



# NEWS & NOTES

THE VOICE OF PROBUS IN THE WEST

## WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER 2024 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES



Strictly speaking, a Probud Club must have a President, Vice President, Secretary and a Treasurer in order to comply with the Associations Act. So with AGMs coming up in the new year, it is time to think and plan.

Volunteering to join your Probud Club management committee is one of the best ways to contribute meaningfully to a club that brings joy, friendship, and enrichment to its members.

It's easy to assume that committee work is complex or overwhelming, but the truth is that it's only as involved as you choose to make it. Your role on the committee can be simple yet rewarding, as long as you bring a willingness to help and a positive attitude.

The committee is the backbone of the club, organising events, managing finances, and ensuring everyone stays informed and connected. Each role on the committee supports these goals in its own way, but you don't need specialised skills or a lot of experience to make a difference. Whether you have a knack for organising, a way with numbers, or simply enjoy bringing people together, there's a place for you. And don't worry—you'll have plenty of support from other committee members and club veterans who are happy to lend a hand and guide you.

Taking on a committee role allows you to shape the club's future and bring in ideas that keep it fresh and welcoming. For those who want to see the club remain relevant to retirees of all ages, especially newer members, this is a great chance to contribute. It's also a fantastic way to meet more members, strengthen friendships, and enjoy a greater sense of connection within the club.

Ultimately, volunteering for the committee isn't about taking on a burden; it's about becoming an active part of something you care about. You'll gain new experiences, deepen your enjoyment of the club, and help create an environment that's enjoyable for all.

So don't hold back—step up and join the committee. You'll make a real difference, and you'll have a great time doing it.

Ralph Sirmulis  
President.



# INVITATION

## to WA Probud Clubs



**Pinjarra Harness Racing Club**  
**7 Paceway Court Pinjarra 6208**  
**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 11 am**

\$33 Lunch (payment on the day) includes:  
Roast, Dessert, 1 Drink, 1 Free Bet, 1 Racebook Between 2  
A La Carte meal also available

Names of attendees booking the \$33 lunch  
And numbers of other attendees  
are required by **Friday 17 January 2025**

**All enquiries to Edna Jones M: 0420 647 388**

**Registration to Helen Hardy E: [helenhardy@westnet.com.au](mailto:helenhardy@westnet.com.au)**

Please advise of people on special diets as chef does them individually.  
If you don't let Edna know you won't be catered for.

Clubs need to keep a record of names for insurance purposes  
No set time for leaving just when you want to go.  
Easy access for all levels of ability including walkers/wheelchairs  
Venue is enclosed with wide window expanse but also large outside area





Volunteering for the PAWA (Probus Association of Western Australia) Committee offers a rewarding opportunity to make a meaningful impact on WA's Probus Clubs.

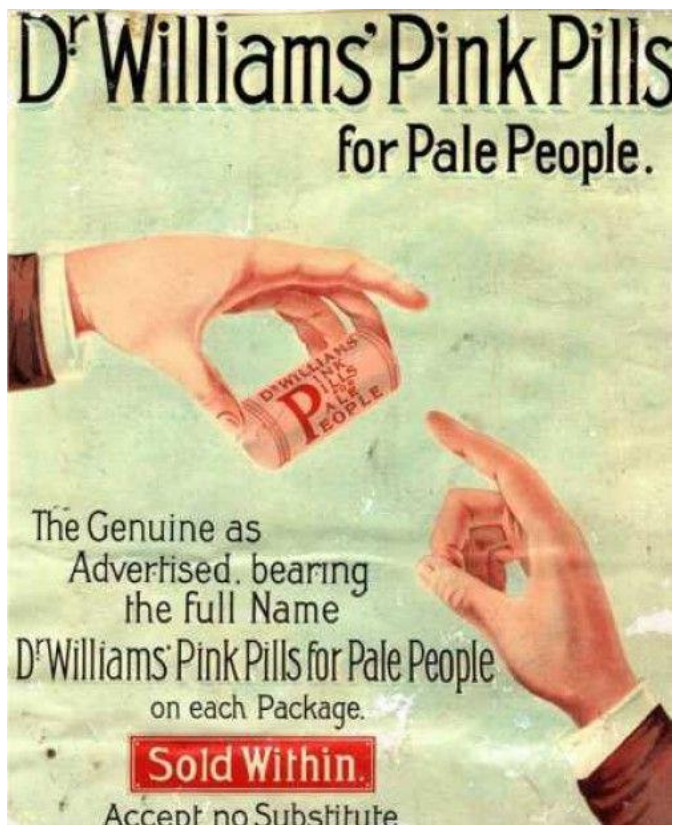
By joining the committee, you'll play an active role in helping fellow clubs grow, strengthen, and thrive across the state.

