

HOBART PROBUS CLUB (MEN'S) INC



Founded: 5 October 1982 by the Rotary Club of Hobart
Probust Club no. 52030 hobartmensprobust@gmail.com
Postal Address: PO Box 2008, Lower Sandy Bay 7006

* Website: www.hobartmensprobust.org *

President's Theme for 2023/24

"Growing our Friendship, Fellowship and Fun".



APRIL GREETER -ROBIN HOLMES



Hooray
Easter is on
it's way

Don't be an Easter Bunny – Stay Covid safe!

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.

Vale Tony Hope



It is with sadness we acknowledge the passing of a great contributor to our club, Tony Hope. Tony showed considerable courage in presenting his life story at the February meeting, knowing that his time left was short. It would have been difficult for him both mentally and physically. He knew it was his last meeting with us. It was quite emotional for all of us.

Tony's illness came on him quickly. Late last year he expressed interest in the Junior Vice President's position with the ultimate goal of serving as President in the future.

Tony served on the Committee for several years in his role as the Guest Speaker Coordinator.

Several members attended his funeral as friends and in recognition of his contribution to our club.

From Our New President- Rob Brand



Hobart Men's Probus is a great club, and it is a great privilege to serve as your President for a year. My theme for this year is "Growing our Friendship, Fellowship and Fun".

This can be achieved in two ways.

Expansion of activities

We have an excellent Management Committee and event organisers who ensure that our meetings and remarkable list of activities continue to provide friendship, fellowship and fun to all who wish to participate.

If any member would like to see our program expanded by the inclusion of other activities that would be beneficial and inclusive of our members, our Management Committee would appreciate receiving your suggestions at any time.

Growth of our membership

Sadly, as mentioned in my inaugural address, we lost fourteen members last year, representing 14% of our membership. It is clear that continuation of this level of decline would see our membership halved within three years.

Therefore, it is essential that our entire membership focus on, and participate in the recruitment of new members. Once again our committee would appreciate any suggestions that may

enhance our success rate, or if they think there are specific barriers that affect the attractiveness of Probus in general or our club in particular.

I will attempt to make myself available to all. Although I cannot guarantee that I will answer my phone at all times, I will return any missed calls or emails. I look forward to your support throughout 2023.

Rob Brand

0418 122 671

rmbrand@bigpond.com

Lunch Brunch Report (Geoff Medhurst 6225 4333)



March Munch

In March our bunch visited the Tasmanian Golf Club for the usual tasty food and lots of chatter. This is an easy venue to get to, with good parking and a very friendly staff. Makes you want to go back!

AGM March 2023



Michael and Rob
Changing of the guard

Outgoing President Michael gave a concise but comprehensive review of his tenure and complimented organisers of activities and members of the Management Committee for their effort on behalf of members.

The financial status of the club following 2022 was presented by Treasurer Bob Clifton and the 2023 Membership Fee was set as remaining at \$70 (due now). Bob was thanked for his time given to the role and received his Past Treasurer's pin.

The presidential baton was subsequently handed over from Michael to incoming President Rob Brand. Rob outlined his ambition for the club to achieve a membership of 100 by the end of his presidency, and the priority he will give to growing the club. Rob spoke glowingly of the club, referring particularly to the range of involvements open to members.

As there are vacancies for several positions all members were exhorted to consider their ability and willingness to contribute

some time in assisting the continuation of the ability of the club to provide for members' interests and needs.

The incoming committee comprises: President Rob Brand, Vice President Graham Sargison, Secretary Phil Mathers, Assistant Secretary Nick Mason, Treasurer Peter Tierney, Assistant Treasurer Braithe Wedd, Immediate Past Pres. Michael Graham, Bulletin Editor Neil Blaikie and Membership John Brodribb.

The positions of Guest Speaker Coordinator, and Junior Vice President remain vacant and President Rob would be pleased to discuss with any member willing to consider being part of his dynamic team.

Brian Butler reporting.

The Facts Of Life



This sensitive discussion was overheard by a member of Probus walking with his two grandsons. The two brothers were in discussion about the mysteries of having a girlfriend. One brother is 13 and it has been revealed he has his first girlfriend. His brother is 7 and keen to know what it is all about.

