

NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

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9533 4760



Probus Bank details: BSB 063-144
Account No 10121288



Issue No. 288

May 2014

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday May 20 The Sandringham Club

Keynote Speaker: Kevin O'Reilly, Aviation Author

Topic: Flyers of Time Aviation history in country Victoria and the Riverina

10-Minute Speaker: Rod Murrell North Korea – Behind the Bamboo Curtain



Kevin O'Reilly's collection of aviation reports, documents and photographs that became *Flyers of Time* was the result of his interest in recording the story of the World War II RAAF Base at Nhill in north-western Victoria. This was the town of his youth and

he recalls the drone of radial engines over his home and, like most of the young boys of the town, longed for the day he could fly into the clouds like the Air Force boys. Unfortunately, circumstances never came his way to indulge this dream and apart from doing his National Service in the RAAF, Kevin remained mostly on the ground, still dreaming and looking skywards.

The Great Adventure Has Begun! See p5



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Office Bearers 2014

* President: Peter Harford	9592 6797	Vice-President: Kevin McDonnell	9598 8209
* Past President: Peter McGregor	9533 4760	* Secretary: Alan Stevens	9589 1043
* 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: Alan Williams	9598 7550	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: 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 HARFORD

"These experiences substantially increase our understanding of the Great War"

This is being written with ANZAC Day approaching and it is worth highlighting that this year and next are special anniversaries for both Australia and ANZAC history. Most will know that 2014 is the centenary of World War 1 and 2015 is the centenary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli. There has been much publicity given to next year's memorial ceremonies at Gallipoli with many thousands involved in a ballot for the very limited places available.

Fortunately, as a family we have not had significant involvement in these conflicts but from a personal point of view I have researched and written about all those who have been involved. One was a relatively uneducated farm boy, David Bernard Harford, from Western Australia who had the foresight to keep a diary. This recorded all of his war experiences up to the moment he was killed in 1917 by a shell exploding near him at a Field Hospital away from the trenches.

In about 1930, David's mother provided his diary to the Australian War Memorial and it is now being used as part of the Memorial's Centenary Commemoration Projects. These involve an extensive on-line display of a comprehensive selection of private records from their collection, sharing the stories and experiences of service personnel through their diaries, letters, post-cards and photographs. Also David's diary has been digitised and displayed on-line.

Elizabeth and I have been fortunate to have visited the battlefield sites at the Somme (including David Bernard's grave at Pozieres) and also Gallipoli, and shortly we will also visit the Flanders battlefields. These experiences substantially increase our understanding of the Great War and the harsh conditions under which our soldiers lived and fought - not to mention the significant destruction of human life and the devastation to towns and villages.

Lest We Forget.

Six New Members Inducted

Right: One of six new members, Ian Jones, who was nominated by Lloyd Jones



New members: Ian Martin (left) was proposed by John Howe and Noel Williams (below) was nominated by Peter McGregor



Left to right: Richard Phillips introduced by Kevin McDonnell; Michael Harwood was introduced by Ron Hunter; and John Fisher was proposed by Bill Cruthers.



NOTICEBOARD

Biker Group

Noel Ineson



Our next ride is on Friday May 23. We will assemble as usual at the normal Beach Road Black Rock car park at 9 am and ride along the beachside path to Mordialloc Creek; then we will follow the inland path to Patterson Lakes shopping centre for coffee before returning. NOTE: This is one of our most enjoyable rides through a great variety of pleasant scenery.

New club members are most welcome to join this very friendly group.

Opera and Music Groups

No more meetings until later in the year, probably in September. Barry Amond



Discussion Groups

The next meetings will be in July.

Barry Amond



For a brief report on Beaumaris Probus' visit to Federation Square, see page 5

Investment Group

The Investment Group will meet at 8.45 am as usual prior to the May General Meeting to discuss the addition of Sirtex shares to our Model Portfolio, the offers by Bank of Queensland (3 for 26) and also Transurban (10 for 43) to add to existing holdings. The effect of the Federal Budget and the growth slowdown in China on the Australian economy will also be of interest.

