



# The Probuss Club of Bribie Island Inc



Volume 41 Issue 11 This Document is Private and Confidential. Not For External Publication

## NOVEMBER 2025 BULLETIN

Website: - <https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/bribieislandc/1> Welcome

Mailing Address: The Secretary, PO Box 696 Bribie Island Qld 4507

<b>President: Don Somerville</b> 0455 968 388 <a href="mailto:somervilledon1951@gmail.com">somervilledon1951@gmail.com</a>	<b>Secretary: Gabrielle Bain:</b> 0407 341 074 <a href="mailto:probussecbi@gmail.com">probussecbi@gmail.com</a>	<b>Treasurer: Mary O'Brien</b> 0447 182 226 <a href="mailto:maryobrienbiprobuss@gmail.com">maryobrienbiprobuss@gmail.com</a>
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### President's Report - November 2025

Socially, this past month your committee has provided several wonderful opportunities for members to get out and about. Activities have included coffee catchups, a special morning tea to celebrate Probuss Month in October, lunch with the North Brisbane Probuss Club, and even trying our hand at croquet!

I particularly enjoy these get-togethers because they give me the chance to spend quality time with you outside of our regular meetings — sharing a joke, chatting about family, or sometimes just talking about nothing in particular. But isn't that the best part? That's what Probuss is all about — **fun and friendship**. So, I encourage you to come along to our next activity. You might be surprised by just how much you enjoy yourself!

There's only one more meeting before we break for Christmas, and once again, I'm calling on all members to consider taking on a committee role, or perhaps assisting in one. Please remember, that when you completed and signed your application form for membership, it stated that you **may** be called upon to take up a committee role. So, it is with cap in hand that I'm calling on you, especially new members to seriously consider a committee role. New members bring fresh ideas, and that's vital for the ongoing sustainability of our club.

Currently, we are looking for a secretary and catering officer.

Finally, I'm really looking forward to our **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**. So much effort has gone into planning this special event, and your presence will help ensure it's a great success.



**Thank You,**

**Don Somerville, Probuss Bribie Island President,**

0455 968 388 [somervilledon1951@gmail.com](mailto:somervilledon1951@gmail.com)

**Membership:** **Susan Hamlin** – Membership total 67 including 2 Non-active members and 4 Life members. Susan collated many interesting points about people born in November and some May West quotes who was also a Scorpio.

**Congratulations to our Probians Celebrating their Birthday in November 2025!**

**Margaret Beavan 6<sup>th</sup>, Brian Caple 8<sup>th</sup>, Pam Bearce 18<sup>th</sup>, Ron Nothman 19<sup>th</sup>,  
Gabrielle Bain 20<sup>th</sup>, Bob Briggs 22<sup>nd</sup>, David Simpson 26<sup>th</sup> 90<sup>th</sup>**



**Programmes Officers:** **Ian Yoxall and Margaret Miller**

15 Minutes of Fame	Month	Guest Speaker
Ron Nothman – My Life History	2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Deanne Parker – Travel Trips and Tips

**Upcoming Outings & Tours:** **Pam Bearce**

What	When	Where	Nominations		Cost	Pay By
			Open	Close		
Caffeine Fix and Chinwag	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	TBA	Not Required		Very Reasonable	On The Day
Club 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch	Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Pacific Harbour Golf & Country Club	CLOSED		\$40 Includes Entertainment by "Timeless"	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct
Lunch in Botanic at RSL	After Monthly Meeting on Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	RSL Botanic Dining Boom	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Pay Venue on the Day	
Lunch	12 noon, Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Bribie Island Golf Club Restaurant (Vernazza) 7 Links Crt, <b>Woorim</b>	EOI 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Pay Venue on the Day	
Toch BBQ	12 noon, Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> February	36 Banya St, Bongaree	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	\$15	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Special Morning Tea	9-9.30 for 10am Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Bribie Island Retirement Village 12-40 FoleySt, Bongaree	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	\$5	11 <sup>th</sup> Mar

## Wait.....there's more from **Pam Bearce** our hardworking Outings & Tours Organiser

As there **is no Christmas event planned** for our club, the committee thought it might be a nice idea for us to **celebrate and enjoy** our last get together for the year with **lunch in the Botanic**. Because a reservation will be necessary, Pam will be contacting you for expressions of interest. The restaurant has a seniors menu and a chalk board for daily offerings.

