

August
2025

PROBUS NEWS

The Probus Club of Burnie

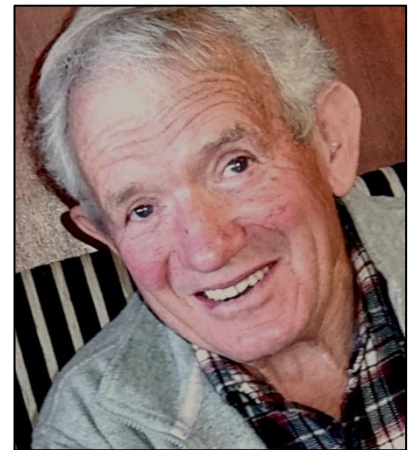


Fun, Fellowship, Friendship

A Word from the President

Vale: Brian Smith

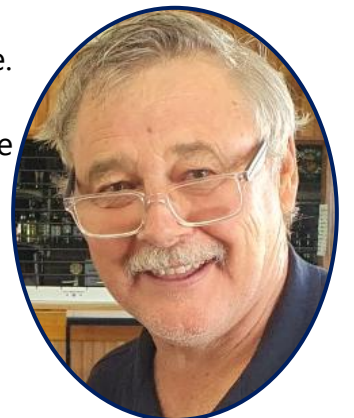
Brian passed on July 31st at the North West Hospital after a brave and stoic battle with cancer, in typical fashion he faced his illness without complaint and with a positive determination. A friend to many of us and a highly esteemed member and contributor to our club: A Past President and Secretary who undertook his roles with enthusiasm and dedication. Brian, softly spoken with an unassuming nature, which on a superficial level, could mask his quiet intelligence; a thoughtful, caring and kind man, hardworking with a genuine generosity towards others. We say goodbye to a very decent man, highly respected, who will be sorely missed. Rest In Peace Mate.



On a happier note, our luncheon in the Green Room at Hellyer College was wonderfully attended and is one of our most special venues. To support the Catering and Hospitality students is a joy and the service and meal were greatly appreciated by all who attended.

My thanks to Ian Broad for chairing the July meeting in my absence.

As I approach the mid-term of my year as President, I would like to thank the Committee members who are doing a sterling job in keeping our Club strong and vibrant. To you the members, your attendance at our Meetings, coffee mornings and outings is the heartbeat of our Club. That being said, it is a shared obligation of each of us to do our part to ensure our Club goes from strength to strength.



This getting old is a terrible thing. I blacked out for twenty minutes the other day. Then I realized I'd put my hoodie on backwards.

Ten Things That Require No Talent and Cost Zero: 1. Being on time. 2. Making an effort. 3. Being high-energy. 4. Having a positive attitude. 5. Being passionate. 6. Using good body language. 7. Being teachable. 8. Doing a little extra. 9. Being prepared. 10. Having a strong work ethic.

I look forward to your company at our Meeting on Monday the 18th.

Kindest regards, *David*.

July Meeting

Vice President Ian took the chair for a very successful meeting.

A highlight of the morning was the celebration of the Thirty-second Anniversary of Graeme Wheeler's induction into Burnie Probus Club. In response to our sincere applause, Graeme, now in his ninety-fifth year was characteristically modest about reaching a milestone that few in Probus can hope to attain. **32 Years!** Congratulations Graeme!



Club Speaker David Dean presented a summary of his career in forestry, consultancy and dairy farming, then focussed on his work with the Somerset Community Shed which is thriving. The group now has more than ninety members and is one of 71 Men's Sheds across the state. David has sourced heavy duty machinery, allowing the club to mill massive cypress logs obtained from farmland clearing. The timber is used for the club's projects and is also a vital source of income. The group is heavily involved in community projects such as the construction and installation of striking sculptures and seats along the coastal pathway, like this example.



