



Narra Notes

Volume 2 Issue 4

May 2023

The Newsletter of the Narrabundah Probus Club

Probus Club number 29004302

<https://www.narrapc.com/>

General Meeting : **Tuesday 9 May 2023 at 11:00am**
Harmonie German Club, Narrabundah

Guest Speaker: **Tom Flynn**
Macular Degeneration

President's Ponderings

By the time this edition of Narra Notes is in circulation I and three fellow Probians viz. Gloria Bothe, Gae Sheldon and Lola Bartkus will have arrived in France and made our way by road to Provence in the South of the country. We began our journey on May1 and return on May25. Our itinerary provides for a Qatar Airways flight from Sydney to Paris with a stop over at Doha.

Once in Paris we will spend three days sightseeing before collecting a rental car and driving to Clermont-Ferrand in the Loire valley and heart of the chateaux country. From there we continue on and arrive at Aix En Provence where will stay from May7-May22.

Whilst in Provence we intend to undertake day trips to places such as Marseille, Avignon, Saint Tropez, Ste Maxime (thank you Kathy Duffy), Cannes, Antibes, Nice, Monaco etc.

Our return trip will commence with a 4 hour drive to Annecy which is near Lyon. Then follows a 5 hour drive to Paris where we overnight at Charles de Gaulle Airport's Hilton Paris. The following morning we fly out on Qatar Airways for Sydney.

I should add that this adventure is not a Probus initiative but a spontaneous outcome from a 2:30pm Wednesday coffee catch up; thus proving their worth. It is to be hoped that similar trips will be forthcoming in the future under the auspices of Probus.

Enjoy the May General Meeting and accept our apologies for our non-attendance.

A timely reminder from Mark Twain; " Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today".

Peter Adams

.....and some humorist added "because if you do it today and like it you can do it again tomorrow."

Ed

Dates for your diary

Day	Event
Wednesday, 3 May	Usually 2:00 pm Management Committee, Gryphons, Griffith shops. Because of the absence overseas of half the committee there would not be a quorum, so no meeting this month.
Wednesday, 3 May	2:30 pm Afternoon tea at Gryphons, Griffith shops. <i>No booking required.</i>
Tuesday, 9 May	General meeting at the Harmonie German Club, 11:00am. <i>Book in for Music at Midday 25 May</i> <i>Book in for visit to St Andrews heritage Centre 28 June</i>
Wednesday, 10 May	2:30 pm Afternoon tea at Gryphons, Griffith shops. <i>No booking required.</i>
Wednesday, 17 May	2:30 pm Afternoon tea at Gryphons, Griffith shops. <i>No booking required.</i>
Wednesday, 24 May	2:30 pm Afternoon tea at Gryphons, Griffith shops. <i>No booking required.</i>
Thursday, 25 May	Music at Midday – Canberra Theatre
Thursday, 25 May	6:30 for 7:00 pm Informal dinner, venue The Vanilla Pod, 23 Kennedy St Kingston.
Wednesday, 7 June	2:00 pm Management Committee, Gryphons, Griffith shops.
Wednesday, 7 June	2:30 pm Afternoon tea at Gryphons, Griffith shops. <i>No booking required.</i>
Tuesday, 13 June	General meeting at the Harmonie German Club, 11:00am.
Wednesday, 14 June	2:30 pm Afternoon tea at Gryphons, Griffith shops. <i>No booking required.</i>

Quote of the month

"I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather . . . not screaming and yelling like the passengers on his bus." – Anonymous

The trouble with quotes on the internet is that it's difficult to determine whether or not they are genuine. Abraham Lincoln

Books Table

The book table has been a victim of its own success, and we now have more books than can comfortably be transported for each meeting. So please **DO NOT** bring anymore books just yet, but do take some home to enjoy.

Meet the team : Ann Quarterman – Welfare Officer

Ann was born in South Shields in the Northeast of England, overlooking the mouth of the river Tyne (location of the TV series 'When the boat comes in'). That makes her a genuine *Geordie*.

