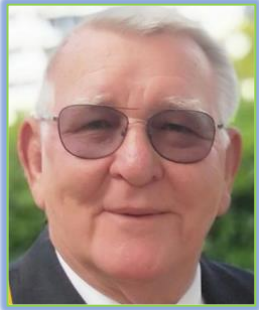




NEWS & NOTES

THE VOICE OF PROBUS IN THE WEST

WELCOME TO THE FEBRUARY 2025 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES



PAWA: 40 Years as the Voice of Probus in Western Australia

PAWA proudly represents the family of Probus Clubs in Western Australia and serves as the Voice of Probus in the West. As the oldest Probus Association in Australia, PAWA celebrated 40 years of operation last year, marking four decades of dedication to supporting and strengthening Probus Clubs across the state.

PAWA strives to be a constant source of support for its Clubs, always available to answer questions, provide advice, guidance, and education on the various challenges and opportunities facing Probus Clubs today. Rather than simply focusing on creating new clubs, PAWA's primary goal has been to ensure that existing Clubs are thriving and engaging for their members and the community.

A key initiative in strengthening Clubs has been the restructured Building Better Clubs Workshops, which have been met with overwhelming approval. Based on attendance numbers and positive feedback, these Workshops continue to be seen as a highly valuable resource, equipping Club Committees with the tools and knowledge necessary to ensure the longevity and vibrancy of their Clubs.

We have increased the frequency of our Club visits in order to ensure that we hear first-hand the issues our Clubs face and we will continue to do so as we learn a great deal by simply listening. I remind you of my favourite expression: "We all do the same thing, but we do it differently."

PAWA also recognises that a family thrives on connection and has looked at opportunities for members to come together socially. Events such as the Pinjarra Races and Pasta in the Valley attract 180–300 Probians from numerous Clubs, providing a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, fun, and friendship on a larger scale.

Another significant achievement is the South West Get Together which was initiated by PAWA some 20 years ago. What is great is that the Clubs in the region have embraced the events and have, with great enthusiasm, taken ownership as regards its organisation thus ensuring its continued success and growth. Well done to our family in the South West.

However, there are challenges ahead this year and PAWA cannot effectively represent Probus in Western Australia without the support of its member Probus Clubs. It is through this strong partnership with its Clubs and members that PAWA continues to foster a thriving, united, and dynamic Probus community for the future in WA.

Ralph Sirmulis, President.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

As you will be aware, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Probud Association of WA will be held on 28th March 2025.

At that meeting, the current Executive Officers of the PAWA Committee will step down and PAWA Member Clubs will have the opportunity to elect new officers.

PAWA is asking WA Probud Clubs to nominate individuals for the roles of:

- **PAWA President**
- **PAWA Vice President**
- **PAWA Secretary**
- **PAWA Treasurer**

The other non Executive Officers of the PAWA Committee are appointed by WA Probud Clubs and thus are not subject to election.

A nomination form will be sent to all Clubs. Please complete the form and return it to PAWASecretary@gmail.com by the **28th February 2025.**

Note that nominations from attending delegates will also be accepted from the floor of the AGM.

All nominations for these roles will be published to all WA Clubs together with all the other material for the AGM in early March 2025.

Note that a nomination is NOT a vote.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

BUILDING BETTER CLUBS WORKSHOPS

- **Duncraig: Thursday 10th April**
Sorrento Bowling Club,
Peter Doyle Reserve, Duncraig.
- **Ersikine: Thursday 8th May**
Halls Head Bowling Club,
3 Sticks Boulevard, Ersikine.
- **Ardross: Friday 16th May**
Mt Pleasant Bowling Club,
40 Bedford Road, Ardross.
- **Noranda: Friday 23rd May**
Morley Noranda Recreation Club
85 McGilvray Avenue, Noranda.
- **Albany: Wednesday 28th May**
Le Grande Motel
479 Albany Highway, Albany
- **Bunbury: Friday 30th May**
Mantra Bunbury Lighthouse,
2 Marlston Drive, Bunbury



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO CLUBS CELEBRATING IN FEBRUARY



East Fremantle Probus Club Inc	6 years
Mandurah Island Probus Club Inc	16 years
Combined Probus Club of Albany Inc	16 years
The Combined Probus Club of Leeming Inc	17 years
Bedford Combined Probus Club Inc	17 years
The Probus Club of Eaton Inc	33 years
Combined Probus Club of Rockingham Inc	38 years
Bunbury Ladies Probus Club Inc	40 years
The Probus Club of Northam Inc	40 years

BREAKOUT GROUP SESSIONS-

These are some of the points covered in the breakout groups and information sessions that give interested members more knowledge to successfully manage their club, assist it to thrive, and learn how other clubs do things.

These workshops can be a very positive experience and an enjoyable social interaction with other like-minded club members.

