



# PROBUS Club of Sidney

December 2024 Newsletter  
Volume 22: Issue 3

## Management Committee

President

**John Lewis**

Vice President

**Ken Marsh**

Secretary

**Christine Bailey**

Treasurer

**Bob Witzel**

Past President

**Brenda Hood**

Membership  
and Privacy Officers

**Aldy Kristoffy**

**Brenda Wilson**

Speakers

**Peter Hurley**

**Ken Marsh**

**Graham Williams**

Events

**Viv Harding**

**Marian Marsh**

Sunshine

**Beverley Moore**

Refreshments

**Connie Lougher-Goodey**

Pub Lunches

**Alison and David Stewart**

Communications

**Nora Franklin**

Newsletter

**Pat Currie**

**To contact members of the  
Management Committee**

- consult your Membership list  
for the appropriate email  
address or phone number

**To contribute to the newsletter**

- send an email to Pat Currie

# Wishing you A Very Merry Holiday



## Beyond the Front Page

Page 2 From Your President Membership Renewal  
Page 3 Movie Matinee Looking Ahead  
Remembering Alison  
Page 4 Website Photo Contest



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**Christmas Party at Shoal**  
**Tuesday December 10**



## From Your President



Well, here we are, approaching another Christmas holiday season with all the lights, decorations, music, get-togethers and warm feelings that go with it. The picture above, taken in late November is a little sample of the holiday spirit that pervades our seaside community. Now we're into December and downtown Sidney is ablaze with Christmas

decorations. My favourite is the giant snowman who presides over the Bevan Avenue pier during December. My wife and I remember well our first Christmas in Sidney in the late 90s. The local paper had advertised a Christmas parade and with very modest expectations, we walked downtown to take a look. We were stunned by the size of the crowd! Packed 3 or 4 folks deep the length of Beacon Avenue. It certainly was not Macy's, but it was a down-home event full of enthusiasm and local colour. We've missed very few since. Let's reward our town and local merchants' efforts by shopping with them as we are able.

As a whole, I think our Probus group are a fortunate bunch. We have the resources to enjoy a dinner out or host one for our friends. Many of you will participate in our Christmas dinner at the Shoal Centre on December 10. (Sorry, registrations are now closed) Many of you also have connections with other groups and activities in the area. I also know that many of you contribute to the community as volunteers and make financial contributions as well. Nonetheless, I'll add this little reminder to consider those less fortunate and perhaps add a contribution to organizations such as the Food Bank or the TC Christmas fund to make someone else's holiday a little brighter.

On that note, I'll end with a few holiday "groaners"

Q. What was the snowman perusing in the vegetable section of the supermarket?

A. He was picking his nose.

Q. What did the stamp say to the Christmas card?

A. Stick with me and we'll go places (*except this year!*)

Q. Why does Santa never go to the hospital?

A. Because he has private elf care!

Best wishes for a happy holiday season.

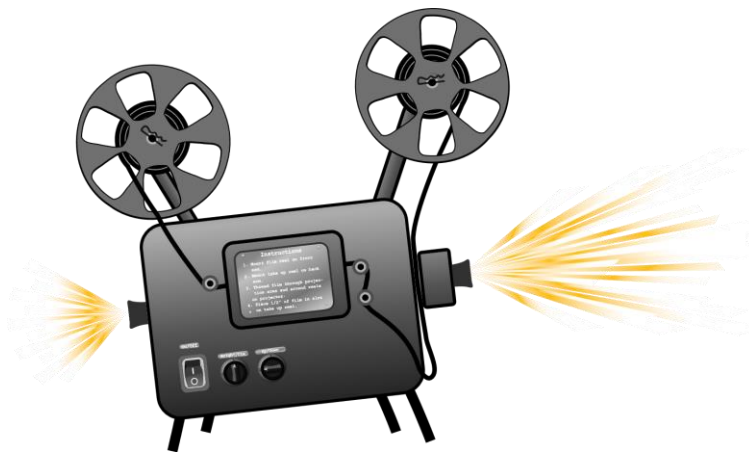
Ken Marsh

## LOOKING AHEAD

In January our speaker's topic will be "**Thinking Like an Ancestor: Leaving a Good Future for our Young People**". Presenters Shelagh Butterworth Levey and Julie Johnston are members of Seniors for Climate Victoria.

In February we will learn about "**Vaccines**" from our speaker Jean Simpson.

## MOVIE MATINEE



We are organizing an outing for our members to go to a Tuesday afternoon matinee at the Star Cinema once a month. The group will meet at the Star Cinema a half hour before the show begins so everyone can purchase their ticket and find a seat. After the show, we will find a coffee/wine bar to sit down to discuss how we liked (or disliked) the movie and to choose a movie for the next outing.

If you are interested in joining the group, please sign up on the sheet presented at the meeting in January.

### Remembering Alison Stewart

We are sad to announce that long-time Probus member, Alison Stewart, died on November 26th after a short battle with cancer. Alison was born and educated in New Zealand. She and David lived a very peripatetic life living and working in the UK, Africa, New Zealand and many places in Canada before settling in Sidney. Here, she was a very active member of many groups, including Probus. Alison, along with her husband David, organized the club's monthly Pub Lunches for the past few years. A more complete description of Alison's life can be found in the November 29 & 30 editions of the Times Colonist.

Our condolences go out to David and his family.



## WEBSITE PHOTO CONTEST



OK members, here's a chance to exhibit your photography skills and win a modest prize. The Management Committee is of the opinion that our website home page needs a refresh. We are looking to you to submit photos of Sidney that are appealing and associated with our lovely town. Above is one that I took recently as is the one preceding my message. You don't need a fancy camera, just an eye for the right scene. You may already have some great ones on your computer. Send your photos (say a max of 3 per person) to me Ken Marsh. [vikayakguy@gmail.com](mailto:vikayakguy@gmail.com) by January 31. We will figure out details such as judges and the modest prize and announce a winning photo at our February meeting.