

Probus Club of Breakfast Point Inc.

www.probusbp.org



March 2022 Newsletter

President's Report

Dear member

It was almost a case of "back to normal" for those who were at our well attended February meeting. Those staffing the money collection tables before the meeting and over morning coffee were extremely busy as members paid for various outings and excursions on offer.

We had a full business agenda with plenty of news to pass on. It was good to hear of the increasing activities of our various groups. There was a great deal of interest in Carly's proposal for a new group - Historic Pub Crawl!

Remember, if you have a particular interest or skill you would like to share by forming a group, contact our Groups Coordinator who will assist in developing a proposal for committee consideration.

Our guest speaker, Ian Thompson, gave an intriguing talk on Techniques of Forensic Criminal Investigation, which was the second part of his talk from August last year. It was pleasing to see that most of our members were able to stay on after morning coffee for the talk. A reminder that the end of March is the cut off date for you to remain a financial member. You can pay, either by cash or cheque, at our March meeting which will also be our A.G.M.

After two years as President this will be my last report. I look forward to an exciting year with our incoming committee and continuing plenty of Probus fun, friendship and fellowship

Yours in Probus.

Rick



GUEST SPEAKER – FEBRUARY MEETING

FORENSIC ENTOMOLOGY; Fascinating facts by Ian Thompson.

When your writer heard that we were to have Ian Thompson - our speaker this month - talking to us about dead bodies and insects, I thought we would have a few pale faces - perhaps some members deciding to duck out before the talk, but soon realised that we Probus people are made of sterner stuff. Rapt faces and close attention was paid to Ian as he explained what forensic entomology was all about.



So what is forensic entomology? It is, as Ian explained, the collection of insect evidence to assist either the defence or the prosecution in a court of law.

In urban forensics, it is the effect on us of our close environment, which could be a termite infestation of a home with the owners - or renters - failing to act; it could be contamination of food in restaurants, or insects imported with food - like weevils found in rice - or it could even be the importation of illegal drugs, perhaps containing insect material, all of which could end up in court proceedings.

Ian's main interest in talking to us though, was about dead bodies, as a result of suicide, murder, rape or indeed, of any suspicious death.

When a body is left outdoors and begins to decompose, it releases volatile compounds, (NOTE; sometimes called 'the universal death scent') which very quickly attracts insects. In the first 24 hours, first to arrive, within minutes, are blowflies, which lay their eggs -or maggots- in open wounds. The blowflies are followed by 'flesh' flies, which feed on open wounds, then beetles, some of which feed on the corpse, while others dine on the maggots; then come other insects which feed on the first insects, and lastly, the spiders. There is, apparently a very predictable order in the way these insects arrive - depending on the temperature and other conditions - and this is called the postmortem interval (P.M.I.)

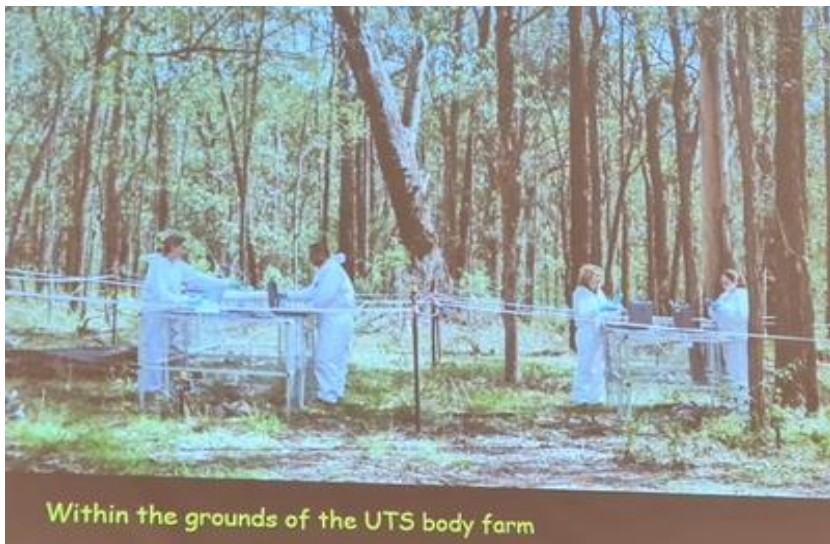
Insect entomologists, with a thorough knowledge of insect life cycles, will collect and study these insects. So, what can they learn from them?

'They can tell us the time the injury occurred, whether or not the body has been moved after death,' Ian said. 'They can even tell us how long a body has been abused, whether or not drugs were involved- since insects can be analysed for the levels of toxicity they have. I can tell you that if maggots ingest methamphetamines, they go absolutely crazy!'

'Insects can also reduce the body to a skeleton very rapidly. It's interesting that toxins ingested by blowflies last the whole life cycle of that fly, and that's a known timeline.' Which is another tool for the entomologist.

Other insects interested in corpses are wasps, ants and bees, while cockroaches can often cause post-mortem damage to the skin. Should the body be found in water, there are scientists who specialise in aquatic insects and animals.

Ian is clearly fascinated with insects, but there's just one exception. "Can't stand maggots," he said. 'Just can't stand 'em.'



