



## THE MEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VALENTINE Inc

'The Young, Friendly, Fun Club'

NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 2022

Club Website: [www.ajcnsw.com/mpcov](http://www.ajcnsw.com/mpcov)

The official publication of the Men's Probus Club of Valentine Inc.

Private and confidential for Probus use only and no other purpose

The Club meets in [The Tingira Community Church at 13 Neridah Road Belmont North](#)  
**4th Monday of each month at 10 am**

### NEXT MEETING - 28 March - (SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS)

**APOLOGIES** to Robert Rae on 0411 141 823

and our GUEST SPEAKERS are:

March '22	Dr John Page	<i>Topic:</i>	12 Miracles of our Anatomy (Part 2)
April '22	Sarah Fenton	<i>Topic:</i>	Travel Post Pandemic
May '22	Gary Herrett	<i>Topic:</i>	200 years of Coal Loading in Newcastle
June '22	TBA		
July '22	Paul Mcfarlane	<i>Topic:</i>	Newcastle Airport update

Please note our change of guest speaker this month.

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES (*SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS*)

WALKING GROUP - Meets every Wednesday morning, contact Ron Tooney our coordinator on 4958 7910 for more details.

GENTLEMEN'S LUNCH - First Monday of every month, contact John Benson our coordinator on 0437 043014 for more details.

### Readers Corner

Our books will be on display at our meeting. Please browse and take a book if it interests you.

If you have a book that you think members might be interested in, please bring it along.

## **Presidents Message**

What has been happening since our last meeting? Have you any stories to tell?

The floods up and down the east coast have been devastating and our thoughts go out to all those families that have been affected.

We were away in early March and I was unable to attend the Gentlemen's lunch and the Morpeth outing.

The 'grapevine' has been working and I'm led to believe there were 6 at the luncheon who braved the weather conditions. All enjoyed the fellowship.

A thank you to John Benson and John McGrath for organising the visit to the Morpeth museum and the lunch that followed. Again I believe 12 members attended and were very appreciative of the organisation and enjoyed the outing.

Our AGM is next Monday and there have been a number of nominations received for committee positions at the time of collating the newsletter. That leaves five vacancies to be filled. It could be a long meeting gentlemen.

As you know all positions become vacant at the AGM. To give you some perspective of the positions that have NOT been nominated include the President, Welfare Officer, Webmaster, Newsletter, Membership Secretary and a Roving Officer. As you can appreciate these roles are vital to the smooth operation of the club.

If you are interested in being involved please contact a member of the committee. Members of the committee are extremely helpful. Their contact details are located on the last page of this newsletter. If you would like to carry out your own research then log into the Probus South Pacific Ltd website and look at the job details. The direct link is:  
[https://www.probusouthpacific.org/probus/microsites/365/Probus\\_Club\\_Handbook\\_2021-2022.pdf](https://www.probusouthpacific.org/probus/microsites/365/Probus_Club_Handbook_2021-2022.pdf)

To allow the meeting to run seamlessly it would be appreciated if you could provide your nominations to Robert Rae prior to our meeting.

Looking forward to supporting the newly elected President next Probus year.

Take care and be safe.

Trevor

## **Our Guest Speaker last month was Adam Loong talking about Angel Flight**

*Brian Watson was kind enough to provide some information on the talk.*

Adam opened the presentation by talking about his working history before he became involved in Angel Flight.

He commenced with Angel Flight about 18 months ago and has undertaken 7 flights. He is in a syndicate that owns a Cirrus SR22, a Low Wing 4 seater plane with access to the cabin via the wing. This particular aircraft has a parachute which can be deployed in emergencies for a reasonably safe descent.

The pilot's time and plane provided for these flights are donated. The fuel expense is covered by Angel Flight.

Adam talked about the places he has flown people from and to the various hospitals for treatment. Flights have taken him as far as Broken Hill (approximately three and a half hours) to the west and Merrimbla (approximately one hour) to the south and out north west to Tamworth. He made the comparison of flying time to driving time.

Angel Flight provides an extremely valuable service to the community and helps those families better manoeuvre through issues that are affecting their families. Adam was passionate about spreading the word of the excellent services that Angel Flight and the volunteers provide.

Adam joined the airforce at the age of 18 in 1998 and became a fighter pilot. He served in the USA Airforce and retired after 20 years. Since retiring from the Airforce he and his wife (who is in Human Resources) have commenced and managed a number of successful businesses.

The questions asked of Adam were mainly towards his airforce days and the fighter jets that he flew. From the number of questions asked Adam's presentation was well received.

### Share with a Friend

Don't forget to send our newsletter on to a friend or direct them to our website :  
<http://www.valentineprobus.au2.com/>

Encourage your friends to come to our meetings. We have very interesting Guest Speakers.

**GREATER BANK.** *Payments to the Club*  
Details for making payment either on-line or at a branch.

BSB 637-000 and  
Account no. 780356294 and  
(record your 'surname' + one word as a brief reference covering the purpose) e.g. 'XMAS', 'FEES', etc.

**St Patricks Day** - Did you all celebrate and enjoy St Pat's day on Thursday, 17th March?

**Saint Patrick's Day**, or the **Feast of Saint Patrick**, the Day of the Festival of Patrick, is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick (c. 385 – c. 461), the foremost patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion (especially the Church of Ireland), the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish in general. Celebrations generally involve public parades and festivals, céilithe, and the wearing of green attire or shamrocks. Christians who belong to liturgical denominations also attend church services and historically the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol were lifted for the day.

Saint Patrick's Day is a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador (for provincial government employees), and the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat. It is also widely celebrated in the United Kingdom, Canada, United States, Brazil, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand, especially amongst Irish diaspora.

Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated in more countries than any other national festival. Modern celebrations have been greatly influenced by those of the Irish diaspora, particularly those that developed in North America. However, there has been criticism of Saint Patrick's Day celebrations for having become too commercialised and for fostering negative stereotypes of the Irish people.

For more information on St Patrick's Day you can google Wikipedia.

Kalapana, Hawaii where the sea meets the lava



**Committee Members 2021**

President:	Trevor Brown	4946 9119
Vice President:	<b>Vacant</b>	
General Secretary:	Robert Rae	0411 141 823
Membership Secretary:	<b>Vacant</b>	
Secretary:	Bruce Helman	4946 7974
Treasurer:	Brian Sullivan	4946 1153
Events Coordinator:	John Benson	0437 043 014
Asst. Events Coord:	John McGrath	4946 7460
Program Officer:	Roger Wakefield	4954 4373
Newsletter:	<b>Vacant</b>	
Webmaster:	<b>Vacant</b>	
Welfare/Attendance	<b>Vacant</b>	
Historian:	Kevin Hepplewhite	4946 7775
Roving:	Kevin Hepplewhite	4946 7775
Roving:	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Support Officers - appointed by the Committee</b>		
Public Officer:	Brian Sullivan	4946 1153
Book Exchange:	<b>Vacant</b>	
Morning Tea Coord:	Ron Tooney	4958 7910
Walking Group Coord:	Ron Tooney	4958 7910
Computer Support:	<b>Vacant</b>	
BBQ Coord:	Austin Greener	4946 9192