



# PROBUS

**PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.**  
Reg No. A 001-6598G  
Correspondence to Box 57, PO Black Rock, 3193

**Issue No. 229**

**January 2009**

**Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday 20th January at Mentone RSL**

**Investment Group: No Meeting this month**

**Keynote Speaker: Paul Crompton On Ansett Airlines**

Reginald Myles Ansett was the last of the great 'Empire Builders' and his legacy went from boom to bust! It is doubtful that anyone who lived in Australia between 1960 and 2000 did not use, at some time, one of the many services provided by Ansett or one of its subsidiary companies.

**10 Minute Speaker: Paul Prior**

**Winning the Club Foursomes**

## — Office Bearers, 2008 —

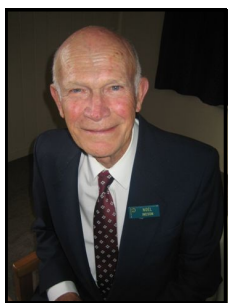
President:	<b>Noel Ineson</b>	9589 5263
Vice President:	<b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593
Imm/Past Pres:	<b>Bill Davis</b>	9592 5982
Hon Secretary	<b>Roy Petch</b>	9589 5757
Hon Treasurer:	<b>David Robertson</b>	9551 1930
Functions Co-ord:	<b>Alan Farmer</b>	9598 2791
Functions Asst:	<b>Robert Dun</b>	9589 5456
Meeting Co-ord:	<b>Don Lobb</b>	9598 5546
Meetings Asst:	<b>Eric Slater</b>	9589 3526
Almoner:	<b>Andrew Watson</b>	9589 5913
Hon. Auditor:	<b>Neil Jones</b>	9598 3158
Newsletter:	<b>Peter McGregor</b>	9533 4760

Peter's email <peterb64@bigpond.net.au>

## — Group Leaders —

Investment :	<b>John Brimage</b>	9584 6349
Music/Opera :	<b>Barry Amond</b>	9589 1143
Theatres :	<b>Allan Taylor</b>	9521 6180
"Grape vine" :	<b>Keith Beyer</b>	9888 3152
Bowls :	<b>Ted Montfort</b>	9589 5949
Prisms:	<b>Bill Davis</b>	9592 5982
Art:	<b>Paul Crompton</b>	9583 1310
Transport:	<b>Roy Spalding</b>	9589 5608
Speakers' Corner:	<b>Alan Williams</b>	9598 7550
Archivist:	<b>Keith Beyer</b>	9888 3152
President's Table:	<b>Bill Green</b>	9596 1548

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



*This has made my role as President much easier and has enabled me to provide quality speakers covering a diversity of subjects.....*

*A list has been prepared of the interests and hobbies of Members, grouping those with similar interests....*

I would like to express my appreciation to those Members who have recommended guest speakers and to those who have suggested subjects for our keynote addresses during the year. This has made my role as President much easier and has enabled me to provide quality speakers covering a diversity of subjects. A very important part of this support is to have one of our own Members as a keynote speaker during the year. In this regard, we are very fortunate to have Paul Crompton as Keynote Speaker on January 20 at the Mentone RSL club and I ask Members to make a special effort to be present to support him and hear and view what will be a fascinating presentation.

At our November Meeting, I was delighted to welcome new Members Bruce Tomkins, Gordon Long and Geoff Bransbury. With an average age of 70 years between them, this is an encouragingly positive move for our club in reducing our overall average age level. Also, a list has been prepared of the interests and hobbies of Members, grouping together those with similar interests. The aim is that perhaps Members with similar interests will get together and form one or more new groups within the club. A summary of all this information is enclosed with this issue.

On another matter of importance to the Club, I would be pleased to have a volunteer come forward to update the Club History. The existing history - covering the first 15 years of the Club from its formation in 1987 to 2002 - was compiled by Max Parsons and published in July 2002. This is a 97-page document primarily created by taking relevant extracts from past newsletters and is a very important reference which illustrates the enormous range of activities undertaken over the years. We are looking to add a further five years' history which could be put together over, say, the next year or two. I will have a copy available at our next Meeting for viewing by interested Members and would be pleased to hear from anyone who feels able to help us in this regard.

