



Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc.

Annual Report

2009 - 2010

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

Introduction

This is the Seventh 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 has filled a need for today's active retirees, so much so that the growth has been phenomenal. It is now a world-wide movement in twenty three countries. The Probus Centre - South Pacific Inc., is the Administration and Service Centre for the South Pacific area and is dedicated to promoting the development of friendship and acquaintance and the advancement of intellectual interests of its membership

Current Australian Statistics as at August 2009

Clubs in Australia = 1795 Members in Australia = 141,035

| State | Clubs | Members |
|------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Australian Capital Territory | 23 | 1,641 |
| New South Wales | 583 | 48,371 |
| Northern Territory | 2 | 70 |
| Queensland | 197 | 13,659 |
| South Australia | 213 | 13,628 |
| Tasmania | 71 | 4,311 |
| Victoria | 594 | 52,913 |
| Western Australia | 112 | 6,442 |

Connections

Yes, it was a lady who added the notion that the needs of all people who were in retired families and a new community based club could meet not just male Rotarians. So it was in England in 1965 and 1966 that PROBUS was conceived independently by two Rotary clubs. This new concept for retirees offered social contacts and no service constraints, using the name PROBUS from the words – **professional** and **business**. In very little time, through the wide network of the clubs of Rotary International, PROBUS spread through Great Britain and even across the English Channel to Europe.

It is true that Rotary began in the United States, however individual members have started many of its programs with ideas in other parts of the world. Rotary's "Group Study Exchange" for young professionals and business people had its origins in New Zealand. The "Rotary Youth Leadership Awards" (dynamic leadership training for young adults) began in Queensland, Australia.

The idea of a balanced Rotary program (Four Avenues of Service) began in England during a country walk by two local Rotarians. In effect, the Rotary Club of Dumbarton, Scotland can lay claim to being the catalyst for, firstly PROBUS in New Zealand (Paraparaumu, 1974) and then Australia (Hunter's Hill, NSW 1976). PROBUS remains in Australia and New Zealand as the largest and most active Community Service project of Rotary. The solid links between PROBUS and Rotary remain invaluable.

(Permission was received from Probus South Pacific Inc., to use the above information in our Annual Report)

Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc.

We are very proud of our club, which was inaugurated in June 2003. We have 129 members and one Life Member (Kerry McInerney). Manningham Rotary Club started our club on 12 June 2003 when the inaugural meeting was held in the hall at the Ted Ajani Reserve with 62 foundation members signing up. Our club has 19 activity groups all groups have their own coordinator with one activity leader on the committee. Our 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 two Probus Clubs in the municipality and there is a combined meeting of the Manningham Probus Interest Group 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 Annual Report 2009/2010 (Liz Turner)

On the 31st March 2010, The Probus Club of Templestowe Valley, Inc. will have completed another extremely successful and enjoyable year. New friends have been made; old ones have been fostered. We have been challenged by new ventures and coaxed out of our comfort zones. Our intellectual skills have improved and we have struggled hard to maintain our fitness.

We had a few tense weeks early in the year when the Manningham City Council advised us that we may have to move our Fellowship Meetings to another venue. They were planning extensions at the council offices and would need to relocate some of the groups that meet at the council offices to the Ajani Centre. Fortunately, it was decided to leave Mondays free at the Ajani Centre for various Probus Groups, including ours on the second Monday of the month. The only fallout from our perspective is that, because all Mondays are now allocated to Probus Groups, there is no room for us to move to a different Monday when our Monday clashes with a Public Holiday. This happens two or three times each year. The Council was also persuaded to install electronically-operated blinds over the skylights at the Ajani Centre to improve visibility when looking at the screen during meetings.

During the year, we have inducted only two new members, indicating that we have a very stable membership - one hundred and thirty members with a waiting list of ten. We have a high average attendance at our monthly fellowship meetings despite the fact that many of us are insatiable "grey nomads", leaving Melbourne in our droves during the cooler months. I believe this great monthly attendance is due to the high calibre of speakers and also to the welcome and friendship extended to all attendees. The decibels generated before and after the meeting which grow to a deafening level during the Fellowship Break, bear testimony to this - each month I have to enlist the services of J. Arthur Rank and his bell to alert members to the end of the Break.