There is no meeting in January so a reservation has been made for Vernazza Restaurant at the **Bribie Island (Woorim) Golf Course**. Noon on 20<sup>th</sup> January. If you've been to lunch with us there before, you already know how good the food is. Expressions of interest at the December meeting.

<b>Outback Spectacular</b>	<b>21-22 April</b>	<b>Location is Gold Coast</b>	<b>Approximate Cost is \$515, Single Supplement \$180, final figure TBC</b>
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The first "away" outing of the year is planned for 21-22 April to the **Outback Spectacular at the Gold Coast**. The cost is around \$515 per person (single supplement \$180). The cost covers the coach; a Cross Country Tours morning tea; Harbour Town for BYO lunch; Hotel at Sanctuary Cove; Outback Spectacular Show; breakfast at hotel; forning tea, tour and lunch at Albert River Winery and then home. Sign up sheet at December meeting, final exact cost and payment information forthcoming.

<b>Summerland Camel Farm</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Location is Boonah</b>	<b>Approximate Cost is \$70 pp for coach, tasting and morning tea. Lunch cot not included</b>
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Escape the ordinary and embark on a unique experience of adventure, nature, and delicious delights at Summerland Camel Farm.

Then head to the main streets of Boonah for some shopping and to Boonah Tavern for lunch (not included in price).

\$70.00 pp for coach, tasting and morning tea.

Explore the farm, meet the camels, and learn about camel dairying and sustainability as well as enjoy samples of canned milk, products gourmet cheeses, and skincare.



Hello Fellow Probians! Thank you to everyone who sent through some great material for the Bulletin. Feel free to drop me a line with any material you might want to share Happy Reading, Bob Brown [bebrownb@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bebrownb@optusnet.com.au)  
**Spoiler Alert:** You may spot a few hopefully humorous thipo errors. See how many ewe can find!! **Tip:** Look up and Look Down

**Welfare:** **David Simpson** reported on Don O'Neill, Lynn Weston, Roxanne Zolan, Keith Yeo and Keith Hayman. As a point of interest, David reminded everyone that it was on this day in 1605 that Guy Fawkes was involved in the failed Gunpowder plot to blow up Houses of Parliament, London.  
 Guy Fawkes night, known as cracker night in Queensland, has been bained since 1972.

### Raffle & Jackpot Prize:

Thank You **Ian Kelly** for organising the Raffle & Jackpot draw each meeting

### Congratulations to the winners of this month's raffle prizes

**FIRST \$15** Ian Bain  
**SECOND \$10** Hether Edkins  
**THIRD \$5** Robyn Nilsson  
**MEMBERS JACKPOT \$40 for December Meeting**

Members must be present and have purchased a raffle ticket on the day to win the Members Draw

### Next Committee Meeting

**MONDAY**

**54 Bestman Ave, Bongaree  
9 am Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

### Next General Meeting

**TUESDAY**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025**

9 am for 9.15 am – RSL Garden Room



**Probus Bribie Island  
Tennis Club  
Tennis Anyone?  
Contact Mike Cavenor on  
0411 018 896**



### Details for Direct Deposit Payments Via Your Bank Account

The Probus Club of Bribie Island,  
BSB 034.119 Ac No 125391  
Please reference your surname and the  
reason you are paying, and email Treasurer  
Mary O'Brien at  
[maryobrienbiprobus@gmail.com](mailto:maryobrienbiprobus@gmail.com)

Please switch to Direct Deposit Payments via your bank account to pay for Club functions, outings, Annual Subscriptions, etc, if at all possible. **If you are not in a position to transfer funds via your bank account**, Mary will still accept payments at the meetings. Please assist Mary by enclosing the correct amount in a sealed envelope with your name/s and reason for payment (annual subs, ToCh BBQ, etc) on the front of the envelope.

