

Previous Events and Outings

2026

Brisbane Sculpture Festival tour: October 13th



Some of the amazing sculptures at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. Our guide, Colleen, is pictured with her sculpture of a horse, which was incredible. A truly amazing day was had by all who attended.

Probus 50th Anniversary Picnic In The Park- Thursday 1st October



Lindy Morrison, our PSPL Ambassador, organized a Picnic in the Park for our regional Probus Clubs on Thursday 1st October to celebrate Probus 50th Anniversary. Five of our members were joined by three of our grandchildren (as we were child sitting for the day) and about twenty members from other clubs in our district for a very enjoyable day socializing and picnicking followed by outdoor games with our grandies getting the most out of the games..

An intimate evening with TENORI- Thursday 17th September



About 100 probus members from various clubs had a fabulous night enjoying canapes and drinks followed by an hour of entertainment with Tenori. Tenori is fast becoming Australia's most sought after vocal group: David Kidd, Craig Atkinson and Andrew Pryor continue to bring their sense of fun and sophistication to classics from the worlds of Opera, Music Theatre, Jazz and everything in between.

July Outing – QIMR Herston, 21st July @ 10:00am



12 members of our club made our own way to QIMR Berghofer, Herston for a very educational tour.

To quote Professor Arun Sharma:

“QIMR world class scientists are charging into new frontiers such as cell therapy and precision medicine, and a new generation of diagnostic and treatments we hope will strengthen Queensland’s bio technology industry. But like all good things, the road ahead does not come easily.”

Then 9 of us caught the bus to City Hall to have a very enjoyable lunch at Goldfinch Restaurant.

PAQ 50th Anniversary Quiz afternoon, 24th June 2026

Lindy Morrison, our Probus Ambassador, and the 50th Anniversary Working Group of Probus Association Qld hosted a Quiz Afternoon as part of the 50th Anniversary celebrations at the SPACE Community Centre, Kenmore Hills. About 80 Members from the Probus Clubs of Chapel Hill, Indooroopilly, Indooroopilly West, Kenmore Millennium, Kenmore Village, Taringa as well as 12 of our members attended the fun filled afternoon.



Here we all are enjoying a delicious afternoon tea. All who attended agreed that it was an excellent entertaining afternoon.

OPERA IN THE CAVES TOUR (29th May-1st June) – contributed by Alex Campbell

In a nice way to commence a tour, our group of 11 Club Members were picked up from our respective home addresses and comfortably delivered to Brisbane Airport where we met Lindy and Lorna of Oh Travel Co, our shepherds for the tour. At Group Check-In we merged with the remainder of our party making a total of 30.

Pretty soon we were Up-Up and Away with Virgin Australia and an hour later stepped onto the tarmac at Rockhampton to be greeted by one of those superb gently warm days that Central Queensland turns on regularly at this time of the year.

On our coach trip to the Rockhampton Regional Art Gallery, we passed at least a couple of Bull Sculptures whilst wondering why no Cows are similarly celebrated.

The gallery has several levels and is a noted cultural asset of the city. After appreciating the art and enjoying coffee at the adjoining Hummingbird Café, there was time to walk among lovely tropical gardens on the banks of the Fitzroy River and admire the heritage buildings along Quay St.

As one who knew Rocky well 60 odd years ago this writer was impressed by how well the city now presents itself and it well deserves the opportunity to host Olympic Rowing in 2032. It was disappointing to hear from one's companions how well the media has poisoned the idea of Olympic rowing on the river. Championship rowing has been held on the Fitzroy for more than 100 years.

Heading to Yeppoon, about a 45-minute drive, we passed at least one more bull sculpture on the way out of town. Before long we were admiring the magnificent views of Rosslyn Bay from our balconies at the Bayview Tower hotel.



Again, compared to memories of 60 years ago, Yeppoon has grown so much and like Rockhampton, reflects well on Central Queensland.

Dinner was enjoyed at the hotel then it was off to bed (for me anyway).

Next morning at Rosslyn Bay Boat Harbour we boarded a catamaran for a 20 minute voyage to Great Keppel Island in glorious sunshine albeit a little windy. There is no longer a resort on Great Keppel, but people live on the island. After a walk on the beach and lunch on board, it was time for the highlight of the day, a mini-cruise in a glass bottom boat slowly gliding over beautiful coral on a nearby reef.



Back at Bayview Tower there was free time to prepare ourselves for the celebratory dinner of the tour at Rocks Restaurant, a short walk along the esplanade from the hotel.

On Sunday there was more free time to explore Yeppoon before boarding the coach for the signature event of the tour "Opera-in-the-Caves".

Attracting tourists since the 1880s, the Capricorn Caves are found just north of Rockhampton in what was a coral reef 400 million years ago.

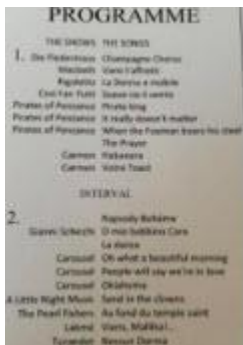


On arrival we were served drinks, bubbly and otherwise, as well as Hors d'oeuvres at an open-air reception area surrounded by rain forest. A brief cave tour led us to the Cathedral Cave, a magnificent high limestone void set up with pew type seating for 90. This cave is said to have the best acoustics of any venue in Australia. Better than the Sydney Opera House, it is claimed.

Four opera singers and a piano player treated us to a varied operatic programme including Gilbert and Sullivan and Rogers and Hammerstein.

I'll leave to others more competent than I to review the music, but to this unsophisticated, hearing-impaired listener it sounded pretty fantastic.

Dinner again at the hotel, early to bed, ready to have bags on the kerb at 4.55 am for our coach ride to Rocky to catch the tilt-train to Brisbane.



This is where it gets complicated. Before the tour commenced, Oh Travel circulated a letter received from Queensland Rail warning that, due to ongoing “protected industrial action”, tilt-train services “were not guaranteed” The letter even included the ominous phrase “buses replacing trains”. The chilling thought of travelling from Rockhampton down the Bruce Highway to Brisbane in a bus didn’t bear thinking about.

Some people privately booked flights, but the majority crossed their fingers and hoped for the best and, as it turned out, everything was fine.

The Queensland Tilt Trains are not ordinary. For train fanciers, here is some background from the internet. The North Coast rail line, similar to other Queensland rail lines built on shoestring budgets in the late 1800s and early 1900s, as well as being narrow gauge, essentially go around as well as over hills and were designed for light weight, slow moving steam trains. In the late 1990’s Walkers of Maryborough partnered with Hitachi to build two electric tilt train sets for Queensland Rail. By tilting into curves these trains can improve passenger comfort at increased speeds. In tests, one of these trains achieved a top speed between Landsborough and Nambour of 210 km/hr (130 m/hr) and it holds the crown as the fastest train in Australia and indeed, the fastest train in the world on a narrow gauge (1067mm) track. (Source: Gemini AI)

Once aboard, our Business Class seats were comfortable and spacious, and the ride was smooth as far as Gladstone as this section of the track has been significantly upgraded for export coal traffic. South of Gladstone however, the line gets really bumpy as it twists and turns until improving south of Nambour. Interestingly the leaning of the carriages is not apparent from within but can be observed by looking outside the train.