Committee members are key to fostering connections between clubs, sharing valuable resources, and supporting one another through challenges.

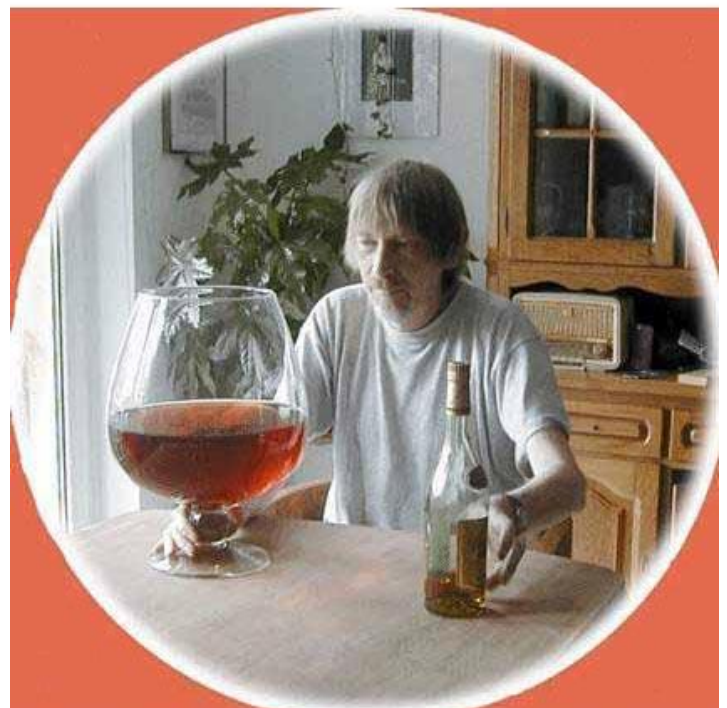
Your skills, ideas, and enthusiasm can bring fresh perspectives that benefit not only your club but Probus as a whole.

Being part of the committee allows you to expand your network, develop leadership skills, and enjoy a deeper sense of community involvement. Every member's contribution matters, and your support can help attract new members, enhance club programs, and ensure a vibrant future for Probus in WA.

**Volunteer for the PAWA committee and be part of building a stronger, more connected Probus community in Western Australia.**



My Doctor said "Only 1 glass of alcohol a day". I can live with that.





## Record number of Information Statements received

In 2023 Consumer Protection commenced a project to contact over 12,000 Associations in Western Australia about overdue Information Statements that had not been lodged in the past three or more years.

As a result, over 36,000 information statements have been lodged with Consumer Protection since the project started. On a year-by-year basis, this represents four times the number lodged in 2022.

In addition, the project has identified many associations that are no longer operating, and Consumer Protection anticipates it will have removed over 4,000 defunct associations from the Associations Register by the end of 2024.

The project has also had an education aspect with a focus on ensuring associations are meeting the eligibility requirement to have at least six members and the annual general meetings are held on time.



## End of Financial Year obligations

With the majority of associations having a financial year that ended on 30 June 2024, it is timely that we remind you of the annual obligations under the **Associations Incorporation Act 2015**.

**Within 6 months after the end of its financial year, the Act requires your association to:**

- 1. prepare annual financial statements.**
- 2. hold an annual general meeting (AGM).**
- 3. lodge an information statement with Consumer Protection.**

Your association's rules (commonly called a constitution) specify your association's financial year.

The rules will include additional requirements to the above annual obligations. For example, the rules specify what business can be conducted during your AGM and when/how the notice for the AGM is to be given to members.

For further information about these and other obligations, please refer to our [Inc Guide](#) publication.

Additionally, our [Incorporated Associations Self Check](#) provides a summary of the main obligations under the Act. This tool can be used by your committee to easily assess whether your association is complying with the Act and to identify any areas that need to be addressed.



## Associations Online - user accounts

AssociationsOnline is our online system that lets associations manage its registration and its obligations with Consumer Protection, without needing to print and post paper forms.

User accounts are required for authorised persons to transact on behalf of an association. Please be mindful that user accounts belong to the person that created them. It is the online digital identity of that person and can be used for signing the online forms.

User accounts do not belong to the association and must not be shared with other people. After a user account is created, the user becomes authorised to transact on behalf of an association by linking (connecting) their user account to the association.

This means a user does not need multiple accounts as they can link a single user account to multiple associations. For this reason, user accounts should not use a shared or generic email address.



## Workshop Dates and Venues for 2025



The Probus Association of WA Inc is pleased to announce the planned **free** workshops for 2025. This is an opportunity to network with other club members, have updates and share ideas. Morning tea is provided.

