



# TUGGERANONG PROBUS CLUB Inc.

## NEWSLETTER No. 389 –24 DECEMBER 2025

Meets at Vikings Town Centre Club,  
Athllon Drive, Greenway  
at 10.00 am, 4<sup>th</sup> 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: Probus Club of Tuggeranong.- BSB: 633 000 Acct No. 194 077 772**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Monday 19 January** – General Meeting (at  
Canberra Southern Cross Club at  
Tuggeranong – to be confirmed)

N.B. change of date for this month only  
*Show and Tell*



**Tuesday 27 January** – Trivia at the Mawson Club

**Wednesday 11 February** – Chinese New Year lunch, cost \$25.00 – numbers limited

**Monday 23 February** – General Meeting (at Canberra Southern Cross Club – TBC)

**Tuesday 24 February** – Trivia at the Mawson Club

**Monday 23 March** – General Meeting and Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 24 March** – Trivia at the Mawson Club

**25-30 March** – Melbourne Short Break Escape

**7-15 April 2026** – Murray/Darling Trip with 5 nights in Narrandera.

**Monday 27 April** – ANZAC Day public holiday

**10-24 August 2026** – Sabah, North Borneo  
Cost \$6498 double/twin share or \$7988 single

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***If you cannot attend a meeting  
please text your apology to Rowena, our Membership Officer***

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### **BIRTHDAYS**

Several members celebrate birthdays in January: Margaret Gillingham,  
Dennis Lovatt, Penny Stamatakos, Toni Sullivan. Happy Birthday to all.

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*My goal for 2025 was to lose 8 kilos. Only have 12 to go!!*



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Probus Members,

It is that time of the year when we wonder where the year went.

It's time to thank you for your support in coming together for our meetings, enjoying the guest speakers and all the other items that happen in those meetings. I hope you have enjoyed the outings and trips we had during the year - I wish I could have gone on more of them.

We will meet on 19 January 2026 in the Brindabella Room upstairs at the Southern Cross Club, Tuggeranong at 10.00 am – allow extra time to park and find your way to the meeting room.

There won't be a guest speaker at the January meeting. We will have **Show and Tell** instead. This was popular when we did it a few years ago. We need some members to bring along a special item and tell us what is special about it – limit of 5-10 minutes. Please let John Davenport know prior to the meeting ([jdavenport2086@gmail.com](mailto:jdavenport2086@gmail.com)) if you will participate.

I wish to thank the committee for all their hard work during the year, it has been amazing.

Wishing Everybody a wonderful, safe and peaceful Christmas.

Much love to all, Sharron Blackmore

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## FROM THE EDITOR

It seems that something is missing if I don't have a deadline for a Probus newsletter, and that is the case this month as we do not have a meeting in December. However I decided to send a newsletter with dates for the first couple of months for 2026 as well as a few jokes, cartoons, inspirational sayings and fascinating facts.

I had hoped to send this a couple of days ago, but as the saying goes "The best laid plans of mice and men (and women!!) are apt to go astray" – distractions such as a ceiling fan which refuses to operate, more Christmas functions than I ever before I moved to the retirement village, what to do with all the Christmas fare I have been given, etc, etc. *My goal for 2025 was to lose 8 kilos. Only have 12 to go.* I hope you enjoy my offering for holiday reading.

Anne

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### From John, our Speaker Seeker



This is scene of the town of Kruje in Albania on Christmas Day. Albanians now are a mixture of Christians, Muslims and non-believers and they all coexist happily from what I observed. *(If only the rest of the world could! - Editor)*

I have made two visits to Albania and certainly recommend it for a holiday destination. The Albanians I met were friendly, honest and kind to strangers.

John

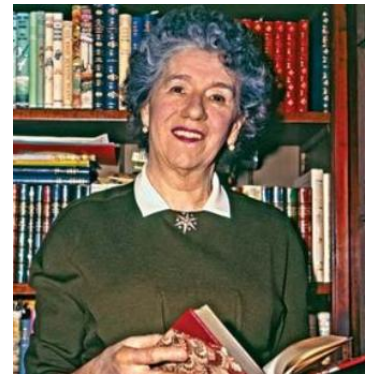


## CHAT ABOUT BOOKS

Earlier this year the members of Chat About Books deviated from our usual book reviews and instead talked about  
**MY THREE FAVOURITE BOOKS**

However, I deviated even from that, as follows. I seldom speak at length about books I have read, as often others have already given reviews on the same books, so please indulge me. Rather than listing three favourite books, I have chosen to list favourite authors..... and there are four!

