

# NEWSLETTER

**PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.**

Reg No. A 001- 6598G

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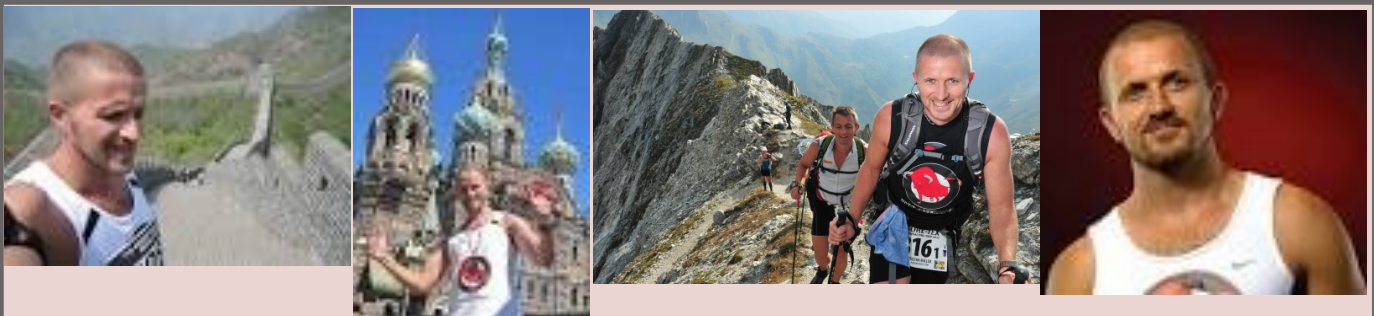
**Issue No. 298**

**April 2015**

**Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday April 21 The Sandringham Club**

**Keynote Speaker: Tristan Miller**  
**Topic: How Running Changed My Life**  
**52 Marathons in 42 Countries in 52 weeks**

**10-Minute Speaker: Dr Phillip Stewart – Perishing the Publishing**



*Tristan Miller ran 52 international marathons in 52 weeks in 2010. He had spent many years working in ad sales before the 'call of the wild' took hold, a call prompted by the global economic crisis in which he was retrenched from Google. Instead of looking for a new job, he decided to take on a new challenge. His tales of heroism and misfortune are dynamic and engaging, and his ability to sift through the lessons of his year and give insight into the profound changes that he went through has audiences engrossed in his story.*



**Islamic Museum of Art Tuesday March 24**

21 members and partners enjoyed an excellent presentation and Q&A on Islam by Museum Director, Shereen Hassan, followed by her guided tour of the six museum galleries covering several aspects of Islamic culture. Some members may recall that Shereen was the speaker at a Club meeting a few years ago. The visit concluded with a plentiful, delicious lunch at Samira's modern Middle Eastern café.

## **PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.**

### **Office Bearers 2015**

* President: <b>Kevin McDonnell</b>	9598 8209	* Vice-President: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	9589 1507
* Past President: <b>Peter Harford</b>	9592 6797	* Secretary: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	9597 0235
* Treasurer: <b>Geoff Carlson</b>	9589 4884	Auditor: <b>Don Lobb</b>	9598 5546
* Activities: <b>Ken Beadle</b>	9589 6120	* Assistant Functions: <b>John Green</b>	9580 6820
* Meetings: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593	Assistant Meetings: <b>Keith Ross</b>	9589 3580
Almoner: <b>Andrew Watson</b>	9589 5913	Archive & Grapevine: <b>Roy Petch</b>	9589 5757
President's Table: <b>David Robertson</b>	9551 1930	Sommelier: <b>Bill Green</b>	9596 1548
Speakers' Recorder: <b>John Bushby</b>	9598 7113	Audio Visual: <b>Paul Crompton</b>	9583 1310
Projectionist: <b>Philip Stewart</b>	9589 3309	* Committee Members	

### **Interest Groups**

Bike Riding: <b>Noel Ineson</b>	9589 5263	Bowls: <b>Ted Montfort</b>	9589 5949
Discussion: <b>Barry Amond</b>	9589 1143	Digital Technology: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593
Investment: <b>Peter Harford</b>	9592 6797	Music/Opera: <b>Barry Amond</b>	9589 1143
PRISMS: <b>Bill Davis</b>	9592 5982	Tastes: <b>Peter McGregor</b>	9533 4760
Theatre: <b>Tony Bowles</b>	9598 7973	Wine Appreciation: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	9589 3907

9589

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**



### **Kevin McDonnell**

The commemoration of Anzac Day 2015 promises to be of epic proportions that would likely be unrecognisable to people a century ago. It is interesting to reflect on how the commemoration of Anzac Day has changed and evolved since inception and especially in our lifetime.

