



# NEWS & NOTES

THE VOICE OF PROBUS IN THE WEST

## WELCOME TO THE JULY 2026 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES



Good communication is key to your club's success and member satisfaction. Recent workshops encouraged active participation rather than passive listening. Effective communication ensures that everyone shares the same understanding of goals and expectations.

A strong communication process strengthens unity within your club. However, listening is also an important part of communication. Actively listening to your club members' needs and preferred interests will provide a better understanding of how to build strong connections within your club. Members need to be heard and understood.

The Secretary plays an important role and is the key point for incoming and outgoing correspondence. Emails are widely used as a means for communicating meeting agendas, minutes and activities, however, not everyone uses this method. Members who don't should have access to documents via post. It is important to remember to address emails in the 'bcc' address field to ensure emails are not visible to others, in case of error.

***Any important communication to general club members or between committee members should occur promptly and not wait until a meeting.***

Strong communication skills are essential for resolving conflict and building trust within the group.

Times change, people move on, and we need to adapt to this. In order to attract new members, and for sustainability, clubs need to be aware of the interests of all age groups within their club. One way is using a suggestion box, or simply asking members what would interest them. Visiting other clubs and networking at Workshops are other ways of finding new ideas. Try something new, e.g. a quiz, "show and tell" or "bring and buy" (or as in my club, "bring one, take one.")

The Club's Constitution and Standing Resolutions explain the rules about how clubs operate. All members should be provided with a copy of each as they are our communication tools which clarify structure and purpose.

*Sue Harwood*  
President.

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| Dalyellup Probus Club Inc                  | <b>new</b> |
| Canning Vale Probus Club Inc               | 14 years   |
| York Probus Club Incorporated              | 16 years   |
| Combined Probus Club of Mosman Park Inc    | 19 years   |
| The Probus Club of Claremont/Cottesloe Inc | 42 years   |



## FACILITATING PAYMENTS WITHIN A PROBUS CLUB



Many of our WA family of Probus members are no longer carrying cash and many are also reticent about using their computers to pay for membership dues and outing/events. Clubs are adopting electronic terminals to facilitate members' payments. One such terminal is the Square EFTPOS Terminal as an alternative to those provided by banks.

For an incorporated association in Australia, including a not-for-profit Probus Club in WA, Square requires the Club/Association to have an ABN in order to use Square payment processing and terminals. Square's Australian on boarding rules specifically state that "an association must have an ABN to sign up for a Square Account."

A Probus Club incorporated under the WA Associations Incorporation Act can apply for an ABN even if it is not-for-profit. Having an ABN does not automatically mean the club pays income tax or GST. Many community and sporting clubs, charities and incorporated associations hold ABNs simply to operate bank accounts, receive payments, and use merchant facilities.

For Square, the club would generally need:

- The incorporated association's ABN
- Details of office bearers (President, Treasurer, Secretary)
- AGM minutes showing elected officers
- Incorporation details/certificate
- An Australian bank account in the club's name

If the club does not yet have an ABN, it can apply free through the Australian Business Register:

[Australian Business Register \(ABR\) – Apply for an ABN](#)

Square's incorporated association setup guide is here:

[Square Australia – Incorporated Association setup](#)

A Probus Club normally would not need to register for GST unless annual turnover exceeds the GST threshold (generally \$150,000 for not-for-profits). An ABN alone does not create GST obligations.

## **2026-2027 AON Certificate of Currency for Public Liability has been sent to clubs.**

**The National Insurance Program that provides coverage for Personal Accident, Public & Products Liability, Association Liability and Club Money has been renewed. The National Insurance Program includes the following categories:**

**Personal Accident** - this provides lump sum benefits and non-Medicare related expenses if an Insured/Covered Person is accidentally injured whilst on approved Probus Club and/or Probus Association activities. Medical expenses that attract a Medicare benefit, whether claimed or not, are not covered under this Policy.

**Public Liability** – this protects Probus Clubs and Members if they are found legally liable (negligent) in causing bodily injury or damage to a third party's property. It is important to note that in the majority of cases, Public Liability coverage would be available through a third-party provider or operator of the activity, event or service that Probus Club members are participating in.

