



The Times



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Hamilton Probus Club Inc. 56018 Accredited 14 December 1990

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Hamilton Probus President's report October 2020

It seems that at last we can have a meeting. We will meet at our new venue on 6th October at St. Colomb's Church Hall in Clayfield. The hall is modern, can seat up to 120. There is an Audio-Visual system, adequate kitchen, and ample parking.

We only paid a nominal fee at Merriwee Court. As the cost at St Colomb's is a bit more expensive, we will have to consider a modest fee rise next year.

Because of COVID restrictions we are limited to 35 attending plus a couple at the head table. Catering will be limited to comply with food handling protocols. The first 35 to register will be invited to attend. If more than 35 register, the people who miss out will get first preference at the next meeting. John Blackford will be sending a Notice of Meeting.

Our membership is 74 and we have a waiting list of 10, so we will admit a couple of new members each month.

Ladies` and men's coffee mornings are both being attended by about 15 members and visitors. It is a great opportunity to meet up with friends. The lunch at Cruisers was well attended and a great success as was the "Picnic in the Park". For walkers John Wright is planning to organise a walking group.

As the October meeting will be a settling in affair, there will not be a guest speaker. We plan to have an audio-visual presentation.

The Christmas lunch is set for Monday 14th December at Royal Queensland. We will be celebrating our 30-year anniversary. The Club was incorporated on 14th December 1990.

Probus opens the door to new experiences and friendships in retirement. During the pandemic Probus Club members have stayed connected by phone, online and restrictions permitting, in person.

1 October 2020 will be the inaugural annual celebration of Probus Day.

This day is all about celebrating Probus, while connecting with retirees and semi retirees and inviting them to find out more about Probus. Perhaps in future years we could plan an event to celebrate the day.

Let us hope that COVID will disappear and we can get back to normality. I don't believe we will actually return to our pre-COVID life. We will just have to live with it.

Barry Henzell

Hamilton Probus Secretary's Report– October 2020

October 2020 is almost upon us and we are still plagued by the somewhat draconian restrictions that have been imposed by our State Government (in their wisdom).

As you are all by now aware, the date of our next General Meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 6th. October at 09.30 hours at our new Meeting venue, St. Colomb's Anglican Church Hall, Victoria St. Clayfield, (off Sandgate Road). I sure you will all be suitably impressed by our new home.

Unfortunately, our numbers are restricted to 35 persons by the health regulations. Unless you have applied to attend, and that application has been accepted, your attendance will be refused. The fines for flouting the established restrictions are prohibitive. Application for attendance should be e-mailed to our President Barry Henzell at hamilton.probus.president@gmail.com.

Barry our President and all Members of your Management Committee continue to agonize over how we can maintain communication and cohesion within our Club during these rather difficult circumstances.

I look forward to re-establishing dialogue with those who are willing and able to attend on 6th. *John Blackford*

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:

Hospitality/kitchen: Pam Cole
Audio Visual/ Room Setup: Brian Springthorpe, David McEvoy, George McKennarney, John Comerford and advisor John Ladbrook.

October birthdays: Members and Non-Active Members.

[02] Heather Miller [05] Beverley Andrews [06] Helen Henzell [07] Ruth Clark



Membership Report:

Our members have been able to have several social gatherings these past two months and now it is time to get back to General Meetings. Our membership stands at 74 so we will be inducting two new members on October 6th at St Colomb's. We are looking forward to having Christine Llewellyn and Frank Hill join Hamilton Probus.

Barbara Fitzell

Activities Report September 2020:

Dear Friends,

It was wonderful to see 29 of our members and friends enjoy one another's company at Lunch on Wednesday 29th August at Cruisers Alfresco, Portside. I noted that everyone was happy to be together and good conversation, much laughter and excellent food provided by Michael, added up to a very enjoyable outing.

At last we will be going to the Majestic Theatre at Pomona to enjoy one of their Silent Movies. This theatre is where silent film meets live performance. The theatre has recently been redesigned and now can take 50 people in the main theatre and 15 upstairs, being mindful of the social distancing. We will be able to experience the old-world charm of a Twenties community theatre with modern-day sound and lighting.

We have contacted the Theatre and the bus company and plans are in place to go there on Wednesday 21st October. For convenience, the bus will depart from **Merriwee Court** at 8:45am and we will stop at Maroochy Reginal Bushland Botanic Gardens, Palm Creek Road, Tanawha for morning tea which is supplied. Just tea and biscuits.

On arrival we will be greeted by Ron West who will give a brief talk about the theatre and then Ron will delight us with his skills as the organist as we enjoy the silent film.

After the film, which runs for approximately one hour, we will have lunch and then depart for home.

This outing was originally scheduled for 27th March so I am hoping that all the members who had booked and paid can still come. I will send an email soon to get confirmation of attendance. If you cannot come, we will refund your money for the outing.

Our committee agrees that it would be a nice to have a number of small interest group outing, so in the next few weeks we hope to organize barefoot bowls; croquet game; movie outing at the Dendy and walking groups. Please let me know if any of the interest activities suit you.

