



## THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE

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# UXFORMATION February 2023

### MANAGEMENT TEAM

President  
**Kathy Clulow**

Past-President  
**Chuck Heroux**

First Vice-President  
& Zoom Coordinator  
**Bernie Beales**

Secretary  
**Linda Abate**

Treasurer  
**Wayne Brasseur**

Speaker Chair  
**Deirdre Gibson**

Social Committee Chairs  
**Gail Porter Heroux  
Camille Scarlett**

Interest Groups Chair  
**Betty Bignell**

Newsletter Editor  
**Carolyn Hicken**

Membership Chair  
**Elaine Stevenson**

Webmaster  
**Gerry Bignell**

Volunteer Co-ordinator  
**Lynn Moore**

MEMBERS AT LARGE  
**Brett Moore  
Larry Nancekivell  
Gail Verwoerd  
Judy Fountain**

## President's Message

Happy February! It is so nice to have a bit more daylight, encouraging us with the promise that spring is on its way.



Our speaker next week is Julie Fitz-Gerald, author of Rise: The Jessica Phoenix Story, a thrilling sports biography that is inspiring people of all ages to dig deep and persevere through life's challenges. Jessica Phoenix, as many of you know, is the local Equestrian who won Olympic Gold for Canada. And of course, as always there will be time to sign up for upcoming events and interest groups, (see the details below in this newsletter.)

You will have noticed that we more than fill the parking lot of the Legion....to ease congestion, from here on, we will put pylons out to let you know when the lot is full so that you can park across the street.

If you haven't already joined our Facebook group.... please look for The PROBUS Club of Uxbridge and ask to join our private group. This is a quick and easy way to find out what is happening with our vibrant club.

Any club is only as great as its volunteers. They are the ones that bring the ideas, drive, and energy to make our club successful. We need your help to maintain our dynamic club. Your efforts are appreciated, please contact me if you would like to help out in any way. There are many available opportunities. Email me @ [president.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:president.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

Kathy Clulow

President, Uxbridge PROBUS Club

**Our next PROBUS Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 10 a.m.  
In-person at the Uxbridge Legion.**

**Coffee and conversation photos...**

Thank goodness for a nice day for my first coffee meet and greet. Seeing many of the PROBUS members and sharing a coffee and a story is a nice way to help pass the long days of winter. Thank you Deirdre and Robert for opening your doors and inviting us all in. Meeting a couple of new members that I hadn't seen at any of the previous events was great. Talked about starting up a new gathering event has made me very excited. We need more of these informal gatherings where we can just be us and talk to friends.



## Membership

Our membership stands at our capacity of 275, we presently have 8 on the waiting list.

## Speaker's Corner

The Speaker at our February meeting will be **Julie Fitz-Gerald - Fulfilling personal dreams!**

Julie Fitz-Gerald is an author, journalist, and speaker living in small-town Ontario with her husband and two sons. With a journalism degree from Ryerson University, she has dedicated her career to writing stories about change-makers and overcomers for various national and international publications. Julie's Faith to Rise devotional series started out on local radio, became a weekly feature on Living Water Community Church's YouTube channel, and is now in print, reaching across platforms with inspirational messages of encouragement through all of life's seasons. Julie is also the author of RISE: The Jessica Phoenix Story, a thrilling sports biography that's inspiring people of all ages to dig deep and persevere through life's challenges. The success of RISE spawned a national motivational speaking tour, spreading the universal message of overcoming obstacles to schools, corporations, and special interest groups. Working in both faith-based and secular spheres, Julie is passionate about shining a light on stories of hope and inspiration.



Deirdre Gibson, Speakers Chair

## SOCIAL CALENDAR

**Social Co-Chairs: Gail Heroux & Camille Scarlett**

### TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS:

- first - you must sign up either by email to..

[social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

or telephone to Gail Heroux - 905-852-9927

or Camille Scarlett - 416-859-1593

or at meeting at social table

-next- you must pay - either by e-transfer to

[treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

or mail a cheque to Uxbridge PROBUS c/o Gail Heroux

72 Munro Crescent

Uxbridge L9P 1L8



**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

**VALENTINE'S DAY BOWLING  
PARTY...2-4 pm**

**Uxbridge Parish Lanes  
69 Brock St.**

**COST \$25 PP**

**Includes 1 1/2 hours bowling...both regular  
and bumper!**

**-Shoe rental**

**-pizza, beverage, snacks and sweets**

**-table use for 3 hours**



***NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!...NOVICE  
BOWLERS WELCOME!***



**COME ON OUT AND AND JOIN IN THE FUN AND LAUGHTER  
MAYBE PRIZES ?  
VALENTINE ATTIRE WELCOME!**

SUNDAY MARCH 5, 2023      2:00 PM



MARKHAM CONCERT BAND  
PRESENTS

**THE MURDERER  
RETURNS...?**

**MARCH 5, 2023** - 2PM

Join Markham Concert Band for a great  
concert and help us solve the mystery!

