



PROBUS

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

Issue No. 228

November 2008

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday 18 November at Beaumaris RSL

Investment Group: Share selection criteria for a model portfolio for recovery from the current market lows. The group meets 9 am before the main Meeting. More details p2.

Keynote Speaker: The Future of Coal - Andy Lloyd, Rio Tinto

Cheap coal-based electricity has underwritten our industrial development and prosperity for more than 50 years. In addition, coal is Australia's largest export by value today. Will it continue? What lies ahead? What is 'clean coal'? Mining Executive at RioTinto, Andy Lloyd, will address some of the key issues surrounding coal and carbon capture.

NOTE: No 10-Minute Speaker this month. New Members' Induction.

— Office Bearers, 2008 —

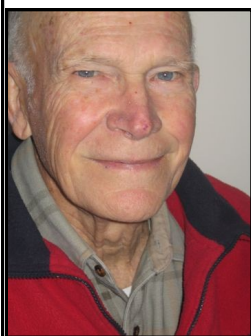
President:	Noel Ineson	9589 5263
Vice President:	Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Imm/Past Pres:	Bill Davis	9592 5982
Hon Secretary	Roy Petch	9589 5757
Hon Treasurer:	David Robertson	9551 1930
Functions Co-ord:	Alan Farmer	9598 2791
Functions Asst:	Robert Dun	9589 5456
Meeting Co-ord:	Don Lobb	9598 5546
Meetings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

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

— Group Leaders —

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Over the past month, Members have enjoyed a feast of several great occasions. Firstly, there was a very special Investment Group meeting in October, chaired by John Brimage with a record attendance of over 40. Members Ron Hunter, Barry Amond and John Wallace competently dealt with the background to the current financial crisis, gave a clear understanding of our present situation and charted a course forward. Then Barry Amond, very ably assisted by Lloyd Jenkins, put on a magnificent musical evening to the great enjoyment of a full house/studio. The program featured seven items including the work of Mozart, Sibelius and Jolson. Lastly, there were the wonderful golfing days at Howlong for 22 Members and their partners. Congratulations to all who contributed to this memorable event, again so well organized by Geoff Wade.

For those whom we do not have an opportunity to see before the end of the year, early Christmas greetings from Gwen and me. To you and your families, may you enjoy the coming season and we trust that all of you will enjoy a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.



THE HOWLONG REPORT 2008

*Beaumaris Probus
trophy presentation and
general festivities at the
Howlong Country Club*

The Annual Beaumaris Probus Golf Tournament at Club Howlong (Oct 27-29) with 41 participants was a huge success. Allan Taylor scooped the pool for 2008, winning the two major trophies, and Geoff Goodwin eventually outputted Paul Prior to take home the Bill Gillingham prestigious putting trophy on the Tuesday. There was very keen competition and some remarkable scores recorded. Many of those who participated for the first time said that

they would definitely be returning next year - for the golf as well as the food. Ed Hilliard won the Longest Drive Competition and the nearest Nearest-the-Pin Competition was 75 cm. The weather was warm and pleasant for the entire three days of competition.

Time away together like this gives Members a unique opportunity to boast about the relative merits of their local golf club and compare notes; not to mention the chance to meet each other's wives, get to know each other better and deepen relationships. The wide range of discussion topics over dinner was testimony to that.

A record of winners and a full report of all that happened has been sent to all participants but is available to anyone interested. Speak to Peter McGregor.

MONTHLY PROFILE

Peter McGregor

In the 1970s, our Newsletter Editor, Peter McGregor, was Deputy Vice-Principal of St Leonard's College in Brighton. In 1979, he and wife, Helen, and three children went on exchange for a year to Fort Saskatchewan (Edmonton) in Alberta, Canada. Perhaps the biggest shock was leaving Melbourne on a warmish day of 40-plus and arriving in Alberta where it was soon minus 40. When he left St Leonard's at the end of 1980, he established his own small business researching and publishing a variety of resource materials for teachers of science and economics around Australia. He worked as an education consultant to some of Australia's largest companies, CRA/Rio Tinto, Woolworths, Australia Post, the banks, McDonald's, APM, the television networks, as well as the mining, plastics, packaging, recycling, paper and food industries - to name a few - which often meant liaising with specialist divisions of CSIRO. At the same time, he wrote several books for schools for Macmillan Australia on a wide range of subjects such as the environment, economics, mining, business, technology and the future. Peter has long been a student of history, and is an avid reader of biographies of significant people - from Shakespeare, DH Lawrence and Jane Austen to Mao, Napoleon, Magellan and others.

Peter and Helen have travelled to most parts of Australia - by light aircraft, 4WD and even cargo ship - and have white-water rafted in Queensland and walked the Holyford Track in New Zealand. Peter has also free-walked Cradle Mountain, the Bay of Fires and Freycinet Peninsula in Tasmania. He plays golf at Victoria GC at least twice a week, learns French, collects wine, listens to music, enjoys the cinema regularly and takes a keen interest in the share market.