John Brimage

Members' Register 2014

Geoff Wade

The 2014 issue of the Members' Register was emailed during the first week in May. If you are not on the email list, hard copies will be available to collect at the May meeting. The number beside each member's name is the Probus number which needs to be quoted if applying for Probus Travel Insurance. This number was not able to be included prior to the printing of hard copies but is in the electronic version. Members recently inducted have yet to be allocated a number.

BALLARAT ART GALLERY

For Auld Lang Syne – Images of Scottish Australia from First Fleet to Federation

Until July 27 2014



"The only good thing to come out of Edinburgh is the train to Glasgow..."

Anon

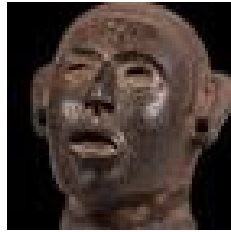


*Modern Telecommunications,
Vietnam-style
NBN Co Eat Your Heart Out!*

[Photo: Peter McGregor]

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD



Melbourne Museum, Thursday June 19.
See the Aztecs' ingenious agricultural technology, bustling trade and array of gods. Stories of war, the arrival of Spanish explorers, how Cortés the conquistador met Moctezuma the Aztec ruler, and yes, human sacrifice.



AZTEC EXHIBITION: The plan is to travel independently, meet at the Melbourne Museum and see the Aztec exhibition together. You will have the option to stay for lunch in a nearby restaurant at your own expense.

Entry tickets: \$16 per person (assuming all are at concession rate).

Tickets will be bought on-line for 11am entry for group.

Train/tram travel recommended to/from home.

[More details at the May meeting.](#)

July

Darnum Musical Village



NOT TO BE MISSED



Join us for a day trip to **Darnum Musical Village, Thursday July 3 9 am**



Darnum Musical Village is Australia's only Musical Village, one of Gippsland's premier tourist attractions. Come and see a beautifully-restored collection of fine player pianos, organs and other musical instruments in a beautiful rural setting. You can actually experience playing some of the fine exhibits and feel the past through your fingertips. You will be delighted with the interactive guided tour. This is a musical experience of a lifetime. The start will be as usual from the front of the Beaumaris Library in Reserve Road at 9 am sharp and we expect to return by 5pm. Cost: \$48 (which includes the bus, entrance and performances, morning tea and lunch.) Registration and payment required by June 17 at the latest.

Annual Candlelight Dinner

Thursday July 17



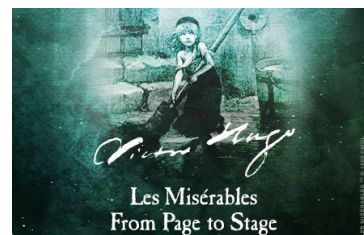
This is one of the major social functions of our Probus year and will be held at the Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron on the waterfront at Beaumaris Bay. Cost: \$60 per head and includes two-course dinner plus coffee and drinks to a generous limit. Time: 7 for 7.30 pm. Register now.

Please advise Ken Beadle immediately of any special dietary requirements you may have.

PLEASE MAKE A BIG EFFORT TO ATTEND

Victor Hugo: *Les Misérables* - From Page to Stage

Victor Hugo's priceless and rarely seen original manuscript of *Les Misérables* will leave Europe for the first time in a landmark loan to the State Library of Victoria, joining hundreds of other artefacts relating to the well-travelled story. It is set to be the centrepiece of the exhibition. Opens July 2014.



President's Christmas Lunch

Friday December 12

Please lock this date into your diaries now for our end-of-year festive lunch at Southern Golf Club. Details later in the year.