As well as our monthly "off campus" lunches, we have enjoyed two delicious lunches at the Ajani Centre - Christmas in July and Winter Wonderland in December. Another very popular outing was Dinner at The Savage Club in October. Many thanks to the organisers of these events.

Currently, our Members are spoilt for choice with approximately twenty activities or groups to choose from. There will be a write up on each of these later in this Report so I will not elaborate here. However, I would just like to thank all the leaders of these activities and groups for their dedication and tireless efforts throughout the year.

Your Committee has continued to improve upon the Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Committee Handbook which will be given to each new Committee Member as a guide to their duties, to be read in conjunction with the Probus Club Handbook issued by the Probus Centre - South Pacific. In November we held our Annual Planning Meeting in an endeavour to avoid date clashes during 2010 and, with the February Newsletter, we have circulated a Member Survey to help us plan member needs into the future.

I would like to thank my hard working and conscientious Committee for their commitment and devotion to duty during the year. We are extremely fortunate to have so many wonderful people willing to donate their time to running the Club. At this stage, I do not wish to mention them individually as I intend doing this at the end of my term. Suffice it to say, that they make a good team and I am very grateful for their support. It has been great working with them.

Finally, I would like to thank you for honouring me by making me your President. A job which I was very apprehensive about at the beginning but nonetheless have thoroughly enjoyed. I am very grateful for the unerring support and encouragement that has been given to me by the Committee and individual members.

Liz Turner

Immediate Past President's Report: Ian Gault

Each year in recognition of past service as the club president the Immediate Past President is recognized as an Ex-Officio member of the committee. The position is largely one of support and advice for the new committee. My time on the committee this year has been mostly a low profile one and I have been pleased to offer comment or advice on matters which may have been discussed at committee meetings in previous years. I have been very thankful to have this year to let go of the responsibilities of being president and to enjoy being an observer of a new committee at work.

My congratulations to President Liz Turner who has been a most conscientious president and has carried out her duties with ease and with good humour. Judy Baker, Margaret McGregor and Ron McBain have been true "gems" in their respective positions on the committee for the past three years and can now look forward to attending meetings to mix and relax. Jeff Crosbie and Jenny Morcom have admirably filled the positions that Jacob Kerseboom and Lorraine Cooper vacated in 2009 and treasury and membership will continue to be in good hands in 2010.

Finally my congratulations to Doug Hayne who is our president for 2010. The privilege is richly deserved as Doug has been one of the stalwarts of the club since its inception and the amount of time and effort he has put into the club since 2003 is truly outstanding. Doug and his new committee along with the full support of our members will ensure another enjoyable year in 2010.

Ian Gault

Secretary's Report: Judy Baker

The first club meeting with the new committee was held on 17 April, 2009 in the "Ajani Centre". The Club meets 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".

The committee decided to change the structure of committee by deleting the Assistant Secretary position and splitting the Publicity/Newsletter into two positions. The total committee members are now ten.

Laurine Eames and Lynette McBain put their hands up and have organized a different venue for lunch after our "Club Meetings" in 2009/10. This has worked well and members have enjoyed the different venues for lunch each month, with lunch in the hall on three occasions.

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 purchased the necessary supplies.

The role of maintaining the member attendance records at our monthly meeting has been rotating this year. This has worked very well as it gives more members the opportunity to meet other members of the club as they arrive at our club meeting.

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

Club polo shirts are still a hit with members. The activity groups wear these shirts on outings and they look fantastic.

The last meeting of the year was a Christmas luncheon held at the "Ajani Centre". A scrumptious 'Traditional Christmas Lunch', was enjoyed by all present and we were entertained by our "Entertainers" the theme was "Winter Wonderland", many thanks to Lyn Hudgson, Margaret Campbell and Wilma Pontefract for all their efforts in pulling this wonderful spectacular together. Thanks to Yvonne Boyall and her team of helpers for organizing and making decorations for the festivities. A great time was had by all.

