

HOBART PROBUS 30 YEARS OLD

This history was compiled by Jim Wishart OAM, Secretary of the Club from 1994

to 1998 inclusive, President in 2000 and admitted as Life-Member in 2009.

The Probus Club of Hobart (Mens) Inc. 30 year history

Presidents and Life Members since inception of Club

Presidents

1982 Les Thirgood \*  
1983 Sam Webb \*  
1984 Ray Wilson \*  
1985 Max Lyall \*  
1986 Bill Edwards \*  
1987 Bill Oats OBE \*  
1988 Max Windsor \*  
1989 Lionel Lewis \*  
1990 Ted Pool \*  
1991 Bert Washusen \*  
and Bert Morgan  
1992 Terry White \*  
1993 Jim Lawler  
1994 Rob Irvine  
1995 Owen Carrick \*  
1996 Norm Potter \*  
1997 Alan Mckenzie \*  
1998 Alan Austin\*  
1999 Colin Burrows \*  
2000 Jim Wishart OAM  
2001 Ian Lewis AO  
2002 David Gill \*

2003 Bill Carrick \*  
2004 Bob Brewster  
2005 David Brammall  
2006 Terry Bowes  
2007 Ron Martin  
2008 Athol Wilkes  
2009 Bruce Price  
2010 Bill Rodd  
2011 Geoff Medhurst  
2012 Darrell Talbot

Life Members

Les Thirgood *	Max Lyall *
Bert Morgan	Bill Oats OBE *
Max Windsor *	Frank Williams *
Owen Carrick *	David Gill *
Norm Potter *	Rob Irvine
Jim Wishart OAM	Lionel Lewis *
Ian Lewis AO	

(\*deceased)

The Hobart Probus (Mens) Club was the third Probus Club to be formed in Tasmania with the Moonah (Mens) in December 1981 and the Launceston (Mens) in August 1982 preceding Hobart which came into being on Tuesday 5th. October 1982.

Before commencing with the story of Hobart it is interesting to reflect on the origin of the Probus movement which has gone from strength to strength since being founded in England in 1968, although a forerunner, the "Campus Club", had been in existence from 1965. Former members of the Rotary movement saw the necessity of providing fellowship for retirees and "Pro" plus "Bus", being joined together seemed to reflect the professional and business background of the majority of prospective members

IN THE BEGINNING—1982.

At a meeting held at the Naval and Military Club in Hobart on the 5th. of October 1982

chaired by Les Thirgood (he became the inaugural President and later a Life-Member) and sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Hobart, Sandy Bay, Hobart Town and North Hobart it was moved by Fred Peacock, a member of the Rotary Club of Hobart "that this meeting determine a Club be formed and called the Probus Club of Hobart". The motion was seconded by Mark Ashton and carried and the Probus Club of Hobart became a reality.

An interim committee was elected with Les Thirgood as President and Max Lyall as his deputy. John Lennox was elected as Secretary and Sam Webb as Treasurer. The election of further committee members was deferred until the next meeting and 53 members were signed up on the spot

The new club met again in November with the following members completing the committee:-Fred Peacock (Membership), Jim Barker (Bulletin), Errol Lane (Programs), Max Windsor (Visits and Entertainment), John Wardrop (Probus Extension), Alan Rowell (Community Service) with Arnold Jenner and Dougal McDougall as auditors.

It was decided to hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, with the venue being the Naval and Military Club at a cost of \$25 per meeting, plus 25 cents per member for morning tea. Thus a tradition was established with November meetings coinciding with the Melbourne Cup and the inevitable Sweep being conducted at the first general meeting.

"Advance Australia Fair" was adopted as the anthem to open future meetings.

The first issue of the Club bulletin was tabled at the December meeting.

1983

Interestingly the first Annual General Meeting was held on May 3rd. with 37 members and "their ladies" being present at the Elwick Showground for a luncheon which preceded the business session at which Sam Webb was elected President. Due to ill-health Max Lyall remained as Vice-President. Time did not permit the election of the remaining committee members; this was held over.

Guests at the meeting were the Presidents of the four sponsoring Rotary Clubs (each of which had donated \$100 to the Probus Club) together with their wives plus the Guest Speaker, Mr. Peter Hodgman M.L.A. and Mrs Hodgman.

At the June meeting the remaining members of the committee were elected as follows:- Les Thirgood, Past President; Arthur Stevens, Secretary; Ray Wilson, Treasurer; Lionel Abbott, Membership; Bill Edwards, Visits and Entertainment; Doug Peck, Programs; Mike Sharland, Bulletin; Neil Bastian, Probus Extension; Max Diprose, Community Service; Arnold Jenner and Dougal McDougall, Auditors.

The first anniversary of the Club was a cause for great celebrations with a special luncheon at the Mt. Nelson Motor Inn for "members, their ladies and guests". No less than 60 members were present and the cake was cut by the inaugural President, Les Thirgood.

1984

In April 1984 the Club moved to the RACT rooms in Macquarie Street for its' meetings.

The Annual General Meeting for the year was held at the new venue on May 1st. Office Bearers elected were:- Ray Wilson, President; Max Lyall, Vice-President; Sam Webb, Past-President; Errol Lane, Secretary; John Wardrop, Treasurer; Reg Johnson, Visits and Entertainment; Harvey Lincolne, Programs; Charlie Hay, Membership; Bill Oats OBE, Bulletin; Bob Forward, Probus Extension, John Ponsonby, Community Service; Keith Cripps and Les Thirgood, Auditors.

Bill Oats had had a distinguished career as a teacher, headmaster and educator in South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania as well as overseas and was awarded an OBE by the Queen in 1970. More will be heard of him later.

In September the Club accepted the offer of member Max Diprose to be the Club's official photographer.

Member Stan Gough advised that he would be retiring from the position of Rotary District Probus Liaison Officer with Vic Fitze to take over the office, but he would remain in an advisory capacity for 12 months.

1984 was also a significant year for all Probus clubs in Southern Tasmania with the concept of an annual "Handclasp" get-together of members being formulated. Moonah Club held the inaugural meeting and Hobart was designated for the next year. 14 Hobart Probians attended the Moonah Handclasp. An interesting topic discussed at the meeting was the question of admitting ladies to the present clubs. To Quote "The concensus appeared to favour ladies forming Clubs of their own". To this end Vice-President Max Lyall undertook to investigate the matter during a planned interstate visit. The Hobart Ladies Probus Club was eventually formed on June 24th. 1985 with the support of several Hobart (Mens) members "issuing identity labels, recording attendance and handing out agendas".

Some members of the Club committee expressed concern that Hobart was not inline with other Probus clubs in holding its' Annual General Meeting in May rather than March but the matter was not pursued at the time. It was decided that the 1985 Handclasp meeting should be held while the present committee was in office and March 5th. was agreed upon. At Handclasp some fairly contentious matters were aired, particularly in relation to the level of control over Clubs by the Probus Centre.

A new constitution had been distributed by the Centre which also had registered the name and logo of Probus and each Club would need to adopt the constitution in order to comply.

1985

At the AGM in May the Hobart Club adopted the standard constitution which has applied (with appropriate amendments) to the present time. Of particular importance was the setting of March as the AGM month for all Clubs.

Office Bearers elected were:- Max Lyall, President; Bill Edwards, Vice-President; Ray Wilson, Past-President, there was no nomination for Secretary and Errol Lane agreed to

carry on until replaced; John Wardrop, Treasurer; John Ponsonby, Guest Speakers; Charlie Hay, Membership; Bill Oats OBE, Bulletin; George Green, Probus Liaison and Community Service; There was no nomination for Visits and Entertainment. Reg Johnson agreed to carry on until David McHugo replaced him later in the year. The concept of Honorary Membership as noted in the Constitution was readily accepted by the meeting and four members were granted such membership.

