



Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc.

Annual Report

2009

Compiled by Judy Baker, Secretary, Probus Club of Templestowe Valley (Combined) Inc. 2007/08.

Introduction

This is the Sixth Annual Report of the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley (Combined) Inc.

What is Probus?

Probus is an association of retired and semi-retired people who join together for the purpose of having regular opportunities to keep their minds active and to enjoy the fellowship and friendship of new friends.

Probus originated in the UK in 1965 with the first Probus Club in Australasia being formed in New Zealand in 1974.

Probus had its beginning in Australia in 1976 and has filled a need for today's active retirees and in September, 2008 there were 1,798 clubs in Australia with an estimated 140,998 members.

What is Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc?

The Probus Centre – South Pacific was the brainchild of five Sydney Rotarians who foresaw the possibility of Probus becoming a widespread movement in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc. is the Administration and Service Centre for Probus within Australia, New Zealand, Papua and New Guinea, Cook Islands, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Tonga, American Samoa, Western Samoa, Timor Leste, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands and is the delegated authority for determining policy matters relating to Probus and the accrediting body for Probus clubs and Probus associations in the South Pacific region.

The objects of the Probus Centre – South Pacific are: to promote the advancement of intellectual and cultural interests among men and women who have retired from their employment; to promote the formation of Probus Clubs by Rotary Clubs as a community service to retired persons and to encourage existing Probus Clubs in the advancement of their objectives.

Probus Club of Templestowe Valley

The inaugural meeting of the Club was held at the Bulleen and Templestowe Community Centre, Ted Ajani Reserve, Thompsons Road, Lower Templestowe on the 12th June 2003 under the guidance of Manningham Rotarians, Ken Murray and Max Didier.

Following the Foundation Meeting and before the first fellowship meeting which was held on Monday, 14th July, 2003 a total of 62 members joined the new Club and are the clubs Foundation Members.

The Club was incorporated in 2004 with member Doug Hayne being appointed the Public Officer. By being incorporated, any litigation needs to be directed to the incorporated body and cannot be directed to individual members.

Club Insurance

The Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc provides a universal insurance cover for members and third parties attending official and approved Club events. The Club is levied an annual fee to cover this insurance.

Probus Clubs within the Municipality of Manningham

The growth of Probus in the Municipality of Manningham has been outstanding. There are twenty Probus Clubs in the municipality and there is a combined meeting of the Manningham Probus Clubs twice a year with each Club sending two delegates with items of mutual interests being discussed. There are two meetings each year for Club Tour leaders where again touring and trip information is exchanged between leaders.

President's Report: Ian Gault

2008 was another remarkable year for the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley.

In reviewing this year's calendar it is astounding that so many activities and events were presented to members' for their involvement and enjoyment. Members' did take the opportunity to participate and benefited from the companionship and intellectual stimulus provided when joining together at these events. Many friendships have been forged over the past five years.

In June, at the 5th Anniversary of our 2003 inauguration, members were encouraged to invite visitors and 28 visitors joined us to hear Dr Peter Hollingworth, past Governor General of Australia, give an interesting presentation on his "Reflections of Office".

Our July meeting celebrated the actual 5th Birthday of the club and at that meeting it was my privilege to present to our 1st President, Kerry McInerney, the honour of Life Membership. Manningham Rotarians Ken Murray and Max Didier who were instrumental in the formation of our club were present at that meeting.

Over the year I have had the pleasure of inducting 3 new members into the club and our membership is at a full strength of 130.

Sadly, Don Boyd passed away late last year after a long illness.

All committee members and events and activities organizers have done an excellent job and I gratefully recognize their efforts. Their individual reports are attached to this Annual Report.

Financially we are in a solid position and the incorporation of the monthly “door” fee into our annual subscription has been a success and the workload of our door keepers has been reduced substantially. Without exception interesting and entertaining guest speakers have addressed each meeting and have become a highlight of our meetings.

The Scrap Booking Group and the Craft Group each displayed their skillful work for members to admire at morning fellowship breaks. The Photography Group presented a great collage of photos which they had assembled and for the first time the overhead projection facilities at the meeting hall were used.

Post meeting lunches have been held at different venues and on the average 40 members take the opportunity to continue fellowship over a meal.