### Probus Month Special Morning Tea **Don Somerville and Pam Bearce**

**On 27<sup>th</sup> October**, 10 members joined with 30 members from the North Brisbane Probus Club for lunch at the Burf Club in Woorim. It was really great to meet new people and they really enjoyed their time on Bribie with visits to the Butterfly House and the Seaside Museum, both of which opened especially for their visit. This year we've been able to combine activities with three other Probus clubs and I hope this continues next year and that you'll join in.

**On 21<sup>st</sup> October** 30+ members enjoyed a lovely morning at the retirement village on Foley Street. Fun and games and lovely food were enjoyed by everyone. The raffle prizes were won by Ursula Maffey, Ian Yoxall, Alan Collishaw (Regional Liaison Officer) and Jill McGregor, a visitor and potential new member. Thank you to everyone who took a plate, the spread was fabulous. Many embraced the occasion by proudly wearing the Probus colours of blue and gold.



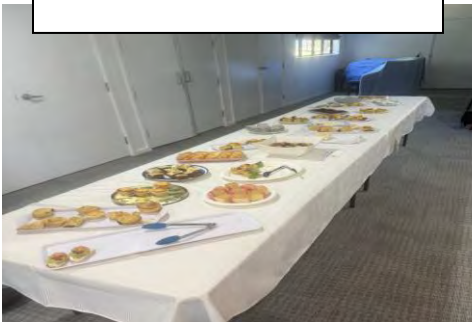
There was a delightful selection of sweet and savoury treats kindly brought along by members. Each table even featured a scrumptious cream sponge bob cake topped with fresh strawberries — all of which were very quickly enjoyed!

Laughter and friendly rivalry filled the room as everyone joined in a Scrambled Words challenge and a Probus-themed trivia game. The competitive spirit soon emerged, and a few brave souls even stepped up to sing a verse or two of popular songs to earn their team valuable bonus points.

It was a morning full of fun, friendship and celebration — everything Probus represents!

### Fun, Friendship and Fellowship @ Our Probus Month Special

Thank You Everyone for  
Our Bountiful Gifts!



**Our Club Website: Ian Yoxall** - The Club Website is up to date. To visit the website, place your cursor over the **https** link below, right click your mouse and then click “**open hyperlink**” from your the drop down box. The webpage should magically appear!

<https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/bribieislandc/1> Welcome



## Member's 15 minutes of Fame:

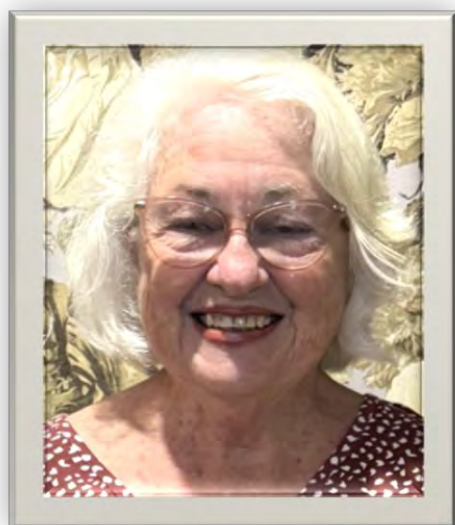
### Christine Saunders

**Christine** shared, in her inimitable style, the first of three stories about her life, beginning with **"My Early Years"**.

In summary, Christine was born in Brisbane, and grew up in NSW. She has fond memories of a happy, family-oriented childhood. And Christine, it shows with your lively, bubbly personality.

