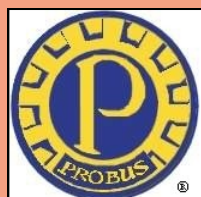


NEWSLETTER



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001- 6598G

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Issue No. 312

July 2016

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday July 19 The Sandringham Club

Keynote Speaker: Brian Negus (RACV)

Topic: The Future of Melbourne's Roads and Public Transport

10-Minute Speaker: Roger Wilson Olympic Predictions

Brian Negus, General Manager Public Policy for RACV, accountable for research, policies and initiatives addressing road operational and public transport issues, road safety, road use management, safer vehicles, driver education, training and environmental issues in the transport sector.



Below: pics from the trip to Bendigo Gallery's Marilyn Exhibition (clockwise from left): President Geoff had a real feel for Marilyn; Peter McGregor and his new toy, a selfie stick, mesmerises John and Hanife Bushby; Eric and Joan Slater; Vice-President Ken Beadle, Norm and Gilda Griffiths; below, Jenny and Tony Bowles with President Geoff and Merry Bransbury; John and Hanife Bushby (back), Paul and Hazel Crompton (front); Margie Beadle and Gail Seedsman; Bill and Jenny Cleland with Dick and Janice Kirby

[Photos: Alan Stevens, Peter McGregor]



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

*** Office Bearers 2016**

* President: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507	* Vice-President: Ken Beadle	9589 6120
* Past President: Kevin McDonnell	9598 8209	* Secretary: Alan Stevens	9597 0235
* Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9589 4884	Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546
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* Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593	Assistant Meetings: Keith Ross	9589 3580
* Assistant Secretary: John Smyth	9885 3084	Assistant Meetings: Graeme Keys	9585 7297
Almoner: Noel Ineson	9589 5263	Grapevine: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
President's Table: John Green	9580 6820	Sommelier: Bill Green	9596 1548
Speakers' Recorder: John Bushby	9598 7113	Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310
Projectionist: Philip Stewart	9589 3309	* Newsletter: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Archivist: John Howe	9598 2429	* Committee Members	

*** Interest Groups**

Bike Riding: Noel Ineson	9589 5263	Bowls : Ted Montfort	9589 5949
Discussion: Barry Amond	9589 1143	Digital Technology: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Investment: Peter Harford	9592 6797	Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982	Tastes: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Theatre: Tony Bowles	9598 7973	Wine Appreciation: Roger Wilson	0418395946
Bridge: Alan Farmer	9598 2791	Golf: John Pound	9521 8252

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Geoff Bransbury

The Olympics are close and Roger Wilson will share with us his medal predictions at our July meeting. In October, James Tomkins, now a member of the IOC and son of our ex-President Bruce Tomkins will return and share some of his Rio experiences with us. I noticed with interest that researchers from the UK and Germany have come up with a formula to calculate the medal tally for each country (but obviously haven't heard of Roger). Here is the formula:

$$\text{Medals}_{it} = \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 \text{Lag Medals}_{it} + \gamma_3 \ln \text{GDP}_{it} + \gamma_4 \ln \text{Pop}_{it} + \gamma_5 \text{Host}_{it} + \gamma_6 \text{Next Host}_{it} + \gamma_7 \text{Planned}_{it} + \gamma_8 \text{Muslim}_{it} + \gamma_9 \text{Yert} + \zeta_{it}$$

I won't try and explain it - way too complex for me but, if you are interested, go to the Australian Science Channel website. For your information, the formula predicts that the USA, China, Russia, and the UK will retain their top positions with the USA taking a total of 98 medals. Australia will come in a credible 7th on the final medal score with a tally of 33 medals. We will share 7th spot with hosts Brazil and France. If they are wrong, no doubt their excuse will include the fact that the formula didn't include the Zika virus, Brazil's political crisis, the Russian drug scandal or Michael Diamond and Sally Pearson's exclusion!

On a different topic, it's often the little things that make a difference. Last month at the meeting I was very impressed with Norm Griffiths' PowerPoint 'report' about the Bridge Group. It was clever, humorous and brief. The presentation was created by Norm and Philip Stewart. Thank you both very much for your effort.