Our Craft Ladies ran a successful “Brunch” in which they raised funds to purchase materials for their project of providing comfort pillows for ladies who have had mastectomies. As a result of this successful function the craft group will be independent of club financial support in the immediate future.

Every month there has been more than one chance to visit interesting places in Marvelous Melbourne. The walkers, gardeners and cyclists have been very active with adventures to widespread destinations.

There have been the long distance travelers with trips to Central Australia, Bright, King Island, Merimbula and Anglesea and the golfers enjoyed long weekends in Benalla and Albury.

Theatre goers have been well looked after with attendance at many local productions as well as to productions of “Guys and Dolls” and “Wicked” at city theatres.

Our own home grown “Dad’s Army” performed to wild acclaim at the Manningham Multicultural event and the Victorian Probus Concert.

A Polo shirt, resplendent with Probus Logo was promoted to members for purchase with the suggestion that they be worn to club events such as walking, cycling, golf and BBQs. Fifty plus shirts were quickly sold with more to be ordered soon.

And how can I not mention our monthly BBQs. A great chance to get together for fellowship and friendship. Even a temperature of 45 Celsius cannot deter some.

I have endeavored not to be personal in this report but it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the support that I have had from Secretary Judy Baker. Judy has been a tower of strength and her input and assistance has been immeasurable.

And finally to my committee and to you my members thank you for your support and friendship and for giving me the opportunity to be President of your club for a year.

For me 2008 has been a year to remember.

Ian Gault

Secretary’s Report: Judy Baker

The committee proposed one amendment to the Constitution and two amendments to the By Laws for the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc. at our Annual General Meeting on Monday 17 March, 2008.

Constitution Amendment

Zoning and Boundaries of New Membership Applications to our club:

Amended Clause:

MEMBERSHIP

(b) Membership of this Club shall be primarily for residents of the three (3) City of Manningham Council Wards of Ruffey, Koonung and Heidi

This change was accepted by members, change has been made to our Constitution.

By Laws Amendments

Increase our club membership.

MEMBERSHIP

(a) The maximum membership of the Club shall be one hundred and fifty or as determined at the Annual General Meeting of the Club held prior to the 31st March each year”.

This change was discussed at length by members at the AGM and was outvoted, no change was made to the By Laws, membership of the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc. will stay at 130 members.

Increase to Annual Subscription.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) The subscription payable by members is \$40 per annum or as determined at the annual General Meeting held prior to the 31st March of each year.

This change was accepted by members, change has been made to our By Laws. A \$35 per annum annual fee will be paid by all members of the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc.

The first club meeting with the new committee was held on 14 April, 2007 in the “Ajani Centre”. The Club met on the second Monday of each month at the “Ajani Centre”, Thompsons Road, Lower Templestowe with the exception of the March and June meetings which were held on the third Monday due to the second Monday of March and June being public holidays.

Our club is an affiliated member of the Probus Association of Victoria. The benefits of this affiliation are enhanced communication with Probus Clubs outside our immediate area. All clubs send delegates to quarterly meetings where participation in an Open Forum is invited, provision of a regularly revised "Guide to Guest Speakers and Outings" and receipt of quarterly editions of the "Victorian Probian".

Laurine Eames and Lynette McBain put their hands up and have organized a different venue for lunch after our "Club Meetings" in 2008/9. On one occasion we had lunch in the hall "Pancakes on the Run" a great success. This is working well and more members have attended lunch at the different venues.

Two members per meeting were rostered to prepare and set up the tea and coffee for the morning fellowship break. Mary Gault and Alan Baker organized the roster and purchase the necessary supplies.

At 9.00 am each meeting Jenny Morcom and Robert Anderson were present to register members' attendance, this role is now rotating with two members staying in the position of six months at a time. Kerry McNerney and Peter Fishley were at the door to welcome members to the meeting.

At each meeting Wayne Eames set up the hand held microphone and Ron McBain took charge of displaying the Club Banner, and he has been responsible for its safe keeping.

We celebrated the fifth birthday of our club in July, the celebrations included the installation of our first life member Kerry McNerney. First time we have ever seen Kerry stuck for words. Kerry cut the birthday cake which we all shared at fellowship break.

Club polo shirts were introduced in October, more than half of our members have purchased these polo shirts. Many of the activity groups wear these shirts on outings and they look fantastic.

