



PROBUS CLUB OF GREENWAY INC.

Postal address: 5 Evans Place, Gordon, ACT 2906

A/g President: Sandra Barke 0429133363
Secretary: Alan Parker 6294 7207

Editor: Peter Howitt 0417 491 267
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A Few Words From Our Acting President

Dear Members

I hope everybody is enjoying the glorious weather that we have been having. I always feel more energetic when we have warm sunny days.

In my previous email message, I advised that our November meeting had to be cancelled because of the limited numbers that were permitted in the Town Centre Vikings Club. Due to the uncertainty in relation to Covid restrictions which may be in place for December, your Committee has had to be creative in organising an alternative plan for our Xmas party.

This year we have decided to do something totally different. The Kambah Woolshed has been reserved for Tuesday 14 December and we are having a Xmas picnic. A caterer has been booked and details of the menu are listed below.

I would like to especially thank Gail and Noela for all of their hard work in driving around to check out numerous picnic areas and finding a caterer for the event.

I look forward to seeing you all at our party and being able to celebrate getting together and the end of a very challenging year.

Arrangements are already in place to recommence our General Meetings in January where John will entertain us with another episode of his "Two Truths and a Lie".

Take care, stay safe and keep smiling.

Sandra

Upcoming Outings

14 th December	Christmas Party details to be advised
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Future Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	
14 th December	Christmas Party	Kambah Woolshed
11 th January 2022	The Return of Two Truths and a Lie!	

Christmas party lunch – 12:00 noon
Tuesday 14 December 2021

Kambah Woolshed



Venue	Kambah Woolshed, corner O'Halloran Circuit and Springbett St, Kambah. The site is undercover, has a wheelchair-accessible toilet and plenty of parking. We have a permit to use this site.
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Cost:	\$35.00 for members and non-members.
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RSVP:	<p>Please Notify Glenda Sullivan (Treasurer) by 30/11/2021 on 0437 378 178</p> <p>Glenda will know if she is holding money for you from the cancelled Birthday Lunch. If you still need to pay, Glenda will discuss how this can be done.</p> <p>Glenda will notify Gail and Noela of the numbers attending.</p>
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Menu

Lunch will be catered by Golden Roast and includes:	
Meats:	beef, chicken & hot ham
Side dishes:	roast potatoes, roast pumpkin, mixed veg (cauliflower, carrots, broccoli), baby beans, tossed garden salad, beetroot salad, coleslaw, pineapple
Bread:	french sticks (cut and buttered)
Desserts:	fresh fruit salad, pavlova, apple blueberry crumble, lemon cheesecake
plus:	gravy, mint jelly, mustard, sour cream
Hot drinks	tea and coffee
Soft Drinks	Cans of Kirks' soft drinks: lemonade, creaming soda, pasito, ginger beer and lemon squash. If you would like something else to drink, feel free to bring your own.

We will be using disposable crockery and cutlery and the club will organise some lucky door prizes!

We must all comply with any ACT Health Covid19 restrictions that may be in force on the day.

Any concerns please contact Noela at greenwayprobus.outing@gmail.com or Gail 0417 432 474

Secret Santa

As usual, we will run a Secret Santa as part of the Christmas party on 14th December.

Participation is voluntary and anyone attending the Christmas party can join in. If you wish to participate please bring a wrapped gift with you. The value should be around \$10. Presents will be handed out by Santa.

(Ladies bring for Ladies & Men for men and place in appropriate Santa bag)

For more up to date information and other news go to the Greenway Probus Web Site by just clicking here -> [Greenway Probus](#)

Welfare

Vale Jim Turner, a long-standing member who passed away recently.

Our best wishes go to Norma Steel and Joan Harrison who are in hospital. Members with ongoing health problems or other issues that prevent them from attending meetings are not forgotten and we send them our positive thoughts and best wishes.



November Birthdays

There are only three November Birthday Members, Sandra Barker, Graham Lacey, John Payne.

A very Happy Birthday to you all.