ENID BLYTON – As a child I read many books by Enid Blyton. My favourites were *The Naughtiest Girl in the School* series and *The Secret Seven*. I never did take to *Noddy and Big Ears*– toys don't talk and walk! She wrote several other series, resulting in over 600 million copies of her books being sold. While she died in 1968 of Alzheimer's, according to Wikipedia, her books are still popular today.



IAN FLEMING – From childhood to adolescence, while many of the antics of James Bond (Agent 007, a licence to kill!!) were not things I could relate to, I nonetheless enjoyed the books and later the films. There were 17 books written between 1953 and 1966. Sean Connery was my favourite James Bond. Fleming also wrote other stories including *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. He served in Naval Intelligence during World War II.

A few years on and I discovered ARTHUR HAILEY. I enjoyed his style of writing, with each book focussing on a particular industry, e.g. *Airport*, *Hotel*, *Wheels*, *Overload*, etc. I have six of his novels which I intend to re-read.



Finally, JEFFERY ARCHER – one can never be sure just how any of his novels will end, especially his short stories. He has so far written four series of novels, many stand-alone novels and short stories, as well as non-fiction and children's books.

Since joining Chat About Books, my choice of books and authors has expanded due to the influence of the other participants – my thanks to all participants for this.

Anne

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*May you always have love to share, cash to spare, tyres with air and friends who care.*

*When wearing a bikini, women reveal 90% of their bodies.  
Men are so polite they only look at the covered parts. 😊*

*I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.*



*C A B Christmas lunch*



*Chocolate fondue – truly decadent!*

Christmas lunch snaps – thanks to Lorri





Bron & Kaylene (Trade Travel)



Dennis seems to be happy  
with his sample board of  
local beers

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*Why do we press harder on the  
remote control when we know the  
batteries are getting weaker?*



Waiting for the coach (in Tasmania)

After being married for thirty years, a wife asked her husband to describe her.

He looked at her for a while, then said, "You're A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K."

She asks ... "What does that mean?"

He said, "Adorable, Beautiful, Cute, Delightful, Elegant, Foxy, Gorgeous, Hot."



She smiled happily and said ... "Oh, that's so lovely ... What about L, J, K?"

He said, "I'm Just Kidding!"

The swelling in his eye is going down and the doctor is fairly optimistic about saving his family jewels.

**Keep that smile  
on your face** 

*Someday  
we old folks  
will use cursive  
writing as a  
Secret  
Code!*



#### THE FIVE STAGES OF A WOMAN'S LIFE

1. TO GROW UP
2. TO FILL OUT
3. TO SLIM DOWN
4. TO HOLD IT IN
5. TO HELL WITH IT



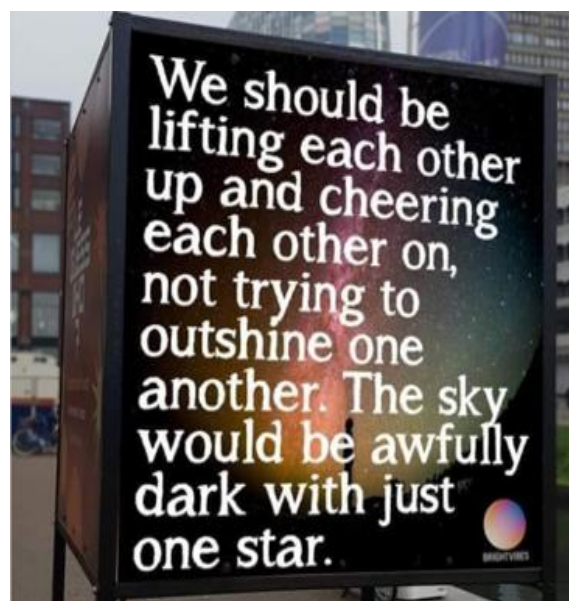
The children were lined up in the cafeteria of for lunch.

At the head of the table was a large pile of apples.

The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching."

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies.

A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."



A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up.

The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."



Longest Coastlines in the World

Skipped the gym today and put on a fitted sheet instead

