

NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

Correspondence to: PO Box 57 Black Rock VIC 3193

Editor: *Peter McGregor*

9533 4760



Probus Bank details: BSB 063-144
Account No 10121288



Issue No. 284

January 2014

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday January 21 at The Sandringham Club

Keynote Speaker: Steve Ager Check and Training Captain A380

Topic: Flying the World's Largest Aircraft
The Airbus A380 Superjumbo

10-Minute Speaker: Brian Simpson, Golf Professional **Topic:** Golf As It Used To Be



Range:
15 700 km

Top Speed:
1 020 km/h

Wingspan:
80 m

Length:
73 m

First Flight:
April 27 2005

Engine Type:
Turbofan



Probus @ Eureka Stockade

What a magnificent excursion to 'Mooramong' and the Australian Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka! At left, Probus members gathered to admire the remaining fragment of the Eureka flag. The dwarf on the left is John Bushby; also Hanife Bushby, John Howe, Helen McGregor and Noel Ineson. Below: Others pose for an historic photo around Eureka Circle, a unique piece of art commissioned to mark the 150th anniversary of the Eureka Rebellion, designed and constructed by Dr Anton Hasell - 20 individual steel panels depicting key aspects of the Eureka story. More next page.



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Office Bearers 2014

* President: Peter McGregor	9533 4760	* Vice-President: Peter Harford	9592 6797
* Past President: Bruce Tomkins	9591 0076	* Secretary: John Howe	9598 2429
* Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9589 4884	Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546
* Activities: Geoff Bransbury	0416294452	* Assistant Functions: John Green	9580 6820
* Meetings: Duncan Gibson	9585 3547	* Assistant Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Almoner: Andrew Watson	9589 5913	Archive & Grapevine: Roy Petch	9589 5757
* President's Table: Alan Stevens	9597 0235	Sommelier: Bill Green	9596 1548
Speakers' Recorder: Alan Williams	9598 7550	Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310

* 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: Barry Donaldson	9598 6446	Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982	Tastes: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Theatre: Robert Dun	9589 5456		

FROM THE PRESIDENT



PETER MCGREGOR

“.....materialistic life has become something of a monster for many people...”

Some will remember cartoonist Michael Leunig's most famous cartoon many years ago showing a little man sitting in a bare room staring at the picture on his TV set of the sun rising; beside him an open window through which we see an actual sunrise. Could anyone be so foolish as to prefer watching a broadcast of anything to the real thing? Well, yes. In May I was on board a bus touring the beautiful city of Bordeaux and was amazed to see an American woman in the seat in front of me taking in the sights via her iPad. Artists such as Leunig – through his cartoon characters Mr Curly or Vasco Pyjama - have a rare talent of drawing our attention to stupidity or great beauty, jolting us into facing realities we might otherwise avoid. However, Leunig is more than a mere cartoonist; he is also a philosopher who believes that the important questions about the meaning of life are not so much about what people are looking for as what they are

trying to get away from. “They are looking for freedom from what oppresses them,” he says,” and modern materialistic life has become something of a monster for many people, whether debt - or fear of what is to become of their children.” Christmas is some weeks back now but one of its joys is the opportunity to get together with one's family and friends and, for even a short time, escape from the increasingly frenzied lives we lead – not to mention the stupidity of reindeer, sleigh bells and faux-snow (while it is 40 degrees in the shade outside every other day) – and/or the waste and conspicuous consumption that surrounds us each December. A perfect example was our yuletide get-together at Woodlands Golf Club where so many members and wives relaxed in each other's company, shared an excellent meal and fine wines, enjoyed the beautiful seasonal music, breathed a sigh of relief and celebrated in style another successful Probud year.



Left: Eureka Circle, Ballarat
Who Is This? Neatest correct
entry will receive a small prize



Right: Christmas dessert; Carol
singers at the Annual President's
Christmas Lunch, this year at
Woodlands Golf Club



Left: No; not praying – just
welcoming new member,
John Smith to membership



Above: Warren Parker (centre)
introduces Bill Baker and also
invites him to tell his life story
in two minutes

NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group

NOTE: No meeting in January. A survey of members' interests is being prepared for the February meeting.

Bikie Group

Noel Ineson

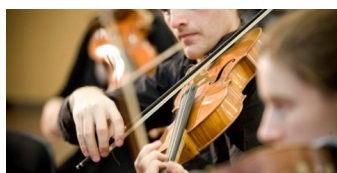
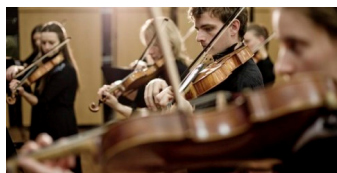


*From left:
David O'Loughlin,
Duncan Gibson,
Kevin McDonnell, Helene
Knight, Martin Joyce,
Geoff Bransbury, Paul
Crompton, Ken Beadle
and Noel Ineson*

Our first ride for 2014 is on Friday January 24. We will assemble at the Black Rock beachside car park at 8:30 am and drive to the Tyabb Recreation Park car park where the ride starts. We follow the Westernport bike trail south to Hastings, past Pelican Point onto a 3km-long boardwalk through the mangrove wetlands to Jack's Beach; then along Woolley's Road and The Esplanade to Stony Point, returning for a coffee at Pelican Point. This will be a magnificent ride through the world's most southerly mangroves. You are most welcome to come and join our very friendly group! NOTE: 2014 Bike Rides are on the 4th Friday of each month - Jan 24, Feb 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug 22, Sept 26, Oct 24, Nov 28.

