



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



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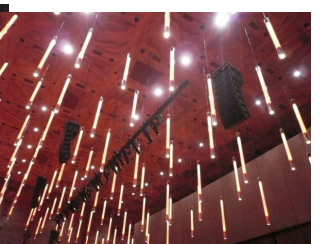
Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday October 15 at The Sandringham Club
Keynote Speaker: James Bowler - Retired VRC Handicapper
Topic: Spring Racing – Handicapping: Fact or Fiction?

10-Minute Speaker: Geoff Brearley CPR Demonstration

James Bowler has had a distinguished record in Victorian racing. From 1974-79, he was VRC assistant handicapper. In 1980, he became Chief Handicapper for the VRC, handicapping a record 25 Melbourne Cups. In 1998, he was admitted as a member of the International Ratings Panel. When he retired from Racing Victoria in 2004, he commenced as Racing Manager for the Lloyd Williams' racing group, retiring in 2009 so as to be able to play more golf.

Out & About A visit to see the Tall Ships, a day trip to look behind the new Hamer Hall and a wonderful night dining on roast suckling pig, all made the month a specially memorable one for Probus members.

Below: Beaumaris Bay and our Members on the spectacular Aperitivo tour of Hamer Hall at the Victorian Arts Centre



Captain Barry Donaldson keeps the ship on an even keel (left) while Geoff Bransbury and sister, Val, dream of sailing the world (below).



Probus Pigs Out

John Pound and guest of Geoff and Merry Bransbury, Jenny Loveday, wait for the suckling pig to be dissected at True South. Gem potatoes and sweet Argentinean apple coleslaw were also available to share. An experience to be savoured.



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Office Bearers 2013

* 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

“

To get him out from under my feet at home

“

Sometimes, in our private lives, we can (wittingly or unwittingly) give the impression that there is an on-going war between the sexes. My favourite story of Winston Churchill, for example, concerns his private battle with a female acquaintance. She: Sir, if I were married to you, I would give you poison. He: And, madam, if I were married to you I would take it!

Even at Probud meetings - per the good graces of our inimitable Almoner, Andy Watson - there have been occasions where a few unworthy sentiments towards wives (speaking purely generically) have snuck under the radar, so to speak. One story from his vast encyclopedia of jokes illustrates the point: A man is at home when there is a knock on the door. He opens the door to find two policemen, one of whom asks if he is married and if he can see a picture of his wife. Yes, he says, and shows them a picture of his wife. One of the policemen looks carefully at the picture and then says gravely, "I'm sorry sir, but it looks like your wife has

been hit by a truck." The man replies, "I know, but she has a great personality, is an excellent cook and lets me play golf whenever I want."

Not all of Andy's stories are as innocuous as that but it is all part of the colour and diversity of our monthly men's meetings that makes it such a pleasure to attend. Certainly no disrespect is intended; for the fact is that without our women-folk attending many of our functions, excursions and activities (a) most of them wouldn't happen and (b) the experience of each would be so much the poorer. Despite the male status of our meetings, women play an essential role in our club - not least, so I was told recently, reading the monthly newsletter and making sure Probud events are recorded in the diary. I shouldn't have been surprised. According to one report, women make more than 70% of all household decisions - including, I believe, the decision that their husbands join Beaumaris Probud. 'To get him out from under my feet at home,' was one quote I heard a couple of years ago.

Our Keynote Speaker for September, Jo Swarc (far right), in response to questions after our last meeting, has emailed us to explain that all applicants for provisional, permanent and some temporary visas are required to understand that: Australian society values respect for the freedom and dignity of the individual, freedom of religion, commitment to the rule of law, Parliamentary democracy, equality of men and women and a spirit of egalitarianism that embraces mutual respect, fair play, tolerance, and compassion for those in need, and pursuit of the common good. Also, that the English language, as the national language, is an important unifying element of Australian society.



NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group

Members will meet as usual 8.45-9.45 am before the General Meeting. Review of portfolio; Exhibits.