Educated at a convent boarding school in Berwick-on-Tweed and subsequently at a co-ed government grammar school, she then attended the Lady Mabel College of Physical Education. This was at the time housed in the stately home of Wentworth-Woodhouse, home of Lord Rockingham. This was the largest stately home in England (one more room and it would have been classed as a palace!).

The subject matter was interesting but after doing teaching practice in a Secondary Modern school in Sheffield she decided that teaching was not for her. The training was not wasted, however, when she later adopted a son with special needs.

After leaving college she worked in an industrial laboratory testing electronic components. In 1961 with a work colleague she joined the Northumberland Ski Club where, on a trip to the Cairngorms mountains in Scotland, she met Roger. After dating with Roger and exploring Northumberland in his veteran Bull-Nosed Morris (which she learned how to push down the hill to start!) she followed him to the copper mining town of Luanshya (in what was then Northern Rhodesia and is now Zambia) where they were married in 1963.

After 18 months of enjoying the lifestyle and environment of this part of Africa they returned to England via an extensive stop-over journey, where Roger took a short service commission in the Royal Navy as an Instructor Officer. Then came emigration to Australia and the adoption of two baby sons. The elder had special needs, so Ann became a full time stay at home Mum for many years. When the boys finished high school she took a casual job as a library assistant in the ADFA library.

After working there for eight years the next adventure was to live in Portland, Oregon for a year where Roger had a teaching exchange as a visiting professor at Clarke College.

Back in Australia, after a few years she joined the Majura Ladies Probus Club in November 2000 where she is still a member. Other retirement activities have included extensive travel around the Australian Outback in a 4 wheel drive and camper trailer.



Welfare

Please inform Welfare Officer Ann if you are aware of any member who is ill or otherwise indisposed.

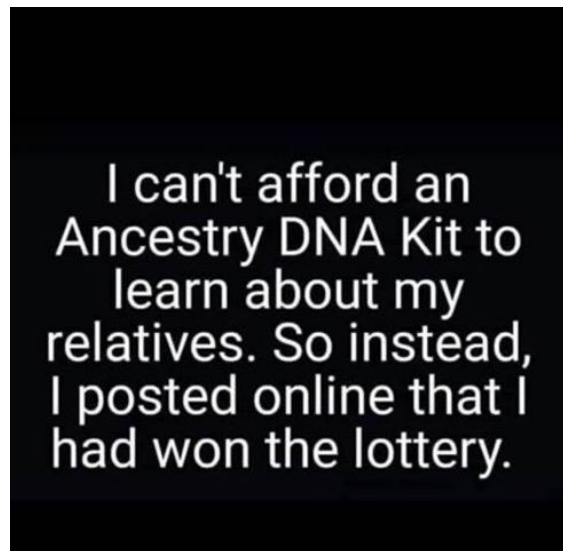
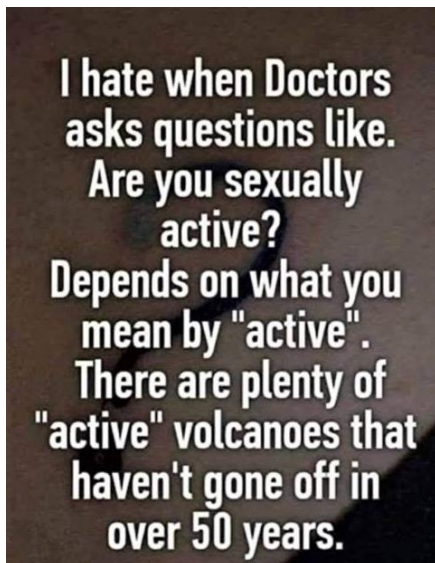
Your Club Management Committee

Following the election of officers at the AGM not all the required positions had been filled. The good news is that Kathryn Duffy has agreed to take on the Secretary role, and Lola Bartkus will be Treasurer. Thanks to these ladies the club now has the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer all filled (as required by Probus South Pacific).

