

useful addresses

Do you know the new address of the Probus Shop? Here it is -

The Probus Shop Contact: Gloria Sturgeon
PO Box 6672
Welgemoed
7538

Tel: 083 625 0534 Fax: 021 713 0108

Banking details -

Account name Probus Shop
Account no. 1039031641
Bank Nedbank -Tyger Valley Bellville Branch
Branch Code 103910

You can use the shop to supply most of your club's needs -

Probus pins, Past-President badges & ties, & very shortly the new Probus badge to sew on to your polo shirt, golf cap , etc.

Do you log on to the two Probus websites? Here are the addresses -

www.probus.org will take you to the world-wide Probus website where you can find all the information you require about our international organisation. Planning a trip overseas? - why not try to "drop in" on a Probus Club in the country that you are visiting. You will find contact information for the foreign clubs here.

www.probus.org.za is the address for the Southern Africa website. Here you will find a wealth of information about Probus & its activities in our region. Read other clubs' newsletters; download copies of the Probus Manuals; look up the contact details of all the clubs in South Africa; peruse the AGM minutes & study the findings of the last Buzz Gathering -it's all there!

Probus Club Treasurers

Treasurers -have you paid the Association per capita fees for your club?

They are due NOW!

If you have not yet received an account, please contact the Association Treasurer, GEORGE PATCHETT, on 021 855 3100 or jpatch@mweb.co.za & he will send one to you. Please remember that the fee is R5.00 for each person who was a member of your club on the day of your last club AGM. If the number of members shown on the account is wrong, please amend it accordingly.



The Newsletter
of the
Probus Association
of the
Western Cape

Winter 2008

The Association's 2008 AGM

This year's AGM was rather more important than most as it was also marked the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Association. As if to recognise this fact, the meeting turned out to be the best attended AGM in our short history with 31 of our 44 clubs sending along a total of 74 representatives. Also invited to attend the AGM & the luncheon afterwards as our guests were ex-members of the Association's Executive Committee.

The full minutes of the AGM together with the required supporting documents have already been distributed to all clubs but here are a few snippets of the proceedings which should be of interest to all Probians in the Western Cape -

- * In his Annual Report, Chairperson Bob Goebel highlighted the following
 - The loss to the Association caused by the passing away of Charles Spindler. Heartfelt sympathies & condolences were extended to families & friends of Charles & of all Probians called to Higher Service in the past year.
 - The need to recruit more new, younger members to our Probus organisation.
 - The need to recruit more members to Exco to share the workload.
 - The use of the websites to gather information about all aspects of Probus & to use the various Manuals thereon. (see the back page for details)

- * The Association's Annual Report showed a healthy financial position.
 - There was some criticism of the amount of money expended on the Stanford Buzz Gathering. The explanation given was that donations to the PAWC had been made in the past specifically for the "development" of Probus & that it was felt that the Buzz Gathering ranked as a development activity as did also the financing of the cost of starting up new clubs when the occasion arose. The Treasurer pointed out that this expenditure had also been largely balanced by

Club Focus

a significant reduction in communication costs due to extensive use of electronic messaging.

- * The per capita levy remains unchanged at R5.00 per member for 2008-2009.
- * The Stanford Buzz Gathering was adjudged to have been "the best ever".
- * Derek Erickson was made an Honorary Life Member of the Executive Committee.
- * The Officers of the Association for 2008-2009 are -

Chairperson	Bob Goebel
Vice-chairperson	Derek Erickson
Secretary	Mike Underwood
Treasurer	George Patchett
- * The Executive Committee is comprised of the above-mentioned Association Officers plus David Gamsu, Margaret Oliver & Graham Collins.
- * The Association's Constitution was amended to reflect the following -
 - The creation of the posts of Association Officers
 - A restructuring of the Executive Committee
 - Changes for "political correctness"
 - A general "tidying up" of the document

The AGM was followed by a "10th Birthday" celebration lunch with special place mats & wine labelled with the names of all our 44 clubs. This provided a great opportunity for fellowship.



WHY ARE WE WAITING?

(L to R) Monty Gold, Derek Erickson, Rainer Gevers and George Patchett look happy enough to wait for their birthday treat!



In future editions of Waffle we shall shine the spotlight of a Probus Club in the outer "ring" of our region & try to find out what goes on out in the "sticks". Let's look at **Sedgefield**, a club of 26 members located in a small town on the Garden Route halfway between George & Knysna.

Formed in 1996, the club has had to limit its membership to the mid-twenties due to the lack of catering facilities in Sedgefield for larger numbers but this has in no way inhibited the club activities. A men only club, the members & their partners enjoy a wide range of fellowship get-togethers such as a meeting when the men prepare a meal for their wives & an outing to the local shooting range (without wives!). The club's incoming Presidents are inducted by a member of Exco at a Gala Dinner instead of just "passing the chain across" at the AGM—it adds something to the club.

The club's latest noteworthy outing was a visit with partners to the Observatory at Sutherland (to be fair an idea borrowed from Mossel Bay Probus Club who made a similar visit last year!) Here are extracts from the outing report -

" In March 2008 a group of 16 Sedgefield Probus members & their wives made a three day trip to Sutherland. We stopped off en route in Matjiesfontein for what turned out to be a very festive lunch!

We stayed in various places in Sutherland (B&B & self catering) & on the second afternoon were given a really interesting tour of the Observatory which included a demonstration of the working of the SALT installation. In the evening we returned to observe the "heavens" through smaller telescopes under the guidance of one of the resident astronomers.

In spite of the very cold weather we experienced, it was a super trip, informative & interesting, with the added bonus of fun & fellowship."

Sponsored by Tavorc York



Audi



Great Cars, Great People

Contact us for all your motoring needs

Telephone 044 874 4193