

## HOBART PROBUS CLUB (MEN'S) INC



Founded: 5 October 1982 by the Rotary Club of Hobart  
Probust Club No. 52030 [hobartmensprobust@gmail.com](mailto:hobartmensprobust@gmail.com)

Postal Address: PO Box 2008, Lower Sandy Bay 7006

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

President's Theme for 2023/24

“Growing our Friendship, Fellowship and Fun”



### FEBRUARY GREETER – CHRIS JONES



HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2024



A new year has arrived, and it is time to emerge from your Christmas hiding place and face the new dawn. As we enjoy another wonderful summer in Tasmania, please remember that our old nemesis COVID is still hanging around. Be careful, take precautions and make the most of 2024. NB

### *Sad Passing of Probust Members*

It has been a sad start to 2024 with the recent passing of two members, Bob Brewster and David Blackburn.

#### **Vale – Bob Brewster**

Bob joined the club in 2001. His professional life as a teacher began at his old school, Hutchins, in the mid-fifties. In 1961 he became a founding member of staff at Peninsula Grammar, Mt Eliza, where he later became head of the Junior School and then in the late seventies he was appointed Headmaster of the Toowoomba Prep School. He returned, in his retirement, to Hobart where he did a number of teaching stints at Hutchins in a variety of capacities, one included a year as acting head of their Middle School.

Outside of his professional life he made a name for himself in the light-opera world of Gilbert and Sullivan and drama. He produced school plays and as a performer was a prominent member of the Mornington Peninsula Light Opera Company. Having been taught singing by Walter Stiasny in Hobart he was usually cast in the leading comic roles.

He was a Probust committee member for several years, including one as President in 2004/5. He was a longtime member of the aquarobics group where he and his wife, Meg, were the coordinators of its activities - Meg calling the shots for those in the pool. His (and Meg's) other main area of committed involvement was with the Warblers where he was a member from 2001

to its disbandment during Covid (he had taken over as Probus coordinator when Keith Bailey left for Brisbane). He resigned his membership of the club in 2022 due to ill health.

His gentle presence and wise counsel will be fondly remembered by all who knew him. He was an abiding friend and respected colleague and warmly remembered by all whom he taught.  
(David Brammall)

## **Vale – David Blackburn**

Early in the new year we have sadly lost another valuable member, David Blackburn.

David joined our club in 2013. By profession he was an Industrial Chemist but later in life he practised as a family pharmacist, having retrained to do so. Those who were able to attend the celebration of his life would have been amazed at the breadth of his interests and achievements. He was an academic, the winner of awards, a co-founder of Tas Paints, the author of numerous learned papers for the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, an avid supporter of the Richmond AFL club, an AFL umpire for over 20 years and a committed world traveller who loved a party. He and Rose lived and worked in Ireland for three years and explored the continent whenever possible! Above all David was a very kind, generous man, a devoted father and family man and friend to many. (David Brammall)

## *February Presenter - Rob Brand "The Fixer"*



Our February presenter is the handsome gentleman pictured, our very own President Rob Brand. We know Rob is a high achiever and of course, there is no higher achievement than being elected President of Hobart Men's Probus Club!

Rob will outline his journey from a cadet chemist, through a series of technical positions to senior management, company director and head of government agency. His address is titled "The Fixer", and he will share some of his experiences in tackling major problems and finding solutions.

## *Position Vacant - JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT*



The future of our club depends upon an effective and dynamic Management Committee that continues to provide a range of activities and experiences that remain of interest to members. For 2024/5, the Management Committee is looking to fill the position of **Junior Vice President**, a role that will evolve into Club President in 2026.

If you think you can fill this position and contribute to the management of the Club in 2024 & beyond, please don't sit back, but think positively and make a difference by applying for this important position, or perhaps indicate your willingness to contribute to the Club in future.

To discuss this matter further please talk to our President Elect Graham Sargison who can be contacted on 0417 548 379.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Secretary Phil Mathers and need to be completed before the next Annual General Meeting on 5 March 2024.