The last meeting of the year took the form of a Christmas luncheon held at the "Ajani Centre". A scrumptious 'Traditional Christmas Lunch', was enjoyed by all present and we were entertained by Ray Eames in the form of a Rock and Roll afternoon. Thanks to Helen Armstrong and Yvonne Boyall and their team of helpers for organizing and making decorations for the festivities. A great time was had by all.

My second year as Secretary has again been busy, interesting and rewarding. It has been my good fortune to become better acquainted with our members who without exception are forthcoming and friendly and are always prepared to volunteer for any small job. We are a young at heart fun loving Probus Club and all members enjoy the meetings, fellowship and the outings. Thanks to all members that have supported and helped me with my secretarial duties. Special thanks to our President Ian Gault, for his support and patience during his year as president, Ian has been a pleasure to work with.

The Committee for 2008 – 2009.

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|--|-------------------|
| • President | Ian Gault |
| • Vice President | Liz Turner |
| • Immediate Past President | Helen Armstrong |
| • Treasurer | Jacob Kerseboom |
| • Secretary | Judy Baker |
| • Membership/Welfare | Lorraine Cooper |
| • Speakers | Margaret McGregor |
| • Activities Leader | Ron McBain |
| • Assistant Secretary/Publicity | Doug Hayne |

Committee Meetings.

The Committee meets on the afternoon of the Club meeting day. This has proven to be successful for all committee members as no other meetings are required during the month. The Committee reviews the Secretary's minutes of the immediate past Club and Committee meetings and confirms that they are a true and accurate record of those meetings. Correspondence is reviewed, the Treasurer's report is considered and accounts for payment are approved. An important element of the Committee meetings is spent considering trips and events that have been proposed for Club member participation. Once Committee approval is given, the trip or event can be advertised and money collected from members attending the activity. Members' suggestions that have been left in the Suggestion Box are considered and decisions made with regard to these suggestions. All suggestions are responded to in writing by the secretary.

Judy Baker

Committee Reports.

Treasurer's Annual Report for Year Ended 31/01/2009 – Jacob Kerseboom.

Another successful financial year has passed with total receipts of \$54,154.59 and expenditure of \$53,063-80 passing through the club's books. The bulk of these funds represent the receipt and payments of funds for our various activities and events.

The balance of the actual club funds on hand decreased by \$119-82 to \$4,663-79. Club receipts were \$5,129-96 and expenditure was \$5,249.78, including the subsidising of our annual Christmas lunch to the amount of \$800.78. Although the monthly door fees have been replaced by the increased membership fees, there was still an amount of \$420- collected during the first two months of this financial year and was included in this year's income.

Income from activities and events held during this year totalled \$49,024.63 and the club currently holds funds of \$8,612.36 for forthcoming events. I again wish to thank all the activity leaders for the way in which the funds are presented to me. Their record keeping and processing of information is first class and this simplifies the treasurer's duties.

In addition to the club funds, I have sighted the records of other activities (namely for the Golf group and the Games group). These funds are not included within the club finances. They are insignificant and provide prizes etc. for functions conducted by the groups.

Financial reports will be audited by Robert Anderson and will be tabled at the Annual Meeting and made available upon request.

Jake Kerseboom

Membership/Welfare – Lorraine Cooper.

In February 2008 we had a wait list of 40 persons some of whom had been on that list for 4 years. It was recommended to the Committee to propose a motion to all Club members at our Annual General Meeting on 17 March 2008 to increase the Club membership of the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley from 130 to 150 members. That motion was denied by the members and our current membership stays at 130.

Regarding the 40 persons on the wait list the committee decided to only carry 10 persons and no more than 10 on the wait list. The first 10 available names on the wait list were retained and the other 30 persons were sent letters encouraging them to join other Clubs in their areas. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Secretaries of those Clubs were included in the letters where it was appropriate.

Another motion was put to all members at the AGM to re-word the current wording of item 3(b) of the Constitution that read "Membership of the Club shall be primarily for residents of the Manningham Council Districts." It was decided that the clause should be more specific and the word "districts" should be replaced by a term more definitive of the area in which the majority of the members reside. The motion put to the members was: "Therefore we recommend to you that the words "three (3) City of" should be inserted before Manningham and that "Wards of Ruffey, Koonung and Heidi" should be substituted for the word "Districts". The reasons for this amendment being recommended were explained in detail to the members and the proposal was accepted by the membership.