Member John Rogers commenced an album of photographs of activities of members .

It was suggested that a Memorial Board be created to list the names, date of joining and death of those still members at their time of passing. The Board was in fact proceeded with but in recent times it has become obvious that such an idea was ill conceived and has been abandoned.

Secretary Errol Lane passed away in August and Past-President Les Thirgood was elected as his replacement.

The matter of Probus signs being erected at the Hobart Airport was finalised with the Clarence Club having made the signs which Hobart undertook to have polished and engraved. The signs were erected in February 1986.

1986

The AGM in March saw the following office bearers elected:- Bill Edwards, President; Bill Oats OBE, Vice-President; Max Lyall, Past-President; Les Thirgood, Secretary; John Lennox, Treasurer; Charlie Hay, Membership; John Ponsonby, Guest Speakers; Bill Oats OBE, Bulletin; George Green, Liaison; Reg Johnson, Visits and Entertainment; George Green, Community Service; Auditor, Ray Wilson.

1986 was a good year for one of our “younger” members, Ernie Webster, who had considerable success in the diving competitions in the Toronto World Masters Games. Ernie had been a diver from his school days with many State Championships and other trophies won over the years. Subsequent successes in World Masters competitions continued to come his way and he entertained members on a number of occasions with anecdotes of “behind the scenes” activities at the Games. Five Gold Medals at the 1995 Australian Masters was one of his best results.

Having regard to the disappointing turn up of members at meetings, the possibility of moving from the RACT rooms, where there was limited parking, was raised but not proceeded with at that stage. An appeal to members to “bring a friend“ along was made.

The introduction of a State-wide Bowls competition between Probus Clubs was proposed by then Past-President Max Lyall with a perpetual trophy known as the “Errol Lane Memorial Trophy” to be competed for. As it turned out the trophy had a fairly chequered history.

1987

The formation of the Sandy Bay (Mens) Probus Club which met at the Derwent Sailing Squadron rooms in Marieville Esplanade on the waterfront in Sandy Bay again raised the possibility of our Club moving there for meetings as there was the availability of parking and ease of access would encourage a better attendance. The proposition was canvassed at the October meeting and again mentioned at the AGM in March.

The following office-bearers were elected:- Bill Oats OBE, President; Max Windsor, Vice-President; Bill Edwards, Past-President; David Pillinger, Secretary; Owen Carrick, Treasurer; Charlie Hay, Membership; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers, Ted Pool, Visits and Entertainment; Pat Byrne, Bulletin; Max Lyall, Liaison and Community Service; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

At the request of the President, Frank Williams assumed the role of Musical Director.

The Club finally moved to the DSS for the June meeting after members had inspected the site and been favourably impressed. There was immediately a significant increase in the number of members in attendance at meetings.

As Hobart meeting day was the first Tuesday of each month and the DSS always had a function for the Melbourne Cup in November arrangements were made to hold our meeting for that day at the Sandy Bay Senior Citizens rooms. The tradition continued for many years. At the first meeting at the venue, member Charlie Hay gave a talk on Santa Claus, in particular his participation in the role each year. A special invitation to members' ladies to attend was apparently well received.

Incorporation of the Club, which had been mentioned several times over the years without any affirmative action having been taken was finally abandoned by the Committee. More recently the Club has resurrected the subject and is now incorporated.

Although the general feeling of members was that the annual Christmas dinner held at the DSS was enjoyable it appears that the service had come in for some criticism and an approach was made to the Rear Commodore in the hope that any problem could be remedied in the future.

1988

The "Errol Lane Memorial" bowls trophy was already experiencing trouble in 1988 with a misunderstanding as to who was responsible for organising the competition each year but it was anticipated that Longford would be the likely venue next year.

At the AGM in March Max Windsor was elected President with Lionel Lewis as Vice-President. The remaining committee members elected were:- Bill Oats OBE, Past-President; David Pillinger, Secretary; Owen Carrick, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers, Ted Pool, Visits and Entertainment; Charlie Hay, Membership; Max Lyall, Liaison; Bert Washusen, Bulletin; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

President Max introduced a new initiative into the Club; the idea of having hobby groups to meet at convenient times between meetings, thus increasing fellowship for members. An enthusiastic response resulted in some 17 groups being proposed. A number of groups did not stand the test of time but such as Aquarobics, Bowls, Fishing (to some extent), and Music ("Warblers" choir) have lasted with some additions such as Vanners, Diners and Photography making up the list.

An attempt to continue with social evenings at the Senior Citizens Club was abandoned due to lack of support.

The first invitation to be received from the Tasmanian Racing Club, which asked for any interest from members to attend a special Probus Race Day was well received, however there seems to have been a problem with correspondence, as our Club missed out on tickets.

1989

At the 1989 AGM in March the following committee was elected:- Lionel Lewis, President; Ted Pool, Vice-President; Max Windsor, Past-President; Guy Ward, Secretary; Bob Forward, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Bert Morgan, Visits and Entertainment; Bert Washusen, Bulletin; Charlie Hay, Membership; Max Lyall, Liaison, Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

Max Lyall resigned from his Liaison position during the year and was replaced by David McHugo.

In an effort to resurrect the social evenings a committee representing the Sandy Bay Mens' and Ladies' Probus Clubs together with the Hobart Mens' and Ladies' Probus Clubs was proposed and a function was held in July, however, a very poor response from Hobart Mens' Club which only had five starters was very disappointing to the organisers.

There was a more satisfactory outcome for the Probus Race Day in November 1989 with those who attended having an enjoyable time.

There was further dissatisfaction with the 1988 Christmas function at the DSS and a number of alternative venues were considered with the quote from the Wrest Point Casino being accepted. The Club agreed to subsidise drinks to an amount of \$300 and entertainment by the "Warblers" (the title adopted by the Club choir) was proposed by Musical Director Frank Williams.

At the February meeting in 1990 the Club committee was commended on a very successful function.

1990

The new committee elected at the AGM consisted :- Ted Pool, President; Bert Washusen, Vice-President; Lionel Lewis, Past-President; Guy Ward, Secretary; Bob Forward, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Bert Morgan, Visits and Entertainment; Bert

Washusen, assisted by Terry White, Bulletin; Charlie Hay, Membership. David McHugo, Liaison; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

Various Hobby Groups, established under the presidency of Max Windsor, were popular with Bowls, Brewers, Fishing, Golf, Music, Walking and Snooker giving their reports.

At the June meeting, member Sam Webb suggested that a special song to welcome new members to the Club would be desirable. More is heard of this later.

An exemption from the payment of sales tax on items purchased by the Club was canvassed by the Committee but an enquiry to the Secretary to the Taxation Department received a negative response.

Charlie Hay, long time Santa Claus in the Myers Hobart store, received a Sydney Myers Service Award for unselfish service which was warmly applauded by members.

A recital by the "Warblers" at the August meeting with Ian Simpson as Conductor and Frank Williams as Director and Accompanist was well received. Particular thanks were given to Frank for his enthusiastic work which had made the program possible.

Member George Billing was honoured by the Photographic Society of America by admitting him as a Fellow and he gave an account of his attendance at their meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, USA.

Another successful Christmas luncheon was held at the Wrest Point Casino with the "Warblers" again providing entertainment.

1991

The AGM in March saw the following Committee members elected:- Bert Washusen, President ; Bert Morgan, Vice-President; Ted Pool, Past-President; Jim Lawler, Secretary; Bob Forward, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Bert Morgan with assistance of Ted Pool, Visits and Entertainment; Charlie Hay, Membership; Lionel Lewis, Liaison; Terry White, Bulletin; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

Sadly, shortly after the AGM, the newly elected President, Bert Washusen, passed away. He had been the victim of ill-health, having battled with cancer for some time, but realised his desire to become President before it finally got the better of him.

