



Chairman's Message

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It is an exciting time right now, with all Probus clubs starting the next year with their new Presidents and committee's. Recently at a presentation luncheon I was asked by the new president of the club, "Should he wear the Presidents collar?" I pointed out that as the current president he should wear the collar at all opportunities. It is not who you are, but what you are! Wear it with pride on behalf of you members at all club functions.

At the AGM in May the board of management at the Probus Centre South Pacific will also be changing. I will be stepping aside and become the immediate past chairman. Bob Bensley NSW will be taking up the reins and I sure he will lead us well. We will be saying farewell to Immediate Past chairman Geoff McLennan from Tasmania, Hon Sec. Duncan Paton from New Zealand and Keith Waghorn from WA. The new members coming on the Board will be Jean Burford representing NZ, Lois Brown WA and Garry Blacker from NSW/ACT. I particularly wish to thank Barry Thompson who has been a co-opted member to the Board for three years and has given valuable advice and service in particular in developing our accounting systems.

Recently I have been pleasantly reminded that Probus in Australia and New Zealand is maturing and we have been celebrating the passage of time. I have been pleased to visit and present celebratory certificates to some of our oldest clubs. The Rose Bay club who are recognised as being the fourth club formed in Australia. They celebrated their 30th anniversary with a memorable luncheon attended by many members and invited visiting dignitaries. The Kempsey club also had a luncheon with several prominent citizens in attendance to help celebrated their 25th. Many other clubs around the South Pacific have enjoyed receiving certificates from Board members and Rotary District Probus chairmen.

I am sure you have noticed that this Probus Magazine is much bigger with 80 pages of articles and interesting material. You have seen the Magazine develop over the last two years from four issues a year each with 64 pages to what we have now. We have decided to continue with six issues a year but now with 80 pages. Each issue is still only a dollar, which is less than your daily newspaper. Remember all profits from the magazine go towards assisting Probus in the South Pacific.

All clubs will have received the results of the recent Constitutional review. Clubs will now have to formally adopt the amendments within the required time. If clubs have any difficulties with how to follow through, have a word with the staff at the PSCP.

Yours in Probus
Chris Norwood OAM
Chairman, Probus Centre-South Pacific Inc.