My third 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 over the past three years. Special thanks, to Jenny Morcom for filling in as Secretary for three months while I was on holiday, this was really appreciated. Very special thanks to our President Liz Turner, for her support during her year as president, Liz has been a pleasure to work with.

The Committee for 2009 – 2010.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • President | Liz Turner |
| • Vice President | Doug Hayne |
| • Immediate Past President | Ian Gault |
| • Treasurer | Jeff Crosbie |
| • Secretary | Judy Baker |
| • Membership/Welfare | Jenny Morcom |
| • Speakers | Margaret McGregor |
| • Activities Leader | Ron McBain |
| • Publicity/Newsletter | 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. The secretary responds to all suggestions in writing.

Judy Baker

Committee Reports.

Treasurer's Annual Report for Year Ended 31/01/2010 – Jeff Crosbie.

A summary of our club's finances for the 2009-10 financial year is as follows:

| | <u>Club Funds</u> | <u>Activities</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Balance at 31/01/2009 | \$4,663.79 | \$8,612.36 | \$13,276.15 |
| Plus Income | <u>\$5,164.95</u> | <u>\$38,085.71</u> | <u>\$43,250.66</u> |
| | \$9,828.74 | \$46,698.07 | \$56,526.81 |
| Less Expenditure | <u>-\$4,469.16</u> | <u>-\$44,102.24</u> | <u>-\$48,571.40</u> |
| Balance at 31/01/2010 | \$5,359.58 | \$2,595.83 | \$7,955.41 |

Our Club Funds therefore increased by \$695.79 and the deposits held for Activities reduced by \$6,016.53 resulting in an overall reduction in total funds of \$5,320.74.

The Club Funds income included \$479.96 net surplus from two Activities. Without this one-off income the increase in Club Funds would have been \$215.83.

The club subsidised \$625.86 towards the cost of our Annual Christmas lunch, which was less than the previous year's subsidy of \$800.78.

I have checked the financial records of the Golf group and the Games Group which are not included in the above club finances. These two groups hold a small balance of funds which is used for prizes and other minor costs. Robert Anderson has audited the financial records and are Appendix A of this Report. His time and expertise in undertaking this audit is appreciated and I thank him on behalf of the club.

Jeff Crosbie

Membership/Welfare – Jenny Morcom.

For me it has been a very rewarding first year on the committee. Two new members have been inducted into our Club Susan De Bono and Joan Jackson. The Wait list is still at 10 and any new membership enquiries I have had during the year have been referred to other Probus Clubs in the Manningham area that have vacancies.

Some members have been hospitalised or ill at home during the year and on behalf of the Committee and members a card has been sent to them. Where DOB has been registered cards have been sent to those members who are celebrating 'special' birthdays. Thank you to two of the Craft Ladies who make these cards.

My thanks to Jim Douglas, Helga Braun, and Diana Burton for manning the door during the last year. Welcome to Maurelle Thompson and Pat McInerney who have taken over from Helga and Diana.

Jenny Morcom

Speakers – Margaret McGregor.

My term as Guest Speaker Organiser has come to an end and hopefully you all have enjoyed my selection of Guest Speakers. Majority I believe have lived up to my expectations with just a few not quite as good. I have aimed to give a variety of entertaining speakers on interesting and fun topics at the same time expanding our knowledge and learning a little more.

I now list the speakers for the past year :-

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 20 th March, 2009 | Hugh Cornell | “Value of Classical Music” |
| 17 th April | Dr. Judith Slocombe | “My Career Path and Lessons learned along the way” |
| 11 th May | Stephen Clark | “Shootings in Melbourne CBD” |
| 22 nd June | John Silvester | “Crime Reporter & “Underbelly” author” |
| 13 th July | Sophia Maj | “Living in interesting times” |
| 10 th August | Nick Sautner | “Etihad Stadium & Andre Rieu Experience” |
| 14 th September | Dr Geoff Crawford | “Murder & Mayhem in Whitechapel” |
| 12 th October | Entertainers Group | “Radio Play” |
| 9 th November | Mark Rawson | “Amateur Explorer of tunnels and caves” |
| 14 th December | Club Christmas | “Winter Wonderland Production ” |
| 11 th January, 2010 | John Magill | “Brain Fingerprinting a new investigative tool” |
| 8 th February | John Reid | “Poetry, Humour & Life at the ABC plus wine tasting” |
| 1st March | Liz & George Turner | “Our South America Holiday” |

Margaret McGregor

Publicity Officer/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.

