



Newsletter

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

Correspondence to Box 57 PO Black Rock VIC 3193



Issue No. 251

January 2011



Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday January 18 at St Martin's Uniting Church See p2

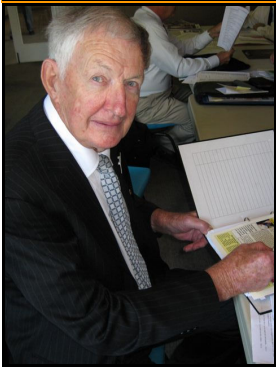
Investment Group: No meeting this month

10-Minute Speaker: Kevin McDonnell Scanning Documents and Photos

Keynote Speaker: Graham 'Smokey' Dawson **Topic:** From the Cradle to the Commentary Box

Sporting commentator for 40 years; radio or television commentator at five Olympics and six Commonwealth Games; Graham covered more than 100 Test matches and 300 One-Day International cricket matches.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



***So we begin
our journey
into the year
2011***

Funny thing about time; it comes, it goes. So we begin our journey into the year 2011. I checked the time as I sipped a coffee on the first morning of this new year. It was 11.01 on 1.01.11. New years are often like that: we reflect, we project. Looking back, it has been my privilege to be your President for the past year with very strong support from our committee.

In December, we had a great Presidents Christmas luncheon at Victoria Golf Club, again with delicious food and very friendly service. Its success was due to our master of ceremonies, Geoff Bransbury, as well as the usual impossibly hard trivia questions to answer from Rod Murrell. More reports of this later.

It's also the time of the year for

cricket. I do support our Test cricket team; they are all very good players. Naturally, sporting events have winners and losers all the time, but most of the media seem to revel in conflict and putting sportspeople down when they lose. I am sure our January Guest Speaker, Graham 'Smokey' Dawson, will give us some interesting thoughts and insights on the state of our game of cricket. Is it at the crossroads, as many suggest? I urge members to bring guests to all our meetings, not just this one. What they see, hear and share may encourage them to join and be part of our future success.

On the subject of Probus, did you know that Probus is a Rotary-sponsored association of clubs promoting healthy aging in our communities? In fact, there are 1782 Probus Clubs in Australia and Victoria has 582 of them. Secretary, John Howe, and I attended the Probus Association of Victoria delegates' meeting last November where we met many Probarians from all over the state. From our observation, we found the Probus network alive and well.

Best wishes from Joan and I to all members for the coming year.
Eric Slater

Office Bearers, 2011

President: **Eric Slater** 9589 3526
Vice President: **Alan Farmer** 9598 2791
Past Pres: **Geoff Wade** 9588 2593
Secretary: **John Howe** 9598 2429
Treasurer: **David Robertson** 9551 1930
Functions: **Geoff Bransbury** 9589 1507
Mobile 0416 294 452
Functions Asst: **Robert Dun** 9589 5456

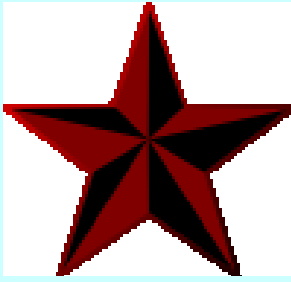
Probus Bank Account details: BSB 063-144 Account No 10121288

Meetings Co-ord: **Bill Green** 9596 1548
Meetgs Asst: **Duncan Gibson** 9585 3547
Almoner: **Andrew Watson** 9589 5913
Hon. Auditor: **Neil Jones** 9583 9315
Newsletter: **Peter McGregor** 9533 4760
Recorder: **Alan Williams** 9598 7550
Archivist: **Roy Petch** 9589 5757
Pres's Table: **Norman Griffiths** 9598 8575

Group Leaders 2011

Investment: **Barry Donaldson** 9598 6446
Music/Opera: **Barry Amond** 9589 1143
Theatre: **Allan Taylor** 9521 6180
Grape Vine: **Roy Petch** 9589 5757
Bowls: **Ted Montfort** 9589 5949
Prisms: **Bill Davis** 9592 5982
Art: **Paul Crompton** 9583 1310

NOTICEBOARD



NOTE: This month's meeting will NOT be held at the Beaumaris RSL but in the hall at St Martin's Uniting Church, corner Dalgetty Road and Gibb Street, Beaumaris. For lunch, we will adjourn to the nearby Sing Tao restaurant in the South Concourse. Lunch will be two courses including a glass of wine for \$18.50 - slightly more

than the RSL - but it includes wine, and tea or coffee.