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**Member Spotlights** Compiled by Don Somerville. Say hello to the friendly faces that make our club such a special place! Each month we're shining a spotlight on members you may know — or are about to know a little better. Pull up a chair and enjoy getting to know this month's stars!



## 🌸 Member Spotlight

### 👤 Meet **Heather Edkins**

📅 **Club Member Since:** May 2023

👋 **About me:** Born in New Zealand

🏠 **Bribie Island Local** 4 -5 years

### 😊 **Retirement Myth Buster:**

"You don't have to be sad or lonely — laugh every day and join in!"

### 👨👩 **Family:**

Heather has known both joy and heartbreak — widowed twice, she is the proud mum of a 58-year-old son who works in marketing. He and his wife have 20-year-old twins — a grandson and granddaughter who keep the family young at heart!

### ☑ **Career Snapshot:**

Heather enjoyed a busy and fascinating career in project marketing, managing everything from trademark protection and sponsorships to environmental issues, PR and advertising campaigns — especially TV commercials! She also handled sales reporting to overseas head offices, point-of-sale promotions, premium product launches, in-store refrigeration investment, and even the occasional product complaint. If it needed doing, Heather made sure it happened!

### 🌟 **Surprising Retirement Skill:**

Discovering she can help others in ways she never realised before.

### ❤ **Advice to Younger Self:**

"Learn about critical thinking."

## 🌸 Member Spotlight

### ❄️ Tess Yoxall

**Member Since:** February 2019

**Hometown:** *I grew up in Mombasa, Kenya.*

**Bribie Island Local Since:** 2001

### 👨👩👧👦 Family:

Married to my wonderful man Ian. I have two married children — a son and a daughter — and three grandchildren: two boys (15 & 20) and one girl (17). My husband and children are my best friends.



### 👩💼 Career Snapshot:

Secretarial – Personal Assistant; Teacher Aide

### 🛑 Retirement Myth Buster:

That ageing means you're too old to work and keep contributing — not true!

### 💬 Advice to Younger Self:

Be bold and follow your dreams.

### 👑 Biggest Retirement Surprise:

That I'd be working with artificial intelligence!

### 👗 Fashion Trend to Bring Back:

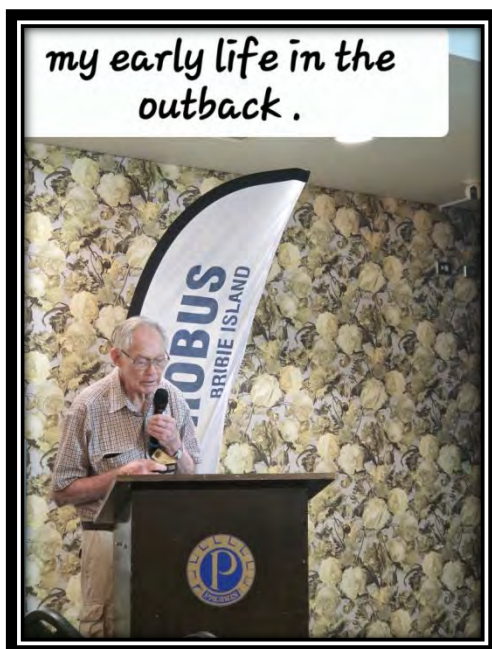
Hippie-style dresses — simple and elegant.



This month David Simpson will celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. To celebrate this wonderful occasion, David was presented with a lovely birthday cake at the November Monthly Meeting. In David's usual style, he made short work of blowing out the candles in a single puff! We wish David a memorable 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 26<sup>th</sup> November as he and Margie enjoy their Antarctica cruise.







