

## HOBART PROBUS CLUB (MEN'S) INC



Founded: 5 October 1982 by the Rotary Club of Hobart  
Probud Club no. 52030 [hobartmensprobud@gmail.com](mailto:hobartmensprobud@gmail.com)  
Postal Address: PO Box 2008, Lower Sandy Bay 7006

\* Website: [www.hobartmensprobud.org](http://www.hobartmensprobud.org) \*

President's Theme for 2022/23

'Probud-Friendship, Fellowship and Fun: Excelsior!'



*This month's Greeter is Geoff Medhurst*

### An Important Reminder

*We again need to make members aware that before coming to the meeting everybody once again considers the Covid -19 protocols regarding their current health status, recent travel and exposure to others who may have been interstate etc. If in doubt please don't attend until you ensure everything is in order and that there is no risk to yourself or to our members.*

### **BE SAFE - DON'T BE AFRAID TO MASK UP**



As life is starting to emerge from COVID we still need to be vigilant in protecting ourselves and those around us. COVID is still around and poses a danger. The Sandy Bay Bowls Club has advised that masks are no longer mandatory, however, it makes good sense to mask up, to give yourself and your colleagues every chance of dodging this nasty Covid beast.

### **ALTERED CARPARKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR APRIL**



The Sandy Bay Bowls Club is about to commence replacing their grass greens with a synthetic surface. This is likely to be underway at our April meeting. David Back has informed the club that it is anticipated that heavy machinery will be in the carpark, resulting in limited or no parking there. Stop-go persons may direct you to park on the street. A rough construction road will be formed from the carpark to the bowling green nearest to Margaret Street.

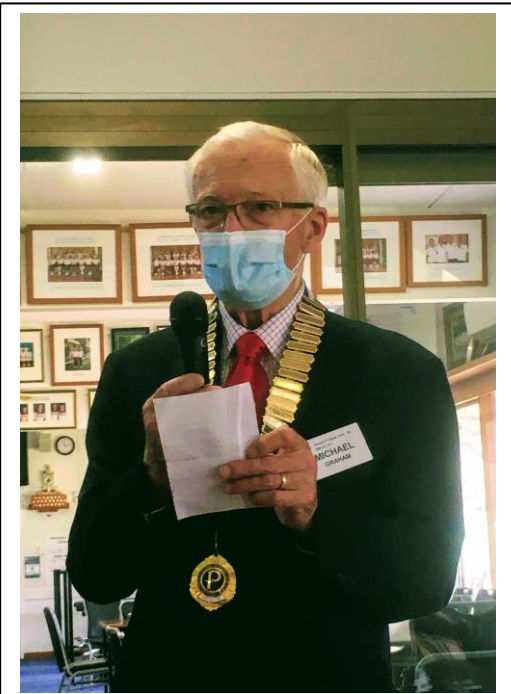
Best to park clear of the construction site and not interfere with the works.

## *Annual General Meeting*

The Annual General meeting was held on Tuesday 1 March. Several members attended by Zoom.

There was much fanfare as the new committee was installed and the President's Chain was passed from President Graham Standen (Stando) to President Elect Michael Graham.

Outgoing President Graham reflected on the outstanding successes and difficulties, due to Covid. Graham thanked all members who had contributed to the club throughout the year. Graham's (Stando) President's report will soon be found on the Club's web page. Stando declared that in passing on the President's baton he would relinquish the 'Stando' tag and revert back to Graham. Too late, Stando is



Masked up Mike with Mike

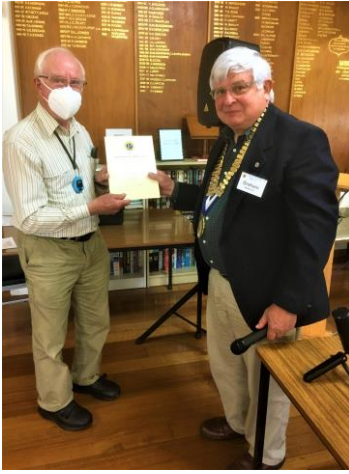
burned into our consciousness and will remain there in perpetuity.

Incoming President Michael also thanked now Past President Stando and his Committee for running an excellent programme over the past year. President Michael presented his theme for the year, 'Probus-Friendship, Fellowship and Fun: Excelsior!' He explained that 'Excelsior' reflected excellence, striving ever upward and improvement. An excellent theme indeed for the club.

