



Newsletter

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

Correspondence to Box 57 PO Black Rock VIC 3193



Issue No. 253

March 2011

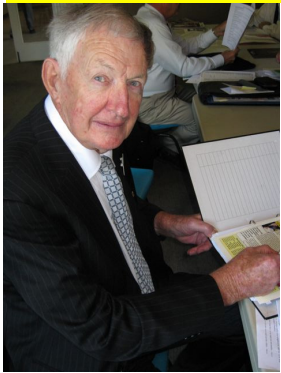
Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday March 15 at Beaumaris RSL
No Investment Group Meeting

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Two Keynote Speakers: Graham Matthews (FPC Investment Services) & Paul Fleming (Centrelink specialist in special accommodation)

Topic: Pre-assessment for Retirement Homes before committing to contracts based on your assets

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Together our members have shared many enjoyable times during 2010

Interesting how Mother Nature changes both our moods and our lives. We watch in wonder at a sunset... we are enchanted with the beauty of a flower. Then there is the devastation of floods, cyclones and an earthquake. All this has happened since we celebrated and wished each other a Happy New Year. As I write, it is difficult to focus my thoughts other than on the victims of these tragedies. Our sympathies go to all of them.

My year as your President has been an honour for me. Together, our members have shared many enjoyable times during 2010. Our well-chosen guest speakers have entertained us throughout the year with a range of topics from Joe Joyce on diamond mining to Gaye Gay on theatre production. Paul Crompton produced a very professional DVD on each guest speaker despite his serious leg injury.

Robert Dun organised our Kilmore Race Day, and later in March our trip to Warnambool. These trips involve some serious behind-the-scenes organising. This is true of all our Probuss events such as Barry Amond's wonderful music nights and annual dinner, Allan Taylor's theatre

nights, Geoff Bransbury's Christmas luncheon - requiring outstanding efforts. These members have ensured that we have been entertained, enlightened and educated at a high level in 2010. We do appreciate their work. It is good to see new members joining our club: but sad that we lost Garth.

My term concludes at our March meeting when I will pass on the baton to Alan Farmer as your new President. Thankyou to all members for your contributions and support throughout this memorable year. Eric Slater

President Eric presenting 10-year pins to (from left) Bob Aubrey, Ian Parsonson and Neil Jones



Office Bearers, 2011

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

Group Leaders 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

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

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

New Address:

Noel Ineson has a new address—nineson1@bigpond.com

2011 Subscriptions

NOTE: Your subs will be the same as last year: \$60 with a reduction to \$55 if paid before March 31. Please note our banking details at the bottom of page 1 for those who wish to pay by direct debit.

David Robertson

Our Probus Bikie Gang

At 7:30 am on Monday February 21, under an over-cast sky, a very enthusiastic band of riders - Tony Bowles, Paul Crompton, Duncan Gibson and Noel Ineson - met at the bike path opposite the Black Rock clock tower for the first ride of this newly-formed group and headed north along the Beach Road bike path.



An unexpected highlight on the way was the beautiful mini-wetlands at Hampton where the joyous loud croaks of frogs - no doubt prompted by the thought of an attractive partner - made for one of the special highlights of the day. The 20 km round trip was enjoyed by all and we are looking forward to our next ride from Brighton to Port Melbourne on Wednesday

March 30. Please contact me at 9589 5263 if you and your partner would like to join us.

Noel Ineson

Howlong Golf - October 23-27

As announced at the February meeting, all available rooms at Howlong have now been taken. However, if you want to go, do not despair as it is normal for there to be a cancellation or two closer to the event. If you would like to go on the waiting list, please let Geoff Wade know and you will be added in strict order of receipt; that is, first in, first offer - in the event of a cancellation. Deposits are not required to go on the waiting list - just let Geoff know and you will be in with a chance.