May 2014

Geoff Bransbury's Epic Journey



Our intrepid 2014 adventurer will travel on his motorbike, *Azulo*, some 35 000 km from Vladivostok across Russia, through Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Turkey, Greece, Italy, and France to England. He writes: "My blog is www.dopeyoldbloke.com. If you go to Google, my new blog comes up as **Dopey Old Bloke Rides Again**. I would love to hear from members and wives and hope some will follow the journey and send comments on the blog. If you 'subscribe', you will receive an email when I update which I will try to do every few days depending on wi-fi and how I'm feeling! I will answer. (To subscribe, just look at the side panel of the home page of my blog and fill in your email)."

Geoff would be very appreciative of any comments he receives. NOTE: He is very grateful to George Fabinyi's wife, Anya, who was Geoff's Russian tutor during preparation for this trip.

UPDATE: Geoff has now arrived in Vladivostok and is awaiting customs clearance for his bike, *Azulo*. Expected departure: May 8.

OUR EXCURSION TO FED SQUARE

The rain didn't deter Beaumaris Probus from visiting Melbourne's famed Federation Square in May and marveling at its unique design – an extraordinary structure clad with WA sandstone and zinc panels.

*Geoff Mason, right;
Ken Beadle, far right.
Below, Ken & Jenny
White and John
Pound*



*Left: Rod Murrell thanks Keynote Speaker, Nicole Livingstone.
Above right: Past President Bruce Tomkins and President Peter Harford with Nicole*

Olympic Glory: Living the Dream

As a nine-year-old schoolgirl from nearby Parkdale, Nicole Livingstone dreamt of becoming a member of the Australian Olympic swimming team. After some years of junior swimming and 30-hour-a-week training schedules, she achieved her dream in 1985. As one of our elite Olympic swimmers, she won the Women's Backstroke national title for 10 consecutive years and retired in 1996 having represented Australia in three Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and World Championships, the winner of many gold, silver and bronze medals.

Back in 1912, ladies were not encouraged to swim in Olympic competition. Nevertheless Australians 'Fanny' Durack and Mina Wylie paid their own fare to compete and won gold and silver respectively in the 100-yard freestyle event. As Nicole said, "Aussie girls have been winning gold ever since!"

In the 1988 Olympics, Nicole felt quite intimidated by the East German 'girls' who were bigger and stronger athletes than most male competitors. It was obvious they were using special hormonal substances as they swept all before them in that year. In response to questions about the failure of our Olympic swimming team to perform to expectations in London, Nicole felt the culture in the team was not as team-focused as in previous Olympic bids when, for example, every member attended poolside to cheer other Aussie team-mates in their races. Despite changes of coaches and support staff, she said, Australia will still face strong competition in future Olympics because the rest of the world has caught up to our former Golden Years in the pool.

Alan Williams

The construction of the deck beneath Melbourne's Federation Square is one of the largest expanses of railway decking ever built in Australia. The deck is supported by over 3,000 tonnes of steel beams, 1.4 kilometres of concrete 'crash walls' and over 4,000 vibration-absorbing spring coils and rubber padding. It is designed to support some of the most sensitive uses imaginable – galleries, cinemas, and radio and television studios – and it needed to isolate them from vibration and noise. www.fedsquare.com

Probus Club of Beaumaris Events Calendar

Tuesday May 20	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club	
Friday May 23	Bike Ride			
Wednesday May 28	<i>Red</i>	Brighton Theatre Group		★
Saturday May 31	Glenn Miller Orchestra	Hamer Hall		★
Tuesday June 17	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club	
Thursday June 19	Aztec Exhibition		Melbourne Museum	★
Thursday July 3	Darnum Musical Village		9 am	★
Tuesday July 15	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club	
Thursday July 17	Annual Candlelight Dinner	Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron		★
Wednesday July 30	<i>Les Miserables</i>	Her Majesty's Theatre		★
Tuesday August 5	2 pm	Digital Technology	25 Third Street	Black Rock
Tuesday August 19	8.45 am 10 am	Investment Group GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club	
Wednesday August 27	1 pm	<i>The King & I</i>	Princess Theatre	★
8 pm	<i>Chilling and Killing of Annabel Lee</i>	Brighton Theatre Group		★
Friday December 12	President's Lunch		Southern Golf Club	★



Payment required

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