Living in a digital world as we do now, we are able to read online the newspapers of the day, read war diaries and view all manner of records maintained by the defence department. These help to give a perspective relevant to the times. The commemoration of the landing at Gallipoli had humble beginnings – first held in 1916 with a range of ceremonies and services throughout Australia and New Zealand and a march through the streets of London by over 2000 serving troops. South Australia was, in fact, the first state to recognise Anzac Day when it renamed its Labour Day held on the 13th October, 1915, 'Anzac Day'. The commemoration included a carnival to raise money for the Wounded Soldiers' Fund.

The commemoration of Anzac Day reached its highpoint in 1927 when John Monash led the march in Melbourne which included over 30,000 returned service men and many VC recipients. By 1927, all states had introduced a public holiday for Anzac Day.

During the 1960s there was a decline in interest in Anzac Day, reaching a low point in 1975. This was in part due to Australia's unpopular involvement in Vietnam. Anzac Day for many became just another public holiday.

In the early 1990s, you could attend the dawn service at the Shrine, as I did with my son, and have a ringside seat. In recent times, you would need to park your car at Fitzroy Street and walk the kilometre to the Shrine and then stand 50 deep for the service, such is the interest in Anzac Day.

On a trip to Canberra last September, I visited the War Memorial and was heartened to see the large number of school children visiting the memorial, buying souvenirs at the gift shop and laying poppies on the Roll of Honour. Brendan Nelson, Director of the Australian War Memorial, commented during the week that "young Australians are increasingly finding relevance to Anzac Day, not because they are enamoured with the madness of war but because the virtues forged at Gallipoli and in other theatres give them a sense of what it means to be an Australian."



Above: From left, Phillip Stewart checks the visuals; George Fabinyi quizzes Geoff Bransbury after his March talk; new President, Kevin McDonnell, is inducted into office; David Seedsman and Bill Cruthers at morning tea; and Ted Montfort rises to make an important announcement on bowls



# NOTICEBOARD

## Investment Group: 8.45–9.45 am

The group will convene as usual before the April meeting to consider an agenda for the coming year. Chair: Peter Harford

## Digital Technology Group

The Group met on April 7 when Geoff Bransbury gave a very interesting demonstration/explanation of how to write a blog and also how to transform that blog into a book. The next meeting will be Tuesday August 11. The topic/s will be advised at the July General Meeting. Geoff Wade

## Members' Register

Geoff Wade

The 2015 Members' Register is being finalised and should be ready for distribution by the April General Meeting. It will be sent by email to all those with an email address and a limited number of hard copies will be printed for those who do not have email.

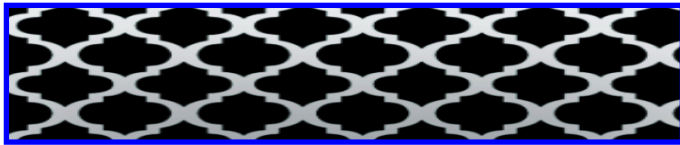
## TASTES

## BOOK NOW!

### MOROCCAN FEAST: FLAVOURS OF MARRAKESH

WHEN: Thursday May 21

Cost: \$45



WHERE: Casa del Moroc  
Beach Road Black Rock 6.30 pm  
Selected wines @ \$15 per bottle

A chance to say Bon Voyage to Geoff Bransbury

**NEXT: Italian** Peter McGregor

## Bike Group

Noel Ineson

Our next ride is Friday April 24. We will assemble as usual at the Black Rock beachside car park at 9 am and drive to the trail – a ride along the very popular Dandenong Creek Trail to Jells Park, with a return distance of 20 km and great sweeping views to the Dandenongs in the distance. Madeline's, the park café, provides a delightful morning coffee break.

## Music and Opera

Barry Amond

The Music Group's last meeting before the colder months will be at 7 pm on Wednesday April 29. Please complete the sheet at the meeting on April 21 or let me know by email. The Opera Group's next meeting will be on Wednesday August 26.

## Bowls

### WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

Between the years 2003 and 2012, car crashes claimed the lives of 8525 people in Australia; and some 417 people died from falling out of bed.