Guest speaker Chris Johnson presented a fascinating description of the work of the Jayben Group here in Cooe. Jayben specialises in the development and manufacture of power-train products, and industrial plant and equipment. Current projects include the design of vehicles for military drone technology, mine machinery with complex system integration and road groomers. They build off-highway transporters for agriculture, mining and defence, supplying domestic and international markets. Their research and design effort focuses on mechanical, electrical and hydraulic control systems and structures. The members present were deeply impressed by the range and sophistication of the work of this local industry.



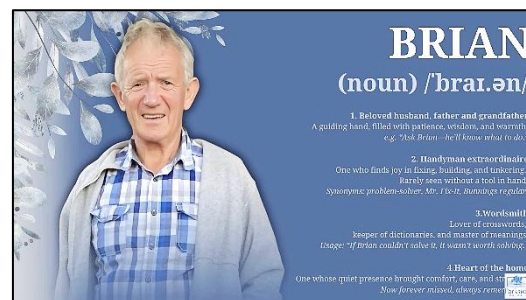
Images: Kirby Cunningham

WISE WORDS

A fact is information without emotion. **An opinion** is information plus experience.

Ignorance is an opinion lacking information. **Stupidity** is an opinion that ignores a fact.

The Funeral service for our late friend Brian Smith was conducted on August 8th. Members of Burnie Probus attended in force for what was a moving celebration. President David's speech eloquently described our deeply-felt sense of loss. Kirby Cunningham supplied the accompanying photo of the screen image of Brian.



An important research Project

The Reablement Project, research being undertaken by the Tasmanian School of Medicine, is aimed at discovering ways in which ageing people may maintain full control of their lives. Project Leader Tanya Linden is seeking information and opinion from older Tasmanians.

If you are willing to contribute, she asks that you consider these:

Community Conversation Questions

1. Experiencing Ageing

What has your experience of getting older been like while living in northwest Tasmania?

2. Autonomy and Services

What could community-based aged care services do to create better conditions for people to choose the kind of support that suits them best?

3. Portrayal of Ageing

In your experience how is ageing shown or talked about in our community, and what would you like to see change?

4. Adaptation Strategies

What things have helped you adjust to changes as you've gotten older? How have these helped you live in a way that matches what's important to you?

- If you would like to respond to all or any of these questions, Tanya would be very grateful to receive an email. Send to tanya.linden@utas.edu.au

Coffee in July

Convivial and lots of fun as always!



Healthy Ageing in Tasmania

Tim will be speaking about new information on this subject soon. In the meantime, you may like to go to the website: <https://www.health.tas.gov.au/healthy-ageing>. This page offers a variety of resources and information related to healthy ageing, including staying healthy as you age, health conditions associated with ageing, support services, and different types of aged care. It is worth a look.

Lunch at the Greenhouse Restaurant

Hellyer College provided a superb meal and a warm welcome for our thirty-three diners.



Images:
Tony Hite



For Your Diary



Thursday, **August 14th: Coffee** at Delish at 10:00 am.

Monday, **August 18th: Club Meeting** at McKenna Park at 10:00 am.

Club speaker – Ian Lancaster – *Remember when ...*,

Guest Speaker – Professor Lyn Goldberg, Wicking Dementia Centre
Promotion of health and wellbeing in reducing dementia risk.

Thursday, **August 28th: Lunch** at Seasons by the Sea, Penguin, 12 for 12:30.

Democracy: Government by the People

Today the people's active participation in politics has been replaced by the dictates of an administrative state, populated by bureaucrats no one elected who think they know our interests better than we do. Politicians are largely operatives who do the bidding of donors while blaming their inability to satisfy voters on the machinations of the bureaucracy. For decades now, these forces have worked together to choke off our ability to engage in meaningful self-government.

Julie Ponzi.

Tax Return Time: Beware the scammers

The Australian Taxation Office, MyGov, and your Bank will NEVER email or text you with a request for your personal information. They will NOT ask for your banking details in order to transfer your tax refund to you. DO NOT REPLY.

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