Opera and Music Groups

Barry Amond



The Opera Group will meet Wednesday March 5 and the Music Group Wednesday March 26.

Discussion Groups

Both groups will resume on Tuesday February 11 and Friday February 14 at the usual times. Barry Amond



From the Treasurer



SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2014 ARE NOW DUE
Annual subscriptions are due and payable January 1 each year. There has been no change from last year and remain at \$60 pa discounted to \$55 if paid before March 31. Payment by direct transfer to our bank account is encouraged. See banking details on front page.
Geoff Carlson

Digital Technology Group



The next meeting will be held at 25 Third St Black Rock on Tuesday February 4 commencing at 2 pm. At the January meeting, the topic/s to be discussed will be advised and also an attendance sheet will be available to sign.
Geoff Wade

Tastes 2014

Peter McGregor

Our first outing for the year will be a very special one—especially for those who have a keen interest in French cuisine. Oo-la-la. Thursday February 6



Our French Night

Where: The Grange
North Concourse, Beaumaris
When: Thursday Feb 6 7 pm
Cost: \$50 pp
Wines: Special selection of French wines available @ \$15 per bottle.

The menu includes: French canapés, entrée, main and dessert, n'est-ce pas?

PLEASE BOOK NOW

IMPORTANT NOTICE: In the item on CPR in the last newsletter, reference was made to '30 pumps of the chest per minute'. This should have read '30 pumps per 15 seconds; or 120 p/m.' Ed.

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

February

Social Croquet and Spit Roast Friday 28

4.00 pm - 8.00 pm

We have booked the Sandringham Croquet Club – opposite the Sandringham Club on the foreshore. Tony and Jenny Bowles will show us how to play and will also officiate! No special skills required other than the desire for a few laughs and a good time.....or just come and enjoy beef on the spit. Maximum: about 45 people.

Some places available still, but hurry!

Cost :\$25pp which includes croquet and all food. Drinks: BYO

Please pay now! (Or at January meeting)



SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT



March

Phantom of the Opera at Ballarat's Her Majesty's Theatre (Overnight Ballarat)

Wednesday March 5
7.30 pm

Your last chance! We must close this by January 21. Call Geoff on 0416 294452 if you want to go!

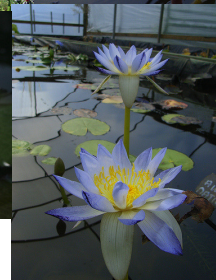
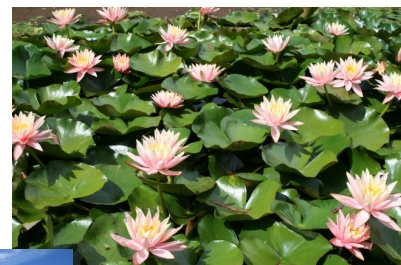


Her Majesty's Theatre, Ballarat becomes the **Paris Opera House** for a special performance of *Phantom of the Opera*.

We suggest you either travel by train or car and stay overnight. We have tentatively reserved hotel rooms at the Heritage on Lydiard.

Room and breakfast is approximately \$200 per couple and the show only costs \$43. As the show starts at 7.30, a light pre-theatre dinner may be the best, *but it is entirely your choice*.

Blue Lotus Gardens, Yarra Junction Wednesday March 12



April

Sabah and Brunei Trip Briefing Wednesday April 2



A special briefing is being organised for those going on the Sabah trip (April 27 - May 4). The briefing will be held on Wednesday April 2, 12.30 - 1.30. Venue to be confirmed.

Contact John Green for more information

Feel like you're in a Monet painting! These beautiful gardens are highly recommended with terrific reviews. This is one of Victoria's best-kept secrets. There are literally thousands of water lilies and lotus in attractive ponds and meandering paths. A beautiful and restful place to spend time. We will, of course, have a bus and a lunch! Cost and full details at January meeting.

Good old St Nicholas: Patron saint of banking, pirating, butchery, sailing, thievery, orphans, pawn-broking, royalty and New York City!

