



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

Correspondence to: PO Box 57 Black Rock VIC 3193



Issue No.276

April 2013

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday April 16 at The Sandringham Club

Keynote Speaker: Jillian Hocking

Coordinator, Screen & Media (Integrated Journalism) at Swinburne University of Technology ... Formerly Head of Radio Broadcasting at United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

Topic: Afghanistan: More Than Bombs and Burkas

10-Minute Speaker: Rod Murrell

The Road to Mandalay

"Kabul is surrounded by what's called a ring of steel, so there are check points everywhere, literally on every street corner there are check points, there are guns," she said. Though her descriptions were not all consistent with the rubble we might see on the television news. "The city of Kabul is absolutely fascinating, and I want people to understand that Afghanistan and Kabul itself is an extraordinary city, and I used to love driving round (the city) in the armoured vehicles... it's amazing...." Jillian Hocking says.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

PETER MCGREGOR



rewarding programs of one kind and another

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Everyone remembers the lovable bulky Norm, created by advertising guru Phillip Adams for the Victorian government to encourage us all to 'get involved'. The cartoon figure under the caption *Life: Be In It* challenged us to leave our television sets and inactivity behind and get out into the real world; in other words, our local community. The ads were such a success they captured the imagination of many thousands of people and went on to be adopted in other states and other parts of the world. One of the most effective public education campaigns ever! Now, here's the point: one of the main features that makes ours such a great club is the wide array of leisure activities and interests on offer – day trips, music and opera, theatre, discussion, digital technology, investment, bike riding, golf; not to mention the many food-and-wine excursions to interesting restaurants. The feature that makes our club stand out is the energy and imagination of our leaders - the

likes of Geoff Bransbury, Barry Amond, Geoff Wade and other key members of the club who tirelessly provide rewarding programs of one kind and another throughout the year. However, sometimes, some activities struggle to muster the numbers to make the effort worthwhile and have to be cancelled; sadly, a waste of someone's time. To paraphrase JFK, we shouldn't be asking, 'What can the Club do for me?' but 'What can I do to make ours an even better Club?' The answer, of course, is to **get involved**. If you can't be a leader, be an active participant. Please make time to look across the wide range of activities that are on offer month in, month out - activities that some of your fellow members have spent considerable time and energy planning and organising - and see where you can make a contribution to your Club by **getting involved**.

NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Meets as usual 8.45-9.45 am before General Meeting.

Topic: Current state of the Aussie investment climate
John Brimage and Alan Trumble will show a special presentation provided by Pitcher Partners.



Tastes

PLEASE PAY NOW

Tastes went to Okami last year and it was terrific, so we're going again and have negotiated a special deal. This year, we will have an 8-course banquet. Also, we break with tradition - selected wine is included in the cost of just \$45. Why not bring your friends?

When: Thursday May 2

Time: 6.30 pm

Where: Okami Japanese Restaurant

530 Hampton St Hampton

FINE WINES AND FINE FOOD! Come and join us.

Bikie Group

Our next ride is on Friday April 26.

This ride starts from Sandown Street, Brighton, riding around the Bayside bike path and along the Elwood Canal and Elster Creek to Elsternwick Park. We then return to the North Road tea house for a coffee break.

PLEASE NOTE: NO KNOWN LINKS TO CORRUPT POLICE! Noel Ineson



Russian Ballet

The Imperial Russian Ballet Company - a festival of Russian Ballet. A series of excerpts from the world's greatest ballets including *Giselle*, *Carmen*, *The Dying Swan*, *Le Corsair* and a Can-Can surprise. We have 20 seats for Sunday September 22 at 1.30 pm at the *Palais* with payment of \$90 per seat required by our June meeting.

Robert Dun

Keynote Speakers for 2013

This month's Keynote Speaker, Jillian Hocking, has worked for the UN in Afghanistan for a number of years.

She is a passionate advocate for the needs of the Afghani people. Her visit to us is especially timely because

Geoff Bransbury, our energetic Activities Leader, has organised a trip to see the Hidden Treasures of Afghanistan exhibition at the Melbourne Museum in June which would be an excellent follow-up to her address. Then, next month, we are expecting to be addressed by Lindsay Fox AC, entrepreneur and founder of Linfox Industries. The following month, Capt Steve Ager, a Qantas A380 training captain - a member of Victoria Golf Club - will address us. A bit later in the year, Professor David Penington will talk to us about his involvement with the development of the bionic eye.



