



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 MARCH 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 the PAWA year draws to a close, I reflect on the challenges PAWA has faced and the strides it has made in supporting its member clubs. The past year has been marked by a concerted effort to provide guidance and assistance to clubs, with a particular focus on enhancing internal communication and collaboration.

Throughout the year, PAWA committee members made an effort to get out and visit clubs as well as offer advice and guidance through phone calls and emails. This direct engagement allowed for a more personalised approach to addressing the unique needs and concerns of each Club, fostering a sense of support and solidarity within the PAWA family of Clubs.

Recognising the importance of education and empowerment, PAWA organised seven Building Better Clubs workshops aimed at helping club officers better understand their roles and responsibilities. From the feedback received, these workshops served as invaluable platforms for knowledge exchange and skill development, equipping Club officers with the tools and insights needed to navigate their roles and contribute to the success of their respective Clubs perhaps more effectively.

In PAWA we believe that WA Clubs should engage with each other more than is the current situation. We organised several multi-Club events and we strongly encourage Clubs to connect with local Probus Clubs during outings, facilitating opportunities for meaningful interaction and collaboration between like-minded organisations. One thing that I have learned in the last year is that we all do the same thing, but we do it differently. Amazing what you pick up from how other Clubs operate.

Looking ahead, PAWA remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting its member WA Clubs and promoting a culture of collaboration, camaraderie, and continuous improvement. I feel that one of the major issues facing our WA Clubs is complacency. Each of us needs to look introspectively and consider that whilst all seems to be OK now, what will be the case in the next year or two? Too many successful Clubs in the past have fallen by the wayside because they did not move with the times.

Ralph Sirmulis, President.

AGM

PAWA 2024/2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 22nd March 2023

The Probus Association of WA will hold its AGM

at

Bendat Basketball Centre, Ellis Room

201 Underwood Avenue, Floreat WA 6014

Registrations start at 09.45 for the AGM at 10.30

Light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the meeting at a cost of \$15 per attendee payable on registration of attendance.

The AGM is expected to conclude by 1130am after which Probians can enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the comfortable surroundings of the Centre.

THE PROBUS CLUB OF GERALDTON INC



President Ralph was invited to visit one of our PAWA family remote Clubs (the Probus Club of Geraldton) on the occasion of their AGM.

It was good to see and feel a vibrant and enthusiastic Club.

He also invested new President Sue Graham with her President's chain of office.

Congratulations to Geraldton Probus and we will see you again and thank you to the hospitality of Past President Richard Porter.

CLUB CONSTITUTIONS

As you will be aware, since late last year, PSPL has taken steps to formulate a new “model” Club Constitution and “model” Standing Resolutions. Draft Articles of Accreditation with notes about potential impact have been released.



Some Clubs have been somewhat overzealous in already modifying their Constitutions from this very brief information provided so far by PSPL.

PAWA advises all WA Clubs to “hold your horses” as PSPL has indicated that these “models’ are unlikely to be made available until May/June of this year.

Until we see these “model” documents we cannot effectively and accurately comment. Any WA Club Constitution **must** comply with the WA Associations Act and its attendant Regulations. Revised Club Constitutions must be approved by the Associations Branch of DMIRS (Dept. of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety) before that can be used by a Club. The cost to Club for such Constitution review is \$47.

HOW HEALTHY IS YOUR CLUB?

Men and women join Probus clubs to be involved in the community, to share social time and activities after retirement.

One of the highlights is having the opportunity to listen to interesting guest speakers.

Ways to keep your club healthy:

- Offer a range of activities and interests to keep members enjoying the experiences.
- Ask members for input; give them a voice.
- Be open to new ideas; try a new kind of social event.
- Involve more members; share the workload for committee positions.
- Have regular get-togethers apart from meetings.
- Have fun!
- Ensure new members are continually made welcome and feel included.
- Have a visible presence in your community, e.g. a listing in your Community Group or your local media.
- Consider using the Health Checklist provided by PSPL.
- Try to have skilled people in your leadership positions.
- Minimise the business - maximise the fun!
- Adapt to change in order for your club to thrive.
- Have a Leadership Development plan.

How?

Encourage members to attend PAWA workshops where they can meet like-minded people, share information, and obtain new ideas to enrich their members’ lives.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO CLUBS CELEBRATING IN MARCH

Swan View Probus Club	6 years
Probus Club of Mandurah Peel Inc	9 years
The Combined Probus Club of Murdoch Inc.	27 years
Marmion Probus Club (Mixed) Inc	31 years
The Probus Club of Denmark Inc	34 years
Probus Club of Mandurah (Inc)	40 years
The Probus Club of Thornlie (Inc)	42 years



Vale, Pat Owens - past member of the Probus Association of WA Inc.

The Probus Association of WA Inc. acknowledges the volunteering service of Pat Owens, who passed away in February. She was a valued member of PAWA for about six years and for most of that time managed Probus West and spoke at various clubs and information days.

