



NEWS & NOTES

THE VOICE OF PROBUS IN THE WEST

WELCOME TO THE MARCH 2026 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES



It is Annual General Meeting time again for our WA Probus Clubs and I hope that all Clubs are able to successfully fill the key positions on their Management Committees. Serving on your Club's Committee is an important role, but it should not be seen as a burden. Remember that when you accept a position, you are acting on behalf of your fellow members and representing their interests.

Transparency, communication and a willingness to listen are essential elements of good Club governance. The roles themselves are only as complicated as you make them—keep things practical, work together as a team, and focus on ensuring your Club continues to provide fellowship, friendship and fun for its members.

One of the highlights of the past few months was the recent PAWA gathering at the Pinjarra Raceway. The event was a great success with around 300 Probians attending to enjoy a day of fellowship, a meal and a flutter on the harness racing. Events like this demonstrate the strength of our Probus community. My sincere thanks go to the PAWA Committee members who organised what is now becoming an annual highlight on the calendar.

With the success of events such as Pasta in the Valley, the South West Get Together and the Pinjarra Raceway gathering, PAWA is now exploring the possibility of introducing another multi-Club event somewhere in the northern corridor of Perth to ensure members across the metropolitan area can participate more easily.

For those Clubs that have not yet ratified their new Constitutions, I strongly encourage you to make this a priority following your AGM. If your Club requires assistance, please do not hesitate to contact PAWA—we are here to help.

In collaboration with PSPL, we will also be working towards establishing new Clubs within the metropolitan area, and planning is already underway.

Finally, remember that PAWA was established 42 years ago to represent our WA family of Probus Clubs. We encourage Clubs to send representatives to our AGM on Friday 27 March at Tompkins in Alfred Cove—another opportunity to connect with fellow Probians and elect PAWA's Executive for 2026/27.

*PAWA welcomes **Brenda Heywood** from Byford & Districts Probus to our Committee.*

*Regards
Ralph*



AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 27th March 2026

\$10 per attendee
Morning tea included



tompkins

632 Canning Hwy,
Alfred Cove WA 6154

**Contact your secretary for a registration form. Proxy forms are available.
It is imperative that we have a quorum for the PAWA AGM.**

PAWA is holding SIX “Building Better Clubs” Workshops in 2026

These are free events and anyone may attend from your club, not just committee. This is an opportunity to network, share ideas and learn more about assisting your club to thrive.

Morning Tea is provided.

DUNCRAIG Thursday 16TH APRIL 9.30-1pm,
Venue: Sorrento Bowling Club, Percy Doyle Reserve, 40 Warwick Rd Duncraig
Book with Sandra Dawe. sdawe1947@gmail.com

ALBANY Wednesday 22ND APRIL 9.30-1pm.
Venue: Le Grande Motel, 479 Albany Highway Albany
Book with Michael Macpherson mfmkmac@gmail.com

BUNBURY Friday 24TH APRIL. 9.30-1pm.
Venue: Mantra Bunbury Lighthouse, 2 Carey St Bunbury.
Book with Michael Macpherson at mfmkmac@gmail.com

HALLS HEAD / ERSKINE / Wednesday 13TH MAY. 9.30-1pm
Venue: Halls Head Bowling Club, 3 Sticks Boulevard Erskine.
Book with Sandra Dawe. sdawe1947@gmail.com

ARDROSS Thursday 21ST MAY 9.30-1pm.
Venue: Mt Pleasant Bowling Club, 40 Bedford Rd Ardross. (Enter via Canna Way)
Book with Sandra Dawe. sdawe1947@gmail.com

NORANDA Thursday 28TH MAY, 2026 9.30-1pm
Venue: Morley /Noranda Recreation Club, 85 McGilvray Avenue Noranda.
Book with Sandra Dawe. sdawe1947@gmail.com

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES - MARCH

Swan View Probus Club	8 years
Probus Club of Mandurah Peel Inc	11 years
The Combined Probus Club of Murdoch Inc	29 years
Marmion Probus Club (Mixed) Inc	33 years
The Probus Club of Denmark Inc	36 years
Probus Club of Mandurah (Inc)	42 years
The Probus Club of Thornlie (Inc)	44 years



ROLE OF THE PUBLIC OFFICER IN PROBUS CLUBS

In Western Australia, most Probus clubs are incorporated associations under the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA). Under a legislative amendment to the Act passed in August 2025, every incorporated association must appoint a **Public Officer**, who acts as the association's **official legal contact and regulatory liaison**. Below is an explanation of the role in a WA Probus Club.

1. Official Legal Representative

The Public Officer is the **official contact person for the association**.

Their name and address are recorded with the government regulator (via AssociationsOnline/the Commissioner for Consumer Protection).

Key aspects:

- Legal documents (e.g., court notices or government correspondence) can be **served on the Public Officer** on behalf of the club.
 - They act as the **formal link between the club and the regulator**.
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2. Lodging Statutory Notifications

The Public Officer is responsible for ensuring certain legal notifications are lodged with the regulator, including:

- Changes to the association's **rules/constitution**
- **Special resolutions** passed by members
- Changes to the **Public Officer's name or address**
- Any other required information about the association

These notifications usually must be lodged **within a specified period (often 14 days)**.

3. Receiving Official Documents

The Public Officer must:

- Receive official correspondence sent to the association
 - Ensure that documents are **brought to the attention of the Management Committee**.
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4. Eligibility Requirements (WA)

Under the Act, the Public Officer must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Live in Western Australia
- Usually be a member of the management committee (depending on the rules).

They may also hold another office (for example **Secretary or Treasurer**) unless the constitution says otherwise.

5. Practical Role in a Probus Club

In many Probus clubs in WA, the **Secretary often also serves as Public Officer**, because the duties overlap with governance and compliance tasks.

