



## PORT DOUGLAS & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

### November 2025 Newsletter

Port Douglas & District Probus Club was formed after an expression of interest held at the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2024

#### President's Message:

Dear Probus Members,

**Let us say it again: HAPPY 1<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY TO US!!**

It was terrific to see over half of our members attend the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday celebration at the October meeting. It was a great get together and everyone enjoyed the gluten-free, vegan birthday cake which Julie organized! Yum – it was very decadent but delicious!! Also, thanks to The Tin Shed for the scrumptious morning tea they supplied for us all to enjoy! After we could not eat anymore, we learnt a lot from Catherine's interesting and informative presentation when she gave us some extremely useful tips to prevent us being scammed!

Thanks to Dusty for creating the digital photo display to help us celebrate and record our first year!

Toni gave a run through of our proposed activities for 2026 – there are some exciting outings and trips in store. Stay tuned!

I think all the emails have been sorted out now, but if you feel you have still been missing emails, please let us know.

**URGENT REQUEST!!** I have run out of member profiles for our "Spotlight On" section. This is my second request so please pen a few lines and email it to me at: [mcsusan2000@yahoo.com](mailto:mcsusan2000@yahoo.com)

The November activity is on Saturday November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will meet at The Tin Shed at 5pm for an early dinner at 5:30 before heading off to The Clink Theatre to watch the Creative Soul Choir, plus various soloists, perform "A Night of TV Tunes", which will showcase some TV and Movie songs at 7pm. Please RVSP to Toni or myself for dinner and book your own theatre tickets online at <https://www.clinktheatre.com.au/tickets/>

Use the code PROBUS10 to receive your 10% discount on adult and concession priced tickets.

Make sure you have our Christmas lunch and break up at Thala Beach in your diary, and that you RSVP to Toni or Lorraine asap if you are coming – see under the "Social Events" in this newsletter.

Just a reminder that our next meeting is November 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am and there is no meeting in December.

#### Management Committee

**Susan Stafford**

President

Newsletter Officer

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**Julie Borbiri**

Vice President

M: 0417 726 359

**Christopher Saint**

Secretary

Newsletter Officer

M: 0438 383 464

**David Campbell**

Treasurer

M: 0408 657 749

**Dusty Howman**

Guest Speaker Officer

Publicity Officer

Newsletter Officer

M: 0407 837 269

**Toni Hickey**

Outings/Activities Officer

M: 0437 320 340

**Lorraine Potter**

Outings/Activities Officer

M: 0427 993 392

**Emily Morgan**

Membership Officer

M: 0408 099 940

**Wendy Crossman**

Wellbeing Officer

M: 0499 035 666

**Meeting day/time:** 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 9:30 am (except January which is 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

**Meeting venue:** Tin Shed – Douglas Community & Sports Club Inc., 7 Ashford Ave, Port Douglas

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### ***President's report cont:***

The January meeting is the only meeting we have on the third Monday of the month, which will be January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

As we fast track to Christmas and the end of another year, I hope that you all enjoy all the community festivities and break-ups. Some of you will be venturing elsewhere to see families and friends soon, so have a wonderful time away and safe travels!

**Stay safe and stay connected!**

**Best wishes,**

**Susan Stafford (Foundation President)**

### **Need Help with Technology?**

Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre is delighted to announce an exciting expansion of technical assistance offerings for the local community. Fortnightly programs on Monday afternoons will alternate between two formats:



#### **Be Connected to Technology**

Our long-standing 'bring your own device' sessions invite attendees to bring their own smartphone, tablet, or laptop—along with any tech questions.



#### **Click and Connect**

This new initiative features easy, step-by-step tutorials, designed to build confidence and spark conversation. Each session will focus on a specific topic, with plenty of time for questions and hands-on help.

The sessions are offered for an optional donation, and you need to book by calling **07 4099 5518**.

Our guest speaker for November is:

**Nicky Swan.** Nicky is the CEO of the Mossman Botanical Gardens. Nicky has done some exciting things in her life, including heading off for a walk to the North Pole, but instead finding herself heading towards Norway.

