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|  |  **ROTARY DISTRICT 9700 PROBUS NEWSLETTER**From the Rotary District Probus ChairmanApril 2015ACTIVE RETIREES ***– Tomorrow’s Vision for PROBUS***  |  |

Dear Probus friends,

I trust that your Management Committee Members for 2015 – 2016 have settled into their roles.

If your club have experienced difficulties in filling your committee positions I encourage you to contact me so we can discuss the options available for your club. There are some mandatory positions which need to be filled in order for your club to continue. These mandatory vacant positions can be filled by appointment by the Management Committee.

Around this time of the year, for various reasons, some clubs may have a few cases of non-renewal of membership from club members. In addressing a decline in membership a good first step towards solving the problem is to have a close, hard look at the club programs. Is belonging to your club fun? (If it is not then members may well decide not to renew.) Has anything in the meetings changed? New venue perhaps; different time or day of meeting? Has a different make-up of member interests crept in without anyone realising it? Is there *really* no member prepared to take on a critical Office? Even if the worst comes to the worst and closure is lurking there are still several good options available for your club to consider. These include changing from a single gender club to a mixed club, amalgamating two clubs or in some cases re-birthing the club.

It is important that clubs contact either me (0417 223 539; henrygardiner@bigpopnd.com )or PSPL to discuss the options available prior to making the drastic decision to wind up as often, a “silent majority” really doesn’t want to lose our club at all. Rotary District 9700 certainly does not wish to see a club closure, and nor does PSPL.

CLUB NEWS

Does your club participate in lots of activities? Wouldn’t it be great to share your photographs and stories with not only your members but also other Probus clubs and potential members? PSPL is actively engaging with clubs to share your photographs and stories on the Probus website, Facebook and twitter page. Please send in your photographs to admin@probussouthpacific.org or via post to PO Box 1294, Parramatta NSW 2124.

 As your Rotary District Probus Chair **I want to share with the other Clubs your reports and photographs too – this bi-monthly Newsletter is an ideal way to do that and takes almost no effort at all.**

I had the pleasure of visiting the Temora Combined Probus Club yesterday (21st April). A wonderful group of 99 interested and interesting members were present for President Ron (“Gubby”) Allen’s first meeting of the New Probus Year! When you come to the 12th May Forbes Combined Clubs Friendship Day you will meet at least a dozen of them...talk with them to find out for yourself what makes the Temora ***RDPC Henry and President Gubby***

group another one of the District’s excellent Probus Clubs. One of the striking features of Temora Club is the long line of remarkable Club Officers they’ve had.

 ***President*** ***Gubby, Secretary Marie*** Andwhen they have ended their terms of office they stay involved! While you’re

 ***Wallace & Treasurer Barbara Kotzur*** in Forbes, talk to Blayney Probus members who will be there toobecause they also have a truly wonderful Cluband they are the kind of people who will be only too pleasedto talk “Probus”.

Bulletin Editor Nola Scott from Wollundry Ladies Club has just emailed me her April edition from Wollundry, one of the nine (yes, 9!) Wagga Wagga clubs. Look where they are going over the next little while: day trip to Altina Wildlife Park out at Darlington Point (**a must go visit!**); week end trip to the South Coast; and how about this one, a day visit to Ganmain Straw Houses...At this unique, creative establishment, Susan and John Glassford build, workshop and showcase one of the world’s oldest permanent housing forms. Their work ute has an artistic depiction of the three pigs and an unsuccessful wolf huffing ’n puffing on its side panels. Oh, and Susan and John can serve visitors you-beaut meals and have some accommodation too. And they are great people!

Have you signed up to receive the complimentary Active Retirees e-newsletter?

The e-newsletter sign up is now live on the PSPL website. Each month our complimentary Active Retirees e-newsletter will feature articles and stories of interest along with special offers. Invite your members to individually sign up and enjoy the experience. <http://www.probussouthpacific.org/forms/display/newsletter-signup>

PROBUS NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The prize pool is an amazing $35,000.00. I encourage all Probus club members to get snapping.

The 2015-2016 theme will be: **PROUDLY PROBUS** – Friendship, Fellow and Fun!

The Challenge - anyone can be a winner and maybe it’s time YOUR club started a camera club.

Collect your copy of **ACTIVE RETIREES** magazine at your next club meeting for more details or visit the Competition page on the Probus website.

PROBUS INFORMATION DAYS

During the months of April and May there are many Probus Information days scheduled across Australia. If you have missed the opportunity to attend an information day please let me know and I will be happy to arrange a time to visit your club to go over topics of interest. **Don’t forget the two Forbes Probus Clubs’ day on Tuesday 12th May** See my next Newsletter for my pics of this one!!