Typical practical tasks include:

- Lodging constitution changes
 - Maintaining official contact details
 - Ensuring regulatory compliance
 - Handling formal government correspondence
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Note: The Public Officer is **not a leadership role** like President or Treasurer.

It is primarily a **statutory compliance role required by law** to ensure the association can deal properly with regulators and legal matters.

How well do we look after existing members?

Do we:

- Say thank you to members doing good work?
- Follow up members who have missed three meetings?
- Introduce new programs to make the meetings more interesting?
- Have members have a HOBBY TALK and form an interest group as follow up?
- Ask members what they like and dislike in our meetings?
- Have a four months forward program of events?
- Make sure members are involved and not excluded at meetings and outings?
- Make sure cliques are not too prevalent in your club?
- Give new members a job ASAP so they get involved?
- Make the meetings fun, great to be part of?
- Ask new members to give a job talk so the club can become acquainted with them.

TWO HARDEST THINGS FOR A VISITOR OR MEMBER TO DO AT A MEETING.

- Front up to a meeting not knowing a soul, and continue to walk through the door.
- Ask a member to invite a friend to a Probus meeting because they are wary of a knock-back.

RETIREMENT - EVERYONE'S DOING IT. PROBIANS DO IT BETTER

SPEAKER UPDATES

Don Briggs (on the list)

Don has a new topic: **the Perth Metronet.**

don.ron6@bigpond.com

Ph: 0409 588 175

Roy Stall (on the list)

Roy has a new topic: **History of the Chinese Navy and current developments.**

rstall@hotmail.com

0419 042 468

David Kennedy, Emeritus Professor. (unavailable in 2026)

Topic: Archaeology: **The Roman Empire and ancient civilizations.** David is away until **2027**

SPEAKER REMOVAL

Elton Brown (Retired)

Topics: A light hearted look at the history of gin; Why don't West Aussies speak French? Marie Antoinette's necklace.

Henry Sklarz. Barrister

Henry is now working full time so unable to speak at clubs.

Peter Coghlan (Retired from speaking). Inspirational speaker and author.

PINJARRA PACEWAY.

Monday 23 February saw almost 300 Probus members descending on the small town of Pinjarra to enjoy a day at the Harness Racing. What a day it was! While most people were able to show their silver coin winnings - a few reported that they struck GOLD (coins that is)- and a few even received some notes.

What we all missed out on with winnings we made up with socialising. Probus members were scattered throughout the club and also under the covered pavilion outside. We were a noisy lot with much laughter and cheer from all.

A special mention must go to those who dressed up for the day. Fashions on the Field did not disappoint and with Mandurah couple Barras Garrity and Gwen Shaw taking out the Best Dressed Couple and four other beautifully dressed ladies also received prizes for their efforts.



Members in the outside undercover area.



Inside view.

The staff were amazing and managed to prepare and deliver a delicious roast meal AND dessert to all of us as well as keeping us hydrated.

I would also like to thank the PAWA team who assisted on the day, as without their assistance these events would not happen.

Thank you, team!!

Carol Hoult.

Images: Osprey Creative

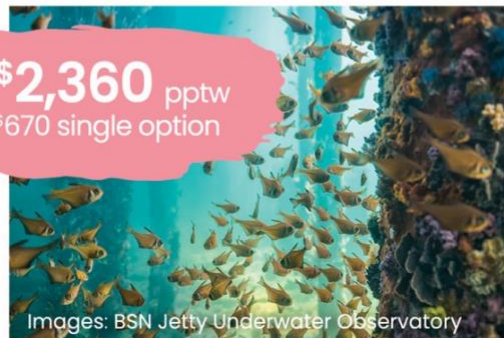


South West *Wonders* Busselton & Beyond

5 Days > 20 to 24 April 2026

Experience the outstanding Margaret River Region on this luxury holiday. Travel through the countryside and enjoy the contrasting views of beaches, forests and vineyards. Sample gourmet produce and explore Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse. Retreat in beautiful Geographe Bay, home to the City of Busselton, looking out to the famous 1.8km long Busselton Jetty.

\$2,360 pptw
\$670 single option



Images: BSN Jetty Underwater Observatory

Highlights

Wander whimsical landscapes at Amaze Miniature Park
Taste award-winning olive oils and gourmet produce at Olio Bello
Indulge your sweet tooth at the famous Simmo's Ice Creamery
Discover majestic birds of prey at Eagles Heritage Park
Savour endless chocolate delights at the Margaret River Chocolate Company
Stroll the iconic Busselton Jetty, stretching over 1.8km into the bay

Descend beneath the waves at the Busselton Underwater Observatory
Breathtaking coastal views from the Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse
Premium accommodation at the Hilton Hotel Busselton

Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- Airfares and taxes
- 9 meals
- 4 night's accommodation
- Tours and attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader



Transfers

Courtesy pre and post home/hotel transfers (Perth/Mandurah metropolitan areas)
A country collection service is also available



Transport



Meals



Tour Leaders



Accommodation



Attractions



Local Guides

T&Cs: All Villa tours are fully escorted, depart from Perth and tour prices include courtesy home collection (Perth and Mandurah metro only), most meals and attractions. Tours are subject to change. Full T&Cs can be found on villa.com.au or ask us to send them when you call.

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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 Margaret
Collins for an invitation to attend.**

pawasecretary@gmail.com

***The PAWA Committee met at the
Melville Recreation Centre,
Cnr Stock Rd and Canning
Highway Melville on Thursday
5th March 2026***

*Next meeting will be at the
Melville Rec Centre on Thursday
2nd April 2026*

PAWA also meets via Zoom.

Website:
probuswa.org.au

Facebook:
*Probus Association of
Western Australia*

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