



TUGGERANONG PROBUS CLUB Inc.

NEWSLETTER No. 391 – 23 FEBRUARY 2026

Meets at Southern Cross Club,
Pitman Street, Greenway
at 10.00 am, 4th Monday of the month

President: Sharron Blackmore - 0421 373 617
Secretary: Leonie Hancott – 0400 449 839
Membership: Rowena Davey – 0447 888 856
Welfare: Kerry Buik – 0421 737 282
Outings: Bron Heinrich – 0409 895 085

Newsletter Editor: Anne - 0400 772 424

Bank details: Tuggeranong Probus Club Inc - BSB: 633 000 Acct No. 194 077 772

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 23 February – 10.00 am General Meeting at CSSC – Club survey



Tuesday 24 February – 10.00 am Trivia at the Mawson Club

Thursday 19 March – bus & light rail – Lunch at Raiders Club, Gungahlin

Monday 23 March – 10.00 am General Meeting and Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 24 March – 10.00 am Trivia at the Mawson Club

25-30 March – Melbourne Short Break Escape

7-15 April 2026 – Murray/Darling with 5 nights in Narrandera – vacancies available

Tuesday 21 April – Lunch at German Club in Narrabundah

Monday 27 April – ANZAC Day public holiday – meeting details TBA

10-24 August 2026 – Sabah, North Borneo

Cost \$6498 double/twin share or \$7988 single

=====
***If you cannot attend a meeting please text your apology to Rowena,
our Membership Officer, on 0447 888 856***
=====

BIRTHDAYS

The following members celebrate birthdays in March: Don Blackmore, Peter Cheng, Bron Heinrich, Norma Lole and Marta Munstermann.

Happy Birthday to all.



=====
***A negative mind will never give you a POSITIVE LIFE.
Choose to be optimistic, it feels better.***
=====

FROM THE TREASURER

A request that members make any payments via online transfer whenever possible – don't forget to include your name and what you are paying for.

Bank details: Tuggeranong Probus Club Inc - BSB: 633 000 Acct No. 194 077 772

If paying by cash it must be the exact amount and, in an envelope, labelled with member's name and what the payment is for, e.g. membership fee, outing, etc.

**ANNUAL CLUB FEE of \$30 TO BE PAID
BY MARCH MEETING (23 MARCH).**

=====

=====

=====

FROM THE PRESIDENT & THE EDITOR

Enclosed with this newsletter is a nomination form for Management Committee positions. The Vice President, Treasurer, Speaker Seeker and Membership Officer have indicated they will not be seeking re-election. All others have nominated for re-election.

However, ALL POSITIONS are declared vacant at the AGM so any member is eligible to be nominated for any position. If more than one member is nominated for a particular position there will be an election.

If you wish information on the duties of any position please speak to Sharron (President), the incumbent of a particular position or myself (Editor). Printed copies will be available for perusal at the February meeting.

=====

=====

=====



Please note I am no longer collecting toilet roll inserts or foil & plastic pill blisters. Full foil (100%) blisters ARE still being collected.

There have been some changes to items collected: mobile phones, household batteries, prescription glasses, pens, corks, metal bottle caps, keys and other metal objects, alfoil/aluminium, e-waste (mobile cables), light bulbs.

Bring your items to the February meeting as we have a sorting day in mid-March.

What a variety of items and stories we had at Show & Tell – see photos below. Once again my thanks to Lorri for taking photos at meetings and outings. Anne

=====

=====

=====

It is with great sadness that I advise that Sue Leibke died just two days after her 84th birthday for which she had a lovely celebration. Sue had been ill for some time so she is now resting in peace.





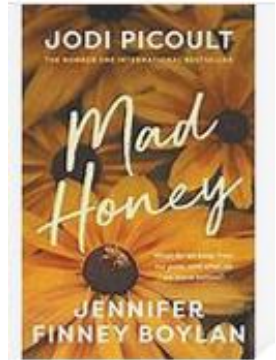
CHAT ABOUT BOOKS

MAD HONEY by Jodi Picoult

This book touches on domestic violence, bee keeping, young love, murder trial and TRANSGENDER. The life of a transgender person and what they endure is heart rendering.

