



Women's Probus Club of Cambridge

Happy New Year – January 2026



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Next Meeting

January 16, 2025

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 am

Portuguese Club
870 Townline Rd
Cambridge, ON
N1T 2G3

Women's Probus Club Of
Cambridge [Website](#)
(Ctrl +click)

Please Remember:

Should you be aware of a fellow Probian who may welcome a gentle connection, whether through a card of support for illness, sympathy, or simply a “thinking of you,” please contact Kay Mattear (519 623-3241)



January Greeters:

- Barb Armstrong
- Louise Bartolloni



On December 19, Probus members endured the snowy weather to attend the annual Christmas Luncheon. When you were greeted at the door by our festive Christmas Tree (**Sharon Bird**) you knew you were there for a good time.

Special appreciation is extended to **Heather Cooper** for the fun Pass the Parcel game and for the hours spent wrapping the present!



Music abound with our special Singing Santa, Cameron Michael Caton, aka COVID-Elvis, a Hamilton-based entertainer who transformed a simple driveway serenade during the pandemic into a movement of joy, resilience, and community support. We were later treated to a serenaded by the Portuguese Club's own Tony with his crowd-pleasing rendition of Sweet Caroline.



Special thanks to Tony and his team for the delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings and calorie-free desserts!



January's Guest Speaker

Dr. Amy Barron



Amy Barron received her PhD at the University of Toronto in the field of Mesopotamian history and archaeology. Her doctoral thesis is entitled "Late Assyrian Arms and Armour: Art versus Artifact". She has excavated predominantly in the Middle East but has travelled widely studying the archaeology of various remote parts of the world from Peru to China. She has also worked in the museum field for almost thirty years and presently teaches museum studies in Fleming College's post-graduate program. For more information, please check out her webpage at www.quarrywood.ca.

Committee Updates

Note: You will find contact details on the last page of the Newsletter.

Who Am I: At the start of our meetings, it is always a pleasure to get to know both our new and long-standing members. While you may have been part of Probus for many years, our newer members may not yet know your story, so please don't hesitate to share.

If you are interested in sharing a little about who you are, please reach out to Carol Bonnett.

We are delighted to share that over the next two months we will be hearing from **Melissa Halvorsen** in January and **Kathe Frazee** in February.

Book Club #1: The December meeting went ahead as planned and a good time had by all.

Book Club #2: December's meeting was postponed due to the unavailability of members.

Culture Club: January 22, will be a watercolours session with Debbie Ellis and plans are underway for a visit to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton in February.

Hiking Club: This newly formed club is being coordinated by Angela Dietrich. A survey has been sent out to gain more information on interest and frequency of hikes.

Eurchre Club: Always a good time, and there is an open invitation more card players!

Technology Booster Club: The winter session began January 6th, and there are now 21 members. Also if you have not signed your photo release form, please see Kay as there are only a few outstanding

Mahjong, ArtC and Theatre Club: There is interest in these clubs and coordinating efforts underway. Stay tuned for further updates. ArtC – Sharon Bird, and Theatre Club – Silvia Brooks.

Luncheon Ladies: December 12, 2025.

Lots of holiday ho-ho's were happening as the group enjoyed good food and laughter at the Four Fathers Brewery in Hespler. There was a "bring something from home" gift exchange that brought more smiles and sometimes cheers and/or confusion as these "unique" gifts were open.

Holiday Fun at Four Fathers Brewery!

January Birthdays:

Ruth Bark
Liz Bradley



Curling Enthusiasts:

If you are interested in attending the **Scotties Tournament of Hearts** in Mississauga on January 27, you are welcomed to join the Cambridge Riverside Probus Club. They need 3 more participants for the trip. You are welcome to bring a friend who is not a Probus member.

The final cost of the trip will be confirmed shortly after the January 10 deadline. At this point, the pricing is expected to be:

approximately \$50 for the tickets

approximately \$50-\$60 for the bus

If interested, please contact: Laura Davis Cook by January 10, 2026

lauracook@rogers.com 519-212-7551



Connie's Comments (President's Update)

HAPPY NEW YEAR, Fellow Probians!



It's wonderful to begin another year together! I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season and that 2026 is off to a bright start. Wishing each of you a healthy and happy year ahead!

Our Program Committee has arranged an excellent lineup of guest speakers for our meetings right through to June. Thanks to the feedback from our fall survey, the Communications Committee is also developing a few new activity groups for your participation and enjoyment more details will be shared soon.

I encourage everyone to take part in the many opportunities our Club offers. Getting involved is the best way to experience the Fun and Fellowship that make our Probus community so special. Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and support. Let's make 2026 a year filled with connection, learning, and laughter.

I look forward to seeing you on January 16th at our next Members' Meeting. If you need a ride, please don't hesitate to reach out—arrangements can certainly be made.

Warm wishes,
Connie (519-277-1738)

January's Must-try Recipe

Chicken Lentil Soup

6 Italian sweet sausages, casings removed
2 onions chopped
4 stalks celery, chopped
3-4 carrots chopped
½ tsp anise
½ tsp dried oregano
1 tsp dried basil
4 cloves garlic chopped
1 796 ml can diced tomatoes
1 1/2 cups raw lentils
6 cups chicken stock
1 bag fresh baby spinach



Fry sausage, onion and celery in large soup pan, break up sausage with back of wooden spoon. Once sausage is cooked, drain off fat.

Add carrots and seasonings, fry about 3 more mins
Add garlic and cook another 2-3 mins, stirring.

Add all remaining ingredients except spinach, cook on med. low heat for about 45 mins. Add spinach, cook another 15 mins. Enjoy!

Please share your comment on this recipe and forward your Must-Try to Linda.

Samples are always welcomed! v.linda.rodrigues88@gmail.com



Committee Connections

Increase your fun by joining!

Learn more by reaching out to the welcoming Convenor

Committee	Where	When	Convenor
BOOK CLUB #1	Galt Country Club 750 Coronation Blvd Cambridge	Second Friday Morning of the Month	Marilyn Parkinson-Crump 519 653-9743
BOOK CLUB #2	Rotating Homes	Third Wednesday Afternoon of the Month	Carol Bonnett 519 573-9076 cduffieldbonnett@rogers.co
CULTURE CLUB <i>Expanding our awareness</i>	Varies based on venue	Varies based on venue	Carol Harvey 519 619-9512 harveyce@bell.net
CRAFTING CLUB	Under Development – Stay tuned!		
EUCHRE	180 Grand Avenue S. Cambridge	First Wednesday each month	Gaenor Williams 905 802-0494
HIKING CLUB	Various Locations in the region	TBD	Angela Dietrich angelad@tutamail.com
LUNCHEON LADIES	Variety of venues	Fourth Friday of each month, 12 noon	Paulette Bissonnette 519 651-1772 pauletteplb2020@gmail.com or sign-up at monthly meetings
MAH JONGG	180 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge	Second Tuesday of the month, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm	Loretta Alonzo 519-623-0575 lalonzo.999@gmail.com
POSH <i>enjoying food, drink and conversation</i>	Rotating homes	First Saturday of the month, 5 – 9 pm	Heather Cooper 519 404- 4432 hicooper@hotmail.com
TECHNOLOGY BOOSTER CLUB <i>Learn how to maximize your tech</i>	On-Line – Zoom	First Tuesday of each month, 1:00 pm	Kay Crawford, 519 616-8704 advisorkay@gmail.com