



THE PROBUS CLUB OF KELLYVILLE & HILLS INC.

Incorporated in NSW – Incorporation No. 1800778

Month: August 2020

Message from the President



Dear Fellow Probud Members,

It has been five months since our last meeting and, unfortunately, the September meeting has also been cancelled.

Under the NSW Government Guidelines, the Castle Hill RSL has advised that it cannot allow large groups to meet. This will be reviewed monthly and we will keep you informed of monthly meeting dates via the website, newsletter and Facebook.

We are trying to arrange outings which are in line with Covid-19 restrictions and will advise members by email, our Probud website and Facebook, when we can confirm details. Thank you to Janette, Marc and Gail for looking after these forums.

A big thank you to Lorraine Everitt for organising the lunch at Trevi Lakeside Restaurant in early August. Thirty-two

members had a great time and enjoyable meal, whilst observing all the restrictions. It was great to see Adrian and Lyn Bright at the lunch after their Ruby Princess scare.

A few of our members have been unwell during the last few months. We hope they are recovering and wish them well. Please let your Committee know if there are any members who are unwell and would appreciate a telephone call.

Stay safe, wear a mask and remember, September 10th is [R U OK? Day](#). Contact a friend.

Kind Regards
Faye

Active Retirees Magazine
Members will find the current issue of the Active Retirees Magazine on our website under Members Login, [Publications](#), also on the [Probud South Pacific](#) site.

Probud Kellyville & Hills has a Facebook page

If you belong to Facebook, pop along and join other members for a chat. It's a Private Group, and all you have to do is request to join. [LINK](#) to our Facebook page.

Memberships

To fill the available vacancies, prospective members are welcome to attend future meetings which are held at 10am on the second Thursday of each month. We currently have 100 members.

Members can refer their friends to our [website](#), to see that we have an active group.

Walking Group out and about.

All walks this month were at our usual haunt – Bernie Mullane Sports Complex.

During August we averaged 16 members each Wednesday. Most seem to linger after the walk for an hour or more, chatting over a coffee – and feeding our canine friends.

Cheers
Kevin



*A dog is more than a pet
They enrich our lives
And touch our hearts*

PROBUS KELLYVILLE HILLS BOOK CLUB

Book Group meets 10.30am, Castle Hill
Tavern, 4th Thursday of the month.

Hi Everyone

I am nominating : ["Camino Winds" by
John Grisham](#) for the meeting on
Thursday, September 24th.

Regards
Alan Vesperman

TREVI LAKESIDE LUNCHEON

We had thirty-two Probus members
attend the lunch held at the Trevi
Lakeside Restaurant on Tuesday,
August 11th.

Due to the Covid-19 protocols, we had
to remain seated at the four tables the
staff had organised, but from the
sounds of the chatter and laughter
echoing around the room, it was
evident that everyone was enjoying
the chance of catching up with other
members whom they had not seen for
some time.

The staff were most obliging, the
service and meals were excellent, and
I am sure that everyone would be
happy to attend another lunch at that
venue.

Lorraine Everitt





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Some thoughts about Masks by Tony Myatt

When I was at University 58 years ago, I was taught that viruses may not be truly alive in the accepted sense and that can make them much more dangerous. At the time, in my Hons degree course we were studying zoonoses, even then a subject of growing importance. Viruses are more like androids or robots because they are not made of cells, they do not grow, they are unstable and they cannot make their own energy. However, they can replicate and adapt to their environment and they are very small.

The coronavirus is 0.1 microns in size (0.1um). For comparison a red blood cell is 2-5um wide. The thousands of species of Bacillus bacteria are typically each about 0.5um in length, i.e. five times larger than coronavirus. Atmospheric pollutants vary greatly in size from 0.007um to 10um and surgical masks are said to filter out 80% of particles 0.007 microns in size or larger. N25 masks are said to filter 98% of such particles when worn correctly. Many N25 disposable masks are made from synthetic polymer fibres produced in a clever specialised

process called melt blowing. I saw reference to a recent study which showed that well-fitting masks made with multiple layers of tightly woven cotton were just as effective as a N25 mask.