The many faces of Beaumaris Probus: Far left, Bendigo; Centre, Candlelight Dinner; Right, some members with their morning cup of tea

NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group: 8.45 am

Peter Harford

John Brimage will review the Beaumaris Probus portfolio. It is proposed that John will conduct this review twice a year. Next month: Paul Fleming from the Department of Human Services.

Digital Technology Group

Geoff Wade

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday July 26 at the usual place commencing at 2 pm. Discussion items: What happens to your digital legacy when you die, maintaining and updating passwords, CD rot, system updates and much more. An attendance sheet will be available at the July General Meeting.

Members' Register

The register has recently been updated to include some corrections and the details of several new members. If you would like a copy, it is available in pdf format and can be provided by email. Please contact Geoff Wade (geoffmarg@bigfoot.com.au) to secure your copy.

GW

One Hat Restaurant/Castlemaine Excursion

This is advance notice of a special opportunity to experience a superb gourmet lunch in a One Hat restaurant in historic Castlemaine – and also take a unique trip on a restored steam train to the largely untouched 19th century gold mining town of Maldon. We are only able to take a very limited number of bookings for this all-day excursion.

When: Wednesday October 26

Cost: \$80 Please check your diaries immediately and confirm your interest.

Peter McGregor

Discussion Groups

Barry Amond

Groups will next meet on Tuesday August 9 and Friday August 12. The topic is likely to deal with trends in democracy in the western world. At their meetings in June, members discussed the forecast changes in society and technology likely to occur over the next 15-20 years – changes that continue the accelerating trend we've been largely fortunate to experience in our lifetimes. We even wondered how much science fiction was going to come true!

Opera and Music

Barry Amond

The next Music evening will be Wednesday August 24 at 7 pm. In June, Opera Group members were delighted with the Barcelona production of Rossini's rarely-performed *La Gazzetta*. Excellent music and singing were matched by wonderful costumes, sets and activities, at times resulting in spontaneous laughter and applause. It was certainly one of the most memorable performances of the more than 30 operas seen by the group since 2003.

★ Tastes Goes Italian

When: Thursday

August 4 6.30pm

Where: Saltimbocca
338 Charman Road
Cheltenham

Cost: \$55 pp



This is our gourmet event of the year at an Italian restaurant in the local area with a reputation for fine food. You should not miss this! A selection of aged wines (including shiraz and pinot noir) will be made available @ \$15 per bottle. You need to book NOW.

Probus Golf Day

Where: Spring Valley GC

When: Friday September 16

For all Beaumaris Probus members who hold a Golf Link Australia handicap, we have arranged hit-off times for at least four groups from noon.

Mixed abilities groups; prizes to be awarded on both individual stableford performance and a 4BBB.

Early lunch and drinks after play will be available at the club. Cost (green fees and prizes): \$60 to be paid to the Treasurer. We also need each player's GA number and current handicap. If you wish to be included, please fill out the form available from our Treasurer at the booking desk and transfer \$60 to the Club, specifying that the payment is for Spring Valley. The form can be left with the Treasurer or scanned and e-mailed to John Pound at jaypound@hotmail.com



♠ ♡ ♣ ♠ ♡ ♠ ♡ ♠ Probus Bridge

Some of the happy faces at our weekly Bridge class
From Left: Norm Griffiths, Alan Trumble, mentor Gill Tomkins, Tony Bowles and John Green



Our group is going from strength to strength. The weekly meeting has been extended to two-and-a-half hours. Recent lessons from guru, Ian Speed, have raised confidence to a level where we can play on our own with more skill and exuberance. New members welcome. Speak to any group member.

Birthday Boys –July

Simon Appel 21/7

Mal Carter 10/7

Howard Hoskings 21/7

Rod Murrell 1/7

John Smyth 24/7

Tony Bowles 3/7

Frank Collings 20/7

Colin Meade 14/7

Eric Slater 24/7

Bike Group Our next ride is on Friday July 22 starting at 9 am from the Black Rock beachside car park with a pickup at 9.25 am on the corner of the beachside bike path and Charman Road.