Music Group

The last meeting before the winter recess will be on Wednesday May 29.

Howlong Golf 2013

Bookings are now being taken for the Howlong golf trip, October 26-31. A great time is assured - non-golfing partners welcome. Deposit of \$20 per couple (\$10 per single) payable at time of booking. Contact Geoff Wade (9588 2593) to guarantee your place.

Digital Technology Group

The next meeting of the group will be on Tuesday May 7 at 25 Third Street, Black Rock, at 2 pm. There will be an update on developments in some of the previous topics. All previous attendees will be asked for suggestions and offers of topics. A list of topics will be sent with the agenda the week before and an attendance sheet will be available at the April general meeting.

Geoff Wade

Bowls

As many will have realised, the Annual Probus Bowls Tournament for 2013 was cancelled because of the extreme heat. Same time next year.

Ted Montfort

Leaders & Activities 2013

Almoner: Andrew Watson	9589 5913	Investment: Barry Donaldson	9598 6446
Archive & Grapevine: Roy Petch	9589 5757	Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
Assistant Functions: John Green	9580 6820	Newsletter: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310	President's Table: Alan Stevens	9597 0235
Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546	PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982
Bowls: Ted Montfort	9589 5949	Sommelier: Bob Matthews	9583 9958
Bike Riding: Noel Ineson	9589 5263	Speakers' Recorder: Alan Williams	9598 7550
Digital Technology: Geoff Wade	9588 2593	Tastes: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Discussion: Barry Amond	9589 1143	Theatre: Robert Dun	9589 5456



2013 Annual General Meeting: Under the watchful eye of Secretary, John Howe, 2012 President Bruce Tomkins, prepares to hand over to new President Peter McGregor



For those who have wondered about the chain of office that is usually worn by the current President of Beaumaris Probus, it is made up of 27 badges from each of our past presidents beginning with Claus Gloe, Inaugural President, 1987-1988. And it's getting heavy!



Left: Simon Briggs of Pitcher Partners talks to the Investment Group about self-managed super funds at the March meeting

Julia's Promise

The Investment Group met as usual at 8.45 am in March and welcomed Simon Briggs, Senior Adviser from Pitcher Partners Investment Services. Members were especially interested in his comments regarding new ATO penalties for SMSF trustees, plus being aware of complex regulations and tax liabilities that may be incurred in changing trustees in the estate planning phase, particularly within the family. Simon's views on the May federal budget included a possible increase in tax on super fund earnings but no change in taxes on super payments for retirees over 60 - a promise from Prime Minister Julia Gillard!

Alan Williams

Bumpy New Zealand Cruise

Geoff Wade

On March 16, five members of Beaumaris Probus and their wives set sail for a leisurely 13-day cruise around New Zealand aboard the *Dawn Princess*. Three days of very bumpy seas lay ahead resulting in 700 passengers seeking treatment for sea-sickness. However, the travel down the east coast of NZ was uneventful: visits to Auckland, Tauranga, Napier, Wellington, Akaroa and Port Chalmers (Dunedin) and finally cruising fjordland. The trip back across the Tasman Sea was not as bad as the first three days but still not a mill-pond. Right: See picture of happy group – safe and sound at Milford Sound.

Right: Our group on the Melbourne-NZ cruise on the Dawn Princess last month. Left to right: Rod & Ros Murrell, Geoff & Margaret Wade, Allan & Margaret Taylor, John & Barbara Opie, Margaret & Barry Amond.



April 2013

New Members

►► G J SEBO (Garry & Pat) ►►

27 Cherbourg Ave, Beaumaris, 3193. 9583 2582,
0419 340565,
patgar@bigpond.com. Born Sandringham, 1941.
LLB(hons) FCPA, FTIA. Comm Stat Tax (1979-
1992) Partner, Hall & Wilcox Lawyers. Golf,
AFL, Freemasonry, [Club '13]

◄◄ P S B STEWART (Philip & Wendy) ◄◄

21 Gareth Ave, Beaumaris, 3193. 9589 3309.
psb_stewart@yahoo.com.
Born Sydney, 1936. ASTC, PhD, MSc, BLitt. Chemical Eng. Mineral processing. Rugby union. [Club '13]

Office Bearers 2013

President:	Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Vice-President:	Peter Harford	9592 6797
PPresident:	Bruce Tomkins	9591 0076
Secretary:	John Howe	9598 2429
Treasurer:	Geoff Carlson	9589 4884
Functions&Activities:		
	Geoff Bransbury	0416294452
Meetings:	Duncan Gibson	9585 3547
Asst Meetings:	Geoff Wade	9588 2593

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

Dr Phillip Stewart in the process of achieving the near-impossible at the March meeting—telling his life story in about two minutes. Soon after, Garry Sebo also showed how it could be done.