Transmission probabilities have been modelled in some laboratories and the results have been published; this is an example:

Covid-19 carrier without mask
Transmission probability 70%
Healthy contact – with mask

Covid-19 carrier with mask
Transmission probability 5%
Healthy contact – with mask

Covid-19 carrier with mask
Transmission probability 1.5%
Healthy contact – with mask

For an excellent article on the nature of viruses see; [LINK](#)

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/are-viruses-alive-2004/>

Kevin Carey's submissions for August.

[Meet Stephan - a pet bear of a great Russian couple.](#)

[Hey Rosalie!! That old song and dance.](#)

Get Rich Quick

Seamus and Mick are walking down a street in Manchester.

Seamus happens to look in one of the shop windows and sees a sign that catches his eye. The sign said, 'Suits £10.00 each, Shirts £4.00 each, Trousers £5.00 per pair'.

He says to his pal, "Mick, look! We could buy a whole lot of those, and when we get back to Ireland, we could sell them for heaps more, and make a fortune."

"Now Mick, when we go into the shop, you be quiet, okay? Just let me do all the talking."

"No worries", smiled Mick. "I'll keep my mouth shut."

They go in and Seamus says, "I'll take fifty suits at £10.00 each, 100 shirts at £4.00 each, and fifty pairs of trousers at £5.00 each. I'll back up my truck and..."

The owner of the shop interrupts, "You're from Ireland, aren't you?"

"Well ... Yes", says a surprised Seamus. "How the hell did you know that?"

The owner says, "This is a dry-cleaners!"

Lynn Boorman's submissions for August.

[Lewis Miller](#)

In Constant Pursuit of Beauty.

A poem by Spike Milligan.

Smiling is infectious
You catch it like the flu
When someone smiled at me today
I started smiling too
I walked around the corner
And someone saw me grin
When he smiled I realised
I had passed it on to him
I thought about the smile
And then realised its worth
A single smile like mine
Could travel round the earth
So if you feel a smile begin
Don't leave it undetected
Start an epidemic
And get the world infected.



A touching story of the goodness
in man.

*Take a moment and read this story,
you will be amazed...*

It is 13 years since 9/11 and here is a
wonderful story about that terrible
day.

Jerry Brown Delta Flight 15... (true
story) Here is an amazing story from a
flight attendant on Delta Flight 15,
written following 9-11:

On the morning of Tuesday,
September 11, we were about 5 hours
out of Frankfurt, flying over the North
Atlantic.

All of a sudden, the curtains parted
and I was told to go to the
cockpit, immediately, to see the
captain. As soon as I got there I
noticed that the crew had that "All
Business" look on their faces. The
captain handed me a printed
message. It was from Delta's main
office in Atlanta and simply read, "All
airways over the Continental United
States are closed to commercial air
traffic. Land ASAP at the
nearest airport. Advise your
destination."

No one said a word about what this
could mean. We knew it was a
serious situation and we needed to
find terra firma quickly. The captain
determined that the nearest airport
was 400 miles behind us in Gander,
New Foundland.

He requested approval for a route
change from the Canadian
traffic controller and approval were
granted immediately -- no questions
asked.

We found out later, of course, why
there was no hesitation in approving
our request.

While the flight crew prepared the
airplane for landing, another
message arrived from Atlanta telling
us about some terrorist activity in the
New York area. A few minutes later
word came in about the hijackings.
We decided to LIE to the passengers
while we were still in the air. We told
them the plane had a simple
instrument problem and that we
needed to land at the nearest airport
in Gander, New Foundland, to have it
checked out.

We promised to give more information
after landing in Gander.

There was much grumbling among
the passengers, but that's nothing
new!

Forty minutes later, we landed in
Gander. Local time at Gander was
12:30 PM! that's 11:00 AM EST.

There were already about 20 other
airplanes on the ground from all over
the world that had taken this detour
on their way to the U.S.

After we parked on the ramp, the
captain made the following
announcement: "Ladies and
gentlemen, you must be wondering if
all these airplanes around us have the
same instrument problem as we have.
The reality is that we are here for
another reason." Then he went on
to explain the little bit, we knew about
the situation in the U.S.

There were loud gasps and stares of
disbelief. The captain informed

passengers that Ground control in Gander told us to stay put.

The Canadian Government was in charge of our situation and no one was allowed to get off the aircraft. No one on the ground was allowed to come near any of the aircrafts. Only airport police would come around periodically, look us over and go on to the next airplane. In the next hour or so more planes landed and Gander ended up with 53 airplanes from all over the world, 27 of which were U.S. commercial jets.

