with what might be perceived as onerous Committee roles.

A key word to consider is "Simplify".

Have a close look at how your club operates and look for areas for improvement. While committees are crucial for organisational structure, the emphasis should be on preserving the social aspect that defines our community. Striking the right balance ensures that administrative functions complement, rather than overshadow, the primary purpose of our clubs.

Consider smaller Committees, sharing Committee roles, using different Club members as volunteers to take on monthly tasks. Legally, a Club only needs a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Remind Club members that the Committee is there for its members - to make sure that everyone has an enjoyable experience.

In this economic climate, PAWA is pleased to advise Clubs that it reaffirms its commitment to the social nature of our clubs by deciding not to raise its annual levy, despite increases in the cost of goods and services and the increased capitation fee from PSPL. This gesture acknowledges the financial pressures our clubs may face and reflects a dedication to maintaining the accessibility of our social spaces.

Moreover, again PAWA invites thinkers and doers to contribute to its committee, emphasising that their efforts will directly benefit our WA clubs.

This call to action extends the opportunity, for those passionate about the well-being of WA Probus Clubs, to play a role in shaping the future, ensuring a collaborative approach to management that reflects the diverse needs and aspirations of our all our 5,100 WA members. As we select the new committee, let's champion a spirit of inclusivity and shared responsibility, reinforcing the vibrant social community we all cherish.

Ralph Sirmulis, PAWA President.

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

**Bendat Basketball Centre, Ellis Room,
201 Underwood Avenue Floreat WA 6014.**

AGM Registrations open at 0945am for the AGM at 1030am.

Registration forms will be forwarded to your club secretary in February.

If a Club will not be attending, a Proxy Voting Form will also be sent. Please use this form to assign your Club's voting rights to another Club/individual who will be attending the AGM and who can then cast a vote on your behalf.

When completed please return all forms to Secretary Pauline Dunning,

PAWAsecretary@gmail.com before the closing date of 14th March.

It is essential that we have a quorum of PAWA members represented.

There will be a break for morning tea and the meeting is expected to conclude by 12md.

There is a cost of \$15 per attendee, payable on registration.

Clubs are asked to nominate WA Probus Members for PAWA Committee positions using the Nomination Form sent to them.

Closing date 15 February.

BENDAT BASKETBALL CENTRE



ELLIS ROOM



This is an opportunity to:

- Learn more about PAWA, it's focus and direction.
- Meet the Office Bearers.
- Connect with likeminded Probians.
- Exchange ideas.
- Enjoy the friendship and fellowship on the day.
- **Help shape the future direction of PAWA and how it might help WA Probus Clubs, by joining the committee.**

PAWA APPOINTMENT – SOUTHERN REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

As you will be aware, PAWA recently sought interest from Clubs in the South West region of WA for an individual to take on the role as the South West Regional Representative. Regrettably, no Club nominated anyone for this challenging role. Realising that the original request seemed to exclude some of the southern Clubs, PAWA has extended the role to be the more inclusive entire Southern Region Representative.



PAWA is pleased to inform Clubs that Michael Macpherson of the Probus Club of Eaton has volunteered to take on this role and the PAWA Committee has accepted and appointed him to this position. His role is to ensure that the voice of the Southern WA Probus club is heard by PAWA and to extend the reach of PAWA to those Clubs.

Specifically, he is there to:

- Provide an effective and regular liaison between the Clubs in the region and PAWA.
- Maintain contact with Club Office bearers within the region following the Clubs' Annual General Meeting and offer assistance where sought.
- Communicate any major issues to either the PAWA President or Secretary where their support or advice is required or when it is considered of general interest or concern.
- Encourage more social interaction between Clubs as regards events and activities.
- Assist Clubs to operate according to their Constitution, and in particular ensure adherence to the mandatory aspects of the WA Associations Act.
- Do whatever he/she can within his/her region to make known the nature and purpose of Probus Clubs by providing information and assistance to those who could benefit.
- Be able to visit Clubs in the region if and when invited.
- Request copies of the Clubs' bulletins/newsletters and keep informed about Club news, activities and progress.

Michael has over 40 years of service in the Lions organisation working with people at all levels. He has the ability to get on with people through listening and understanding other peoples' ideas and points of view and where possible, diffuse situations where conflict may occur. In addition, he has the drive and enthusiasm to help Clubs through practical support and encouragement for Probus Clubs to have more interaction in their local area.

We wish him well in his task and hope that Southern Clubs will get to know him and seek his counsel where appropriate.