Michael West, *The Age* 14/3/15

At the Annual Open Probus Bowls Day at Burden Park on March 11, our club was represented by three teams skipped by Stan Bernhard, Allan Cox and Ted Montfort. Due to health reasons, we had to replace several of our bowlers with members from other Probus Clubs. All of our teams won their games and, to cap the day off, we were very proud to see Stan Bernhard's team win the day and collect the money. Ted Montfort



## Discussion

Barry Amond

At meetings on Friday April 10 and Tuesday April 14, the groups will discuss the 'Intergenerational Report' which was recently released and, among other things, forecasts increasing longevity and a higher percentage of retirees.

## Theatre

Tony Bowles

I have contacted the Mordialloc Theatre Company re: their future productions and I will advise you of these in future newsletters. If interested, please print your name on the sheet at the Functions Desk. Also, if you are interested in any of the following:

- The Glenn Miller Orchestra  
Hamer Hall, 7.30 pm, Sunday June 14. \$80
- The Grimethorpe Colliery Band (see below)  
Hamer Hall, 7.30 pm, Tuesday August 11. \$65



*The Grimethorpe Colliery Band is one of the world's most famous brass bands, based in Grimethorpe, South Yorkshire, England. It was formed in 1917.*

## Birthday Boys – April

Merv Davidson 9/4	Gerald Ettershank 6/4
John Fisher 16/4	John Opie 14/4
Richard Phillips 24/4	John Ragas 27/4
Brian Reynolds 7/4	Keith Ross 23/4
Alan Stevens 17/4	Noel Williams 5/4
Roger Wilson 10/4	

# FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

## Galleries of Remembrance and Shrine

**Wednesday, April 22**

With the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings on ANZAC day, it is timely for a visit/revisit to the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne's most iconic landmark. We will make our own way to the Shrine by car or train and meet in the newly-refurbished Visitor Centre at 10.50 am for a tour of the Shrine and its precincts commencing at 11 am. Following the 40-minute tour, we will visit the Galleries of Remembrance, newly-opened in November. The 1600 sq.m. Galleries are situated within the foundations and contain over 800 objects, extensive photographs, uniforms and works of art illustrating the experiences of Australians at war and in peace-keeping operations from the Boer War to the present day. There is no cost for this visit; however, the Shrine welcomes donations. Around 1 pm, interested members will meet at the Observatory Café for lunch at members own cost. Please register by April 21 so that the Shrine management can be advised of our numbers for the guided tour.

**Golden Age of China NGV**  
**Thursday, May 28**

**NEW**



**Thursday, June 25**



The Qianlong Emperor reigned for 60 years from 1736 to 1795 when China was the wealthiest and most populous nation in the world. This exhibition reveals the mystery and secrets of imperial life in the Forbidden City. We will travel independently to the National Gallery of Victoria and all meet at the exhibition entrance at 11.20 am for a guided tour commencing at 11.30. After the exhibition, you will have the option to have lunch at the NGV café at your own expense. Cost is \$16 per person which covers exhibition admission and guided tour. ***Please register and pay by May 25.***

## Annual Candlelight Dinner



This is

one of the major social functions of our Probus Year and will be held at the prestigious Sandringham Yacht Club, Jetty Road.

Price: \$65 per head, includes a two-course dinner plus coffee and drinks to a generous limit.

Time: 6.30 for 7.00 pm.

Please make a big effort to attend - register now.

## Advance Notice

**Catherine the Great exhibition to delight art lovers at Melbourne's NGV from July 1**



## Travel

Currently, we have a maximum of 12 possibles from our club for the proposed trip to China commencing Monday, October 5 (a minimum of 20 is required). The offer of the trip has been extended to Beaumaris Bay Probus and as yet there is no response from them. The travel agent has extended our deadline to April 30. We should not overlook the fact that the \$A may have adverse implications for us. As usual, a booking sheet will be available at the Functions Desk. I hope to be able to finalise our position no later than April 24.

In our last newsletter, mention was made of a proposed 6-day trip on the vessel *Proud Mary* along the Murray in South Australia. The vessel has 18 cabins with provision for two people in each cabin. The cost of the trip is \$2530 with a single fare of \$3615. A minimum number of 10 is required and again a booking sheet is available at the Functions Desk. Brochures are available. A non-refundable deposit of \$300 is required at time of booking and the balance no later than July 13.

John Green



## From Vladivostok to London

Incoming Vice-President Geoff Bransbury gave us a fascinating, illustrated talk on his travels on *Azulo* his trusty Kawasaki KLR 650 motorbike through 15 countries and over 25 000 km. Preparation included training by a Kawasaki mechanic and some Russian lessons from Anya Fabiny. In his fascinating talk, Geoff concentrated on the parts of the world largely unfamiliar to us.



