



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

Correspondence to: PO Box 57 Black Rock VIC 3193



Issue No. 268

July 2012

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday July 17 at The Sandringham Club, Beach Road

Keynote Speaker: Roger Wilson OAM ABC Expert Commentator on Rowing

Topic: The Greatest Show on Earth

Going for Gold - Australia at the 2012 London Olympics

10-Minute Speaker: Fly Fishing with Gerald Ettershank

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Bruce Tomkins



All of the early members are to be congratulated

By the time you read this, we will have had our very special annual Candlelight Dinner. It was special this year because it celebrated the Club's first 25 years of operation. We specially honoured the founding members, many of whom were present. All of the early members are to be congratulated on making the club so successful in that it has a large number of very capable members with very diverse backgrounds and interests. Also, there have been many people who have helped by organising varied and interesting activities – which has contributed to keeping the club strong and active.

We should be particularly appreciative of the club committee and interest groups. These are the people who guide the club and initiate the various programs. Our activity organisers do a great job with often little recognition. Then there are those who really help the club run from month to month. For example, our

tireless Secretary provides the records and notes for meetings; editor, Peter McGregor, produces our newsletter; Alan Williams makes notes of speakers' content every month producing précis for publication; Barry Amond sets up the audio-visual equipment for meetings, and videos of the speakers are produced every month by Paul Crompton – and so it goes on. There are subcommittees who have also done well. Recently, a small group did a power of work finding a new venue for the club when it became apparent that the Beaumaris RSL was no longer able to meet our needs. More recently, a group led by Menno van Ruyven did all the work in planning the anniversary Candlelight Dinner.

It is all these people, and others, who make the club as successful as it is and we should be grateful for their efforts and work. With this level of involvement, it is obvious our club will continue to exist and improve.

Roger Wilson

"Roger Wilson has almost single-handedly raised the profile of the sport of rowing in Victoria and made an enormous contribution through his broadcasting both in Australia and internationally at the Olympics, World Championships and World Masters' events. A consummate professional with an unrivalled breadth of knowledge, keen research and attention to detail, Roger has always shown care in his calling of races to promote excellence, but also to give recognition to the rest of the field. In addition to his Victorian work, he has been Head Commentator at the National 'King's Cup' Regatta and championships from 1973."

Australian Museum of Rowing



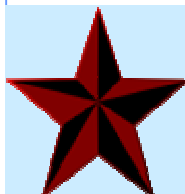
Office Bearers 2012

President:	Bruce Tomkins	9591 0076
Vice-President:	Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Past President:	Alan Farmer	9598 2791
Secretary:	John Howe	9598 2429
Treasurer:	David Robertson	9551 1930
Functions:	Menno van Ruyven	9699 5506
Asst Activities:	Robert Dun	9589 5456
Meetings:	Bill Green	9596 1548
Asst Meetings:	Duncan Gibson	9585 3547

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

NOTICEBOARD

Investment Group



As usual, 9 – 9.45 am before the main meeting. Will the trifecta - China, the US and the euro - be stayers in the ASX Cup? Visual exhibits, current comment and an examination of our portfolio.

Barry Donaldson

Music & Opera

The Opera Group's next evening will be September 26 and the Music Group will meet in October.

Barry Amond

Discussion Groups

At the June meetings, we talked about the impact of technology on our lives and speculated about what might happen in the future. In July, the topic will be "Future jobs in Australia" having regard to the impact of China and other countries. The groups meet on the second Tuesday (2pm) and Friday (9.30 am) each month. As both groups are nearly full, please let me know if you are interested asap.

Barry Amond

Bike Group

Friday July 27: This month we travel to Scotchman's Creek in Oakleigh and ride along the Creek Trail to the fascinating old Outer Circle Railway path, past Alamein and Ashburton stations and parklands to the Gardiners Creek path. The return journey is through spacious parklands, wetlands and playing fields (a round trip of 20km).

Noel Ineson

Digital Technology Group

The August meeting of the Digital Technology Group will be held on Tuesday August 7 commencing at 2:00 pm at Barry Amond's, 25 Third St, Black Rock.

Topic: Researching Genealogy – to be led by Peter Harford. An attendance sheet will be available at the general meeting in July.



Geoff Wade

Tastes

Our food & wine group dines together three or four times a year at selected restaurants in the local area where a special tasting menu has been arranged. Our very own Tastes wine selection is available at the restaurant @ \$15 per bottle. Come and join the group on our next outing.

