



Presidents Report September 2014.

This has been a rather hectic month. Following my visit to the Kawana Waters Club to celebrate their 25th Anniversary I returned the following week to the 25th Anniversary of the Kawana Central Probud Club. Thank you President Maurice Doran for a most enjoyable dinner at the Buderim Golf Club.

Earlier that week I attended The Presidents and Past Presidents Luncheon in Bundaberg. Once again it was good to catch up with friends I have made this year. Well done Shirley Orphin for your organisation.

On 31st August My wife and I drove to Biloela to attend a get together with the Biloela Probud Club.

Biloela is one of the shining lights in P.A.Q. The get together was attended by Alan McTaggart the Rotary District Probud Chairman. I was welcomed by President Alan Tappin and given a guided tour of the town. Biloela means Cockatoo.

Biloela also boasts a power station and a coal mine. Thank you for your very warm welcome.

The next day we drove to Rockhampton for a get together with representatives of Rockhampton, Emu Park, Biloela and Yeppoon. Keith McCarthy our R.L.O. for this area arranged the meeting and

Once again Alan McTaggart attended.

Back in the car and up to Mackay where Meryl Napier President of Mackay Combined Probud Club assembled 40 members from Mackay and Sarina Clubs. We had a great time swapping stories, problems and successes of our organisation.

These gatherings are all about including our country "cousins" in the organisation despite the distances that separate us. In Probud we are all on an equal footing.

I have been invited back to Biloela for their 10th birthday and Mackay for their Christmas celebrations.

After returning home I received a nice letter from the Secretary of Whitsunday Probud club outlining some of the activities of the club. If time and resources will allow I will attempt to attend a get together with them in December.

On Monday 8th September I attended the 25th Anniversary of the Gympie-Widgee Probud Club.

This was an extremely happy get together with three of the inaugural members present-

Betty Cockburn, Win Stewart, Dorothy Simon. Well done ladies.

Other guests included Pam & Kevin Carlson, Guest Artist Graeme Jensen and representatives from the Gympie Combined Probud Club. Sitting next to me was Ray Hardiker who is entertainment officer for the club. Ray is an accomplished Saxophonist and an avid jazz enthusiast.

On the lighter side President Jim Eason invited myself to accompany him in the singing of Ghost Riders in the Sky. I guess there has to be a comedy sketch on these occasions. I don't believe anyone suffered indigestion.

On September 10th I attended the 30th anniversary of the Coorparoo Probud Club.

Also present was Councillor Ian McKenzie and Guest Speaker Lyndal Barker (Major) from the Salvation Army. Lyndal spoke about The Salvation Army Family Tracing and Post Adoption Service.

There is only one surviving foundation member Mr Herb Collie. Well done Herb. The club started as an all men's club but later admitted women. From that point the club has gone from strength to strength.

I was able to present President Tricia Smith with a certificate from Probud South Pacific Limited sent by Chairman Peter Carroll and Probud Queensland congratulating them on their 30 years.

It is encouraging to see so many clubs flourishing and achieving so many years of service. Some clubs are struggling and we offer all the help we can and the help of our Rotary District Probus Chairman and Probus South Pacific.

All of us will benefit from a robust and growing organisation. We are all in it together. If we all pull together I am sure we can achieve much more than if we are pulling against one another.

On 16th September I met with the Cairns Trinity Probus Club who had invited Probians from the local Cairns Clubs- Cairns Marlin Coast Combined Probus Club, Cairns West Ladies Probus Club, Cardwell Probus Club, Innisfail Probus Club, Mission Beach-El Arish Probus Club. President Betty Viewers welcomed me and then handed the floor over to me to address the gathering. I hope they all had an enjoyable time. Thanks to Nora Warnock for initiating this get together. After the meeting we adjourned to the local for our lunch.

It never ceases to amaze me the distances some of these country clubs travel just to be part of our organisation. I would like some of this enthusiasm to rub off onto some of us city dwellers.

You may recall I mentioned in an earlier report a charity Project Love and Care whom my wife and I work for as do many ladies in the MtOmmoney Probus Club. Well in the Courier Mail on September 5th there was an article on Anne George and Project Love & Care. The charity has been recognised for their work receiving the award for best community initiative at the child protection week awards.

Project Love & Care has helped 43000 children since its commencement in 2002. Anne is just an ordinary lady with an extraordinary big heart who was moved to do something for children taken into foster care. Well done Anne and your loyal team of volunteers. Some 760 of them.

The bowls day on August 25th was a great success thanks to Pine Rivers Bowls Club for the venue and thanks also to Bill Wynne and Warren Hull for their organisation.

The Northside Presidents & Past Presidents luncheon held at the Pine Rivers Bowls Club was an outstanding success. Thank you Barry George and your team for putting this event together.

The Southside Presidents & Past Presidents luncheon is to be held at the Jindalee Hotel on October 30th. Entries are coming in thick and fast so to ensure your place get in early.

The Probus/Rotary Golf Day at Nudgee Golf Course on 29th September is being hosted by Bellbowrie Probus Club. If you haven't entered a team yet it may not be too late.

Let me again remind you of our tours for next year.

Firstly a tour of Singapore and Kuala Lumpur in July 2015 by Trade Travel.

Secondly a Grand Splendour Tour of Tasmania in November 2015 by Fun Over 50.

If you are the least bit interested or would like a brochure just drop me a line.

As we approach the end of the year our thoughts should be directed to our management committee for 2015/16. Some of our existing committee members may be seeking re-election but this should not stop people giving earnest consideration to serving. A strong organisation requires a strong committee.

It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the sudden passing of Pam Carlson's husband Kevin. As a great many of you know Pam is our Regional Liaison Officer for the Wide Bay Region.

Having met Kevin several times over the past year we had become friends. I offer to Pam my condolences and the condolences of all Probians at the passing of Kevin. I know you will miss him greatly.

Yours in Probus

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