GUEST VOCALISTS  
LISA KALLASMAA | STEVE FALK

For more information:  
[www.mcband.ca](http://www.mcband.ca)  
For tickets, call the Theatre Box Office at  
**905.305.7469**

**FLATC**  
MARKHAM  
THEATRE

# MARKHAM CONCERT BAND presents

**THE MURDERER RETURNS**  
see below for Murder Mystery Details

**AT THE MARKHAM FLATO THEATRE.....2:00  
pm**

You are responsible for purchasing your own tickets... by telephone only to receive the special PROBUS rate

Call the Theatre Box Office at 905-305-7469  
use PROMO CODE "PROBUS" to receive the special rate  
( this will not be available for online purchase)

**SIGN UP AT THE SOCIAL TABLE OR BY PHONE OR EMAIL  
TO JOIN US AFTER THE CONCERT FOR DINNER AT THE  
MANDARIN RESTAURANT IN MARKHAM (BOXGROVE )**



## MCB Murder Mystery Explanation

Bridget Barrymore, the great singer, is to join Markham Concert Band at their March 5th concert. Everyone is excited! Well, almost everyone... seven people have reasons to wish her dead, and one of them follows through. When the MC calls for Bridget to appear, she does not, and the MC goes backstage then announces she has been murdered.

Join the Band as we perform some great music and also try to determine who killed Bridget Barrymore. **Our suspects are:**

**Annamaria, flute player** - Annamaria is strangely afraid of the soloist Bridget and refuses to say why.

**Beth, MCB librarian** - Beth is highly protective of her sheet music and annoyed by Bridget's demands for it.

**John, Town Crier** - John is angry that Bridget thinks she should be the town crier instead of him.

**Liisa, percussion player** - Stuck in the percussion section, Liisa wants to be the soloist instead of Bridget.

**Norm, lighting technician** - Norm is frustrated by Bridget's demands for the perfect spotlight.

**Sean, saxophone section** - Sean wants to help his friend Liisa be a soloist so she won't be angry with him.

**Steve, audience member** - Though he's a friend of Bridget's, Steve finds her annoying.

In between the musical selections, the suspects will question each other and provide tidbits of information, and you'll be able to see whether you can solve the murder before they do.



TUESDAY MARCH 14, 2023...

ST. PATRICK'S SHENANIGANS

at THE UXBRIDGE LEGION



**COST : \$60 pp**

- catered Irish themed dinner by **Erin Monaghan & Baliwick Food Co.**
- entertainment by line dancers
- trivia by Bernie Beales
- music
- cash bar

of course, wearing of the green is mandatory!!

Buffet Menu:

- Irish soda bread (2 varieties) with compound flavoured butter
- Shepherd's pie with braised beef  
(vegetarian option by request)
- Bratwurst sausage with peppers & onions
- Beer braised cabbage with onion & bacon
- Cauliflower & broccoli with beer/cheese sauce
- Salad bar
- Guinness cake with tea & coffee



sign up at the meetings in February & March and also by email or telephone as listed at the top of the social calendar

see attached flyer for more information

.....  
**More events coming soon... watch your emails for details!**

**Theatres**

**Mini-Golf**

**Cruises**

**Other surprises !**

## INTEREST GROUPS



Photo by Dale Schustyk

**On February 8, 2023**, the next General meeting will be at the Uxbridge Legion and wearing masks will be optional. At our Club's **Indoor Interest Group events**, wearing masks will be what the Coordinators and host households prefer.

There will always be **Interest Group sign-up sheets** at the back of the Legion meeting room. If you are interested in joining any of the groups, add your name & contact information to the sign-up sheets! **Please print!** As well you can contact me, Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com). I'll be at the back of the room with the sign-up sheets during our coffee break, hopefully able to answer any questions. Coordinators all have their Group name tags and may be sitting with me or somewhere in the room available to answer any questions. Everyone joining an Interest Group must be a Club member! If you are a **new Club member**, please indicate with **NM** beside your name on the sign-up sheets. There usually isn't a charge to join an Interest Group, but some may have a minimal fee to pay for using the venue.

### **POTENTIAL INTEREST GROUPS:**

#### **\*CURRENT EVENTS**

If you are interested in joining this potential group to chat about Current Events, please contact me, Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com). A **Coordinator** will be **required** to make this an active group.

