

Content of this **Newsletter** is for the exclusive information of members of the **Probus Club of Red Hill-Ithaca Inc.**
Please note that contact details of members in the Directory are only to be used for **Probus** business.



Red Hill–Ithaca Probus Club (Inc)

NEWSLETTER 281

July 2025

Meetings: 9.30am 2nd Thursday each month except Dec and Jan
Red Hill Bowls, Sports, and Community Club
22 Fulcher Rd, Red Hill Qld

Web site: <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/probusclubofredhill-ithaca>

Note from the President.

Midyear has passed and we have celebrated our 25th anniversary with a very pleasant gathering at our “kind of next door” neighbour’s place, the Bronco’s Leagues club. The generous people from our club who organise these events are owed a big vote of thanks and gratitude.

The excursion to the Gold Coast was a memorable event and the HOTA a great destination. The skyline of Surfer’s Paradise was like a jagged mountain range, with so much new high-rise development going on. Some of us may remember when it was a modest tourist resort embracing the lovely beach. The beach is now very much embraced.

It is timely to remind each of ourselves that Probus is about fun, friendship, and fellowship. So many things, so many agenda, abound in the world around us, it is possible to lose focus on the reason our club exists. Enjoy the gatherings, the events, the meetings because the sole reason for these things is to make you feel better, as the song said, forget your troubles and just get happy.

In the short time ahead, we have planned excursions to QPAC, helpful presentations and many other functions that will be very enjoyable. Please join in.

Some people in our Probus group are confronting difficult issues. Let us be with them and support them in their tough times. The friendship aspect of our reason for being transcends the other goals when members of the club are in need of support.

Look forward to seeing you at cards (if they will still allow me), at our outings, and at the next meeting.

Stay safe and well.

Brian Molloy brianmolloy@Y7mail.com

Coming Events

Tue	1 July	Cards Group	12.30pm at Ashgrove Library
Thur	10 July	General Meeting	9.30am Red Hill Bowls, Sports and Community Club
Tue	15 July	Coffee and Chat	10am Tara Café at The Gap Village
Thur	17 July	Outing	10.15am Behind the scenes at QPAC. Lunch in Fish Lane
Thur	24 July	Dine-out	12.30pm The Brook Hotel, Brookside

Look on the bright side of life (so said the Monty Python team)

“Even the darkest night will end, and the sun will rise.”

Victor Hugo “Les Miserables”

Management Committee

President: Brian Molloy

brianmolloy@Y7mail.com

Immediate Past President: Brian Blaney

0422 331 943 bjblaney@tpg.com.au

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Fran Lowings

3366 2968 melandfran@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lyn Perks

0402 114 068 ljperks@ozemail.com.au

Assisting the Treasurer: Hugh Rodd

Activities: Lyn Perks

0402 114 068 ljperks@ozemail.com.au

Cards and Club Service: Jan Wilson

3300 3330

Membership: Sue Vivian

0143 544 202 susie_vivian@outlook.com

Caroline Graham

0411 459 687

carolineanngraham@gmail.com

Welfare/Friendship: Lynne Parker

0403 504 893 lynnejb2@bigpond.com

Guest Speakers: Brian Hampton

0466 043 713 hampo88@bigpond.com

Assisting with speakers: Lorraine Robinson

0438 662 594 lorrainerob7@gmail.com

Newsletter and Media: Geoff Crane

0419 786 965 gdcrane3@bigpond.com

Dine-outs: Greg and Caroline Graham

0411 459 687

carolineanngraham@gmail.com

Coffee mornings: Di Perry

0410 531 744 dl.perry71@gmail.com

Meet and greet – July General Meeting Carol Tregenza and Wendy Waggitt

Fees for 2025-2026 now overdue

Due to rising costs some small increases in fees were approved at the AGM. Fees for 2025-2026:

Annual subscription	\$40
Monthly meeting charge	\$10
Joining fee for new members	\$20

Reminder

Don't forget to put your mobile phones into silent mode or turn them off at the start of our meeting.

Further reminder

COVID and flu numbers are continuing to increase in the community making it even more important to keep up our vaccinations.

Our age group need to maintain our vaccinations in at least COVID, influenza, tetanus and shingles.