New Member

Below: Proposer, Vice-President Alan Farmer, welcomes Menno van Ruyven to the club while President Eric gets ready to add his congratulations and present the badge



Register changes: New member

► M van RUYVEN (Menno & Mius) ►

106 Mills St, Albert Park, 3206. 9699 5506.
eml: mmvr1@netspace.net.au Born 1933 Netherlands.
Exec paper ind. Politics/current affairs. [Club '10]



New Address

Noel Ineson:- nineson1@bigpond.com

TASTES – An Important Message



On Clover in 2011

The menu includes some gyoza or Japanese dumplings, and fresh sashimi served with soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger

NOTE: The next Tastes night will be in Black Rock at the Clover restaurant, 20 Bluff Road. It is a special Japanese banquet which will be matched with some unique local wines. Think: Japanese dumplings, sashimi, tempura prawns and vegetables. Also udon noodles and seafood.
WHEN: Thursday February 3 @ 7 pm.
WHERE: Clover restaurant 20 Bluff Road Black Rock
COST: \$40 pp – plus wines @ \$15 per bottle
However, the bad news is that there is a limit of 35 so it is highly likely only those who have paid in full at the January meeting will be able to attend this special occasion.

2011 Subscriptions

Good news: Your subs will be the same as last year. Please note our banking details at the bottom of page 1 for those who wish to pay by direct debit. Repeat: subs and joining fees remain unchanged for 2011. David Robertson

Insurance Breakthrough

There has been a significant change in the Probus travel insurance from 1/12/2010. Previously, it was only available on Probus trips; however, it is now available for Probus members and their partners on both Probus and private travels. The new key feature is that it covers pre-existing illnesses providing the travellers have a letter from their doctor stating that they "are fit to travel". The premium for overseas travel is \$180 for trips of up to 90 days and \$120 for travel within Australia. Medical cover is provided up to \$100,000. **NOTE:** For those over 80, illnesses that lead to cancellation prior to travel commencing are not covered but illnesses while travelling are covered. The full details are available on the Probus South Pacific website. This could be a major benefit to those members who may otherwise be deterred from travelling due to pre-existing illnesses which preventing them from getting travel insurance. Each interested member needs to read the fine print to ensure that they are satisfied with the extent of the cover.

Food for Thought

President Eric is to make some comments at our January meeting concerning the marked improvement in the quality of the meals now being provided at the RSL. It is hoped that more members will avail themselves of the opportunity to lunch with their fellow members after the February meeting and sample the improved cuisine.

Theatre

BRIGHTON THEATRE COMPANY (CLOCKTOWER)
All 42 seats for the four plays of the 2011 season have been fully subscribed. The first play is on Wednesday, March 9 at 8 pm. Tickets for those who did not attend the Christmas lunch will be available at the January meeting.
DR.ZHIVAGO

30 tickets have been reserved for a new musical featuring Anthony Warlow at Her Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday, May 18 at 1 pm. Cost: \$66. Booking sheet is open.

LOVE NEVER DIES

Andrew Lloyd Webber's sequel to *Phantom of the Opera* is at the Regent Theatre on Wednesday, August 17 at 1 pm. 30 tickets at \$60 have been reserved. Booking sheet is now open.
Allan Taylor

Investment 2011

Barry Donaldson reports that there will be no meeting for January. The topic for February is: 2011– a one-horn bull? The session will also include a configuration of the portfolio to more accurately represent the specific interests of group members. In March, two finance and investment specialists will be our keynote speakers so, again, there will be no meeting at 9.00 am. But look forward to a full program for 2011 as the world awaits with bated breath developments in the US, China and the global economy.