#### **\*MUSIC GROUP**

If you enjoy getting together with others to make music, we'll have a new Music group! If interested, please contact me Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.@gmail.com). A **Coordinator is required** to make this an active group.



### **Other potential groups you may want to join:**

Animals (Horses & Dogs), Card & Board Games, Cooking, Fitness, History, Home Reno, Mah-jong, Sports: (Pole Walking, Running, Biking, Skiing, Skating, Swimming), Photography, Sailing, Yoga and more.

\*We need Coordinators to make the following groups active: Art Club, Current Events, Meditation, Music Group and Travel.

\*If you have an idea of another potential new group or want to join one of the above suggested groups, please contact me at the General Meetings or send me a message at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)  
“There’s an Interest Group for that!” (Debra Revie Lippy)

### **CURRENT INTEREST GROUPS:**

#### **BANNED BOOK CLUB**

The next meeting takes place on **Tuesday, February 21, 2023**, and group members will share their opinions after reading, “*Lady Chatterley's Lover*”, by D.H. Lawrence.

In January, “*The Hate You Give*,” by Angie Thomas was discussed. The book showed different perspectives of black youth trying to fit in while attending a primarily white school, versus living in a black neighborhood, with actions around the shooting of an unarmed black youth by a white police officer. This took the discussion in many different directions.

To allow opportunity for everyone to have a chance to express their thoughts on the books read, Camille and the group decided to limit the number of members. Currently the group has a spot for one new Club members If interested in joining contact me, Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

The group will meet monthly on the third Tuesday at 1:30.

Coordinator: Camille Scarlett

#### **BOOK LOVERS – A New Interest Group!**

**On February 15, 2023, from 1:00-3:00** the Book Lovers group will be meeting for the first time! They will be discussing “*Crow Winter*” by Karen McBride. Our Indigenous Peoples arrived first in Canada and have much to teach us. This book offers readers a chance to know some things about another culture and what we can learn from it.

The Book Lovers group is a relaxed book group for those open to reading different genres, topics and styles. To allow everyone to have a chance to comment about the book they’ve read, this will be a small group.

If interested in joining contact me, Betty Bignell

[interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

The Book Lovers Group will meet on the third Wednesday monthly, from 1:00-3:00.

Coordinator: Rhona Smith

#### **BOOK CLUB This group now has a waiting list.**

In February the group will be discussing “*Klara and the Sun*” by K. Ishiguro. This group has reached its maximum number of members. Please contact me if you want to be added to the wait list

Betty Bignell, [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

Coordinators Lyn May, Lenore Moore

#### **CASINO VISITS**

This group will be taking a break until the Spring. If you are interested in joining the Casino Visits Group, please contact me at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

Coordinator: Jim Boyle

#### **EUCHRE.**

The Euchre group meets on the first Tuesday of the month, at 10:00 am.

Coordinator: Carolyn Hicken

## GARDENING

The gardening group will meet on Thursday **February 2, 2023**. The topic will be Dreaming and Planning for Spring. Members are encouraged to share their ideas for Spring Garden plans and designs. There will be a very small initial charge and weekly charge for members of this group.

For more information or to join the group, please contact me, Betty Bignell at

[interest.groups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interest.groups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com) .

Coordinator: Sally Kotsopoulos

## GENEALOGY

The next Genealogy Group meeting will be on **February 19, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.** This small group has members actively tracking their family trees and exploring their DNA.

If interested in joining this group, contact Betty Bignell at

[interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

The group will meet on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30.

Coordinator – Bernie Beales



## HANDICRAFT

The handicraft group will meet **Friday, February 16, at 1:00 pm.**

Members are encouraged to bring the projects they are working on or starting anew in the upcoming months.

This is a busy group with lots of crafty and artistic ideas to learn from each other. There will be a small initial charge and weekly charge for members of this group. For more information or to join the group, please contact me, Betty Bignell at [interest.groups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interest.groups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com) .

Coordinator: Sally Kotsopoulos

## HIKING

Our Goodwood/Uxbridge area has a wonderful series of trails through a variety of forests and meadows, some quite flat, some with gentle hills. The group explores these forest trails near Uxbridge in the Durham and York Regions for 1 ½ to 2 hours. Join them for lively discussions, interesting views and leisurely treks!

The Hiking Group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 9:30 am. If you are interested in joining this Interest Group, send your request to Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

February hikes are scheduled for **Thursday, February 2 and February 16**. Hike details are emailed to our members for Pre-registration.



