

NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

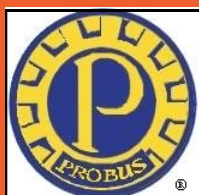
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Issue No. 308

March 2016

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday March 15 The Sandringham Club

Keynote Speaker: Tim Wilson former Human Rights Commissioner

Topic: Advancing Human Rights in Australia

AGM : No 10-Minute Speaker



Our Keynote Speaker for March, Tim Wilson, is a public policy analyst and commentator who was the Australian Human Rights Commissioner from 2014 until his resignation in 2016. He was also a policy director of the Institute of Public Affairs for seven years. Dubbed the 'Freedom Commissioner', Tim is a proud defender of universal, individual human rights. As Commissioner, he focused on preserving a legal environment and culture that values free speech, religious freedom, free association and property rights with a specific focus on removing impediments that stop the ability of Indigenous Australians to use their land for economic development.

West Head Gunnery Range, Flinders



Above: Alan Stevens, John Green and Ken Beadle doing some of the heavy lifting



16 Probus members and guests witnessed naval recruits put through their paces at the Flinders Gunnery School on February 22. More p5...

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

*** Office Bearers 2016**

* President: Kevin McDonnell	9598 8209	* Vice-President: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507
* Past President: Peter Harford	9592 6797	* Secretary: Alan Stevens	9597 0235
* Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9589 4884	Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546
* Activities: Ken Beadle	9589 6120	* Assistant Functions: John Green	9580 6820
* Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593	Assistant Meetings: Keith Ross	9589 3580
Almoner: Andrew Watson	9589 5913	Archive & Grapevine: Roy Petch	9589 5757
President's Table: David Robertson	9551 1930	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
* 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

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Kevin McDonnell

With my term coming to an end, this month marks my final newsletter message as President. It has been a great pleasure and honour to serve you over the past 12 months. The year has been another successful one for the club, in no small part due to the hard work of the office bearers and interest group coordinators. We are indeed fortunate to have so many members willing and prepared to make a contribution to the ongoing running of the club. I will have more to say on this at the AGM on March 15.

In 2015, two new interest groups - Wine Appreciation and Bridge - were established, as well as the very successful relaunch of the annual golfing trip, with both being strongly supported.

I was pleased with the range of keynote speakers that I was able to provide throughout the year. I endeavoured to introduce a variety of speakers with different backgrounds who would inform, challenge and hopefully entertain you. We are truly indebted to the speakers who graciously gave up their time to come along to present to us.

In March we are fortunate to have as our keynote speaker, Tim Wilson, the retired Human Rights Commissioner who will be talking on the subject of advancing human rights in Australia. Tim has been a tireless advocate for universal and individual rights.

In closing I would like to thank members for their support and encouragement provided to me over the past 12 months in my role as President.



Left: Pictures from morning tea – Above: John Smyth, Eric Slater, David Robertson, Alan Trumble, Ken Reed, Brian Reynolds; Below: Richard Phillips, President Kevin, Bill Cruthers, Tony Bowles



Right: Members and wives at The Lobster Cave in February

Pictures: Ian Maskiell



Above: Keynote Speaker Denis Dragovic with members (from left) Geoff Cupples, Alan Farmer, Mev Connell ; Below: Secretary Alan Stevens makes the presentation



Left: Alan Farmer presents David Robertson from SGC with the annual Challenge Cup



NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group: 8.45 am

Rob Wilkinson Maxwell Collins Real Estate

Topic: Property Investment in Bayside

Those who reside in Bayside and have their own homes and investment properties will find this highly informative session of particular interest



Bike Group

We enjoyed a perfect day for the February ride, a 26



Forever Bikes: from the Ai Weiwei /Andy Warhol exhibition at the NGV – the humble bike is used in art in China as a symbol of freedom

km return run from Brighton to Pier 35 Yacht club. On this ride we were delighted to welcome two new members into our group - John O'Connor and Peter Morris. Our normal March bike ride will not proceed due to the 4th Friday being the Easter weekend.

Noel Ineson

Music Group will meet 7 pm Wednesday, March 23.

Opera and Music

An attendance sheet will be available at the AGM. The program will include excerpts from a musical as well as a range of items by famous composers. BA

Discussion Groups

Barry Amond

At their meetings on Tuesday March 8 at 2 pm and Friday March 11 at 9.30 am, the groups will discuss 'Defence' following the release of the government's white paper. In February, discussions ranged over a number of current topics including the possibility that Donald Trump might well become the presidential nomination for the Republican Party. Other topics included Bayside development rules, Cecil Rhodes and overhead railway lines. We even touched on our own Probus club and agreed that it is an excellent club but could benefit from greater participation by members in many of our wide range of activities.