The poem 'Excelsior', by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, depicts an individual striving ever upward to the end of his life. The poem is printed at the end of this bulletin for members to contemplate and enjoy.

### **Office Bearers for 2022/23**

President	Michael Graham
Senior Vice President	Rod Moore
Junior Vice president	Rob Brand
Secretary and Public Officer	Phil Mathers
Assistant Secretary	Graham Sargison (temporary)
Treasurer	Bob Clifton
Assistant Treasurer	David Back
Guest Speaker	Tony Hope
Functions & Club Outings	Rob Brand
Membership	John Brodribb
Support and Welfare	Brian Butler
Website	Mike Wooley
Travel	Mike Walpole
Bulletin and Publicity	Neil Blaikie



President Stando presented Ian Eadie with a certificate of appreciation for his excellent contribution to the club over many years, including playing the national anthem and club song on more times than can be remembered. Well done Ian.

## *A Sad Loss to the Club*

It is with great sadness we note the passing of three of our stalwart members, Ian Lewis, Tom Vincent and Stuart Cripps.

### Vale Professor Ian Lewis AO

Professor Ian Lewis joined our club in 1998 and was a strong contributor over the years. Ian was a Past President and was made a life member in 2012 for his outstanding service to the club. Ian was known for his dry wit and his verbal sparring with Terry Bowes.

### Vale Tom Vincent

Tom joined the club in 2012 and had ten years of involvement with our club. He was known particularly for enjoying the monthly outings.

### Vale Stuart Cripps

Stuart was a long standing club member, joining in 2002.

## *April Guest Speaker* - Professor Mike Coffin

### **Geological Insights from the Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 Search**



The tragic disappearance of Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 on 8 March 2014 led to a deep-ocean search effort of unprecedented scale and detail. Between June 2014 and June 2016, geophysical survey teams aboard ships used echo sounding techniques to create state-of-the-art maps of the seafloor topography and profiles of the sediments below the ocean floor in a zone spanning about 279,000 km<sup>2</sup> of the south-eastern Indian Ocean.

Professor Coffin is a marine geophysicist at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS). His research focuses on large-scale volcanism on the seafloor (large igneous provinces, or LIPs), tectonic plate boundaries, divergent continental margins, and interactions between the solid Earth and Earth's environment.

## ***ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES – Injection of Funds Required!***



- ✕ It is time again to renew our annual membership and replenish the Club's coffers.

The Committee decided at the March meeting, that the annual fee would be \$70. The basic fee of \$40 is unchanged from last year. \$30 was added to cover meeting room costs, so there will no longer be a collection of \$5 at each meeting. This will remove the health risk of handling money and improve efficiency in managing funds. This approach was unanimously endorsed by the members at the AGM.

John Brodribb and our Treasurer, Bob Clifton, will, however, miss the collection of foreign currency and coins that have been out of circulation for some years being dropped in the collection bowl!

**Annual Fee: \$70.00**

**The Club's bank details are:**

**Name: Hobart Men's Probus**

**BSB 017 324**

**A/C Number 4172-49848**

**Please include your name in the transfer details.**



### ***White Beach***

#### ***Vanners, Tenters and Cabiners***

The annual shindig at White Beach went off with a bang again this year. Covid protocols meant that 'Drinkies at 5:00' was conducted in small groups rather than the normal big get together. This didn't dampen spirits as nearly 50 campers turned up to enjoy the fun.



Each morning the walkers headed along the beach to loosen up their metallic joints. The marvels of modern medical metallurgy were on show, in fact, I doubt if anyone would have been walking without it. Great discussion was had on the best type of implant together with a critique of every orthopaedic surgeon in Hobart. Handy knowledge as our age-worn joints need progressive replacement.



Tuesday evening saw a concert presented by The Jamsetters playing old favourites from the 60s and 70s. Campers from the whole park attended and sang along with familiar tunes from their youth.



The popular combined Probus - Hobart Walking Club extended walk was led by our intrepid tramper, Sarge. He guided the team of walkers through the scrub in true Camino style, complete with liquid refreshment on completion.

“We’ve finally broken out of the scrub, now where the heck are we?”



On the Thursday a big enthusiastic group gathered at the Rosedale Homestead for fine wine, food and dancing. The Jamsetters were again on song leading the singing and with Nanette Drielsma calling out the dance steps. The hall floor strained as Sarge sang the Battle of New Orleans with obligatory stamping in between verses.

