



PROBUS CENTRE – SOUTH PACIFIC INC.

Dear President,

Congratulations on your election as Club President – I trust you will find the role both exciting and rewarding.

You are one of the 2,265 club Presidents elected to start the new Probus year across Australia, New Zealand and The Philippines in this important leadership role.

Your role encompasses the need to be familiar with the club Constitution and By-Laws/Standing Resolutions, how to chair a meeting, recommendations of the committee presented clearly for members resolve, succession planning and membership development, the ability to make new members welcome and to foster the true spirit of Probus within the club.

PROfessional and **BUS**iness is the basis of the PROBUS philosophy – we are keen to move forward and recognise our purpose in providing PROBUS as Tomorrow's Vision for ACTIVE RETIREES.

I trust that your leadership will inspire, guide and give a positive management style that will be embraced by your members.

Fun, Fellowship and Friendship are the keys to a successful, happy and active club. Take the opportunity to network with other local clubs and to facilitate opportunities for outings and activities as well as special interest groups.

Please be assured of the continued success derived from the strong and sound structure of our organisation and the commitment from the Probus Centre Board in providing many benefits to Probus clubs and their members.

Probus Centre as The Secretariat provides resources, information and advice. Our club insurance and optional travel insurance is recognised as one of the best in the world and at an incomparable cost. Due to our claims history our premium has been raised significantly resulting in an increase to applicants effective 1 April 2009. With this increase comes some good news – extension of cover for independent travel in conjunction with Probus travel.

From time to time, the Probus Centre has obtained legal, taxation and/or financial advice on a range of matters that may affect Probus Clubs. If your club has an issue that you think you need advice on, we ask that you approach the Probus Centre first before seeking any outside advice. We are asking you to contact us first because we may already have sought advice on a similar matter in the past. If we feel that you require professional advice on your particular issue, we will seek this advice on your behalf. This will save your club time and money and is just part of our service to you as your administration centre. Remember, Probus Centre is your first port of call for any matters pertaining to Probus - please feel free to utilise our toll free number when contacting Probus Centre staff.

Our PROBUS magazine continues to grow and develop; offering our subscribers official information related to the Probus organisation as well as opportunities to travel, great prizes through competitions, readers articles and articles of interest – 80 pages - true value at an unbelievable price of \$6.00 p.a for six issues.

We encourage your club to continue to support the PROBUS organization through subscribing to the *ONLY* official magazine whose profits go back into the organisation – we are not controlled by any commercial operator.

The PROBUS magazine belongs to the PROBUS organisation. I am confident that you as President will have a major influence in encouraging members to subscribe and support the PROBUS magazine. The National Photographic Competition for 2009-2010 will be announced in our next magazine and I encourage you to challenge your members to place an entry for this year's competition.

Whilst Probus Centre undertakes four official mail outs to clubs annually most documentation may be downloaded from our web site – www.probus.com.au

We trust that you will encourage your Probus Liaison Officer to report on emailed circulars on special events or newsworthy items received direct from Probus Centre and to include in your club newsletter.

PCSP Annual General Meeting takes place in May 2009 and we will farewell four of our dedicated Board members; Graham Lee (SA), Bob Osborne (VIC/TAS) Past Chairman Geoff McLennan OAM (VIC/TAS) and Past Chairman Chris Norwood OAM (NSW/ACT). I will be stepping down as Chairman but will continue serving Probus on the Board in the position of Immediate Past Chairman. I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the retiring members for the time, effort and dedication they gave to the Probus organization as Board members.

Each year on a rotational 3-year basis, members are elected to the PCSP Board. Nominations must be submitted before December 31 each year for the positions advertised. The successful candidates to fill the vacancies for 2009-2012 are:

Mrs. Veronica Semmler - *Combined Probus Club of Barossa Inc. (SA)*

Mr. Ken Brand - *Hamilton Men's Probus Club (VIC)*

Mrs. Anne Louttit - *Candelo and District Probus Club (NSW)*

We congratulate Veronica, Ken and Anne on their election and welcome them to the Board. PCSP Chairman for 2009-2010 will be George Wyman.

The major event in the Probus calendar is of course the PROBUS RENDEZVOUS® - we are delighted that Perth has been selected to host the event in September 2009 and we look forward to a great time of fun and fellowship during their wild flower season and hope to see many members experience what has been heralded as

'the conference with a difference!'

'Congratulations' go to the Probus Club of Darwin for winning the hosting rights for Probus Rendezvous 2010!

The Board agreed to provide information in advance detailing possible future Rendezvous locations to assist clubs and members plan for their holidays. Interest has been received from Port Lincoln, SA (2011) and Palmerston North, New Zealand (2012).

My very best wishes for the year ahead,
Bob Bensley, Chairman

March, 2009