An even greater concern is the decline in children's vaccinations. All those serious threats like measles, mumps, scarlet fever, whooping cough and chicken pox, which were rife when we were young but much reduced in the intervening years are on the rise again. So, it is very important that children's vaccination programs are maintained.



The preferred way to pay annual subs or for outings is by direct bank transfer (EFT):

Club bank details: BSB 064 102 A/c No 10404988.

And put for reference: Your Name; what it is for: eg CameronX2 AugBBQ

But please – label each payment, and only one item per transfer.

Red Hill-Ithaca Probus Club Australian Business Number (ABN): 92338603976.



*A very happy birthday from all of your friends
at Red Hill-Ithaca Probus Club*

JULY

Anne Evans Caroline Graham Alan Matthias
Brian Webber Pam Wheatley Charles Knoke
Dianne Perry Malcolm Phillipot

Members' Interest Talk

We are always looking for members to tell us about themselves, their interests or their travels. That enables us to get to know each other better. Just a 5-to-10-minute talk preferably given by yourself, but help is available if needed. It could be having a Q&A chat with another member; or having someone telling your story for you.

Guest Speakers

July – Queensland Police Service: **Sgt Jose Samiento** “Home Security”

August – no guest speaker, but Aussie Bush Poet **Noel Stallard** returns to again regale us with his rapid-fire renditions during our Show Time activities.

Dine-Out

Thursday 24 July. 12.30pm. Brook Hotel, 167 Osborne Road, Mitchelton. Sign the Dine-out book and let Caroline Graham know if you are coming. 0411 459 687 carolineanngraham@gmail.com

Outing

Thursday 17 July. Tour of Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)

A behind-the-scenes guided tour of the Lyric Theatre and the Concert Hall. Meet in the main entrance foyer at 10.15am for a tour commencing at 10.30am. Backstage guided tours run for 90 minutes. QPAC recommend you wear flat, enclosed, rubber-soled shoes. Access to the main entrance foyer from the northern (Bus Station) side is from ground level (The café/Restaurant level) or from the railway station side it is internally halfway along the tunnel then through the glass doors. Tour cost \$18.

Afterwards lunch at any of the various cafes along Fish Lane, just a 100m walk from QPAC.

Members Directory Update

An update of Members' details and any changes to your address, emergency contacts, interests, etc is almost completed. You can contact Lyn Perks with any changes or complete a slip that you will see on the tables at the AGM. Please give completed slips to Lyn, Caroline, Sue or Fran.

Book Exchange table

The many books brought along to the exchange table each month provide clear evidence that our members need no encouragement to keep up their reading. The benefits of reading to memory and maintaining an active mind are well documented. Keep bringing along your books, magazines, DVDs and CDs. Remember to collect anything you bring that isn't taken by others on the day.

Relics of past civilisations

Greece



Egypt



Australia



25 YEARS OF ITHACA/RED HILL-ITHACA PROBUS CLUB

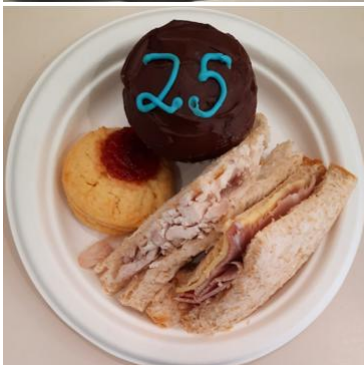
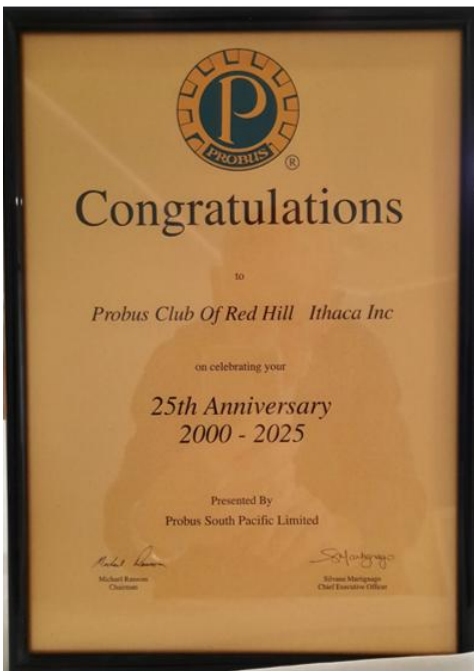
Inauguration - June 2000	Meetings at Brisbane Broncos Club
From May 2001	Meetings at Bardon Bowls Club
From January 2004	Meetings at Ashgrove Bowls Club
From February 2022	Meetings at Red Hill Bowls, Sports and Community Centre

