

THE TIMES

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Hamilton Probus Club Inc. 56018 Accredited 14 December 1990

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President`s Report: August 2020

Another month has passed and we are still not being able to meet. I am sorry that I have not been able to chair a meeting but hope that we can before the year ends. The committee met for the first time yesterday, 14th July, and discussed a range of matters. The main topic was where we could meet in the future. Merriwee Court is no longer available to us. Ascot Probus meet in St Colomb`s Church Hall in Clayfield. This is a suitable hall and we will enquire as to its availability. No doubt the hall hire cost will be more than we paid previously. We will investigate other venues before making a final decision.

Several men were anxious to meet for a coffee morning. Twelve came and we had a happy hour together. By the time this is published we hope to have had a ladies` morning. I am sure that there will be something to talk about.

I am pleased to report that John Conroy is home from hospital and is well and on the mend.

The Activities committee are planning a couple of events. I will leave it to Anne Gooley to let us know what they have organised. Barbara Fitzell has several prospective new members to join us when we meet again. Greg McGilvery has looked after our funds. John Wright has been updating the database with our "mug shots". He can now produce a page for each of us with our club history and photo. He can send it to anyone who asks.

Once the club meets again, I will stop producing The Bulletin. I hope it has helped to keep us in touch with interesting life stories, some humour, photos, recipes, and puzzles to keep our mind active. Thank you to all who have contributed. It has kept me busy during the lockdown. **Barry Henzell**

Secretary's Report: August 2020

Little has been happening on the Hamilton Probus Club front, so I have little to say however!

I have complimented our President Barry H. elsewhere for his initiative and skill in producing a Weekly Bulletin during these awkward times, which perfectly complements the undoubted Editorial skills of Douglas Fussell and the Times Monthly Newsletter. A special thank you as well, to all of you who contribute original articles and topics of common and specific interest to make both publications entertaining and interesting: from those of us who, by nature, are just a little lazy or shy.

Members generally, I observe, have not been idle. I am aware that many of you have gathered in smaller groups for all sorts of exciting activities such as bridge (I understand that is some sort of important card game that some people take very seriously and to which some individuals actually become addicted). Drinking coffee is another activity which seems to provide an excuse for gathering, as restrictions begin to ease a little.

By the time this report and publication reaches you our most recent Management Committee Meeting will have concluded. One of the most critical items to be discussed at that meeting will be the choice of a new venue for our monthly General Meetings. Most of you will be aware that for several very good reasons, the Management of Merriwee Court has decided that continuing our tenure at that venue has become impossible into the foreseeable future, acknowledging on-going restrictions being placed on the venue because of its incorporated Aged Care facility.

You will all receive in due course and as soon as possible, all relevant information and detailed news of important decisions taken at our Management Committee Tuesday, 14th. July 2020.

I trust by the time of publication of September's Newsletter that we shall have news of our new venue for General Meetings and that we have a definite, or at the very least a provisional, date for the re-opening of Club proceedings and our next General Meeting – fingers crossed! **John Blackford**

Sadly general meetings are cancelled until further notice

2020 Committee:

President: Barry Henzell
Immediate Past President: Margot Kirby
Secretary: John Blackford
Treasurer: Greg McGilvery
Membership: Barbara Fitzell
Activities: Anne Gooley
Data Admin.: John Wright
Times Editor: Douglas Fussell
Guest Speakers: David McEvoy

2020 Members of the Lower House:

Almoner: Leafy Fussell
10 Min talks : Barry Aubrey
Archivist :Anne Gooley
Humour: David McEvoy -temporary

General Meeting Workers: [currently unemployed]

Hospitality/kitchen: Pam Cole

Audio Visual/ Room Setup: Brian Springthorpe, David McEvoy, George McKennariey, John Comerford and advisor John Ladbrook.

August birthdays: Members and Non-Active Members.

Barbara Fitzell [01] Norma McTaggart [01] Robin McLeod [04] John Comerford[10] Margaret Ellison[11] Barry Aubrey [14] Kenneth Drewe [22] Margot Kirby[22] John Quayle [28] Michael Powell [29] Annette Hallett [31]

Membership Officer Report:

79 members and several possible new members.

Barbara Fitzell

Activities Report August 2020

Dear Friends,

It's Happening At last I can give you some good news.....We are going on a Picnic Many members have told me they are looking forward to being able to come together again, so put this date in your diary. On **Thursday 13th August** we are having our yearly Picnic in the Park. This outing will start at 12 noon at Kalinga Park and as we are out in the open and hopefully it will be a sunny day, we can keep the required social distancing. Please bring your own chair and drinks. It will be lovely to just sit and talk with friends while enjoying a Pizza. Robin and I will be using tongs to plate the pizzas and we will finish with ice creams and hopefully strawberries as the season has started.

