

Our History 2010-2011

The year started at a new venue. This was the McLeod Country Golf Club in Mt Ommaney and our first meeting took place in February. The change of location was after canvassing of possible alternative meeting places and following a vote by the members.

The move from the Lakeside Gardens was precipitated by more onerous conditions than were previously applied. As usual at the AGM there were changes to the committee. Joan Matheson took over as President from Malcolm Lewis. Whilst other changes saw Geoff Brierley move from Treasurer to Vice-President, David Smith came onto the committee as treasurer. Con McCormack came on as secretary. Arthur Walters came on as Publicity Officer. Daryl Rosenberg took on Programme Officer i.e. organizing the speakers for our monthly meetings, and Juliana Pinheiro Member Support Officer which primarily involves following up on the welfare of those members who are sick. This meant that Barbara Parker, Maureen Ashbury and Yvonne Baker were no longer on the committee after excellent service in their respective positions, Still continuing in their previous roles were Ann Burton as Membership Officer and Gill Lewis, who continued her excellent work in organizing our outings and trips.

The Club's assets as at 31 December 2009 were \$2024.56. During the year the Club had purchased a computer, data projector and screen. This was facilitated by a grant from the Gambling Benefit Fund. The charges for morning tea were raised from \$5.00 to \$6.00. A health card for members was introduced whereby details of any medical problems or medications could be noted This was for reference should a member be involved in an accident or medical emergency and should be useful for medical personnel involved

Membership at the beginning of the year stood at 89, with 34 males and 55 females. Unfortunately, during the year two of our members passed away, namely Ed Westerway, and Edward Thistlethwaite. During the year we had resignations for a number of members. These included Elizabeth Bock, Joyce Evans, and Peter and Lynn Horn. These members had left the area and therefore found it difficult to attend. Peter was responsible for initiating the Writers Ink sub group, which has proved very successful. Other resignations were Tony Burton, Alex McKenzie, Peter Hallett, Rhonda Merritt and Una Dwyer. On the positive side in April, David and Janice, Grieves and Ursula and David Abercrombie join the club whilst later in the year Evelyn Hamilton and Lon Brum Brum came on board.

The trips highlight of the year was a 3 day visit to Kingaroy and the Bunya Mountains. Amongst the other activities was a visit in March to Redcliffe where a visit to the historic Picture Palace cinema and the showing of films on the history of Redcliffe during the war years and another on the well known mailman, Tom Kruse, and his epic trips around Birdsville in the 1850's. A walk on the pier and a visit to Morgan's fish shop at Scarborough concluded the day. Other events included in April, tour around historic Newstead House followed by lunch at the Breakfast Creek Hotel. In June in a bus trip to Suncorp Stadium followed by lunch at the LA Hotel in Caxton Street, in September Parliament House was elected for a visit with lunch at Gilhooley's Tavern, the Government Archives in November and QIMR (The Queensland Institute of Medical Research) in February concluded our shorter trips of the year. A cruise on the Brisbane river in May started at Southbank and was courtesy of Brisbane Star Cruises. This took us to Mandalay passing the Regatta Hotel, Queensland University, the Pat Rafter tennis centre, Indooroopilly Golf Course and finally turning around at Seventeen Mile Rocks which are just before the Jindalee Bridge. Visit to the Tramway Museum at Ferny Grove in July brought back many memories for long time residents of Brisbane. Short rides on several vintage trams was like "All our Yesterdays". Lunch was at the Ferny Grove Tavern. A full day at Boonah was enjoyed by all in August and started with morning tea at the Boonah Information Centre. A talk and lunch at the Rathloggan Grove Olive Farm was next on the agenda and finally before returning to Brisbane, we spent time at the Templin Historical Village where rusty old farm machinery, and ancient household goods took us back many years.

Our usual Christmas lunch was held this year at the Jindalee Golf Club. Again 'home grown' acts were the entertainment. Arthur Walters did a monologue and also sang a duet (The Gendarmes) with Geoff Brierley. Rob Jeffrey played a selection of tunes on the piano whilst a number of members formed a choir and sang carols under the direction of Norman Pugh.

At the AGM, we did not have a speaker but members of our Writer's Ink group presented some of their writing efforts. At our monthly meetings, we had speakers in chronological order as follows:- Road Safety Council, Alana Creswell from the PA hospital about Queensland Donate, Clem 7 Tunnel, Mercy Ships - these travel the world providing healthcare to various countries, Ray Crompton from Wesley Hospital, Bill Waterfield, who is involved in

supplying educational and health goods to Papua New Guinea and talked about the Kokoda Track in World War 2, Deborah Bishop talked about the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, Yvette Nash who works for the Federal Minister of Home affairs (Brendan O'Connor) and is a qualified criminal lawyer, and finally Andrew Macy who gave an illustrated talk about a trip to Antarctica.

Our sub groups continued as per the previous year, but with the addition of a Girls Morning Tea Party. This started in June and met on Tuesday morning at Garden Way with Joanie Cameron as convener.