President	Peter Adams
Immediate past President	John Worcester
Vice president(s)	John Worcester
Secretary	Kathryn Duffy
Treasurer	Lola Bartkus
Membership Officer	Gloria Bothe
Newsletter Officer	Roger Quarterman
Guest Speaker Officer	John Worcester
Outings/Activities Officer	VACANT
Trips/Tours Officer	VACANT
Welfare Officer	Ann Quarterman

.....though as you can see we still have a couple of vacancies – filling these would help to provide a more lively and interesting program for club members.

Cartoon Corner



Thanks to Laine for contributing these items.

Events:

Recent events

Monthly informal dinner Thursday 27 April

Held for the third time at the Vanilla Pod restaurant, on 23 March, and this time enjoyed by nine members.

Forthcoming events

25 May

Music at Midday

This excellent concert is usually held on a date that clashes with our general meeting. On this occasion, however there is no clash and therefore an opportunity for a group visit. Entry is by gold coin donation, but booking for seat allocation is required. The online booking system will allow one individual to book a maximum of 5 seats and this has already been done. Now there are only 3 pre-booked seats left. If more members are interested there are still seats available, but you will have to book your seats individually. <https://canberratheatrecentre.com.au/show/music-midday/> .

Optional lunch afterwards at the City Labour Club.

A sign up sheet will be available for members wishing to attend.

25 May

Monthly informal dinner

This event will again be held at The Vanilla Pod, Kingston on the fourth Thursday of the month, and this month that will be 25 May. Booking arrangements TBA.

28 June

Visit the "OPEN CHURCH", "OPEN HOUSE", HERITAGE TOUR AND "LIVING STONES" EXHIBITION, CHURCH OF ST ANDREW

We have received information from the church of St Andrew about this exhibition with an invitation to visit.

The Exhibition has been set up with the aid of a Heritage Committee grant in the large St Andrews Georgian House. Trained guides conduct tours each week on Wednesdays from 10.30 am for approximately one hour and 15 minutes.

This program enables you to enjoy the organ demonstration and chat with the organist, singalong if you wish, listen to voices from the stained glass windows, hear about the history of Canberra, the secrets of the Memorial chapel in one of Canberra's oldest buildings; the sandstone clad neo-gothic church of St Andrew on State Circle and the Georgian House of St Andrew to view the Living Stones Exhibition.

Proposed date for a group visit is **Wednesday 28 June**. It is also suggested that afterwards we go off to lunch together at the Canberra Yacht Club (Southern Cross Club) which is nearby

A sign-up sheet will be available at the general meeting on 9 May to assess the level of interest so that we can respond appropriately to their invitation.

Probus Points (mostly taken from the PSPL website <https://www.probusouthpacific.org/>)

Is there a relationship between Rotary and Probus?

YES Probus is a Community Service Activity of Rotary clubs.

Probus is an association of retired and semi-retired people who join together in clubs, the basic purpose of which is to provide regular opportunities for them to keep their minds active, expand their interests and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends.

Probus clubs may only be formed/sponsored by a Rotary Club.

The sponsoring Rotary Club for NPC is the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin. The President at the time that NPC was formed in September 2019 was Michael Rabey. Michael was very helpful during the first COVID lockdown in setting up Zoom meetings for our Club in May, June and July 2020

Each Probus club is aligned with a Rotary District. In our case this is Rotary District 9705.

Once Rotary sponsors a Probus club and it is accredited by Probus South Pacific Limited (PSP) it operates within the parameters of its Constitution and accreditation requirements.

The right to use the Probus name and Probus emblem Trademarks are contingent on;

- an accredited Probus club maintaining its accreditation by complying and abiding with the articles of the Standard Probus Club Constitution (currently dated February 2013) a Constitution that may be amended by PSP from time to time in accordance with the PSP Policy on Constitutional Amendments;

- the payment of annual fees to PSP and the providing of information as required by PSP from time to time.

It is recommended that Presidents of sponsor Rotary Club and the Probus club keep in touch to maintain and strengthen their relationship.

The vision of the Probus South Pacific Limited (PSP) is to co-ordinate the growth, development and on-going support for Probus clubs, as the most widely recognized organisation for active retirees, in fostering the true spirit of Probus – *friendship, fellowship and fun.*”