Heel, Toe and a Do Si Do



Here is a picture of Bill Mottershead arriving back to shore after scaring away the white pointer shark that had been patrolling the beach. We are not sure whether the raised paddles indicated distress and in need of urgent help, or success with the shark. He returned with all limbs attached so we can assume it was success with the shark!

A good time was had by all and big thanks go out to Dave Brammall for pulling the wonderful week together. - NB

## Fun, Frolic and Frankfurters



When too many BBQs are never enough, many members segued straight from the White Beach BBQs to hut 9 at the Waterworks Reserve. A big group of members, family and friends complemented the campers to enjoy the annual BBQ.



The cooks and others attending were welcomed by organiser Mike Walpole, seen here waxing lyrical before throwing a snag on the hotplate.



Renowned engineer and raconteur, Phil Mathers, gave a fascinating presentation on the history of Hobart's water supply, and in particular the role of the Waterworks system. It was a colourful story of great engineering vision and political disfunction.

The adjoining picture shows Phil explaining to Dave Bramhall the complex hydraulic principle of water flowing downhill. Dave revealed that he was familiar with the principle by demonstrating how wine also flows downhill (from his glass)!

Thanks to Mike and Hamish for organising a fun day.

## *March Outing Report - Bruny Island Quarantine Station*



Rob Brand's visit to the old Bruny Island Quarantine Station forged ahead in March after being cancelled late last year due to bad weather. The weather gods were on our side this year as members, partners, and friends fossicked around the historical remains, BBQed a few snags and enjoyed a singalong led by our intrepid muso Rob Brand.

The site came to prominence during World War One with the internment of a German merchant crew, and after the war to quarantine returning soldiers during the Spanish Flu epidemic. It was a sobering thought to think of that pandemic (second most deadly to the Black Death) that ravaged a world without the advances in medicine we have today.

An interesting and enjoyable day in a beautiful setting. Thanks to our organiser, Rob Brand.



History Explained

## *Club Welfare - Brian Butler*

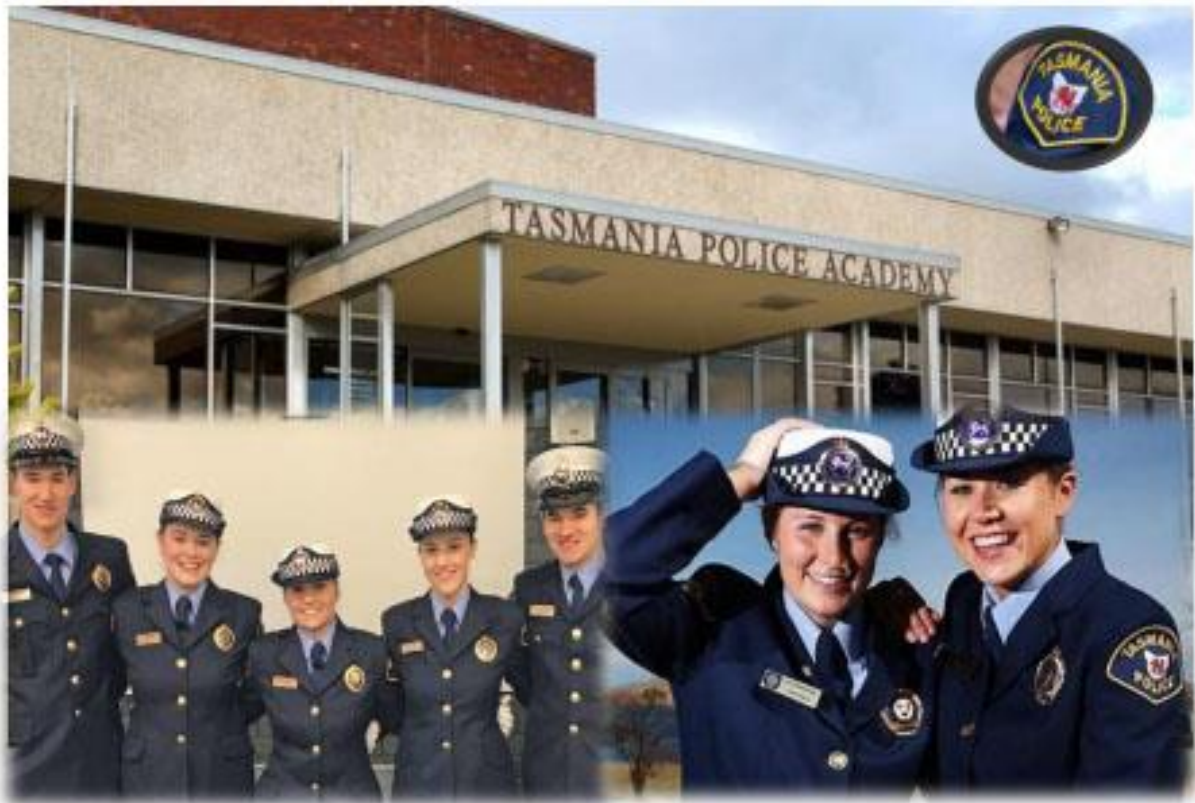
Members would be aware that, after several years in this role, Hamish has handed over the baton and I now have this honour. Please let me know if you or another member has any issue which may impact on their attendance or participation with the club. Personal privacy and discretion is assured and assistance will be facilitated if desired and/or possible. Contact by phone, email and SMS message will likely be the predominant means during these COVID times.