On closing, it is encouraging to note a significant increase in numbers at recent monthly Meetings; in particular, an attendance of 90 in November.

## MONTHLY PROFILE

Andy Watson

Andy Watson says



*Andy isn't keen to be photographed - but we caught him here, having a cuppa with Graeme Wearne at one of our Meetings last year*

he doesn't play golf, and hates gardening, but he *does* like helping people. That tells us almost everything we need to know about Andy, our genial joke-telling Almoner. As we know, he has a special calling to get involved with other people's problems, keeping in touch by phone or in person.

Andy held a senior supervisory position in retail bespoke men's tailoring and was responsible for 27 shops across southern England, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands - holding this position for seven years, before emigrating to California in 1957. He found there wasn't a decent future in the retail trade in the USA, so he joined a major office equipment company. He started as a Junior Salesman, moving to Senior Salesman, then Sales Manager. After being appointed International Marketing Manager, he travelled worldwide to 24 subsidiaries and 89 dealer networks for two and a half years before transferring to Australia as Director of Marketing. After six years in that position, he transferred back to the USA for two years, but, on retiring, he returned to Beaumaris, where he had sensibly leased his house while overseas.

Settled comfortably in Beaumaris, he was able to indulge his interest for helping others through St Martin's Uniting Church by driving a busload of handicapped and elderly people four days a week all over Melbourne on outings. He was one of a group of about 40 men and women volunteers in this venture for 14 years. However, his life as a helper was fulfilled in 1985 when he responded to a call from the Victorian Court Network for volunteers to work with people who find themselves caught up in the court system - people Andy describes as 'victims', though they may be witnesses or relatives of crime victims. Very often, they are simply wandering about the courts, lost or in need of pastoral care. Andy makes contact, explains what is going to happen to them in court, and shows them either an empty court or a 'live' court, before they have to face up to it themselves. "So they don't go in there 'cold'", he says.

He also conducts tours of the Supreme Court for year 11-12 High School students, Law students, legal Secretaries, police cadets, visiting VIP legal practitioners from overseas - and, of course, a multitude of Probus Clubs.

Andy is a Life Member of our Club. It is said that Andy is, perhaps, the most important personality within the Club; firstly, that he maintains contact with those of us who are ill or in any way indisposed. He is the real face of the fellowship that exists between Members of Beaumaris Probus. Secondly, for new members and visitors, he may well be the main distinguishing feature between us and other like groups. An inspiration.

## Coal and Climate Change

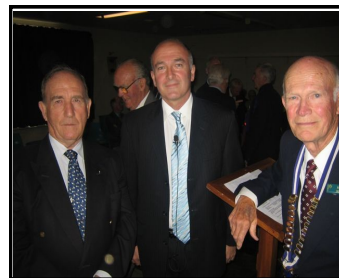
As our November Keynote Speaker, Rio Tinto Mining Executive Andy Lloyd created much interest about the future of coal in Australia. The importance of coal to our overall economy was quickly apparent to us all. In his opinion, technology development is the key to Australia's approach to climate change; however, international action and collaboration are necessary as breakthroughs will emerge from continuing research in the US and Japan.

In the meantime, not only are we generating 85% of our electricity from coal, it is also our largest export by value. We have sufficient supply of black coal in NSW and Queensland to supply our needs and the needs of our trading partners for 100 years; and brown coal reserves in Victoria are sufficient for 500 years of power generation. The largest users of coal worldwide are China and India, but Australia is the world's biggest emitter of greenhouse gases per head of population specifically because of our dependence on this form of power generation.

Energy alternatives such as wind, solar, geo-thermal and the like are much more expensive and would dramatically increase household costs for energy, so Rio Tinto and others are investigating and trialling methods of 'clean coal' generation to enable the use of their extensive coal deposits well into the future. New technologies such as drying, cleaning and the gasification of coal promise to be able to reduce carbon emissions by 30%.