Our Internet Connections and Web Site – Doug Hayne

Our domain name / web address is:

www.templestowevalleyprobus.org.au.

We have two email addresses and capability for more if needed. These are:

secretary@templestowevalleyprobus.org.au

publicity@templestowevalleyprobus.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.

Probus clubs come into this category.

Our web site – Doug Hayne

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

Activities – Ron McBain.

In compiling this report for the Annual Report for the year 2010, I still have problems believing that one Probus club can have some nineteen (19) activities that members can participate in.

The credit for the continuing success of these activities must go to each individual activity leader for whom I have the greatest admiration and respect. If it wasn't for the fantastic effort that each individual leader puts in, I have no doubt that this Probus club would not be the great club that it is.

If asked to nominate a highlight activity for the year I would hesitate, mainly because of the diverse nature of the 19 activities available to the members, so I decline to do so on the grounds that I wish to remain an active member of this great club and not be pulverized by the other activity leaders.

The year 2009 proved to be even greater than the previous year in that members participated in some 165 various activities, one can feel very proud of the efforts of the activity leaders

It is hard to realize that for the year 2010 we have in excess of 90 activities on offer, and that is only half way through the year, this includes activities such as: BBQ's, Games, Crafts etc.

This being my final year as activity leader I would like to personally thank each individual activity leader for their dedication and the true spirit in which they undertook their tasks. I know in some cases there were disappointments in that they were let down by members not attending, or not attaining sufficient numbers to go ahead with a planned activity, but in the true spirit of a probarian they soldiered on by not letting such trivial matters stop them providing more activities.

I have enjoyed my time serving the members and wish the new activity leader the very best. You have a great bunch of leaders to work with which makes the position of activity co-coordinator such a great job.

Ron McBain

A Summary of the Year's Activity Groups:

Annual 41ers Lunch

This was a new venture in 2009/2010. Club Members who were born in 1941 and who were interested in doing so, joined forces for lunch at Glencoe Restaurant in Mont Albert on the 12th November. We each took along a childhood photograph of ourselves and had great difficulty in recognising each other in the dim distant past. Ten of us, out of a possible fourteen, were able to attend the lunch. Again this year, we hope to have another practice run for the big game in 2011. I am delighted to see that the 1940ers are getting themselves organised and, with any, luck, a few more years might follow suit.

Liz Turner

Bike Riding – John Hudgson

This Group is rolling pretty well, consistent numbers attending all rides. The program now is for a difficult ride each month and one to be easier and more local. Since starting this group in April 07 we have ridden approx 1200K and most riders have enjoyed all of them (have we not?) - with riding and always having our morning tea and a talk after the ride. I cannot calculate the calories we lose and gain in one day. Combined Walkers and Riders days out have also been enjoyed over the last year with plans for more in the future. Our Novice Group started well in early 09, however faded a bit later in the year.

New Riders please come and have some fun with us, watch your newsletter for times

WHAT HAPPENS ON THE BIKE RIDES STAYS ON THE BIKE RIDE

John Hudgson

Book Group – Val Reid

Six years ago three Probians joined Helga in her local book club, which had been in existence for over 40 years. Now the group consists of eight Probians and two from the original club. 2009 has been another successful year with ten books consumed, including "An Equal Music", Miss Gymkhana, The Year 1000, and "The Mystery of the Hansom Cab". Not all books are enjoyed by all, naturally, but it is in the discussion where we have the most fun and of course we read books which otherwise we may have passed over.

