

March
2025

PROBUS NEWS

The Probus Club of Burnie



Find a Way ... Make a Way

A Word from the President

It was indeed a pleasure to see so many members come together to our renovated meeting at McKenna Park. We had 27 members and guests attending and we were well entertained by our club speaker David Stevens and guest speaker Peter Ansell.

It was a great pleasure to induct two new members, David Bissett and Geoff Starick. Welcome gentlemen. We hope you will enjoy the fun friendship and fellowship of our club.

It was pleasing to see Damian Bissett attending to witness his father's Induction and it was pleasing to welcome a guest, David Dean.

Club speaker: David Stevens: David gave us a very varied talk regarding technology, acronyms and idioms that have evolved due to technology, for example those associated with the telephone which is now mobile. People have adopted acronyms like *FYI*, *lol*, *ASAP* to speed up communication. The mobile phone was at first likened to a brick – large and carried over the shoulder. Nokia was one of the first, back in about 1980, then came the Motorola in 1983, inbuilt cameras about 2000, then one of my favourites, the Blackberry in 2002.

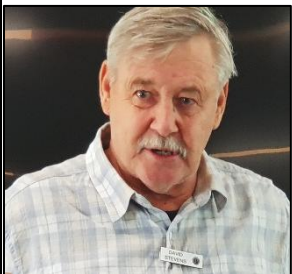
The masses soon invented acronyms. Examples are *ETA*, *OMG*, *FOMO*. David finished by explaining the origin of some well-known idioms – 'Room to swing a cat': *using the cat o' nine tails*. 'The whole 9 yards':

Using all the fabric to make a suit. 'Free lance': *A mediaeval mercenary*. Others he explained included 'eat humble pie' and 'the third degree'.

Thank you, David, for a very interesting talk.

Guest Speaker: Peter Ansell: Supermarkets Revisited, 2025

We were again given an insight into the operations and profit reporting of our major supermarkets. Peter looked at the net profits of the two major supermarkets to show why the official audited figure of 2.9% is correct. He suggested this low figure drives us to believe there are hidden profits. As Peter explained, nobody has provided proof that profit is *not* 2.9% or that the 0.3% cents per dollar retained profit is excessive. No proof has been presented of hidden profits or that a business can run at a loss! Maybe the final ACCC report will find something.



Images: Kirby Cunningham.

Peter went on to discuss why food is so cheap in Australia, citing two reasons: -
 (1) Our farming sector is efficient. (2) Farmers are being squeezed by retailers.
 Food distribution in Tasmania was a final interesting topic. Woolworths has a
 distribution centre in Launceston, but Coles distributes from Melbourne. Stock for
 the independent group IGA is distributed through Woolworths' Launceston centre.
 To conclude my very short overview of Peter's very intricate topic, I would observe
 that money must be being made in ways we are not entirely informed about. It
 seems to me to be an industry with lots of smoke and mirrors! *Gradus.*



Gradus inducts Geoff and David



New members and their sponsors. Welcome to the Club, Gentlemen

Images: Kirby Cunningham

Something worth considering ...

Why not go along to this Exposition?
One Care and the *SALT Foundation* are
 joining forces to give a wealth of information
 on retirement living, aged care, health and
 available options.

SALT (Senior and Aged Care Living Transition) is
 a foundation which has set up a national
 directory of service providers, some of
 whom will be present at Umina Park.
 Contact details for obtaining a ticket are
 on the poster to the right.

WWW.SALTDIRECTORY.COM.AU

SALT *OneCare*
 Directory

**Tasmania's Ageing Well Expos:
 "Connecting Seniors with Solutions"**

Discover the SALT Seniors Expo's in Tasmania at
OneCare locations- Join us for engaging days filled
 with expert advice, interactive exhibits, and community
 connections tailored for seniors and their families.

9:00am - 1:00pm

Mon 24th March - 22-42 Mooreville Rd, Burnie
 Wed 26th March - 89 Club Drive, Port Sorell
 Fri 28th March - 17a Clydesdale Avenue, Glenorchy

Register using QR Code or find out more on our website
<https://saltdirectory.com.au/events/>

... at Ember and Vines

Ember and Vines is the recently opened restaurant at Burnie's Ikon Hotel.



We were happy to test it on Thursday February 27th.



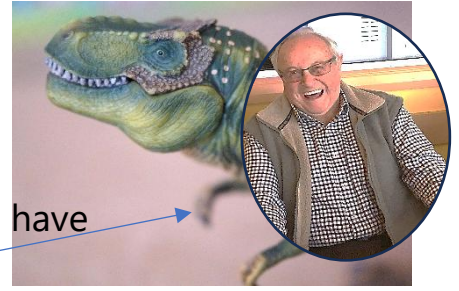
Our conclusion? The chef is superb!



Images: Sam Samec

... and now you know.

Responding to the comment, "Lots of us Probians are dinosaurs you know," Ian remarked, "Well, we do have **Tyrannosaurus Rex.**"



For your Diary:

Thursday March 13th: Coffee at Delish at 10:00 am.

Monday March 17th: Annual General Meeting, McKenna Park at 10:00 am
General Meeting will follow Morning Tea. No Guest Speaker.

Thursday March 27th: Lunch at Neptune Grand, Penguin, 12:00 for 12:30.

Monday December 8th: Christmas Luncheon at South Burnie Bowls Club.



More wisdom from David:

By the time you are eighty, you have learned just about everything – Then you just have to remember it.

Old age is not so bad when you consider the alternative.

You know you are getting old when things either dry up or leak.

I am at that age where my back goes out more than I do.

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.

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