Music & Opera Groups

Right: Annual Music Party

The next meeting of the Music Group will be on Wednesday March 30 at 7pm. Please tell me if you would like to attend. The Opera Group will meet on Wednesday April 27. The annual party for regular Music and Opera evenings attendees was held on February 12. Once again the weather was kind and 43 of us were able to eat dinner in the garden before enjoying a varied program of music. Barry Amond

New Member



►► P F HARFORD (Peter & Elizabeth) ►►

8 Ward St, East Brighton, 3196, 9592 6797. peter@harfordenterprises.com.au
BCom, MBA, FCPA, FAICD(Dip). Golf, swimming, genealogy, gardening

Move Over Tiger



Geoff Wade made a hole in one at Southern Golf Club on Wednesday February 23. He hit a hybrid 3 at the 16th par 3 which landed on the high side of the green and rolled around into the hole. The evidence? It was witnessed by his three partners. NOTE: It's only Geoff's 4th hole-in-one.

Theatre Group

DR ZHIVAGO

Only 5 seats remain for Wednesday, May 18 at 1 pm at Her Majesty's Theatre. Tickets at \$66 must be paid at the March meeting.

LOVE NEVER DIES

Only 10 seats remain for the Andrew Lloyd Webber sequel to *Phantom of the Opera* on Wednesday, August 17 at 1 pm at the Regent Theatre. Tickets \$60.

Allan Taylor

As we older folks know, sometimes we have trouble with our computers. I had a problem yesterday, so I called Eric, the 13 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control, and asked him to come over.

Eric clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem. As he was walking away, I called after him, 'So, what was wrong?

He replied, 'It was an ID ten T error.' I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, 'An, ID ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.' Eric grinned.... 'Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before? 'No,' I replied. 'Write it down,' he said, 'and I think you'll figure it out.' So I wrote down: ID10T

I used to like Eric, the little bastard.

[Acknowledgement: per Roger Wilson]

Functions & Activities



April

Goulburn River Cruise Tuesday April 12

(Please note change of date from Wednesday 13th.)

A delightful day cruising the Goulburn River. Morning tea and a BBQ lunch with salad and dessert. We will also visit the lovely Mitchelton Winery - travelling in style on a luxury Mercedes coach.



Coach will leave from the Community Centre, Reserve Road at 9.00 am returning at 5.00pm

Price \$67.50 payable at March meeting

May

Tutankhamun Exhibition and Italian lunch in Carlton at Villa Romana. Wednesday May 11

This will be a terrific day, visiting this internationally-acclaimed exhibition at the Melbourne Museum, we will go to the Villa Romana in Lygon Street for a 3-course Italian lunch! Bus will leave the Community Centre, Reserve Road at 9.00am. Cost \$60 includes expo ticket, coach and a 3-course lunch. Only three seats left!

Payment by March meeting or sooner, as we have to pay for the tickets now!

June

Visit to RAAF Point Cook Museum, homestead, lunch and Devonshire tea! Full details next month.



July

Annual Candlelight Dinner Tuesday July 5

Please put this date in your diary! This year, we return to the RSL and we have some special entertainment planned as well. Let's have a record crowd!

Cost: tba

August

We are hoping to visit the [Australian Synchrotron](#). Not confirmed yet.

September

Yarra Valley Railway and lunch Friday 23rd

Details tba

MEMBER SUGGESTIONS

Thank you for your ideas. Keep them coming. Importantly, let us know if you are interested in any of the suggestions below.

[Moonee Valley Night Races.](#)

Enjoy the races, a few drinks and a casual meal. A good crowd, nice weather and the bus would make this a great evening! The season starts in September.

[Lake Eyre.](#)

Did you see the recent ABC program? Last year, some members went on an Outback Spirit coach trip which was great. Some missed out as the buses were full. However, it is on again and there is more water!



Would anyone like to go? Please let us know.

[Boutique Brewery Tour plus lunch.](#)

Sample the delights of some of the many boutique breweries around Melbourne and environs. You may need a taxi home! Or a bus.