**Association Liability** – this is protection for Club or Association Management Committee members in the event that they receive an allegation of wrongdoing or a wrongful act.

**Club Money** – this is self-insured by PSPL and provides coverage to Probus Clubs and Associations for theft up to \$5,000 per Club or Association.

Coverage is provided for approved Probus activities and include any event organised by a Probus Club or Probus Association such as meetings, outings, tours, trips and interest groups. The approval of an activity should be reflected in the Club's or Association minutes.

***As with any insurance policy, there are terms, conditions and limitations which are outlined in the Insurance Coverage Summary.***

## **ROSSMOYNE LADIES PROBUS CLUB 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY IN APRIL**



Rossmoyne Ladies Probus Club who celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 14th April at the Peel Manor House, Karnup.

Photo from  
**Barbara Nicholls**  
**Secretary**  
**Rossmoyne Ladies**  
**Probus Club WA Inc**

## NEW PROBUS CLUB

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, **Dalyellup Probud Club Inc.** was launched at the Dalyellup Community Centre in Gosse Way. PSPL Director Western Australia, Brian Hoult, outlined the objectives to the interested attendees who unanimously agreed to form the club. Carol Hoult and Margaret Collins from PAWA, spoke about what Probud meant to them.

Congratulations to the foundation committee and members who signed up on the day. We wish them every success in growing their club. Support will be given from Brian and Carol Hoult at their next meeting and ongoing support is available from Moira and Michael Macpherson from PAWA.



From left: John Collier, Vice President; Secretary, Margaret Russell; President Claude English; Treasurer Lyn Hopkins, with Sue Harwood, PAWA President.

## EATON PROBUS CLUB

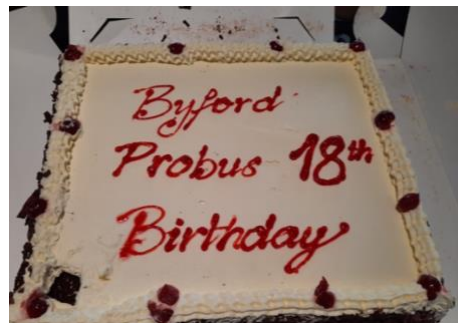


Congratulations to the Eaton Club members who have been walking the town! They have assured me that their beautiful four - legged companions are not counted in their totals but are there merely for the motivation!

## The Probus Club of Byford & Districts Inc.

On June 17, 2026 the Probus Club of Byford and Districts celebrated our eighteenth birthday with a lunch at Bistro by The Dam at Serpentine Dam in Jarrahdale.

The club thought that this would be a good opportunity to contribute a few kilometres to the Virtual Walk total. Twenty-two of our members made a return walk across the wall of the dam which equalled 800 metres per member. It was a sunny winter day and the walkers all enjoyed adding 17.6 kilometres to the Virtual Walk total. Blair Kindervater, Vice President.



Lunch at the Bistro by the Dam

## PROBUS CLUB OF SUBIACO INC.



What a beautiful day it was on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. As you can see our bus trip to Yanchep National Park, Seabird Tavern and Lavender Estate was enjoyed by everyone who went (including Gill and David Hunt who drove themselves as the bus was full).

The weather was as good as we could hope for, the koalas were cute and difficult to find, lunch at the Tavern, with its great view was very nice with big portions, and the ice cream at the Lavender Estate was delicious.

Some members chose the signature lavender ice cream (check with Tony for a review).

Unfortunately, nobody had room for the scones which I can assure readers are fantastic!

**Ian Hawkshaw.** Probus Club of Subiaco Inc.

## ATTRACTING MEMBERS

At the PAWA Workshops and visits to Clubs, a common issue is raised that is a common challenge – attracting new and younger members. While many Clubs continue to enjoy active programs and strong friendships, the reality is that the average age of members in numerous Clubs is now between 75 and 90 years.

As a result, committees are becoming concerned about the long-term sustainability of their Clubs and are looking for ways to attract retirees and semi-retirees in the 65 to 75 age group.

Probus has always provided an important opportunity for friendship, social connection and shared interests after retirement. However, today's younger retirees often have different expectations and lifestyles from previous generations.