Meanwhile, bits of news started to come in over the aircraft radio and for the first time we learned that airplanes were flown into the World Trade Center in New York and into the Pentagon in DC. People were trying to use their cell phones, but were unable to connect due to a different cell system in Canada. Some did get through, but were only able to get to the Canadian operator who would tell them that the lines to the U.S. were either blocked or jammed.

Sometime in the evening the news filtered to us that the World Trade Center buildings had collapsed and that a fourth hijacking had resulted in a crash. By now the passengers were emotionally and physically exhausted, not to mention frightened, but everyone stayed amazingly calm. We had only to look out the window at the 52 other stranded aircraft to realize that we were not the only ones in this predicament.

We had been told earlier that they would be allowing people off the planes one plane at a time. At 6 PM, Gander airport told us that our turn to deplane would be 11 am the next

morning. Passengers were not happy, but they simply resigned themselves to this news without much noise and started to prepare themselves to spend the night on the airplane.

Gander had promised us medical attention, if needed, water, and lavatory servicing. And they were true to their word.

Fortunately, we had no medical situations to worry about. We did have a young lady who was 33 weeks into her pregnancy. We took REALLY good care of her. The night passed without incident despite the uncomfortable sleeping arrangements.

About 10:30 on the morning of the 12th a convoy of school buses showed up. We got off the plane and were taken to the terminal where we went through Immigration and Customs and then had to register with the Red Cross.

After that we (the crew) were separated from the passengers and were taken in vans to a small hotel. We had no idea where our passengers were going. We learned from the Red Cross that the town of Gander has a population of 10,400 people and they had about 10,500 passengers to take care of from all the airplanes that were forced into Gander! We were told to just relax at the hotel and we would be contacted when the U.S. airports opened again, but not to expect that call for a while.

We found out the total scope of the terror back home only after getting to our hotel and turning on the TV, 24 hours after it all started.

Meanwhile, we had lots of time on our hands and found that the people of Gander were extremely friendly. They started calling us the "plane people." We enjoyed their hospitality, explored the town of Gander and ended up having a pretty good time.

Two days later, we got that call and were taken back to the Gander airport. Back on the plane, we were reunited with the passengers and found out what they had been doing for the past two days. What we found out was incredible.

Gander and all the surrounding communities (within about a 75 Kilometer radius) had closed all high schools, meeting halls, lodges, and any other large gathering places. They converted all these facilities to mass lodging areas for all the stranded travelers.

Some had cots set up, some had mats with sleeping bags and pillows set up. ALL the high school students were required to volunteer their time to take care of the "guests." Our 218 passengers ended up in a town called Lewisporte, about 45 kilometers from Gander where they were put up in a high school. If any women wanted to be in a women-only facility, that was arranged. Families were kept together. All the elderly passengers were taken to private homes.

Remember that young pregnant lady? She was put up in a private home right across the street from a 24-hour Urgent Care facility.

There was a dentist on call and both male and female nurses remained with the crowd for the duration.

Phone calls and e-mails to the U.S. and around the world were available to everyone once a day.

During the day, passengers were offered "Excursion" trips. Some people went on boat cruises of the lakes and harbors. Some went for hikes in the local forests. Local bakeries stayed open to make fresh bread for the guests.

Food was prepared by all the residents and brought to the schools. People were driven to restaurants of their choice and offered wonderful meals. Everyone was given tokens for local laundry mats to wash their clothes, since luggage was still on the aircraft. In other words, every single need was met for those stranded travelers.

Passengers were crying while telling us these stories. Finally, when they were told that U.S. airports had reopened, they were delivered to the airport right on time and without a single passenger missing or late. The local Red Cross had all the information about the whereabouts of each and every passenger and knew which plane they needed to be on and when all the planes were leaving. They coordinated everything beautifully. It was absolutely incredible.

When passengers came on board, it was like they had been on a cruise. Everyone knew each other by name. They were swapping stories of their stay, impressing each other with who had the better time. Our flight back to Atlanta looked like a chartered party flight. The crew just stayed out of their way. It was mind-boggling. Passengers had totally bonded and

were calling each other by their first names, exchanging phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses.

And then a very unusual thing happened.

