



## Denmark River Probus News

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Hello all,

Well, Christmas has come and gone and the New Year has been rung in.

Talking about things new it is time to convene a new committee.

As things stand we will be looking to appoint six new members to the committee. We know there are some wonderfully talented members out there so we urge you all to seriously consider nominating for the 2015/2016 term. As I mentioned at the last meeting being on the committee does not involve long hours of toil and it gives you the opportunity to learn more about where things are in Denmark (we rotate where the committee meets each month). We have had such an enthusiastic initial six months and would like to see this carried into the future.

Our next outing will be when we join Adrian and Carol Birdseye for sundowners at 5pm on Australia day (details are on the events page of the website).

Please also check the website for details of the lunch at Cosy Corner in February. The owners have asked for advanced notice of orders therefore we will be collecting details and monies at the next General meeting. (See printable menu on the events page of the website).

Finances for December 2014 were

Income: \$150.00  
Expenses: \$155.00

Balance as at 31st December \$709.30

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### Speaker February

Dr Jane James.  
She will discuss her experiences working in Tanzania.



### February Birthdays

14th Ely Brown

15th Maureen Greenhalgh

20th Glenice Smith

## NEXT MEETING

4th February

10h00

**Denmark Country Club**



Our speaker this month was Andrew Collins from ABC Radio Albany.



Andrew arrived at Lions Lair and promptly unpacked his recorder and started interviewing some of the members for a segment on one of his radio sessions. Once it was clarified that he was the person to be facing the mike he got down to recounting how he transmorphed from being a paid football player (\$30 a game, a leg of lamb and a hire car) for the Dowerin Tigers into the Breakfast Presenter / Regional Content Manager of a radio station he is today.

He entertained us with tales of his travels in his Coaster Bus stopping off to be a taxi driver in Fitzroy Crossing whilst also running Karaoke nights at the pub, of working as a Remote Stores Trainer, and at the same time dabbling in Community Radio. Moving from there he found himself working for Arafura Pearls when they were still setting up their enterprise at Elizabeth Bay in Arnhemland. It was at this time that he bought a video camera and found himself one of the six finalists in the Race Around Australia Contest - visiting seven states/territories in 70 days making seven 5-minute videos. Although he came sixth in the competition he was happy with the experience and did get the peoples choice second place, it also gave him exposure to the media environment.

Before exploring the world of media further he went on to become a tour guide conducting tours from Perth to Darwin. One trip saw him and his clients stranded for fifteen days between flooded rivers. Don't you feel for the sorry for the owner of Ellenbrae Station who had the tour descend on him for the duration?.

In 2001 Andrew met his wife on one of these tours. This eventually led to another change of career. They toured some more but Andrew was now doing remote studies in Communications which led to him working first for The Barrier Miner, a regional newspaper in Broken Hill, New South Wales. (a Rupert Murdoch possession) then on to Darwin hosting Country Hour. On one occasion doing an outside broadcast involving traditional dancing, fanning of the smoke etc having been asked to provide meat for a BBQ and spending a couple of hundred dollars on prime beef he was then told to give it all to the pet crocodile. This presumably was meant to assure that he and the crew would be safe as they were expected to sleep out on the beach that night.

Before moving to Albany four years ago he spent some time in Karratha and experienced first hand how destructive cyclones can be and how invaluable rural radio is when disaster strikes.

Highlights since moving to Albany include chasing snow and finding it on Bluff Knoll, even if it was only ten flakes!, and the Exhumed Bands event.

Andrew concluded his talk by singing two short songs he wrote when living in Broken Hill. One of them can be heard by clicking on <http://www.denmarkriverprobus.org.au/docs/ac.html>

Thank you Andrew for a thoroughly entertaining morning.



Some of you may know this inspiring story but I only stumbled across it this week and I thought I would share it with you.

## Just a Typewriter

Paul Smith, the man with extra ordinary talent was born in 1921, with severe cerebral palsy. Paul beat the odds of a life with Spastic Cerebral Palsy, a disability that impeded his speech and mobility, taught himself to become a master artist as well as a terrific chess player even after being devoid of a formal education.

Paul began typewriter art at the age of eleven as a way to communicate - he did not learn to talk until he was sixteen years old and only started walking at the age of thirty two.

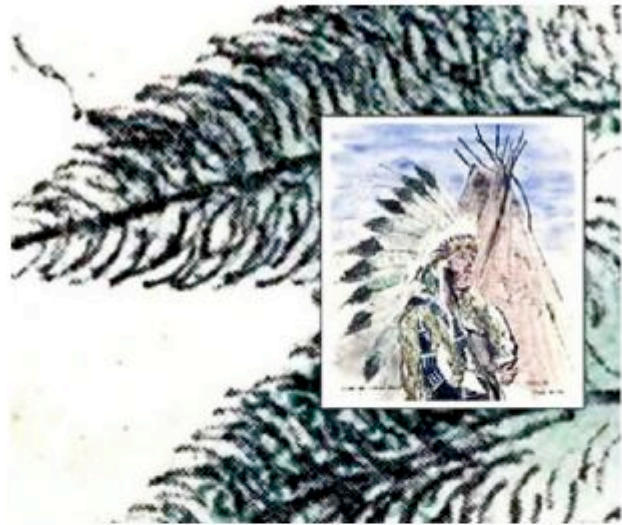
When typing, Paul used his left hand to steady his right one. He couldn't press two keys at the same time, usually locked the shift key down and made his pictures using the symbols at the top of the number keys.

His pictures were based on these characters . ! @ # \$ % ^ & \* ( ) \_ .

Across 7 decades, Paul created many pictures.

As his mastery of the typewriter grew, he developed techniques to create shadings, colours, and textures that made his work resemble pencil or charcoal drawings.

This man passed away on June 25, 2007, but left behind a collection of his amazing artwork that will be an inspiration for many. Can you believe that this art was created using only a typewriter?

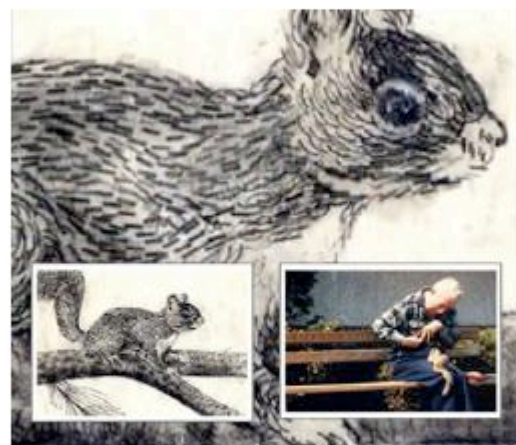


Paul's art progressed when colour ribbons were invented.



Paul's art required pre-planning, roller adjustments, ribbon changes and shading techniques.

He pressed his thumb against the ribbon to create the shading on the paper.



Later in life, Paul befriended a squirrel which was also featured in his works and can be seen off to the side in many of his pieces.