### PAWA WORKSHOPS 2025

### MARK YOUR DIARY!

2025 will be upon us before we know it!

After our successful Workshops this year we will do it all over again! We know that you will be very happy to embrace us and enjoy a morning of friendship, fun and learning as we take you through the best part of being a Committee Member of your Probus Club.

Enjoy the company of other Club Members while having a chat over a cuppa and then pressing our PAWA Members with all the hard questions !!!

*We look forward to seeing you at our Workshops at **any venue**. Dates and places are listed below. Bookings will be taken closer to the dates.*

<b>Sorrento Bowling Club</b> , Peter Doyle Reserve, Duncraig.	<b><u>Thursday 10th April 2025</u></b>
<b>Le Grande Motel</b> 479 Albany Highway, Albany	<b><u>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025</u></b>
<b>Mantra Bunbury Lighthouse</b> , 2 Marlston Drive, Bunbury	<b><u>Friday 2nd May 2025.</u></b>
<b>Halls Head Bowling Club</b> , 3 Sticks Boulevard. Erskine.	<b><u>Thursday 8th May 2025</u></b>
<b>Mt Pleasant Bowling Club</b> , 40 Bedford Road, Ardross.	<b><u>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025</u></b>
<b><u>A sixth workshop to be confirmed as required.</u></b>	



PAWA's Facebook page is up and running, but we need some exciting news and photos of your club members doing what we do best in Probus – develop fellowship and have fun with friends. What have your club members been doing? Email your photos and a brief description to our secretary [PAWASecretary@gmail.com](mailto:PAWASecretary@gmail.com) so we can all enjoy.

Our Facebook admin will ensure that it is published on our page.

### Happy Birthday to the following clubs celebrating in November.



Probus Club of Dawesville Inc.	9 years
Combined Probus Club of Scarborough Beach Inc	15 years
Probus Club of Margaret River Inc	30 years
Kalamunda Ladies Probus Club Inc.	36 years
Probus Club of City Beach WA Inc.	38 years
Probus Club of Victoria Park Inc.	42 years

## NEW SPEAKERS, ENTERTAINERS and ART EXHIBITION

### **SUPERINTENDENT PAUL DALY**      **Police Airwing**



Superintendent Paul Daly joined the WA Police Force in 1995. Throughout his career, he has served at various police stations across both metropolitan and regional Western Australia.

Promoted to Superintendent in 2021, he played a pivotal role in the Police Command team during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In February 2023, he was appointed Superintendent of Police Airwing.

Under his leadership, Paul has overseen and managed the implementation of two H145 helicopters into service and driven the implementation of the drone expansion program into business-as-usual operations. He successfully advanced the "Drone in a Box" concept to the operational phase. As a Forward Command for major emergency and counter terrorism responses, Superintendent Daly is a valued member of the WA Police Force Senior Command Cadre. [paul.daly@police.wa.gov.au](mailto:paul.daly@police.wa.gov.au)

**Paul is only available about once a month as he is busy as Officer in Charge of the WA Police Airwing.**

### **GLENN B SWIFT**      **Storyteller extraordinaire.**

Glenn enjoys performing in regional libraries and schools and has a fan base among city and suburban librarians who engage him to celebrate just about anything connected to books and community. These days he tells many stories of his own creation, loves to get large groups of children screaming on cue and introduces teenagers to the joy of reading through the experience of a gripping narrative.

He is highly recommended by the Probus Club of Victoria Park. ( see entry this edition).

Contact Glenn      0419 194 598      **Glenn is happy to travel to regional areas.**

### **MEL THOMAS**      **Human Rights Law**



Mel graduated from The University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Bachelor of Laws in 1996 and a Master of Laws by Research in 2002 on the human rights foundation of international law.

*"My talk is about the origins of human rights in Western legal thought from Ancient Greece to the modern era. My book was dedicated to this topic entitled 'Meaning in International Law - From Pericles to Trump.' Published by Authors-press, New Delhi in 2020."* Contact Mel: 0401 586 990 email: [mel.thomas71@aol.com](mailto:mel.thomas71@aol.com).

### **MARTIN CLARE**      **Guest Speaker, Singer and amusing entertainer**

Martin has been a guest speaker at Probus clubs. He speaks of his life, mainly in the musical world, and then finishes with a couple of songs.

He has always been very well received and can claim to be an amusing entertainer.

[martinjean@theclares.com](mailto:martinjean@theclares.com)

### **ART EXHIBITION**      **Outing in Fremantle**

There is an exhibition by local Photographers being put on in Fremantle - entry is by (voluntary) gold coin donation and showcases the art of 25 local Photographers.

The exhibition will run from November 30 to December 15, 2024, at the Moores Building Art Space, 46 Henry Street, Fremantle.