Ralph Sirmulis, PAWA President

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO CLUBS CELEBRATING IN JANUARY



Hollywood Kings Park Probus Inc.	5 Years
Ellenbrook Combined Probus Club Inc.	17 Years
The Probus Club of Kingsley Inc.	35 years
Albany Ladies Probus Club Inc.	39 Years
Probus Club of Karrinyup and North Beach Inc.	40 years

PROBUS CLUB OF ALBANY (INC)

50 MEMBERS enjoyed **CHRISTMAS DINNER** at **THE PREMIER HOTEL** on **5th December**



COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF WINTHROP INC.



The walking group from the Combined Probus Club of Winthrop Inc. celebrated their end of year walk with a Christmas morning tea at the Piney Lakes Gazebo in Winthrop.

Thanks to the organiser, Neil, for his tireless efforts in planning interesting walks with morning coffee.

REASONS TO VOLUNTEER FOR A CLUB COMMITTEE POSITION



Feel valued and part of a team.
Personal growth. Gain confidence and self-esteem (e.g., speaking confidently in front of an audience.)
You are in a position to build relationships.
Gain satisfaction and pride in your role as a volunteer.
Give back to your club in appreciation of the social benefits you have received. **DO IT YOUR WAY.**
You have an opportunity to share your knowledge and experiences.

Most importantly, your club will continue to thrive as a worthwhile community social group for active retirees, providing fun, friendship and fellowship following retirement.

Resources available to you.

- Your immediate predecessor. Ask questions.
- Obtain a handover with a job description.
- Refer to the PSPL Guidelines / how to run a meeting, membership advice, etc.
- Use PAWA resources! For example:
 - Workshops.
 - Ask PAWA committee for assistance. They will visit your club in support.
 - Keep up to date with the Monthly News and Notes sent to all secretaries. (It is now on the website if you have not received it). [Website: probuswa.wordpress.com](http://www.probuswa.wordpress.com)

MEMBERSHIP USEFUL INFORMATION

CLUB REGISTER of MEMBERS

- **Did you know?** Clubs are only required to provide a **minimum** of each member's first and last name to Probus South Pacific Ltd.
- A condition of membership of **your club** is a completed application form with your name, address, telephone and/or mobile number and email address, to be included in the Club's register.

INTERNAL DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS

- **Are you aware?** Members retain the right to request withdrawal of their personal details from the internal directory. To do this, contact your club secretary in writing.
- **Keep it up to date** and securely destroy outdated printed copies.
- **A Privacy Policy** should be established for the handling of personal information.

EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

- The emergency contact person should **not** be a member of the club.
- The list should be restricted to the necessary management committee members / activity leaders only and marked Private and Confidential.

Do you ask your visitors for an emergency contact number?

NEW SPEAKERS

[JAMES PARK and his wife](#)

[TANIA PARK](#)



James and Tania are both distinguished Toastmasters and have spoken at various organisations in WA and overseas. James recently joined Kalamunda Probus. James had a tough upbringing and life. He has several presentations on some of his more interesting exploits such as droving cattle on the de Grey stock route in the 50's. He is the son of one of the last drovers who drove cattle along this stock route and used to go on these trips with his father.

James has spoken at several Probus clubs before in the South West. His wife Tania has written a book about his life.

Tania spoke at a Probus Club in Swan View recently and was well received. She has written eleven books and also facilitates two writer's groups in Kalamunda. Her talk is more about encouraging everyone to write their story and get it down on paper before it is too late. She will go through the process of writing and also how you can self-publish. Tania will bring a few books with her. "Given enough time to organise, we'll travel metro, outer metro."

Best contact is by Email: goldpark3@gmail.com or
Ph: 9257 1940 (mobile reception is unreliable in the hills).

NEW ENTERTAINERS

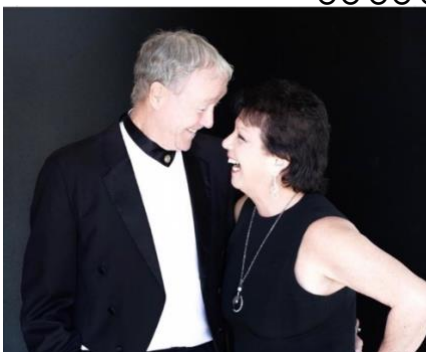
[Grand Handz Piano Duo](#)

Teresa and Don are two pianists who entertain with music from 60's, 70's and 80's or by request. They performed at Dianella Districts Probus Club in November. They are experienced performers having been together for 30 years and were well received by the Dianella club members.

Their cost is reduced to \$300.00 for Probus Clubs.

They do need a piano at your venue as they don't carry keyboards.

