



COAST

Combined
Organisation
Actively

Forrester's Beach Probus Club Inc.

Socialising
Together

CLUB HISTORY

4th Year - April 2008 to March 2009

The Continuing Story of Forrester's Beach Probus Club

By Club Historian and Founding President John Ramsay



APRIL 2008

Ross Paddon, a Convenor of the Club and its only Honorary Member, passed away.

A five day visit to Ulladulla then moving to Batemans Bay began on April 2 with 40 members participating.

At the Monthly Meeting there were two new members inducted. The speaker was Ian Small. His topic - "The Kurradjongs - a forgotten Australian story"

MAY 2008

The first gathering of the month was a trip by ferry to lunch at Watsons Bay. 80 attended.
(picture right)

Max Taylor, a Convenor of the Club and its first Treasurer, received The prestigious Paul Harris Fellowship from Rotary.

Following the distribution of annual subscription notices the Membership was now 217 with 94 couples, 4 single men and 25 ladies. Attendance at the Meeting 177 with 36 apologies.



Speaker at the monthly meeting was Harold Dews - his topic- "It all began in 1896"

A large number (90) on May 18 went by two busses to the "Lovedale Long Lunch" visiting four vineyards in the Hunter Valley.





Jeremy Arnott (pictured left), a very regular attender of the Club monthly Golf Day, achieved a "hole in one".

The number of "bionic men" in the Club increased with John Powell and Len Martin reporting knee replacements.

JUNE 2008

John Powell was honoured by the International Tube Association with its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award.

Monthly meeting attended by 154 with 43 apologies.

Four Amendments to the Club's Standing Orders were passed.

The position of Assistant Secretary/Membership Officer became a member of the Management Committee replacing the Co-ordinator, Meetings and Hospitality.

Speaker Peter Hutton on "The History of the Marines and the Colonies".

The intention to commence a Bowls Group was announced by Rawson Ball.

Bev Watson's death on June 7 was reported.

An afternoon of "Trivia" was held at the Toowoomb Bay Surf Club on June 20 with 74 battling for success.

The new Bowls Group (picture below) had their first game on June 27. Thirty new and "old" bowlers played.



JULY 2008

Meeting speaker Alan Reading on "Beyond Maturity Blues".

Attended by 152 with 45 apologies and 13 having been granted Leave of Absence. Two visitors present.

Two revisions to Standing Orders, the first, restricting to two, the number of meetings potential members may attend before joining and the second, allowing non members to attend any Club social activity, as a guest of a financial Member, subject to the approval of the Program Managers, relevant Coast Convenors and the Management Committee were passed.

Fifty two met in Blackheath to celebrate "Christmas in July" on July 29, 30 and 31. Golf, bush walking and a trivia night held at the Golf Club tried to interrupt the good intentions of Mr Claus and to divert attention from him.

AUGUST 2008



This month saw the sad passing of Murray Walsh (pictured left), a former President in 2006-7. He had been "Father Christmas" at the first Social Event of the Club at a party held in December 2004 before the Club's Inaugural Meeting in February 2005.

Murray and his wife Bev were the first Program Co-ordinators and Murray's energy led to a wide ranging and interesting selection of activities being offered to members. This lively program caught the notice of potential members.

Murray's funeral was held on August 5 and was attended by many members. Recognition was given at the service of Murray's friendly nature and genuine interest in people and their welfare.

Speaker at the Monthly Meeting was Ross Bingham, Chief Executive of Ronald McDonald House in the Hunter Region.

Ten pin bowling became a new Club activity with a visit to the Bowl at Bateau Bay with many continuing on to dinner at The Entrance Leagues Club.

Thirty two of the Cabin/Caravan group began a visit to Port Macquarie on Saturday August 23. (Picture right)



SEPTEMBER 2008



Forty three visited Norfolk Island between September 1 to 8 with the Tour, which departed from Newcastle, being organized and led by Marilyn and Graham Nestor. Neville Wynn celebrated his birthday there. One Newcastle local, who had not been invited to the Cake ceremony arranged by Neville's wife Rita, was a well known local plover. He was so reluctant to sever his association with the tourists he attempted to hitch a ride in the engine of the plane the Tour group intended to depart on. A bonus one hour circular flight (to burn off fuel) around the Newcastle area followed by two hours on the ground at Newcastle Airport plus free coffee was the plover's farewell gift to Neville.

It was not a tour without grace as Brian Hughes gave a very memorable Grace at the Convict Dinner.

Bonus flu was also made available to the tourists.

Apologies at the Monthly Meeting were 45 at which it was reported that the Club was one of 1790 Probud Clubs in Australia. Our membership was equivalent to 0.1% of total membership.