Andy showed a special DVD explaining in animation how some of these new technologies - carbon capture and storage (CCS) - function. As opposed to allowing CO<sub>2</sub> to escape into the atmosphere, it is proposed to capture and pump carbon under extreme pressure through a pipeline to sites 50 km offshore and approximately 2 km below the seabed, to be stored in cavities in rock formations for centuries. Ideal geological sites exist off the coast of Victoria and in relative close proximity to our brown coal power generating plants which could be used - providing companies who control gas and oil-producing leases in the area can be encouraged to collaborate on the project.

As a result of Andy Lloyd bringing this very important topic to our Meeting, we will watch future activities in the power industry with great interest. Alan Willams



*Keynote Speaker, Andy Lloyd, with President Noel and Immediate Past-President, Bill Davis*

Next month, the 10-minute speaker will be Peter McGregor on the topic, "Myths, Scams & Hoaxes."



## FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

We experienced another enjoyable and successful year of Beaumaris Probus F&A in 2008. I thank those people who assisted Robert and me to plan, organise and run activities. There are too many to name but I'm sure all who helped are aware and proud of their contributions. We are, and we thank you. AF & RD

### March 2009

We kick off the new year with an eight-day tour of Lord Howe Island, March 2 - March 9. This is now booked and all are looking forward to their Island experience.

### April 2009

A three-day trip (April 27 - April 29) is planned based at the RACV Inverloch Resort. All members will have received a copy by now of a flyer advertising the tour. The itinerary was published in the November Newsletter. The cost is \$650 pp and it is important for those who wish to go on the trip to note that deposits of \$100 pp. must be paid by the next Meeting, January 20. Remaining \$550 pp to be paid by our March Meeting.

### May 2009

A day trip, possibly to Eureka tower and lunch/ tour of Williamstown is under discussion with Ricketts Point and Beaumaris Bay Probus Clubs.

### June 2009

Candlelight dinner, Furphie's Restaurant, Beaue RSL.

### July 2009

Visit to Port of Melbourne

### August 2009

Tour of wineries on Mornington Peninsula.

### September 2009

Croatia/ Slovenia – possible, but unlikely.

### October 2009

King Island tour - 3 nights.

### November 2009

Japan 'Autumn Leaves' Tour - 14 nights.



## Geelong Tour



A gaggle of 39 Probus members with partners - including seven guests from the Ricketts Point Club - enjoyed a very special day at Geelong on Nov 19. Favoured and pampered travellers in the comfort of contoured recliners, we were whisked along in quiet elegance. Prior to entering Geelong, we turned off to the industrial area which borders Corio Bay. The size of the area surprised everyone with many large and unattractive complexes, mainly servicing the agricultural sector.

At the Eastern Beach waterfront precinct, we were loaded onto the 20-year-old *Freedom* sightseeing launch for a tour around Corio Bay. The noisy but reliable German *Man* engines competed effectively with the hum of conversation. A very taciturn waitress served us morning tea, but her manner sparked up when, later on, she endeavoured to sell us some sweets. Prior to lunch, a free period gave us time to wander along the attractive waterfront and enjoy studying the 100 or so brightly-painted and comical life-sized sculptures created by a local artist; and walk through the waterfront campus of the architectural school of the Deakin University, an inspiring creative initiative involving a revamp of the old Dalgetty wool sheds.

Lunch at *Smorgies* was a sumptuous affair fit for the Queen - though in less salubrious surroundings than Buckingham Palace! We then boarded the bus for a tour around the city of Geelong which has an air of bustling activity and affluence, not the least being evident in many impressive modern offices, apartments and colonnaded public buildings. Our tour director (and driver) added to our enjoyment with an interesting detailed history of the region. It was a day to remember! Noel Ineson



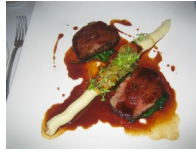
*Alan Farmer and Robert Dun - our tireless pair of planners and organisers of Probus Functions & Activities for the coming year - taking bookings and payments at the last Meeting of the year.*



**TASTES 09****Geoff Wade & Peter McGregor**

*The first 2009 outing for the group (Members and wives) will be on Thursday, February 5th. Details at January Meeting. Cost: \$40 - to be paid at this Meeting. All cheques to Probud Club of Beaumaris.*

*NOTE: For logistical reasons, it will be necessary to limit our numbers to 30 - that means, only the first cheques up to 30 people can be accepted.*

**Victorian Annual Open PROBUS BOWLS**25<sup>th</sup>**Annual Open Fours Bowls Event Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

Venue: Black Rock Bowling Club

ALL DAY EVENT: 2 GAMES -13 ENDS

10.30am Start

RVBA 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

We are presently putting teams together and would like to hear from bowlers - if you are available and your preferred playing position.

