

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: CBA BSB 063-144

Account No 10121288



Issue No. 300

June 2015

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday June 16 The Sandringham Club

**Keynote Speaker: Dr Terence Seedsman, Professor Emeritus
School of Sport & Exercise Science, Victoria University**

Topic: Ageing – A Lifetime of Transition

10-Minute Speaker: Mike Harwood The Commandant of Crete

Dr Seedsman's commitment to the field of social gerontology has resulted in a diverse range of publications, research achievements, workshops and community-based seminars that helped profile Victoria University as a lead institution in applied aspects of social gerontology and community-related service to health and well-being of older people. He has for some years been visiting fellow at Akdeniz University, Turkey, and in 2012 he received the Turkish National Social & Applied Gerontology Society Award for national and international contributions to the field of gerontology.



CASA DEL MOROC: FLAVOURS OF OLD MARRAKESH – TASTES MAY 21

Clockwise from left: Bev & Gerald Ettershank; Gail Seedsman & Patricia Tan-Stevens; Norm Griffiths, Pat & Ken Rattray; Merry Bransbury, Wendy Kelly & Gilda Griffiths; Geoff Mason & family; Roy & Trish Petch, Janice Kirby; Geoff & Judith Carlson, Marg & Geoff Wade

Investment Group: 8.45 am June 16

Speaker for June: Anthony Kent, UBS

Topic: World Economic Conditions

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Office Bearers 2015

* President: Kevin McDonnell	9598 8209	* Vice-President: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507
* Past President: Peter Harford	9592 6797	* Secretary: Alan Stevens	9597 0235
* Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9589 4884	Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546
* Activities: Ken Beadle	9589 6120	* Assistant Functions: John Green	9580 6820
* Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593	Assistant Meetings: Keith Ross	9589 3580
Almoner: Andrew Watson	9589 5913	Archive & Grapevine: Roy Petch	9589 5757
President's Table: David Robertson	9551 1930	Sommelier: Bill Green	9596 1548
Speakers' Recorder: John Bushby	9598 7113	Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310
Projectionist: Philip Stewart	9589 3309	* 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: Peter Harford	9592 6797	Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982	Tastes: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Theatre: Tony Bowles	9598 7973	Wine Appreciation: Roger Wilson	9589 3907

FROM THE PRESIDENT



KEVIN MCDONNELL

Last month, I borrowed a ute to collect an oversized object and enlisted the assistance of one of my sons. My driving, provided great mirth to my son, especially in gear changing. In my defence, the vehicle was a manual with a 5 litre engine. Despite over half a century of driving experience, regrettably each passing year is not adding to my level of skill but rather is seeing a decline.

Independence is important to us all and in this regard we jealously guard our ability to drive. It is heartening, therefore, to see the development that is taking place in autonomous and partially autonomous cars that could one day see driverless cars*.

Today, cars are available with features in-



cluding self-parking, automatic braking and lane change collision warning sensors. Most of the leading car manufacturers have released concept cars incorporating all manner of autonomous features which help steer and stop vehicles. Daimler has released in the US, a vehicle with a hands-free feature, for use on multilane highways. Ford is forecasting the arrival of their first totally self-driving vehicle within five years and the industry is forecasting that by 2035 a quarter of all global sales will be autonomous cars.

Like many others, I look forward to these new developments taking place.

[*An autonomous car, also known as a driverless car, self-driving car and robotic car, is an automated, autonomous vehicle capable of fulfilling the main transportation capabilities of a traditional car.]



Below (L to R): Mev Connell, John Green, Alan Reith & Tony Bowles; John Solomon & Mike Harwood; George Montgomery, Bill Green, Mal Carter, Warren Parker, Bill Baker. Far Right: President Kevin McDonnell with our May Keynote Speaker, Ian Crawford



NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group: 8.45 am

Speaker: Anthony Kent a Client Adviser with UBS
Topic: UBS' view of the world economic situation, market conditions before focusing on the Australian outlook and the likely outlook for our share market and UBS share recommendations.

After our last Tastes night,



L to R: Roger Wilson, ready to ride; Treasurer, Geoff Carlson, gets a head start, disappearing down the track; Minister for Transport, Rod Kelly, inspects the load before heading home

Candlelight

Ken Beadle



Dinner

Please email any special dietary requirements to me; similarly any table seating requests received on or before June 17 will be accommodated.



Wine Ap-

preciation Group

We will be delving into some serious vintage red wines from my cellar at our home on Tuesday June 23 at 2 pm with, at this stage, 11 starters for a series of wide-ranging tastings.