Two single mothers, one a beekeeper Olivia, with a son and Lily who has a daughter, is a park/forest ranger.

Their mothers' love for their children creating a provocative, exploration of strength and love.



Beekeeping brings a lightness to the story.

I applaud the author for writing about Transgender people; their life of health issues, torments, abuse and where they fit in society.

Instead of being ignorant, naive and condemning them for being different, we can show compassion and acceptance.

Vera

=====

=====

=====

LIVING LONGER

I adapted the following from a daily reflection I subscribe to from Olive Tree Media.

Anne

At the end of the 1800s, a 60-year-old was considered to be 'near death's door'. One hundred years later, in the 21st century, a 60-year-old is barely old enough to retire. Our life expectancy continues to increase, and even better, we are staying healthier for longer. In later years we can actually expect to live more active, engaged lives.

It seems that there is little point in extending the length of our lives if we don't also extend the quality of our lives – not just health and wealth, but relationships, purpose and significance. What would be the point of living longer if it only extends a sad and empty existence?

Hopefully your membership of Tuggeranong Probus Club will contribute towards extending the quality of your life by attending meetings and joining us in our various outings – regular lunches, day trips or longer overnight(s) tours. You could even become one of our Management Committee members or assist one of them – both very satisfying tasks.

=====

=====

=====

Many notable citizens of our country have extended congratulations on Probus celebrating 50 years since Probus was established in Australia. One of these is The Hon Sam Mostyn, Governor General of Australia – see her letter on page 6 below.

THE LIFELINE EXPERIENCE

I am sure many of us have been to the Lifeline book sale at Epic. Lloyd and I are frequent visitors and always surprised at how busy it is, so for this recent visit we decided to be clever and go early. Be there at least by 9.30 am. beat the crowds! How stupid was this.

By the time we arrived at 9.30, the car park was almost full, leaving us with almost 400 meters to walk to the actual buildings. The line to get into Coorong Pavilion was at least 50 meters long, however it moved very quickly and we were greeted by a smiling volunteer with small bottles of water.

The Coorong Pavilion was so busy, random categories, such as gardening, conservation, religion, self-help books, autobiographies etc., etc., then through to the next section. Fiction, including children's old favourites, i.e. Golden Books, Biggles, Mary Grant's Billabong Tales, The Tree House series, Skullduggery and The Diary of a Wimpy Kid, plus classics like Treasure Island, Little Women, and so on.

Oh, how wonderful to see so many book lovers. The parents with littlies in prams holding picture books, 20/30-year-olds picking up anything from murder mysteries, thrillers to chick/lit; middle aged choosing anything from historical fiction to classic mystery, Napoleonic adventure to science fiction. I was totally overjoyed to see six young male teenagers with at least six science fiction books each happily enjoying talking instead of staring at PHONES !!

The volunteers. So amazing! On asking, they seemed to know where every author was and always with a smile.

Oldies like us, with walking sticks, wheelie walkers, wheelchairs and motorised scooters, all looking for books. People with bags, back packs, suitcases on wheels, shopping trolleys, garden waste trolleys, even childless prams full of books heading for the exits.

I cannot express my joy at seeing so many of our human race still wanting to hold something as precious as a book.

THE VOLUNTEERS! A wonderful collection of extremely pleasant people of all ages; cheerful, helpful, and what appeared to be very well organised, constantly refilling tables, and directing the crowds.

