



ROTARY DISTRICT 9700 PROBUS NEWSLETTER

From the Rotary District Probud Chairman

November 2015

ACTIVE RETIREES – *Tomorrow's Vision for PROBUS*



Dear Management Committee,

With the end of the year fast approaching, it is time to start thinking about your 2016-2017 Management Committee.

Who will accept the challenge – who will nominate – will there be positions left vacant – will the current committee be left holding the responsibility for yet another year?

These are all questions that need to be addressed and it would be timely to lobby all your members to consider taking on the roles to lead your club through another successful year.

PSPL have a Power Point Presentation titled – ***What makes a good committee member*** - it may be something that members can relate to when they are contemplating nominating for the 2016-2017 Probud year.

Some useful strategies:

1. Form a subcommittee of Past Presidents of your club whose job it is to seek out, research and encourage club members to apply for a position on the management committee.
2. Extend an invitation to potential nominees to attend a committee meeting to experience how the management committee administers the affairs of the club.
3. Take a proactive approach to discuss roles and responsibilities with potential nominees.
4. Develop portfolios for each officer which will assist in detailing the duties and responsibilities to encourage potential nominees. (A sample is attached for your information and interest)
5. At your AGM seek approval from the members to **appoint** an assistant secretary and treasurer to assist and relieve these officers. (Assistant roles have no voting rights unless in the absence of the elected officer.)

Remember, the best way to have an active and dynamic club is to involve all club members. It's also not a bad idea to chat to other Probud Clubs nearby to see how they are handling things. Often when that happens there is an "assembly effect bonus" – where the outcome is actually greater than the simple sum of all the contributions/thoughts because people bounce ideas from other folk's suggestions and it really can multiply. Don't just believe me, go try it. Good ideas can come from any level in any organisation or group. Remember that over 300 years ago, when the great Sir Isaac Newton was giving his acceptance speech to the Royal Society, one of the things he said was that although he may have made significant scientific and mathematical discoveries, he said that it was because he had "stood on the shoulders of giants". One never knows. There may well be more "giants" in Probud than we might have thought!

NEWS SNIPPETS

- Past President Bob Kitchener of Wagga Koorngal Mens Probus tells me that representatives of the nine Wagga Probus Clubs are meeting early in the New Year to try a bit of net-working over luncheon. I have been delighted to accept an invitation to be present and will report back in an early *Newsletter*.
- Griffith Probus Club Secretary, Richard Paul, has sent off three photographs relating to the Club's entry in this year's Orange Festival and one of the Club's annual BBQ out at Lake Wyangan for inclusion in *Active Retirees* and also in our Monthly D9700 *Newsletter*. They certainly show what Probus members can do! Many thanks to Club member photographer David Woodside.



Banna Ave kangaroo orange cage ready to fill



Who says Probus blokes can't chuck oranges around?



OK, go get the Barbie fired up



No thanks, we don't really want kangaroo steaks!

- A month later, at the eastern end of the Riverina, Wagga Ladies Probus Club decided to have their Christmas lunch out at the Riding for Disabled Association's (RDA) unit. Here. On a few hectares of open woodland alongside Lake Albert, RDA has set up a wonderful facility to teach and encourage less able folk in the district to ride horses which has a ripple effect into daily life tasks. Raising money from the community and other sources, the Association has built a covered horse training arena and fenced paddocks for more advanced riders alongside the purpose built meeting rooms. This building which includes an excellent kitchen and a dining room to cater for their meetings is built on top of the horse workshops, change rooms and usual facilities. When not needed for the clients, the dining room can be hired out for functions such as Probus meetings, as in this case. Although Probus is not a Service Club such as Rotary, at the conclusion of the Christmas function which was a paid, catered dinner, members collected small change and donated several hundred dollars to RDA as a mark of appreciation of the wonderful work they do.



At the Luncheon: Speaker Gina and President Dawn



Two Margarets: Immediate Past and President elect

Part of PSPL strategy to build and strengthen the membership base is to promote Probus through a range of media channels.

PSPL is offering all Probus clubs a complimentary website to showcase your clubs specific activities that will encourage potential new members to your club.

The offer includes the ability to manage this website at club level or to engage PSPL to assist you by uploading your editorial and photographs on a monthly base for a charge of \$100 annually.

Your club website will be added to the FIND A CLUB tile and included in the links platform of the Probus website.

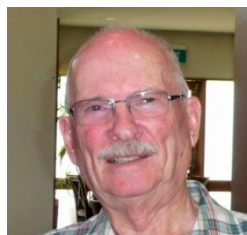
If you wish to find out more about this special offer please contact PSPL office by Email:
admin@probussouthpacific.org or call 1300 630 488.

Don't forget to order your 40th Anniversary commemorative gifts and book for the 40th Anniversary trip to Longreach Queensland in April, 2016.

Remember, if you would like to arrange for me to visit your Probus club please do not hesitate to contact me. After the October *Newsletter* I was delighted to receive an invitation to attend the Griffith Probus Club's December meeting **and** they also supplied the photographs I've proudly placed in this edition **and** have also sent the pics to Probus South Pacific to be submitted for consideration in an early edition of *Active Retirees*. It's easy to do folk; all it takes is a phone call or an email or letter; **and it works!** Actually Griffith also asked me to be a guest speaker too, which I look forward to doing, even if I did go to school with about half of their members!

Then too, after the October *Newsletter* I was also delighted to get a warm invitation (accepted) to visit an Executive planning morning tea at Orange Calare Probus Club in January. As I'm married to a twice Past President and President-elect of Wagga Ladies Probus Club, I'll take her too. She says that she'll stop me dozing off during the long drive up into the mountains in the hot New Year western climate, and that she gets great pleasure from meeting with other Probus members.

Yours in Probus service,
 Henry Gardiner
 Rotary District 9700 Probus Chairman
 T: 017 223 539; (02)6922 3539
 E: henrygardiner@bigpond.com



"Wear your Probus badge with pride"
PROBUS is PROUD to be A Community Service Activity of Rotary Clubs.