Functions & Activities



February 2011

Kilmore Cup Sunday 27

Note: There are no more spaces available.

March 2011

Warrnambool, Portland, Port Fairy (3 days, 2 nights)

Tuesday 22 - Thursday 24 See November newsletter.

Cost: \$275 pp twin share or \$395 for a single

Payment at February meeting at the latest.

April 2011

River Cruise on Goulburn River from Nagambie

Lunch and visit to Tahbilk Winery. Full details next month

May 2011

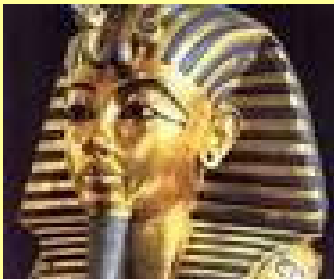
Wednesday May 11

Tutankhamun and the Golden age of the Pharaohs

Plus lunch somewhere in Carlton

This world-class exhibition will be at the Melbourne Museum. Over 7 million people have seen it world-wide. This is the last stop before returning to Egypt!

"Revel in the splendour of Ancient Egypt as you view a dazzling array of possessions unearthed from Tutankhamun's tomb. See Tutankhamun's golden coffinettes and the crown found on his head when the tomb was discovered. Learn about the extraordinary discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and the belief and burial processes of Ancient Egypt. View results from the latest scientific testing conducted on King Tut's mummy and what it is telling researchers about his life and death."



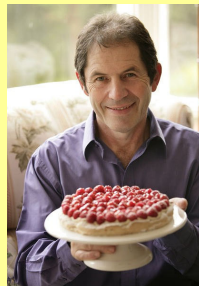
Travel by coach from the Community Centre - with an Italian lunch in Carlton to round off a great day! This has not been organised fully yet so prices have not been finalised. However, it will be around \$60 which includes the concession group ticket price of \$23 plus lunch and coach. Some tickets have been reserved but we expect they will go fast - even though the trip isn't until May. PLEASE REGISTER NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT. Urgent, urgent, urgent.

August 2011

A taste of New Caledonia hosted by Gabriel Gaté 6 nights - Friday August 5 to Thursday August 11

Absolutely fabulous! Celebrity chef Gabriel Gaté has designed this trip just for us - it is not offered to the general public. Special thanks to Geoff and Yvonne Mason.

This is a **gourmet experience** as well as a **holiday** in a lovely French Pacific Island. We will stay in a fabulous hotel with views of the sea. **We will be eating some wonderful local produce, hosted by one of Australia's most renowned chefs.** What more could one ask for?



We will visit some of Gabriel's **special restaurants**, have picnics with **produce purchased in the markets**, visit **gourmet stores**, **chocolate tastings** and join a **cooking school**. We will spend time in the countryside as well as Noumea. There will be time for relaxation as well as some time out after all the gourmet food, drink and, of course, excellent company!!

The minimum number is 20 and the maximum 30. The cost— still to be finalised — is expected to be around \$3800 pp twin share, including air fares, all accommodation, breakfasts and most meals (all meals with Gabriel are included). Gabriel has offered to speak to those interested at a special gathering which we will organise.

Obviously, we need to determine whether we have sufficient interest as soon as possible. This trip has not been offered yet to other Probus Clubs so please let Robert Dun know if interested ASAP! We will confirm more details in February.

Geoff Bransbury



The Forgotten Regiment

Brian Burton explaining the battle for Tobruk on his maps

Capt Brian Burton, our keynote speaker for November, is the author and publisher of *The Forgotten Regiment*. His history of the Royal Gloucester Hussars, formed in 1760, covered their involvement in the North African campaign during World War 2. Hostilities began in 1940 with attacks by the Italian Army intending to push through Egypt and capture the Suez Canal but Allied forces including many Australian troops inflicted considerable defeats. As a result, the Italians withdrew with heavy losses and in disarray, calling upon the Germans for assistance. Field Marshal Rommel arrived with a strong force which became known as the Afrika Korps. When Rommel captured the garrison at Tobruk which had been under siege for nine months, he continued his advance into Egypt but was eventually stopped by the British Eighth Army which included units from Australia and other Commonwealth forces at El Alamein. Brian Burton served in the regiment during the various phases of the campaign and was severely wounded in one of the battles. After his presentation, Brian engaged in conversation with some of our members who were veterans of the same campaign. Alan Williams

