



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 AUGUST 2024 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES

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



In our Probud Clubs, the roles within management committees, such as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, are often viewed as daunting due to misconceptions about complexity and time commitment. However, these roles are primarily designed to facilitate the enjoyment of friendship, fun, and fellowship—core values of Probud.

Contrary to the belief that these roles are enforcers of strict rules, they simply serve to ensure the smooth operation of the Club within the legal framework of the WA Associations Act which defines the legal framework which all WA Incorporated Clubs adhere to, and it overrides any Club Constitution or Standing Resolutions.

The "standard" Constitution used by WA Clubs aligns with this Act, focusing more on common sense and less on stringent rules. This means that while the management committee roles are essential, they do not demand extensive legal knowledge or complex rule enforcement. Instead, they can be as straightforward or as involved as one wishes, depending on the individual's interests and availability.

Many members hesitate to join committees due to fears of complexity or the belief that they lack the necessary knowledge. However, most aspects of Club management are simple and designed to enhance rather than hinder the social experience. By stepping into a management role, senior members not only contribute to the smooth operation of the Club but also help maintain the enjoyable and supportive environment that attracted them in the first place. It is a communal responsibility and a rewarding way to ensure that the essence of Probud—friendship, fun, and fellowship—is preserved for all members.

Over the years, many WA Probud Clubs have fallen by the wayside, not due to falling membership numbers but the inability to get their members to volunteer to take on a Management Committee role. Do you want your club to fold?

PAWA is there to advise our WA Clubs about what to do in unusual circumstances where more in depth knowledge of the WA Associations Act or Constitution is required.

Ralph Sirmulis, President

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL CLUBS

Some WA Probus Clubs have recently been advised by the Department of Mines, Industrial Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) that they are not compliant with the WA Associations Act.

The reason for this is that when the Club lodged their annual return to DMIRS, the information provided showed that the end of financial year was **after or coincided** with the date of the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The Act requires that the AGM is held ***after the end of the financial year***. In the case of two Clubs, one showed the end of financial year as being 30th June and the other 31st March and yet the AGMs were held in the month of March.

Clubs should look at the Finances section of their Constitutions (usually clause 8 or 9) and check when their financial year ends. The end date MUST be before the 31st March date as specified earlier in the Constitution (under the heading of Meetings) as to when to hold the AGM.

If there is no conflict, you do not need to do anything.

If there is a conflict, what do you need to do?

DMIRS advises:

- The Club needs to amend their Constitution which requires an Extraordinary General Meeting as the change must be approved by a quorum of Club members
- The revised Constitution must be sent to DMIRS within 30 days. If this does not happen the original date remains in place.
- PSPL requests that a changed Constitution should be sent to them for “approval” before it is sent to DMIRS. However, as the contact from DMIRS stated: “It doesn’t matter what is in the Constitution (or Standing Resolutions) the Act overrides all”.

South West Get Together This annual event is taking place in Manjimup on Monday 7 October 2024.

It is hosted by the Probus Club of Manjimup at the
Manjimup Country Club in Golf Links Rd.

Arrival time is from 8.30 and tea and coffee will be available at this time.

Registration is \$50 which is due by Friday 16 August.

Lunch is included – vegetarian and gluten free options are available. There is an interesting programme of events and two excellent guest speakers.

Finish time for the day is 3.30pm.

For more information, contact Beth Shorthouse – eshorto@outlook.com



Probus clubs are in need of accepting and managing change and innovation for long-term success. We need to be flexible and have a positive attitude and spread it around. When you implement a positive attitude your members may be more likely to follow your example.

One of PAWA's goals is to provide a clear understanding of the rules of your club Constitution, the Associations Act and the guidelines from PSPL. These items were part of the six workshops undertaken by PAWA this year.

Feedback from workshops this year highlighted some common issues:

- Difficulty obtaining new members.
- Difficulty forming a committee.
- Complacency.
- Some clubs keep up with old traditions and formats and are resistive to change.

Workshops are a great way to promote networking, and exchange ideas and knowledge to tackle common challenges we all face. PAWA listens to the feedback from workshops and adjusts the format accordingly.

Clubs need to make a structured approach to making changes in order to flourish.

- Accept innovation; ask members for their ideas.
- Eliminate complacency and indifference.
- Maintain effective communication with members.
- Try something you haven't done before at your meeting, a quiz, "bring and take" or "show and tell".
- Have an Open Day. This has proven to be successful with two clubs recently. Choose an interesting guest speaker or entertainer and share with the wider community.
- Welcome change with a forward-thinking mindset by fostering a culture receptive to change.

Do your own thing but do something!

The Probus Association of WA welcomes new committee member Sandra Dawe from the Probus Club of Karrinyup North Beach.

Sandra joined her club in August 2012 and has been on the committee since that date holding the positions of Archives (which she still maintains), Vice President and President.