This enjoyment has bonded us as a friendly group to the degree that we have been to a mid year movie and dinner at Camberwell and celebrated the end of year with a lunch at, appropriately, Volumes in Eltham.

Next year promises wider reading challenges and continuing enjoyment by a happy little group of bookworms.

Val Reid

Book Swap – Patricia Edwards

The book library has had another 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. It is also very interesting for me to hear readers views on various books and pass these on to other people who are considering them. When our members no longer borrow some of the books, we continue to give 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, particularly Kerry, 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

A happy and successful year of 2009, supplying over 600 items to Cancer Patients, Palliative Care Units and children at Peter MacCallum. During the month of October 2009 the Volunteer Unit at Peter MacCallum received accreditation for ongoing support, they certainly put heart and soul into their work. The Volunteer Unit gave a special mention to our Templestowe Valley Probus craft ladies and "A Big Thank You!" for our support. The craft ladies would like to thank members of our club who have given materials, wool etc.

Yvonne Boyall

Cryptic Crosswords Solving – Liz Turner

This was a new interest group this year. I have been doing CCs since Adam (or I) was a pup and members would often say to me – "I wish I could do CCs." So, in June 2009, a few enthusiasts started out just spending an hour of an afternoon together on any day of the week that suited. By February 2010 we have settled into a pattern of meeting from 4-5pm on a Thursday, mainly at Val & John Reid's home near Macedon Square. Adrian Eltringham, who is a solver of old, kindly helps out when I am unable to lead. We mostly use the "Cryptic Crosswords" books compiled by Donald Harrison which is readily available at the Newsagent but also crack the puzzle from Thursday's Age. There has been definite improvement shown by our group which can number anything from two to nine members. It takes a while to get the hang of it, though, so it's not too late for new members to join but it would be best to check the venue with Val or me before coming in cold.

Liz Turner

Cultural Walks with Kenneth Park for 2009 – Wendy Fishley

February – North Side of Yarra River

We explored the river environs from near Queen Street, taking in the Aquarium, Flinders Street Station, Princes Bridge and the Swan Street Bridge, then walked back to Birrarung Marr for morning tea at Federation Square.

March – Williamstown and Botanic Gardens

This was our second visit to Williamstown, so we looked for a different aspect of this historic suburb. We walked along the Esplanade, discovering the fine houses along the sea front. Then we explored some of the smaller streets behind the beach front, where there are lovely cottages and grand homes. Lunch was enjoyed at one of the many cafes in Nelson Place, before we met at the Botanic Gardens, where Faye Williams showed us some of the colourful plantings and beautiful trees.

May Jolimont

We met at the Hilton Hotel and walked across the bridge to the MCG, where we marvelled at the enormous grandstands, discussed the architecture and some of the sculptures in front of the Members' stand. Down the street adjacent to the MCG, we discovered some fine houses and more in the back streets beyond. We found an interesting little Anglican church in the street along the Jolimont railway line. Morning tea in the Fitzroy Gardens completed the walk.

July - Hawthorn

Discovering Hawthorn was an interesting walk. Our first stop was Glenferrie Primary School in Manningtree Road, one of Melbourne's oldest primary schools where the main building is a fine example of Victorian architecture. Opposite were some delightful Victorian cottages. We walked through to Burwood Road, where we found the old Manresa Hall. Some of our group remembered going to dances there in their youth. We walked around the grounds of the fine Catholic church on Glenferrie Road corner then went along to discover Hawthorn Football oval. Continuing north to the streets beyond the oval, we found some of the most beautiful houses of the grand days of Hawthorn. We explored the streets on the east side of Glenferrie Road, ending the walk by going through the grounds of Swinburne TAFE to morning tea in a Glenferrie Road café.

August - Richmond

After meeting at Epworth hospital, we walked along the south side of Bridge Road, through a lane and, at the other end discovered Richmond Hill, a beautiful corner of Richmond that few of us knew existed. Kenneth showed us the grounds of the Corpus Christi College; also the interesting houses in this street. We turned into Church Street to find more churches and lovely houses. We walked past the many historic shops in Bridge Road and ended the walk with morning tea at Richmond Hill larder, formerly owned by Stephanie Alexander and now managed by her daughter.