Most members of the Club are able to attend our monthly meetings and many of them also support one or more of our 17 activities groups.

Unfortunately one of our members passed away this year, two members transferred to another Probus Club to be with their friends, two others took leave of absence due to family pressures, one member has been extremely ill and his name was taken from the membership list but he would be welcome to any activities or meetings when he is well enough. Three new members were inducted into the Club during the year.

During the year 2 of our Craft group ladies prepared a number of beautiful hand made cards and when a special birthday, an illness or bereavement affecting our members or their families, a suitable card was posted to the member on behalf of the Club. Some members were spoken to personally regarding welfare issues during the year and they were given the appropriate support and/or encouragement.

The members of the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley are a very happy and youthful group of people who do like to socialize and join together to have a lot of fun.

Lorraine Cooper

Speakers – Margaret McGregor.

My aim has been to provide a variety of interesting yet entertaining speakers for our members and sincerely hope I have achieved this. The guest speakers selected have been willing to do this for our club free of charge, giving up their valuable time to slot us in to their busy schedules, imparting their knowledge, stories and interesting anecdotes.

17 March 2008	AGM	No Speaker
14 April	Joan Kirsten	Survivor of the Holocaust, a moving true story of events
12 May	Bill Lay	Search and Rescue in the Alpine and surrounding area
16 June	Dr Peter Hollingworth	Reflections of Office as Governor General his duties, philanthropy and welfare programs
14 July	Dr Richard Sheill	Hair Today – Gone Tomorrow his story as hair transplant surgeon plus musical entertainment
11 August	Shane Green	Trust me, I am a journalist – The Age National News Editor on how the internet changes things
8 September	Mrs Lesley McGarvie	My Life at Government House, an inside look at a busy life and living as a Governor's wife.
13 October	Chris McMillan	Motivational Magician learning tricks to show our grandchildren

10 November	Jack Bleakley	Behind the scenes of the War against Japan WW2 wireless intelligence and experiences
8 December	Christmas Lunch at Hall	Ray Eames Entertainer
12 January 2009	Hiliary Jones	Funny Side of Customer Complains gave us a goof laugh
9 February	The Photography Group	Members Wilma, Doug and Wayne entertained us with great holiday memories.
20 March	AGM and Dr Hugh Cornell	Value of Classical Music

Margaret McGregor

Assistant Secretary & Publicity

Assistant Secretary

One of the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary is management of the forms and other printed media the club uses for its day to day operations. These items have been revised and fine tuned over the five years of the club's existence and now seem to be doing the job for our committee, activities leaders and members quite well. Updating is necessary when members details are changed or new members join the club. Some leaders choose to produce their own version for their particular purpose and this works well.

There was only one occasion during 2008 when backup was required in the Secretary's absence.

Publicity

As our club is fortunate to have a full membership with a long wait list, there is no necessity to use publicity for maintaining membership numbers. However, it is important that we present ourselves to the Probus community and the local general community as well. We have had several articles about our activities published in the Victorian Probian Magazine during 2008 and our Fifth Birthday celebration and first life membership presentation was reported in the local Leader newspaper.

Publicity within the club is generated through our Newsletter. News about coming events and stories around past events as well as an events calendar keep members informed and encouraged to participate.

Doug Hayne

Activities – Ron McBain.

There are very few events in ones life that leaves one feeling he/she has attained a full and meaningful life, belonging to a Probus club and anticipating in the many activities on offer must surely help you attain a very full life.

Being the activity convener of our Probus club has meant that I have had the pleasure of trying to co-ordinate some seventeen (17) activity groups.

The new group for 2008, "the entertainers" had a highly successful year, culminating in being invited to perform at the Manningham Council multi cultural concert and the Probus Victoria concert, both events winning acclaim for the performances.

The year 2008 has been a highly successful year, full of many and various activities including a wonderful getaway up the centre of OZ for the more adventurous members.

To the activity leaders "I dips me lid".

To the Probus members who do not take part in the activities on offer I would suggest that you are missing out on one of the pleasures of life, there must be at least one activity that you could participate in thus giving yourself and the activity leader a sense of enjoyment and in some cases achievement.