Japanese Tastes

When: Thursday April 21 6.30 pm

Where: Japan Inn Keys Street Beaumaris

Annual Subscriptions

Geoff Carlson

Annual subs are due and payable January 1 each year. As it is now March and there are still some subscriptions outstanding, payment (\$70) at the next general meeting or direct to our bank account, or by cheque to Geoff Carlson, Treasurer, 22 First Street, Black Rock 3193, is urgently requested.

The next meeting of the Digital Technology Group will be held on Tuesday March 29 - a couple of weeks early to fit in with key personnel travel arrangements. Topics to be discussed include 3D printers, Microsoft Band 2 watch (cf Apple watch), beating jetlag and other topics suggested by members prior to the meeting. An attendance sheet will be available at the March general meeting.

Members' Register

Geoff Wade

Many photos were taken at our last meeting in an effort to have all photos in the register in colour but there are still a few yet to be taken; I will have the camera at the ready at the March meeting. The 2016 Register will be distributed by email during the first two weeks of April so if there are any changes to your details, please advise me ASAP.

Theatre

Tony Bowles

Your last chance! Payment for *Singin' in the Rain* and *The Sound of Music* must be paid by the March meeting. We have the minimum number for *Singin' in the Rain* which is on Wednesday May 18 at Her Majesty's at 1 pm. Dress Circle tickets: \$71 each. We can take more so check at the functions desk. At this stage, we have bookings for only seven members for *The Sound of Music*. Unless we can reach the minimum of 12, we will have to relinquish the tickets for the show Wednesday June 1 at 1 pm at the Regent. Cost: \$66 pp. Please contact Functions to confirm your bookings or make new ones. These are great shows and have good reviews.

Probus Travel Insurance Benefit

Both current Travel Insurance plans have been expanded from covering the Probus Member & Guest to include immediate family members. [Website](#). Alan Stevens

Probus South Pacific Website

You can now gain greater access to the [website](#). Click on the Club Administration tab and use your membership number as the login and password. Your number is listed next to your name in the Members' Register. Alan Stevens

Birthday Boys—March

Tony Avery 10/3	Bill Baker 9/3
John Bushby 20/3	Mev Connell 11/3
Bill Cruthers 17/3	Alan Farmer 27/3
Michael Harwood 6/3	John Howe 13/3
Martin Joyce 19/3	Graeme Keys 8/3
Ian Maskiell 27/3	Ted Montfort 24/3
Alan Nash 6/3	David O'Loughlin 10/3
John Pound 6/3	Brian Simpson 10/3
Bruce Tomkins 16/3	Ken White 29/3

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

March

Ken Beadle

Annual Croquet Challenge Competition and Beef Spit Roast Friday March 18



Thanks to Jenny Sandringham Croquet Club (opposite the Sandringham Club on the foreshore) for a fun evening from 4 - 8 pm. Jenny and Tony, with other croquet club members, will show us how to play - no special skills required. The handsome trophy will again be up for grabs. The club greens accommodate a maximum of 40 players. At the time of writing, there were still six places remaining.

Cost: \$35 pp (includes croquet and all food). BYO drinks. Registration and payment by March 15.

April

Lingering and Loitering in Melbourne's Laneways Wednesday April 13



This approximately 2½ hour walk led by [Jill Hauser](#) explores little-known laneways in the east end of the city. Learn about hidden bars and nightlife, the many highlights of Melbourne's street art, plus a bit of history including the old Eastern Market, Squizzy Taylor and the infamous Gun Alley Murder. We make our own way to Federation Square where the walk will commence at 10 am. Cost: \$20 pp (includes coffee and a snack). Registration and payment no later than April 8. Limited to 14 people. Book early to secure your place. Meet at the entrance to the Atrium of Federation Square opposite the corner of Russell Street and Flinders Street at 9.50 am.

NOTE: Our April walk is on the recommendation of Gill Tomkins and could be the first of a very interesting series.

Visit to Yarra Valley and Nellie Melba's Cottage: We have seats on the bus for the 21 members and guests who registered on or before our January general meeting. Beaumaris Bay is organising this trip and have advised that the repeat visit for members on our wait list will have to wait until Spring.

Dates for your diary: Major social events in 2016 are the Candlelight Dinner on Tuesday June 14 and the President's Christmas Lunch on Friday December 9. Please reserve these dates in your diary now.

NZ Cruise

John Green

Plans are in hand for a 13-night cruise to both the North and South islands of New Zealand departing from Port Melbourne on March 5, 2017. Prices depend upon the level you book: Interior fares commence at \$1899, ocean view fares commence at \$2599 and balcony fares commence at \$2899. All prices are per person twin share and inclusive of all meals. Single travellers either share or pay double the price quoted. We will visit seven ports. The vessel, [Golden Princess](#), has a passenger capacity of 2600 and is 290m in length. Sources suggest the ambience, entertainment and hospitality are second to none and lifts are numerous. A booking sheet will be available at the functions table and early expressions of interest would be appreciated.

Albert Einstein

□ Not everything that counts can be counted.