Pat was a Life Member of the Rossmoyne Ladies Probus Club and previously held positions of President, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.

NEW SPEAKERS

BRIAN BASSETT. - WILDLIFE RANGER. Short term speaker April/May/June 2024

BRIAN AND SUE BASSETT



Brian resides in Queensland and is currently planning a trip to Western Australia in April/May/June and will be staying in Perth for an extended period of time.

He and his wife Sue specialise in African Wildlife and as such are trained Wildlife Rangers with many stories and photographs to share with interested audiences.

The book he wrote is titled "Blood, Sweat & Fears" and is a 'first person' record of typical hair-raising encounters they have experienced in 8 different countries as they have volunteered for a diverse range of conservation activities.

Contact Brian:

bassettaustralianauthor@gmail.com

[M: 0407 761 322](tel:0407761322)

Continued- new Speakers

MATTHEW TOMPSETT. Aviation geek

Join self-confessed aviation 'geek' and aficionado Matthew Tompsett on a captivating journey into the world of aviation, where a fusion of unadulterated curiosity, infectious enthusiasm and a genuine love of the industry takes to the skies.

Driven by a deep-seated passion for all-things aviation and the science behind it, Matthew has immersed himself into the world of flight since he took his first steps, which family folklore attests were taken at the same time as pointing to the sky at a passing jet airliner. Soon after began his childhood visits to the airport, whilst clutching binoculars, pressing his ear to a radio scanner, and feverishly recording the registration of every aircraft he spotted – all of which further sealed his lifelong fascination with aviation's magic.

Five decades on and countless hours of studying, observing, and experiencing the wonder of flight firsthand, Matthew's unyielding enthusiasm for the skies has manifested not only in him being affectionately crowned an 'avgeek' by all who know and love him, but also in a genuine, informed passion for sharing the intriguing world of flight with audiences of all ages.

PRESENTATION: White-outNZ901

Ahead of its 45th anniversary later this year, Matthew's presentation, White-outNZ901, shares the infamous story of Air New Zealand's Flight 901 – known around the world as [The Mount Erebus disaster](#) – exploring its tragic end on the north slope of Antarctica's Mt Erebus, the lives lost, and the pivotal moment in aviation history that unlocked new, previously unimagined heights in safety. This historic aviation disaster in November 1979 still, to this day, prompts us to reflect on the complexities of human error, technological advancements, and the unforeseen challenges faced by those who venture into the unknown skies.

In his mindful and measured presentation, Matthew will journey through the events leading up to that fateful afternoon, discussing the factors that contributed to such an unmitigated tragedy, and honouring the memory of the 257 passengers and crew who lost their lives on that ill-fated day. His compelling talk will also offer an insight into the enduring and poignant legacy of Flight 901 and its aftermath, which is arguably as compelling and intriguing as the disaster itself.

Ph: 0429 707777. dashy@iinet.net.au

CHRISTINE HARRIS Vice President of FamilyHistoryWA

PEOPLE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S GHOST TOWNS PROJECT

The year 2029 will mark two significant Western Australian milestones. The first milestone is the Bicentenary of European settlement. The second is FamilyHistoryWA's 50th Anniversary. Hundreds of towns spread all over the state have one thing in common - they have either disappeared entirely, or they have dwindled to the point where they are unrecognisable as the towns they used to be.

One thing all of these communities had in common were the men, women and children who lived in them. Our task is to bring those people, many of whom have been lost to history, back to life so that their descendants can know their stories, know their joys and their sorrows, their successes, and their failures.

Christine has her own laptop with a presentation prepared and updated each time to reflect where they have reached in the project but would like to have a screen and a projector if possible. She can just talk if all else fails.

Email ghostswa@fhwa.org.au or support@ghostswa.freshdesk.com

Web: ghostswa.au

UPDATE: THE NATIONAL TRUST HAS NEW CONTACT DETAILS.

The National Trust of Western Australia works to raise knowledge, awareness, understanding and commitment to Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage. They are passionate about connecting people and communities.

Ph: 9321 6088 trust@ntwa.com.au

THE ROLE OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE is to manage the club in accordance with the Club's Constitution and standing resolutions and the law.

The Committee can make binding decisions on behalf of the club which is not subject to review by the membership. However, decisions made should be reported to the members, especially any contentious issue.

Each Committee member should have a Portfolio detailing their role and responsibilities.

New management committee members need to know about their responsibilities and the workings of the association. It is good practice to provide a structured, comprehensive, and practical orientation to the activities, policies, and structure of the association.

Orientation kits for management committee members are another useful way of providing newcomers with all the essential information including:

- information about the association, objectives, structure, activities, and achievements.
- the role of committee members.
- a list of committee members and their contact details.
- practical expectations (e.g. number of meetings, other tasks).
- general requirements and expectations.
- the rules of the association.
- a guide to meeting practices; and
- policies and procedures.