At this early stage of 2009 there is in excess of 30 activities already planned, this does not include the fortnightly walks, games of golf, fine dining and the many other monthly group activities.

I would like to pass on my thanks to the many activity leaders who made my job as co-coordinator an easy one and a most enjoyable one. I look forward to an enjoyable and challenging year in 2009.

Ron McBain

A Summary of the Year's Activity Groups:

Bike Riding – John Hudgson

Our Bike Riding Group rode through 2008 in one piece with a core group, others joining us when time was available. The kilometers are mounting as we ride new trails viewing scenery from a different angle also seeing things we did not know were there. Riders have continued to improve their fitness and attention to bike gear. Of course TEA and BISCUITS at the end of our ride helps solve World Problems. The Novice Group after a shaky start are now enjoying and improving. Any member is welcome to come along and have a go; they also solve problems over TEA and BISCUITS.

WHAT HAPPENS ON THE BIKE RIDES STAYS ON THE BIKE RIDE.

John Hudgson

Book Group – Helga Braun

About our “Book Discussion Group”, we have continued during 2008 as we all enjoy reading and discussing the books. Why don't you join us soon? Your thoughts will be very much appreciated and valued. We meet every 3rd Tuesday but December, January and August. For further information contact me on 9850 32144.

You also can talk to me at our next meeting. Till then.

Helga Braun

Book Swap – Patricia Edwards

The book library has had a very successful year thanks to all the contributors and customers who arrive regularly with new books and borrow many from the display at each monthly meeting. We certainly have quite a wide selection to choose from and many members are regular browsers. When our members no longer borrow some of the books, we have given them to charity shops such as the Salvation Army that gives them a useful new life. It is also necessary to dispose of some books regularly to freshen the collection and make the job of transporting them to and from the meetings manageable.

I also wish to thank the very kind people who assist with bringing in and putting back the books in my car. It certainly is a great help. We look forward to another happy year of reading.

Patricia Edwards

Craft Group – Yvonne Boyall

The year of 2008 has been extremely busy for our Craft Ladies. We have supplied five Oncology Ward plus Palliative Care Wards since August 2007 to December 2008 making the following:

Breast Cancer Pillows	223
Drainage Bags	151
Palliative Care Bags	68
<i>Grand total of</i>	<i>442</i>

Plus fourteen pillows to ladies not connected to the hospital.

These unit are not made overnight, they take time to measure, cut, sew, fill pack, and then they are distributed to the hospitals. Our ladies also have happily made the Christmas decorations for the club's Christmas luncheon with the help of our trusted friends and colleagues Ron McBain and Alan Baker.

To our member June Duncan and Ron, thank you for our morning brunch which was the “highlight” raising \$1,300 enabling the Craft Group to continue helping others.

Thank you all.

Yvonne Boyall

Cultural Walk – Wendy Fishley

February Williamstown – a hot and sticky day with ice creams at the end of a discovery of Melbourne's early port site.

March Flinders Lane from Spencer Street to Spring Street and everything in between

April Art Deco Melbourne – Historic and memorable buildings from the 20's and 30's

May Medieval manuscripts at State Library – (Wendy) amazing and beautiful illustrations by Monks

July Fitzroy – a different perspective

August Port Melbourne – a cold and windy exposure

October Yarra Walk No. 1 – South side from Concert Hall to Jeff's shed with morning tea extravaganza.

Wendy Fishley

Entertainers – Margaret Campbell

We trialed this activity in 2008 with the men who had performed at the 2007 celebration in the item Dads Army, we added four very capable ladies as marching girls.

The group met once a month, at the local scout hall, where we rehearsed and had lots of fun together.

We decided to perform at the Manningham Council Multicultural luncheon during senior week. About 70 seniors attended, and we were most successful, along with other groups, from many different cultures.

We also performed at the Annual Probus concert at the Whitehorse theatre in Nunawading during November, 400 people attended this day with 20 of our members supporting the group. Many thanks.

The group wore the club Polo Shirt to these occasions, looking very smart we were a great advertisement to the local community.

This activity will now continue in 2009, with new ideas, new members, but first and foremost lost of fun and friendship.

Many thanks to all those who gave commitment and time to this new activity.