Notwithstanding the stated potential journey time of 5 ½ hours (according to the internet), our journey took 8 hours. Progress was characterised by quite speedy periods broken by many long stages at a relative crawl. Whether due to the state of the track or congestion is not known but, it was altogether a most interesting experience, much better than another boring hour sealed in an aluminium tube.

Arriving at Roma St, limousines were waiting to take us back to our homes. Fantastic! A most enjoyably 4 days. Thank you Lorna and Lindy, Oh Travel Co and the friendly staff who served us along the way.

Government House Outing, 24th March 2026



A visit to Government House

On the 24th March, 18 of our members attended a tour of Government House and its surroundings. An enjoyable morning was had by all in attendance and the rain held off! Thank you to Dawn and Judy for organizing this fabulous morning.



We arrived at 10:30 and were met by our volunteer guides. We started off with a guided tour through the gardens. We learnt that 7 full time gardeners maintain the 14 hectare site. We saw the Rose garden protected by an electric fence to ward off the possums. The 17 roses represent the seventeen Governors to have resided here at Fernberg.

After the guided walk through the gardens, we gathered in the Investiture Room, used for presenting decorations and swearing-in Premiers and Ministers, for coffee, tea and a biscuit. We then had a talk about the history of



Government House, the private owners and the QLD Government's purchase of the estate in 1911. Queensland's Government House has transitioned through three main sites since 1859: Adelaide House (1859-1862), Old Government House at Gardens Point (1862-1910), and the current residence, Fernberg in Paddington (since 1910).



We were then split into two groups and had an informative tour around the various rooms including the dining room with its enormous dining table which seats 20 and the reception room. We were also told about the enormous amount of research that goes into updates to the building, such as the addition of lifts, and the refurbishment of rooms, replacing carpets, paint and wallpaper.



During our tour, the Governor, Jeanette Young, arrived and introduced herself and gave us a brief chat. Some of our group were lucky enough to get a photograph next to her!

We concluded our tour with a visit to the stables which now house the Governor's official vehicles. A petrol bowser sits opposite with a price tag of 17c per litre!

After the tour, we had a lovely casual lunch at The Shed in Bardon.

Lord Mayor's Christmas Carols 4th December 2025



Christmas Lunch at The Boulevard Gardens- 1st December 2025



The Indoороopilly Men's Shed Ukulele band entertained us throughout the event.

Celebrating Probus Month 2025- October Scavenger Hunt

Our club celebrated Probus Month with a Scavenger Hunt at Rocks Riverside Park, 531 Seventeen Mile Rocks Road, Seventeen Mile Rocks on Tuesday 7th October.



Dawn, Bob and Paula arrived at Rocks Riverside Park at 7:00am to reserve our spot and start setting up. Nothing is straight forward – Council had decided to close off part of the ring road while they started work on rejuvenating the

water park. This made access for our members attending this event difficult so the decision was made to relocate to an area closer to the first carpark so Dawn, Bob and Paula had to move everything to the new location.

That done, their next task was to blow up the blue and gold Probus balloons to claim and mark our spot.

And then came the fun of hiding all the various items for the scavenger hunt. Items hidden included a champagne cork (the finder of this item to receive a bottle of bubbly), two shower caps (the finders of these to receive a box of chocolates each), empty coffee cups, shells, pegs, mini balls (soccer and basketballs), smooth white stones, artificial flowers and a few other items.

Scavengers started arriving at 10am and were faced with road closures, but the well located balloons indicated where we should go. A few scavengers missed the balloons and had to be retrieved from the original location.

We started off with morning tea/coffee with a selection of savory and sweet nibbles provided by members to share, accompanied by lively banter.

Judy read out the rules of the hunt which was in two parts, the first part the actual hunt for hidden items and the second part a Brain Teaser quiz with prizes.

Our first task was to scavenge for as many items on the list as possible and then report back. The actual search area covered about an acre of land so we all got our steps up. Some items were located easily and others were well hidden. And some items were never located!

Most scavengers found 3 to 5 of the items listed. Ian found the cork and received a bottle of bubbly, unfortunately, he had no glasses so was unable to share his winnings. Nobody found the shower caps which are still missing! There was lots of discussion on what a smooth white stone was in a park full of old stones!

We then set off for the Lark in the Park – following clues to answer cryptic questions. We concluded with the Brain Teaser quiz competing for prizes of two boxes of chocolates.

We then headed for lunch to the Monier Hotel to finish off the great morning.

What a fun filled morning we had.

Our thanks go to Dawn and Judy for organizing and coordinating this very successful event, and to Bob and Paula for their efforts assisting in setting up the event.

Our September 2025 Sip & Paint event – from Marian



Members participating in the Sip N Paint event and a sample painting

Our Sip and Paint adventure began with coffee at Wake Up Café in Uptown (the old Myer Centre) which was just next to the Sip and Paint Studio. Our canvases were set up on easels, ready for us to begin to create our masterpieces. The paints were blobs of red, blue and yellow (primary colours) and black and white (tints) from which all colours can be

made. We followed along as our instructor gave us step by step instructions, creating the background, pot, cactus and flowers and then adding shadows and highlights. The results were surprisingly varied given that we all had the same instructions! After we completed our paintings, we moved on to lunch at Jimmy's on the Mall.

It was an enjoyable outing from start to finish, giving us the opportunity to try something different whilst in delightful company. Thanks to our intrepid event coordinators Judy and Dawn for an interesting and stimulating outing.

Celebrating "Christmas in July 2025" at Stanthorpe



Christmas in July Lunch

We celebrated **Christmas in July** 2025 with a 3-day trip with [Granite Highlands Maxi Tours](#), departing Friday, 18th July and returning Sunday, 20th July.

Story and photos supplied by Alex

On Friday morning 18th July our group of 27 left a cold and drizzly Brisbane headed for Stanthorpe and the Granite Belt. Our first stop after climbing Cunningham's Gap was at Bestbrook where it was colder but clearing, and the fresh scones, jam and cream were just the start of a three-day gastronomical tour de force.

Admiration of the magnificent deep black basalt derived soil of the Southern Downs was marred only by the sight of 200,000 solar panels covering some of the best cropping land in Australia as we continued through Warwick heading south steadily gaining altitude along the crest of the Great Dividing Range. Now in granite country with rocky outcrops and sandy soils. Nearing Stanthorpe, we stopped at Kent Saddlery where skilled craftspeople demonstrated how all manner of leather goods are made with surprising speed and efficiency.



Next a huge lunch at Granite Belt Brewery, then a winery visit and a tour of Stanthorpe before we settled into The High St Motel.

At 6.30 pm we were transported to Anne's Restaurant in Stanthorpe. This hugely popular restaurant was packed but fortunately, two large tables were ready for us. These were soon loaded with platters of amazing Italian food until there was not a space left for another. Oh, to have so little capacity.