I hope everyone continues to feel safe, well and happy during these times which are still quite challenging

Anne Gooley

Thought for the Day: We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing. (George Bernard Shaw)

Dates to Remember

Tuesday 6 th Oct	9:30 am General Meeting St Colomb's Anglican Church Hall Clayfield. (Bookings required)	
Tuesday 13 th Oct	10:00 am Men's Coffee Café 63, 35a Hercules St Hamilton, Portside	
Wednesday 21 st October	Visit to Majestic silent movie Theatre Pomona - Silent movie followed by Lunch. Bus leaves Merriwee Court at 8:45am. Estimated time back in Brisbane 3:30 pm	
Wednesday 28 th Oct	10: 00 am Ladies Coffee Cruisers Alfresco Shop 7 39 Hercules St Hamilton, Portside	

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.



Hamilton Probus members reacting to the news that they at last will be going to Pomona on October 21st

DON'T FORGET THAT "THE TIMES" WELCOMES ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS

Book Corner:

Macquarie by Grantlee Kieza has been enjoyed by everyone who has read it. A large tome covering Governor Macquarie's life. Despite being 576 pages and plenty of referencing it is a very readable and well written account of this man's life.

The structure is clever with alternating passages describing the earlier years of Macquarie as 'awkward and rusticated' and what was happening in the struggling colony in New South Wales.

Given the evolution of NSW from convict colony to an emerging conventional capitalist economy, there were bound to be stresses and strains which led to the Bligh mutiny and Macquarie was an inspired last-minute choice.

It is a recommended read to acquire a more in-depth understanding of the man who benefited Australia over his years of government.

All will enjoy the book. Five Stars.

Margot Kirby



The Comerford Files

HM Bark *Endeavour* Replica



In order to celebrate the Bicentenary of the settlement in Australia it was decided to build a replica of the HM Bark “Endeavour”. Construction began in Fremantle in Jan., 1988, but was interrupted due to financial problems, and the ship was not completed until Dec., 1993. She was commissioned in April, 1994, and went on sea trials for 6 months. She made her maiden voyage, sailing to Sydney. Between 1996 and 2002 the replica retraced Cook’s original voyage along the east coast of New Holland, and later sailed to Endeavour’s home port, Whitby, in Yorkshire, arriving there in May, 1997. Her final voyage was from Whitehaven to the Sydney National Maritime Museum, where she is permanently moored.

Some timbers used in the original ship are no longer available. Western Australia’s timber from the Jarrah Forests was used in hull planking, while topside , decking and mast timbers came from a 400-500 year old Douglas fir which had been earmarked for USN minesweepers. She carries 30 km of rigging and 750 wooden

blocks or pulleys. The masts and spars carry 28 sails and 10,000 square feet of canvas.

The Replica Bark Endeavour has sailed twice around the world and visited dozens of ports in many countries. The Americans named the US Space Shuttle “ENDEAVOUR”. New Zealand has produced a 50 cent coin with an image of the Replica on one side.



Choir Master, John Blackford, getting his troops revved up.

BH and his Missus



**Our
Lunch**



The Lady
who put it all
together

Lex Lowein with prospective new members Fay Rayner and Anne Dowd



Liz Duguid with prospective new members Don and Babe Pillay and Barbara Jackson

SOMETIMES IT IS BEST NOT TO KNOW

After 3 years in South Africa, following graduation as a Mining Engineer in England, I was offered a position in Australia in 1974. Having first emigrated from England to South Africa in 1967 at the age of twenty one, I worked for 2 years underground in the gold mines whilst studying through a traineeship with Anglo American, who then sponsored me to return to England to complete the mining qualification which I had commenced in 1965.

I was over the moon and on top of the game with the position offered in Australia, my name having been put forward by a friend with whom I had both studied and travelled during the course of my short career to date. I was being sponsored to emigrate to yet another country. I had not yet ever paid for an airfare and the salary I was being offered was very acceptable.

I was employed as Project Manager for a construction contract, drilling twin large diameter mine shafts for hoisting copper ore in North Queensland at the Gunpowder Mine site, very aptly named. This created much mirth and disbelief with friends and associates in South Africa.

The contract was a success and after managing a tunneling project in Tasmania I transferred to Head Office in Sydney.

Roaming through past projects in the state-of-the-art compactus filing system I came across an early file on the tendering and award of my first project in Australia. Whilst I cannot recall the exact words, there was a file note stating that the company had recruited an English born Mining Engineer from South Africa on hearsay of a colleague and in justification stated that his salary was no more than that of a “nipper” and that if it didn’t work out then he would be moved on.

[A Nipper in the Australian Underground Mining Industry is considered an entry level role and can be colloquially referred to as a “Gopher”]

Well, that was me!! brought back to earth with a jolt and to this day I am glad I was not aware of these comments at the time as it would have put considerably more pressure on an already challenging role.

John Wright

