



# PROBUS Club of Sidney

## September 2025 Newsletter Volume 23: Issue 1

Next Meeting at Mary Winspear Centre Tuesday Sep 9, 2025 at 10.00 am

### Website:

probussidneybc.org

### Management Committee

President

**Ken Marsh**

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**John Cotton**

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**Marian Marsh**  
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Sunshine

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Refreshments

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Website

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Communications

**Norah Franklin**

Newsletter

**Pat Currie**

### “The Sidney Museum:

### Past, Present, and Future”

September’s speaker is Michael Goodchild, Executive Director of the Sidney Museum and Archives. The museum is a vital local heritage institution that deserves public attention and support. Michael will address its mandate, select historical highlights and recent developments, challenges, and accomplishments.

Featured exhibits and ongoing major projects will be showcased, as will the museum’s key commitment to community outreach and engagement, including volunteer opportunities. Future plans and aspirations also will be touched. Club members are certain to leave with a greater appreciation of the present state of the heritage sector, particularly in relation to small community organizations like the Sidney Museum.

Sidney Probus members are encouraged to sign up for a museum private tour of the museum—Thursday, September 25 from 5 pm to 7 pm—organized by our Events Committee.

Consult our website for registration information and event particulars: <https://probussidneybc.ca/events/>

*For more information about September’s speaker see Page 3*

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Website: **probussidneybc.ca**

# President's Message



**Welcome back!** Why does it feel we've "been away" when summer disrupts our routine of monthly meetings? For me September has always represented the "New Year". An intellectual and emotional holdover from seasons dictated by the school year. In those earlier years in school, summer represented a release from obligations and responsibility and a change of mindset which allowed us kids to pursue our own sometimes erratic and whimsical agendas, free of adult direction – a state which I fear is becoming rare for many children these days.

The approach of September was met with considerable ambivalence. The days of classrooms and homework assignments lay before us. Our days would now largely be dictated by the adults in our lives. BUT there was also the anticipation of something new and fresh. The new notebooks, binders and pencil sets promised that we would be more organized this year – and yes, even the new school clothes suggested a fresh start in the school social order. And what about that new teacher?! How exacting would they be in their expectations? How much homework would they assign? Would they have a sense of humour? Indeed, September was much more of a New Year than January could ever hope to be.

And so it is now, that as we are in September, the celebration of the Saanich Fall Fair behind us, that we breathe the cooler air, smell the leaves slightly beginning to decay and feel that – even though this group is long retired – that we are returning to the "work" of our usual routines.

It is fair to note that even though for many of our Probus members, August has been a time off, your Events Committee has been busy organizing our Summer BBQ in August which was enjoyed by 48 of your members and partners. They have organised a very interesting tour of our very own Sidney Museum on September 25. You received a notice of this last week. Your Speakers Committee has coordinated nicely with your Events Committee to bring you Michael Goodchild, Executive Director of the Sidney Museum for our September 9 meeting to whet your intellectual appetite for this event.

September is also the time during which we prepare for a transition in your Management Committee members. Some of us in that group have been working hard to find replacements for those leaving executive positions and believe we have nominations in place for key positions. However, members are reminded that Nominations are still formally open for any Executive position. This includes President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Director. If you would like to nominate yourself or anyone else (with their agreement) for a position, please advise Ken Marsh or John Lewis. The formal election of a new executive will take place at our October AGM.

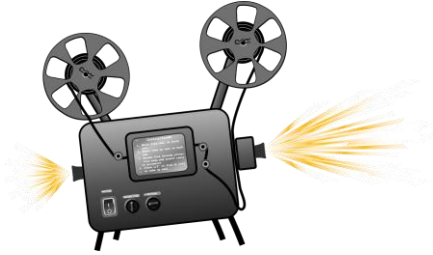
Finally, let's close with our riddles of the month. **Those who correctly answer the riddles will be included in a draw for a Sidney prize.**

## **Riddles – No Using AI!!**

- **If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you don't have me. What am I?**
- **If your uncle's sister is not your aunt, what relation is she to you?**
- **What question can you never say "Yes" to?**

Ken Marsh, President

## MOVIE MATINEE



The list of movies for August was again not too exciting, but a few of us went to see "Don't Let's Go To The Dogs Tonight" and Shannon Kemper wrote the following:

"This film is based on a true story, and is set during the Rhodesian Civil War, a time of great political and social upheaval. It is told through the eyes of a very precocious 8-year-old girl. The focus of the movie is not so much on the political turmoil but more on how it affects the young girl and her family. Although there are some humorous scenes, there were also some scenes that were very uncomfortable to watch.

Our reviews afterwards were mixed, as some people expected more on the political background. I found it thought-provoking. Certainly, we all agreed that the actress playing the young girl was amazing and deserving of an academy award."

Thanks Shannon.

If anyone would like to join us for the Tuesday matinee, every third Tuesday of the month at the Star Cinema, please contact me - Aldy Kristoffy at [sidneyprobusmembership@gmail.com](mailto:sidneyprobusmembership@gmail.com)

### September's Speaker

Michael Goodchild has served as the museum's Executive Director since June 2022. An avid historian, he has worked in museums and historical sites across Canada, supporting educational programming, managing collections, and overseeing outreach.

Michael believes museums have a responsibility to engage their communities and foster increased support for diverse histories. Success in these important matters involves outreach, relationship-building, and ensuring that the stories of various communities are appropriately celebrated and recognized. His directorship reflects these beliefs.

Goodchild holds a Bachelor of History from the University of British Columbia (2016) and a Master of Museum Studies from the University of Toronto (2019).

## Wine Tasting Group Report

The group meets at 4:00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month, the venue rotating among the members. As a new group, we are looking to welcome additional PROBUS members who have an interest in sampling wines. If you are interested, but a bit apprehensive about participating In a tasting group, don't be intimidated: our group is probably better described as wine enthusiasts than wine connoisseurs. Of course I say that on a personal level, but I suspect the other members have a somewhat similar overview. If you are interested, please email me at '[bob@witzel.com](mailto:bob@witzel.com)'



## Current Events Group

The Current Events group meets monthly. Those presently signed up for this group are welcome to register for the next meeting by contacting Ken Marsh at [vikayakguy@gmail.com](mailto:vikayakguy@gmail.com). It may be possible to include other interested members once we know how many are attending.

## Membership:

At present we have most of the yearly dues processed. If you have not sent in your dues to the Treasurer ([sidneyprobustreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sidneyprobustreasurer@gmail.com)) please do so or advise us Aldy Kristoffy/Brenda Wilson ([sidneyprobusmembership@gmail.com](mailto:sidneyprobusmembership@gmail.com)) that you will not be renewing your membership. Thanks.

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## To contact members of the Management Committee

Consult the Membership list for the appropriate email address or phone number.