On Saturday, after Breakfast at the Motel, we went to the nearby Stanthorpe Heritage Museum. This museum was specially opened early for our group, and it is an absolute credit to the volunteers who maintain it. For oldies with an interest in history and especially if they have a rural background, it is fascinating to be reminded of familiar trappings from one's youth and admire what, with stoicism and ingenuity, the depression era and earlier generations could accomplish. We are now all so soft.

Naturally, morning tea was included to prepare us for the highlight of the day, The Christmas lunch at Heritage Estate Winery.

But not before a visit to The Christmas Shop. This expanding warehouse facility is surrounded by paddocks of Christmas trees and was packed with people and also packed with vast quantities of all manner of Christmas decorations and other ephemera.



The Heritage Winery too was packed. Our group of 27, although allocated a large centre table was but a small part of the large number of patrons enjoying the atmosphere. Everything possible was done to make it seem like Christmas except there was no sign of baby Jesus. A welcome feature was the large open fire. Did I say it was cold? The meal of course, was excellent and, spread out over most of the afternoon, left just enough time for us to return to the Motel and prepare ourselves for dinner in the Motel Restaurant.



Sunday 20th, final day, cold, clear and sunny. Breakfasted and checked out of the Motel we journeyed through farming areas although, given the season, vines and fruit trees were dormant and leafless. The neatly pruned apple trees being protected by vast canopies of hail netting. We arrived at the Amiens Legacy Centre. Again, a credit to the volunteers, who maintain and run it, this Centre is dedicated to the soldier settlers who came to the area after WW1 and through grit and determination, established once thriving communities. They brought with them memories of their time in France and named their communities after the places of some of the major battles which led to ultimate victory after years of stalemated trench warfare: Amiens, Pozieres, Bullecourt, Passchendaele, Bapaume and others.

Also remembered is the visit in 1920 by the young HRH Edward Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII and husband of Wallace Simpson) to Amiens station on the Royal train to thank the diggers for their service to the old country. We had home-made goodies for morning tea then off to Stanthorpe Cheeses for a tasting followed by Castle Glen Liquors and lunch at Vincenzo's at the Big Apple before returning to Brisbane where we arrived in good time overfed and happy.



It was a lovely three days, our thanks to Judy Crick and Dawn McKernan for the organising and drivers Eugene and Allan of Granite Highlands Maxi Tours as well as all the lovely people we met on the trip.

20 May 2025 Outing – Visit to the Motor Museum

Ten of us met at the Motor Museum at 10:30am, starting off by sharing in coffee, tea and conversation.



We then ventured into the Museum to view the spectacularly restored Sports Cars. Dawn unexpectedly ran into her next door neighbour who works at the Museum as a volunteer. This was a bonus, as he guided us through the museum, filling us in on the history as best he could. We all thoroughly enjoyed viewing all the displays which brought back memories of our more youthful years. Afterwards we shared in a delicious lunch at the Museum.

A big thankyou to Dawn and Judy for organizing this wonderful experience.

Visit the [Brisbane Motor Museum Website](#). The next Motor Museum display coming up is the **Muscle Legends Live On**. Well worth a visit in a group of you or just as a family.

Pictorial memories of our 2024 Christmas lunch at The Jindalee - photos supplied from Ian



2024

October Activity, 2nd October 2024: UN BEL DI by Brian



In recognition of **Probus Month and Seniors month 2024**, the **Probus Club of Kenmore Gardens** decided to take the initiative and seek a Seniors Month Grant from the Queensland Government. Our goal was an ambitious one to replace the guest speaker part of the October Meeting with a concert featuring a professional opera soprano, a tenor and a piano player presenting a range of duets and solo performances from operatic favourites to operettas and contemporary musicals.

If successful, our intention was to livestream the performance to clubs around Australia.

Without the benefit of the grant, the initiative wasn't economically viable so the project was put on the backburner indefinitely. And there it stayed for a few days only until the Committee, encouraged by the desire to provide an uplifting experience during probus Month, decided the project had to go ahead!

Concurrently one of the Committee members, Publicity Officer/Webmaster/Newsletter Editor, Chris, mentioned our dilemma to a local business, [Just-in Time Electrical](#), owned by son Justin. A very generous sponsorship was immediately arranged, and a decision was made by the Committee to proceed.

Members Brian and Kaye resumed discussions with D'Arne Sleeman whose musical background was considered perfect for the role of musical director and lead performer for this unique concert concept. The musical program was soon settled, and negotiations concluded. Discussions with [Just-in Time Electrical](#) saw the sponsorship arrangements rapidly agreed.

Available funds for national streaming were not available so the ambitious plan to involve Probians from around the country were deferred to another time.



With almost 100 members and guests present our commissioned concert, "Un Bel Di - One Fine Day" was held at the Jindalee Hotel Grand Ballroom on October 2nd, 2024. D'Arne was joined by colleagues Bernard Wheaton and Mark Connor a well-known Tenor and Pianist respectively.



Bernard and Mark are well known music professionals, and D'Arne and Bernard have taken part in over 50 Opera Queensland productions over the as well as countless joint performances around Queensland.

In the intimate room - the term Grand Ballroom may be a little exaggerated - the plan was for everyone to experience close-up the magic of stunning operatic and contemporary musical performances. And nobody was disappointed.

"One Fine Day -Un Bel Di" is proudly supported by your club and sponsored by:

Just-In Time Electrical LK. 72894 **Just-in Time Electrical, Brisbane.**
Phone 0488 825 123.
"Just-in Time Electrical is your local electrical contractor based in Brisbane's Western Suburbs and our thanks go to Justin Czarkowski for his generous support without which this event would not have been possible."
Brian Stewart Convener **Shirley Watson President**

YOUR PROGRAM

Brindisi – La Traviata – Verdi	Summertime – Porgy & Bess – Gershwin
Largo Al Factotum – Barber of Seville – Rossini	Poor Wandering One– Pirates of Penzance
Queen of the Night – Magic Flute – Mozart	I've been everywhere man
La Donna a Mobile – Rigoletto – Verdi	Can't stop talking – Let's Dance – Loesser
O Happy We – Candide – Bernstein	My Funny Valentine- Babe in Arms
Un Bel Di – Madama Butterfly – Puccini	Nessun Dorma – Turandot – Puccini
Kissing duet – Mikado – G & S	All I Ask of You – Phantom of the Opera
Piano Solo	Time to Say Goodbye

The song list included well known favourites from Verdi, Mozart and Puccini. With no one further than 12 meters from our performers the magic of Un Bel Di from Madama Butterfly was pure bliss from D'Arne, and Bernie's delivery of Nessun Dorma was flawless. Showcasing his talent Mark performed one of Liszt's compositions.



Completing the program with "All I ask of You" from Phantom of the Opera and "Time to say Goodbye" our Trio left the audience in awe at their amazing talent and the beauty of their music. What a superb day for everyone. Happy Probus and Seniors Month.