Brother 7 to Brother 13: "What is a girlfriend? I have friends who are girls. What is the difference?"

Brother 13: "Well, it is extremely complicated. It is when you like a girl, and she likes you back."

Brother 7: "GEEEEZ, that is complicated!!"

Brother 13: "Don't worry, you will understand when your brain expands as you grow up!"

ANNUAL BBQ - Waterworks



Jostling for the hotplate

Sausage sizzlers were in abundance at the annual Waterworks Barbeque. The day was warm, and the rissoles were hot.

There was an excellent turn out as many members had not long since returned from the White Beach shindig.

There was decorum as the members jostled for a position on the hotplate. This picture shows Athol Wilkes with his spatula at the ready in case a snag size space materialised on the cooking surface.

As the members generally amassed around one side, cunning John Brodribb slipped around to cook from the other side.

President Mike Graham welcomed the group and can be seen here either praying or disappointed that someone substituted his Wursthause snag for a Bunnings special.

Thanks go to Mike Walpole and Hamish Kyle for organising another fun event.



Website news

MEMBERS PHOTOS

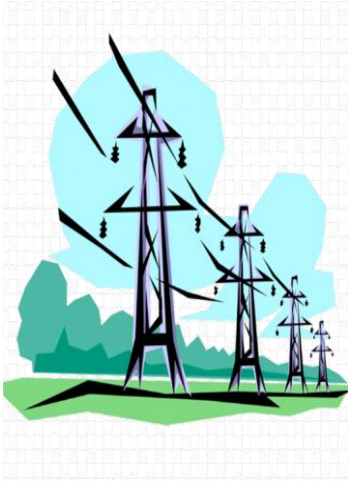


Members who have now been to the club's webpage and seen the photos, as demonstrated last meeting, and found they are not represented, will hopefully be seeking to add their likeness to the gallery. **I will be happy to take portraits at the April meeting.** Alternatively a photo (head and shoulders) from your own collection can be forwarded to the club email account as provided in the Bulletin masthead.

Brian Butler

April Presentation - Neil Blaikie

Understanding Australia's Electricity System



Our April presenter is our own lad Neil Blaikie who will seek to unravel the complexities of the Australian electrical system, in simple terms. The electrical system is experiencing significant change as we move to renewables. Neil will remove the politics to understand the basics and issues driving change.

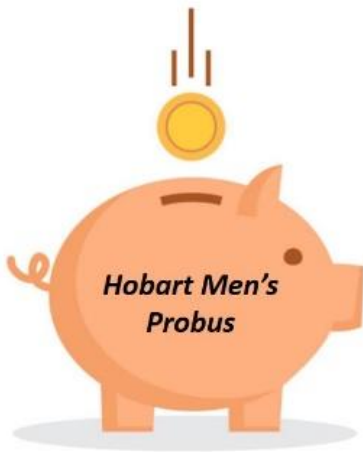
The presentation covers:

- How electricity is generated in Australia
- What is the National Electricity Market (NEM) and how does it operate (supply and demand balance)
- Tasmania's position in the NEM
- Emerging technologies and the changes in the way we generate and use electricity
- What does the future have in store

Neil is a retired Chartered Professional Engineer and a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Australia. He has had a lifelong career in the Hydro Electric industry serving 33 years with Hydro Tasmania and consulting nationally and internationally. Although retired, Neil keeps a keen eye on the state of Australia's electricity system.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES – Injection of Funds Required!

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



The outgoing committee has set this year's subscriptions at \$70.00, the same amount as last year. It was considered that a sub of \$70.00 would be sufficient to maintain the Club's cash reserves as well as meet our budgeted income and expenses.

Note that the \$70 subs includes meeting fees.

Our new Treasurer, Peter Tierney has polished off his abacus and has hit the ground running. Peter is requesting that the first choice for payment is by bank transfer. He is willing to take cash directly or other payment methods if bank transfer is not possible.