FUN IN THE SUN

Number of Australians expected to get sunburnt this weekend: 2.36 million

Number of Australians thought to be deficient in Vitamin D: 58%

Australian deaths from skin cancer each year: 2000

Functions & Activities continued

Theatre

Brighton Theatre Co

All at 8.00 pm

February 28: *As Bees in Honey Drown*

May 28: *Red*

August 27: *Chilling and Killing My Annabel Lee*

November 26: *Bloody Murder*

We have purchased 28 seats for each performance. All seats are in the first four rows. The tickets will be available prior to our February meeting.

Other Theatre Performances

All arranged at group discount prices:

Tuesday March 18 at 7.30 pm

Empire Spiegelworld burlesque in the Spiegeltent, Crown Casino. Payment of \$65 per seat must be made at our January meeting.



Sunday May 11 at 2 pm: The Russian Imperial Ballet, *Don Quixote*, at The Palais, St Kilda. Payment of \$75 per seat must be received by March 5.



Wed May 14 at 1 pm: *Wicked* at the Regent Theatre. \$65 per seat payment must be received by March 5.

Wed July 30 at 1 pm: *Les Miserables* at Her Majesty's Theatre. \$60 per seat. (Latest date to make payment is at our May meeting.)

Wed August 27 at 1 pm: *The King and I*, Princess Theatre. Payment of \$66 per seat must be received by our June meeting.

NOTE: Please indicate your interest on the sheets provided at our January meeting. Robert Dun

Death and Taxes*

We are often told that death and taxes are the only certainties in life but solicitor David Davis advised us about some of the *uncertainties* – all the things that can occur when preparing a Will. What would appear in the first instance to be a simple task can sometimes become an extremely complex exercise. As we know, family friction can arise when family businesses are involved or with the transfer of shares, property or other assets, very often in the farming community – including superfunds, trusts, shareholder agreements, divorces, de-facto relationships, grandchildren or other beneficiaries such as charities. The final result can be quite contrary to the wishes and intent of the original Will. David suggests we re-visit our Will every two years to ensure our wishes are still in sync with changing circumstances, and be aware of the ramifications of taxes such as Capital Gains. “Unfortunately, you cannot rely on the law to help negotiate any unintended consequences as the legislation is not always clear”, he said.



Alan Williams

Global Catastrophes



Neither August 4, 2014, nor Anzac Day 2015 is cause for celebration as they were both global catastrophes

“The trauma of war is not confined to the battlefield ...”

Brian Burton spoke from the heart when he shared with us a few thoughts on Remembrance Day. Over the next two years we will be commemorating two 100-year military milestones: the first on August 4, 2014, the anniversary of World War I; the second, Anzac Day 2015, commemorating the beginning of the Gallipoli Campaign. Brian said that neither of these events is cause for celebration as they were global catastrophes incurring many thousands of casualties – 9000 Australian lives lost at Gallipoli alone. His concern is that the ceremony at Gallipoli may become a Disneyland theme-park affair rather than the solemn remembrance of those who died for their country. The trauma of war is not confined to the battlefield – many returned servicemen and women experienced crippling wounds as well as the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder on their well-being and that of their families.

Alan Williams

***David Davis, Solicitor. Anyone needing further advice about any of the wide range of issues raised by our speaker in November should contact President Peter McGregor or Secretary John Howe.**

Probus Club of Beaumaris

Events Calendar

Tuesday January 21	10 am	General Meeting	Sandringham Club
Friday January 24		Bike Ride	
Tuesday February 4	2pm	Digital Technology Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Thursday February 6	7 pm	Tastes: A French Night	The Grange, Beaumaris ★
Tuesday February 11		Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Friday February 14		Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Tuesday February 18	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group General Meeting	Sandringham Club
Wednesday February 26	8 pm	<i>As Bees in Honey Drown</i>	Brighton Theatre ★
Friday February 28		Bike Ride	
Friday February 28		Croquet & Spit Roast	Sandringham Croquet Club ★
Tuesday March 4		Digital Technology Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Wednesday March 5		Opera Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Wednesday March 5		<i>Phantom of the Opera</i>	Her Majesty's Theatre, Ballarat ★
Tuesday March 11		Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Wednesday March 12		Blue Lotus Gardens	Yarra Junction ★
Friday March 14		Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Tuesday March 18	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Tuesday March 18	7.30 pm	<i>Empire Spiegelworld</i>	Crown Casino ★
Tuesday March 25		PRISMS	300 St Kilda St Brighton
Wednesday March 26		Music Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Friday March 28		Bike Ride	
Wednesday April 2	12.30-1.30	Sabah Briefing	Venue: tba
Tuesday April 8		Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Friday April 11		Discussion Group	25 Third St Black Rock
Tuesday April 15	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group General Meeting	Sandringham Club
Friday April 25		Bike Ride	
Sunday May 11	2 pm	Russian Imperial Ballet: <i>Don Quixote</i>	The Palais, St Kilda ★
Tuesday May 20	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group General Meeting	Sandringham Club
Friday May 23		Bike Ride	
Wednesday May 28	8 pm	<i>Red</i>	Brighton Theatre Group ★