Following the untimely passing of Bert Washusen, Bert Morgan was elected President with Terry White as Vice-President. Richards Roberts took over the position of officer for Visits and Entertainment and Len Reynolds became responsible for the Bulletin.

The Christmas luncheon was again held at Wrest Point with satisfaction to all and the "Warblers" being highly praised by the Committee



1992

1992 was a special year for the Club as it had its 10th. birthday in October.

The committee members elected at the AGM in March to steer the Club through the year were:- Terry White, President; Jim Lawler, Vice-President; Bert Morgan, Past-President; Jim Lawler replaced by John Wythes in April, Secretary; Bob Forward, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Alan Thurley, Visits and Entertainment; Lionel Lewis and Ted Pool, Liaison; Charlie Hay, Membership; Len Reynolds, Bulletin; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

President, Terry White, advised the Club of a very generous donation by member Lloyd Phillips of beautifully crafted wooden pen holders made by him, which in future would be given as mementos to guest speakers at our meetings.

10th. Anniversary Port was selected and it was decided to combine a special dinner as a celebration of our anniversary with the annual Christmas luncheon, which, after some investigation of venues, Wrest Point was again chosen.

At the Christmas luncheon the Club's first Life-Member was elected, with the inaugural President, Les Thirgood, being the recipient of the honour.

After several years of satisfaction there appears to have been some consensus of opinion that the 1992 meal left much to be desired and the Committee was instructed to look elsewhere for the next Christmas luncheon.

Earlier in the year the "Hobart Probus welcomes you" song composed by Ric Burgess in 1990 was finally adopted by the Club to be sung at the induction of new members.

1993

The anniversary year being over, the committee for 1993 elected at the March AGM consisted of:- Jim Lawler, President; Rob Irvine, Vice-President; Terry White, Past-President; John Wythes, Secretary; Owen Carrick, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Alan Thurley, Visits and Entertainment; Charlie Hay, Membership; Len Reynolds, Bulletin; Bert Morgan, Liaison; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

The Brewers Group had continued to be very active over the past few years with special banquets being held during the year either at Ming Court or Flourishing Court Chinese restaurants; Ted Pool providing intriguing competitions to interest members between courses. The banquets were later reduced to one at mid-year and finally abandoned due to the passing of Ted Pool and the ill-health of Geoff Potter, one of the driving forces behind the Brewers Group.

Member George Billing's standing in the photography world was again recognised when he was appointed a judge for the Federation of Photography exhibition in Hobart in November and December.

Despite the criticism surrounding the 1992 Christmas luncheon at Wrest Point, that venue was again chosen for the 1993 occasion and it seems to have been more satisfactory with the function being described as “excellent”.

1994

Max Lyall, who had been a foundation member with Les Thirgood, was made a Life-Member at the March AGM and presented with the honour by Les Thirgood in April

The committee for 1994 resulted:- Rob Irvine, President; Roy Greenborough, Vice-President; Jim Lawler, Past-President; Jim Wishart, Secretary; Owen Carrick, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Bert Morgan assisted by Alan Thurley, Visits and Entertainment; Charlie Hay, Membership; Jim Lawler, Liaison; Fred Heather assisted by Len Reynolds, Bulletin; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

Early consideration was given to the venue for the next Christmas luncheon as the Committee had been informed that the only room available at Wrest Point at the required time would be quite unsuitable. The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania was selected as the best option and continued to be so for several years until a decision was made to support the DSS where our meetings were held, but unfortunately this turned out to be a disappointment due to very slow service (shades of 1988) and after two years the Club returned to the RYCT.

Member Sam Webb raised the matter of the “Errol Lane Memorial” bowls trophy, the competition for which appeared to have fallen into abeyance for a number of years. The whereabouts of the trophy was unknown at the time and although many members were enthusiastic supporters of local bowls it seemed they showed little interest in interstate contests. The Club coordinator of bowls, Alan McKenzie, agreed to keep the matter in mind.

Having regard to the number of members unable to attend meetings due to health problems, the Committee proposed a set of finite guidelines for the granting of Honorary Membership. These were:- Members who were no longer able to attend meetings due to ill-health; prior regular attendance for, say 7 years or having served the Club in an executive capacity for, say 3 years. Each case to be considered on its merits by the Management Committee and all cases to be reviewed each 12 months.

As the Club had no set procedure for recognising the passing of members, the Secretary arranged for the printing of cards carrying the Probus logo and having a suitable message of sympathy from the Hobart Club. These were accepted by the Committee.

Aquarobics every Friday in Max Windsor’s pool had become popular in 1994.

The Brewers hobby group looked forward with great anticipation to their February 1995 meeting when a bottle of Port of “considerable age” was to be sampled. This had been donated to the group at the 1994 November meeting accompanied by a convincing

account of it's history.

1995

The Brewers held their breath at their February meeting as the old metal cover was carefully removed from the port. There was a moment of horror when the "cork" turned out to be a plastic stopper, which threw serious doubt on to the description of "considerable age". Apparently the contents were of reasonable quality but the mystery still remains as to who "got at it".

A few weeks before the AGM, President-Elect, Roy Greenborough passed away after a short illness and Treasurer Owen Carrick was nominated and elected as President. Other officers elected were:- Norm Potter, Vice-President; Rob Irvine, Past-President; Jim Wishart, Secretary; Bert Morgan, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Col Burrows, Visits and Entertainment; Charlie Hay, Membership; Fred Heather, Bulletin; Jim Lawler, Liaison; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

Later in the year the President, Owen Carrick, represented the Club at a Civic Reception to welcome the incoming Governor, Tasmanian, Sir Guy Green.

Past-President, Rob Irvine, commenced the setting up and printing of the Club bulletin in April, thus making a significant saving in costs for the Club, which he continued for many years.

After a long running battle with local council bureaucracy, Vice-President, Norm Potter advised members in November that a Probus sign would finally be erected outside the entrance to the DSS advising the passing public that four Probus Clubs met there. Despite the sign being constructed from sheet metal it was vandalised and bent a couple of years later, but fortunately, was able to be straightened.

1996

In February President, Owen Carrick, Vice-President, Norm Potter and Secretary, Jim Wishart met with a party of West Australian Probianians who were touring the State and a mutually beneficial discussion on such matters as Probus Associations and Travel Clubs took place.

At the March AGM the committee elected consisted of:- Norm Potter, President; Alan McKenzie, Vice-President; Owen Carrick, Past-President; Jim Wishart, Secretary; Bert Morgan, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Col Burrows, Visits and Entertainment; Fred Heather, Bulletin; Jim Lawler, Liaison; Charlie Hay, Membership; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

At the meeting it was announced that the Probus Centre had negotiated a very comprehensive insurance policy covering all clubs, not only being of financial benefit, due to lower premiums, but giving a greater cover for members.

A new concept for members, "Help Line" was introduced by President, Norm Potter at the April meeting. This was designed as a service to members, who because of some or other circumstance, required assistance to provide for essential needs such as shopping etc. Fortunately the service had little call upon it.

Members were pleased to embrace the concept of having the Rossmoyne Club in West Australia as a link club with Hobart, however, the formation of a Probus Association in Tasmania as in WA was not favoured.

The horrifying happening at Port Arthur was noted by the Club and members stood in silence as a mark of respect for those affected by the event.

The new insurance policy announced by the Probus Centre came in handy for the convener of the Hobart Probus fishing group, Life-Member and inaugural President, Les Thirgood, when he broke his arm after having considerable success catching seven trout.