One of our passengers approached me and asked if he could make an announcement over the PA system. We never, ever allow that. But this time was different. I said "of course" and handed him the mike. He picked up the PA and reminded everyone about what they had just gone through in the last few days. He reminded them of the hospitality they had received at the hands of total strangers. He continued by saying that he would like to do something in return for the good folks of Lewis Porte.

"He said he was going to set up a Trust Fund under the name of DELTA 15 (our flight number). The purpose of the trust fund is to provide college scholarships for the high school students of Lewis Porte.

He asked for donations of any amount from his fellow travelers.

When the paper with donations got back to us with the amounts, names, phone numbers and addresses, the total was for more than \$14,000! "The gentleman, a MD from Virginia, promised to match the donations and to start the administrative work on the scholarship. He also said that he would forward this proposal to Delta Corporate and ask them to donate as well.

As I write this account, the trust fund is at more than \$1.5 million and has assisted 134 students in college education.

"I just wanted to share this story because we need good stories right now. It gives me a little bit of hope to know that some people in a faraway place were kind to some strangers who literally dropped in on them. It reminds me how much good there is in the world."

"In spite of all the rotten things we see going on in today's world this story confirms that there are still a lot of good people in the world and when things get bad, they will come forward.

*This is one of those stories that need to be shared. Please do so.

How does your garden grow?



Darralyn's beautiful Aphrodite's phalaenopsis. A species of orchid also known as Moon orchid, or Moth orchid.

Events / Trips coming up

Many already on the website:

pckh.org.au

PROBUS MEETINGS

Unfortunately, our Probus meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Members will be notified via our [Probus website](#), email and [facebook page](#), as to when our meetings will resume.

Under the NSW Government Guidelines, the Castle Hill RSL have advised, all social events and club events are at present cancelled.

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ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

Barefoot Bowls at The Hills Club
Baulkham Hills
Sunday, September 27th.

Unfortunately, due to the change to sports Covid-19 restrictions, The Hills Bowling Club has cancelled all social bowls events. If restrictions are eased, hopefully this may be held in November, otherwise, will be deferred until next year.

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EVENTS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER

Lunch

Entrata Restaurant, Glenhaven

Thursday, September 24th 2020



OCTOBER

Ladies Only High Tea

Rydges Hotel Norwest

Saturday, October 10th 2020



DECEMBER

Christmas Party Lunch

The Hill Lodge

Thursday, December 3rd



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Every Week

Walking Group

The Bernie Mullane Sports Complex.

Walking Group meets 9.30am each Wednesday.

Please contact [Kevin Carey](#) to join the next walk!

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Once a Month

PROBUS KELLYVILLE HILLS BOOK CLUB

Castle Hill Tavern.

Book Group meets 10.30am, 4th Thursday of the month.

Thursday, September 24th.
'Camino Winds', by John Grisham.

Contact : Alan Vesperman

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How does your garden grow?
Please consider contributing to the gardening segment of our newsletter. Your photos and articles are not only welcome, but are an interesting and visual delight to share with members. We are also happy to accept photos and/or articles pertaining to hobbies members may indulge in. Please forward to The Editor via email.

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PCKH Website

Our [website](#) includes a calendar to show the dates of upcoming events including monthly meetings and planned events. Whilst future events will be highlighted at monthly meetings, from time to time event organisers will email members of upcoming events, to which members are requested to respond to the organiser.



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Feedback

Thank you for reading this newsletter. We welcome your comments / feedback both on this newsletter and suggestions for the future.

Kindly provide your articles and photos for inclusion in our September Newsletter via this [LINK](#).

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Your Committee

Position:	Who:
President	Faye Carey
Immediate Past President	Rob Dytor
Vice President	Peter Noreen
Secretary	Lynn Boorman
Treasurer	Kerri Harding
Membership Officer	Barbara Gurney
Welfare Officer	Coralee Rose
Guest Speakers	Peter Elwine
Trips and Tours	Ron Harding
Live Theatre	Kerri Harding
Local Lunch and Dinners	Lorraine Everitt
Walking Group	Kevin Carey
Book Club	Alan Vesperman
Webmaster	Marc Mana
Newsletter Editor	Janette Mana
Picnics and Barbecues	Jackie Duffield
Meet and Greet	Lynelle Dytor
Hospitality	Susie Myatt
Hospitality	Mazz Vodanovich

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E&OE