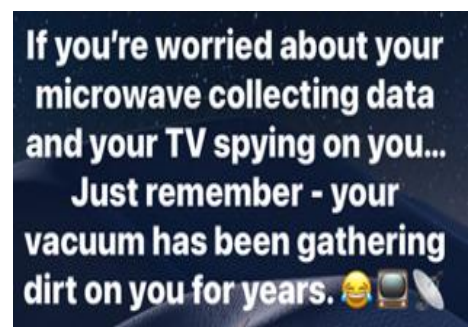
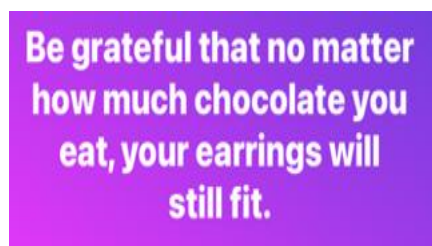
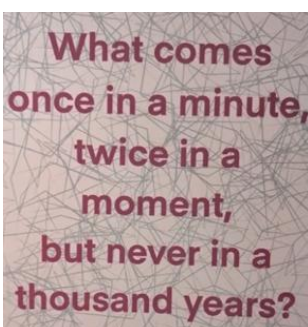
One lesson next time, we won't go early to beat the crowds!!

Nasonie

=====

=====

=====



The letter "m".

SHOW & TELL - JANUARY 2026



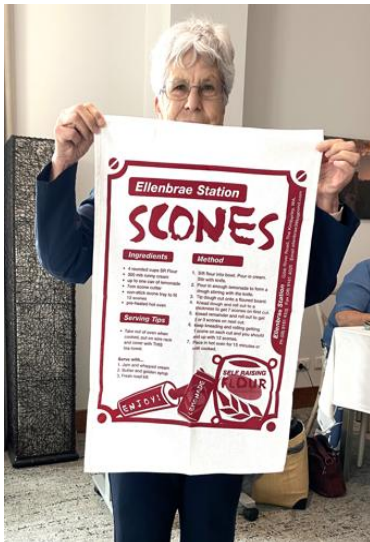
Sharron



Don



John



Marcia



Margaret



Rowena



Faith



Dennis



Valerie



Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Golden Anniversary of Probus in Australia

I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations to Probus Clubs throughout Australia as you celebrate 50 years of service to our community. The strength and longevity of Probus Clubs reflect the dedication of your members and the tireless efforts of those who have given their time to leadership and service.

Since the establishment of the first Probus Club in 1976, your organisation has played a vital role in enriching the lives of retirees and semi-retirees by fostering friendship, fellowship and active engagement. For half a century, Probus has helped Australians remain socially connected, intellectually stimulated and involved in their local communities.

As Governor-General, I promised to put care, kindness and respect at the heart of my work. I talk about care in all of its forms across our country, from care for each other and for those who care for others, to care for our democracy and institutions, care for the way we discuss the issues of our time, not with anger, but with respect and kindness.

At Probus, you have care, kindness and respect deep in your commitment to inclusiveness, volunteerism and lifelong learning. As a community, you make a lasting contribution to wellbeing across cities, towns and regions nationwide. I have seen and continue to celebrate the profound impact of Probus in the lives of many of my family members, and in the communities I have visited across Australia.

I hope all Probus Clubs will celebrate this significant milestone throughout 2026. I thank all involved with Probus for your enduring contribution to Australian life and wish you every success in the years ahead.

=====

BE STRONG because things will get better.
It may be stormy now but it never rains forever.

We can complain because rose bushes have thorns or
we can rejoice because thorns have roses.

CHINESE NEW YEAR 2026 - YEAR OF THE HORSE

Why Is 2026 (17 February to 3 March) the Year of the Fire Horse?

Chinese astrology cycles through 12 signs, represented by different animals. At the same time, there are also five elements: water, wood, fire, earth and metal.

The animals change each year; the elements change every two years

The horse is known for freedom, enthusiasm, intelligence, and a strong drive for movement and progress. People born under this sign tend to be social, adventurous, and self-directed, though they can resist restriction or routine. At their best, they inspire others through optimism and bold forward motion,

Fire, meanwhile, represents visibility, passion, momentum, and transformation.

Those with birthdays in Chinese zodiac years 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002 and 2014 are born under the sign of the horse.

As is a long-standing custom with our Club, we celebrated Chinese New Year with a buffet lunch at the China Tea House. Our resident photographer, Lorri, took some photos and I grabbed the fortunes from a few of the cookies – I will use them in future newsletters.