August Birthdays

Dianella Districts Combined Probus Club Inc.	18 years
The Probus Club of Booragoon Inc.	34 years
South Perth Ladies Probus Club Inc.	36 years
Floreat Ladies Probus Club Inc.	37 years
Bunbury Probus Club Inc.	42 years



Probus Month Theme 2024 “Celebrating Community and Companionship”



ONLY 3 months to go... time to start planning!

WILLETTON LADIES PROBUS CLUB *from Noeleen Standley*

Willetton Ladies Probus Club had a Birthday Morning Tea at their General Meeting – A loyal long serving member cut the cake, both the Local MLA Dr Jaggs and also Mr Sam Lim Fed Member for Tangney attended and were warmly welcomed. Mr Lim spoke to the meeting and was very well received by the members. They also had an article in the local newspaper with Dr Jaggs Krishnan, MLA.



Floreat Ladies 37th Birthday celebration with musician Barbara Stephenson.



PAWA committee members Sandra Dawe and Sue Harwood, along with a representative from Cambridge Rotary Max Puddey, were present to help celebrate Floreat Ladies birthday in August. This club has reduced in size over the years but not in enthusiasm. Mary Ann Hart and her committee served a sumptuous High Tea followed by a compilation of songs from Barbara. This is a very close-knit club and PAWA were pleased to be invited.

NEW SPEAKERS

Elton Brown - Retired Mechanical Engineer who returned to the study of European History. He regularly gives talks on historical characters and events to various groups.

Topics presented:

1. A light-hearted Look at the History of Gin

This covers the arrival of gin in England, its overconsumption and resultant social misery, bootlegging, the Roaring Twenties, the late Queen Mother and expanding local gin distilleries.

2. Why don't West Aussies speak French?

On 30th March 1772 a French expedition led by Louis Aleno de St Alouarn landed in Shark Bay and claimed land in the name of King Louis XV. A claim never withdrawn....Elton looks at the men, their discoveries, the opportunities missed in colonising WA and the reason for these failures.

3. Marie Antoinette's necklace.

The turbulent life and times of Marie Antoinette, the Queen of France, 1770-1793

Contact Elton: E: atley07@bigpond.com

Ph: 9293 0617

Please note: Elton is booked up for 2024 but will be available in 2025!

NB: Speaker Richard Offen - Change of email address:

New address is: richardoffen@outlook.com

John Rando - Solicitor / Musician / Social Scientist

On my arrival to Perth from Italy, as a child, I was regarded as the “Forrest Gump” of my school. However, I learnt to speak English and evolved to become a criminal defence lawyer for the last half century. Also, a social scientist, existential philosopher, musician and published author. In my years as a lawyer, I successfully defended clients at least 49% of the time in the early years. In recent times, 51% clients were found to be ‘not guilty’. A significant improvement!

These days, if I can’t argue the facts, I argue the law. If the law is against me, I argue the facts. When the facts and law are against me, I smile at the Jury, sing and dance. Life has been interesting, exciting and exhilarating.

Let me talk about the law, existential philosophy, social science, music and play a tango or tarantella or maybe, sing the blues.

Email John: johnrando@westnet.com.au Phone 9381 8933

Brian Bassett - Past Guest Speaker.

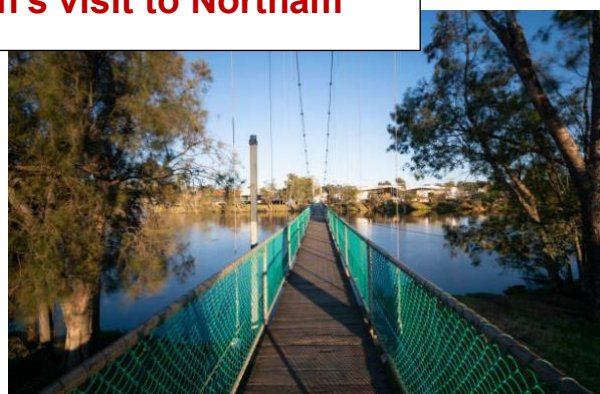
“Whilst it has been some time since we spoke at your club, we wanted to follow up with a commitment we made to those of your members who generously donated money to our charity **The School of St Jude in Tanzania**. Along with the funds received from your Club members, we amalgamated all of the funds raised during our recent speaking tour, irrespective of the amount which was **over and above book sales**.

The timing of the donation was most fortuitous because an independent fund-raising campaign was underway at The School of St Jude, whereby a generous sponsor had agreed to match all donations received between June 20th and 1 July, up to the sum of an amazing \$800,000. To help boost your contribution, we also decided to match dollar for dollar, the kindness extended to us during our visit to your Club.

After we concluded presenting to a total of 20 Probus Clubs in South Australia and Western Australia we were able to present The School with a combined amount of \$300.