Despite the matter having to all intents and purposes been laid to rest some years previously incorporation of the Club was again raised and again rejected.

The Club Memorial Board, first presented to the Club in 1985 was abandoned having regard to the membership makeup and it was decided that only Life-Members would be recorded on a revamped board.

1997

At the AGM the members elected to the committee were:- Alan McKenzie, President; Alan Austin, Vice-President; Norm Potter, Past-President; Jim Wishart, Secretary; Bert Morgan, Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Col Burrows, Visits and Entertainment; David Gill, Bulletin; Jim Lawler, Liaison; Pat Mulquiny, Membership; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

In June, the Tasmanian "representative of the House of Windsor", Max Windsor, reported that he had received notification from "his cousin Elizabeth" asking that he might invest our inaugural President and Life-Member, Les Thirgood, with the honour of O.B.E. This was duly attended to and it was recorded that Les was a worthy recipient of the "over bloody eighty" award.

Rotary District Probus Chairman, Murray Yaxley, attended the August meeting and spoke on a number of matters of interest. At the time 67 Probus Clubs had been established in Tasmania and he was hoping for a good attendance of members at the impending visit by the President of Rotary International.

At the September meeting, members were saddened by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and a special minute of sympathy was recorded.

In November, members was entertained by the Guest Speaker of the day, one of our own

Probiants, former Professor, Ian Lewis, of the University Medical School, who gave an in depth talk on the history of serious diseases of the past, such as the "Black Death" in the 1300's and the London plague in the 1600's. Even in these modern times in countries where immunisation is virtually unknown, simple diseases such as measles, are responsible for deaths of vast numbers of children. In conclusion he sounded a warning against complacency due to the growing list of infections which are becoming drug resistant.

1998

The AGM in March welcomed a new committee consisting of:- Alan Austin, President; Col Burrows, Vice-President; Alan McKenzie, Past-President; Jim Wishart, Secretary; Bert Morgan, Treasurer; Adrian Graley, Assistant Treasurer; Ted Phillips, Guest Speakers; Harry Lenehan, Visits and Entertainment; David Gill, Bulletin; Norm Potter, Liaison; Pat Mulquiny, Membership; Hedley Sealy, Auditor.

The "Bulletin" producer, Rob Irvine, accepted an invitation to join the Committee.

A special hobby of our Vice-President, Col Burrows, was the construction of replica models of ships and the fact that a full-sized replica of the sailing ship, Lady Nelson, which had been a part of Tasmania's maritime history had recently been launched inspired him to make a model of that ship.

He presented the model to the Sail Training Institute on behalf of our Probus Club.

In December, one of our foundation members, former President and Life-Member, Max Lyall passed away. He had been a leading tailor in the city and was outfitter to many Tasmanian Governors.

1999

At the 1999 AGM Col Burrows became President, but unfortunately, he was absent due to illness and the outgoing President, Alan Austin carried out the duties of Chairman. For the first time in the history of the Club there were two nominations for Vice-President. The result of the ballot of members saw Jim Wishart become Vice-President. Other office bearers were:- Alan Austin, Past-President; Owen Carrick, Secretary; Adrian Graley, Treasurer; Bill Bovill, Assistant Secretary; Ted Phillips certainly set a record in the position of Guest Speakers (no less than 13 times); David Gill, Bulletin; Ric Beams, Liaison, Pat Mulquiny, Membership; As no nomination was received for Visits and Entertainment, Harry Lenehan agreed to remain for another term. Not to be outdone, Hedley Sealy, for the 13th. time, accepted the office of Auditor.

At the April meeting, members were saddened to learn the Bill Oats OBE had taken ill, but it was hoped that he would soon be back with the Club. He did come to the May meeting but regretted that he could no longer remain as mentor and conductor of the Warblers Choir which he had been for the past 8 years. He handed the baton to David Gill who continued the good work ably assisted by pianist Ric Burgess for a number of years.

Bill's illness unfortunately did not improve and Life-Membership was granted to him just

before he passed away in July.

His beloved Warblers sang his favourite "The Chorus of the Jewish Slaves" at his thanksgiving service .

Bill had been a member of Rotary for some 50 years with the position of District Governor of Rotary International being one of his many appointments.

At the July meeting a change in the proceedings of meetings came about when the following motion was passed. "Minutes of the previous meeting shall not be read, but be taken as read and confirmed". It was considered that most information regarding meetings was well covered in the Bulletin. Business arising should still be raised if appropriate.

Max Windsor, long standing member and former President in 1988 when he was responsible for the introduction of the concept of Hobby Groups, which had proved so popular with members, was granted Life-Membership, accompanied by acclamation by members at the September meeting.

Overall 1999 finished up as a "not so good year" for the Club because we lost another prominent member, the ever popular Ted Pool. His standing in the general community was amply shown by the large congregation which almost filled St.David's Anglican Cathedral in September for his funeral service. He had been a sign writer by trade but had touched the lives of many by his concern for the problems of others. His talents became channelled to painting and he won many prizes at Rotary, and other art shows. Because of the unparalleled enthusiasm with which he undertook any task, Ted's passing left a gap in the Club and all other organisations to which he had belonged. The golf trophy for the Club Championship, presented by Norm Potter, was named the Ted Pool Memorial Trophy in his memory.

The Christmas luncheon was held at the DSS and was unfortunately the subject of some criticism due to slow service and consideration was given early in 2000 to change the venue but the DSS was given another chance, however the service was again severely criticised, with the inevitable change back to the RYCT.

2000

The AGM of the Club in March saw the following committee of management elected:- Jim Wishart OAM, President; Ian Lewis AO, Vice-President; Col Burrows, Past-President; Owen Carrick, Secretary; Adrian Graley, Treasurer; Bill Bovill, Assistant Treasurer; Ted Phillips (again), Guest Speakers; Bill Carrick AM., Bulletin; Ric Beams, Liaison; Lew Munro, Membership; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Col Burrows (Past-President) volunteered to take on the duties of Visits and Entertainment until an appointment could be made; Hedley Sealy (again), Auditor.

Member George Billing, who had been prominent in photography circles, not only in Tasmania, but internationally, passed away early in the year and left behind a legacy of his many achievements in the field.

A particularly interesting guest speaker, Father Michael Tate, addressed the meeting in August. He had had a very varied life, having graduated in Law and being elected to the Senate in Canberra where he served for 15 years including the post of Minister for Justice for some time. He then moved into the ambassadorial field being posted to the Hague where he, from time to time, represented Australia in hearings in the International Court of Justice.

Trips to Vatican City, including audiences with His Holiness the Pope, meanwhile, to advise on matters Australian, caused him to consider joining the priesthood which he did on his return home and he was ordained at St. Mary's Cathedral in May.

Life-Member, Les Thirgood, was able to return the compliment of O.B.E. (over bloody eighty) from the "House of Windsor" to member of the "family", Max Windsor, at the October meeting when a lyrical song composed by pianist Ric Burgess was sung and a "gold" medallion presented by Les.

2001

The AGM of March 2001, the first of such in the true "New Millenium" saw Ian Lewis AO elected to the position of President. Other committee members were:- David Gill, Vice-President; Jim Wishart OAM, Past-President; Bill Bovill, Secretary; Owen Carrick, Assistant Secretary/ Treasurer; Adrian Graley, Treasurer; Ted Phillips (again), Guest Speakers; Bill Carrick AM, Bulletin; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Ric Beams, Liaison; Lew Munro, Membership; Col Burrows, Visits and Entertainment; Hedley Sealy (again) Auditor.

Mr. Colin Dean, well known in Hobart musical circles, and the Executive Officer for the Hobart City Mission gave a very interesting talk to members at the June meeting when he outlined the history of the Mission, which is the oldest independent welfare agency in Australia, having been established in November 1852.