September 2024 multi-day Bus Tour to Dorrigo

A big thanks goes to Rob for planning and organising this trip with Alan Foster owner of Granite Highland Maxi Tours. And a big thanks to Alan for a great and professional tour.

Day 1, because of the Indooroopilly Bridge closure, there were two pickup points – the first was at 7:30am at Akuna Oval and then onto Mt Ommaney shopping centre for the second pickup point. It was a beautiful sunny day for the first day of our adventure.

Our first stop was at the [Gallery Café at Ballina](#) for morning tea. We sat outside around a long table. We all ordered our drinks to our taste and then a range of cakes and slices were put on the tables. We then knew that we would be well fed on this trip.



Back on the road again heading for the township of [Ulmarra](#). The tiny settlement of Ulmarra was established when Thomas Small bought land along the [Clarence River](#) in 1857. Small had been a timber cutter, exploiting the cedar in the area but by the 1850s he had turned to general farming firstly growing maize and then around 1865, growing sugar cane.

On the way we passed the [Big Prawn](#) and drove through very green pastures and paddocks along the [mighty Clarence](#).

Our first stop in the picturesque 19th Century township of Ulmarra was lunch at the [historic Ulmarra Hotel](#). We had pre-ordered our luncheon menu, so lunch arrived very quickly which we washed down with assorted beverages. After lunch, we wandered through the township taking in the history.



Back on the road again this time heading to the [Carobana Carob Factory](#), via a very scenic drive.

Here, we spent about 45 minutes sampling the treats, looking through the factory, buying up for later consumption and taking in the surrounds.

We then travelled through the townships of Bonville, Repton, Raleigh, Bellingen and Thora. From Thora we followed a very windy steep road through the [Dorrigo National Park](#), glimpsing incredible views through the forest canopy.

We arrived at our destination, the [Lookout Mountain Resort](#), our home for the next three nights. After settling in, we took in the mountain views, checked out the deer in a paddock next to our accommodation, took in the local flora and fauna and then prepared for our dinner with drinks at the bar.



As we had pre-ordered our meals they arrived quickly and we settled into a very delicious main course followed by dessert. It had been a long day, we were now replete but tired so we were glad to hit our rooms for the night.

Day 2, another beautiful day in paradise. Up for buffet brekkie at 7:30am, the next leg of the adventure started at 8:30.

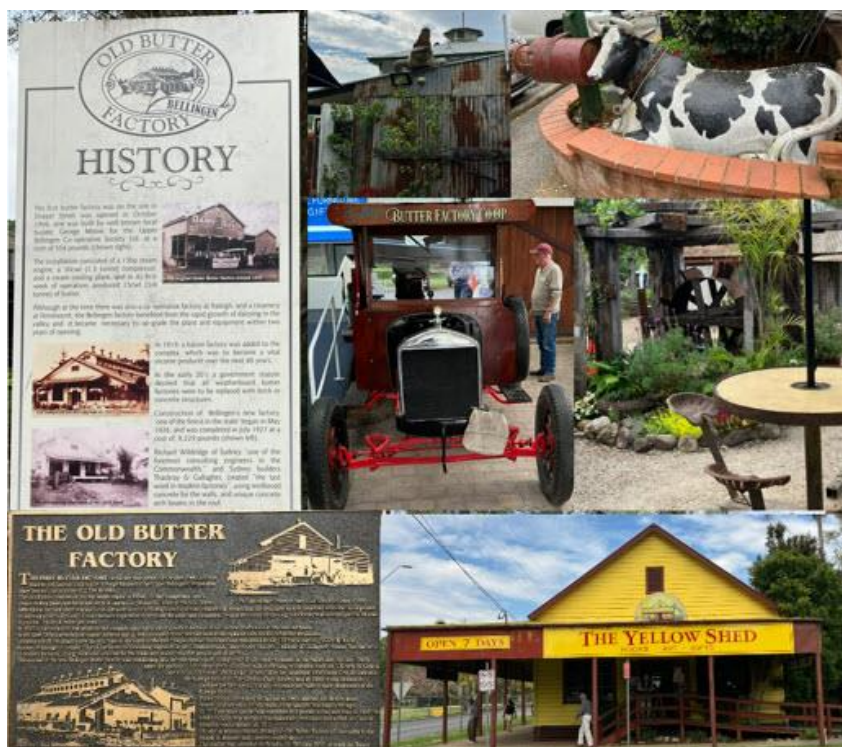


First stop was at Griffiths Lookout, then to [Dorrigo National Park](#) for short walk to Information Centre / Skywalk with morning tea at the Canopy Café. Tour around Dorrigo including a visit to the [Old Railway Precinct](#) which houses hundreds of old NSW railway carriages and locomotives, then to [Dangar Falls](#) and then time to browse shops with lunch at the [Dorrigo Hotel](#), then to [Ebor Falls](#).

After a very adventurous day it was back to Lookout Mountain Retreat Motel for dinner and bed.

Day 3, we departed after breakfast heading to the historic township of Bellingen for a stroll through the shopping strip. Bellingen is known for its hippie subculture and diverse arts community so there were some interesting shops and sights. We then headed to the [Old Butter Factory](#) for morning tea.

After morning tea we had a walk around the grounds, saw their guard dog (old salty on top of shed) and Dora, the cow, farewelling visitors. We then had a quick stop at and browse through the Old Yellow Shed.



Off to the [Honey Place](#), Urunga for tastings. We had a short talk on bee hives and saw live bees in action in a transparent hive. For those with a sweet tooth, there was a wide variety of honey to buy.

Next we headed to [The Clog Barn](#) for lunch in the Coffee House.



After lunch, we had a clog making demonstration and then had a walk through the miniature [Dutch Village](#), an ongoing project, that the 92 year-old owner has been working on for the last 40 years.

Next stop, the [Bunker Cartoon Gallery](#) at Coffs Harbour built around a WWII bunker used by the RAAF as an Operations Room.



It houses the National Cartoon Gallery located within the renovated bunker and the National Holden Motor Museum. The cartoons were displayed as photos of political satire and one could spend hours absorbing the content.



After another scenic day we returned tired and cold to our Lookout Mountain Retreat Motel for our last supper at the Retreat Restaurant where we were greeted by a warming fireplace.

Day 4, we were up early fed, packed and boarded the bus to our next overnight destination at the Ballina Island Motel. It was a rainy day so our views out of the bus windows were of running water.



We travelled through Coramba to Glenreagh where we had morning tea. Then onto Maclean, a town full of Scottish heritage, for lunch.

We then travelled to Yamba where we had a short bus tour, and boarded our ferry to Iluka, where we were welcomed by a mermaid "sunning" herself in the rain.



We had a look around the Iluka Boating bait & tackle shop where Chris made a new friend! Alan drove the bus to meet us at the Iluka ferry terminal.



We then travelled to the [Ballina Islander Motel](#), our home for the next two nights, and had dinner at the Ballina Bowling Club.

Day 5, another rainy day, saw us having breakfast at the [Shelly Beach Café](#) and watching out for whales. We did see some distant “blows” but nothing close. After breakfast we headed to the [Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum](#).