# *Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 5 March*



Mark in your diaries the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 5 March 2024. We want as many members as possible present to elect and welcome the new President and his Committee.

It is also your opportunity to raise any issue that will advance the value of the club.

## *Fun and Frolic at White Beach*



Are you ready for another relaxing beachside holiday commencing Monday 12 Feb for caravans and 13 Feb for cabin dwellers?

This year we are planning for a relaxing stay with optional activities of your choosing including:

On **Tuesday** evening we will have a welcoming happy hour with the Jamsetters playing old favourites from our era.

**Wednesday** there are options of a long walk to Cape Raoul or a shorter walk to the Cape Raoul Lookout.

**Thursday** evening our friendly chefs, Grant and Kelly will prepare a gourmet BBQ at the Caravan Park.

**Friday** promises a Finske tournament for those who are willing.

We will be having all our regular activities of morning beach walks, morning coffee, and evening happy hours at the time and place of your choosing.

However, you may just want to veg out, relax and especially, enjoy yourselves. The choice is yours. (*Graham Sargison*)

## *February Lunch Brunch Outing*



After our break over Christmas and January we can again look forward to many enjoyable munches in 2024. Our first 'munch' will be on Thursday 15th February 2024 at the always popular Doctor Syntax Hotel where we are sure to enjoy munching a most enjoyable meal dined 'al fresco'.

(Geoff Medhurst 6225 4333)

## *Post Meeting Yacht Club Lunch* (John Carter)



Our post meeting lunches at the Yacht Club will resume in February.

Please let John Carter know during the coffee break if you wish to attend, so he can inform the Yacht Club of numbers.

# Annual Family BYO BBQ



**SITE 9 WATERWORKS RESERVE, WATERWORKS ROAD  
HOBART, MONDAY 26TH FEBRUARY, 11:30AM TO 2.00PM.**

All is in hand for our Annual Family Barbecue this year, once again to be at Waterworks Reserve Hut 9.

I am assured the weather will be perfect!! But the site shelter takes a lot of people, if we need to be under cover.

SO... look forward to seeing you all there. Please come self contained with your BYO BBQ food and drinks.

You might want to bring a folding chair if you're not keen on bench seats. Hat and sunscreen will be obligatory!

Please record the names of those attending on the Activity sheet which will be available at the February meeting.

Any queries - Please contact Hamish Kyle 0408 544 601

*(Mike Walpole - Sensational Sausage Sizzler)*

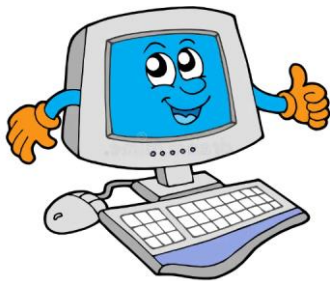


**FAMILY BBQ PRE-LUNCH WALK – MEET SITE 9 AT 10:30**

If you feel like a comfortable walk to work up an appetite for the BBQ to follow, then Phil Mathers is your man. Phil will be leading a leisurely walk around the upper lake, leaving Site 9 at 10:30 am (weather dependant).

Phil guarantees you will not get lost!

## Website Club Calendar



Members are encouraged to utilise the club calendar accessible on our website.

Proposed speakers at monthly meetings are listed with the topic to be addressed. Outing venues for each month with available detail are included as soon as known, and any changes made when/if notified by the organiser.

We hope this will assist members to know the how/what/where of our plans for 2024. *(Brian Butler – IT Guru)*

## AN AUSTRALIA DAY GRANDKIDS JOKE



Q: Where do lawyers swim in Queensland?

A: Off The Great Barrister Reef, of course!

## Wet and Wild



Here is a picture of Ian Miller's **aqua aerobics group** after their pre-Christmas dunking session.

It was a special celebration as all resuscitations were successful, and they could look forward to making a splash in 2024!



## Emergency Contacts

The Management Committee has identified that our members' emergency contact details may be out of date, and in any event are difficult to access. Although we have emergency contact details on the back of our name cards and on our original application form, these may not be readily accessible, for example during an outing or a regular weekly activity.

