

PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

The 2024-25 year has been a busy and productive one with many pleasing results from a membership perspective.

We have been able to grow the club to a high of 88 members, with 14 new members being inducted this year.

I think a big congratulations must go to all of you, the Members, for the part you have played in increasing our membership. On chatting to new members, they have remarked to me that they felt welcomed and included at the meetings, lunches and activities they came along to, and that's how successful clubs operate, by offering a friendly welcome, and a fun environment for everyone who comes through our door.

Attendance at all of our activities has been very good this year as we welcomed three new groups, Crafty Bearbrassers, Morning Melodies, and Visual Arts which have made our activity options more diverse and interesting. Please keep supporting these groups. I'd quickly like to acknowledge Spike here, who I think has attended pretty much every event on offer and been involved with many of the groups as well. There's not much that Spike won't give a go, just the Craft Group to go I think!

It would be great to keep building these groups, so if you have an idea for a new group, please speak to the new Committee.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the activity coordinators (and those who stepped in when the coordinators were unavailable) who keep these groups rolling along;

Cate Thompson
Elizabeth Markwell
Maryla Juchnowski
Coral-lee Keep
Jill de Araugo
Kerry Franklin
Sue Hoile
Susan Bower
Mel Gray

Thank you to our Committee for your hard work this year.

To Judy, Ray, Ross, Maryla,
Also to Jill, Sue, Cheryl, Mike & Colleen and Coral-lee.

It's been a pleasure to work with you all, and I'd like to welcome the new 2025-26 Committee and wish them well for a productive year.

A special thank you to Mel Gray for a great job as our Web Master this year and for his help with all things IT, and to Tony Thomas for raising the profile of the club through stories in the Probian and Active Retirees publications.

I'd like to say a special thank you to Elizabeth, John and her helpers for providing us with a drink and a sweet treat at the meetings this year. It's a big job to arrange for each meeting and it has made my job as President easier knowing Elizabeth has morning tea under control. Thanks also to everyone who helped on the welcome team at the door and setting up the room for meetings.

Lastly thanks to my wife Sue for her work on the PPT's and run sheets for the meetings this year.

I'd like to finish by showing you some of the photos that were taken at our activities and outings this year.

These pictures say a lot more than I can ever say about how much **fun and friendship** has been had at Melbourne Bearbrass Probus Club this year.

Thank you

Shane Mason