Memories of Manangatang



Don Cameron with that cheeky look in his eye that got him into trouble as a very young boy in Brighton

Don Cameron's 10-minute talk on Family Recollections at the November meeting began in Manangatang where he was born. His early days were, in Don's words, "pretty black" after the death of his father in 1941 from injuries he sustained in World War 1 and as a result of his family, with little money, living in rented accommodation. Eventually, they decided to move to Melbourne where they lived with relatives in the Brighton area. Don attended Brighton Beach State school becoming great friends with a Ross Austin where life for Don began to pick up as the two boys embarked on a series of escapades rivalling those of the immortal Ginger Meggs and other *Boys Own* heroes—which included making bombs from explosives found in a neighbouring shed, travelling on trains without tickets and generally doing what many young boys did for amusement in those days. Alan Williams

How To Survive a Heart Attack When Alone

per Noel Ineson

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, without help the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint has only about ten seconds left before losing consciousness.

What to do? Answer:

O Do not panic, but start coughing repeatedly and very vigorously

O A deep breath should be taken before each cough. The cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest

O A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives or until the heart is felt to be beating again

Why? Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing squeezes the heart and keeps blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to hospital.

from *Journal of General Hospital*, Rochester (US)

Beautiful One Day...

Almost two years ago it was devastating bushfires in our back yard. This year, it's catastrophic floods in Queensland. The harrowing pictures seen on our television screens this Christmas reminds us of the price we sometimes have to pay for living in a beautiful environment such as ours.

But spare a thought for those families whose lives have been so cruelly disrupted during this holiday period—and get ready for a steep increase in the price of fruit and veg in the coming weeks. Not to mention a hit to the economy.



Did You Know? A Few Demographic Facts

That 44 couples got married on Christmas Day in 2008 (the latest figures we have). Or that 20 men over the age of 75 got married for the first time that year?

The most popular day on which to get married in 2008 was Saturday, October 4, when 2221 couples tied the knot. Least popular (35) was mid-week in late July.

The average age at separation for women is 38, some 13 years after marriage.

As for dying, more Australians die in in July and August than at any other time of the year. And the least preferred month to die is February. [Courtesy, Bernard Salt, KPMG]

Music Group

10th Anniversary Celebration

On December 1, the Music Group met for the 38th time since its inception in November 2000. It was pleasing that 13 of the 18 who attended on the first night were present. Several members spoke about the 10 years and our good friend Lloyd Jenkins - who has always helped choose the programs - presented his 'Ode to Us'. Barry Amond

AN ODE TO US by LJ

FOR TEN HAPPY YEARS
ALL SMILES AND NO TEARS
OUR GROUP HAS BEEN COMING ALONG
TO THIS THEATRETTE
IT'S HERE THAT WE GET
ENJOYMENT IN MUSIC AND SONG

WITH BALLET TO VIEW
AND OPERA TOO
PLUS PLENTY OF GLAMOUR FROM ANNA
A REPERTOIRE WIDE
IT'S BEEN A GREAT RIDE
LANG LANG WITH HIS SKILL ON PIANNO

THERE'S BACH AND PUCCINI
RAVEL AND ROSSINI
WITH MENDELSSOHN, ELGAR, AND ALL
A MARVELOUS LOT
ALL THERE? NO THEY'RE NOT
JUST TOO MANY NAMES TO RECALL

OF COURSE WE MUST TELL
OF THE NEIGHBOURS FROM HELL
WHEN WE WERE RETREATING AT NIGHT
WE CREPT LIKE A MOUSE
DOWN THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE
'COS THEIR BARK WAS AS BAD AS THEIR
BITE

SO, SINCERELY WE THANK
THE AMONDS, WHO RANK
SO HIGH IN OUR FRIENDSHIPS AND
PLEASURE
OUR GATHERINGS HERE
FOR YEAR AFTER YEAR
HAVE YIELDED A JOY BEYOND MEASURE

Noel Ineson presents
flowers to Margaret
Amond at the 10th
anniversary of the
Music Group



NOTICE to ALL BOWLERS

We are presently putting the teams together and would be pleased to hear from all bowlers if you are available and your preferred playing position.

