

April
2025

PROBUS NEWS

The Probus Club of Burnie



Friendship, Fun, Fellowship.

A Word from the President

It was a privilege to be installed as President of our Club at our March AGM. I would like to again thank the retiring Committee members for their service and commitment, and I look forward to a productive and enjoyable year as part of the new Committee. Together we can continue to make our Club strong, vibrant, and sustainable, with the focus of friendship, fun and fellowship always at the forefront of our endeavours.

The feedback, suggestions and contributions of every member is essential to achieving our goals, and that work began at our Ordinary Meeting in March, when we broke into discussion groups to consider ideas around key areas including: Membership; Leadership; Speaker Program and Social Activities. I encourage you to reflect further on these areas and would welcome any further thoughts. This information can provide valuable direction for your committee.

I have set a target of ten new members for my year, maybe ambitious, but we all know men in our circle of influence who may enjoy what Probus has to offer. It was a thrill to induct Damian Bissett as a new member and along with his father David it is wonderful to have a father/son combination enjoying Probus together.

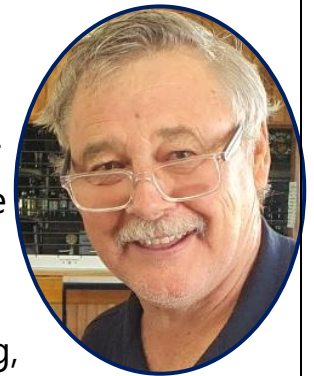
I look forward with optimism that the year ahead will be rewarding and enjoyable for all members.

"Don't worry about getting old. Worry about thinking old."

Making a payment to the Club.

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

Remember: Annual Subscription of \$40 is now due.



Annual General Meeting March 17th.

Retiring President Gradus Groenveld and Treasurer Graham Brown presented their reports, showing the Club to be doing very well both socially and financially. Gradus's report appears later in this newsletter. Annual subscription and monthly contributions continue unchanged.

Returning Officer John Packham declared the poll. Office bearers for the next 12 months are:

- **President** David Stevens
- **Immediate Past President** Gradus Groenveld
- **Vice president** Ian Broad
- **Secretary** Sam Samec
- **Treasurer** Tim McCarthy
- **Outings Chairman** Tony Hite
- **Guest Speakers Chairman** Tim McCarthy
- **Registration and Membership Chairman** Kevin Lucadou Wells
- **Newsletter Editor** John Lamb
- **Committee Members** - Richard Chapman, Rex Smith, Ian Lancaster
- **Auditor:** John Lamb



Management Committee for 2025/26

Back: Ian Broad, Richard Chapman, Kevin Lucadou-Wells, Ian Lancaster, Rex Smith, John Lamb

Front: Tim McCarthy, David Stevens, Gradus Groenveld, Sam Samec. **Inset:** Tony Hite

Image: Kirby Cunningham



Gradus Groenveld installs new President, David Stevens



David Stevens presents out-going President Gradus Groenveld with a certificate of recognition. David paid tribute to the clear leadership given by Gradus, during which time the Club has prospered. David promises a continuation of the membership building programme, which was a mark of Gradus's presidency.

General meeting

First item of business was the induction of a new member, Damian Bissett.
Welcome to Burnie Probus Damian!



The meeting broke into sub-groups to discuss future aspects of the Club.



Valuable contributions concerning membership expansion, the speaker programme, potential new activities, club leadership in the future, and suggestions for club development were made. President David will table a digest of the discussions.

Images: Kirby Cunningham

President's Annual Report

The last twelve months have been both interesting and challenging and only recently were we able to return to our usual McKenna Park meeting room, which had been under renovation. During this time, we relocated to the Upper Burnie Sports Centre for two and a half months. Our first meeting in the newly renovated room was held on February 17th and was very well attended by no less than 27 members and guests - a record! It was equally pleasing to induct 2 new members into our Club at our last meeting, bringing to five the number of new members over the past twelve months. One of those was Ted Vickers, a past president of our Club.

It was Sam Samec, our immediate past president, who took it upon himself to produce a very indicative Burnie Probus Club Banner! It is now proudly displayed at all our club meetings and luncheons. Thank you, Sam!

Thank you also Sam, our outgoing Chairman for Events, for organising our monthly luncheons, taking us to excellent venues. The last one was at Ember and Vines which produced outstanding meals for us to enjoy.

During the year we received an invitation from the Devonport Probus Club to attend a day at the Don River Railway. It was well received, with seven of our members attending.

Our coffee mornings are held on the second Thursday each month. They are a firm favourite, with no less than 19 members attending on one Thursday. Mark Lord, our Q&A person continually tests our memories to qualify for that elusive free coffee!

A thank you to David Stevens, our club speaker co-ordinator, whose dedicated efforts produced a wide range of interesting club and guest speakers for us to enjoy.

An integral part of our club is our monthly Club Bulletin edited and produced by John Lamb, which kept us all abreast of the club's news, meeting dates and future events.

Thank you all who supported him with input and this includes our club photographer Kirby Cunningham, who in particular produced some wonderful photos of our Christmas luncheon.