Following the development of Ballina’s maritime trade and industry over many years, the idea for the Museum began in 1973, with the arrival of the unique Las Balsas rafts from Ecuador. The rafts were used in an epic voyage to prove ancient westward migration across the Pacific was not only possible but took place. We were given an enthralling story of the [Las Balsas raft](#) (find out more [here](#)) adventures and how one of the rafts ended up in this museum.



Our next stop after a short drive was [Summerland Farm](#), formerly known as the House with No Steps, at Alstonville, which has a restaurant, plant nursery, gift shop, fruit packing shed and avocado and macadamia tree farm and farm animals. Their main purpose is to provide employment for people with differing abilities. As it was pouring with rain our movements severely restricted, we were not able to see the [farm animals](#) for which they are well known. After lunch we went onto the [New Italy Village](#), on the Pacific Highway between Ballina and Yamba. The Village contains a number of small shops and a fascinating museum detailing the early history of the area. Back to the Ballina Island Motel for dinner and bed.

Day 6, another rainy morning and our last day of our trek. Breakfast at the motel, loading the coach in the rain, then travelling to Byron Bay where we were unable to stop at the Lighthouse lookout because of rain. Still pouring we travelled to the North Beach Train Station where we boarded Australia's only solar powered train.



Disappointingly, because of the heavy rain we were unable to disembark at the next station, luckily, as we had return tickets we simply returned to the originating station and boarded our bus bound for Murwillumbah to visit the [Margaret Olley Art Gallery](#).



At the Gallery members enjoyed the display of paintings and the incredible views.

Our next stop, the [Tumbulgun Hotel](#) for lunch. We enjoyed a great lunch. After lunch Rob, on behalf of us all, thanked Alan for a safe and fantastic adventure. Gill, on behalf of us all, then thanked Rob for putting together a very successful tour.

Once back on board many slept the remaining 110 kms back to Brisbane, firstly to Mount Ommaney Shopping Centre and then the last drop off at Akuna Park.

What a memorable and successful Probus tour with much Fun, Friendship and Fellowship (and Food!). Thank you Rob.

We can't wait for our 2025 multi-day trip.

AUGUST 2024 OUTING - Guided Tour of Anzac Square Memorial and Gardens. Contribution from Barbara

On Monday 26th August, Judy and I were standing beside a pond in Anzac Square marvelling that neither she nor I had ever visited the area under the Flame of Remembrance in Ann Street, despite having both lived in Brisbane all our lives. How could we not have visited such a well-known landmark?

The Anzac Galleries are curated and staffed by people from the State Library and our guide was a knowledgeable young man who started our group tour by telling us that there are three pathways through Anzac Square to remind people that Australians fought in (a) World War 1, (b) World War 11 and (c) in several theatres of war post WW11. Inside the entry doors there are three galleries, each one dedicated to one of those three times of battle. Stone staircases lead from the Park up to the Eternal Flame - 19 steps to the first level of the climb and 18 to the Ann Street level - a reminder that the so-called "Great War" ended in 1918.



The galleries are airy and well-lit and contain plaques with details of the many battalions, squadrons and crews of soldiers, airmen and sailors who fought to maintain freedom for Australia and other countries. Nurses and civilian groups are also represented. There are also interactive sites where you can see photos, diaries and letters and heart-rending stories of men in warfare and their loved ones far away. In the post-World War 11 section there are videos to watch. If you've never visited the Anzac Memorial Galleries, I suggest you make a number of small visits and allow yourself plenty of time to see, hear, read and reflect. Entry is free, guided tours take place on most days and the Galleries are open almost every day. [Check details online.](#)



Another delightful first for many of us was having lunch at the Grand Central Hotel in Ann Street opposite the Eternal Flame. Because we were a group, we were seated in a long narrow section reminiscent of a railway carriage. Real windows along the wall allowed us to see trains as they travelled through Central Station. The lunch-time specials were great value at \$17.50 and the food tasted good. An interesting and enjoyable outing for us all.

Kenmore VIEW Club 3 night (4 day) Toowoomba Bus Tour on 25th to 28th July 2024 with GRANITE HIGHLANDS MAXI-TOURS

A number of our members joined the Kenmore VIEW Club in a 4 day Toowoomba Bus Tour.

Day 1, The bus picked up travellers at the Bellbowrie Tavern for a departure at 7.30am on the 25th July. The team arrived at Picnic Point for morning Tea and took in the sights. Next the team travelled to the Japanese Gardens where they enjoyed time walking around and exploring the magnificent gardens. Then on to Toowoomba Railway Museum for the Tour Lunch. After a memorable lunch, they travelled to the Cobb Co Museum at Queens Park for a tour. Tired and hungry, they were dropped at the Cotswold Motor Inn at around 4.30pm followed by dinner at 6.30 at the Club Glenvale.

Day 2, started with an enjoyable Continental Breakfast at the Motel. Next on the agenda they travelled to Jimbour House for morning tea and tour of the House. This was followed by lunch at the Russel Tavern Dalby. After lunch they headed off to the Oakey Aviation Museum. They returned to the Toowoomba Cotswold Motor Inn with a 6:30pm dinner at Club Glenvale before settling in for the night..

DAY 3, commenced with a Continental Breakfast at the Motel. And then back on the bus to the Crows Nest Cordial Factory for a tour and tastings, with time to browse the shops, and morning tea at the Crows Nest Historic Museum. Lunch followed at the Myrtle Restaurant. And then a visit to the Regional Art Gallery returning to Toowoomba Cotswold Motor Inn for dinner at Club Glenvale 6.30pm.

DAY 4, our last day, another satisfying Continental Breakfast at the Motel, with time to pack all your belongings on to the coach. We departed at 8.45, with the first stop of the day at the Highfields Pioneer Village for a tour and morning tea. Members visited craft shops around Highfields then the Cabarlah Cuckoo clocks. Lunch was at the Farmers Arms Hotel returning to Brisbane via Murphys Creek Railway Station. A great time was had by all and members agreed to plan on another combined outing.

Day trip to Wynnum-Manly, TUESDAY 12th MARCH- REDISCOVERING the DELIGHTS of WYNNUM-MANLY

Our BUS TRIP TO WYNNUM-MANLY on TUESDAY 12th MARCH proceeded with a hitch when the bus company were unable to source a driver for the day. Members then arranged to car share so the day went ahead anyway.

The day started off with morning tea/coffee sitting over the water at Tides Restaurant, Sir William Gunn Jetty, Manly.

Next on the agenda was a short talk on migratory wetland birds/dugongs at the Moreton Bay Discovery Centre adjacent to Tides which was air-conditioned and with seating.

Lunch was Fish and chips, which was pre-ordered, at The Pelican's Nest on the Wynnum Foreshore. And after lunch there was time for a stroll along the water front and a quiet sit by the bay taking in the views before it was time to head home. The day reinforced the theme of Fun, Friendship and Fellowship for the members who participated.