Peter McGregor



WITH SUFFICIENT THRUST, PIGS FLY JUST FINE {GG}



Probus Victoria Golf Challenge

The Probus Victoria Golf Challenge for 2012 will be held at the Cranbourne Golf Club, Monday November 19. This year, the event will be conducted by the Probus Club of Mt Eliza. The competition is a 4BBB stableford and is open to all financial Probians. Registration is at 8 am prior to an 8:30 shotgun start. Prizes will be awarded to the winners, runners-up and nearest-the-pins on all par 3s – as well as the straightest and longest drives. Prizes consist of the Annual Perpetual Trophy plus substantial cash prizes from Trade Travel and APT. Also individual personal trophies. Entry fee: \$55 per player which includes golf and lunch. Entries close October 17. If you are interested, please contact Geoff Wade.

Rogers & Hammerstein's *South Pacific*

Wednesday, October 24, 1pm. Cost: \$66. Please advise Robert if you want tickets. Payment is required by the August meeting. See June newsletter for full details.

Robert Dun

FACT: The number of hamburgers sold in the US each year: 7 billion – i.e. 7 000 000 000.

Leaders 2012

Almoner: **Andrew Watson** 9589 5913
 Archive & Grape Vine: **Roy Petch** 9589 5757
 Assistant Functions: **Robert Dun** 9589 5456
 Audio Visual: **Paul Crompton** 9583 1310
 Auditor: **Geoff Carlson** 9589 4884
 Bowls: **Ted Montfort** 9589 5949
 Bike Riding: **Noel Ineson** 9589 5263
 Computer Mentoring: **Ken Reed** 9583 5858
 Digital Technology: **Geoff Wade** 9588 2593
 Discussion: **Barry Amond** 9589 1143

Functions/Activities: **Menno van Ruyven** 9699 5506
 Investment: **Barry Donaldson** 9598 6446
 Meetings Co-ordinator: **Bill Green** 9596 1548
 Meetings Asst: **Duncan Gibson** 9585 3547
 Music/Opera: **Barry Amond** 9589 1143
 Newsletter: **Peter McGregor** 9533 4760
 President's Table: **Norm Griffiths** 9598 8575
 PRISMS: **Bill Davis** 9592 5982
 Speakers' Recorder: **Alan Williams** 9598 7550
 Tastes: **Peter McGregor** 9533 4760
 Theatre: **Robert Dun** 9589 5456

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

Geoff Bransbury
Robert Dun



August

LAST CHANCE!

The Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia plus three-course Italian Lunch in Carlton.

Wednesday August 15



Join us and see archaeological treasures from the British Museum featuring ancient Mesopotamia. Not to be missed! Followed by a delicious and leisurely lunch in Carlton – also, not to be missed!

Cost: \$65 (with Seniors Card) includes everything, Great value. We need at least 35 (bring a friend, if you like.) Register and pay this month.

September

RAVE REVIEWS!

Napoleon: Revolution to Empire

Friday September 14



At the NGV. We have reserved 30 tickets and a guided tour for 10.30 am. Hundreds of objects of breathtaking opulence and luxury – such as paintings, drawings, engravings, sculpture, furniture, textiles, porcelain, glass, silver, fashion, jewellery and armour. We will meet at the NGV (travel by train or car if you prefer). Lunch not included but, of course, there are plenty of places nearby should you wish to stay. Must close off at August meeting.

Cost: (ticket and guided tour) \$33 or (full pension card) \$29.50. NGV Members: \$28.

In the five years to the end of 2010, Australia received 15 226 boat arrival refugees. In the same period, Greece received 56 180, Italy 91 821, Spain 74 317.

Tim Soutphommasane, St James Ethics Centre

October

NEW

Guided Walk in Melbourne plus Lunch at the Old Imperial

Wednesday October 17



Journey back to Old Melbourne, a time when the spices of China Town masked the smoke of opium dens, poor houses supplied bodies in the name of advancing medical science and, at the Princess Theatre, the famous opera singer Federici gave his most dramatic performance (plunging to his death in 1888 during a performance but mysteriously being seen at the final curtain call, an Act later). The tour starts at Federation Square and ends at Melbourne's oldest hotel... The Imperial, Spring Street, for a one-course lunch. We visit lanes, the Hotel Windsor and historic buildings en-route.

Cost: \$25 (excluding train).