"A kids life in London during the Blitz" was the topic of John Moine's talk at the meeting..

There was a golf outing to Wisemans Ferry on September 15.

On September 25 there was a guided tour of the ABC Studios at Ultimo followed by a meal in Chinatown. No sign of the Newcastle plover.



OCTOBER 2008

Very much the month of wine and roses as 47, led by Ross Quinn, had a successful "Wine and Roses" with Golf tour of the Lower Hunter.

Meeting speaker was Greg Abbott, General Manager of the Auburn Shooting Academy, with the talk entitled "Shooting Seriously and Just for fun".

At the Meeting Geoff Barwick presented a proposed Risk Management Policy which was adopted by members.

New Club procedures for Event Bookings and Cancellations were announced.

"Coast Walkers" was suspended due to the small number participating.

Coast Bowlers, Golfers, Sizzlers and Songsters met during the month.

NOVEMBER 2008

Melbourne Cup Luncheon at the Breakers Country Club at Wamberal. Best hat prize won by Faye Smith with Tony Scott taking out the Mens Prize. (Pictured below)



Meeting attended by 170. Still no sign of the "Newcastle Plover". Speaker Carl Bliim representing the NRMA – on "Road Safety for Seniors."

At 11am there was a one minutes silence for Remembrance Day followed by Peter Thomson reading the Oath.

A collection of non perishable items was made, following a suggestion by Robin Kelett, for donation to the Salvation Army.

A draw was made for forty tickets to the Premier's Christmas Concert on December 9. Brenda Wilmore had been able to obtain an additional 16 tickets so in the end 56 were able to go to the Concert in Sydney.

"Coast Tennis" Christmas Dinner held on November 24. (Picture below). A feature of the evening was a contest to identify baby photos of each of the tennis players. Pam Smith achieved a splendid result with only one correct identification – herself.



On Wednesday 26 the "Coast Christmas Golf Extravaganza" took place. Judy Chown (pictured right with Ross Quinn) was the 2008 winner of the "Murray Walsh Perpetual Award". In future years the "Murray Walsh Golf Perpetual Award" will be made to the Golfer who accumulates the most points based on a reward system for attendance and performance.



The role of Golf Handicapper was wrested from Ross Quinn with a "mighty" effort by Geoff Barwick.

November 27 – the "Coast Songsters" met for Christmas lunch at North Entrance.

Well known "New Australians" Barbara and John Moine celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during the month.

DECEMBER 2008

Christmas Dinner/Dance held on December 3 at the Forresters Beach Resort. Earlier in the day the "Coast Creations" had met. At the Dinner Dance there were many members celebrating. (Picture below is of coast Songsters performing at the event.)



On December 11 there was a bus trip to the "Hunter Gardens Christmas Lights Spectacular" by 48.

The "Coast Sizzlers Christmas Party" was held at the Swadling Reserve, Toowoomba Bay on December 17. There were 100 there including 3 grandchildren. Santa (Eric Grace

pictured below enjoying the ladies!) distributed a few goodies. None for the "Newcastle plover".



No Golf day this month.

JANUARY 2009

The number of bionic members increased with Connie Thomas and Jim Gibbons reporting "new" knees.

At the first meeting of the calendar year the Management Committee announced their intention to institute a series of Probus Appreciation Certificates to members whose efforts had been noteworthy.

Presented at this meeting were Certificates to :-

Judy Ramsay	Co- Ordinator Hospitality 2005.
Max Taylor	Treasurer 2005
Bev Walsh	Program Manager 2005
	Co-Ordinator Hospitality 2006
Pam Howe	Assistant Treasurer 2006-2007
June and Don Harding	Program Managers 2006 -2007



Bev, Judy, Pam, June, Max, Don

It was announced that Certificates would be presented, at the next Meeting they attended, to Charlie Colthurst, Treasurer 2006-2007 and Toni Barwick, Co-Ordinator Hospitality 2007.

Speaker at the meeting was Cliff Parker, Manager of the Central Coast Business Mentor

Services.

Australia Day was a special outing, once again faultlessly arranged by Marilyn and Graham Nestor, a lunch cruise on the "Vagabond Princess" on Sydney Harbour for three hours. Ferry boat races "The Ferrython", the Australia Day Parade and more! 135 had a great day. Only thing missing were the complimentary steak knives!

Tom Currie, Chris Powell, Dawn Currie and Toni Barwick demonstrated (in the photo below left) their nautical and patriotic attire. Three "New Australians", Tony Carlsen, Paul Harrop and Eric Grace (in photo bottom right) wore their new "Oz National" tee shirts.