Lunch at the Monier Hotel, Darra- 13th February 2024



17 of our members enjoyed Fun, Friendship and Fellowship (and Food!) with a luncheon at [The Monier, Darra](#). It was good to see members from both amalgamated clubs sharing in this activity.

2023

Xmas Luncheon at The Jindalee, December 2023

Past President and Joint Speaker Coordinator Brendan delivered a Trivia Quiz that had many guessing, and Gill delivered a novelty Pass-the-Parcel which produced laughs and merriment all round.

This event also completed an exciting year for all members as the process of Amalgamation of the Probus Club of Mt Coot-tha Kenmore and the Probus Club of Kenmore Gardens had occurred earlier in the year.

Over 90 members of the new Club attended the function and the atmosphere was the same as if the Club had been meeting for a decade. Happiness and energetic conversation was the theme of this wonderful Christmas Function.

The Club was also appreciative of a special grant from the Brisbane Lord Mayor's Seniors Christmas Party Fund which was used to good effect for a memorable event. Our thanks go to Lord Mayor Adrian Schinner and Brisbane City Council for their support.





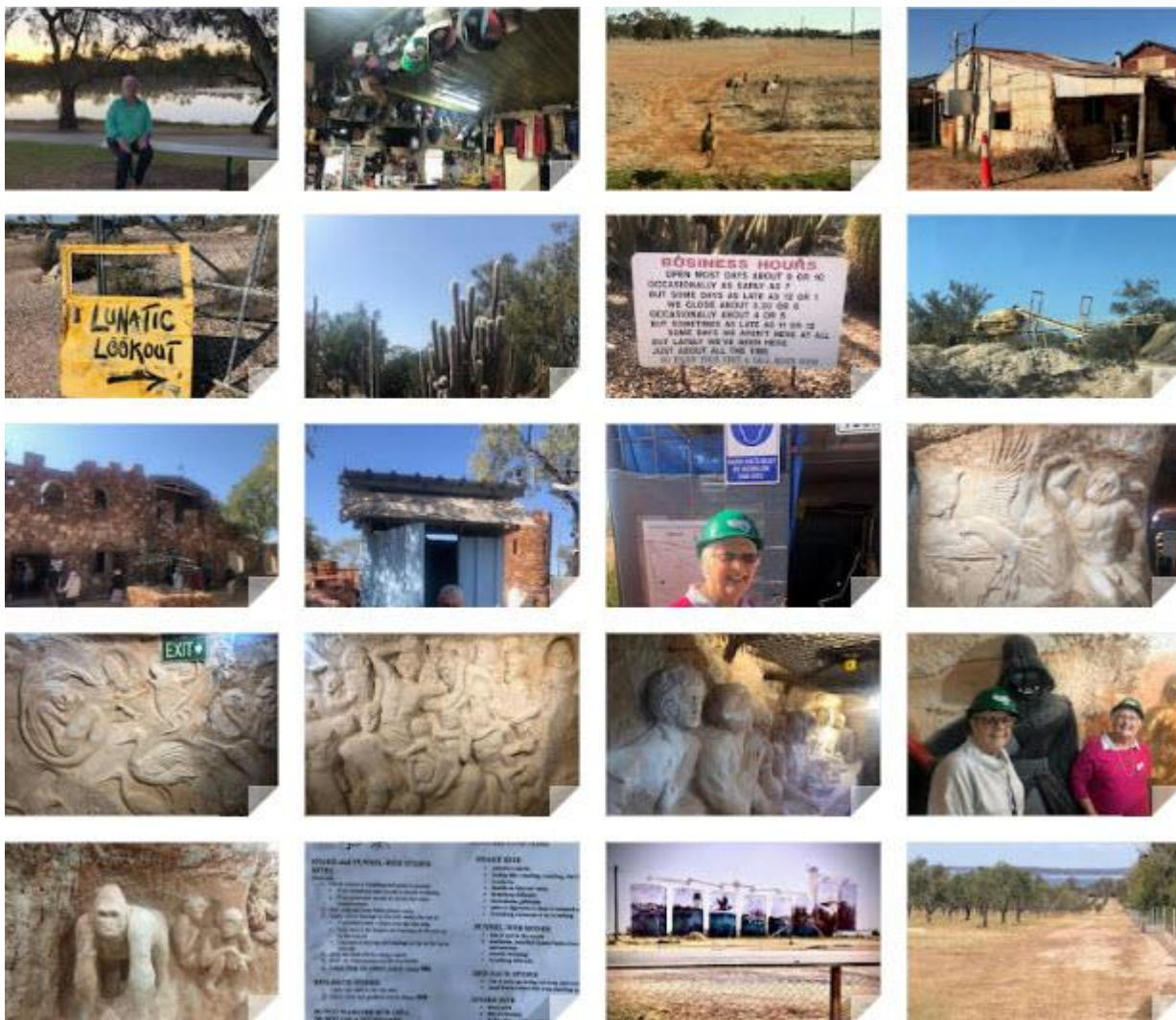
Lightning Ridge Bus Tour August 21-25, 2023

18 members and 5 friends arrived back in Brisbane at 6pm last Friday after an extremely enjoyable tour to Lightning Ridge. Everyone got on very well and I am unaware of any problems and complaints during the trip. There were no health issues.

The tour was well organized and we enjoyed visiting places to and from Lightning Ridge – Pittsworth Museum for morning tea, lunch at Railway Hotel, Goondiwindi, had a beer at the Nindigully Hotel, out in the middle of nowhere, established 1864, near St George, where we stayed overnight. We had a conducted tour of the Riversands Vineyard and sampled their many wines, lunch at Dirranbandi Hotel and then to Lightning Ridge for 2 nights. We had a conducted tour of the town and its many attractions, swim in the spa pool, 2 dinners at Lightning Ridge Bowls Club, climbed down and up 81 steps to view underground opal mining operations and on our 4th day departed Lightning Ridge for morning tea at Collarenebri Hotel, lunch at Moree Golf Club, then to Goondiwindi Gunsyd Motel and dinner at the Railway Hotel. Day 5 was on the road to Brisbane, morning tea tour of Coolmunda Olive Farm, lunch at Glengallen Homestead, Warwick.

We awarded Eugene, our tour operator and bus driver, 10 out of 10 for being a very pleasant and skillful operator and driver – nothing was too much trouble to him to make us happy. All up, we travelled just over 2,000 kms.

Members indicated that they would like to do a similar tour next year and I have asked them to put in requests for places and length of tour. If we go for more than 5 days, we would need to have more rest days at an interesting location. Something to ponder!



Christmas in July at the Canungra Hotel 26th July, 2023

We all met at Cubberla Park for a 9:30 am bus pick-up. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control the bus had to cancel at the last minute. Members decided to car pool and drive to Canungra Village. We had time to wander around the village to buy a cup of coffee, visit some interesting stores, including the Antiques shop, Op Shop, book shop, country gift shop, and a popular shoe store.



