

NARRABEEN LAKES PROBUS CLUB INC.

PROBUS EMAIL NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2021

Dear Fellow Probians

It has now been three months of lockdown, but we have managed it and can hope for freedom very soon. Of course, it all depends on everyone being fully vaccinated before we can enjoy life as normal. We may be able to meet in October, but only those who are fully vaccinated, can participate.

We do need to ascertain the number of our members fully vaccinated, so as to prepare for our gatherings such as the Meeting, the Barbecue and our Christmas lunch, we ask you to please email your status of vaccination in advance to Helen Howes on helsim@internode.on.net.

When we finally can meet at the church again, we will need to see evidence of the full vaccination either on your phone or paper copy at the door to gain entry to the hall. Please understand that we owe a duty of care to all our members and should minimise exposure to them. This is the only way we can look forward to freedom for all of us.

Looking to a bright and healthy end of year and 2022!

Lynn Grierson, President

FINANCES AND MEMBERSHIP – AUGUST 2021

Opening Balance: \$4679.05

Receipts: \$500 – Club Fees

Payments: \$1659.78 – Mainly refunds for Fingal Bay

Closing Balance: \$3519.27

Membership Status in August – 85

Norma Moran, Treasurer

**Our Probus Monthly Meeting is going to be held on ZOOM next week,
Wednesday 22 September, from 10-12 noon.**

We hope you can join us so please email Ron Allars ronallars@gmail.com latest by **Monday, 20 September** know if you wish to participate. He will send you a link to join the zoom meeting.

At the zoom meeting:

Committee Members will speak about current business and welcome some of our newest members. Distribution of membership badges will have to wait until we can have our face-to-face meetings again.

Although we are only meeting on zoom our monthly speakers are willing and able to present extremely interesting talks.

August: It was wonderful to see so many people at our zoom meeting last month and we hope that you can join us again this month. We enjoyed Marie Palmer's and her husband Barry MacDonald's presentation on Manly's North Head Sanctuary. We learnt about the flora and fauna of the area, the use of the quarantine during the Spanish Flu pandemic and various other times, as well as the military uses of the

September: We meet **Julie Hughes** of the **Michael Hughes Foundation**. She will tell us why she felt the need to establish the foundation and the importance to recognise when someone is having a heart attack. Many of us are not aware of when they, themselves or their partners, may experience a heart attack nor what needs to be done immediately.

October: Raconteur extraordinaire and writer David Hunt will enthral us with many amusing stories on life in the early days of Australia. He has written two excellent books, "*Girl*", and "*True Girl*" and has a third about to come out.

Martin Bes, Speakers

Postponed:

The BBQ at Winnererremy Bay (Flying Fox Park) which has been rescheduled to **Wednesday, 3 November**. It was so much fun and enjoyed by all participants that we have decided to repeat the event on a regular basis.

Group walks are not planned for August or September – we will wait until we get the green light from the Health Organizations to move about more freely and then select a date, possibly in October or even later in the year.

Lunch at Limani's Narrabeen – will be rescheduled and we'll let you know the date when available.

Still planned:

Our Seaside Holiday Week at Fingal Bay, Port Stephens

Due to the Covid situation we have postponed our September week away and rebooked it for **5 to 12 March 2022** and after consulting all who had booked, deposits have been transferred or adjusted accordingly.

The advantage of going in March is much warmer weather well ahead of the Easter Holidays although the cost is now \$749 per apartment per week but still very good value.

We have 10 apartments reserved so any other members who wish to come please let me know and you can confirm with \$100 deposit to:

Bank Account Number 00902285, Narrabeen Lakes Probus Club, BSB 062205.

Ron Allars, Vice President
0418 236 980

Christmas lunch is booked for Friday, 17 December at the Bayview Golf Club. Please mark your diary accordingly. Details will follow next month.

This Newsletter is a short email version of the regular Newsletter which is usually distributed at the meeting. Because we have a few members who are not connected by email, we are happy to print a paper version and snail-mail it to them.

If you do not wish to receive a paper version, could you please let us know.

If you would like to keep up to date with what is happening in the Probus world, here is the link to the Active Retirees Digital Magazine which is published by Probus South Pacific https://www.probusouthpacific.org/pages/magazines_active_retirees_current_issue.

And now for a bit of a laugh, some more Irish Jokes:

Gallagher opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend, Finney.

"Did you see the paper?" asked Gallagher. "They say I died!!!"