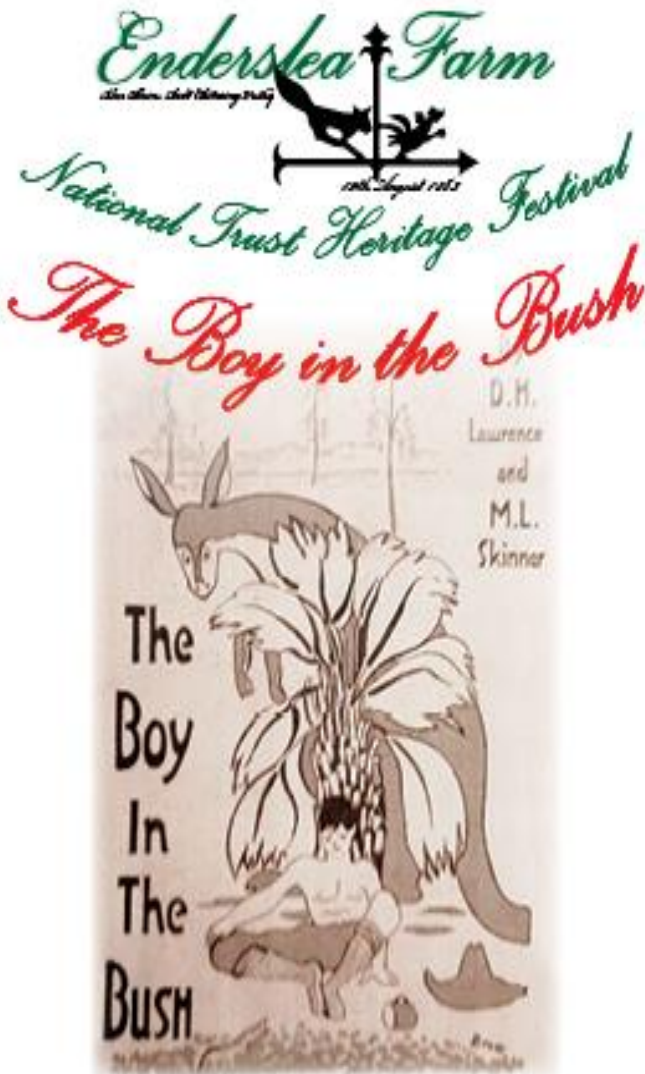
The Probus Club of Fremantle WA Inc. went to the Bibra Lake Ice Skate Park for morning tea.

It was a simply organized event and twenty-six members and partners turned up.

After a delicious morning tea, we watched in awe as pre-school children glided around the rink.

DIANE POPE Producer.

In past years I have had a number of Probus people come to Enderslea and say they have enjoyed my WA history plays....with the very nice CWA tea included. M: 0448 441 899



Writer / Director Sarah McNeill Actor Greg McNeill
 Producer Diane Pope

2pm Friday 3rd May, 2024
11am & 2pm Saturday & Sunday
4th & 5th May, 2024

War, politics and personal experiences influence the creative work of West Australian author Molly Skinner (1876 – 1955).

When D H Lawrence (1885 – 1930) visits Perth in 1922, a new opportunity colours her world. Together they publish *The Boy in the Bush* in 1924.

A 'farm fare' afternoon tea is included, provided by the Bindoon Country Women's Association, as you enjoy this production performed in the historic stone barn of Enderslea Farm.

Free wine tastings of Bindoon Estate Wine will be provided.

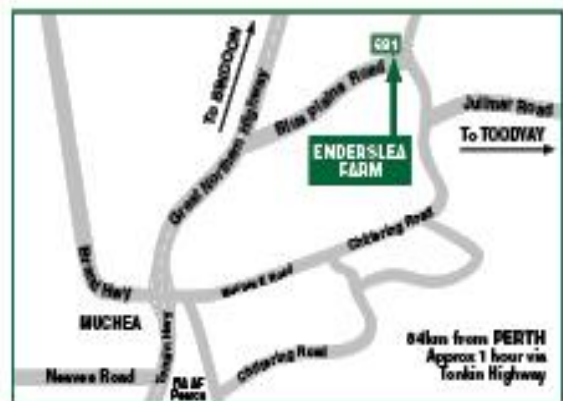


2pm Friday 3rd May, 2024
11am & 2pm Saturday & Sunday
4th & 5th May, 2024

Ticket Price: \$39

Venue: Enderslea Farm
 681 Blue Plains Road, Chittering Valley
www.endersleafarm.com.au

Bookings: Online at trybooking.com/CKMRQ
 or phone Diane Pope at 0448 441 899



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PAWA

The Voice of
WA Probus Clubs

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

Contact Secretary Pauline Dunning for an invitation to attend.
pawasecretary@gmail.com

Our PAWA Committee venue has changed.

***The PAWA Committee 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.

Next zoom meeting - 4th April.

Website: probuswa.wordpress.com