September - Carlton

The suburb of Carlton has some wonderful examples of Victorian architecture, alongside some modern office buildings and also many small workman's cottages of various styles. In Drummond Street, we looked at buildings like the Trades Hall, the former Emily Macpherson College and many other grand buildings at the northern end of the city, such as the former premises of the Russell Street police headquarters, a fine example of 1930s Art Deco architecture. We enjoyed looking at the Lygon Street shops and we ended the walk there with morning tea.

It's been a great year of walks with Kenneth and we've learned a lot.

The Grand Finale – A Swanky Dinner at the Savage Club

In October, to finish the year, Kenneth invited us to join him for a fabulous night at the Savage Club, one of Melbourne's oldest clubs. We met for drinks in the comfortable club lounge where Wendy welcomed us to the evening. We then adjourned upstairs to the lovely dining room where we listened to Kenneth's fascinating account of the Savage Club's history and the interesting characters who had been members there. A delicious dinner was then served. We ended the evening with a sing-along, accompanied by Wilma Pontefract on the grand piano, in the club lounge. The consensus opinion was that this was a lovely way to end the year.

Wendy Fishley

Entertainers – Margaret Campbell

The Past Twelve Months of the Entertainers group has been very fulfilling for all of us participating with in the group. Many thanks to those who helped during the year with props, Music, and encouragement. A big thank you to the Participants, who gave up lots of their time learning new skills, and supporting each other. There has been lots of rehearsals, Lots of social interaction, and lots of progression, for us all. Four members, read excellent poetry, to the members during our annual luncheon. At the October Meeting, in place of a speaker, eight members of the group, rehearsed for many weeks, presenting, an excellent performance to the members with our 1st Radio Play Queer St.

In December at our Christmas Celebration, Sixteen members of the group, Performed the Winter Wonderland Revue for their Probus friends, this performance was enhanced by the excellent costumes made by various Probus.members, We appreciate all your support.

We are Looking forward to 2010, with new members joining the now experienced group of Entertainers.

Many thanks

Margaret Campbell and Wilma Pontefract

Fine Dining – Hugh Cornell

There are, at present, 83 active members on our Fine Dining list and participants are enjoying lunching and dining with other members in the many good restaurants in the Doncaster – Templestowe area and nearby suburbs. Generally, the reports coming back to Hugh indicate at least very good to excellent service and quality of food.

Since we began this activity in 2005, 98 groups will have enjoyed a meal together, mostly maintaining the pleasure of different company on each occasion.

I would like to thank members, especially leaders, for embracing this activity with enthusiasm and wish you all *bon accord* for 2010.

Hugh Cornell

Games Group – Marion Cummins

Our games club had a quieter year but those who participated had lots of fun at our Crazy Whist Nights and our Fish and Chip Night at Marion and Terry's home. Bridge participants are a great group of 11 who never fail to appear unless travel or health stops them. We are always looking for new players and we can organise lessons for beginners. We play BRIDGE IS FOR FUN which allows a lot of talk and laughter with animated discussions after a round.

I hope 2010 will be a more inclusive year for Games and hope to see new faces at our Games Nights.

Cheers Marion Cummins

Garden Group – Faye Williams

Many thanks once again to all those who have supported the Garden Group during 2009. The group has proved popular with members and has grown from the original eight to about twenty five regular participants. During the year we visited several beautiful gardens. The highlight was a visit to The Blue Lotus Water Gardens which proved so popular, a second visit was organized for January 2010. The Group also joined Wendy's Cultural Walks for a visit to Williamstown, after which we visited Williamstown's Historic Botanical Gardens. In Spring, we went to Blackwood for the Daffodil Festival. We finished the year with a visit to The Perfumed Garden and Roserie at "The Briars", Mt Martha. To add variety in 2010, I have organised a visit to Latrobe University, Wildlife Park and Indigenous Nursery, followed by a visit to Burnley Horticultural College in May. In Spring we hope to Tip toe, through the Tulips at Tessalar's Tulip Farm. There may also be a visit to Tive Tara at Mount Macedon at the end of the year.