### **Social Events**

**November 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7.00pm Creative Souls Choir end of year concert. Preceded by lunch at The Tin Shed at 5.00pm.**

**December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 12.30 – Christmas – venue: Osprey Restaurant at Thala Beach Lodge**  
**See flyer in this newsletter for details.**

### **Recent Social Events**

**October – Mt. Carbine tour with lunch at Mt. Molloy** – this had a lot of interest and as was booked out, it might be run again next year

### **Proposed Social Events**

These will be announced in the near future.

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER**

**We're all part of the Probus Community**  
**Now let's get started having fun**  
**with some exciting activities.**

**Why not stay at our venue**  
**after the meeting to get**  
**to know each other better?**



**Next meeting dates/times:**  
**24/11/2025 - 9:30am**



View Photos on Website [https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/portdouglas/About\\_Us](https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/portdouglas/About_Us)

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## SPOTLIGHT ON.....



### Dusty Howman

In the 1960's through to all of the 1970's there was a huge demographic change in Australia. Most people, including myself, were living on the land, going to very small country schools. During this period young people were leaving the land in droves to go live in the big capital cities.

I was brought up on a farm and after it was sold worked with my parents seasonal working between Queensland and Victoria. But once I saw the bright lights of Melbourne I escaped to the city.

I worked in many different jobs from a camera shop sales clerk to many other sales jobs before starting my own print broking business with my wife Debbie, which we still operate part time today.

I still have fond memories of my three years with Encyclopaedia Britannica and I guess that was where I developed my thirst for knowledge.

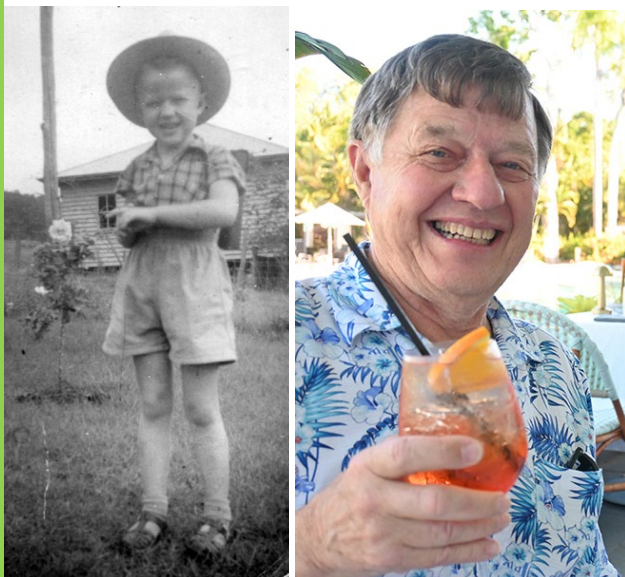
I also spent many years in sales with Ansett Air Freight, and me being scared of flying.

I worked at weekends as a wedding photographer in the 1970's, and have always had a keen interest in photography.

We moved permanently to Port Douglas in 2019 to be closer to our youngest son and our only grandchild.

Since arriving I have joined several local groups including LIPS, (Low Isles Preservation Society), the local Petanque group, and joined the committee of Probus as a foundation member in charge of finding guest speakers, helping with this newsletter and helping with publicity.

You may have seen me around. I'm the one usually holding a camera.



#### Membership fees

The Probus financial year is 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March. The annual fee of \$50.00 is due on 1<sup>st</sup> April each year. Members joining at any other time during the year will pay a pro rate price – please ask one of the committee. Fees can be paid by bank transfer to:

**Bendigo Bank**

**BSB: 633 000**

**Account: 223 888 819**

**Please also include your full name in the reference box when transferring so we can track who has paid!**

**PLEASE NOTE: The bank account number has changed.**

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# HO! HO! HO!