FOUNDATION MEMBERS OF ITHACA PROBUS CLUB

Tom Burrell, Margaret Byers, Joan Byrne, Regina Casey, Doug Duval, Jenny Duval, Sarah Feekery, Jack Gilmour, Mary Gray, Margaret Harris, Bernie Homan, Judith Homan, Paul Ikingier, Norma Johnson, Bruce McBryde, Lee Matthias, Des Mulligan, Marie Nicholls, Lorraine Robinson, Margaret Shepherd, Alan Stacey, Eileen Webber.

ACCREDITATION OF PROBUS CLUB OF ITHACA

Thursday 21 September 2000 was an exhilarating historically significant day for the young Probud Club of Ithaca. President Pam Foley officially received a framed Certificate of Accreditation with the Probud Centre-South Pacific Inc. from Robert van Mourik, Immediate Past President of the sponsoring Rotary Club of Brisbane West. Robert was the person who first actively promoted the formation of a new Probud Club between The Gap and Brisbane City. He also presented the club with its President's Collar, as a badge of office and gift from the Rotary Club of Brisbane West.



Morning tea treat



A return to our origins – celebratory lunch at the Broncos Club



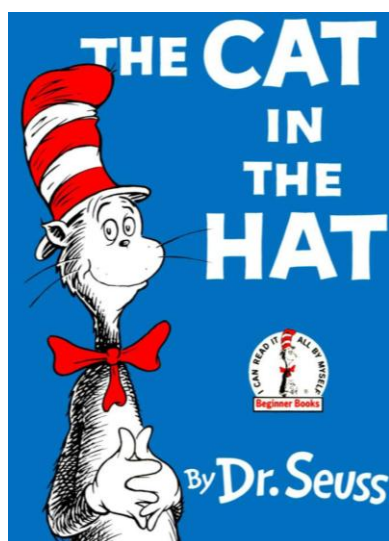
August General Meeting

Show Time: Like last year, at the August General meeting we will be celebrating the annual Ekka Show with our own fun event! So, get ready for **SHOW TIME!**

Everyone is asked to bring along/**wear their favourite hat/cap**.... Everyone has one! It can be your oldest, best, country, sport, favourite, city, garden, new, old, club or work hat/cap!

Show Time will include an **Aussie bush poet**, Noel Stallard (in his Akubra), to show his talents, Lucky dip **Showbag door prize**, a couple of **Word Games to show your knowledge** and an **Aussie Show Time Trivia competition**.... And that's not all! We'll have our **Show Time ice cream** too! There will be prizes as well. Don't forget to put your thinking caps on!

So, wearing your favourite hat, get ready to Show off your talents at our **Show Time event!**
(Brian Blaney).



“I know some good games
we could play,”
Said the cat.
“I know some new tricks,”
Said the Cat in the Hat.
“A lot of good tricks.
I will show them to you.
Your mother
Will not mind at all if I do.”



Cards Group

Next meeting 12.30 to 4.30pm Tuesday 1 July at Ashgrove Library.



Go right through to the last door on the left. Please bring your own cups. The group usually play Bolivia, a version of Canasta. Regulars will be happy to teach newcomers. Separate groups could play a different game if preferred. The Cards Group is keen to attract more players, especially “500” players.

Please let Jan Wilson know if you are coming. 3300 3330.

Coffee and Chat

Tuesday 15 July

Tara Café at The Gap Village

Let Di Perry know if you are going.

0410 531 744 dl.perry71@gmail.com



Membership

Currently 53. There are a couple of prospective new members. We are always looking for new members so remember to tell your friends about Probus and its themes of Friendship, Fellowship and Fun.

Calendar of events:

The Red Hill-Ithaca Probus Club web site is fully functional at:

<https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/probusclubofredhill-ithaca/Welcome>

or just search for Red Hill-Ithaca Probus and your browser will find the link.

Do have a look at the web site regularly. It is kept up to date for all the club's activities, and the Important Information page has **Handy Links**, notes on **Health and Wellbeing** and other articles of interest.