Discussion Groups



At their meetings on Tuesday October 8 and Friday October 11, members of the discussion groups will share their favourite holiday experiences. See above. After many discussions over three months, both groups had some great plans for Australia - but found it too hard to summarise!

Barry Amond

Theatre

Robert Dun



20 seats have been reserved for *Les Misérables* at Her Majesty's Theatre, 1 pm Wednesday July 30. Cost: \$60 per seat. *Les Mis* was in Melbourne some years ago and was very successful. Approximately half of our seats are in row F and the rest in row T. Seats will be allocated in order of receipt of bookings.

Opera and Music Groups

The Opera Group will meet at 7pm on Wednesday October 23. The final Music Night for the year will be on Wednesday November 27.

Barry Amond

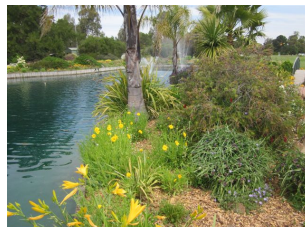
Below: What's so funny? Why are these Eminent Persons almost splitting their sides? It could be Australia's woeful batting against England in the recent Ashes series. Or, it could be a replay of the dying moments of the Collingwood-Port Adelaide final. Or maybe it's something else. A glittering prize for the best answer.



Digital Technology Group

The next scheduled meeting of the group will be on Tuesday February 4. That's correct! There will be no more meetings this calendar year. Discussion topics will be advised in the January newsletter. Geoff Wade

Howlong Golf



All is in readiness for the 2013 golf trip to Howlong - October 27 - 31. Full details of all competitions and tee times, putting competition, room allocations and other arrangements will be distributed at the October meeting. We are looking forward to some good weather and a great time of fun, fellowship and friendly golfing competition.

Geoff Wade

Beaumaris Bikies

Our next ride, Friday October 25, starts at 9am from the Black Rock beachside car park. We drive to Burnley for a ride on the City Loop which takes in part of the main Yarra Trail, all of the Capital City Trail and part of the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail. This is a very interesting ride on dedicated bike paths with some over-water pontoon sections. It is highly recommended by Ken Beadle who has enjoyed it an impressive eight times. Must be outstanding!

Noel Ineson



End of the last ride.

Probus Travel Insurance

There have been significant recent improvements to the Probus travel insurance policy. The great benefit of the Probus policy is that it covers pre-existing illnesses including diseases such as cancer without a special extra charge (if they will cover you at all.) To be covered, you only need a letter from your medical advisor dated less than six months prior to travel stating that "you are fit to travel" - to be included with your application for insurance. Probus now offers cover until 30 May 2014 instead of (previously) 30 November 2013. The cover, is a little less than the normal travel insurance and typical cost is \$245 per person for up to 90 days beyond Australia and New Zealand.

Robert Dun

Never criticise your wife's choices – after all, you are one of them.

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE OR NOTICE-BOARD

October

Tastes – Italian Night

Thursday October 17

Where: The Parlor 40 Weatherall Road
Cheltenham Time: 6.30pm

It's full up but if you want to come please put your name on the waiting list ASAP by calling Geoff on 0416 294452.



IF YOU HAVEN'T
PAID, PLEASE DO
SO IMMEDIATELY

Cost (food only): \$45

November

Mooramong and New Eureka Museum, Ballarat

Wednesday November 13 and Thursday 14

Below left: Gordon Morrison, Director of the Art Gallery of Ballarat, and Jane Smith, Director of MADE; right: view of MADE

Hurry, last chance! Come join us and have an interesting and varied trip. It promises to be a lot of fun - still some places but please decide now. Visit the fabulous historical National Trust property of Mooramong in Skipton. See the home of silent movie star Claire Adams (and the son of LKS Mackinnon) - and hear some of the exotic stories. Overnight in Ballarat – then time exploring some of the sights including the new MADE (Eureka Museum) below.



The trip includes coach travel, two lunches, a three-course dinner, overnight accommodation at the Ballarat Mid City Motor Inn, cooked breakfast, tours - even a wine tasting!

Cost: a very reasonable \$281pp (if we have 30 passengers). Single supplement \$35.