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

July

Golden Days Radio Tour

Wednesday July 13

Local broadcaster Golden Days Radio (95.7) call themselves "the Melbourne Seniors broadcaster playing yesterday's music today". See notice in June newsletter. Travel by car for a 1½ hour tour starting at 10.30. Limit: 20 people. Book early to secure your place. Cost: \$5 pp (includes the tour and a cup of tea.)

1236 Glenhuntly Road Carnegie



August

Guided Tour of MCG

Wednesday August 17

A guided tour of the inner sanctum of our world famous MCG, including the media room, the MCC Library, the cricketer's viewing and change rooms and much more.

Duration: 1 hour and 15 minutes. There is a wide variety of artefacts and sporting memorabilia and also ample seating. A light lunch is included. We meet at Gate 3 at 10 am. Jolimont station is just 400 steps to our entry. Cost (including tours and lunch): \$45



NGV Winter Masterpieces Exhibition - Degas: A New Vision

Wednesday August 31 10 am

This year's Melbourne Winter Masterpieces exhibition features more than 200 works of one of the world's most loved artists, [Edgar Degas](#). A rare opportunity to be immersed in the originality and creativity of this French artist's talent for painting, drawing, sculpture and photography. Degas was fascinated by many aspects of Parisian life - dance halls, cabarets, cafes, race tracks, opera and ballet stages. As last year, we will have a guided tour exclusive to our members. Travel independently to the National Gallery of Victoria, St Kilda Road, and meet at 9.45am at the schools' entrance (on the side of the gallery closest to the Arts Centre) for a 1-hour tour.

Cost: \$35 pp (which covers admission and guided tour.)

REGISTER EARLY and pay by Wednesday August 24.



November

An Evening of Lawn Bowls



Ken Beadle

Our own Ted Montfort in action

Arrangements are in hand for an evening of lawn bowls at the Sandringham Bowling Club in Tulip Street on Wednesday, November 9, commencing at 4 pm. Adequate parking is available. Stan Bernhard will be our host ably assisted by others of the bowling fraternity who are Probians. This is a very special social occasion and wives and partners are most welcome. The format for the evening will be along the lines of our very successful classic croquet event. A booking sheet is available at the functions desk.

Theatre

Tony Bowles

Cirque du Soleil is coming to Melbourne after an absence of some years. An international cast of 50 acrobats, musicians, and singers present heart-stopping feats and LOL antics. The Big Top will be at the Flemington Racecourse and our booking is for Sunday February 5 at 12.30.

Tickets: \$95 – a saving of \$20.

Cruise to New Zealand

Please give serious consideration to a proposed 13-night cruise from Melbourne to New Zealand return departing Sunday, March 5 from Station Pier. The ship *Golden Princess* has a passenger capacity of 2600 and provides a most comfortable and relaxing cruise. We berth at six locations in New Zealand covering both the North and South islands. Prices range from \$1799 to \$2499 pp dependant upon your choice of accommodation. Deposit payable by mid August, 2016.

A booking sheet is available at the functions desk.

John Green

Don't Forget Us

Onnie Wilson on the tragedy of Afghanistan; Secretary Alan Stevens presents Onnie with flowers; Paul Crompton and Barry Donaldson in conversation with Onnie



“...to be born a girl in Afghanistan is the most dangerous thing to happen to a girl anywhere...”

In the early 70s, with a background in teaching, Onnie Wilson set out to see the world in a used red Post Office Morris Minor van, heading for Nepal. However, the country that made the biggest impression on her was Afghanistan with its stunning scenery, wide open spaces and towering mountains. It was the start of a life dedicated to helping Afghanis move forward and a realisation, she says, that “there is more to any story than what appears in the newspaper.”

