



The Probus Club of Bannister Creek Inc.

Visitor
information



Table of Contents

A Brief History of Probus Clubs	2
Australia	3
Western Australia	3
The Probus Club of Bannister Creek Inc	4
Meeting Protocol	4
Membership information.....	5
Visitors	5
Membership.....	5
Meetings	6
Bulletin booklet.....	6
Web site	7
Obligations of a member	7
Dress Code	7
Club management.....	7
Special Interest Groups.....	7

A Brief History of Probus Clubs

In 1965 the Rotary Club of Welwyn Garden City, England, formed the “Campus Club”. Fred Carnhill was the driving force. When he retired Fred occasionally used to meet a few retired friends for morning coffee. They were mostly professionals and business people who had commuted to London some 20 miles away. In the same area were many men with similar backgrounds, again all commuters who had been unable to participate in the life of the town because of the time demands of traveling to work. This gave Fred the idea to start a luncheon club. The local Rotary Club president helped and arranged the first meeting, which was attended by 45 men. So the first Club was born.

It was called The Campus Club. The name was chosen because the meeting place faced the centre of town called “The Campus”.

A second club, the first to be called Probus was formed a year later by Harold Blanchard of the Rotary Club of Caterham. Harold like Fred had recognized the need of retired former commuters to continue to meet together for fellowship. In his writings of "The Birth of Probus" Harold states:" One of our more erudite members came up with the idea of PROBUS, Professional and Business, He assured us Probus was a Latin word from which "probity" was derived, and the name was adopted with enthusiasm. Incidentally we found there was a village in Cornwall called Probus and also there was a Roman Emperor of the same name who in his day was famous for his cultivation of the vine."

Due to the success of these two clubs, Probus Clubs were promoted through Rotary in adjacent towns. As a result, Rotary International British Isles was informed and a promotional pamphlet was established urging other Rotary Clubs to sponsor the formation of Probus Clubs. There are now approximately 1,700 clubs in Great Britain.

In 1974, Probus reached New Zealand through Rotarian Gordon Roatz who had learned about Probus Clubs while visiting Scotland.

Australia

The first Club in Australia based on Probus principles, was formed at Kiama, NSW around 1970. This was called a "Senior Fellowship Club" and had a membership of 68. Two other clubs followed in Nowra and Wagga.

In 1975, after hearing of the success of Probus in the UK, Rotary District 968 brought the "Probus" name to Australia by establishing a District Probus Sub Committee. Full details of what Probus entailed were outlined to a meeting of Rotary Club Presidents and Community Service Directors who were then asked to form a Probus Club in their respective areas.

The first positive action was taken at Hunter's Hall near Sydney in October 1975. After a shaky start the Club attracted membership and flourished. Other Clubs were soon established. By March 2006 the organization had grown in Australia to 1766 clubs with a membership of 138842 and in New Zealand to 455 clubs with 48230 members.

Western Australia.

Before 1981 the Probus movement was practically unknown in Western Australia. Ron Sloan, the then District Governor of Rotary District 946 in June 1981 took the initiative to form a District Probus Development Committee.

The Probus Club of Thornlie was the first Club established on 3rd March 1982. The Fremantle Club followed later in 1982. Two years later there were 19 Clubs in WA. By March 2006, WA had 107 Clubs with 5921 members.

In May 1984, representatives from all Probus Club in WA voted to support the formation of the Probus Association of WA (PAWA), which remains the only State Association in Australia.

The Probus Club of Bannister Creek Inc.

In July 1999 the Rotary Club of Cannington made a decision to embark on a project to form a Probus Club for active retired people living in the surrounding area. Rotarian Don Briggs, Director - Vocational and New Generations Service; was asked to be the convener for the Interest/Foundation meeting and to decide when to have the first meeting.

An advertising campaign was conducted and a survey made with surrounding clubs advising people interested in knowing what Probus was about should come to the Lynwood Arms on the 13th of September 1999. Don Briggs was the Club's first President and is still a valued member of the Probus Club of Bannister Creek today.

The club was named after a local tributary of the Canning River – Bannister Creek and hence The Probus Club of Bannister Creek Inc. was formed. It is today an highly active club and provides retirees with a club offering – **Friendship Fellowship and Fun.**

Meeting Protocol

Our Club's Constitution requires members attend not less than 50% of meetings in any club year unless leave of absence notification has been received (e.g. extended holiday or illness).

Friends of members may attend as "Members' Guest" not more than three times in any one year. (A Standing Resolution)

To ensure the successful running of the Club; a Management Committee is in place made up of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Bulletin Editor, Membership Officer, Welfare Officer, Outings coordinators, Liaison Officer, Webmaster, Guest Speaker Officer, Attendance Officer and other Committee Members as required for the successful running of the Club. In this regard, it is recommended members give consideration to becoming a member of the

Management Committee in due course as this greatly enhances ones knowledge of and the enjoyment of Club membership.