PLEASE DO NOT DEPOSIT YOUR SUBS AT THE BANK. The bank does not note the name of the depositor and causes confusion and unnecessary work for the Treasurer.

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 and the word 'Subs' in the transfer details.

(Note: These subs have nothing to do with the nuclear subs appearing in the press.)

APRIL OUTING - Tunnel Hill Mushroom Farm

Don't be kept in the dark about where your mushrooms come from. Join the April outing to the Tunnel Hill Mushroom Farm.

	<h2>April Outing</h2> <h3>Tunnel Hill Mushrooms</h3>	
	<p>18th April 2023 2 Old Coach Road, (Off the old Cambridge Road First right after Pass Road)</p>	
	<p>A guided tour of the historic tunnel and mushroom farm complete with a tasting experience</p>	
<p>Tour price \$20 PP</p>	<p>followed by lunch at The Horseshoe Inn – Cambridge</p>	<p>Time 11.00 am</p>

Farm location details will be provided at the April meeting. Further information can be sourced from Rob Brand 0418 122 671 rmbrand@bigpond.com

Travel Delights (Mike Walpole and Frank Walker)

NORTH WEST TASSIE – Early October 2023



We all love NW Tassie

They say tourists see more of their state than the inhabitants. So, why not become a tourist and join the planned tour to explore the delights of North West Tasmania.

Tour masters, Frank Walker and Mike Walpole are working with Tas Vacations to finalise a three night stay based at Smithton for early October.

We need to confirm numbers ASAP in order to secure accommodation at Tall Timbers.

We can only take another 10 persons so advise Mike on mwwalpole@bigpond.com or Frank on fwalker5@bigpond.com **now** if you wish to join the group tour.

Check your emails for the itinerary emailed to Members a few days back or get in touch with Mike or Frank for details.

KANGAROO ISLAND SA – Early 2024



Once again, we have had an overwhelming response to the “Expression of Interest” form passed around at our November meeting. We have 36 names on the list for the 5 day tour to Kangaroo Island in March / April 2024. Watch this space for more details. Mike Walpole (0429 001 402)

Wednesday Walkie Talkers (John Carter 0414 765 910)



The Wednesday group **meets at Long Beach ready to start our walk at 9.30.**

Contact the ticker off of attendees, John Carter, if you have any queries.

LUNCH MUNCH BUNCH (Geoff Medhurst 6225 4333)



April Munch

This month we are returning to the Marquis of Hastings buffet and a real treat is in store. There will be no excuse for hunger and at just \$29.50 for all you can eat, this has to be the bargain of the year. Be sure to leave some room for a glass or two.

The date is Thursday April 13 from 12 noon.

Aqua-Aerobics Group (Ian Miller 0407 686 447)



Come and join us for some warm water exercises at the Doone Kennedy Pool. Interested members, wives and or partners are welcome to join us **each Friday morning at 7.45 am in the pool** followed by coffee after in the pool café. *Dunk yourself then dunk a biscuit.*

Monday & Thursday Walkers (Ian Miller 0407 686 447)



We walk from different venues (eastern shore on Mondays and western shore on Thursdays) with coffee after most walks.

Contact Ian Miller (0407686447) or Brian Butler (0409 218 567) for meeting points for a 9.30 start.

Great investment advice

Here is some outstanding investment advice from our money wise guru, Brian Gallagher .

If you had bought \$1000 worth of Qantas shares one year ago, you would have made \$49.00 today.

If you had bought \$1000 worth of AIG shares one year ago, you would have made \$33.00 today.

If you had bought \$1000 worth of Lehman Brothers Shares one year ago, you would have made \$0.00 today.

BUT If you purchased \$1000 worth of beer one year ago, drank all the beer then returned the cans for recycling,

you would have made \$214.00 today.

So based on above ,the best current investment plan is to drink and recycle !!

AND DID YOU KNOW.....

A recent study found that the average Australian walks 900 miles a year.

Another study found the average Australian consumes 22 gallons of alcohol a year.

That means on average AUSSIES get 41 miles to the gallon.

MAKES YOU PROUD TO BE AN AUSSIE, DOESN'T IT??

Travel Plans for 2023