Tom Anderson's Visit to the Northeastern border area of China

I lived and worked in China from 2005 to 2008 as the Counsellor Customs at the Australian Embassy. I had arrived in March 2005 to open a new office for the Australian Customs Service.

One of the main roles was to assist China Customs to establish a dog breeding program along the lines of the Australian program. This also involved helping the Dog handlers improve.

One of my visits was to the northeastern border area of China where it borders North Korea. It was a week-long visit and we were to meet with China Customs in at least three locations. We first went to Yanji, the major city in this area, and the China Customs people apologized for the size of the City. Tom, we are sorry but only 2.5 million people live here – it is small!!

In Tumen Customs House – a typical meeting and the numbers were always like this.

We moved on from here to Tumen which is right on the border with North Korea and I managed to step across into North Korea. Here we saw very old trucks carrying ore and coal across the border into China.

On then towards Hunchen and it was decided to stop for lunch. An interesting lunch sitting around a table on preschool stools. It is one lunch I will always remember.



It was also interesting here as I was eating 3 meals a day with my Chinese colleagues and the only one who could really speak both languages was my office manager Celia. Chinese tea or milk were the offered drinks for breakfast but someone went out and found some coffee which really I had to drink but it was not very good. And it was the one time that I had eggs for breakfast as the rest of the food just looked like lunch or dinner.

contact with today.

On my left is Celia Chen. She was my translator and Office Manager. A wonderful woman who I am still in

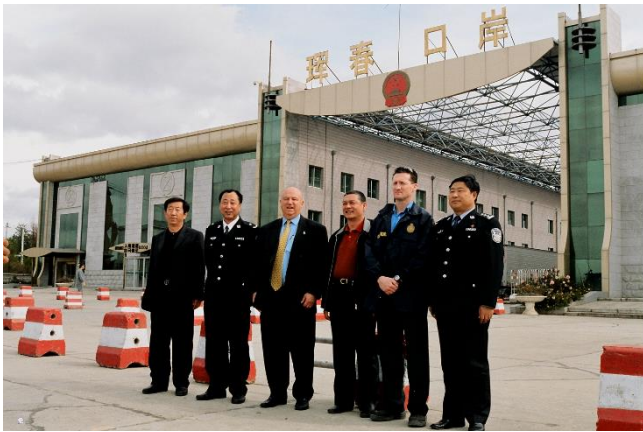
Standing in North Korea on the Tumen Bridge



.And another look across the river into North Korea.

We stayed in Hunchen for a couple of days visiting the China Russian border checkpoint and also going to the point where the Russian, China and North Korean borders meet.

On the China side of the border with Russia



Of course, in this area with around 50% of the population being ethnic Korean one of their main meat dishes is “dog”. On our final night, they held a BBQ for me and I asked that there be no dog. I am certain to this day that they didn’t heed my request.

It was a typical visit with many in China Customs wanting to be involved in the visit and of course there were dinners where they wanted to drink and this would include the toasts. I would always sit to the right of the host when I was the Guest of Honour. The host would make a speech which would be translated for me by Celia and then a toast. I was then required to make a

response that usually included “goodwill” and how pleased I was to meet them all.

Then those at the dinner, and there could be up to 20 around the one table, would decide that they wanted to have a toast with me. The choices were red wine or Mou Tai – a highly alcoholic drink – that was drunk in one go to the word of “Gambai” – drink it down. I had my limits and for each drink, I would have some diet coke in a tall glass to try to minimize the impact of the alcohol. It was something that really you had to do to ensure that the relationship was maintained.

Mou Tai is not the world’s nicest tasting drink by far and the next morning you would reek of the odour of it as it seeped from your skin but it was all part of the role I had there.

There are many of these stories in China. This one, to me, was special as I managed to get to the North Korean Border which many at the Australian Embassy were amazed by as this usually required special permission from China’s Foreign Affairs. I simply said I was travelling with China Customs and I assumed they had done the required paperwork. I was quite sure that they never did.



The new building for the dog handlers in Tumen and the bags set out for the dogs to train.

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Bruny Island – Tasmania – February 2012

In 2012 another opportunity to visit “Tassie” occurred “out of the blue” when Sandra and I were invited to fill a vacancy that occurred on an already organised trip when one couple had to pull out at the last minute.