Teresa and Don 



'Grand Handz Piano Duo'

DARLINGTON CONCERT AND FABULOUS AFTERNOON TEA:

May 25th in 2024, from 2.30-5pm at Teresa's home.

Tickets available from Teresa.

Phone: Teresa 0411 227 359

email: grandhandzpianoduo@gmail.com

Fundraising For Your Club:

In the December edition of News and Notes, President Ralph referred to the PSPL increase in Capitation Fees and how the extra cost may make it more difficult for some Clubs to pay the Fee without increasing their annual subscription. Ralph suggested rather than increasing membership as a solution, and to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for all members who may not be able to afford the increase, it is crucial to exploring innovative solutions like fundraising.



As a result of Ralph's statement several Clubs have been querying whether a Club may fundraise, isn't it a no, no?

Yes, a Club can fundraise for its own benefit. Each Club's constitution states that it not be, or be seen, as a fundraising body. However, Clubs can source additional funds throughout the year through activities such as lucky door prizes, adding an extra dollar to the cost of a function, this creating a function surplus. Prizes can either be purchased by the Club or donated by local businesses. Monies collected from these activities do not amount to fundraising because they are added to the general funds of the Club and the funds are spent to benefit the Club members.

Fundraising that is not allowed, is monies raised for the benefit of third parties, such as a person, charity or specific cause. As an example, a Club could not run a BBQ or a raffle to raise monies for a specific person, cause or charity.

Although if a Club wanted to donate money it has accumulated in its general funds to a charity or specific cause, it can do so, provided the Club's membership approves of such a donation.

Remember Probus is all about fun, friendship and fellowship with fellow retirees.

Enjoy.

Pauline Dunning

SOUTH WEST GET TOGETHER



The Manjimup Probus Club will be hosts at this year's Get - Together.
Date: Monday 14 October 2024
Venue: **Manjimup Country Club**
Perup Road, Manjimup, WA.6258
Further information will be available in the next few months.

Why does my wife always wait until I'm at the opposite end of the house before asking me to 'Merm frner mernferr brnerfer!'

CAPITATION FEE

The Board has set the capitation fee for the 2024-2025 Probus year at \$19.00 per member. 2024 – 2025 capitation fees are payable by 30 April 2024 for all categories of membership (except non-active members and carers).

The national digital publication, *Active Retirees*, which will be issued quarterly from 2024, will continue to be provided on a complimentary basis.

THE PROBUS CLUB OF KINGSLEY (MEN'S).

January 12th, 2024.

The Probus Club of KINGSLEY (Men's) has celebrated its 35th anniversary with a luncheon at the Greenwood Hotel function room. The event was attended by Club members who were honoured to welcome distinguished guests Peter Olney (Probus South Pacific) Ltd and Ralph Sirmulis (Probus Association of WA Inc).

The club was formed in early 1989 sponsored by the Wanneroo Rotary Club under the watchful eye of Keva Barnard who became a Probus member a year later and served the Club faithfully for many years.

The 14 founding members were remembered during the lunch program with a name roll call.



The photograph shows current President Rod Tonkin and Vice-President Alan Bragman receiving a framed certificate of congratulations from Peter Olney.

Over the last three years the Club has seen a boost in membership to the current number of 36 members.

Beautiful Bali

Featuring coastal Legian

\$2,330 pptw
\$480 single option



7 Days | 2 to 8 Sep 2024

Beautiful Bali is the perfect island getaway, join us on this seven-day holiday. Relax into the island life with a lovely hotel in coastal Legian.

Inclusions



Highlights

- Wanagiri Hidden Hill & Tamblingan lake
- Traditional carved Balinese Handara Gate
- Ulun Danu Beratan Lake & Temple
- Local Balinese village tour
- Delicious High Tea at Biku
- Immersive experience at GWK Cultural Park
- Jimbaran sunset dinner
- Kecak Garuda Wisnu dance

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PROBUS ASSOCIATION OF WA INC.

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Vice President Sue Harwood
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Vice President Edna Jones
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Secretary Pauline Dunning
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Directory
Pauline Dunning

**News and Notes Editor,
Speakers List, and Outings List,**
Sue Harwood

**PAWA Immediate Past President and
PSPL Representative Member and
Director for Western Australia.**

Peter Olney PSM

peterolney@probussouthpacific.org

PAWA

The Voice of WA Probud Clubs

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

**Contact Secretary Pauline Dunning
for an invitation to attend.**

pawasecretary@gmail.com

**We meet on the 1st Thursday of every
second month at the
Melville Recreation Centre
Cnr Stock Rd and Canning Highway
Melville
9.30am-1230pm.**

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

Website: probuswa.wordpress.com