

Our History 2022

The year started with a membership of 66. New inductees included Lorraine Hemming. Rob Johnson was elected to a second term as president. The other committee members are Gill (Secretary), Phil (Treasurer), Susan (Membership), Lynn (Welfare), Chris (Publicity/Newsletter) and Brendan (Speakers). The Events position started off vacant. The Vice-President and Events positions remained vacant. In June Brian Stewart agreed to join our Management Committee as Vice President, which is a position that has not been filled for many years.

Meetings continue to be held at the McLeod Golf Country Club. Annual membership fees remained at \$45 per year and meeting fees remained at \$10 per meeting covering costs of morning tea; however, owing to increasing costs, this was increased to \$12 at the start of 2023.

During the year a proposal to merge Probus Club of Kenmore Gardens and the Probus Club of Mt. Coot-tha Kenmore was addressed. A sub-committee of members of both clubs met on many occasions in the second half of the year to discuss and plan the merger. EGM's at both clubs were held February 2023 and members of both clubs endorsed the merger.

The **Three Dams Tour** (previously cancelled from 2021 owing to Covid restrictions) 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 enjoyed a catered morning tea at the Old Fernvale Bakery, with coffee/tea and scones, before making our first stop at Atkinson's Dam. 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.

Train trip to Sandgate including a luncheon at Doug's Fish Cafe and a heritage walk around Sandgate was our outing for **May**.

In **June** fourteen members attended a very enjoyable Picnic in the Park at Lorraine Hemming's place on the river at Moggill on Thursday 16 June. Thank you, Lorraine, for providing your property and such a lovely warm day.

The 4 day bus tour to Gympie in **July**, was organized through Allan Foster from **Granite Highlands Maxi-Tours** who has conducted previous trips for our club. We had a tour of the Yandina Ginger Factory, with coffee and cake at the Nutworks, followed by a tour of The Gympie Gold Mining Museum and lunch followed by a tour of the Gympie Timber Museum. We stayed at the Great Eastern Motel in Gympie. Day 2 saw us start off on the Gympie Rattler to Amamoor for a look around, morning tea and the return for lunch at the Railway Station Café. Then off to Rainbow Beach. Day 3 saw us on the road to Noosa Heads for a cruise on the Noosa Everglades including morning tea at Harry's Hut then cruise back to the Noosa Everglades Eco Camp for lunch and a look around Noosa. Day 4 saw us head home with a visit to Maleny for morning tea and look around, lunch at the Clouds Vineyard and café and then cheese tastings provided by Kenilworth Cheeses.

In August, six members visited Brisbane City Hall to view the World of Wonder Margot McKinney exhibition. Her jewellery and custom made clothes represented a lavish period in history (and still does).

September saw us partake of a Brisbane River Cruise on the M. V. Neptune to Breakfast Creek where we enjoyed a leisurely walk to the Breakfast Creek Hotel for an included lunch and then cruised back.

October is Senior Citizen's month in Queensland and we got off to a good start on Probus Day, 1st October, with our Club being guests of Probus Club of Indooroopilly on their twilight river cruise on the MV Miramar. Nine members of Probus Club of Kenmore Gardens enjoyed three hours of cruising the Brisbane River from Hamilton Portside to the Regatta Hotel, enjoying finger food, drinks, viewing the bridges lit up in Probus colours, having a race down the river with the Lady Brisbane vessel and, most of all, enjoying the company of approximately 45 members of the host club. Thank you, Probus Club of Indooroopilly, for inviting us to join you on this very enjoyable function.

Our November outing was a visit to the Police Museum followed by lunch at the Café Chez Nous.

Christmas lunch was held at the Jindalee Hotel. This year it was a buffet with a selection of Ham, Turkey and Lamb roast meats served with vegetables and Chef's selection of salads.

10 members attended the Brisbane City Hall for the Lord Mayor's Seniors Christmas Party in December. Attendees enjoyed delicious light refreshments before settling in to some quality entertainment with a range of entertainers performing traditional and contemporary Christmas songs and sing along carols.

Our April speaker was Allan and his dog, Alya, from the Guide Dogs Association. Allan kept us engaged with his lifecycle description of a guide dog, from the moment they are born, to when they are retired.

May saw 4 ten-minute speakers from the Writer's Group and the Book Club present stories - Darryl Rossberg on "The Telephone", Ian Douglas on "A Night in Middleton", Bill Crick on the book *Macquarie* by Grant Kieza, and Trish Andrews on the book *Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr.

Our June speaker was Amanda Harvey from Queensland Rail. Amanda gave an informative and interesting talk on major Queensland Rail holiday packages including the Tilt Train, the Spirit of Queensland, the Spirit of the Outback, the Gulflander, the Inlander and the Kuranda Scenic Railway.

Brian Herd, recognised as one of Australia's leading experts in the areas of elder law, retirement, disability and Aged Care, was our July Speaker. His topic was 'A new twist on family planning'. Brian entertained us all for a full 45 minutes with his THING theme with most people doing noTHING to plan fully for finality.

Annalies Nutley is a Genealogist and Founder of Bygone Days Genealogy, and her topic for August was *Who do you think you are?* An informative talk about researching family history and Annalies gave tips on investigating our ancestry and warned some people may be shocked on what they discover. I am sure that this talk will inspire all members to research and document family history for future generations. Annalies entertaining presentation was preceded by a talk by our own Kevin Hesse on favourite *Train Journeys*, which brought back many fond memories.

Our September speaker was Rod Preston on *Mysteries of the Mail*. We were entertained by Rod as he told us about the early years of Mail deliveries. Greg McGahan was our October speaker. Greg was Head of Adolescent Health at the Mater, spoke on *Youth Health and Care*. 'The Stinson' was the topic of our November speaker, historian Philip Castle. He kept us enthralled in his research into the Stinson crash.

As in previous years we had special interest groups in full swing. They were well-attended and included dinner/movie night, bookworms, writers ink, Picnic in the Park and the Photography groups.