I hope to see you all in 2009

Margaret Campbell

Fine Dining – Hugh Cornell

At present, we have 80 members who are enjoying this activity. Since we began 76 groups of 6 have lunched or dined and the feedback of enjoyment of the food and the company has been commendable. The few exceptions relate mainly to the quality of service at some restaurants. It is very important that Hugh receives the slip of paper from leaders with the date and place of dining and comments on the restaurant, so that he can keep the Events Register up to date. I am very grateful to members for the enthusiastic spirit in which they have embraced this happy activity, which must benefit relationships in our Club. New members will be welcomed most cordially.

Hugh Cornell

Games Group – Marion Cummins

Our yearly activities included:-

Crazy Whist held at the Uniting Church hall always a popular and great social mixer. Another is planned for the April/May. watch the newsletter.

Trivia Night well attended and by all accounts a good fun evening. Any new ideas for topics are always welcome.

Bridge Club an offshoot of our Games Club. This is our 5th year of Biff Bridge (bridge is for fun). We all realize the more we play the more there is to learn. Don't be put off as we are still at a basic level and with a few lessons you would be able to join us and have a lot of fun discussing what you should have played!!!! etc...It is an interesting game that can be played at a number of levels so we welcome all new comers, even if you would just like to watch and find out more about the game. Play is most Thursdays at Marion and Terry's home (Terry is chef) and we start at 9.30am.

More details for lessons ring Marion

Thanks for your support and companionship during 2008

Cheers Marion

Garden Group – Faye Williams

The Garden Group has had another busy, interesting year, visiting many different gardens and nurseries, and in September a small group joined The Probus Group of Mailing for a 4 day visit to Foloriade in Canberra. The highlight of the year was our November visit to Linton's Nursery and Cafe in Mt.Eliza, where 30 members enjoyed a delicious lunch, good fellowship, and a spot of Christmas shopping.

I have planned another year of activities, starting with a visit to The Blue Lotus Water Gardens at Lilydale, on February 28th.

I was delighted to see the large response to this outing, from nearly 40 members, many of whom have never taken part in the Garden Group before. As the saying goes, from little things, big things grow! Wendy Fishley and I have joined our groups for a visit to Williamstown in March, where we will walk with Kenneth Park before going on to the Williamstown Botanical Gardens for a picnic lunch. I am also planning to visit to the Atmosphere Nursery and Cafe at Eltham in May. The St Earth Gardens and Cafe at Blackwood for the Daffodil Festival in September, and the Perfumed Gardens and Roserair, at Mt.Martha in November.

It is very pleasing to see how much these outings are enjoyed by our members, making the organisation of the group very rewarding for me.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their enthusiasm, and look forward to another year of good company and good fun.

Faye Williams.

Genealogy – Ray Lawley

We have had an interesting year using the Doncaster Library as our main meeting location with great help & input from the Genealogy coordinator Elaine Craig.

The Later Day Saints Family History centres have also been a very helpful source of material with several centres specializing in Australian, English, Irish & Scottish records allowing scope for members differing family interests.

The State Library in the City also provides our group with a large range of resources & opened up many leads for individuals in their research.

Although searching for our ancestors can be a very frustrating pursuit, when we do break down a brick wall it reignites our passion to continue our search.

We are a fairly small group with very varying lines of interest & would be very pleased to welcome any member wishing to join us & we would be only too willing to help anyone starting out on their research.

Ray Lawley

Getaway – Lyn and John Hudgson with Ron and Lynette McBain

WELL, we sure have had some Fun, Friendship, Fellowship, Happy Hours and Laughter, since our first Getaway in November 2007 to Phillip Island. During 2008 we traveled to Daylesford for four nights and to Bright in

November during the Spring Festival also four nights. Our first trip in 2009 will be in May to South Australia, with day trips to places of interest, this is for seven nights. The aim of this activity is to have a few days away at Caravan Parks in our own vans or park cabins. Your leaders would like to thank the members who support us YOU ALL make our trips a pleasure to attend.

STAY HAPPY and HEALTHY for TRAVELING

Lyn and John Hudson together with Lynette and Ron McBain.