**More details can be found at <https://shotsphotoexhibition.com.au/> if you are interested.**



## The Swan River Ghosts

What better time to hear about the ghosts that haunt the banks of the Swan River and The Bell Tower at Elizabeth Quay than October Halloween time..

**The Victoria Park Probus Club's** special guest speaker was Glenn Swift who is a story teller who specialises in ghost stories set on or around the Swan River. He told the sad story about the "White Lady" from early settlement days. He went on to entertain us with his various imitation voices of cockney Londoners as he told the story of the St Martin in the Fields Bells originally located in Trafalgar Square London and how Perth WA imported the ghost.

*The Bell Tower located at Elizabeth Quay was a significant building at the bottom of Barrack Street Perth, but it is now dwarfed by the multi-story buildings around it. The Bell Tower houses one of the few sets of Royal in existence from St-Martin-in-the -Fields church in Trafalgar Square London and the only ones known to have left England. They were donated to Western Australia in 1988 as part of the Australian Bicentenary celebration.*

After the guest speaker a hearty lunch and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

### **RENEWED SPEAKER. Rob Rippingale**

Rob Rippingale is now retired after a career teaching biology in the tertiary sector. He maintains an interest in most things biological but especially in the invertebrate animals of estuaries. Another interest is reading the biographies of people who have made significant contributions to science, especially to biological science.

Two topics offered for Probus presentations are:

1. **The life, times and influence of Thomas Huxley**, the 19th century biologist who, more than anyone else, supported and promoted the ideas of Charles Darwin. His legacy is remarkable.
2. **The surprisingly interesting Brown Jellyfish** and some other rarely acknowledged residents of the Swan estuary.

Contact Rob: 0447 996 277

Email: [rob.rippingale@hotmail.com](mailto:rob.rippingale@hotmail.com)

### **PETER COGHLAN**

**Inspirational Speaker Update.**

Peter's story may inspire others to never give up, regardless of the adversity facing them. Peter developed locked-in syndrome after suffering a stroke in 2011 which left him totally paralysed. Remarkably, Peter walked out of the hospital 6 months later.

He is now walking and speaking and is keen to speak at Probus Clubs to pursue his speaking career & gain further experience, which he very much enjoys.

Peter is reaching out to ask for more opportunities in the near future and wishes to grow further as a speaker in Perth and beyond.

Contact Peter: 0450 874 493.

Email: [intheblinkofaneyereborn7@gmail.com](mailto:intheblinkofaneyereborn7@gmail.com)

**Correction: Sandra Harris:** email: [sharrisramini@gmail.com](mailto:sharrisramini@gmail.com)



**In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.**

## WHO CAN AUDIT / REVIEW?



*The review or audit of an association's financial report can ensure greater accountability to the members and provide an assurance that all funds received by the organisation have been correctly accounted for.*

**This internal audit or review of a club's financial statements is not an "audit" as defined under the relevant legislation.**

## From the PSPL Guidelines

The person appointed does not have to be a registered company auditor. This person may be a club member who has no involvement in the preparation of the financial statements.

However if the club chooses an external auditor, all relevant regulatory requirements must be met.

***Please note: The National Insurance Programs do not provide coverage for any person conducting the audit/review.***

## Incorporated Associations Act. Tier 1: less than \$500,000 in revenue.

Under cash accounting, the income is recorded when it is received and the expenses when they are paid.

The auditor or reviewer must be independent, and the association should avoid appointing a past or present member of the management committee.



## GOODBYE KILOS, HELLO HAPPIER JOINTS!

This is the title of an article in the November "Have a Go News". Sue is a member of the Combined Probus Club of Winthrop and one of the PAWA Vice Presidents.

Osteoarthritis pain was the reason Sue decided to apply for a health fund program to ease joint pain. The program provided healthy alternatives and gave support and encouragement along the way.



# Grand Alpine Explorer

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The Grand Alpine Explorer is a rail journey for the bucket list! Travel through boundless snow-capped peaks and alpine valleys on one of the world's greatest rail ways.

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and Immediate Past President**  
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# **PAWA**

## **The Voice of WA Probud Clubs**

If you would like to attend a  
Committee meeting and give us  
your ideas to ensure that PAWA is  
an effective voice of WA Probud  
clubs, contact the Secretary  
Pauline Dunning for an invitation  
to attend.

**[pawasecretary@gmail.com](mailto: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.***

*On alternative months,  
PAWA meets via Zoom.*

*The Committee met on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>  
November in Melville.*

*No meeting in December.*

*Next meeting January 9<sup>th</sup> in Melville.*

***Website:***

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

***Facebook:***

***The Probud Association of  
Western Australia.***

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