Victorian Annual Open PROBUS BOWLS

27th Annual OPEN Fours

Bowls Event

Wednesday 9th March 2011

10.30 am Start

ALL DAY EVENT: 2 GAMES - 13 ENDS

Bowls Vic. RULES for COMPETITION APPLY
(if needed)

Teams can consist of Men, Ladies or Mixed of any Combination - Entry Fee - \$80 per team of four, includes lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea

Venue- Black Rock Bowling Club

Ted Montfort

9 Erowal St. Beaumaris 9589 5949

Howlong 2011

Our trip to Howlong is programmed for October 23 -27 at the Howlong Golf and Country Club. Hopefully, the weather will be better this year than last as it is later in the month and the greens should have recovered from their usual coring. Bookings will open at the February meeting and as there are only 18 rooms (36 people) available it will be strictly first-come-first-served. A deposit of \$20 per couple (\$10 per person for singles) MUST be paid on booking otherwise you will go on the waiting list. This is a very popular event for our golfers and if all places are not filled by golfers then spaces may be offered to non-golfers. If you are not able to come to the February meeting and want to make a booking, you *must ring Geoff Wade* (9588 2593) to be included on the list. GW



"A cynic is a man who knows the price of everything but the value of nothing"

Oscar Wilde

President's Christmas Lunch 2010

Victoria Golf Club, December 17

Approximately 120 members and wives and friends gathered for the traditional Christmas lunch offerings



The President's wife, Joan, carefully picks the winning ticket



And the winner is.... John Bushby. Above, about to admit to never having won a raffle in his entire life. Below, looking suitably chuffed with his prizes



Photos: Barry Amond

George Montgomery (left) is trying to tell Bev Ettershank and Geoff Bransbury that he never wins prizes



It looks very much like three scallywags – but, in fact, it's only Roger Wilson, Rod Murrell and Geoff Wade (L to R)

A Splendid Affair

In December, 120 members and guests dressed in their finery assembled at Victoria Golf Club again to celebrate the 2010 festive season in style. They were welcomed by President Eric and his wife, Joan, and a few pre-lunch drinks. Very nice.

At the outset, President Eric took the opportunity to thank all those who had made a special contribution to the success of Beaumaris Probus throughout the year – from Vice-President, Alan Farmer, Secretary, John Howe, and Geoff Bransbury and Robert Dun for their outstanding ability in organising the many trips and functions which make members' lives so much more interesting; to Treasurer David Robertson, Barry and Margaret Amond for their musical achievements, Allan Taylor for theatre events, Peter McGregor for the newsletter and the very many others who give their time to club activities of one kind and another.

Apart from ensuring that every one of the guests is fed the requisite amount of turkey, ham and plum pudding - not to mention being plied with generous amounts of local shiraz and sav blanc - it seems the main object of this annual event is to tease the brains of those who fancy themselves as aspirants to fame and fortune courtesy of TV shows such as *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* and the like. The 2010 quiz was conducted authoritatively by compere Rod Murrell, timed to occupy the space between the turkey and the pudding courses. The sumptuous lunch was a fitting conclusion to a very successful year of friendship and fun, the corner-stone of Beaumaris Probus.



The President and wife, Joan, seem more than a little bemused by some of the banter emanating from the dais

NOTE: This month's meeting will NOT be held at the Beaumaris RSL as usual but in the hall at St Martin's Uniting Church, at the corner Dalgetty Road and Gibb Street, Beaumaris. For lunch, we will adjourn to the nearby Sing Tao restaurant in the South Concourse. Lunch will be two courses including a glass of wine for \$18.50 - slightly more than the RSL - but it includes wine, and tea or coffee.