Unlike our previous visit, a ferry no longer ran from Sydney which we had caught on our previous visit, and we had to drive to Melbourne to catch a daytime ferry to Devonport.

We visited many places on the two-week trip, however, I would like to focus on our visit to Bruny Island.

Bruny Island is two islands joined by a sandbar and covers 362 square kilometres just off the South East Coast of Tasmania and is reached via a short ferry ride from Kettering.

The ferry lands passengers on North Bruny and the first impression is of low rolling hills and lots of agriculture with extensive views of the sea. The road reaches a sand bar that joins the two islands of Bruny.

South Bruny progressively became more hilly as you progressed south towards Mount Bruny which rises to 504 meters.

Our main reason for visiting Bruny was the “Wilderness Boat Trip” that runs out of Adventure Bay in South Bruny.

We had seen it advertised and were keen to see the coastline of South Bruny with its spectacular rocks, caves, high sea cliffs and wildlife. The only reservation we had was the pictures of the boats full of passengers in bright yellow wet weather gear!

The next morning we fronted up at the boat harbour on a fine and warm day with very little wind. We took off at high speed to the rocks that more than lived up to our expectations. Because of the fine weather, there were only a few waves and we were able to approach the cliffs and go very close to the sea caves. Needless to say, we did not need any wet weather gear!

The Guide commented that in ten years doing this trip, this was the closest he had managed to get to the cliffs.

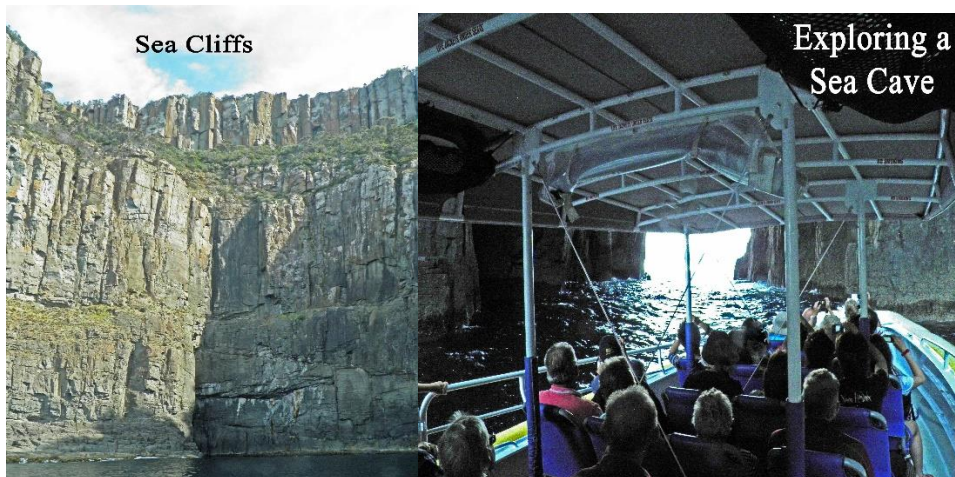
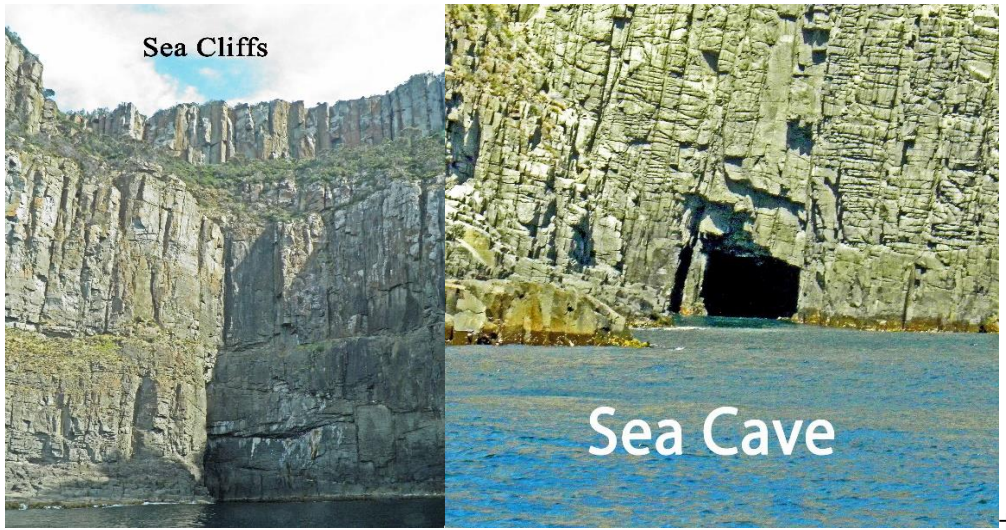
We saw the Blowhole but it was only operating at half strength because of the lack of waves. The view of the cliffs was amazing and seemed to get better as we headed south towards Cape Bruny.