Golf – Lyn Crosbie

2008 has been a very successful year for our golfing group. We have played every fortnight for the entire year at Freeway Golf Course and had two getaways. The first trip in May was to Benalla for the Autumn Cup with 32 members attending. The winner on this occasion was Leon Magree. Our second trip in September was to Albury for the Spring Cup with 22 members enjoying lovely facilities and a challenging golf course. Leon Magree once again took out the honours so we will have to play better golf in 2009 to break his winning cycle. Both trips were great with many new friendships being formed. We also had a terrific end of year breakup at Urban Retreat in December.

Three more members have joined our fortnightly golf which provides lots of good exercise and fun and I look forward to staying on as activity leader in 2009.

Lyn Crosbie

Photography Group – Doug Hayne

Several Probus Club of Templestowe Valley members meet once a month to share their photographs with an aim to improving their results. Meetings are held at a member's home where they have access to Projectors and Computers to share their photographic experiences. A member who is associated with photographic study has been leading the meetings and presenting some of his experience to the members.

Members submitted photographs in a local council competition for their 2009 calendar. One member's photo was chosen to be shown in the exhibition prior to the final selection being chosen for the calendar.

At the February fellowship meeting, members' audio visual shows were presented for the speakers segment.

One being a collection of member's photos put to music in an entertaining show.

Group members often bring their cameras on walking and getaway events to record our clubs activities and a special excursion to Docklands by the group resulted in some interesting photos for the audio visual presentation.

Doug Hayne

Scrap booking – Verity Moore

Scrap booking is more than a hobby, it is an activity, which may effect and influence other people now or in the future. The albums are a record, which shows why we or our group are unique and provide encouragement or inspiration to others. This is a small band of Probusians, but we enjoy preserving our own photographs and memories and those of the club. Meeting once a month allows us to understand one another and our hopes for the future – a rewarding experience.

Verity Moore

Theatre –Ellen Boyd and Joan Plank

Since taking on the Theatre Programs for Probus in January 2008 we have tried to offer a wide selection of choices to our members that covered live theatre, musicals, films and concerts. We were fortunate to gain concessions on most of the outings that enabled us to see wonderful productions such as Wicked, Guys & Dolls and Aida amongst many others. This is the second time we have co-ordinated this activity since the club commenced and have enjoyed sharing the pleasure of seeing so many outstanding productions with the many members who have joined us. We thank most sincerely Yvonne Boyall for her assistance during this term, she is always so willing to lend a hand. We wish the new team well for the 2009 period and look forward to the many exciting productions planned throughout the year.

Joan Plank & Ellen Boyd

Trips and Events – Elaine Hayne

Probus Club of Templestowe Valley members enjoyed many trips and outings during 2008 with around 30 to 40 members and friends attending most events.

Barbecues

Regular Barbecues at a local park are popular. During daylight saving time these are held in the evenings and at other times Sunday afternoons. Members often say these outings are their favourite and will continue in 2009

Social and Dance

An evening social event in the hall where we hold our meetings has been held for four years now with another one planned for 2009. We have a brilliant band led by Diana Mayne. They play all of the favourite music and

dances for our age group, complete with lucky spot and door prizes, this is a popular event attended by around 40 members and friends who bring along delicious finger food and of course drinks..

Day Trips

Trips were organised using buses or car pool to a variety of destinations such as the Shelmerdine winery which is run by one of our guest speakers, Lady Marigold Southey (Myer) daughter of Sydney Myer who founded the Myer Store. Pakenham races were another popular outing where we were together under cover with food and drinks at hand. For 2009 we have planned a day at the Kilmore races. A visit to the MCG Sports museum in May was something different and enjoyed by both cricket and AFL fans. In July we went through a guided tour of the CUB brewery and along the way dispelled and confirmed many myths and stories about our brewing history. Free tasting was enjoyed by those that tend towards imbibing .

Using our free seniors train tickets, a group travelled by a fast and comfortable train to Castlemaine where we walked the streets visiting the famous “tool shed” where there are thousands of old interesting hardware items on show and for sale. We then walked the hill to Budda Gardens and Home which are named after their Hungarian founder. Once again we found lots of historical antiques set in the period style they were when the house was occupied for over 100 years by the family. A happy and long luncheon was enjoyed before we caught our train home.

Once again we visited a winery to celebrate Christmas in July. This year we visited Kellybrook winery in the Yarra Valley.