Not everything that can be counted counts. □

March 2016

Visit to the West Head Gunnery Range, Flinders (continued)

At the Flinders Gunnery School in February, we witnessed anti-aircraft gun firing at a moving target, the latter being a safe 2km behind the towing plane. With the firing runs complete, we ventured on to the weapons deck which included machine guns and a 76mm long range gun, where we were able to view the magazine/shell hoist system. The Station Commander succinctly explained to us the intricacies of modern naval warfare with its highly computerised control systems. This excellent, very instructive visit was appreciated by 16 Probus members and friends.

Ken Beadle



Above: Dennis Dragovic, Geoff Cupples, Alan Farmer and Graham Wearne in discussion; Right: ISIS

Playing into the Hands of Islamic State

Members were fortunate to have Denis Dragovic, an expert in international affairs and religion, speak at the February meeting. His clarification of the problems associated with Australia attempting to combat Islamic State (ISIL/ISIS) led many of us to appreciate the almost impossible and counter-productive task.

At present the battle against Islamic State may be at a standstill but to have some appreciation of who/what our enemy is requires acceptance that it is not a terrorist group but a rogue state within the Middle East. As such it has local support, infrastructure, a consumer protection unit and an education system based on a fundamentalist doctrine with its roots in the 7th Century, believing it to be the purest form of Islam - a vastly more radical doctrine than what is followed by the great majority of Muslims. ISIS sees countries like Australia as secular societies with no belief in God, Dr Dragovic said.

~~ISIS grew out of a failure of the West to understand the tribal and religious cultures in Iraq and Syria~~

~~He said that ISIS grew out of a failure of the West to understand the tribal and religious cultures in Iraq and Syria and that we have failed to connect with the very people who are suffering and dying every day. However, he believes that ultimately ISIS will not succeed as history shows that there will be an uprising of the people it enslaves and brutalises. In not accepting the religious views, traditions or social norms of the people, it is making a fatal mistake. We have had the good fortune to have excellent speakers at our meetings and Denis certainly met that standard. A most impressive presentation.~~

John Bushby



Bruce
ing talk

love of journalism kept us interested and amused as he traced some of the highlights of his career. By espousing the truism that a person who works at something he loves never goes to work, he immediately gained our attention. Clearly, a staid life behind a desk has not been part of his journey. Stories of his many encounters with characters as exotic and diverse as British MP John Stonehouse, Ronnie and Charmaine Biggs and the Beatles, clearly impressed us as a man who has seen it all. Members thoroughly enjoyed Bruce's sparkling 10-minute presentation.

John Bushby

Melbourne's Edinburgh Military Tattoo

On a sunny afternoon in February, 27 members, friends and partners attended Etihad Stadium to be thrilled by bands, pipers, dancers and performers from around the world; and, at times, up to 1200 on stage (as it were). Pipers from Scotland, marching girls from New Zealand, highland dancers from Australia, Swiss kettle drums, and ethnic groups from around the Pacific. There were many moving moments – combined bands playing some of the tunes from Gallipoli and the crowd joining in *I Still Call Australia Home* – not to mention fireworks and the Lone Piper playing from the castle ramparts. A most memorable show.

Tony Bowles

A breathtaking performance that defines spectacular with its unique blend of military ceremony, music and entertainment



How I Met Ronnie Biggs

Probus Club of Beaumaris Events Calendar

Tuesday March 8	10 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday March 15	8.45 am	Investment Group	Sandringham Club
	10 am	GENERAL MEETING and AGM	
Tuesday March 8	2 pm	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Friday March 11	9.30 am	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Wednesday March 9	10.30 am	Annual Bowls Day	Burden Park Bowls Club
Friday March 18	4–8 pm	Croquet & Spit Roast	Sandringham Croquet Club
Tuesday March 22	10 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday March 23	7pm	Music Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday March 29	2 pm	Digital Technology	25 Third Street Black Rock
Thursday March 31		Dame Nellie Melba's Garden	Yarra Valley
Wednesday April 13		Melbourne's Laneways Walk	★
April 11–13		Annual Golf Trip	Port Fairy GC ★
Tuesday April 19	8.45 am	Investment Group	Sandringham Club
	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	
Thursday April 21	6.30 pm	Japanese Tastes	★
Friday April 22		Bike Ride	
Tuesday April 26	2 pm	PRISMS	Bill Davis' Residence
Tuesday May 17	8.45 am	Investment Group	Sandringham Club
	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	
Wednesday May 18	1 pm	Singin'in the Rain	Her Majesty's Theatre ★

IMPORTANT: FOR THOSE WHO WOULD PREFER THE PICTURES IN THIS NEWSLETTER TO BE A BIT LARGER, SIMPLY HOLD THE CNTRL KEY AND ROTATE THE SCROLL WHEEL ON YOUR MOUSE TO MAKE THEM AS LARGE AS YOU WISH.

Probus Bank details: CBA BSB 063-144
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★ Payment required

March 2016