NOTE: In order to study changes in dead bodies over time, the Body Farm was founded some years ago at Yarramundi, outside Sydney, and here, the breakdown of tissue and decomposition is closely studied, 'to investigate human decomposition under a variety of conditions to replicate crime scene scenarios'.

Tricia Rollins.

Editor: One Probus member told me his take away message from this talk was that he had learnt to wrap a dead body in plastic to avoid getting caught!

HAPPY HOUR DRINKS AT THE COUNTRY CLUB - 3rd Thursday of every month at 5.30pm



FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

The French Film Festival is on at the Palace in Norton Street Leichhardt. Film Festival members should book their tickets and email details to Lyn Wendtman. If you wish to join the Film Festival group mailing list please complete the form on the website under Groups. The selected movies and times are as follows:

Lost Illusions – Tuesday 8th March at 5.30pm

Waiting for Bojangles – 18th March at 10.30am followed by lunch at the Royal Hotel Leichhardt

The Kitchen Brigade – Thursday 17th march at 4pm

Fire – Tuesday 22nd March at 3.30pm followed by dinner at Morettis at 6pm

La Traviata, My Brothers and I – Wednesday 30th March at 1pm

The Velvet Queen – Tuesday 5th April at 3.20pm coffee/ice cream before the movie in the foyer



CARD MAKING GROUP



The latest creations were made using buttons.

Contact Barbara Webb for more details or go to the website for meeting details.

ART EXHIBITION

Club members are invited to the opening of the Art Groups first exhibition at Concord Library, Sunday 3rd April from 2-4pm. Light refreshments will be available during the opening.

1-29
APRIL 2022

CITY OF
CANADA BAY
CONCORD
LIBRARY

Breakfast Point Probus Club Art Group Exhibition



When Breakfast Point Probus Club formed in 2011, an Art Group was established. Since then members have met regularly to create and practice their own art whilst enjoying working, sharing and learning with like-minded friends.

Barry Lance currently the only male member, loves to sketch his grandchildren, animals and old buildings.

Anne Burns is a lover of pastels and has completed many courses in this medium.

Margery Foss enjoys and has studied watercolour painting for some years.

Mary Rodda well known for her water colours, also dabbles in oil and acrylic.

Lyn Wendtman enjoys depicting nature, animals and people in pastel, oil acrylic, pencil and mixed media.

Jean Richardson loves to sketch and create watercolours of the English countryside.

Hilary Streatfield (BP/Cabarita Probus Club) paints many different subjects in both water colour and acrylic.

Gail McDonald (Convenor) enjoys and studies many mediums in her works on large and small canvases.

PRICE AND ARTIST CONTACT DETAILS
ARE ON EACH ART WORK.

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BUNDANON ART MUSEUM RIVERSDALE & ARTHUR BOYD'S HOMESTEAD AND STUDIO

This is a 3 day / 2 night coach trip on 9-11 September 2022.

Expressions of Interest only at this stage.

We visit a spring garden on the way and stay at The Bridge, Riversdale at Bundanon. The weekend is spent immersed in the stunning natural landscape with 2 nights' accommodation at the new architecturally admired Bridge, with gourmet fine dining and a tour of the underground museum plus a visit to the original Homestead & Arthur Boyd's Studio where the Australian painter lived & worked. Confirmation of final cost will be provided in the next update but at this time they are estimated in the range of \$1200 to \$1600 (for single supplement).

See the website for further details and the full itinerary and to submit an expression of interest on line.



MESSAGE FROM PSPL REGARDING TRAVEL INSURANCE

We did launch our new travel insurance product in October last year, however, due to unforeseen circumstances, the product has been put on hold.

We understand that our Probus community are eager to travel again and we hope to resume travel insurance soon.

TUMUT VALLEY AUTUMN COLOURS TOUR – *the falling leaf festival 2022*

This is a 4 day/ 3 night tour departing 29th April and returning 2nd May 2022

Staying at the Tumut Valley Motel with most meals included.

Cost is \$1198.00 per person twin share with single supplement \$198.00

Full payment is due by 31st March 2022 along with completed and signed booking form

Payment and booking form to be submitted to Trade Travel

Tumut Valley Autumn Colours cont...



Day 1 – lunch & dinner included

Travel by coach to Harden/Murrumburrah. Visit the Light Horse Memorial, Flour Mill Silo Art Mural and lunch at Light Horse Hotel. Continue on to Cootamundra and visit Pioneer Park to admire the autumn colours and Donald Bradman sculpture. Then onto Tumut via Gundagai

Day 2 – breakfast and dinner included

Tours around Tumut of the Blowering Dam, Tumut Valley Violets and Bila Park the home of the Falling Leaf Festival. Stroll along the Tumut River walk.

Day 3 – breakfast, lunch and dinner included

Visit the Yarrangobilly Caves, Talbingo and Adelong Falls Gold Mine ruins.

Day 4 – breakfast and lunch included

Stop at Gundagai, Jugiong and Goulburn before heading home.

WEBSITE

Go to our website for more information. www.probusbp.org

Probus Club of Breakfast Point

District No: 9675, Club No: 9003922, Founded: 14 April 2011

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2020/2021 Management Committee

President	Rick Riddle	0407 075 308	presidentpcbp@gmail.com
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