Being simple in structure and free from the constraints and obligations of service clubs, Probus offers a sense of belonging to a group of people of diverse backgrounds and interests in a friendly and informal manner. Our aim is to ensure active retired people will continue to enjoy the benefits of Probus and keep their minds alert by listening to good guest speakers, who cover information about aspects of our community.

Membership information.

Visitors

Visitors to our club either invited or casual are always made most welcome. An invited visitor is one who is formally invited from another Probus Club as a way of sharing interclub knowledge. A casual visitor can come 'from the street' or be accompanied by a Probus Club of Bannister Creek member and is keen to see how we operate with the future intention of joining our club.

As a way of identifying visitors, we ask visitors to wear a name badge obtainable from our registration desk at the entry to our club.

Our designated Host for the day, will usually accompany a visitor and answer any questions which may arise during the meeting and at morning tea.

Membership

The Probus Club Bannister Creek currently has a membership capacity of 110 persons and as such; a person wishing to become a member of our club can only be accepted once he or she has attended three Monthly meetings, the appropriate application form together with the \$25 application fee has been submitted. If, in the event there is no vacancy, the prospective Member/s will be placed on a wait list in date order.

Applicants for membership must be sponsored by two members of the club and approved by the Management Committee, which meets once a month for the purpose of organizing all Club activities and other business matters. No person is denied membership of the club for reasons of race, religion or political persuasion.

The current membership fee is set at \$90 per person per annum and payable upon joining the club. Our financial year ends on 31 January, the Club Membership fees are due in April and hence the full amount is payable from

then. In the case of a new member being accepted, duly inducted during the course of the year, a pro rata amount is calculated and applicable. Potential new members can still attend the Monthly General Meetings as a visitor even if there is no vacancy at the time.

Potential new members can also participate in the monthly arranged outings if there is a vacancy on the day of the activity.

Meetings

Club meetings are held at the RAAFA, estate clubhouse Air Force Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Dr, Bull Creek WA on the second Monday of each month with the exception of January where there is no meeting planned or at another place and time as advised.

The meetings commence at 10am sharp, chaired by our President where each Committee member convey details of up and coming outings and other important information.

We break at 10.30am for morning tea, where visitors and new members can mingle, are introduced and made welcome. As the cost of the morning tea is covered in the annual membership fee, visitors are asked to contribute the amount of \$5 per person for their individual beverage.

The meeting resumes at 11.00am where an invited guest speaker gives an interesting talk on a range of topics fitting for our age group.

The meeting concludes at 12 noon and for those interested, we meet for a casual lunch ordered from the RAAFA kitchen. This creates the opportunity for further fellowship and friendship. Members wishing to attend the lunch are asked to place their name/s and meal choice on a list which is located in the meeting place.

Bulletin booklet.

We produce a monthly Bulletin booklet each month for distribution by email to each financial member and in limited hard copies (not January) available for members and prospective members at the registration desk on arrival at the meeting. This document is produced by our Bulletin Editor and contains valuable information for members including, details of future Guest Speakers, details of future outings, names and contact details of Committee persons and a variety of other information related to our Club.

Web site

Our Probus Club has an active web site accessible through the internet using the address www.bannisterprobus.org. This site has a number of pages detailing a number of headings including minutes of meetings, contact details of members, copies of the Bulletin, PAWA news and many others. Access to the detail of the web site is protected by a password which is supplied once a member has been inducted and has received a New Member Welcome Kit.

Obligations of a member.

Once being accepted as a member of The **Probus** Club of Bannister Creek inc., duly and officially inducted, it is accepted the member will attend the Monthly General Meetings on a regular basis in accordance with our Clubs Constitution and participate in the monthly outings.

In the event a member cannot, for one reason or another attend the scheduled monthly meeting, the member is encouraged to phone the Attendance officer and make an apology.

Dress Code.

The dress code for all Probus Club meetings is smart casual and the code for outings is appropriate for the nature of the outing. The wearing of the name badge is mandatory for all Probus functions.

Club management.

Over time, new members are encouraged to join the Management Committee in a role which they find they can contribute to the successful and future running of the Club

Special Interest Groups

Our walking group meets at the Riverton Leisureplex each Tuesday at 7.30am, weather permitting and take a half hour walk to the Lo Quay River Café on the 215 Fern Rd, Wilson for coffee and cake then return to the Leisureplex.

Other Groups with different agendas are encouraged to form and will be advertised at General meetings and the Monthly Bulletin.