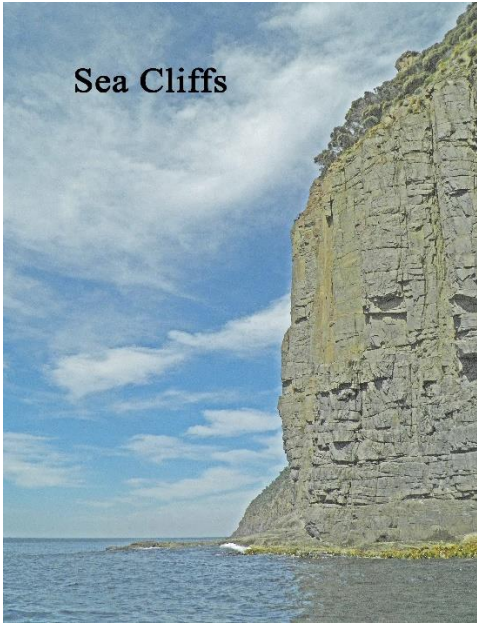
There were thousands of birds flying around and there were even a couple of Albatross gliding around. We approached a Fur Seal Colony where most of them seemed to be basking on rocks with only a few swimming around. The thing you will never forget about a seal colony is **the smell!**

As we approached the turnaround point at Cape Bruny the cliffs became even more spectacular and the Guide was even able to take us through a rock arch.

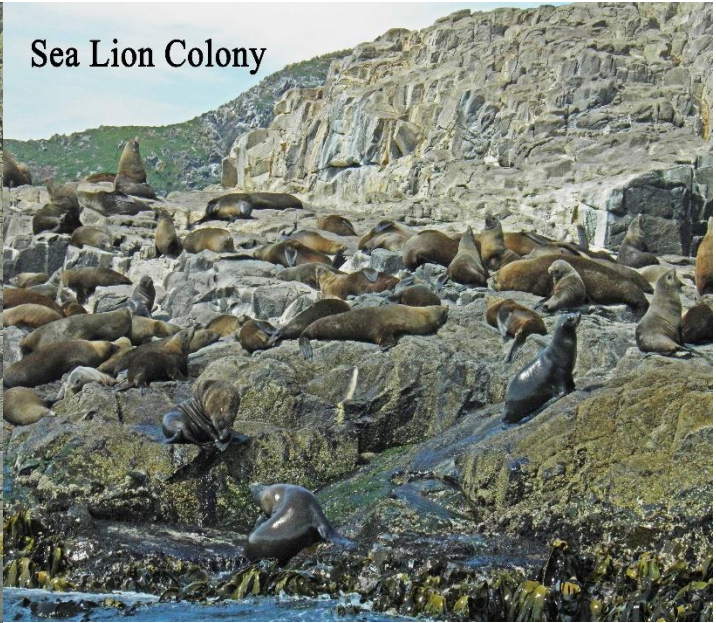
The following day we drove further south to see Cape Bruny from the land! We thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were able to put in a bit more perspective the next day when we drove to Cape Bruny and saw it from the land!

Views of Bruny Island – Tasmania





Sea Cliffs



Sea Lion Colony



Cape Bruny from Terra Firma