From humble beginnings, the Mission now employs 54 part-time/full-time staff together with approximately 60 volunteers and operates 14 separate programs of assistance to those in need.

As a first for the Club, the guest speaker for the October meeting was the son of one of our members, in that John Millington introduced Lt. Col. Richard Millington, Manager Defence Services Tasmania, who addressed us on 100 years of development of Australian armed services.

Having regard to dissatisfaction with the service again provided by the DSS for the Christmas luncheon, the Club decided to return to the RYCT which was voted a success.

2002

The February 2002 meeting was one of the more memorable meetings with considerable discussion surrounding the edict from the Probus Centre requiring every member to be provided with a copy of Probus News at a cost of \$3, plus a new impost on members for

our meetings at the DSS.

The major problem with the number of copies of Probus News to be taken by each Club centred around the fact that family members were able to be members of more than one Club with the obvious over supply and unnecessary cost. Later advice from Probus Centre gave a more satisfactory outcome.

The sudden increase in rental and morning tea charges at the DSS were soon laid to rest with a change of meeting venue to the headquarters of the Sandy Bay Bowls Club. Members were happy with the new surroundings with particular praise coming from the "Warblers" who were delighted with the acoustics.

With the 20th. anniversary of the Club in the offing the Brewers Group advised that arrangements were in hand to have a bottling of a special Port to mark the occasion. A special fishing competition, which may become an annual event, was announced by the fishing coordinator, inaugural President and Life-Member, Les Thirgood.

The AGM for the anniversary year at our new venue was well attended and resulted in the election of the Management Committee headed by David Gill as President. Other officers were:- Bill Carrick, Vice-President; Bill Bovill, Secretary; Adrian Graley, Treasurer; Ian Lewis AO, Past-President ; Terry Bowes, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Ted Phillips (again), Guest Speakers; David Brammall, Visits and Entertainment; Lew Munro, Membership; Bob Brewster, Bulletin and Publicity; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Ron Martin, Probus Liaison and Club Service; Hedley Sealy (again) Auditor.

David Brammall, the coordinator for Visits and Entertainment, introduced a new concept for that office in that he co-opted four other members to make a "Probus Activities Committee" and thus widen the scope for ideas to attract more members to outings etc. For example, it was hoped that the ABT Railway project on the West Coast would be finalised early in 2003 and Club members would get the opportunity to take a trip.

The 20th. Anniversary Port was distributed at the August meeting where members were entertained by the Club "Warblers". By all reports the Port was most satisfactory.

One of our long standing members, Lloyd Phillips, passed away in August. He will be remembered by his cheerfulness despite his battle with ill health brought about by his experiences as a Japanese "Prisoner of War", both in Changi and on the infamous Burma railway. It will also be remembered that, in 1992, he presented the Club with beautifully hand crafted wooden pen holders for mementos for guest Speakers.

October finally arrived and the Club became 20 years old. Despite having been laid to rest on several occasions in the past the matter of incorporation became necessary due to an edict from the Probus Centre and members accepted the motion to proceed.



The inaugural fishing competition at the Snowy Range Trout Farm was held on November 21st. with a good attendance of hopeful anglers, many of whom were rewarded from a large array of excellent prizes; Life Member and inaugural President, Les Thirgood, took out top honours.

The year was completed with the Christmas Luncheon on December 3rd. which also commemorated our first 20 years and was attended by special guests, Rotary Coordinator of Probus Clubs , Murray Yaxley , District Governor of Rotary, Bob Bradbury and Deputy Lord Mayor, Eva Ruzicka who presented 20 Year Badges to the eight eligible members at the function, two others being absent. The Club "Warblers" entertained with their rendition of Christmas Carols.

The booklet outlining the history of the first 20 years of our Club entitled "20 Years of Fellowship" was distributed at the dinner.

2003

The first meeting in 2003 on February 4th. commenced on a sad note as members recalled the sudden passing of Secretary, Bill Bovill, who had died on the day after the Christmas luncheon.

The AGM in March saw the following members elected to the committee:- Bill Carrick AM, President; Bob Brewster, Vice-President; David Peacock, Secretary; Terry Bowes, Treasurer; David Gill, Past-President; Harry Lenehan, Guest Speakers ; Bob Brewster, Bulletin ; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Norm Potter, Liaison ; Lew Munro, Membership; David Brammall, Visits and Entertainment.

In April, President Bill Carrick AM, initiated an event which became a popular annual occasion when he generously invited members to his house at Orford for a barbecue and for those interested in bowls or golf to participate in those sports at the local venues before lunch.

On the second of May the Club was finally admitted as an incorporated body and became known as the Probus Club of Hobart (Mens) Inc.

During the year there was a change in committee members with Harry Lenehan being replaced by Norm Potter as Guest Speaker organiser and Stuart Cripps taking over from Bob Brewster, Bulletin editor.

An important position in the Club, that of Auditor, held for many years by Hedley Sealy had to be changed due to his resignation. His commitment over the time that he was in the position was greatly appreciated by the Club. Another of our members, Owen Carrick, was granted eligibility by the Corporate Affairs Department and filled the position over a number of years.

The concept of members being recognised by the granting of the status of O.B.E. (Over Bloody Eighty) was enthusiastically accepted at the July meeting and those eligible were invited to advise the Committee so they could be “dubbed” by the local representative of the “House of Windsor” at the Christmas luncheon.

The unfortunate events in Bali (Indonesia) in 2002 were brought home to members by Inspector John Bird of Tasmania Police who spoke to the August meeting of his work in assisting with the huge task of victim identification

Before leaving 2003 it is with regret that we have to record the passing of two of our foundation members, Alan Bidence and Ernie Webster.

So to the final function for the year, an enjoyable Christmas luncheon at the R.Y.C.T. with a number of O.B.Es being granted and Fishing and Golf Awards being presented; not to forget the Christmas Carols sung by the “Warblers”.

2004

The AGM in March 2004 elected Bob Brewster as President with the following making up his committee:- David Brammall, Vice-President; David Peacock, Secretary ; Terry Bowes, Treasurer; Bill Carrick AM., Past-President ; Norm Potter, Guest Speakers; David Brammall, Visits and Entertainment; Lew Munro, Membership; Stuart Cripps, Bulletin and Publicity; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Norm Potter, Liaison and Club Service. Further volunteers for the Committee; John Millington (Assistant Secretary) and Stephen Graetzer (Assistant Treasurer) were confirmed in May.

The celebration of 100 years of Rotary in June included a special Luncheon and was attended by President Bob Brewster and Past-President David Gill. It was an historical occasion with the installation of the first Lady Governor of Rotary, Muriel Herring.

Club activities between meetings continued to be popular with members who eagerly supported their particular interest whether it be Bowls, Golf, Fishing, Aquarobics, Obeans or the ever lasting “Warblers”.

In November three members gave an interesting insight into their pre-retirement activities, Bert Morgan told of his life, as first, a messenger boy and for the rest of his working days, a plumber. Lionel Lewis had spent 44 years working for the Hydro in many areas and later became known as the “Mayor of Tarraleah”. Herb Copeman spent the Second World War years as a Typhoon pilot which included taking part in the Normandy campaign in 1944. He had been particularly touched by his being selected to attend a War Memorial dedication in London in 2003.

The year ended on a high note with a record number enjoying the Christmas Luncheon at the RYCT where we were again entertained by the “Warblers” and various trophies and prizes for Fishing and Golf were presented.

2005

We reached the 100 membership level for the first time with the induction of three new Probians at the 2005 February meeting.