## OSPREY- THALA LODGE



*let's get together*

# HO! HO! HO!

PROBUS CHRISTMAS LUNCH  
ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 12TH  
AT 12.30PM

## OSPREY- THALA LODGE

REGISTER TO LORRAINE  
THOMBOAY@GMAIL.COM  
CUT OFF DATE 5 DECEMBER  
MEMBERS PAY AT OSPREY  
FOR THEIR LUNCH AND DRINKS

*Greetings*  
ISLAND

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# Safety & Security: Cybersecurity Tips

## Probus Meeting 27th October 2025 – presentation by Catherine Rosenbrauer

### 1. What are the best ways to protect my identity & keep safe?

- Choose a **STRONG** Password & consider changing it on a regular basis for high-risk activities such as online banking. (see below for password guidelines)
- Provide information on a “need to know” basis eg. date of birth (DOB) should only be provided if vital
- **NEVER** use public WIFI for online interactions where you do online banking or type in your credit card. Only do these activities on your secure/home network.
- **NEVER** open an attachment to an email, unless you have **VERIFIED** it is from someone you know. You can check the sender by clicking on the “From” to reveal the full email address. If it is not what you expect, it is a scam & you should delete it immediately & empty your “Bin” or “Trash” immediately.
- If an online App or site access is free, **YOU** are the product, i.e. it will on-sell your information to organisations who will target you. This is often how & why you get spam or advertising email.
- **NEVER** click on a link in an email or website, unless you have verified it is a safe, verified source. If you do click, you may potentially hand over private information on your computer.
- If you receive a call, do not assume the caller’s identity is valid even if they verify contact information. They may also have access to stolen information (e.g., Qantas, Medibank, Optus data leaks provided name, passwords, address, DOB). Suggest you call them using a verifiable phone number.

### 2. How safe is online banking & online shopping?

- **VERY** safe, so long as you follow a few simple guidelines:
  - Select a unique password that is difficult to guess.
  - **NEVER** do online banking or shopping in public or using a public WIFI
  - **ALWAYS** keep your operating system & virus software updated to the latest version. Most are automatically updated.
  - Have a unique password for online banking & a separate password & email for online shopping.
- Know how to check for a secure payment. If the shopping website’s URL (address) begins with ‘https’ and has a closed padlock icon on the border, then this is an indication the transaction you are about to make will be encrypted. Encryption makes it hard to be intercepted or read by third parties.
- **DO NOT** link directly from social media to the online store and avoid the links that appear in emails or on social media. If you do want to shop from a social media recommendation:
  - Read the comments on a store’s social media advertisement to see what people have to say
  - Search for the merchant, its online store & products to check reviews
  - Check the supplier via Google search for reviews, especially by unhappy customers.

### 3. How important are passwords? What are some guidelines to pick/remember a strong password

- **NEVER** write down or give your password to anyone
- Use a mnemonic of a phrase, eg. MFCIY&ni7 “my favourite colour is yellow & number is 7” with information that is unique to you, easy to understand, but makes no sense on its own.
- Try a foreign phrase
- **AVOID** pet/family name or information that can be gleaned from knowing you or from your social media

### 4. How safe is social media? What are some tips to secure my identity & prevent scams on social media?

- Criminals can easily impersonate a friend on Messenger/Facebook
- See “need to know” in Q1 – there is no reason why Facebook *needs to have* your DOB or phone number.
- Review your “Privacy” settings & consider limiting posts to Friends
- **NEVER** accept a “Friend” online that you don’t know. Once they are a friend, they have access to **EVERYTHING** you post & your identifying information

### 5. How can I tell if an email is suspicious?

- “Don’t judge, verify!” **VERIFY** sender (see method in Q1)
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is

*The information provided here and in the presentation is for education purposes only. No liability or damage of any kind will be incurred as a result of the use of this information.*

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## GUEST SPEAKER

### Catherine Rosenbrauer – Guest Speaker at our September Meeting

Catherine spoke about scams and how to protect ourselves. We were supplied with a comprehensive sheet on what to look out for. A copy of the sheet is on the previous page of this newsletter. It is well worth taking a few minutes to read the scam sheet, as it could save you thousands if you find yourself in the situation of an attempted scam. Being aware of the methods that scammers use is your first line of defense against scams.



Our 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday meeting which was followed by party pies and of course a cake to celebrate with.



Susan addresses the meeting



Chris has something to say



Catherine telling us all about scams



Trev & Pip enjoying the meeting



Scams cost the community



Members at the meeting

The middle bottom photo shows the losses in Australia from scams over the last five years. It's heartening to see from the graph that we as a country have seemed to pass the worst of it and the graph is now trending downwards. This is largely due to the large organisations spending million to protect all of us, but it is still up to each of us to be vigilant!

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