Roger Wilson

Our Dopey Old Bloke Rides Again

Our intrepid vice-president Geoff is about to set off on another epic adventure, this time riding his motor bike from one side of North America to the other, starting in Nova Scotia. Watch his adventures on his blog <http://www.dopeyoldbloke.com>

Award-winning Shiraz

Blue Pyrenees shiraz judged the coolest of the cool

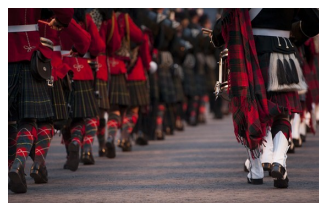
Blue Pyrenees Shiraz 2012
 Region: Pyrenees, Rating: 94/100 4-5
 The wine reflects the excellent vintage, starting with its crimson purple colour, and finishing with the aftertaste: in-between you get a bouquet filled with black cherry and plum fruit, with notes of spice and tobacco joining in on the medium-bodied palate, the finish with fine, savoury tannins. Excellent value. Alcohol: 14.5%. Date tasted: Mar 2014. Drink by: 2027. Price: \$22. Rating: 93/100.
 James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion

\$14.99 (RRP \$20)

Bike Group

Noel Ineson

On May 22, eight intrepid riders under the leadership of Ken Beadle enjoyed an outstanding ride of 30 km along some of Melbourne's fabulous bike tracks. Starting at Yarra Boulevard, Richmond, we rode along Gardiner's Creek through Glen Iris to the Anniversary Trail which runs north alongside the Alamein train line. After reaching the main Yarra trail we travelled through Fair-



field Park, past Dight's Falls for a coffee and muffin at the Children's Farm cafe on a delightful spot on the Yarra. This was a beautiful ride with lots of variety including pristine parks, attractive creeks and a terrific view of the city near Kew. The good news is you don't have to miss out! This ride will be repeated on June 12 but in the reverse direction. Bike transport is available at the start of the ride.

Noel Ineson

Theatre

Due to its enormous popularity, the season of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo has been extended. We have 20 tickets in the Silver area in Section 22 on Level 3. Cost: \$135 each (saving of \$34). Must

NOTE: This is the 300th edition of our Probus newsletter

Birthday Boys – June

Ralph Butcher 24/6	Geoff Cupples 24/6
Bill Davis 23/6	David Robertson 18/6
David Seedsman 30/6	Alan Trumble 25/6

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

June

Annual Candlelight Dinner

Thursday June 25

One of the major social functions of our Probus year at the prestigious Sandringham Yacht Club.

Cost: \$65 pp – includes a two-course dinner plus coffee and drinks to a generous limit.

6.30 pm for 7 pm. Payment required by June 17.

Please make a big effort to attend. Register now.

NOTE: Please provide special dietary requirements; similarly any table seating requests received on or before June 17 will be accommodated.

August

NEW

Masterpieces from the Hermitage: The Legacy of Catherine the Great National Gallery of Victoria



Over 400 works from the personal collection of Catherine the Great will travel to Australia in July. Gathered over a 34-year period, the exhibition represents the foundation of the Hermitage's rare collection and includes outstanding works from artists such as Rembrandt, Velasquez, Rubens and Titian. Exemplary works from Van Dyck, Snijders, Teniers and Hals will also be included in the collection offering some of the finest Dutch and Flemish art ever to come to Australia.



When: Wednesday, August 19 11 am
Cost (Admission and Guided Tour): \$23
Travel to NGV by train or private cars
THIS IS A MUST-SEE EXHIBITION

July

Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

Thursday July 2

Make your own way to the Institute in Royal Parade next to the Royal Melbourne Hospital (Melways Ref 2B B7). Meet in the main foyer at 10.50 am for an 11 am start. There is an option to have lunch at a local hostelry, Naughton's, at your own expense.

Maximum 20 visitors. Register early - June 30 latest.

Limited onsite parking. Car pooling to be arranged.

Note: There is no cost for this visit.

Melbourne Museum WW1 Centenary: The War That Changed the World

Thursday July 23

The most significant exhibition from The Imperial War Museum ever to leave Great Britain and visit our shores. Travel independently and meet at the Melbourne Museum main entrance at 10.50 am for an 11 am entry. After seeing the exhibition, lunch in the museum restaurant – at your own expense.

Cost: \$26 which covers entry to the museum and the exhibition. Please register and pay by July 21.

Ken Beadle

Travel

John Green

★ 5-day, 4-nights trip to the Floriade in Canberra from October 5 to 9 - up the Hume Highway and back via the Princes Highway. Highlights include a visit to the Royal Australian Mint, a bus tour of the embassy area, Changi Chapel at Duntroon and many others. Cost: \$930 pp (single supplement \$280). Hotel accommodation at this time of year is very tight so early bookings are advised.

★ There is also the opportunity of a 7-day trip including a 5-day cruise on the *Proud Mary* commencing on January 17. The trip includes return air flights to Adelaide, a short sight-seeing tour of the city upon arrival; all meals and accommodation except for lunch on the day of arrival. Travel by bus to Murray Bridge to board the vessel (provision for 36 people in 18 cabins). All cabins have their own en-suite, individual heating and cooling and tea and coffee-making facilities. Cost: \$1725 pp twin share (\$2230 for anyone travelling alone). A minimum of 10 people is required to clinch this deal but you will appreciate the need to book early. Brochures with the booking sheet at the functions table.