The Tramboat on the Yarra is another social event for us. We have had several different trips on this interesting vessel over the years and this year we had a trip up the Maribynong River to The Anglers Rest Hotel where we had a nice lunch

In November we car pooled to Healesville for a day at The Sir Colin McKenzie Sanctuary where along with viewing our familiar native animals including some very healthy and good looking Dingoes, we sat down to enjoy the “Birds of Prey” demonstration and then toured the very modern animal hospital and surgery.

Four Day King Island Trip

A group trip to King Island was organised where we flew over in small twin engine aircraft to Currie then picked up two 8 seater buses and two cars for the short but wonderful trips around the island: all planned and organised by Kerry McInerney. Visits to the kelp processing plant and famous dairy foods factory which included a cheese tasting, were enjoyed before visiting the famous lighthouses and sites of the many shipwrecks that occurred around the island. The magnificent ocean scenery was enjoyed immensely en route. Happy Hour and great dinners were also enjoyed in the evenings at the motel and local pub. A quick scenic flight home completed a great 4 days away.

Elaine Hayne

Walks – Wayne Eames and Terry Cummins

This year we have had a mixture of interesting and challenging walks. All that attended had a good time. The success of the walks is due to the members, who put their time and effort into organising their particular walk, many thanks to them. The New Year started with extremely hot weather and we still had nine brave members on each walk. The walks for the rest year look like they will be interesting. Please come along and join us and improve your fitness.

Wayne Eames and Terry Cummins

Newsletter – Doug Hayne

We have produced a monthly newsletter from the beginning of our club’s existence. The Newsletter is mailed out to members in time to arrive before the monthly meeting. About one third of our members have chosen to download the Newsletter from our web site instead of having it mailed. An email is sent to all members who have provided their email address advising that the latest newsletter is available on the web site. The email also offers the opportunity to have the mailed version stopped if this option has not yet been taken.

Doug Hayne

Our Internet Connections and Web Site – Doug Hayne

Up until this year, our electronic communication was through the personal email and web site of the Assistant Secretary administering these. This arrangement worked well and was of no real cost to either the club or the member involved. The main potential problem of this arrangement is the difficulties that would occur when there is a change of office. People and organizations that are in regular contact via email and obtain information from our web site would need to be contacted with details of the change of email and web address.

To avoid this problem in the future, we have now obtained our own domain name, which includes our own web and email addresses. The web site can be easily managed from any computer on the internet given some basic information, procedures and passwords. When a change of officer happens, it is an easy task to change the access and communication path of emails to the club email address. This is all transparent to the sender or persons accessing our web site.

Our domain name / web address is:
www.templestowevalleyprobud.org.au.

We have two email addresses and capability for more if needed. These are:
secretary@templestowevalleyprobud.org.au
publicity@templestowevalleyprobud.org.au

The management of these is through an international company – Flexihostings, who manage our domain free of charge as a community service. They only request that we mention them and provide a link to their web site. This arrangement is made by them for all organizations that are eligible to use the .org tag in their domain name. Probud clubs come into this category.

Our web site

Our web site is designed to provide information for members but is also available for other clubs and interested parties to find out about our club. All Newsletters from day one, Club forms, photos from our scrap book and other general information for seniors is available. A document “About Our Club” describing our club is also available and is updated regularly.

Doug Hayne

In Conclusion

To read this report gives the reader an insight into a Probud Club that is active, resourceful and over the past year many events and outings were organised for members to enjoy.

In April, Ian Gault will retire from the position of President and Liz Turner will be installed as our new President. I anticipate 2009 will be a year of fun and new challenges. Doug Hayne has nominated for the position of Vice President for 2009/10 as there is no other nomination there will be no election for Vice President.

All other Committee positions have un-opposed candidates and they will be formally announced as being duly elected at the Annual General Meeting, on 20 March 2009.

- Secretary – Judy Baker
- Treasurer – Jeff Crosbie
- Assistant Secretary/Publicity – Vacant
- Activities – Ron McBain
- Membership/Welfare – Jenny Morcom
- Speakers – Margaret McGregor

All positions within the club do need refreshing, including committee and all activities. All positions are voluntary and as with any voluntary role you always receive more back than what you could ever give. Please do consider taking on a role in 2009/10 whether on the committee or as an activity leader your input would be greatly appreciated, all positions are fulfilling and rewarding.

Judy Baker,
Secretary,
Probud Club of Templestowe Valley Inc.