Please call Geoff 0416 294452 if you want to come. Payment required immediately.

Annual Night Races and Fabulous Buffet at Moonee Valley Legends Restaurant.

November Friday 29



Bus picks up from the Community Centre, Reserve Road, at 5pm and takes us to Moonee Valley for a great evening of entertainment and fun. You will enjoy a fabulous smorgasbord, watch the horses thundering past from the comfort of the *Legends* balcony, even dancing if you like.... and more!

Depart *Legends* at 10pm. Home about 11pm.

Cost: \$60 (bus and buffet). Drinks extra.

The bus is almost full so call Geoff now. A second bus will be considered if sufficient interest!

Please pay now or at latest at October meeting.

December

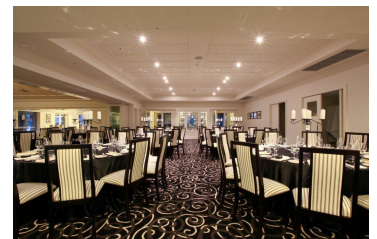


President's Christmas

Lunch

Woodlands Golf Club

December Friday 13



This is the #1 Event of the Probus Year. We really hope all - or most of you - and your wives/partners can attend this year. We are arranging something very special for this prestigious occasion - please join us. Prizes, free raffles – and much more.

Canapes, two-course lunch and tea/coffee and drink included – all at the same price as the past two years. Time: 12.00 for 12.30pm.

Cost: \$55pp. Please register and preferably pay now. Please give/mail the completed form and deposit cheque to Geoff Bransbury.

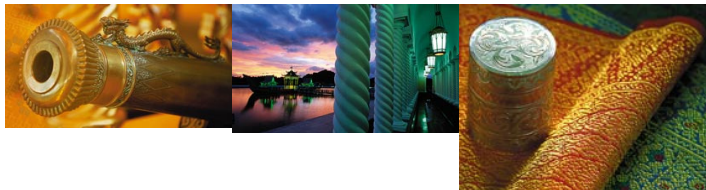
Please let me know you are coming asap!

April 2014

Sabah, Borneo and Brunei

Sunday April 27- Sunday May 4 (8 days)

We have strong interest in this trip but we need you to complete the booking form and pay the deposit (\$500pp) so we can confirm the trip at this incredible price. The absolute deadline is late November but we would prefer it if you would decide and pay now.



Highlights of the trip include:

Brunei - Malay Water Village Highlights Cruise....
 Brunei Museum....The Royal Regalia Exhibition Hall....
 Royal Palace Entrance Photo Opportunity.
 Stunning Hassanil Bolkiah Mosque.... Lok Kawi Wild-
 life Park - Borneo's Pygmy Elephants, Orang Utans,
 Otters, Gibbons, Proboscis Monkeys, Rhinoceros,
 Hornbills & Parrots..... Botanical Gardens.....Kampung
 Nelayan Floating Seafood Restaurant, Dinner & Multi-
 -Cultural Show...Historic North Borneo Steam Railway
 Journey which includes colonial-style luncheon on
 Board..... Nabalu Village Markets..... World Heritage
 Mount Kinabalu Park guided tour- featuring thousand
 species of orchids, rhododendrons & pitcher plants...
 Dinner at The English Tea House; Mari Mari Cultural
 Village plus more.

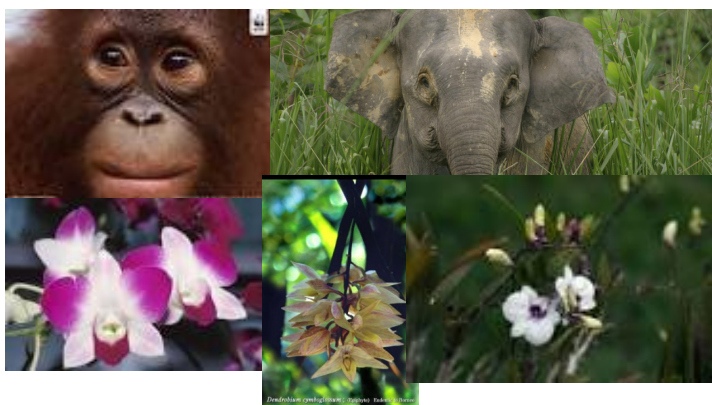
Also a visit to the Beautiful Kundasang War Memorial
 & Australian, British & Malaysian Gardens;

Tour Inclusions:

Return group airport transfers, all return flights
 Melbourne / Brunei / Kota Kinabalu / Melbourne/
 luxury coach travel /luxury hotels/breakfast, lunch &
 dinner as per itinerary (15 meals). All entry fees and
 guides as per itinerary.