In her view, Afghanistan's greatest tragedy is that it is land-locked and bordered by three ex-soviet states as well as Iran, Pakistan and China; and affected by the constant attention of the United States, India and Saudi Arabia. Onnie remembers the days when Afghanistan was just a normal developing country but has been saddened by the recent history of violence and destruction and the increasing number of deaths and injury in a population whose neighbours (and Big Powers) vie for control. “It is,” she says, “a country continually at war in which ordinary Afghanis are pawns in a power play.” The USSR, the Cold War, the vicious Northern Alliance, the Taliban, the Twin Towers in September 2001 and the subsequent US/UK invasion and continuing chaos have left the people at the mercy of local war lords - armed and battle-hardened - and foreign armies, including Australia. Afghanistan has been thrown into poverty and cultural and social stagnation; no post office, no centralised water supply and no electricity. It faces insecurity and little progress, where women live in fear and subjugation; to be born a girl in Afghanistan is the most dangerous thing to happen to a girl anywhere: 60% are married by age 16, often to older men, married to pay off a debt. They can be executed for ‘adultery’ having done no more than walk down a street with a boy - or experience rape. Many are widows with no breadwinner, no social security, no education; their only resort is begging. Health and birth problems often lead to opium/heroin addiction and many of the most significant and inspiring women leaders have been assassinated by the Taliban. Onnie Wilson left us with the clear impression that it is an almost hopeless situation; yet Afghani women plead: Don't forget us.

Peter McGregor

Port Fairy Golf 2017

When: March 22, 23, and 24

Cost: \$285 per golfer and \$200 per non golfer.

International Wine Appreciation

Our wine tasting group had a wonderful afternoon on June 28. Rod Kelly had chosen seven wines from three countries – Spain, Argentina and Chile. A bottle of Montes Alpha chardonnay from Chile was widely acclaimed. The other six were a variety of red wines: Montes Alpha cabernet sauvignon 2011 (\$25) was voted #1; second was Tres Picos grenache 2013 (\$25) from Spain and third was Montes Purple Angel carmenere 2013 (\$70) from Chile. Animated discussion on the wines and other matters made for a great wine tasting. Next tasting: Tuesday August 30.

Roger Wilson

“I've been on a calendar, but never on time.”

Marilyn Monroe

When asked if she had anything on for the 1949 nude calendar shoot, Marilyn replied: “Yes; I had the radio on.”

Golf In His Blood

For a bloke who never made the headlines in golf, Dick Kirby has a remarkable track record as well as a distinguished career in golf administration, despite having no family involvement in golf. He told us he began as a 10-year-old and first caddied at Metropolitan Golf Club at the age of 11. The first golf club he ever owned was a hickory 6-iron, later purchasing four clubs to make up a set of five. He then moved to Huntingdale Golf Club to continue his caddying where he regularly broke 80 - and won the club's Caddy Championship three times. At a mere 14, Dick won a membership at Brighton GC and at the ripe old age of 16, won the prestigious Caddy Championship of Victoria at Commonwealth GC over 36 holes. At 17, he joined Spring Valley GC with a handicap of 2 where in 1956 he became the first Junior ever to play Senior Pennant for the club, retiring from competition in 1973. But this was only the start of a new career in golf administration, eventually becoming President of the VGA from 2002-07. Not many can boast such elevated achievements (and all in 10 minutes).

Peter McGregor



Probus Club of Beaumaris

Events Calendar



Tuesday July 12	9.30 am Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday July 13	10.30 am Golden Days Radio Tour	1236 Glenhuntly Rd Carnegie
Tuesday July 19	8.45 am Investment Group 10 am GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Friday July 22	Bike Ride	
Tuesday July 26	9.30 am Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday July 26	2 pm Digital Technology	25 Third St Black Rock
Tuesday August 2	PRISMS	25 Third St Black Rock
Thursday August 4	6.30 pm Tastes	Saltimbocca, Cheltenham ★
Tuesday August 9	2 pm Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Friday August 12	9.30 am Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Tuesday August 16	8.45 Investment Group 10 am GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Wednesday August 17	10 am Guided Tour of Melbourne Cricket Club /MCG	★
Wednesday August 24	7 pm Music Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Friday August 26	Bike Ride	
Tuesday August 30	2 pm Wine Appreciation	Roger Wilson's Residence
Wednesday August 31	10 am Degas Exhibition	NGV ★
Wednesday August 31	Brighton Theatre Group	
Friday September 16	Beaumaris Probus Golf Day	Spring Valley GC ★
Wednesday October 26	A Castlemaine Experience	



From the NGV's Degas Exhibition



July 2016

Probus Bank details: CBA BSB 063-144
Account No 10121288

★ Payment required