Based on the \$18.87 billion that Gina Rinehart earned in 2011, it would take the average Australian 349 366 years to earn her income.

John Howe, left, and outgoing President Bruce, right, chat to Barry Peel whose fleet of boats still offers patrons lunch cruises to Metung and other exotic locations on the lakes including visits to wineries



Plying the Gippsland Lakes

When Barry Peel's grandfather returned after WW1, he began building boats on the Gippsland Lakes at Paynesville. By 1920 he was operating cruises on the lakes and environs in his first passenger vessel. Barry's grandfather and parents built a successful business ferrying passengers on cruises around the lakes system until the death of his father - whereupon Barry joined the company, only to discover himself embroiled in the trials and tribulations of an under-capitalised family business. He proceeded to borrow large sums of money to buy out his brother's interest in the company and build a large catamaran vessel with a capacity for 125 passengers cruising at 21 knots, valued at \$1,000,000. The company is still based in Paynesville, after 93 years in business. In spite of agitation from various ecological groups on the health of the lakes, Barry assured us the system is as clean as ever; however, the ocean fishing fleet is diminishing because of ever-escalating charges and regulations, plus the invasion of foreign boats accessing our fishing grounds. Consequently, the pleasure of buying fresh fish direct from the fishing boats at Lakes Entrance is no more.

Alan Williams

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE THIS PAGE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

May

BY REQUEST MID-YEAR SPECIAL

Puffing Billy, Gourmet light lunch and Devonshire Tea on board! Wednesday May 15

Your last Chance...Only a few places left!

The Dandenongs will be in full colour as we puff along the tracks in our own, special restaurant car, nibbling on a gourmet light lunch (assortment of cured meats, smoked salmon, seasonal roast vegetables, pate, mushrooms, olives and aioli, cheeses, breads etc.) We spend a little time at Emerald Lakeside Park and then on the return trip have scones with jam and cream with tea/coffee. Wine, beers and soft drinks available at reasonable prices. Travel to Belgrave and back in shared cars (volunteers required).

We've negotiated a very special price of \$55 which includes lunch, Devonshire tea and ticket. Amazing value. Please pass NOW.

June

NOT TO BE MISSED

Hidden Treasures of Afghanistan

Melbourne Museum

Wednesday June 19

A magnificent visiting exhibition. Remarkable, ancient



artefacts only recently discovered. Amazing stories of intrigue and bravery!

Afghanistan was at the heart of the Silk Road, the trading route travelled by people such as Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan and Marco Polo, linking ancient Iran, Central Asia, India and China.

These artefacts were thought lost or destroyed in war, but in 2003, they were uncovered from vaults in the presidential palace where they had been placed in secrecy by a few courageous staff from the National Museum, Kabul.

We have reserved tickets for a special 10.30 viewing. When we know numbers we will decide whether to organise bus, cars or train.

Tickets: \$16 for Concession or \$12 Museum Member. Book ASAP so we can finalise everything early.

These artefacts were thought lost or destroyed in war



April 2013
July

Annual Candlelight Dinner

Tuesday July 9



This is one of the key functions of our Probus year. This year we go to Sandy on the Bay (better known as the Sandy Football Club). The room is lovely with wonderful views of the bay, lots of parking, elevator access. The food is reputed to be excellent and the company second to none!

Price \$57 includes two-course dinner and coffee and drinks to a generous limit.

Time: 7 pm for 7.30. Please come. REGISTER NOW.

August RARE OPPORTUNITY

Tour of Desalination Plant, Lunch

Wednesday August 21 More details next month

Report: Willie Wanderers Lick Ice-Creams

See pictures below. "Not only that," writes Eric Slater, "on our day trip to Williamstown, we were among the first to see the Sea Shepherd anti-whaling vessels *Steve Irwin*, *Bob Barker* and *Sam Simon* just three hours after they berthed from months in Antarctic waters." He urges us all to make a greater effort to join in Club activities. "Why not put pen to paper and get your name, with partner, on the list for the next trip," he says. "They are experiences you will really enjoy." What more is there to be said?