The cost will be the same as last year \$12. If possible, please direct debit into the Probus account (details below) or bring your cheque or cash in an envelope with your name on it to the picnic. Each year our club has had a tradition of having a Luncheon and as our Breakfast was so successful, we have booked Cruisers Alfresco at Portside again for our lunch. The date is Wednesday 26th August commencing at 11:30 am. The restaurant seats 50, again keeping the correct spacing, so first 50 to book will be able to attend. The cost is \$35. In the next few weeks, I will send details of the menu to all members. The restaurant will also be able to validate your parking tickets.

Again, direct debit or bring money or cheque in an envelope to the restaurant on the day. If coming to both outings, you could direct debit the amount of \$47 into the Hamilton Probus Bank Account. Details:

Bank: **Suncorp** **BSB 484 799** **Account: 029832475** **Ref: Picnic/Lunch**

I am very aware that 26 members booked and paid earlier this year to go on a bus trip to Pomona to visit the Majestic Theatre and watch a silent film. The Theatre is now open again and has also made the gallery available so they can seat 50 people. We will probably go on this trip in October, using a 50 seater bus to keep to the rules.

If you would prefer to cancel your booking, you may receive a refund or use the \$70 for your Christmas Lunch. I will be in touch with each of you as soon as a date has been decided for the Pomona trip.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Picnic in the Kalinga Park.

Anne

Anne Gooley, Activities Coordinator

Dates to Remember

Thursday 30 th July	10: 00 am Women's Coffee Morning Cruisers Alfresco Café Portside Helen Henzell 3256 0070 NOTE DIFFERENT VENUE	
Thursday 13 th August	12 noon Pizza in the Park Kalinga Park - Robin Edwards 3262 6237	\$12
Wednesday 26 th August	11: 30 am Lunch Cruisers Alfresco Café Portside Anne Gooley 386829 49 Mob. 0475 98 1003	\$35

A Trip Down Memory Lane

*Snapshot taken from The Times, May 2013. President Nicki Duveck Smith: Secretary Jack Larkin.
Leader Jess Gibson*

Report on Outing to Visy Aluminium Can Manufacturing Plant.

On May 16th the Probus “Outings Committee” organized for members, a visit and guided tour of the Pratt family’s (Visy) latest enterprise in the Yatala vicinity. This brand new factory, an aluminium cannery makes hundreds of thousands of cans (predominately for drinks) a day, using the very latest engineering equipment from around the world.

It is HUGE, sits alongside the equally ginormous Visy recycled cardboard factory, cost over \$80 million to build, and was only opened, officially by the President, in March this year. Accordingly, this operation is totally operated by only 8 skilled men. It was fascinating and I am assured that all who venture down there on our bus were intrigued by the concept.

Managerial staff fielded many questions while we all tucked into delicious sandwiches, cakes and fruit with coffee (the enthusiasm for hot meat pies waned considerably.) We did soldier on however, for a promised Yatala pie.... (some stalwarts found room!!) others bought some for their tea.

Bus driver Brian, (almost an Hon Probian by now!) considered our day needed a “finishing touch” and gave us an eye-popping tour of The Port of Brisbane, with a very knowledgeable commentary.

All-in-all our day was great fun, informative, and satisfying too for our inner man! I am sorry for those unable to join us, this will be one of the best outings we will have this year, and you missed a treat.

Jess Gibson

NOTE: As we have not had any activities to report on over the past few months, I have taken this article out of the Archives. Jess has written a most interesting story of the members’ day out at Yatala. Enjoy.
Anne G.

Book Corner:



Book Review- Horrie the War dog

If you enjoy stories about animals, especially dogs, then you will love **Horrie the War dog** written by Roland Perry... and it has a happy ending, well for Horrie.

I can remember as a small child, my mother reading *Lassie* to me and I would cry as it was so sad, but still beg for her to keep reading. Well, this book is a happy book about a very clever little dog whom you will fall in love with and who saves many soldiers’ lives during the second World War.

The author tells this true story for the first time and In the finest ANZAC tradition, *Horrie the War Dog*, is full of intrigue and illusion, sacrifice, courage and great loyalty.