Butterflied leg of lamb for 6

Peter walks vigorously 5-6 km before breakfast almost every morning and in summer can often be seen kayaking in the vicinity of HMS Cerberus. One of his passions is roasting diverse joints of meat in his 35-year old kamado, and cooking classic French dishes (such as cassoulet, quiches, boeuf bourguignon and clafoutis) as well as a variety of Moroccan tagines; not to mention what he does with his ancient charcoal-burning *hibachi*. Peter also makes his own pasta. He has always enjoyed travelling to exotic locations overseas such as Kenya, Portugal, Croatia and Morocco and is looking forward to his next exciting adventure - wherever it may be! "I like going places but I love coming home more," he says.

Members' Interests and Hobbies

Some of you may be aware that Geoff Goodwin has been collating a list of Members' interests and hobbies. Geoff would like to update the list of interests and hobbies in the Members' Register. He would be pleased to hear from all Members who feel that the list in the Members' Register could be updated to include a more current list of their hobbies and interests. This is important! Email or ring Geoff asap (9589 1058).

Culture and Technology



RMIT's Professor Peter Sheldrake and Treasurer, David Robertson, having a chat after the October Keynote Address

Our Keynote Speaker for October was Peter Sheldrake,

Professor of Business Entrepreneurship and Director of Business Relations at the RMIT University's School of Business. He spoke enthusiastically of his experiences as a teacher or lecturer to a variety of students and business executives in different countries - Australia (Melbourne), Singapore, Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur) and China (Hong Kong and Shanghai). He contrasted in amusing fashion the classroom sizes, attitudes of students and the range of hi-tech equipment students brought into the classroom. Laptops, for example, and mobile phones (often highly sophisticated ones, such as what he termed *gooseberries*), Nintendo game-boys and other new technologies. He also contrasted the interest/disinterest of people from different cultures to the content of the lectures and of the differing attitudes to assessment requirements. Their responses then dictated the manner in which he communicated with, and managed, the wide variety of cultural characteristics amongst his students. He concluded by outlining his thoughts on the learning process of young people today, asserting that he believed we are only one-third of the way through a major technological revolution and that we 'oldies' will eventually absorb and use new technologies, often without knowing it. A lively question time included discussion on the status of women in various countries. In Professor Sheldrake's view, women are not necessarily as repressed as we are sometimes led to believe and it is often younger women who are forcing changes to be adopted within their own societies, with the exception of some of the worst African dictatorships. Also, the power of the internet - and its open window to the outside world - is unstoppable and so these young people will find ways around any artificially-imposed restrictions.

Allan Taylor

Investment Group

This month, we will continue with a discussion on the share selection criteria presented by John Wallace at the last meeting, to select shares for a model portfolio for a recovery from the current market lows. Ron Hunter, Barry Amond and John Wallace spoke to the last Meeting about sub-prime mortgages, toxic debt, collateral debt obligations, credit default swaps, hedge funds and criteria for choosing stocks in today's volatile climate. JB



Speakers Barry Amond, Noel Ineson and John Brimage at the October Investment Group Meeting



FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

2008

Corio Bay Cruise (aboard *Freedom*) and Geelong Tour. Wednesday 19 November. We are pleased to have seven Members from the Ricketts Point Club to join us.

2009

Lord Howe Island March 2 to 9.

Fifteen Members and their guests will become Lord Howe Islanders for a week in March next year.

Additional Activities

Following your assistance with the planning of next year's activities by completing the Suggestion Sheets and Questionnaires at our recent Meetings, we have been able to draw up the following 2009 draft plan of Functions and Activities.

We have taken into account the current dire economic conditions, the sinking value of the Aussie dollar, and the turbulent conditions in some overseas countries; also, the frequent comment of some members that they are no longer interested in international travel.

However, an option exists for any Member who wishes to take a particular overseas trip to collect other like-minded Members and, provided it has the approval of the Club Committee, to organise that trip directly with a suitable Travel Agent - with some additional support from the Club Functions organisers. Such a trip could be regarded as an official Probus activity.

Draft Functions and Activities for 2009

April 27 to 29 3 days Inverloch (RACV Resort)

A leisurely two-hour drive from Melbourne, RACV Inverloch Resort is ideally located 5 km from the Inverloch Township and opposite the beach on the picturesque South Gippsland Coast. Set in a stunning natural environment the resort boasts magnificent views of the Bass Coast and Anderson's Inlet. RACV to hold 15 rooms for us until the end of November. Those paying the deposit at our next Meeting would be



assured of a place on this tour.
Others should pay deposit ASAP.
Cost \$650 pp. Deposit \$100 pp.