The committee elected at the March AGM. comprised :- David Brammall, President; Terry Bowes, Vice-President; John Millington, Secretary; Stephen Graetzer, Treasurer; Bob Brewster, Past-President; Jim Wishart OAM, Assistant Secretary; Robert Willoughby, Assistant Treasurer; Dan McNeil OAM, Guest Speakers; John Brodribb, Visits and Entertainment; John Millar OAM, Membership; Stuart Cripps, Bulletin and Publicity; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Bill Carrick AM, Liaison and Club Service.

Cliff Isles OA gave members food for thought when he spoke to us on the present trends in the statistics of the makeup of various age groups in our community. Apparently we are soon to outnumber teenagers and 75% of us over the age of 75 are full or part pensioners. No wonder the social service people are wondering how to cater for us in the future.

A renewed Hobby Group, the Walkers, was established by Vice-President, Terry Bowes during the year and has continued to flourish with weekly walks on Wednesdays at Sandy Bay followed by a refreshing coffee break.

The ranks of our foundation members thinned a little further with the passing of Bob Forward in October. He had served on the Committee in earlier times of the Club, including being Treasurer from 1989 to 1992 inclusive.

Having regard to the large number of members in Probus clubs throughout the south of the state the annual Handclasp event was considered by the Committee to have lost its original impact as there were more often than not, restrictions on members attending, due to the lack of suitable venues. The Committee therefore suggested that a social gathering for those Clubs using the Sandy Bowls Club as their meeting place would be more acceptable to local members and set down February 20th. 2006 for the event.

During the year the practice of Obeans meeting at the homes of members was abandoned in favour of luncheons at agreed intervals at the Black Buffalo hotel. These continued for some time with good support from members and partners but eventually lapsed for lack of O.B.Es.

Continuing with the precedent set the previous year, two of our members were speakers at the November meeting. John Wythes recounted his experiences during a tour of South America covering most parts of that continent right down to Tierra del Fuego while Ron Fisher spoke of his time in traffic engineering and presented a number of statistical charts explaining the causes of accidents and the efforts being made to avoid them.

There was a large and enthusiastic attendance of members and guests at the 2005 Christmas Luncheon on the first Tuesday in December, but unfortunately the event could best be described as a monumental disaster. The standard of the food as served was very poor and despite some uplifting carol singing by our "Warblers" those present were extremely disappointed. A letter of

concern from our President, David Brammall, drew a sympathetic response from the RYCT hierarchy who invited the Club to participate in a complimentary luncheon in the New Year.

2006

The difficulties of being a farmer on King Island as a participant in the Soldier Settlement Scheme and how he overcame those early problems was the basis of a very entertaining talk by member, Jim Paterson, in February 2006

As had been suggested in 2005 a "Happy Hour" for the four Probus Clubs using the Sandy Bay Bowls Club premises as a meeting venue was held in February and with more than 100 being present it was considered that an annual get together would be desirable.

The election of the 2006 committee at the March AGM resulted as follows:- Terry Bowes, President; Ron Martin, Vice-President; John Millington, Secretary; Stephen Graetzer, Treasurer; David Brammall, Past-President; Roger More, Assistant Secretary ; Robert Willoughby, Assistant Treasurer; Stuart Mitchell, Guest Speakers; John Brodribb, Club Outings (previously known as Visits and Entertainment); John Miller OAM, Membership; Stuart Cripps, Bulletin and Publicity; Rob Irvine, Bulletin Production; Bob Brewster, Club Service.

Later in the month the "Warblers" gave a pleasing performance in the Grand Chancellor Concert Hall for the Rotary Conference held in Hobart.

As promised by the hierarchy of the RYCT, following the unhappy 2005 Christmas Luncheon experience, we were given a complementary luncheon in April. It was an enjoyable occasion.

Member Jim Wishart gave two talks early in the year outlining some of his experiences as a Government scientist in the Government Analytical Laboratories for 40 years. He completed the series in April 2007.

2006 was not entirely a good year for the "Warblers"; with firstly, their pianist, Ric Burgess, finding that a troublesome finger on his right hand had worsened to such an extent as to prevent him playing to a standard for his satisfaction. Ric had been Club and "Warblers" pianist for some 14 years and had composed many little pieces in that time. Secondly, conductor, David Gill had to take an "enforced holiday" for an operation which put him out of action for four months. David had taken over the choir duties from the late Bill Oats OBE and members were pleased to see him back again after his "holiday". Fortunately, all was not lost with the "Warblers" as Lil Stephenson stepped into the breach during David's absence and Judy Pearson became the regular pianist.

Club members were greatly saddened by the passing of Alan Austin who finally lost his battle with cancer in May. He was our President in 1998 and had been a very enthusiastic convener of the Bowls activity group for a number of years. Athol Wilkes and later, Lew Munro, took over the organising of Bowls.

Another of our foundation members, Max Diprose passed away in June. He had had an interesting career as a radiographer in the early days of that profession and had spoken to the Club on his

experiences. He had been in indifferent health for some time and had been granted Honorary Membership.

In August the Club was advised that Murray Yaxley, who had been the Rotary Co-ordinator of Probus Clubs in Tasmania for a number of years, was stepping down and Ian Routley would be his replacement.

The Club was pleased to receive from the daughter of former President and prominent member, Ted Pool, who had passed away in 1999, an album which featured his presidential year.

Of great interest to members, and especially our fishing enthusiasts, was a talk at the October meeting by Chris Wisniewski on the eradication of the European Carp infestation in the twin lakes, Sorell and Crescent. Although Carp had been detected in dams on the North West Coast some years earlier it was thought that they had all been poisoned off and there seemed some doubt as to how the present problem had come about. Thousands of Carp have been captured in the lakes and with modern scientific methods now being applied it is hoped that complete eradication will be the final outcome.

As a contribution to Seniors' Week, the Club Bowls Hobby Group held a special event on Friday October 6th., which included instruction for those showing interest in participating in the sport.

Having regard to the Club now having a membership exceeding 100, Secretary John Millington announced at the October meeting of his intention to move an amendment to the Club by-laws allowing for the election of five Life-Members in future instead of three as was the existing number. The motion to amend was put and carried at the November meeting.

The Christmas Luncheon at the R.Y.C.T. was back to its' usual standard and was enjoyed by about 130 members and friends. The "Warblers" were once again in fine form, entertaining us with their Carols.

2007

2007 got off to a flying start with a good roll up of Probians to the February Happy Hour at the Sandy Bay Bowls Club.

After the AGM in March there was a break from tradition when we were entertained by the "Warblers" who gave a varied selection of songs from several countries.

The AGM for 2007 elected the following committee,;- Ron Martin, President; Athol Wilkes, Vice-President ; Roger More, Secretary; Stephen Graetzer, Treasurer ; Terry Bowes, Past-President; Bill Rodd, Assistant Secretary ; Robert Willoughby, Assistant Treasurer; Bruce Price, Guest Speakers; John Brodribb, Club Outings; John Miller OAM, Membership; Stuart Cripps, Bulletin and Publicity ; Darrell Milbourne, Bulletin Production ; David Brammall, Club Service.

The position of Club Service was later renamed, Welfare Officer, with Norm Potter officiating.

A convoluted list of criteria for the election to Life Membership, which had been advocated at the February meeting,, was finally laid to rest in April with the decision being left to the Committee after consideration of the merits of nominees.

With October 5th. 2007 being the 25th. Anniversary of the founding of the Club the President announced that it was intended to have a special luncheon on October 2nd. to celebrate the occasion and the December "Christmas" meeting would be an informal social event at the Sandy Bay Bowls Club.

Following the acceptance of the motion to increase the number of Life Members to five, two worthy recipients, David Gill and Rob Irvine were each granted the honour in May.

A new Hobby Group, the Vanners was established by Bill Rodd and David Brammall to bring together members who had an interest in Caravans or Mobil Homes. 12 enthusiasts attended the inaugural meeting.