PROBUS TRAVEL INSURANCE

Visit the Probus website or call PSPL today to get a quote. PSPL is now offering 2 plans to cater for the needs of Probus members, their guest and now also to Rotarians.



**How to access quote for Probus Travel Insurance**

<http://www.probussouthpacific.org/pages/travel_insurance_about_pspl_travel_insurance>

NEW PROBUS PARTNER

Our new partners Covad have written an article on debunking the April Fool’s Day health insurance myth.

A great read for anyone reviewing their private health insurance.

<http://www.probussouthpacific.org/12c23d5a/Debunking_the_April_Fools_Day_health_insurance_myth>

A new Probus Member Benefit for Probus club members and their families is to receive one month’s rebate if you switch your health fund provider through Covad.

For more details visit: [www.probus.covad.com.au](http://www.probus.covad.com.au) or call 1300788 467.

NEW PARTNER FOR THE PROBUS MEMBER BENEFITS SCHEME

We have a new partner for the Probus Member Benefits Scheme.

**Pets Palace** is offering Probus CLUB members 10% off their order.

Please visit the website today. [www.petspalace.com.au](http://www.petspalace.com.au/)

For details on other Probus Member Benefits Partners visit the link below.

There are five categories including:

* Travel
* Finance
* Food and Beverages
* Lifestyle and Entertainment
* Health

<http://www.probussouthpacific.org/pages/members_offers_member_benefits_scheme>

MESSAGE FROM PSPL

ANNUAL CAPITATION FORMS

Your annual capitation forms need to be returned to PSPL prior to 30th April, 2015 to ensure your correct details are entered in the 2015 – 2016 Annual Directory. Please download a copy from the website or call PSPL if you require replacement forms.

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH HAT DAY

**Contact your sponsoring Rotary Club if you would like to be involved with “Hat Day”.**



Here’s a photograph of a Probus club member who participated last year.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY ON NORFOLK ISLAND WITH AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ICONS**

• Afternoon Tea and an exclusive guided tour of Colleen McCullough’s property.

• 4 Concert Performances with Suzanne Prentice, John Rowles and Normie Rowe and a legends of the rock night staring Buddy Holly, Johnny O’Keefe and Elvis Presley - Hosted by Music Commentator

Glenn A Baker.

• Christmas Lunch with Carols sung by our stars

• Progressive Dinner to Island Homes

• Cliff Top Island Fish Fry Dinner

• 1/2 Day Island orientation Tour and more

***Ex Adelaide***

Tour cost from: $2989.00 pp Twin Share ($160.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Thursday 9th July - Friday 17th July 2015

***Ex Brisbane***

Tour cost from: $2498.00 pp Twin Share ($80.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Saturday 11th July - Saturday 18th July 2015

***Ex Melbourne***

Tour cost from: $2889.00 pp Twin Share ($160.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Thursday 9th July - Friday 17th July 2015

***Ex New Zealand (Auckland)***

Tour cost from: $2439.00 pp Twin Share ($80.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Sunday 12th July - Sunday 19th July 2015

***Ex Perth***

Tour cost from: $3189.00 pp Twin Share ($160.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Thursday 9th July - Friday 17th July 2015

***Ex Sydney***

Tour cost from: $2498.00 pp Twin Share ($80.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Friday 10th July - Friday 17th July 2015

***Ex Tasmania***

Tour cost from: $3289.00 pp Twin Share ($260.00 Single Supplement)

Departs: Thursday 9th July - Saturday 18th July 2015

**For further information about these tours contact Trade Travel**

**Email: groups@tradetravel.com T: 1800 034 439 www.tradetravel.com.au**

MORE NEWS SNIPPETS

I look forward to seeing you in Forbes at the Friendship Day in a couple of weeks. Forbes is a lovely, heritage, historic gold mining town in beautiful surrounds. It’s rained this month and the countryside and the town gardens are truly beautiful – only exceeded by the welcome that you’ll get from the members of the Forbes Ladies Probus Club, fellows of the Forbes Probus Club and the burghers of the Shire. Go for it! See you there!

That’s it for this month folks!

Remember to share the content of this newsletter at your next club meeting. Feel free to include bits in your monthly club newsletter.

If you require any assistance please do not hesitate to contact either me or PSPL.



Best wishes,

Henry Gardiner

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**PROBUS is PROUD to be A Community Service Activity of Rotary Clubs.**