Coordinators: Carol Fraser, John Willcock

### **KITCHEN BRIDGE – A Group for Both Women and Men!**

Kitchen Bridge members will be playing on **February 2, 2023, at 7:00 pm.** If you are interested in joining this group, contact Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).  
Kitchen Bridge meets on the first Thursday of each month.  
Coordinators: Margaret & Rene Blanchet

### **LADIES BRIDGE CLUB**

The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month. **Online** bridge continues every **Monday at 1:00.**  
Coordinators: Carol Chillman, Caren Narvet

### **LET'S EAT OUT**

Meeting monthly to enjoy dinner with other Club members, this group has enjoyed dining in a great variety of restaurants. The group will meet next on **February 16, 2023.** In January the group met at The Jester's Court restaurant in Port Perry.

If you would like to join them, please contact me at [interestgroups.uxbridgeptobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeptobus@gmail.com).  
Coordinators: Gail & Chuck Heroux

### **LUNCH GROUP**

The Lunch Group will meet **February 27 at 12:00.** Group members are contacted monthly with the name of the restaurant where they will meet for lunch. If interested in joining this group, contact me, Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

The Lunch Group meets monthly on the last Monday of the month at 12:00.

Coordinators: Betty Bignell & Joy Freemantle



### **MOVIES**

This group periodically meets to watch movies together. In January the group attended a Toronto International Film Festival event at a new venue, the Flato Theatre in Markham.

If you would like to be a member of this group, please contact me at [interestgroupsuxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroupsuxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

Coordinators: Gail & Chuck Heroux

### **PICKLEBALL**

The Pickleball group is currently on hold until the Spring. Group members may be playing independently at indoor locations. If interested in joining this group, please contact Betty Bignell at

[interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

Coordinators: Gerry Bignell, Barry Scarlett

### **SCRABBLE**

The Scrabble group will meet next on **Wednesday, February 8, at 1:00.** The game is not competitive, they use dictionaries and help each other. The group does keep score, but just for fun! If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

The group plans to meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm.

Coordinator: Judy Fink

### **\*SMALL TOWN THEATRE GROUP - Interim Coordinator Steve Fryzuk**

Anyone one interested in Live Theatre may want to join this **new group** beginning in the Spring. Currently proposed is to enjoy lunch together, then attend matinees in the Durham and York Regions. Group members may be interested in attending comedies, musicals, or plays. If you want to join this group, please contact me, Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

## URBAN WALKING

Beginning in Spring 2023, the group will meet monthly on the third Wednesday at 10:00 am. A social group, they walk at a moderate pace for about an hour. After the walk, if near a coffee shop members rest and chat with a coffee.

New members will always be welcome! If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Betty Bignell [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

Coordinator: June O'Donnell

## WINE CLUB **This group now has a waiting list.**

The group will meet next on **February 6 at 7:00 pm**. Please contact me if you want to be added to the wait list.

Betty Bignell, [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

Coordinators: Margaret & Rene Blanchet, Sherrill Burns

**Betty Bignell**

**Interest Group Chair**

[interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

## A little fun

*Most of us over 65 were Home Schooled in many ways...*

**My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE.**

*"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."*

**My mother taught me RELIGION.**

*"You better pray that will come out of the carpet."*

**My father taught me about TIME TRAVEL**

*"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"*

**My father taught me LOGIC**

*"Because I said so, that's why"*

**My mother taught me MORE LOGIC**

*"If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."*

**My mother taught me FORESIGHT**

*"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."*

**My father taught me IRONY**

*"Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about."*

**My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS**

*"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."*

**My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM**

*"Just you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"*

**My mother taught me about STAMINA**

*"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."*

**My mother taught me about WEATHER**

*"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."*

**My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY**

*"If I told you once, I've told you a million times, don't exaggerate!"*

**My father taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE**

*"I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."*

**My mother taught me about BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION**



*"Stop acting like your father!"*

**My mother taught me about ENVY**

*"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."*

**My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION**

*"Just wait until we get home."*

**My mother taught me about RECEIVING**

*"You are going to get it from your father when he gets home!"*

**My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE**

*"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."*

**My mother taught me ESP**

*"Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"*

**My father taught me HUMOUR**

*"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."*

**My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT**

*"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."*

**My mother taught me GENETICS**

*"You're just like your father."*

**My mother taught me about my ROOTS**

*"Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"*

**My mother taught me WISDOM**

*"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."*

**My father taught me about JUSTICE**

*"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"*



**Excellent Advice for the New Year**

1. Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
6. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
15. Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
16. We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box.
17. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
18. Have an awesome day and know that someone has thought about you today.

**AND MOST IMPORTANTLY**

19. Save the Earth... It's the only planet with chocolate!