## Guest Speaker and Club Member Ian Kelly

- Ian gave an interesting and humour filled talk on his early life in The Outback.
- Ian and his sister grew up on a sheep and cattle station near Winton in Queensland. Their father was the manager for about 33 years
- The property was fairly isolated - no electricity & plenty of snakes which were best avoided.
- It was difficult to get an education living in the bush so Ian was sent off to school in Winton for a while when he was only nine.
- Ian did a few years of lessons through the. Qld. Correspondence School, which was based in Brisbane.
- Ian admits that he did not learn much He went to a boarding school in Charters Towers for three year,

and then went to St. Teresa's Agricultural College outside Ingham, which was run by the Christian Brothers.

- Ian used to do six trips a year from Winton to school on the train - not a fan of the old steam trains.
- After leaving school Ian worked for his father on the station for a year
- He also worked on large cattle stations in the Gulf Country of Qld and the Northern Territory. The Gulf and Northern Territory were very large stations of over one million acres. The stockmen spent most of their time in mustering camps where living conditions were very basic.
- Ian also worked in the shearing sheds in the Hughenden area as a wool presser for a while and tried his hand at cane cutting and other jobs such as railway sleeper cutting and contract ring barking.
- He eventually left the West and went to Rockhampton where he bought a carrying business and B.P. fuel agency at Marmor, a siding on the railway line south of Rockhampton. His main business was delivering fuel in drums and bulk to local farmers.
- After getting married he sold the business and he and Margaret moved into Rockhampton where he obtained a job driving LP gas tankers. He was there for 10 years and later worked in a clerical position at the Rockhampton
- He eventually left the West and went to Rockhampton where he bought a carrying business and B.P. fuel agency at Marmor, a siding on the railway line south of Rockhampton. His main business was delivering fuel in drums and bulk to local farmers.
- After getting married he sold the business and he and Margaret moved into Rockhampton where he obtained a job driving LP gas tankers. He was there for 10 years and later worked in the Rockhampton Hospital in a clerical position for 15 years before retiring.
- Ian and Margaret left Rockhampton in 2000 and moved to Sandstone Point where they have lived ever since

Old age has come at a bad time,  
Just as I was beginning to know  
everything,  
I'm now forgetting everything  
I knew.

All of us older folks  
know all about living  
on the edge. We  
used to answer the  
phone without  
knowing who it was.



**My mind is  
exceptionally quiet....  
I'm suspicious that I'm  
up to something i dont  
want myself to know  
about.**



**Mahatma  
Gandhi said If  
there is an  
idiot in power,  
it means  
those who  
elected him  
are well  
represented.**



**The next time you dislike  
your life, remember it's all  
about perspective. I have a  
friend who reads 2-3 books a  
week, works out twice a day,  
has no financial worries, and  
has people who want to have  
sex with him all the time.  
And yet he constantly  
complains about how much  
he hates prison.**



**I've found marriage to  
be very educational.  
For example, I had no  
idea there was a wrong  
way to put milk in the  
fridge.**



IF YOU GET AN E-MAIL  
WITH THE SUBJECT  
"KNOCK KNOCK"  
DON'T OPEN IT  
IT'S A JEHOVAH WITNESS  
WORKING FROM HOME

It's never too  
late to start  
exercising...  
That's why i'm  
waiting until  
later. *jus'sayin*



You know how they  
throw the ball into the  
crowd after they win  
the game? That's not  
allowed in bowling.  
I know that now.



I WISH I COULD DROP  
MY BODY OFF  
AT THE GYM  
& PICK IT BACK UP  
WHEN IT'S READY.

ME: ALEXA, REMIND ME  
TO GO TO THE GYM.

ALEXA: I HAVE ADDED  
GIN TO YOUR SHOPPING  
LIST.

ME: CLOSE ENOUGH.



Frog parking only – All others will be toad!  
If your car is running – I'm voting for it!  
I want to grow my own food – but I can't find any bacon seeds!  
What happens if you get scared half to death – twice!  
This is my step ladder – I never knew my real ladder!  
My wife said I never listen – or something like that!  
I checked into the hokey pokey clinic and turned myself around!