Inverloch Itinerary:

Day 1. Bus from Beaumaris Community Centre
Lunch and tour - Cranbourne Botanical Gardens
Check in to RACV Resort
Inverloch tour with local guide
Wine tasting with local cheeses, fruits and dips
3-course dinner at the resort

Day 2. Cooked breakfast at resort.
Phillip Island full day tour including:
Panny's Chocolate Factory
Vietnam Veterans' Museum
Rhyll Fishing Park
Fish for Dish lunch (options available)
Nobbies Centre - briefing and Seal Rock viewing
Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit – afternoon tea,
guided museum tour and track viewing
3-course dinner at the resort

Day 3. Cooked breakfast at the resort
Bunurong Marine Park, Cape Paterson
Wonthaggi tour and inspection of coal mine
Free time for lunch in Wonthaggi
Return to Beaumaris Community Centre



May Day Trip combined with other Probus Clubs
To be confirmed - possibly Eureka Tower

June Candlelight Dinner *Furphies*, RSL.

July Day Trip Port of Melbourne

August Day Trip Peninsula Wineries

September 25 nights Croatia/Slovenia
(Some expressing interest in past now pulled out - small individual group still possible)

27 to 30 Howlong Golf Tournament

October 6 nights *Tahiti Princess* Cruise

3 nights King Island tour, or
day trip to *Puffing Billy*

November 14 nights Japan, 'Autumn Leaves' tour

December President's Annual Christmas Lunch

Alan Farmer and Robert Dun

MARQUE OF DISTINCTION



At the October Meeting, in his 10-minute address, Geoff Wade immersed us in the ancient art of marquetrie dating from pre-Christian times and revived by the monks during the early 13th century - primarily to decorate holy places and objects such as furniture. This expertise was centred mainly in Europe, with France the acknowledged leader. An apprentice marquetrier in these early days served a six-year apprenticeship before being admitted to a guild, followed by a further six years qualifying the artist to become a craftsman of the guild. Many different types of materials were utilised and if wood was the selected medium, it varied from 5 mm to 13 mm in thickness. One can only imagine the detailed work involved in the presentation of the final finished surface!

Today, the skill lies in the application of various pieces of fine veneer at 0.7 mm, selected and cut with, first, a practised eye, considerable skill and creative imagination, to reproduce a 'picture' using the textures, grain and tonal variations when the pieces are glued to a firm base. Vice President Geoff gave a practical demonstration of the procedures and processes that are involved in his fascinating hobby, as well as a partially-finished work in progress and a number of completed works which were testimony to his dedication and expertise in this decorative art.

Alan Trumble

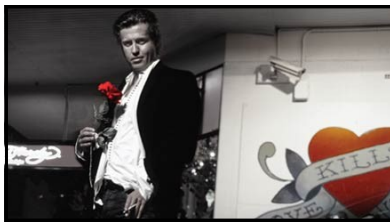
Opera Group Date Change



Please note that the Opera evening will now be on **Wednesday 3 December** at 7.30 pm and not as advised previously. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Barry Amond

CLOCKTOWER THEATRE



A reminder that the last play for 2008 is on Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 8 pm. On the night, I will be taking bookings for the 2009 season with first preference given to the 2008 attendees. However, as for this year, I will be pleased to take note at the next Meeting of any additional interest on a standby basis.

Allan Taylor

NOTICEBOARD

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 will be proposing that subscriptions for 2009 be set at \$50.00 with a reduction to \$45.00 if paid before 31 March 2009. Joining fee will be set at \$30.00.

Register Changes: Alan Nash's new email address is: mawnash@bigpond.com

Duncan Gibson's new address is: duncangibson@dodo.com.au

Doug Clark's new phone number is 8599 2210.

New Member:



►► R E KELLY (Rod & Wendy) ►►

10 Tramway Pde, Beaumaris, 3193. 9589 4839. *eml.

Born Melbourne 1944

Dip Mech Eng, Bearing ind. Golf, tennis, cricket, wine-making, general handyman. [Club '08] rewkelly@bigpond.net.au

TASTES 09

The next outing for the group (Members and wives) will be on Thursday, February 5th. More details at the January Meeting. Cost: \$40 - to be paid at this Meeting. Wines purchased at the restaurant (\$12-\$15). Full Tasting Notes to be made available to everyone on the night.

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

Geoff Wade & Peter McGregor

Friday December 19. President's Christmas Luncheon, Victoria Golf Club.



Special Annual Christmas Luncheon: Beaumaris Probus Club's 21st anniversary. Gourmet turkey and traditional Christmas plum pudding, including pre-luncheon drinks as well as wines and soft drinks at table. Door prizes of boxes of chocolates will be drawn. Also, Garth Epstein has generously donated a very LARGE (3000 ml) bottle of Taylors' 2006 CabSav Gold Medal-winning wine as an additional prize. Also, there will be fine entertainment interspersed between courses.

Cost: \$56 pp. IMPORTANT: Confirm your booking by making payment at November General Meeting. AF&RD

Jock's Corner: Vast amounts of money (eg. \$700 billion) have been spent in the US to save the financial system. To put this amount into some perspective: if you had spent one million dollars a day, from the birth of Christ until today, you would have only spent about 732 billion dollars.