I look forward to a period when little such contact will be needed. Stay well everyone!

Phone: 0409 218 567 email: [bsbutler@internode.on.net](mailto:bsbutler@internode.on.net)

# April Outing

## TASMANIA POLICE ACADEMY



Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
11.00 am

David Brammall has organised a visit to the Tasmania Police Academy at Rokeby, including a two-course lunch in their canteen. Attendance has been strictly limited to 30, so initially it will be open to members only until numbers are known.

The cost is \$22.00 per head for the meal.

All visitors must show proof of double vaccination on the day (phone or hard copy) and masks must be worn on site.



## *Luncheon Group - March Munch*



Luncheon Group (Geoff Medhurst 6225 4333)

Our first lunch for 2022 and we once again enjoyed the great food and ambience of the Dr Syntax Hotel, but with a difference - this time we dined al fresco, a change we all appreciated.

## *Save the date - Wednesday 25 May Outing*

### **Waddamana Power Station Museum**



Visiting Waddamana Power Station Heritage Site is now set for Wednesday 25th May. Twenty-five members and partners listed their interest at our March meeting. Others can join up to around our 5th April meeting by contacting John Brodribb on [brodribbs@gmail.com](mailto:brodribbs@gmail.com) Morning tea at “The Priory” a historic home in Bothwell is now offered.

With bus charter costed at over \$1,300, or around \$53 per person, we plan for members to car-pool.

Cost for the day’s outing is \$35 per person, inclusive of a lunch of meat lovers wraps and sweet platters, tea & coffee, similar to the food we offered on the Lady Nelson sailing experience in early 2021. – John Brodribb, Organiser.

## *Flinders Island group 1, 13 – 16 March*



On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, the first enthusiastic group of Probus members departed Hobart for Flinders on a one-hour flight aboard Sharp Airlines.

Upon arrival at Whitemark, the group was met by tour leader Gerard Walker who drove us to our accommodation at the Furneaux Tavern twenty-five minutes away. This comfortable Tavern was to be our ‘home’ for the next three days where excellent dinners and breakfasts

were provided.

The next day’s activities included a relaxed one- and one-half hour return journey by launch to Great Dog Island where skipper James described the local history, places of interest and the mutton bird industry. When we returned to Lady Barron, we were bussed to local places of interest and after an enjoyable picnic lunch went on short walks to two beautiful beaches west of the Strzelecki granite mountains.

The next day was a long one as we travelled from the south of the Island to the northern tip at North East Bay, then Palana, Castle Rock, Wybalena, Ermita, the Furneaux Museum, and Killiecrankie where we viewed Killiecrankie 'diamonds' (topaz in granite). On the last day, we visited other sites of interest before the return flight to Hobart on Sharp Airlines.

Everyone agreed it had been a most worthwhile and relaxed visit including informative details on the Island's geography, history, and geology.

A big thank you goes to David Brammall for organising such a marvellous trip.