Kicking Back in Kazakhstan

John Bushby



Site Inspection Team including Mev (left); and transport café in Scholayak. Below: Normal village life

Any account of winter in Kazakhstan is sure to be interesting. This presentation was no exception. Kazakhstan has had a spectacular growth phase so that it is now, as well as being the world's ninth biggest country*, the most economically advanced of the 'Stans'. It is surrounded by other countries but has two ports on the Caspian Sea. Mev Connell lived and worked in Kazakhstan and told us of all the common problems he encountered. The weather was atrocious because, whilst the summer was 'not too bad', the winter months attracted temperatures of between minus 25 and minus 50 degrees Celsius. Roads became impassable, people were frozen to death in snow-covered cars, and hotel guests had to seek warmth in elevators. Dreaded snow storms were common. Language barriers, insecure food supplies and banditry were part of daily life. Needless to say, Vodka was widely drunk. Mev's ten minutes was fascinating and well appreciated by members. [*in area]



".....the winter months attracted temperatures of between minus 25 and minus 50 degrees Celsius."

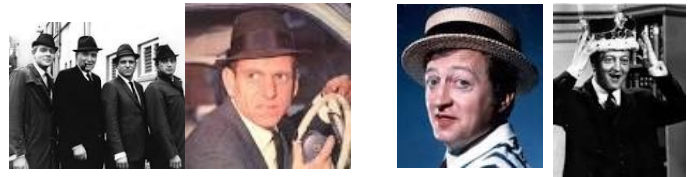
DID YOU KNOW?

Australia is the fourth biggest truffle-producing nation on the planet – after France, Spain and Italy
The Age 2/6/15

★ Please be aware that we are always on the lookout for new people to join our club – especially those who represent the younger end of the retiree spectrum. Invite someone who is much younger than you!!

TV's Days of Wine and Roses

Ian Crawford took members on a nostalgic trip back to the days of Crawford Productions in radio and television. Ian's mother was Dorothy Crawford and his uncle was Hector Crawford. The company was formed in 1945 and began production for radio with an early emphasis on drama. Hector handled the managing and Dorothy looked after the scripts and casting. In 1938, Hector broadcast on radio 3DB the sponsored *Music for the People* from the Botanic Gardens but by 1954 he could see that the future lay in television. Having made a rudimentary camera, Hector, along with Dorothy, travelled overseas to study TV techniques. On their return they needed money to finance their shift into television. Hector mortgaged his house and both he and Dorothy went without salaries for the first twelve months. After a tentative start, the company created an uproar with a program that made reference to child prostitution. The controversial program attracted stellar ratings



and huge publicity for Crawford Productions. Other popular programs followed but the scene was set for constant high ratings with the debut of a young ex-radio man named Graham Kennedy in a show called *In Melbourne Tonight*. Kennedy was able to cast aside his shy and introverted nature to give five nights a week to popular comedy for the next seven years. Drama was very popular at the time and was catered for in shows such as *Consider Your Verdict*, *Homicide*, *Hunter* and *Matlock Police*. An emerging sophisticated, inquisitive audience was attracted to long-running and popular shows including *Number 96*, *The Box*, *The Sullivans*, *All the Rivers Run* and *Flying Doctors*. Outdoor events were popular and The Seekers concert at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl in 1967 attracted 250 000 attendees. "Many 'stars' were made by these programs," Ian said, citing for example, Gerard Kennedy, Leonard Teale, George Mallaby, and others. He added that a great many people working in the entertainment industry today got their start with Crawford productions. Modestly, Ian talked down the important role he played in the success of Crawford Productions which was sold in 1987.

John Bushby

"..a great many people working in the entertainment industry today got their start with Crawford productions."

New Member

◀ B D PODGER (Barry & Verna Drummond) ▶
7/446 Balcombe Rd, Beaumaris, 3193. 9589 5896.
barringtonpodger@bigpond.com. Born 1935, Ballarat. Career Banking. Golf, travel, reading, natural health, share market. [Club '15]

Probus Club of Beaumaris

Events Calendar

Friday June 12		Bike Ride		
Sunday June 14		7.30 pm	Glenn Miller Band	Hamer Hall ★
Tuesday June 16		8.45 am	Investment Group	Sandringham Club
		10 am	GENERAL MEETING	
Tuesday June 23		Wine Appreciation	Wilson Home, Church Street, Beaumaris	
Thursday June 25		Candlelight Dinner	Sandringham Yacht Club ★	
Wednesday July 15		1 pm	<i>West Side Story</i> ★	
Friday June 26		Bike Ride		
Thursday July 2		Walter & Eliza Hall Institute		FREE
Tuesday July 21		8.45 am	Investment Group	Sandringham Club
		10 am	GENERAL MEETING	
Friday July 31		Bike Ride		
Tuesday August 4		2 pm	PRISMS	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday August 11		2 pm	Digital Technology	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday August 11		Grimethorpe Colliery Band		Hamer Hall ★
Tuesday August 18		8.45 am	Investment Group	Sandringham Club
		10 am	GENERAL MEETING	
Wednesday August 19		Masterpieces from the Hermitage		NGV ★
Wednesday August 26		7 pm	Opera Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Friday August 28		Bike Ride		
Wednesday September 23		7 pm	Music Group	25 Third Street Black Rock

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