During the year members became increasingly concerned over the deteriorating health of our inaugural President and Life-Member, Les Thirgood, who sadly passed away in August, just two months short of our 25th. Anniversary. His unfailing and lively interest in Club matters, and especially in latter years, the Fishing Group, was greatly missed.

The special celebratory luncheon was well patronised by members and we had a number of guests present. Guests were The Lord Mayor of Hobart, Ald. Rob. Valentine; Ian Routley, Rotary co-ordinator of Probus Clubs and Mrs. Routley; the President of the Hobart Rotary Club, David Skeggs and the wives of former Presidents who had passed away; Bessie Webb, Nan Edwards, Kath Washusen, Mary Austin and Frances Thirgood.

A number of special presentations befitting the 25th. Anniversary celebrations were made during the luncheon.

Life-Member certificates were presented to David Gill and Rob.Irvine by Ian Routley; The Lord Mayor, Rob Valentine, presented Certificates of Appreciation to Rick Burgess and Owen Carrick and Frances Thirgood presented 25 year membership badges to Fred Peacock who had moved for the formation of the Club back in 1982; Max Windsor, 1988 President and originator of Hobby Groups in the Club; Col Willing; Frank Williams, creator of the "Warblers"and Zika Jevc. Two new members were also initiated into the Club, Hamish Kyle and Graeme Yeoland by President Ron and presented with their badges and papers by David Skeggs.

During the luncheon the "Warblers" gave us an enjoyable recital of a varied selection.

On the actual 25th. Anniversary Date of the formation of the Club, October 5th. it was pleasing to report that the Aquarobic Group had a successful session at the Hobart Aquatic Centre and the Bowls Group held an afternoon of instruction for new bowlers at the Sandy Bay Bowls Club as a contribution to Seniors' Week

As the Club had celebrated it's 25th. Anniversary with the special luncheon, the usual Christmas function was not held and members enjoyed a BBQ at the Bowls Club after the December meeting.

The December Bulletin gave a glowing report of the November visit to the Snowy Range Trout Farm where a number of members had success with catches of trout and Atlantic salmon and the trophy for the largest fish was won by Gordon Dowl. The other various hobby groups had good reports.

2008

At the first meeting in 2008 on February 5th. members were saddened to note the passing of several of our number including Life-Member David Gill who had been in charge of the "Warblers" singing group for several years. A minute of silence in respect was observed at the March meeting.

Club member, Jim Patterson gave a very entertaining talk on his life experiences from the Northern Territory to King Island.

The Committee elected at the AGM consisted of :- Athol Wilkes, President; Stephen Graetzer, Vice-President; Terry Bowes, Secretary; Robert Willoughby, Treasurer; Ron Martin, Past President; Bill Rodd, Assistant Secretary; Barry Simpson, Assistant Treasurer, Bruce Price, Guest Speakers; John Brodribb, Club Outings; John Miller OAM, Membership; Darrell Milbourne, Bulletin and Publicity; Ian Lewis AO, Support and Welfare.

Keith Bailey offered to take over the responsibility for the singing group, the "Warblers", following the untimely passing of David Gill.

Some minor amendments to the Probus Standard Constitution were brought to the attention of members at the April meeting and formally adopted in June.

With the induction of a number of new members over the preceding months it was noted at our May meeting that we had passed the 100 mark and our future seemed assured.

Ric Burgess, who had been the pianist for the "Warblers" for some 14 years, but who had been caused to retire from the position in 2006 because of a problem with his fingers, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret and he was offered "Bulletin" membership.

A Luncheon Group was initiated by member Geoff Medhurst with 8 Probians attending the inaugural function on the 15th. May. The group has proved to be popular.

Past President, Bill Carrick AM, who had thrown open his holiday home at Orford each year since 2003 for our annual visit there to play bowls against the local club and then enjoy a BBQ in the garden, took seriously ill in July and passed away in August.

After considering the high prices being asked for our annual Christmas dinner at several venues the Committee decided that we should go to the Prince of Wales hotel on December 2nd. where more than 70 members, partners and guests enjoyed a fine meal. A highlight of the day was the granting of life membership to Frank Williams and Owen Carrick.

In November members were advised by Fishing Group leader, Ron Martin, that the Snowy

Range Trout Farm had new owners and would no longer be a tourist destination and we would not be having anymore enjoyable days there.

In his Christmas message President Athol remarked on the successful year of 2008 with a membership of over 100 and the strength of the Club being due to the standard of guest speakers and the support given to our 8 hobby groups.

2009

2009 got off to a good start with optimistic reports from the various groups of the activities promised for the year.

The AGM saw the following committee members elected :- Bruce Price, President; Bill Rodd, Vice President; Peter Voss, Secretary; Barry Simpson, Treasurer; Athol Wilkes, Past-President; (the positions of Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer were declared vacant and were not filled again until March 2010); Darrell Talbot, Guest Speakers ; John Brodribb, Club Outings; John Millington, Membership; Darrell Milbourne, Bulletin and Publicity ; Robert Willoughby, Support and Welfare. It should be noted that the Vice-President from 2008, Stephen Graetzer, vacated his position due to health reasons in February 2009 and was not available for election at the AGM, hence the election of Bruce Price as President, he having been accepted by the Committee after being duly nominated and seconded for the position.

One of our founding members and Life Member, Max Windsor, who initiated the idea of Hobby Groups when he was President in 1988 had a minor stroke in June and found it necessary to relinquish his position of convener of the Aquarobics in August after many years, with the position being filled by Jim Wishart. Max had previously sustained injury in a fall at the Aquatic Centre earlier in the year.

A proposal for a new Hobby Group, Photographic, was flagged by member Paul Dalton (who lectured in photography at U3A) in August with 10 members attending the inaugural meeting in November. The group has continued with field trips and discussion days.

In September, Membership Officer, John Millington, drew the attention of members as to the situation regarding attendance and payment of dues which appeared to have slipped the minds of some.

Another of our founding members, Life-Member Frank Williams, passed away in August. He was convener of the original "Warblers" and had served in that capacity for some years.

John Brodribb, Outings Officer, reported at the November meeting that support for the 2009 program had been excellent for some activities but poor for others and asked for members to give some thought to expressing their desires in the coming year.

In December it was back to the RYCT for our Christmas luncheon which was of a high standard and we were entertained by the "Warblers".

The Probus-Rotary coordinator, Ian Routley, presented Jim Wishart with Life Membership of the Club.



2010

Unfortunately, members at the first meeting in 2010 were advised that, due to falling interest, it had been decided that the Golf Group would lapse. Those who had participated were thanked, and a special mention was made of Norm Potter for his donation of the Ted Pool Memorial trophy which had been won by John Bennett on the last Probus golf day in November.

The group was resurrected in June 2011 for a short time but quietly faded away again early in 2012.

President Bruce advised that Owen Carrick, who had been our auditor for a number of years, and was granted Life Membership in 2007, had passed away in January.

Member, Brian Roberts, had a sobering story to tell at the February meeting. His home had been broken into by thieves during the holiday period and despite him considering that valuables had been carefully hidden, these had been found and stolen. He commended to members that they see that the security of their homes is adequate.

At the 2010 AGM the committee members elected were:-Bill Rodd, President; Geoff Medhurst, Vice-President; Peter Voss, Secretary; Barry Simpson, Treasurer; Bruce Price, Past-President; Robin Holmes, Assistant Secretary; Ian Miller, Assistant Treasurer; Darrell Talbot, Guest Speakers; John Brodribb, Club Outings; John Millington, Membership; Darrell Milbourne, Bulletin and Publicity; Robert Willoughby, Support and Welfare.