November

BY POPULAR REQUEST

Night Races at Moonee Valley

Friday November 16



We had a fabulous evening last year at the *Legends*, Moonee Valley. The food was amazing and the view of the track is stunning under lights. This is a terrific evening out – YOU DON'T NEED TO BE INTERESTED IN HORSE-RACING. Why not bring a friend(s)?

Bus to and from. Price yet to be confirmed. Register your interest now.

2013

Cruise Melbourne- New Zealand- Melbourne

13-night cruise from Melbourne-New Zealand-Melbourne on *Dawn Princess* commencing March 16, 2013. Wide variety of cabins available.

Approximate prices vary from \$1750 pp twin share (\$3300 single) for an inside cabin to \$2300 twin share (\$4400 single) for an outside cabin Category D, to \$2900 twin share (\$5600 single) for a balcony cabin Category BA.

Deposit: \$100 pp. On-board credit \$180 per cabin – if booking is made during first week of September. Please indicate your interest to Robert Dun asap. Final decision must be made by August meeting.

Afflicted with MS as a young man, Steven learnt that he could still achieve much



From Depths to the Heights

At the June meeting, members heard an inspiring story from Steven van Ruyven (Menno's son) who was afflicted with the autoimmune disease known as multiple sclerosis in 1996 at the age of 32. MS occurs when the immune system attacks the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. It affects the ability of nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord to communicate with each other effectively. With no known cure, the damage is irreparable. Symptoms can include fatigue, blurred vision, vertigo, loss of feeling in fingers, weakness in the limbs, or walking difficulties - Steven had all of the above. Medication can slow deterioration of the condition, but increasing vitamin D levels - for example, daily supplements plus maximum skin exposure to the summer sun for 10 minutes daily - appear to have a beneficial effect. He learnt to cope by planning a slower lifestyle and taking challenges such as climbing Sydney Harbour Bridge and learning a trapeze circus act in Singapore, in spite of his vertigo problems and some very painful after-effects. He believes physical activity - including long bicycle rides - is delaying further deterioration and his message to others is, "Keep going - do whatever you can."

Alan Williams

What's the Beef?

More than a quarter of all meat produced worldwide is now eaten in China. 30 years ago, China consumed 8 million tonnes; it is now 71 million tonnes – more than twice that of the United States.



*Left: President Bruce Tomkins awards Eric Slater his 10-year pin for outstanding service to the club
Below: Welcoming Keith Foreman to Probus membership*



New Member

R K FOREMAN (Keith & Glenys)
2 Bickford Crt, Beaumaris, 3193.
9583 1358 0407 883 943.
gkkagrc@bigpond.com
Born 1940 Heywood. Finance, CMF.
Sporting community. [Club '12]

From the Editor

Thank you to all those who send me nice things for publication, such as jokes and one-liners. It often isn't possible to use them because they take up too much space or are in a format that doesn't fit within the parameters of the newsletter or some such. However, they are fun to read. Much appreciated. PMcG

Gala Night in Brighton

Not quite a cast of thousands, but 123 Probus people gathered at the Brighton Savoy to celebrate the Club's 25th anniversary (July 3) and also to acknowledge the contributions of ten foundation members – each of whom received a framed Certificate of Appreciation.



Mrs Rita Stevens admiring the Certificate of Appreciation awarded to husband, Hugh, and others prior to an address by Merv Davidson - one of the initiators and founders of the Club in 1987 - that was highly entertaining and informative.



Those congratulated at the evening were: Tony Avery, John Brimage, Graham Dunscombe, Merv Davidson, Les Hall, Ian McDonald, Alan Reith, Allan Small, Hugh Stevens, and Colin Walker.

It was a highly successful evening enjoyed by all.

Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

PARAPROSDOKIAN

Good Way to Lose Money

In his own inimitable way, John Laing treated us to some inside information on the thoroughbred horse breeding and racing industry. History is littered with stories of successes and failures of great horses, jockeys and trainers, including the amazing story of Northerly, an Australian champion. After surviving a difficult birth, during which the horse actually died, it was considered by all the experts a hopeless case to race successfully; remarkably, it amassed \$9.3 million in prize money! But not all stories have a happy ending; for example, two foals from triple Melbourne Cup winner Makybe Diva - purchased for \$1.5m and \$1.2m respectively - returned only \$17 825 and \$6 500 to their owners. With the average cost of owning a race horse approximately \$30 000 per year, he says, you should always hope yours is a winner! Most aren't.

Alan Williams



John believes that the best way to become a millionaire in horse racing is to start out being a multi-millionaire