-Tony Hope

The second group will be looking forward to their Flinders Island experience in April - NB

### *Upcoming Items of General Interest*

#### *Luncheon Group -Thursday April 14*



Luncheon Group (Geoff Medhurst 6225 4333)

This month we will revisit the **Royal Hobart Golf Club at Seven Mile Beach**, a seriously prestige venue located in one of Australia's most magnificent landscapes- and the food's not bad either. The date is April 14 and we will be teeing off from 12 noon. Book your place today by contacting Geoff on 0418 136

618 or [gcmehurst@gmail.com](mailto:gcmehurst@gmail.com)

#### *Wednesday Walkers* (John Carter 0414 765 910)

The Wednesday group meets at Long Beach ready to start our walk at 9.30. There are plenty of options available. Some of us walk along the foreshore and then along the beach to the jetty opposite Lipscombe Larder and back. Others take shorter walks around the 'burbs and have coffee at either the Nosebag or Beach House. Who you walk with and where, at what pace and which place you wish to have coffee (or not) is your choice. Keep walking and keep well.

#### *Aqua-Aerobics Group* (Ian Miller 0407 686 447)



Our activities have recommenced following relaxation of restrictions on the use of the Doone Kennedy Pool. Interested members and/or partners are most welcome to join us each Friday morning at 7.45 am in the pool. Coffee and nibbles follow in the pool café.

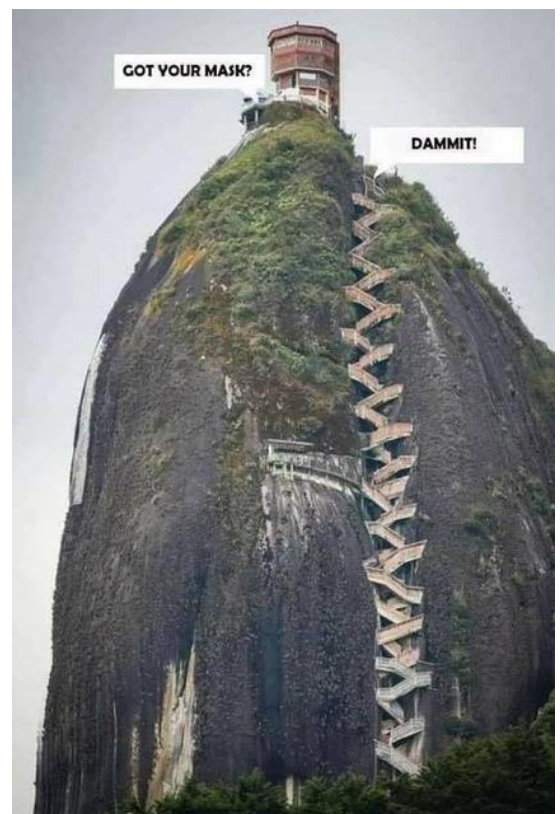
# Monday & Thursday Walkers (Ian Miller 0407 686 447)

We walk from different venues (**eastern shore on Mondays and western shore on Thursdays**). Contact Ian Miller (0407 686 447) or Brian Butler (0409 218 567) for the meeting point at 9.30 a.m.

Gags thanks to Lewis Hamnett and Brian Gallagher



DOWNTON TABBY



# EXCELSIOR

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The shades of night were falling fast,  
As through an Alpine village passed  
A youth, who bore, 'mid snow and ice  
A banner with the strange device  
Excelsior!

His brow was sad; his eye beneath,  
Flashed like a falchion from its sheath,  
And like a silver clarion rung  
The accents of that unknown tongue,  
Excelsior!

In happy homes he saw the light  
Of household fires gleam warm and bright  
Above the spectral glaciers shone,  
And from his lips escaped a groan,  
Excelsior!

"Try not the Pass!" the old man said;  
"Dark lowers the tempest overhead,  
The roaring torrent is deep and wide!"  
And loud that clarion voice replied,  
Excelsior!

"Oh stay," the maiden said, "and rest  
Thy weary head upon this breast!"  
A tear stood in his bright blue eye,  
But still he answered, with a sigh,  
Excelsior!

"Beware the pine tree's withered branch!  
Beware the awful avalanche!"  
This was the peasant's last Good-night  
A voice replied, far up the height,  
Excelsior!

At break of day, as heavenward,  
The pious monks of Saint Bernard  
Uttered the oft-repeated prayer,  
A voice cried through the startled air,  
Excelsior!

A traveller, by the faithful hound,  
Half-buried in the snow was found,  
Still grasping in his hand of ice  
That banner with a strange device,  
Excelsior!

There in the twilight cold and grey,  
Lifeless, but beautiful, he lay,  
And from the sky, serene and far,  
A voice fell like a falling star,  
Excelsior!