

December
2024

PROBUS NEWS

The Probus Club of Burnie



Find a Way ... Make a Way



A Message from The Mayor

Community groups like yours have the power to bring people together, creating connections that counter loneliness and build a stronger, more supportive community. In today's world, where so many feel isolated, the role of these groups cannot be overstated—they provide a sense of belonging, shared purpose, and the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to the lives of others. It's this kind of togetherness that we should celebrate and nurture, as it's at the heart of what makes our community thrive. I am so indebted to you, our Burnie Probus Club, for the incredible impact you make in ensuring people are cared for and have a true sense of belonging. Teeny Brumby Mayor of Burnie.

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A Word from the President

Club Speaker: Gradus Groenveld. My life experiences and career path over the last 50 years.

It is with some difficulty to remark on what I did for work over some 50 years! I attempted to cover the most interesting times, albeit had there been more time it could have entertained you further. I hope it was entertaining and interesting.

I particularly enjoyed using the Club's now excellent PA system, thanks to our Secretary Brian Smith.



Images: Kirby Cunningham.

Guest Speaker: Chris Clark. Reality, Perception and Politics.

Chris spoke about the news as it is reported to the public, versus the popular saleable news items. It does help to have good, interesting headlines, and content must have the usual everyday information to utilise.

As examples of subjects, we were shown various graphs which were constructed by polls as against data sourced by government departments, illustrating the differences perceived by the public. To go a little further, pollsters making random phone-calls in a designated area on a particular topic do not always reach an accurate consensus. This is then published in the media, further influencing a point of view on a subject. In this age, printed and social media have become powerful selling tools, able to sway an often completely unqualified point of view.

Journalism in this digital age (now with AI), demands a diversified skill set blending traditional reporting with multimedia storytelling, data analysis and audience interaction. Journalists must adhere to the 4Cs of journalism – clarity, content, coherence and completeness.

In my naïve view, news should only be reported when facts have been verified as true, before being released to the media. We are now in an age of social media where misinformation is rife and where everybody is an expert and often unqualified! *Gradus*.

Ant Dry thanked Chris Clark and proposed a vote of thanks for his informative talk.

Images: Kirby Cunningham.



Club speaker Gradus Groenveld gave a summary of his work-life since the arrival of his family in Tasmania in 1958. It is a story of great variety including his days at Coastal Stevedores (where there was a hint of smuggling!) then Shipping Company work, and his time at Burnie Timber. Most interesting were Gradus's experiences when he was in business for himself. He was proprietor of the Personal Finance Co., he was an insurance broker, he and Renate owned and operated Mrs. Simpson, the Restaurant (in King Edward St of course), and finally, Capital Finance was his own business. This record of initiative, leadership and resilience was presented very modestly by Gradus and was well received.





Rex Smith received his certificate of congratulations and a lapel pin for his **25years** of membership of the Club. President Gradus thanked Rex for the sterling service which he has given to the Club over those years.
Warm and sincere applause greeted the presentation

Christmas Luncheon



A very successful luncheon was a fitting climax to the Club's 2024 activities.



Guest of Honour Burnie Mayor Teeny Brumby proposed a toast to the club.
An excerpt from her address leads off this issue of *Probus News*.





The Door Prize Winners

Quiz Champions!



President Gradus thanked the caterers

Images: Kirby Cunningham

For your diary

Remember – No meeting in December

Next Meeting: Monday January 20th at 10:00 am.

Venue – Upper Burnie Sports Centre **not** McKenna Park.

Club Speaker – Mike Peach

Guest Speaker – Michael Cruickshank, Burnie Highland Band.

Next Coffee Morning: Thursday January 9th at 10:00 am, at Delish.

Next Committee Meeting: Friday February 7th at 10:00 am. (venue tba).

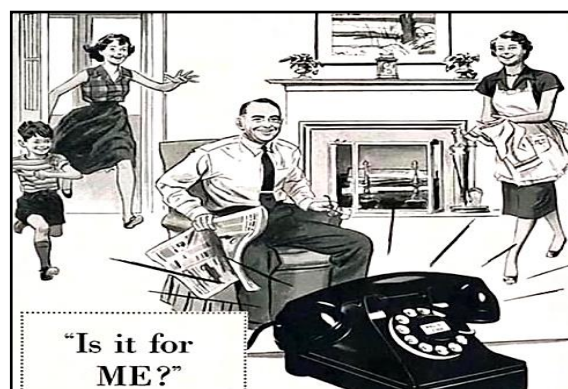
COTA Advance Care Planning Guide for 2024: This useful guide is available online. Forms which you need may be downloaded.

Go to <https://cotatas.org.au/programs/advanced-care-planning/>

How are things going at McKenna Park?



Remember this?



Club Office Bearers

President: Gradus Groenveld: gradus.groenveld@gmail.com

Secretary: Brian Smith: probusclubburnie@outlook.com

Treasurer: Graham Brown: elethia8@gmail.com

Speaker Chairman: David Stevens: davidstevens1951@gmail.com

Making a payment to the Club.

If you wish to pay by direct transfer, the codes are: BSB 633-000 Account 112668025.

**Wishing you and your loved-ones a
Very Happy Christmas.**



Probus News is printed by courtesy of the office of The Hon Ruth Forrest MLC