- Available help from PAWA and PSPL. Get to know your PAWA Committee.
- ***Ways to communicate better.***
- Visitor and Member Insurance.
- ***Documentation needed for outings.***
- Privacy Act. - Collection, storage, protection, use and accessibility of personal information collected from members.
- ***Dept of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.***
- What it means to be Incorporated. Who can audit/review?
- ***How to assist the incoming committee; increased knowledge of committee roles.***
- Effective ways for getting new members.
- ***Awareness to send more committee and non-committee members.***
- Necessity to instill a “spirit” in your Club to make it function effectively.
- ***Understanding that welfare is an important role in the Club to ensure that all members feel included.***
- Ways to deal with problems.
- ***Internet banking.***
- Thinking outside the box.

NEW SPEAKER. Jan Bant

JAN BANT “Friends of the Western Swamp Tortoise.” referred by Combined Bedford Probus Club Inc



In addition to losing much of their habitat on the Swan Coastal Plain, our tortoises face an additional threat of climate change, as the seasonal swamps they inhabit will hold water for increasingly shorter periods of time. Recovery depends on securing and drought-proofing high-quality habitat in their indigenous range.
Ph: 0461 254 672 Email: bant@aapt.net.au

JOHN TAYLOR “Raising Fen Tigers” Reminder - John is available at short notice.

This is an analogy of original poems about people growing up in an English village in the 40's and 50's. “**I will find you**” is a tale of mystery, intrigue and historical fiction based on true events during WW2. It starts in Fenland in the UK and ends in Australia and has local content and interest.

Ph: 6248 5808.

0492 849 063

Email: j-et@aapt.net.au



Probus South-West Get Together 2025

**Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club
Monday 13th October 2025**

Keep the date free

**Hosted by:
Probus Club of Mandurah Peel
Contact Carol Hoult
0419714288
southwestgettogether@gmail.com**

PINJARRA TROTTING PARK
A PAWA Multi Club Event.

Monday 3rd February 2025



Canning Vale Probus Club



Mandurah Ladies Probus Club



The Probus Club of Gosnells



The Combined Probus Club of Scarborough Bch



Wendy Birrell from the Combined Probus Club of Leeming with friends from her Village.

Thanks are extended to Edna Jones from the PAWA Committee for organising this multi-club event.

Also thanks to Helen Hardy for managing the one hundred and ninety members and their friends from 19 Probus Clubs who attended on the day.

IT'S TIME FOR YOUR AGM

Now is the time of year that the President, Secretary and Treasurer should be preparing for your Annual General Meeting which should be held prior to 31st March 2025.

You need to check your Clubs Constitution and Standing Resolutions to ensure that notice of the AGM is sent to members within the appropriate time frame. This notice should include Minutes of last year's AGM, the Annual Financial Report, Proxy Voting Forms together with the Agenda for the meeting.

Nominations for all Committee Positions should be lodged with the Club Secretary by your February Meeting.

The AGM should take place after your General Meeting and a separate set of minutes should be prepared by the Secretary with respect to the AGM. On the day of the AGM, you need to appoint a Returning Officer to oversee the election process. This can be a member of the club however that person should not be standing for election.

Should you have only one member nominated for a position that person will be duly elected, however if there is more than one person nominated for any position a vote by show of hands should be taken once the nominees have left the room. This process also includes any proxy votes that have been received.

If no nominations have been received for a committee position the Returning Officer may call for nomination from the floor, however this situation is not ideal.

Should any Committee positions remain vacant after the AGM these vacancies may be filled later by the Committee.

A MEETING WITH A DIFFERENCE Probus Club Of Eaton Inc



It was decided that as a new start to a new year, we should do something different for our January meeting. Therefore, we made it a breakfast meeting.

Members obviously liked this idea as there was quite a crowd present. The meal was paid for out of club funds and consisted of ham and cheese croissants (cheese and tomato for vegetarians) and fruit platters.

All of this food was expertly prepared by club members in the kitchen of the meeting venue.

After the meal and before the meeting started, we enjoyed some "Getting to know each other" quizzes. It turns out that none of us have gone bungee jumping, although some had danced on a bar and yet others have set foot in all seven continents.

This was a great idea, and we thank all those who made it happen.

Chris Durrant



North West *Spectacular*

\$4,460 pptw
1930 single option



10 Days | 29 May to 7 June 2025

Experience the rust-red gorges and turquoise beaches of Western Australia's North West. Tour through iconic landscapes including the deep gorges and plunging waterfalls of the awe-inspiring Karijini National Park and pristine natural wonders of Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area.

Highlights

- National Park & Karijini Eco Retreat
- Dales & Joffre Gorges
- Yardie Creek gorge cruise
- Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area
- Cape Range National Park
- Exmouth Gulf
- Bullara & Wooramel stations
- Coral Bay coral cruise
- New Norcia guided tour
- Mount Whaleback iron ore mine tour

Inclusions



Request a copy of our
2025 January magazine
for more holiday
inspiration



Escorted holidays & bucket list adventures for over 55's

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💻 villa.com.au



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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 or 2nd Thursday of every second
month and more regularly
before the AGM.***

PAWA also meets via Zoom.

*In February, the Committee will meet in
Melville on **Thursday 20th February 2025***

Website: probuswa.wordpress.com

*Facebook:
The Probus Association of
Western Australia*

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