Many people aged between 65 and 75 are healthier, more active and more likely to travel, volunteer or continue part-time work. Consequently, they may not automatically see Probus as an organisation that reflects their interests and aspirations.

Many Clubs recognise the need to refresh their image and activities. Traditional meetings and speakers remain popular with existing members, but younger retirees are often seeking more flexible and varied opportunities. Activities such as walking groups, ten-pin bowling, movie outings, tai chi, line dancing, mahjong, coffee mornings, day trips and joint events with neighbouring Clubs can help demonstrate that Probus offers much more than a monthly meeting.

Marketing also presents a challenge. Too often, potential members simply do not know what Probus is or what benefits it provides. Clubs may need assistance in promoting themselves through community newspapers, social media, local libraries, retirement planning seminars and community events. Encouraging members to invite friends and neighbours, remains one of the most effective recruitment methods.

There are several practical steps that clubs could take to appeal to younger retirees. Holding open days and inviting visitors to attend meetings free of charge can provide an opportunity for prospective members to experience the club's atmosphere. Developing a stronger online presence through Facebook and community websites can help reach people who may never have heard of Probus. Clubs could also work together to organise larger joint activities, creating greater variety and increasing social opportunities. Offering interest-based groups, flexible participation and a welcoming environment can make Probus more attractive to those who are newly retired and seeking friendship without a heavy commitment.

Most importantly, existing members should actively encourage friends, neighbours and former work colleagues to come along and discover what Probus has to offer.

**Without a deliberate focus on renewal and recruitment, many Clubs risk continuing membership decline. By adapting to changing expectations and embracing new approaches, Probus Clubs can continue to provide friendship, fun and fellowship for many years to come.**



Left to right

Ellen Ashplant, standing, President Ann Kennish, Emma Van de Adel, Nell Turton, Bruce and Lynne McMeekin, standing, Margo Hayes (Newsletter Editor), and Jan Henderson.

Lea Newing  
Media Officer.

The newly elected Probud Victoria Park Committee, unanimously agreed to invite our Life Members to a Morning Tea party to formally celebrate and thank them for their contribution over an amazing 25 years and more, making our Club, Fun, Friendly and great Fellowship.

The High Tea was a resounding success. Members decorated our meeting room with lace tablecloths, flowers, lovely China teacups and mugs, assorted elegant food beautifully presented on 3-tier plates, with all the trimmings.

It really set the scene for sincerely thanking our Life Members. Some who said regrettably through changed circumstances they were unable to attend our monthly Meetings.

President Ann Kennish warmly greeted them saying their loyalty and commitment is unmatched and they would be welcome to attend the Club whenever possible in the future, maybe for Club Birthdays or Christmas events.

The Club will keep in touch with them by sending our monthly Newsletter with our News and Notes. We wished them good health and happiness as they move into another phase of life.

We reminisced about their adventures and looked at a scrapbook of old photos with happy snaps of their unforgettable "Getaway" times with their caravan and camping days when they were newly retired at 65 years of age. We acknowledged their huge amount of work that went into our Silent Auction to collect funds to subsidise members events. It was all part of the fun of belonging to the Club.

President Ann was delighted and overwhelmed with the effort made by current volunteer members to express their care and sincere thanks to the Life Members.

## WHAT DO MEMBERS THINK ABOUT THEIR CLUB?



One of the greatest challenges facing any Probus Club is assessing how well it is maintaining the interest, enthusiasm and satisfaction of its members.

A healthy club is not measured simply by membership numbers or financial position, but by whether members continue to enjoy and value being part of the organisation.

Regular attendance at meetings and activities, participation in special interest groups, and the willingness of members to volunteer are all indicators of a vibrant and successful club. Conversely, declining attendance, limited involvement, and a lack of new ideas may suggest that the club is no longer fully meeting the expectations of its members.

It is important for Management Committees to periodically take stock and ask whether the club is providing what members want. This can be achieved through surveys, open discussions, suggestion boxes and informal conversations. Members should be encouraged to express what they enjoy most and suggest new activities or improvements they would like to see. After all, members' interests and expectations can change over time.