STOP PRESS

Warrnambool, Portland, Port Fairy, March 22-24

A few cancellations mean some seats have become available. Great value at \$275.00 twin share (\$395 single). Call Robert Dun on 9589 5456. He will need rail tickets or vouchers by March 7 for block booking. Hurry if interested.

Note: The proposed trip to New Caledonia will not be followed up as we are unlikely to get the numbers. We apologise to those who expressed interest.

Members' Directory

It is hoped to have the 2011 edition of the Members' Directory for distribution at the April meeting. In order to do that, any changes MUST be advised to Geoff Wade no later than the March meeting. Similarly, if you would like an updated photo, it will need to be given to Geoff Wade at the March meeting or have a new photo taken at that meeting.

Tastes @ Clover

A Special Night Out



There was food and fellowship a-plenty at the night out in February at Clover restaurant in Black Rock, washed down with a choice of whites and a Heathcote shiraz. The theme of the night was Japanese which included tempura prawns and vegetables, beef and seafood, udon noodles and Japanese dumplings. No-one left hungry, it seems.

“One should always play fairly when one has the winning cards.”

Oscar Wilde

Congratulations Mentees

During 2010, Beaumaris Probus conducted a Mentor/ Mentee program whereby some more knowledgeable members assisted other members who had little knowledge of computers, but who were aware of the value, indeed the need, to become computer literate in this day and age. As a result, at our last meeting, a *Certificate of Computer Competency* prepared by Geoff Wade was presented by President Eric to graduates. Well done and congratulations to those who will now be able to participate more effectively in our present digital society. Thanks to John Bushby, Geoff Bransbury, Ken Reed, Kevin McDonnell, Alan Taylor, Norm Griffiths, Bill Davis, and Noel Ineson.



President Eric presents Certificates of Computer Competency to David O'Loughlin, Geoff Mason, Don Cameron, George Fabinyi, and Ron Horne.

Easy Rider

Remember this guy? Oh what an adventure - Kathmandu to Calcutta on a motorbike via Nepal, India and Bhutan. Geoff Bransbury told us of his epic journey travelling on his Royal Enfield, a 1950s style motorbike. He completed the ride in a group of six riders and survived to bring us his stories – and slide show – which gave us an insight into the highs and lows of life in these countries. He pointed out the problems navigating the traffic on inadequate road systems, in company with mass pedestrians – not to mention assorted cows, pigs, goats and dogs – all competing with the many trucks who had their own set of rules. Overhead were power lines dangling from poles like spaghetti. But the small country of Bhutan bordered by India, Tibet and China, captured his imagination with its magnificent countryside, and 15th century monasteries perched on cliff faces high in the mountains with welcoming families informing him that most Bhutan people believe that "Wealth is measured not in terms of GDP but happiness".* Apart from the odd landslide, Geoff had a wonderful holiday – and with plenty of happiness.

Alan Williams



[*NOTE: Until 2008, average life expectancy in Bhutan was 55 years; not sure why it jumped 18% in 2008 to 65. Ed.]

The Fascinating World of Coastal Geomorphology

Eric Bird is editor of an encyclopaedia documenting the world's coastlines. Arriving in Australia in 1957, he found a limited supply of textbooks available on the subject of coastal landforms, so he travelled across Australia gathering information and wrote his own. In 1972, a working group was formed to study coastal landforms across the entire world. They studied every country and most of the islands in between, a total distance approximating 1 000 000 km, beginning in Alaska and finally completing the survey in Antarctica! In Bayside, we have concerns about beach erosion and apparently this is common to 70% of the world's beaches and has been for centuries. Our options are barriers such as the Black Rock bluestone walkway, groynes such as those used on Sandringham beaches, or artificial beaches or sand re-nourishment. Eric insisted that options such as these are essential to maintaining our beaches and the cliffs behind. He said to remember that the 12 Apostles standing out in the ocean near Port Campbell were once part of the cliff face!

Alan Williams