Thanks also John Lamb for the morning teas which you unerringly organised at our monthly club meetings. Tip top.

Two of our Committee members, after many years of service, will vacate their positions, namely Brian Smith, Secretary, and Graham Brown, Treasurer. A very special thanks to both for your many years of dedicated service.

Our club's Registration and Membership Chairman, Kevin Lucadou-Wells, with his quite demure efficiency, again kept the records up to date.

During the year it was pleasing to present long service club pins and certificates to Brian Smith, Graham Brown and Richard Chapman (all ten years), Ian Lancaster (fifteen years), and Rex Smith and John Packham (both twenty-five years). To this I can only say that it is a good reflection of the fun, friendship and fellowship existing in our Probus Club!

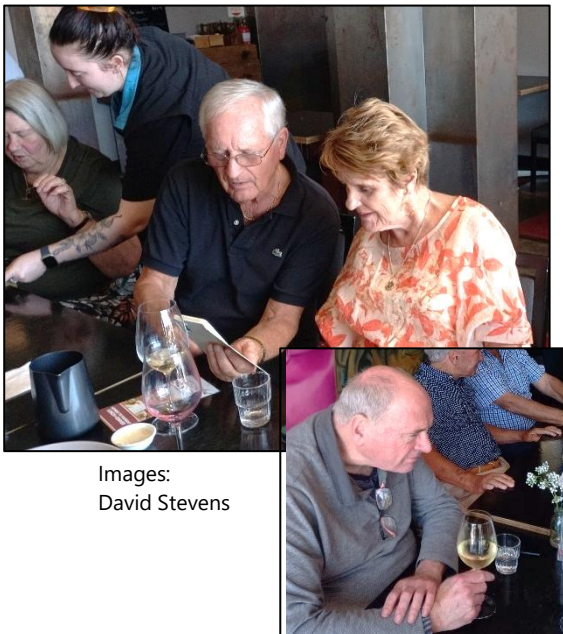
I wish the incoming President and management committee all the very best for the forthcoming year.

Gradus Groenveld.

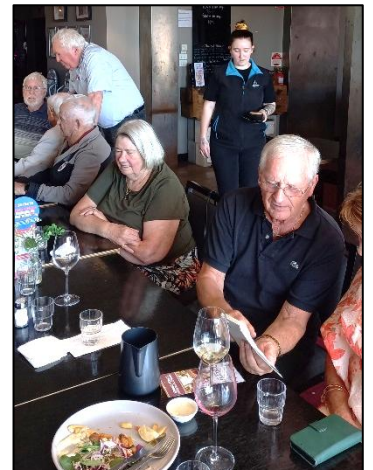
Lunch at the Neptune Grand



A good meal, and everyone was in a happy mood.



Images:
David Stevens



A Government Health Service

The Tasmanian Government Department of Health has introduced its **Acute Virtual Monitoring Program** to enable people to receive care in their home. It is for sufferers of short-term illnesses such as Respiratory illness (including Covid, Influenza, Croup, and RSV), Cellulitis, Gastroenteritis, Urinary tract infection, and aspects of Asthma.

Also there is the **Chronic Disease Monitoring Program** for the management at home of Heart failure, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and Diabetes.

You, or someone you know may be able to benefit from these services. In some cases a GP's referral is needed, in others, self-referral is adequate. To find out more, go to www.health.tas.gov.au/care-at-home. There are four fact sheets which you can download and print. If you wish, Tim or John can email you those four pdfs. Just ask.

Coffee at Delish

On his final day as Quizmaster, Mark presented some true posers! He had all the coffee drinkers contemplating!!



Images: John Lamb

For your Diary

Thursday April 10th: **Coffee** at Delish. 10:00 am.

Monday April 14th: **General Meeting** at McKenna park. 10:00 am.

(An early meeting date to allow for Easter.)

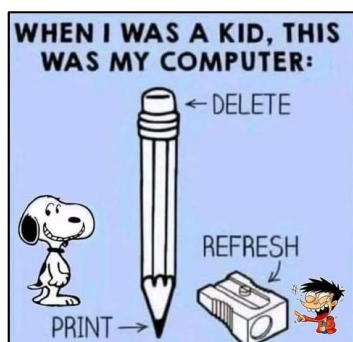
Thursday April 24th: **Lunch** at Indian Corner, 8 Alexander Street. 12 for 12:30

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

This may be for you, or someone you know

Smoother Movers® Strength Training Program is coming to Burnie. This is a course of lessons in exercises specifically designed for those who suffer from Arthritis, Osteoporosis or other muscle/joint problems, to improve balance, flexibility and movement. To read all about it, follow this link:

<https://arthritistas.org.au/health-services/exercise-classes/strength-balance-exercise-classes/>



Those were the days



David's challenge to the club: *We must find ten new members this year.* Nine to go...

Thank you, Brian!!

Everybody knows how important a good secretary is. The smooth and trouble-free operation of any club depends upon the secretary. Burnie Probus has been well served by Brian Smith, whose hard work on behalf of our Club has been an inspiration. Now, the time has come for Brian to pass the task to a new secretary, and we can say, "*You have done us proud Brian. Thank you sincerely!!*"