Horrie was the unofficial mascot for the 2/1st Machine Gun Battalion of the Second Australian Imperial Force. An Egyptian terrier, the dog was befriended by a soldier serving in the unit when it was stationed in Egypt during the Second World War.

In the harsh Libyan desert in the middle of the second world war, Private Jim Moody, a signaller with the First Australian Machine Gun Battalion, found a starving puppy on a sand dune. He called the *dog Horrie*. Much more than a mascot, *Horrie's* exceptional hearing picked up the whine of enemy aircraft two minutes before his human counterparts and repeatedly saved the lives of the thousand-strong contingent. The little dog's warning ritual of sitting, barking, then dashing for the trenches had the gunners running for cover before they even heard the enemy aircraft.

Wherever Private Moody went, Horrie went too, through the battle zones of the Middle East and far beyond. As the Japanese forces began their assault in Asia, Moody and his soldier mates joined the fight, but not before they had smuggled Horrie onto a troop ship and a harrowing journey back to Australia in 1942 where they thought their little friend would be safe.

There is much more to this story when Horrie arrives back on the troop ship – however I am not going to divulge any more information, but will just add that both Horrie and his soldiers reveal much about good hearts, cold-eyed officialdom and what can break when war is done. [Anne Gooley](#)

The Silk House by [Kayte Nunn](#)

The spellbinding story of a mysterious boarding school sheltering a centuries-old secret... Australian history teacher Thea Rust arrives at an exclusive British boarding school - the first intake of girls in its 150-year history. In the late 1700s, Rowan Caswell leaves her village to work for an English silk merchant. It is a new and dangerous world where her talent for herbs and healing soon attracts attention. In London, Mary-Louise Stephenson lives amid the weaving trade, She dreams of becoming a silk designer, a job that is the domain of men. A length of fabric she weaves with a pattern of deadly flowers will reach far for all who dwell in the silk house. Intoxicating, haunting and inspired by the author's background, THE SILK HOUSE is an exceptional gothic mystery. [Margot Kirby](#)

The Miles Franklin Literary Award is Australia's most prestigious literature prize was announced today.

[The Yield by Tara June Winch wins the Miles Franklin Award.](#) The book also won [the 2020 NSW Premier's Literary Awards Book of the Year.](#)

Tara June Winch is a Wiradjuri author, born in Australia in 1983 and based in France. Her first *novel*, *Swallow the Air* was critically acclaimed. *The Yield* is profoundly moving and exquisitely written, *The*

Yield is the story of a people and a culture. [Margot Kirby](#)

Guest Speakers – Dates to be confirmed:

- . Biology and Conservation of Moreton Bay Seabirds. Dr. Peter Rothilsberg.
- . The Queensland Ballet, the progressive leap forward. Mr. Paul Boyd.
- . Riverboat cruising on the Murray. Captain Lindsay Hutton

Please Note: Do you have an interesting story that you would like us to know? Now is your chance. Perhaps talking to an audience is not your thing but telling it through The Times or The Bulletin might be. We would be interested to hear from you. Copy needs to be received by 15th of any month for The Times, Douglas Fussell, Editor dandl.fussell@gmail.com or contact bmhenzell@gmail.com for The Bulletin.

Obituary – Elva Emmerson

This tribute to our recently departed member Mrs. Elva Emmerson, is necessarily limited in its content and scope.

I first became aware of Elva indirectly, some 42 years ago. Elva's late husband, Dr. Bryan Emmerson, was a medical academic; a Reader in Medicine in the Professorial Unit of Medicine, Royal Brisbane Hospital, and a member of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Queensland.

Bryan was one of my highly respected mentors in the latter years of my undergraduate career. I was examined by Bryan during my Finals in 6th. Year. (I passed that examination) . Bryan was a courteous, gracious, highly intelligent, knowledgeable, diligent man, an excellent teacher and medical educator, and a fair and honest examiner. In 1997 he became an Officer of the Order of Australia, justifiably awarded to this man for his research and services to medicine. Behind most successful men there is an even greater woman!

Many years were to pass before Janice and I met Bryan and Elva together at a Queensland Symphony Orchestra Master Series Concert at the Concert Hall in Brisbane. We shared a great love of classical music. For several years prior and subsequent to Bryan's passing, we were able to reminisce and share experiences. Many most enjoyable and informative conversations were Janice and I privileged to share, with a truly delightful couple.