FEBRUARY 2009

182 attended the meeting on February 10 at which the Speaker was Don Grace on "The role of a hostage negotiator"

Additional Probus Appreciation Certificates were presented by President Vivienne Scott to :-

John Powell	Songsters 2006-2007
Toni Barwick	Hospitality 2007
Brian Kirk	Coast Sizzlers 2005-2008
Don Francis	Coast Golf 2005- 2008
Desley and Don Francis	Attendance Supervisors 2005-2006
Mary Lyttleton	Welfare 2005 – 2007
Barbara and Bruce Evans	Coast Caravan/ Cabin 2005-2007
Ellen Hayes	Theatre Bookings 2005-2007
Angela and Harry Hayes	Attendance Supervisors 2006-2007



John Toni Brian Mary
Don Desley Barbara Bruce Harry

An award to Peter Thomson for leading the "Coast Walkers" was announced and will be presented at a future meeting.

Mary Lyttleton, for health reasons, resigned as Junior Vice President and Ross Quinn was appointed to that position for the remainder of the Probus Year. He thanked members and acknowledged that he saw the role as a "Mighty" challenge.

Frank Kelett informed everyone about the background to the Wine being distributed to Speakers and on other special occasions. The name "Emperor Probus" had been researched by Juerg Chresta, with Probus being a Roman in charge of a large part of the Roman Empire. Murray Walsh, the then President, had taken the opportunity to have Juerg design a wine label and arranged for the wine to be bought and labeled. ([Click here](#) for more details)

Bill Andrew in future would be assisting Ross Quinn to manage the "Coast Golfers".

The Club decided to donate \$300 to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

It was reported that there were 20 different nationalities within the Membership.

Heart shaped biscuits were served at morning tea in view of the coming Valentines Day.



Following that theme Marilyn and Graham Nestor had arranged on Thursday February 19 a sophisticated (Posh) cocktail party entitled "Seduction by the Bay" at the Toowoon Bay Surf Club. Many believed the Surf Club's view alone justified being there but the added bonus element saw 80 arrive. Adolf Meyer had prepared a special banner declaring that "Love is in the Air".

Judi Nott was typical of many of the ladies and was swept off her feet with a photo later appearing in the Probus Magazine.

Marilyn Nestor and Norma Harrop enjoyed the view



from the balcony possibly to "escape" the splendour of Eric Grace who wore a dinner jacket and black tie complemented by board shorts and sandals (picture left).

Brian and Hilary Hughes were celebrating their wedding anniversary no doubt regretting they had not asked Eric to be Best Man at their Wedding.

MARCH 2009

The Meeting on March 10 and the Club's Annual General Meeting were attended by Bob Bensley, President, Probus South Pacific. He addressed members.

The Financial Statements for the year were tabled by the Treasurer , Rod Robey. Joe Judd had conducted the required Audit.

A summary of the Club's financial year was :-

Total Income	\$ 112,566-19
Total Expenditure	\$ 113,304-43
Creditors,mainly Members prepayments for future events	\$ 6,016-07
Members accumulated funds	\$5,280-19

Elected to the Management Committee for 2009-2010 were :-

President:	Frank Kelett
Senior Vice President:	Ross Quinn
Junior Vice President:	Virginia Ash
Secretary:	Pippa Ball
Treasurer:	Warren Lomax
Membership Officer:	Rawson Ball
Program Managers:	Marilyn and Graham Nestor
Newsletter Editor:	Robin Kelett

The Immediate Past President, Vivienne Scott, is an Ex-Officio Member of the Management Committee.

Two days later, March 12, the Club's Annual Anniversary Dinner Dance , a "Masked Event", was held at Glengara Country Club. Our use of the building was arranged by Jenny and Peter White and Pat and Charles Vale.



Charles Vale had joined Neville Wynn in presenting a continuous slide show featuring many of the Club's previous social events.

There were a considerable variety of masks with Virginia Ash winning the best lady's mask prize and Tom Currie the mens prize.

Rod Robey came in a complete Elvis outfit accompanied by Priscilla (Rob's wife Joanne). They were not as devilish as the matching "devils" masks worn by Vivienne and Tony Scott. Eddie Frischknect dressed as a pirate.

John Powell led the Coast Caravans and Cabin Group tour of Canberra from March 16 – 20.



When Rita Wynn arrived at the monthly Sizzle with a cake to celebrate her birthday she was surprised to receive a birthday present from the Head Sizzler, Len Martin, a framed picture of himself.

End of 4th year - April 2008 to March 2009