For example, in Russia, Victory Day is celebrated differently from our ANZAC Day, especially a show of military might followed by a parade of younger people carrying photos and posters of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. His experience was that communication technology in Russia is six times as good as here - Google maps, GPS, and translation programs and Skype were readily available; and Geoff was in constant contact with Merry, his wife, who acted as his travel agent. The only time Geoff felt in danger was when he camped in a field off-road. On one occasion, a car drove up, stopped, four Russians got out and looked in his direction. One drove off; but after the sound of a gunshot he returned; then all got into the car and drove away. Geoff did not go to sleep that night!!



He found that the houses were generally poor but the many churches in the villages were magnificent. However, the food from Vladivostok to Turkey was terrible. The roads varied from bitumen highways to narrow causeways and sometimes fast-flowing river beds. Massive potholes are not uncommon. Border crossings are a nightmare of paperwork and delays. Everywhere he went he found that Lenin is always venerated but Stalin is not, while Putin is lauded. When asked, people had no problems with Russia retaking the Crimea, or the Ukraine, as these were originally Russian, they said. Geoff was surprised to learn that there have been several civil wars in many of the 'stans' - but few of them are reported in the West. In Iran, he always felt very safe; however Ramadan is not the best time for Westerners to visit. Geoff's full diary can be found at *dopeyoldbloke* and is well worth reading. He is now planning a motorbike ride through USA and Canada. (One interesting

fact he learnt towards the end of his epic journey is that wine in Paris at a Michelin restaurant can cost \$60 a glass!) Congratulations, Geoff, on a fantastic trip brilliantly presented. Thanks for sharing your adventures in such an interesting and memorable way.

Ron Hunter

## Appreciation



Geoff Bransbury would like to thank sincerely Phillip Stewart and Geoff Wade for their co-operation and support in making his presentation at the March meeting.

## Our Greek Banquet at Theo's

At the end of March, Mr Theo put on his usual high



quality Grand Greek Repast for Probus members – gyros, chicken souvlaki, biftekia, saganaki, calamari and dolmathes – over a bottle or two of Chapel Hill Parson's Nose shiraz and Brown Brothers' pinot grigio. A very pleasant Tastes night for all involved.

## Warren Buffet's Dietary Advice

I never tire of insights into one of the world's greatest ever investors...one fact that always makes me chuckle is Warren's diet. [He] claims he stays young by having at least five cokes a day and consuming around 2700 calories, including a bunch of potato sticks, with ice cream for breakfast on 'special' days. ...the fact that he owns around 9 percent of Coca-Cola through Berkshire Hathaway is not the driver. In an interview with *Fortune* he said that he "checked the actuarial tables, and the lowest death rate is among six-year-olds", so he "...decided to eat like a six-year-old." Warren has also beaten prostate cancer and could be taken as living proof that longevity has little to do with diet.

*Fat Prophets Newsletter*

# Probus Club of Beaumaris

# Events Calendar

<b>Tuesday April 21</b>	<b>8.45 10 am</b>	<b>Investment Group GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>Sandringham Club</b>
<b>Wednesday April 22</b>		<b>Shrine of Remembrance &amp; Galleries</b>	
<b>Friday April 24</b>		<b>Bike Ride</b>	
<b>Tuesday April 28</b>	<b>3 pm</b>	<b>PRISMS</b>	<b>The Davis Residence</b>
<b>Wednesday April 29</b>	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>Music Group</b>	<b>25 Third Street Black Rock</b>
<b>Tuesday May 19</b>	<b>8.45 10 am</b>	<b>Investment Group GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>Sandringham Club</b>
<b>Thursday May 21</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>Tastes</b>	<b>Casa del Moroc</b>
<b>Friday May 29</b>		<b>Bike Ride</b>	
<b>Sunday June 14</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Glenn Miller Band</b>	<b>Hamer Hall</b>
<b>Tuesday June 16</b>	<b>8.45 10 am</b>	<b>Investment Group GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>Sandringham Club</b>
<b>Friday June 26</b>		<b>Bike Ride</b>	

*Below: Members at leisure. From left: Gus Bravo, Noel Williams and Jim McGann chatting over morning tea; Geoff Mason, Andy Watson, Les Hall, Brian Burton and Ken Beadle deep in conversation; John Pound, Noel Ineson and Mike Read sip tea and discuss important matters of the day; Keith Ross is presented with his prestigious trophy for winning the 2015 Croquet Challenge; Members at lunch: Barry Amond, Bill Cruthers, Geoff Bransbury et al*



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