Sadly, Bryan had a major stroke event several years ago which was responsible eventually, for his death a few years later. Elva was devastated, but dealt with Bryan's illness and passing, with great dignity, fortitude, and with little complaint

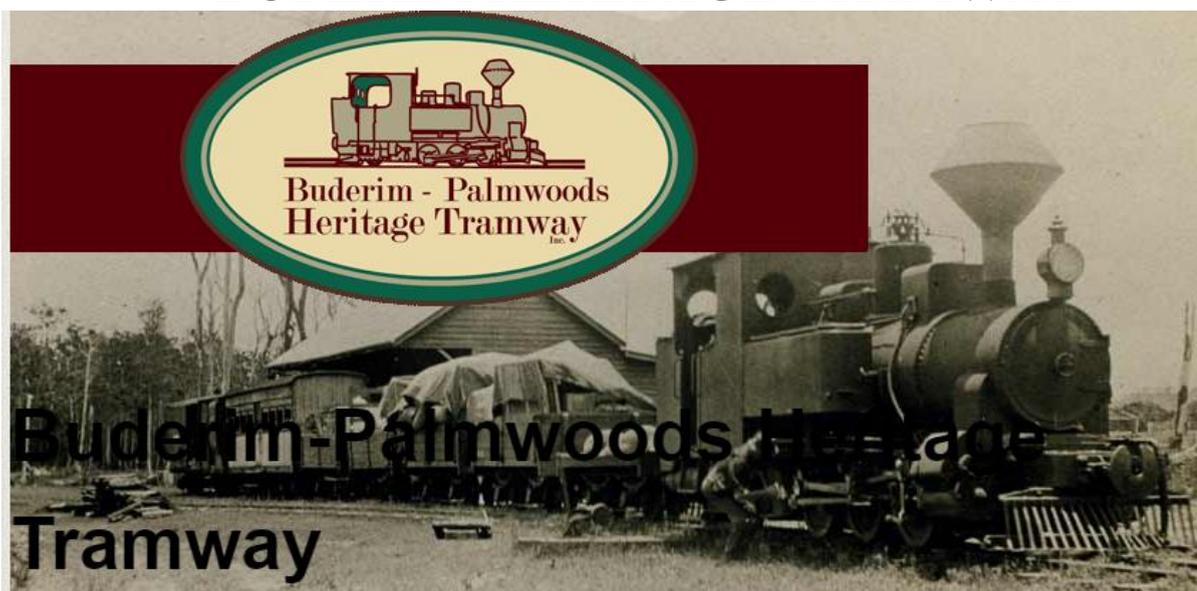
Elva was always gentle, affectionate, a great lover of people, gracious, dignified, courageous and little –she became littler as the years passed – a little and gentle 'powerhouse' . She was highly intelligent, with a very agile mind – altogether a lady it was a privilege to be able to call a much-loved friend. She regularly referred to Bryan after his death, and always with great affection, as "my beautiful boy". The memories I have of Elva I shall always treasure. She was a beautiful lady.

Elva, may you rest in peace. You certainly deserve to. **John Blackford**

Obituary- Elva Emmerson. Elva Emerson passed away on June 6th aged 91. She had been a member of Probus for many years and greatly valued the many friendships and sense of fellowship she enjoyed there. Together with her husband Bryan (who died ten years earlier), she had a wide range of interests including music, Worcester porcelain, Australian paintings and antiques. They traveled widely together during their long and happy marriage. She is survived by her two sons Brett and Stephen and their families including three grandchildren who adored her. She will be deeply missed by them, her wider family and many friends. **Stephen Emmerson**

The Comerford Files

BUDERIM HERITAGE TRAMWAY



The Palmwoods to Buderim railway was open for business in 1914. It was a notable engineering feat for a small farming community to construct such a railway. The Palmwoods and Buderim was developed as a small farming area in about 1911. The engine was built by the Krause works in Germany, with a 30 inch gauge, and had wheel arrangements known as 0-6-2.

The tramway was responsible for making farming economically viable by transporting produce out of the area to Palmwoods to meet with Queensland Rail and tranship produce for the Brisbane market.

Interest in the tramway was initiated by the Buderim Historical Society in the 1980's, who realised its importance in the early days of settlement in Buderim. **Continued over page .**

The tramway prospered in the first few years. But the railway was killed off by the motor vehicle, and it closed in 1935.

In June 2003 the Buderim Palmwoods Heritage Tramway Inc was formed. Its main goal now with respect to this rare German acquisition is to find funds for its restoration
“The Buderim Chronicle” published this story on 6th November, 2004, as the “Krause comes home”.

Blokes` Coffee Break

Name the retired General in the shades



Sheilas` Coffee Break

Watch this space next edition