We then had a tour of the the historic St Luke's Anglican Church. Built in 1936 with local timbers (The walls are made of rosewood, the floor is rose gum and the furniture is red cedar). On 18 October 1936 the Church was officially opened and dedicated by Archbishop William Wand. The building was designed by architect Raymond Clare Nowland and the contractor was Gordon Rhodes, supervised by architect Thomas Percy. It was built in the Old English Gothic style using rose cedar. Also gives other historical information - example tramway construction.



We then had a delicious xmas lunch at the Canungra Hotel.



2022

Celebrating Seniors Month October 2022

General Meeting- October 10th

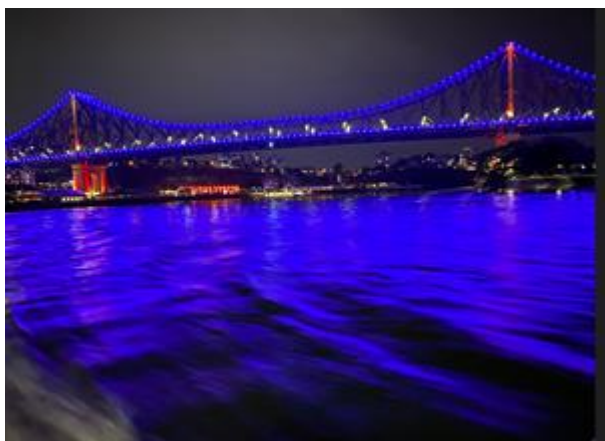


Members continue to celebrate Probus Day by dressing up in Probus colours for our October 10 meeting.

Celebrating Probus Day- Saturday 1st October



Members enjoyed a **twilight** river cruise to see the river bridges and buildings that were lit up in Probus colours of blue and yellow to celebrate Probus Day. Nine members of our Club sailed on the MV Mirimar with about 42 members of the Indooroopilly Probus Club. There was substantial finger food refreshments served as we proceeded up and down the river with a cash bar in operation for the occasional drink!



A Brisbane River Cruise including lunch at the Breakfast Creek Hotel

Date: **Wednesday 14th of September 2022**

A "Cruise to Lunch" on the M.V. Neptune - rivercitycruises.com.au/cruise-to-lunch/ - cruise the Brisbane River to Breakfast Creek, enjoy a leisurely walk to the Breakfast Creek Hotel for an included lunch and then cruise back.



Members enjoying lunch at the Breakfast Hotel before re-boarding the Neptune for the return trip.

The 4-Day Gympie Bus Tour included an adventure on the Gympie Rattler

The 4 day bus tour to Gympie from Monday 11th July, 2022 returning on 14th July, was organized by Allan Foster from **Granite Highlands Maxi-Tours** who has conducted previous trips for our club. The below itinerary is a great summary of the activities prepared for the members.

Photos of the trip can be found under the **Photo Gallery** section.

Day 1 7.30am Depart Brisbane to Yandina Ginger Factory for tour & Morning tea then to Gympie Gold Mining Museum Tour and Lunch then to Gympie Timber Museum then book into Motel at approx 4.30pm (Great Eastern Motel Gympie) 6.30pm Dinner at Motel

Day 2 7.30am Breakfast at Motel 8.30am Depart to Gympie Railway Station to Board for a 9am Departure / Gympie Rattler trip to Amamoor and Return for lunch at the Railway Station Cafe with time to look around then to Rainbow beach time to look around return back to Gympie 6.30pm Dinner at The Gunnabul Homestead Gympie

Day 3 7am Breakfast at Motel Restaurant 8.15am Depart to Noosa Heads for a 9am/9.15am Depart for Cruise Noosa Everglades Cruise including morning tea at Harrys Hut then cruise back to the Noosa Everglades Eco Camp for lunch time to browse Noosa then return back to Gympie 6.30pm Dinner at Motel Restaurant

Day 4 7.30am Breakfast at Motel 8.30am load Coach return Journey back via Mary Valley to Kenilworth Cheeses tastings & morning tea stop to Maleny to browse shops to Clouds Vineyard & Cafe for lunch (Previously The Big Barrel) There is wines tastings for those who want to After Lunch return back to Brisbane



All aboard the Gympie Rattler.

Fish and Chips at Doug's Seafood Cafe Sandgate 23 May

Train trip to Sandgate including a luncheon at Doug's Fish Cafe and a heritage walk around Sandgate.

Members at Doug's Fish Cafe



Members alighting train at Sandgate station



Retired member Arthur joined us for lunch.

Stunning Three Dams Tour of South East Queensland – 30th March 2022

The Three Dams Tour was held on the 30th March with a total of 31 passengers, a combination of members from our club and from the Seniors' club participating.



We departed at 9:00am from the Akuna Oval parking lot on the Cross Country Tours bus. Our driver and tour guide were very friendly and knowledgeable. We enjoyed a catered morning tea at the Old Fernvale Bakery, with coffee/tea and scones, before making our first stop at Atkinson's Dam. The dam is now at over 100% capacity, after being at very low levels for the past 7 years. This lake is a popular recreation spot for power boating, water skiing and jet skiing and is stocked with a variety of freshwater fish.



We then took a leisurely drive through Esk, checking out the old and the new.



We made our way to Somerset Dam for a delicious picnic lunch surrounded by unspoiled bushland and spectacular mountain views.



Wivenhoe Dam was our last on the list before returning to Brisbane.

At Wivenhoe we drove across the dam wall and back again and then stopped at the Spillway Lookout.



We arrived home at 4:30 and all agreed that we had a great day filled with Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

2021

Lord Mayor's Seniors Christmas Party- 9th December 2021



The **Lord Mayor's Seniors Christmas Party** was held at the City Hall on the **9th December** and was attended by 7 of our members; unfortunately several members had to cancel at the last minute owing to health issues.

We met at 9am and were seated by 9:15 at tables of 10 in the Auditorium. There were also many guests also seated in the Balcony areas. In total, roughly 1000 people attended and the organization behind the scenes was very professional and everything went without a hitch.

Morning tea was the first on the agenda, each guest received a plate of refreshments and bottomless cups of tea & coffee. All agreed that the refreshments were plentiful, delicious and that the staff did an excellent job of distributing the refreshments and keeping our coffee topped up.

After the morning tea, the entertainment began capably led by Rachael Tiernan as the MC, with a speech from the Lord Mayor with his family, and a range of entertainers including Billy Bouchier, Adam Lopez, Renae Suttie, Judith Molnar, the Rako Pasefika Singers, Adam Robbins, Bridie Heron, Mia Fennessy, The Christmas Party Singers and the Seren8 Quartet.

2021 Christmas Luncheon- 6th December

Our Annual Christmas Luncheon was held as planned at the Jindalee Tavern on the 6th December with another great roll-up of members. The day started with a welcome by our President who gave a summary of our activities during the last year and extended a warm welcome to all present. Concluding with some appropriate quotes for the Season he introduced two new activities for the day. This included a Trivia Quiz, a "Pass the Parcel" event and a rolling series of lucky door prizes beautifully arranged and then Charades.