"Yes, I saw it!" replied Finney. "Where are ye callin' from?"

An Irish priest is driving down to New York and gets stopped for speeding in Connecticut. The state trooper smells alcohol on the priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car. He says, "Sir, have you been drinking?"

"Just water," says the priest.

The trooper says, "Then why do I smell wine?"

The priest looks at the bottle and says, "Good Lord! He's done it again!"

Walking into the bar, Mike said to Charlie the bartender, "Pour me a stiff one - just had another fight with the little woman."

"Oh yeah?" said Charlie, "And how did this one end?"

"When it was over," Mike replied, "She came to me on her hands and knees."

"Really," said Charles, "Now that's a switch! What did she say?"

She said, "Come out from under the bed, you little chicken."

Patton staggered home very late after another evening with his drinking buddy, Paddy. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Kathleen.

He tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their upstairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, his body swung around and he landed heavily on his rump. A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful.

Managing not to yell, Patton sprung up, pulled down his pants, and looked in the hall mirror to see that his butt cheeks were cut and bleeding. He managed to quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting a Band-Aid as best he could on each place he saw blood.

He then hid the now almost empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed.

In the morning, Patton woke up with searing pain in both his head and butt and Kathleen staring at him from across the room.

She said, "You were drunk again last night weren't you?"

Patton said, "Why you say such a mean thing?"

"Well," Kathleen said, "it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly.....it's all those Band-Aids stuck on the hall mirror"

Kind Regards

Runa

On behalf of the PROBUS Committee

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NARRABEEN LAKES PROBUS CLUB INC. HELD ON 25TH AUGUST, 2021
VIA ZOOM

WELCOME by PRESIDENT

Lynn Grierson opened the meeting at 10.09m and welcomed all members who logged in to the meeting. It appeared that 17 had logged in.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th July, 2021, were circulated by newsletter or email but not approved at this ZOOM meeting. This will be attended at the next meeting where members are present..

GUEST SPEAKERS

Martin advised who the guest speakers will be for the next few months:

September - Julie Hughes from the Heart Foundation

October – David Hunt who is the author of Girt and True Girt.

November – Tony Park who is an author and specialises in novels about Africa

MEMBER SPEAKER

Martin Bes provided the third instalment of his talk on the early years of his arrival in Australia. This instalment continued the story from when he avoided being called up to go to the Vietnam war.

Martin was still working as an assistant cost accountant and at the age of 18 decided he needed to learn to drive as he was having to catch 3 buses to work. His brother started this process on a manual car but this was aborted as Martin could not manage the clutch!! As Martin had to give 90% of his wages to his mother (this changed when he was 21 and it became 50%) he had to save to pay for driving lessons. He insisted that the driving instructor book him in for his driving test after only four lessons as that was all he could afford. Suffice it to say that the man who took him for his test passed him with a little persuasion!! (we won't mention the word "bribe").

Martin's boss convinced him to buy a red Toyota Corolla, problem was that it was a manual and Martin was only used to driving an automatic.

We wait expectantly for the next instalment!!! Thankyou Martin.

JOKES

As Paul Hrones, even though he attended our ZOOM session was unable to be seen or heard (technical issue). Ken Russell kindly filled in for Paul with a couple of very funny jokes. Many thanks Ken, it was much appreciated.

AUGUST GUEST SPEAKERS

Firstly, Marie Palmer from the Harbour Trust gave a very interesting talk on North Head Sanctuary which was formed in 1998 with a 10 year life span. This was extended to 2032 and became self-funded in 2019 and was running at a loss but in 2020 became funded following an independent review. The Trust manage 10 harbour sites and rely heavily on volunteers.

Marie's talk was followed by her husband Barry McDonald who took us through the military side of North Head. The first fortifications were built in 1934 due to tensions in Europe. Barry provided a very interesting background to what occurred there. The School of Artillery existed from 1946-1997.

We were then told about the memorial walk which is a dedicated war memorial and things you can do at North Head Sanctuary including:

The fortifications

The 3rd quarantine cemetery guided tours

Self-guided tours

Commemorate a family member with a memorial paver

Have a meal at the café and visit to the Visitors Centre

There is a network of walking and bicycle tracks to explore with access to Shelly Beach and Collins Flat Beach and on to Fairfax lookout.

This would be a great place to visit when restrictions are lifted. Helen might arrange an outing in the future.

The meeting finished at 11.40am. Confirmed, and signed by President.....