**Ted Montfort 9589 5949****Geoff Mason 9589 2083****Theatre Group 2009**

Unfortunately, we were unable to renew our booking for the 2009 Clocktower season. However, thanks to Paul Crompton, we have been able to secure a block booking for 60 people for five plays at the Mordialloc Theatre Company, 64 Parkers Rd Parkdale, on Wednesday nights. The first play (a comedy) is on Wednesday, February 18, at 8 pm. Payment (\$14) is required by the January Meeting when I will have the dates and full 2009 program and will establish a booking sheet for each play. Members may pay for one play at a time or for the whole season (\$70 per person).

The Cheltenham Light Opera Company's first musical for 2009 at the Alexander Theatre, Monash University, is *Miss Saigon*. We have reserved 30 tickets for Sunday afternoon, May 17, at 2 pm. Price: \$35 - first-in-best-dressed. Payment at either the January or February Meeting. Allan Taylor



*This picture suggests that President Noel has plenty of time on his hands. However, you will need to hurry to reserve him for your party because his diary for 2009 is filling fast!*

**NOTICEBOARD****New Members:**

**G S BRANSBURY** (Geoff & Merry)  
20 Rennison St, Beaumaris, 3193.  
Ph: 9589 1507. \*eml Born England 1944  
BA (Hons) Business. Comp Dir.  
Wine making, travel, golf (Vic) [Club '08]  
brans@inet.net.au



**G LONG** (Gordon & Rosalie)  
12 Charman Rd, Mentone, 3194. 9585 8966. \*eml.  
Born Belfast 1937  
PhD, FTSE. Woodwork, sailing [Club '08]  
glong1@bigpond.net.au



**B TOMKINS** (Bruce & Gill)  
2/8-10 Durrant St, Brighton, 3186. 9591 0076. \*eml.  
Born Melb 1932  
BMEch Eng, APM/AMCOR, engineering, manager,  
sales manager. Golf, contract bridge, rowing. [Club '08]  
gill-bruce@bigpond.com

**For your 2009 diary:**

Golf@Howlong: Annual tournament September 27 to 29  
December: President's Lunch @VGC

**New emails:** Alan Reith (john.reith@bigpond.com)  
Les Hall (valleshallads!@dodo.com)

**Subscriptions for 2009**

Our Constitution requires that subscriptions for each year are to be approved by Club Members at the November meeting of the preceding year. Accordingly, Treasurer, David Robertson has proposed that subscriptions for 2009 be set at \$50.00 with a reduction to \$45.00 if paid before 31 March 2009. Joining fee is \$30.00. These fees are the same as for last year. David advises that fees for 2009 can be paid by direct debit. Bank account details: BSB 063-144 Acc #10121288 Please include your name and say that it is for Probud subs.

**VALE: Ken Dawson****Music Group****Barry Amond**

The first Music evening for 2009 will be on Wed 25th March.

**Investment group**

The group meets each month to consider the current challenges of investing. In November, discussion at the Meeting ranged around issues of stock selection with a view to creating a model portfolio in a very difficult financial climate.

We were saddened by the death on Sunday November 16 of Ken Dawson, foundation Member of our club who, when he was well, regularly attended Meetings. He served as assistant to Ken Reed in his role as Meetings Coordinator in 2002-03. We recall how Ken and wife, Mavis, regularly joined our social activities and were invariably part of our club tours.

We extend our sympathies to Mavis and her family at this time.

Also, we note the passing of ex-Probud, Alex Steinfort (90). Alex dropped out of our Club only last year, having been a Foundation Member and serving as Almoner 1989 - 1992.