33 of our members undertook a multiday tour of Kingaroy and the Bunya Mountains from 10th to the 14th October. On the way we saw the release of water from Wivenhoe Dam - not enough as it turned out later. Morning tea was at Taabinga Homestead and lunch was at the Kingaroy RSL on the first day. After lunch we were given a guided tour of Kingaroy and a look around the information centre. Accommodation for the 2 nights was at the Burke and Wills Motel. Wednesday saw us visit "Bethany" where John Bjelke-Peterson gave us a tour of the property followed by morning tea including the famous pumpkin scones which are now made by John's wife, Karen. However Flo was on hand to sell and sign copies of her cook book. It was then on to the Bunya Mountains and lunch at the Bunya Forest Gallery. A walk through the rain forest or a visit to the local museum which is run by John and Sandy Learmont was next on the agenda. On the way back to Kingaroy we stopped off at "Belvedere" which is a peanut farm run by Malcolm Schmocker. The next day we commenced with a visit to Endeavour where disabled people make biscuits, pickles, chutneys and Christmas cakes. Following on this we went to the old butter factory and tasted their cheeses, fudge and wine. More wine and lunch at the Captain's Paddock was next prior to heading home via the Timber Museum at Wondai.

2011

Again McLeod Country Golf Club was the venue for our meetings. The morning teas were popular and more than adequate in that sale of left over scones did a roaring trade at \$1.50 each

The AGM in March saw Geoff Brierley become president whilst Helen Kerr took on outings, Sandra Pritchard assumed responsibilities for membership, and Gill Lewis moved to vice president. Joan Matheson and Ann Burton relinquished their positions on the committee after excellent work. The club started the year with 90 members and average attendance at meetings of 66 the previous year was disappointing. Available funds at the end of the Financial year December 31st 2010 were \$2872.66. McLeod had increased their charges This meant that a proposition was put and carried at the AGM that the annual membership fee be increased to \$30.00 and morning tea and meeting fee be raised to \$7.00.

Our sub-groups continued as usual but with the addition in April of a walking group on Friday afternoons and Wendy Bailey became convenor.

The significance of the year was that it was our 10th anniversary and celebrations were held in August when a lunch was organised at the Mount Ommaney Lodge. Past members and representatives from PAQ were invited. Bob Rogers and his wife Nancy, Alan Kohler and his wife Fran and Bill Bushmann were attendees. Bob and Alan were the 2 Rotarians who were instrumental in starting the Kenmore Gardens Probus club. And Alan was the instigator of 5 of the 8 Kenmore Probus Clubs at the time. Bill, Boab and Alan together with club president, Geoff Brierley, made short presentations. Also we were pleased to welcome past members who were able to join us for the occasion. These were Lynn and Peter Horn and Carmel Drysdale. Rene Brierley and David and Ursula Abercrombie had arranged lots of memorabilia in the form of photographs, newsletters and minutes of meetings. Darryl Rossberg was the M.C. Barbara Parker on keyboard and Joan O'Hara singing provided entertainment with a song entitled Ten Year Celebration that they had written. President Geoff Brierley assisted by wife Rene cut the anniversary cake. The club received a grant from the Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund of \$763.64 which helped defray the costs.

A number of members participated in the Probus Friendship Day at Samford in July. Entertainment included the Samford State School Senior Band, the Get Rhythm Dance Team (The Clogging Experience), the Queensland Police Pipes and Drums and last but not least the Probus Choir. The importance of Probus to the tourist industry was exemplified by the host of travel agencies touting their trips. There were also presentations by some of the agents.

Our club was also represented at the Probus Ecumenical Service at St. Stephen's Cathedral.

As usual there were numerous trips and outings during the year These included, Ormiston House, Wolston House, Abbey Museum, City Hall excavations, the Art Gallery (Ethel Garrick and Philip Fox) and bowls at St Lucia (instruction by two club members in Eric Baker and Kevin Hesse.). Particularly enjoyable were two of our all day outings. The first was a river cruise on the Tweed River to Tumbulgum, then by coach to Tyalgum for lunch at Flutterbuys Café and then on to Stocker's Siding pottery before returning to Cubberla Creek. The other trip was to the Lockyer Valley. After morning tea at Apex Park, Gatton a visit was made to Bauer's Organic Farm followed by lunch at Lockyer Cultural Centre, a look through the art gallery and library and then home via Pohlman's Nursery.

Speakers at monthly meetings were many and varied. We started in April with a talk by Noel Davies (grandson of Walter Taylor) on the Walter Taylor Bridge, Cathie Lammie - estate agent, Graham Curnow - Men's Shed, Jack McLaughton - cricketing experiences of earlier years, Rhyl Hinwood – sculptor, Dr. Jack Rynne - tsunamis and earthquakes, Rev Peter Devenish-Meares from Missions Australia - homelessness and chaplaincy issues and in November Professor Justin Marshall from Queensland University, with an interestingly titled topic – “Colour Sex and Violence - day in the life of the Great Barrier Reef”. Ron Cross of MERV (Marine Emergency Response Vessel) spoke to us in February about multipurpose work boats which are involved in cleaning up oil spills, emergency rescue etc.

Our usual Christmas Lunch was held this year on the 28th of November at the McLeod Country Golf club which, although our usual monthly meeting venue, was our first Christmas Lunch there. Entertainment was by "Viva La Musica" and "home grown" entertainers in Barbara Parker (poem - Goodbye Grandad). Arthur Walters (Tongue Twisters) and Ewan McLeod played the bagpipes. Helen Kerr organized the quiz and Barbara Parker played the keyboard for members to join in Christmas songs.