Committees should also be prepared to review traditional practices and be open to fresh ideas that may appeal to both existing and prospective members. A willingness to adapt is essential if clubs are to remain relevant and attractive.

A Probus Club exists for the benefit of its members, not the other way around. Continually evaluating whether the club is providing friendship, fellowship, companionship and enjoyable activities is essential if it is to remain active, welcoming and sustainable for many years to come.

### **ALBANY WORKSHOP 479 Albany Highway, Albany WA**

**Date: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2026**



The sixth workshop for the year will be held in Albany at the **"Le Grande Motel."** We invite all Albany clubs as well as surrounding clubs to attend. If any local club members are in Albany at the time, you are welcome to attend. A registration form will follow at a later date, or contact Michael Macpherson on 0466 238 566 or [mfmkmac@gmail.com](mailto:mfmkmac@gmail.com)

# W.A. *Wildflower* Tours villa

## West Coast Wildflower Explorer

Wild dolphin encounters at Monkey Mia & the beautiful Batavia Coast

7 Days | 22 to 28 Aug 2026

7 Days | 22 to 28 Sept 2026

Moderate

### FEATURING KALBARRI SKYWALK

Discover WA's wildflower country with expert guides in Kalbarri & Geraldton. Explore the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, Francois Peron National Park & Hamelin Pool. Encounter the wild dolphins of Monkey Mia, marvel at wildflowers in Mullewa & Coalseam Conservation Park. Experience Murchison River Gorge & historic Greenough.

from **\$2,930** pptw  
Single Option **\$555**

## Kalbarri Wildflowers

Wander the wildflowers & cruise the ancient Murchison River

5 Days | 3 to 7 Aug 2026

Moderate

### FEATURING KALBARRI SKYWALK

Experience the spectacular wildflowers of Kalbarri. Journey along the northwest coastline, admire natural formations & enjoy the expertise of a specialist wildflower guide who will reveal the stories behind the region's remarkable flora. Cruise the Murchison River, explore dramatic gorges & cliffs. Enjoy warm country hospitality on this refreshing coastal escape.

from **\$1,920** pptw  
Single Option **\$345**

## Specialist *Wildflower* guide on all tours!

### Mid West Wildflowers

Wonders of the Batavia Coast & annual wildflower season

5 Days | 10 to 14 Aug 2026

Relaxed

Combine the exquisite annual wildflower season with the wonders of the Batavia Coast. View carpets of colourful everlastings in the Coalseam Conservation Park & see rare wreath flowers with our expert wildflower guide. Explore historic landmarks in Geraldton & Mullewa while enjoying the warm hospitality of the Mid West.

from **\$1,815** pptw  
Single Option **\$260**

### Cervantes & Kalbarri Wildflowers

Coastal wonders, WA's spring floral displays & Kalbarri Skywalk

5 Days | 19 to 23 Oct 2026

Moderate

### FEATURING KALBARRI SKYWALK

A unique journey through Cervantes & Kalbarri with an expert wildflower guide. Explore The Pinnacles, enjoy a guided wildflower experience at the Gravity Discovery Centre, discover the rich biodiversity of Lesueur National Park & marvel at the dramatic gorges & coastal scenery of Kalbarri National Park.

from **\$1,955** pptw  
Single Option **\$395**

### Southern Wildflowers & Wave Rock

Experience Bremer Bay, Hyden, Albany & peaceful river cruise

5 Days | 26 to 30 Oct 2026

Moderate

A prolific wildflower journey through Albany, the rugged Stirling Ranges, pristine coastline of Bremer Bay & iconic Wave Rock in Hyden. Enjoy expert-led wildflower touring, heritage discoveries & a relaxing river cruise as you soak up a vibrant tapestry of colourful landscapes & coastal beauty.

from **\$2,040** pptw  
Single Option **\$340**

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# **PAWA**

## *The Voice of WA Probud Clubs*

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

**Contact Secretary Margaret  
Collins for an invitation to attend.**

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

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

***PAWA met via zoom on Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026***

***Website:***  
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***Facebook:***  
***Probud Association of  
Western Australia***

***Carol Hoult: [carolhoult22@gmail.com](mailto:carolhoult22@gmail.com)***

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