Our best regards always, Brian and Sue Bassett.” [The School of St Jude sent a letter of thanks.](#)

PAWA President Ralph’s visit to Northam



I had the pleasure of being invited by President Annette Brown to visit the Probus Club of Northam. After a convoluted scenic route to Northam thanks to my GPS, I was pleased to find an enthusiastic group of Probians who love their Club.

The Club has been in operation since 1985 and is the 25th Club established in WA. As with most Clubs, their membership has fluctuated over the years from peaks of 55 plus to the current level of 27. The Club is also taking steps to socialise with other nearby Clubs which we in PAWA encourage. Thanks, Northam, for the opportunity to have a chat and convey some information.

Click –say Cheese please! Victoria Park Probus Club

What a treat Probus members had at the recent excellent interactive talk by Probus member Kevin Belding. In short you could say lunch was a collective YUM! Members had a delightful lunch following his presentation. When Kevin retired from full time work, he discovered the satisfaction and therapy of baking bread, making cheese and dry curing and smoking bacon. You are welcome to contact Probus9VicPark@gmail.com

Cheeses on display were Leicester, Feta, Monterey, Jalapeno, Jack, Cotswold and Pepato.



OUTINGS SUGGESTION

Wannadoo Tours specializes in day and group tours for mature travellers.

Our tours are designed to provide seniors with a fun and educational experience 😊 These tours typically include morning tea, visits to historical sites, museums, other attractions, a delicious lunch and so much more. Tours can also be customized to fit your specific interests and needs.

We can provide seniors with an amazing opportunity to stay fit while also fostering new friendships and creating lasting memories.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Deb Wirihana, Operations Manager. **0458 893 983**. info@wannadootours.com.au

www.wannadootours.com.au



COTTESLOE LADIES PROBUS CLUB

Cottesloe Ladies Probus Club celebrated their 35th birthday on June 10th.

They asked the longest serving member of the club, Rhonda Johns (27 years a member) and the newest inductee (Dell Lyons) to cut the cake.

A morning of fun, friendship and food was enjoyed by all.

*"We celebrated well".
Julie Wright (secretary)*

SCAM AWARENESS WEEK- Monday 26-30th August 2024

A club recently had a speaker from their City Council talk about cyber security which is a very relevant topic with the number of scams we are experiencing. If you cannot obtain the speaker from the PAWA list, try your City Council.

Clear Signs of a Scam

- An email or message asks you to send personal information like your tax file number (TFN), banking details, residential address, driver's license or Medicare details.
- An email or message asks you to click on a link. The real Australian Tax Office and Services Australia never sends links.
- An email comes from an odd address.
- The return mail is not Government, even though it says "ATO" or "Services Australia" in the sender box.

THORNLIE PROBUS CLUB

"We had a very interesting speaker at our June meeting, that we would like to share with everyone." **Learning how to deal with emergency situations.**



GOSNELLS STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES – Graham Fixter

These were among the many suggestions Graham Fixter made to keep us safe in an emergency.

- know your risk limitations
- keep up to date with latest warnings and heed them.
- make sure gutters are cleaned regularly
- have an emergency kit ready
- share contact numbers with family
- list of medications
- treat your pets like another person

"On the 26th of June, **Thornlie Probus** invited **Harvey Probus Club** to come up for lunch. We all went to Golden Ponds Mundijong. We had a beautiful 2 - course meal and then a walk around the lakes. Then they set off on the bus for Harvey. *Dale Eckersley, Secretary, Thornlie Probus Club*

On the 24 July 2024, the Men's Probus Club of Booragoon celebrated its 400th meeting. A special raffle was held and some of the winners are shown in the attached photos.



Christmas on Norfolk Island

\$5,325 pptw
\$680 single option

IMAGE: Tourism Australia



9 Days | 19 to 27 December 2024

Celebrate Christmas with us in the tropical paradise of Norfolk Island and immerse yourself in the laid-back island lifestyle for an unforgettable 9 day holiday.

Inclusions

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Scan me

Highlights

- Breakfast Walk & BBQ
- Christmas Day Buffet Lunch
- Progressive Dinner & Island feasts
- Incredible Glass Bottom boat cruise
- Amazing Wonderland by Night tour
- Pitcairn Settlers tour
- Delicious Island fish fry
- Convict Settlement tour
- Mysterious Night as a convict
- Find treasures at the Bounty Folk Museum
- Lavender Farm tour

Escorted holidays & bucket list adventures for over 55's

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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**

***The PAWA Committee meets at the
Melville Recreation Centre, Cnr Stock
Rd and Canning Highway Melville.***

1st Thursday of every second month.

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

***August zoom meeting held Thursday 8th
August.***

***Next meeting Thursday 5th September at
the Melville Recreation Centre.***

Website: probuswa.wordpress.com