Lord Mayor's Seniors Concerts

City Hall - Tuesdays 12.00noon – 1pm. No bookings needed. Free.

Tuesday 1 July – Acoustic Guitar Spectacular

Experience stunning acoustic mastery as the highly anticipated Acoustic Guitar Spectacular returns to the City Hall stage! Hosted by renowned Brisbane guitarist Michael Fix, this intimate concert brings together a trio of Queensland's finest musicians, with Majelen and Tom Combes completing the group.

Tuesday 8 July – Launch of the Australian National Piano Competition for Children

The Lev Vlassenko Piano Academy presents a Special Piano Celebration Concert featuring selected Academy participants including from the upcoming Australian National Piano Competition for Children 2025 (Little Lev). This concert to launch the competition will include well-known and loved piano classics.

Tuesday 15 July – Celtic Women

The all-female Australian Celtic Women ensemble welcomes you on a whimsical journey through rolling hills, enchanting moors, and heavenly melodies that will make your heart sing. Enjoy celtic favourites like Danny Boy, Amazing Grace and the Skye Boat song (Outlander), while they weave a vibrant tapestry of music that lights up the stage.

Tuesday 22 July – Queensland Police Pipes & Drums and Band of Blue

THIS CONCERT WILL BE AUSLAN INTERPRETED.

Queensland Police Pipes & Drums (QPP&D) were originally formed by a small group of police officers in 1958 to represent the QPS in pipe band competitions. Today, our professional musicians perform official functions at Police, Fire and Corrective Services graduations, Government House events, and Anzac Day and National Police Remembrance Day marches providing an air of tradition to formal proceedings.

Tuesday 29 July – A Showcase of Opera, Operetta and Musical Theatre

Performed by talented classical voice students from Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University and accompanied on piano by Jillianne Stoll (QCMGU Senior Lecturer Opera and Professional Practice), you will hear well-loved opera classics including arias and ensembles by Mozart, Puccini and Bizet, together with some light-hearted operetta by Offenbach and Franz Lehár and Music

The Blacksmith

© Noel Stallard March 1, 2025

Most people call him Smithy, but I knew that's not his name,
for he bought singlets from my dad who called him Mr Frame.
Dad ran a menswear shop in town and knew near everyone,
the farmers and the railwaymen, the priest and teaching nun.

But Mr Frame, or Smithy, was my hero way back then.
His arms were muscle-mountains, and his shoulders like two men.
His skin was syrup coloured and his hands like cricket gloves.
He was the local blacksmith; horse and coaches were his loves.

Most afternoons when school was done, we'd go down to his shop.
My mate he nicknamed 'paddles' while he called me 'paddle pop.'
He let us watch as he did work to forge each metal shape,
and we would stand there mesmerised our eyes and mouths agape.

With chrome-tanned leather apron that went from his chest to knees,
and dark blue singlet bought from Dad, he stood like Hercules.

A giant of a man where big was common in his trade,
with huge draught horses, wagon wheels, steel gates or balustrade.

The fiery forge was focal with its red-hot coals aglow:
your face would feel the force of heat when bellowed air would blow.
These bellows made of leather sheets would funnel air to coal,
and Smithy had this foot pedal, that gave him air control.

The colour of hot metal is best seen when lights are dim,
so, Smithy only used the forged to see the metal's rim.
Sometimes he'd shape a horseshoe and sometimes a wagon wheel.
It seemed as if he could contort all shapes in forms of steel.

Long tongs that held the heated steel had jaws to suit the shape.
These jaw lips could be boxed, or flat, some round, some stood agape.
But Smithy - he never let them slip until the job was done
as kookaburras hold their prey, he held till he had won.

But what we waited for was when his hammerhead came down,
on red hot steel, on anvil strong and sparks explode around.
It was as though the sparks were captives in the metal skin,
Until our hero's how hammer stroke would free them from within.

Then followed the finale, like you'd see at some stage show,
when Smithy plunged the finished shape still red, its heat aglow;
into the waiting water drum that bubbled, hissed in pain,
then billowed clouds of mushroom steam to signal its disdain.

This world of light and dark and sweat of noise and heated steel,
was where you went to shoe your horse, fix ploughs or wagon wheel.
This Smithy was, the man of men, esteemed for what he did.
He helped the wheels of life turn 'round back when I was a kid.