The noise levels increased immediately after President's opening with discussion about the questions for Trivia. In which TV series was the phrase "Allo Allo", a by-word? It seemed everyone had a contribution to make and memories were razor sharp.

Lunch was well prepared and plentiful and absolutely appropriate for the event. Staff were also very attentive and helpful.

Pass the Parcel was a great success with a novel theme of “passes” tied in with the words of a narrative. Differently, parcels were passed under and over tables as well as to the right and left. This interlude was very well received.

After the judging of the Trivial Pursuit and the conclusion of the Lucky Door Prizes, our President took to the stage to thank those in attendance, the Event Organizing Committee and the venue and staff for a wonderful day’s festive activities. It seemed that the change of venue had been a great success.

Walkabout Creek Discovery Centre – Wednesday 17 November



Members had a memorable morning at the Walkabout Creek Discovery Centre on the 17th November. It started off with a talk from Jocie, our assigned guide, who spoke about the Centre and then introduced us to a number of interesting residents. This was followed by a self-guided walk around the various animal/fish displays, a walk around the site and then lunch at their newly developed café.

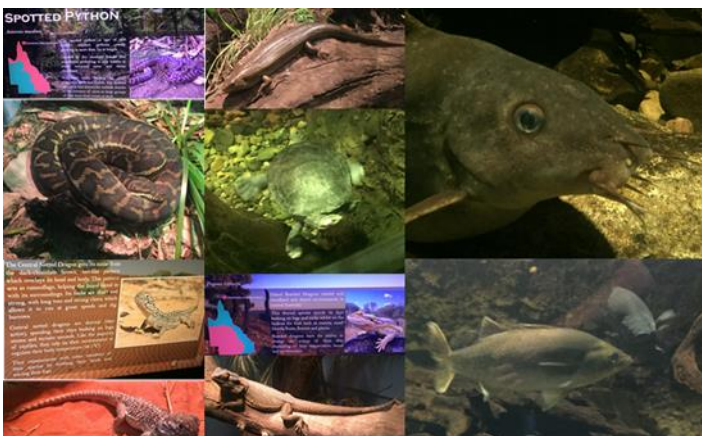
Members attentively listening to Jocie, our guide, who kept us entertained with a history of the Centre and introduced us to several of their residents (most recovering from an injury or two).

The first resident we met was a Rain Forest Lizard, a species from the Daintree National Park where they live in the canopy to get the most of the sun. Our second resident was Donna, an Inland Bearded Dragon. This species inhabit arid woodland and desert environments. They have a “third eye”, called a parietal eye, that detects light conditions and allows them to change colour depending on light conditions.

Next we met a Spiny Tailed Monitor, a diurnal, long and lithe ground dwelling species that live in the Northern Territory. They prey mainly on arthropods. We were then introduced to Vader, a Shingleback from the Carnarvon National Park; Vader was rescued by quarantine inspectors from being exported overseas.

Our final resident was mischievous Rocko, an Echidna who was rescued in Rockhampton, but then kept as a pet and now re-housed at the Centre to rehabilitate him back to the wild. Echidnas are found in almost all parts of Australia and prey mainly on ants, termites, grubs and worms.

After the talk we familiarised ourselves with various live displays.



We left the display area and we walked around the park, saw the lake and various water activities (from a distance!) and met Ozzie the free-ranging emu and Billy the wombat who is the most spoilt resident in the park with his own air-conditioned enclosure (and obviously enjoying it).

Lunch was served and we all went away agreeing we all had a great morning filled with Fun, Friendship, Fellowship and (Food)!

Roma St Parklands Gardens tour 13th September



The **Roma St Parklands Gardens guided tour** on the **13th September** was attended by 11 members. We were split into two groups and each group had a volunteer guide. We enjoyed an hour and a half guide of the gardens full of colour with excellent commentary and many photographic opportunities.

We followed this with chatter over an enjoyable lunch at the Gardens Room cafe. Their signature dish is a Caesar salad with several of our members partaking of this dish.

Adult Learners Week Symposium 1st September 2021



The **Adult Learners' Week symposium** on the **1st September** was hosted by the Probus Club of Kenmore Village in the Kenmore Library meeting room.

It was well attended by about 20 participants from various clubs including several from our club. The program included an opening address by the Chair, Professor Jack Greenwood. Peter Kearns AM addressed "The Growing Importance of Adult Learning in the Emerging Longevity Society". This was followed by Councillor Greg Adermann whose subject was "Growing Older and Living Bolder", he also talked about the Brisbane City Council's GOLD initiative – Growing Old, Living Dangerously. Tanya, from the Kenmore Library, talked about the work of the Kenmore Library in providing adult learning materials and services. Dr Denise Kearns completed the talks with her presentation on "How Kenmore Village Probus looks at the wider benefits of continuing to learn". All the speakers then mingled with the participants to answer questions and Peter Kearns had a fascinating display of literature on adult learning for us to peruse.

Commissariat Store Museum 14th July 2021



A visit to the **Commissariat Store Museum**, was held on the **14th July**. The Commissariat Store is Queensland's oldest habitable building and most significant heritage building. It was built in 1824 during the convict days. The Commissariat Store Museum website is <https://commissariatstore.org.au/>. Fourteen of our Club members turned up for the tour. We met up in Queen Gardens around 10am and began the tour at 10.30am. It began on the lower level where we were told its history. It was built in 1829 by convicts during Captain Logan's time and had only two levels at first but another level was added later. It is the oldest occupied building in Queensland. The stone came from Kangaroo Point Cliffs and the grouting is of ash from the eruption of Mt Tambourine 200 million years ago and shell from the aboriginal midden heaps. The great wooden beams were all cut from local timber using adze and cross cut saws. The only beast of burden was Logan's horse for convicts had to move everything using man power including carts etc. In all it is a very impressive building. After a talk on the lower we were split into two groups for a tour of the rest of the building which proved very educational.

Goma European Masterpiece Exhibition 21st June 2021

The **Goma European Masterpieces Exhibition** was attended by about 25 members on the 21st June. Highlights of the exhibition included Fra Angelico's finely painted altarpiece The Crucifixion of ca. 1420–23; Titian's poetic Venus and Adonis of the 1550s; the immediacy and drama of Caravaggio's The Musicians 1597; Rembrandt's painterly Flora of c.1654; Vermeer's beautifully observed Allegory of the Catholic Faith c.1670-72, and van Gogh's idyllic The Flowering Orchard 1888.

Some members met for a light lunch afterwards at the GOMA outdoor café. All members reported a very worthwhile exhibition and an excellent day.

Putt-Putt at the St Lucia Golf Club on 17th May 2021



Framed by the trees pondering their next shot.



Having a well-deserved break.



The power of concentration.



Relaxing, pondering the missed chances.

Eight of us participated in **Putt-Putt** on the 17th May at The St Lucia Golf Club. We had two teams of 4 players and successfully completed the expert level for each of the 12 holes (no lost balls, but a few ended in the rough and lots of laughter). After a very competitive game, we declared we were all winners and then enjoyed coffee, a light lunch and some banter.