Faye Williams.

Genealogy – Ray Lawley

Our past year has had some mixed result and disruption but I think in general it has been a successful year with those attending getting some good results. I was unable to carry out my duties for some time and John Mugridge filled the Breach most competently. We carried out our research at various venues. Doncaster Library became our home base, input from Elaine Craige, the Library Genealogist, was appreciated. We also attended the Latter Day Saints Centers at Heidelberg, Burwood and Maroondah. Another very successful morning was held at The National Archives / Public Records Centers, North Melbourne, where 10 members attended, I think a record for us. Thank you to John Mugridge for organizing this outing. During the next year we hope to still be able to use the Doncaster Library as our main meeting venue with some variation by returning to some of the above sites. We are always looking for new ideas, so if any members have suggestions please let us know. We really are a very friendly lot so don't be spooked about joining us. We would be pleased to welcome any interested members, the ghosts we dig up are our own and at worst are skeletons in our own cupboards.

Ray Lawley

Getaway – Lyn and John Hudgson with Ron and Lynette McBain

Our happy travellers seem to be enjoying the Getaways. This group was formed to introduce a way of travel slightly less expensive than motels and hotels. Mostly self drive, staying at good standard caravan parks, cabins with on site facilities or on site caravans, if you don't have your own van. Our trips have included Phillip Island, Daylesford, Bright, Central Australia, South Australia, at all of which there has been fun and friendship to enjoy. In March 2010 an adventure to Mungo National Park has been planned, with Sydney and Ballarat later in the year.

Please come and enjoy Happy and Healthy Traveling with us.

Lyn and John Hudgson, together with Lynette and Ron McBain.

Golf – Lyn Crosbie

The fortnightly golf was well attended and we only missed one game for the entire year due to sweltering weather.

Our first getaway in April was to Point Lonsdale playing golf at both Lonsdale and Queenscliff courses. Winner of the Autumn Cup was Leon Magree with his good form continuing from the year before. We found Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff area very interesting, with a visit to the Fort and non-golfers enjoying a heritage walk. Our second trip in October was to Mansfield for the Spring Cup with our members enjoying lovely facilities and a challenging golf course. Laurel Bishop won the Spring Cup with two consistent rounds of golf. Our non-golfers had a day in and around Jamieson organized by Marion and Terry Cummins.

Both getaways were great with new friendships being formed.

Our end of year breakup at Urban Retreat was a very happy and successful night as has been the case each year. As the sixth year of fortnightly golf is at an end I only hope that the seven year itch does not set in. Remember even if the golf is not good (which it always is!!!!) think of the exercise and fun we have on the day.

I look forward to continuing as activity leader in 2010.

Lyn Crosbie

Photography Group – Doug Hayne

Several Probus Club of Templestowe Valley members meet once a month to share their photographs with the aim of 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.

Group members often bring their cameras on day trips and getaway events to record our clubs activities.

Selections of prints of these are displayed at the meetings and made available for our scrapbook group, or put into an audio visual presentation that can be accessed from our web site or presented in a speakers segment at meetings.

Doug Hayne

Scrap booking – Verity Moore

A small, but enthusiastic group of Probians meet each month to preserve their photos, memorabilia and memories as a record of their life in the 20th and 21st centuries. The albums may be passed to future generations, maintaining a family link past, present and future.

Verity Moore

Theatre –Andrea Thomas

The Theatre Group for Templestowe Valley Probus Club aimed at offering one activity per month for the year. This was achieved with the support of Ellen and Joan who started the ball rolling with a morning screening of the Changeling at the Balwyn Theatre followed by a sandwich lunchbox at the theatre.

Chapter Two, Don Giovanni and Ten Times Tables were also organized by Ellen and Joan before we all scrambled for tickets to see Billy Elliott, what a huge success. Denis Walter, and the Three Tenors were also well supported at the Whitehorse Centre for their morning melodies program.