Best practice risk management suggests that each activity leader should have access to an emergency contact for each participant. To that end we will be updating our emergency contact register and including it in our membership tables.

Each member will shortly receive an email requesting your emergency contact details. An immediate reply would be greatly appreciated. The email will include the following table.

### PRIMARY CONTACT *(required)*

Name:  Phone (Mobile preferred)  Relationship:

### SECONDARY CONTACT *(optional)*

Name:  Phone (Mobile preferred)  Relationship:

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST ACTIVATE **REPLY ON THAT EMAIL BEFORE YOU CAN FILL IN THE BOXES**, then hit send.

This response method may not work on mobile phones or some laptops. As a fallback you can email the relevant details to President Rob Brand on [rmband@bigpond.com](mailto:rmband@bigpond.com) or text him on 0418 122 671.

Your cooperation and prompt response will be appreciated.

*(Rob Brand – President)*

## Upcoming Items of General Interest

### *Wednesday Walkie Talkers* (John Carter 0414 765 910)



The Wednesday walkers will continue throughout the summer as usual, despite a higher number of walkers being usually busy at this time of year.

The 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.

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



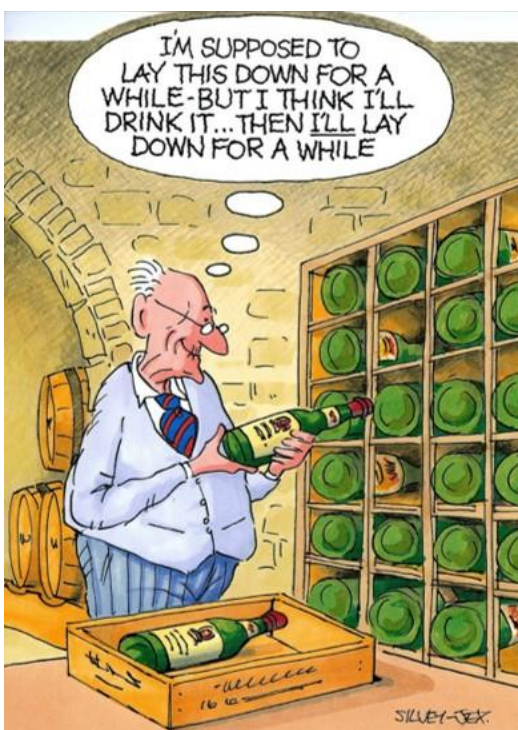
Come and join us for some warm water exercises at the Doone Kennedy Pool. Interested members, wives and or partners are welcome to join us **each Friday morning at 7.45 am in the pool** followed by coffee after in the pool café.

### *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.



# *Inciteful insights from Brian Butler*

1. Why can't women put on mascara with their mouths closed?
2. Why don't you ever see the headline, "psychic wins lottery"?
3. Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?
4. Why do doctors call what they do "practice"?
5. Why do you need to click on "start" to stop windows?
6. Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavouring, while washing up liquid contains real lemons?
7. Why is the man who invests all your money called a 'broker'?
8. Why isn't there mouse flavoured cat food?
9. Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitos?
10. Why do they sterilize the needles for lethal injections?
11. Why don't they make the whole plane out of the same material as the indestructible black box?
12. Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?
13. Why are they called 'apartments' when they're all stuck together?
14. Why do they call the airport the "terminal" if flying is so safe?
15. Why is it considered necessary to nail down the lid of a coffin?
16. Why do they call it 'chilli' if it's hot?
17. Why can't you make another word using all the letters in "anagram"?
18. Why can't we tickle ourselves?
19. Why do 'fat chance' and 'slim chance' mean the same thing?
20. If Superman is so smart why does he wear his underpants over his trousers?
21. If swimming is good for your shape, then why do the whales look the way they do?
22. When dog food is new and improved tasting, who tests it?
23. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
24. Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!
25. If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?
26. If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?
27. Is Disney World the only people trap operated by a mouse?
28. Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?

Brian, you should stop worrying about these things. These mysteries will never be solved! NB