The cost for this trip is only \$2 434 pp twin share,
 (\$440 single supplement).

If interested, email or phone Geoff Bransbury ,
 brans@iinet.net.au or 0416 294452.



Risk Versus Generosity

Alan Williams



Unfortunately, our September Keynote Speaker, Jo Swarc, left us with more problems than solutions. A wide disparity of opinion has been fuelled by the rapid increase in asylum seekers, from 21 people in 2007/8 to 25 000 in 2012/13. According to Jo, finding a way to control the numbers, stop the queue-jumpers and the drownings is complicated. Refugees are fleeing possible death, so no deterrent will stop them trying to escape to a safer environment. In addition to the many illegal asylum seekers, Australia welcomes thousands annually who come here legally with proper documentation from UN-controlled refugee camps in nearby countries. But we are not alone ! As our community is aware, there is a worldwide problem of refugees and asylum seekers searching for a new beginning. However, we would all like to find a way to limit the complex social problems that we see in some migrant communities in major cities in Europe and the UK in particular. Jo calls it 'Risk versus Generosity.'



No Jolly Time To Be Alive

Waltzing Matilda, our famous and probably best-known Australian folk song, is now the subject of a book written by Dennis O'Keeffe, a friend of our 10-minute speaker, Rod Kelly. Cited many times as an alternative to our National Anthem, it was once used inadvertently during the Olympic Games in Helsinki in 1952. What we know about it is that in 1894, bush poet 'Banjo' Patterson attended a social evening at Dagworth station 950km west of Rockhampton where a family friend, Christina McPherson, was playing an old Scottish song on the piano which appealed to him – as did the pianist! He scribbled a few words to fit the tune and *Waltzing Matilda* was the result. There was no happy ending to the brief romance and in 1902, needing cash to marry a lady in Tenterfield, he sold the lyrics for five pounds. Dennis O'Keeffe suggests the words have been changed over the years as the tale does not accurately reflect the mood of the times in which it was written. There was nothing 'jolly' about the poverty and loneliness tramping the roads looking for work, humping a swag, surrounded by the violence and the deprivation of the Shearers' Strike. It seems also that he did not jump into the billabong either, but was shot dead for stealing a jumbuck. Alan Williams

Dennis O'Keeffe's *Waltzing Matilda: The Secret History of Australia's Favourite Song*

Probus Club of Beaumaris

Events Calendar

Tuesday October 15 **8.45 am Investment Group** **Sandringham Club**
10 am General Meeting

Thursday October 17 **6.30 pm** **Italian Tastes *** **The Parlour**

Wednesday October 23 **7 pm** **Opera Group** **25 Second Street Black Rock**
Friday October 25 **Bike Ride**

Sunday October 27– Wednesday 30 **Annual Howlong Golf***



Friday November 8 **9.30 am** **Discussion Group** **25 Second Street Black Rock**
Tuesday November 12 **2.00 pm** **Discussion Group** **25 Second Street Black Rock**

Wed/Thursday November 13-14 **Mooramong/MADE ***

Tuesday November 19 **8.45 am Investment Group** **Sandringham Club**
10 am General Meeting

Friday November 29 **5.00 pm** **Annual Night Races *** **Moonee Valley**

Friday December 13 **12 for 12.30** **Annual President's Lunch *** **Woodlands GC**



April 2014 **Sunday April 27—Sunday May 4 (8 days)**
Overseas trip to Sabah, Borneo and Brunei*



Wednesday May 14 **Wicked*** **Regent Theatre** **1pm**