Sound of Music, High School Musical and South Pacific were performed with excellence by our local musical theatre groups and who will forget Jersey Boys and Chicago which were our professional matinee shows offered at a discount for "Seniors"??

Thank you Janet and Beverley for your support, particularly in the last 2 months when family commitments meant I couldn't attend those meetings.

Andrea Thomas

Trips and Events – Elaine Hayne

Probus Club of Templestowe Valley members enjoyed many trips and outings during 2009 with around 40 or more 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 on Sunday afternoons. Members often say these outings are their favourite and they will continue in 2010.

Social and Dance

An evening social event in the hall where we hold our meetings has been held for five years now with another one planned for May 2010. We have a brilliant band, led by Diana Mayne, who plays all of the favourite music and dances for our age group, complete with lucky spot and door prizes. In 2009 we had a rock and roll exhibition from a couple who are friends of one of our member couples. The Social is a popular event attended by around 40 members and friends who bring along delicious finger food and of course drinks. The 2010 social will feature an item from our Entertainers Group.

Trips

A very enjoyable week-end trip to Merimbula was taken by about 15 members in February using our Seniors free rail passes to Bairnsdale then by bus to Merimbula. Two of our men drove there in a 4WD to provide some shuttle services when the group arrived and also transport to a friend of a member's home for a welcome evening of seafood – the results of a fishing excursion by our fishing expert members. Golf, lots of walking, a Bingo session and just lazing around and of course the three hour well attended "Happy Hour" sessions, were all popular pastimes at Merimbula.

Day Trips

A heritage tour of the historic Victoria Market was a popular day outing and a day car pool trip to Darnum Musical Village was a delight, especially to musically inclined members.

Trips were organised using buses or car pool to a variety of destinations such as Kilmore Trots and a Mystery Day tour to (as we now know) Daylesford with our friend from APT, Fran Sirio.

Another Mystery Luxury Bus Tour in October was well attended. This time we found ourselves in Mornington. In December, a group car pooled to Beleura House on the Mornington Peninsular. This is an historic property once owned by the Family of the JC Williamson company which have been bringing many well known artists and shows to their theatres in Melbourne for over a century.

Beleura House and its lovely surrounds is very much in the state it was in when its last family owner passed away in 1990. Very beautiful and historic place to visit.

Our 2010 year started out with a second visit to the “Blue Lotus Water Gardens” at Yarra Junction. The garden group had previously visited this lovely attraction and its popularity gave momentum to another trip being arranged. This was again an experience to be remembered – a hidden surprise.

Elaine Hayne

Walks – Wayne Eames and Terry Cummins

This year we have had a mixture of enticing 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. We had an average of 12.5 walkers over 20 walks from January to December 2009, (I’m uncertain who the 0.5 walker was.) Only one walk was abandoned during the year because of inclement weather. The walks for the coming year look like they will be interesting and some will be a challenge. We hope to have a strong attendance to join us for some fun and also to improve their fitness.

Wayne Eames and Terry Cummins

In Conclusion

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

In April, Liz Turner will retire from the position of President and Doug Hayne will be installed as our new President. Wilma Pontefract has nominated for the position of Vice President for 2010/11 and 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 1 March 2010.

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Secretary | Heather Bindon |
| • Treasurer | Jeff Crosbie |
| • Activities | Lyn Hudgson |
| • Membership/Welfare | Jenny Morcom |
| • Speakers | Margaret McGregor |
| • Publicity | Marion Cummins |
| • Newsletter | Les Thompson |

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 2010/11 whether on the committee or as an activity leader. Your input would be greatly appreciated, all positions are fulfilling and rewarding.

As this is my last report as Secretary, I would like to wish the incoming committee members all the best in their endeavours and hope they enjoy their time on the committee as much as I have. Finally, my three years as secretary have been rewarding and I have enjoyed the comradeship of all committee members over this period of time. Thanks to you all for the opportunity for me to move out of my comfort zone.

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

Appendix A

Probus Club of Templestowe Valley Inc.

Audited Financial Report 2009-10