In opening the May meeting President Bill advised members of the death of Life-Member and one of our founding members, Max Windsor. Max had been President in 1988 and was credited with introducing the concept of Hobby Groups into the Club to promote fellowship between meetings. He was convener of the Aquarobics Group since its inception, firstly at his private pool and finally at the Hobart Aquatic Centre until August of last year. A minute of silence was observed.

The report by the Bowls Group advised that the annual contest between Hobart and Sandy Bay Probus had gone in our favour and we had retained the Challenge Trophy. Other hobby groups had got off to a good start for the new year.

In June, Lionel Lewis was elected a Life Member of the Club. He had been a member for 26 years and served in various positions including that of President in 1989. Sadly Lionel passed away early in 2012.

There was a slight hiccup at the September meeting when the guest speaker for the day did not turn up, but all was well with several members entertaining us with some excellent stories and good jokes.

The members who took part in the outing to the Waddamana Power Station Museum in October were most impressed by the stories surrounding the delivery of all the equipment to the site in 1915 and the present fine condition of the exhibits.

In November Norm Potter was elected to Life membership. He had joined the Club in 1993 and was President in 1996. His enthusiasm saw him propose 10 new members to our Club and he had served in various positions on the Committee. Unfortunately Norm only had a

short time to enjoy his new status as he succumbed to a fatal heart attack on January 23rd. in 2011.

Vice-President Geoff Medhurst announced at the meeting that he had arranged for our Christmas luncheon to be held at a completely different location from our past functions and he advised that the venue would be the Tasmanian University Club in Sandy Bay on Tuesday the 7th. of December. He expected the luncheon to be a "fantastic experience". The report of the luncheon in the February 2011 Bulletin noted that more than 90 members, partners and guests had an enjoyable time.

The construction site at Berriedale for MONA was an impressive event for members who had taken part in the outing in November.

2011

A busy time for bowlers was flagged at the February meeting in 2011 and it was noted that outings for the year would be scheduled mainly on the third Tuesday of each month. Notice of the A.G.M. with nominations to hand for Committee positions was printed in the Bulletin.

The ordinary March meeting was a unique one in that we celebrated the 100th. Birthday of one of our members, George Norris. A special morning tea and the presentation of a certificate to George marked the occasion. George had been a well known Jeweller and Watchmaker in Hobart and had served as an Instrument Technician in World War 11. He joined the Club in 1995 and until recently had driven himself from the Eastern Shore to meetings and to Obean luncheons, but shortly afterwards he retired from driving and became a "Bulletin" member.

The Committee advised that, in future, leave of absence from meetings would only be granted for a maximum of 6 months.

At the AGM the following members were elected to the Committee:- Geoff Medhurst, President; Darrell Talbot, Vice-President; Robin Holmes, Secretary; Barry Simpson, Treasurer; Bruce Price, Past-President (in lieu of Bill Rodd who had left the State); Bernard Knight, Assistant Secretary; Ian Miller, Assistant Treasurer; Peter Voss, Guest Speakers; Bob Pratt, Club Outings; John Millington, Membership; Darrell Milbourne, Bulletin and Publicity; Bill Docking, Support and Welfare.

Col Burrows, who had been our President in 1999, had a special hobby of constructing replica models of ships. He had presented a model of the then recently built Lady Nelson to the Sail Training Institute on behalf of the Probus Club. Unfortunately he was plagued with ill health for some time and passed away in March 2011.

A particularly interesting talk by guest speaker, Tony Hope, in June on the history of Sullivans Cove and surroundings from convict days to the present time was well received by an enthusiastic audience.

Dwindling ranks in the Obeans Group became a worry in relation to the bi-monthly luncheons and the convener, Ian Lewis, regretfully decided to cease the practice in July.

With the resignation of Zita Jevtic in July it left only one remaining founding member at Club meetings, Fred Peacock.

In August, Treasurer Barry drew the attention of members to the increase in the morning tea levy which was causing a drain on the Club finances and flagged a possible increase in membership fees in the coming year to offset this. It was decided to increase meeting fees, commencing at the next meeting, from \$2 to \$3 in an attempt to alleviate the problem.

In an attempt to satisfy insurance requirements a convoluted non-attendance protocol was presented to members, but it met with considerable opposition causing it to be referred back to the committee. An amended system was later presented to members and accepted.

There was a change in the Aquarobics Group convener towards the end of the year when Athol Wilkes took over from Jim Wishart who became unable to carry on due to health problems.

The chosen venue for the Christmas luncheon was again at the University Staff Club and it was reported to have been an enjoyable occasion with 86 diners being present.

2012

So we come to the beginning of our 30th. Anniversary year, 2012.

Gordon Goward welcomed it in with another of his "World Championships" at the Club BBQ held at the Waterworks Reserve. He had initiated the idea in 2009 with Petanque and each year had another interesting contest, the latest one being the World Probus Rissolle-Making Championship which, according to all reports, was a great success, with top honours going to Past-President Bruce Price.

Member, Ian Lewis, kept members interested at the February meeting when he gave a talk on "Mum's Home Remedies" for most of the various illnesses suffered by people of the time. Some strange potions were described.

The March AGM elections resulted in the following members being successful:- Darrell Talbot, President ; Ted Best, Vice-President; Robin Holmes, Secretary; Roger More, Treasurer ; Geoff Medhurst, Past-President; Barry Simpson, Assistant Secretary ; Ian Miller, Assistant Treasurer; Bernard Knight, Guest Speakers ; Bob Pratt, Club Outings; John Millington, Membership ; Peter Voss, Bulletin and Publicity ; Bill Docking, Support and Welfare.

The outing in March proved popular with members and some partners when we took a scenic bus trip from the Club rooms up past New Norfolk and across the hills, finishing up in Huonville for lunch at the Huon Hotel.

At the April meeting, President Darrell announced that recently elected Life-Member, Lionel Lewis and inaugural member Fred Peacock had passed away.

Fred Peacock was of particular importance to the Hobart Probus Club (Mens) in that he could be considered "Father of the Club" as it was he, at a meeting at the Naval and Military Club in Hobart on the 5th. of October 1982 who had moved "that this meeting determine a Club be

formed and called the Probus Club of Hobart". The motion was duly seconded and passed and the Hobart Probus Club (Mens) came into existence.

In June, following the unfortunate demise of the Sandy Bay Probus Club (Mens), an influx of new members into our Club was forecast with an "en masse" induction to take place at the July meeting.

Paul Dalton, convenor of the Photography Hobby Group, advised members that a photography competition open to all members to enter was proposed and conditions would be announced later in the year.

As forecast earlier, former members of the Sandy Bay Probus Club, 10 in number were inducted at the July meeting.

Jim Paterson, who had joined the Club in 2005, and often entertained the Club with amusing anecdotes or poems of his writing, passed away the day before the meeting. We will miss his ready wit.

Full details of entry requirements etc. for the photographic competition were printed in the Bulletin for the information of members.

At the commencement of the August meeting, President Darrell informed members that Ric Burgess had passed away shortly after his 90th. Birthday. In 2006, after some 14 years in the position as pianist for the "Warblers" Ric had been forced to give up the position due to problems with his fingers and in 2008 had resigned from the Club to become a "Bulletin" member. His memory will always remain with the Club as, amongst other things, he composed our Probus "Welcome" Song for new members.

September passed without any great dramas and we came to the meeting to close off 30 years of the Hobart Probus Club (Mens) Inc. The meeting of October 2nd. We had a guest speaker whose topic was "Climate Change" and members were reminded of several proposed activities including the 30th. Anniversary Special luncheon at Hadleys Hotel on 11th. October.

With a Club membership of over 100 the future appears bright and we can hopefully look forward to many years to come.