



Newsletter

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No. A 001-6598G

Correspondence to: PO Box 57 Black Rock VIC 3193



Issue No 250

November 2010

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday November 16 at Beaumaris RSL

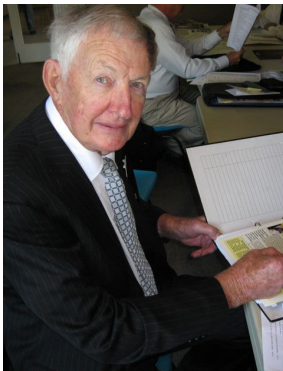
Investment Group: Will a US QE2 stimulate Australian shares? 9 am before the main meeting.

10-Minute Speaker: Don Cameron Family Recollections

Keynote Speaker: Captain Brian Burton

Topic: The Forgotten Regiment The story of the World War 2 campaign in northern Africa in which Australia played a leading part, a war not unlike the present struggle in Iraq and Afghanistan

FROM THE PRESIDENT



It is an annual activity that represents the very best in fellowship that Probuss has to offer

It won't be long before we start to sing again, "Christmas is coming and the geese are getting fat" as we approach the end of another very successful year at Beaumaris Probuss Club.

We have had a wide range of interesting guest speakers to entertain us, as well as many members' contributions as 10-minute speakers, all of which have been most informative. Please be assured that your input to our club is most important. In fact, just by being present, joining in discussions and meeting new people helps all of us. Secretary, John Howe, works quietly behind the scenes keeping us informed and recording important activities. Geoff Bransbury and Robert Dun have done everything possible to organise many special activities and trips - but they need more support from each one of you. Our Tastes nights of different cuisines around our area organised by Peter McGregor have been outstanding. Also, thanks Peter for the newsletter each month - it is a first class production.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the very successful (if somewhat wet) annual golf

tournament at Howlong Golf and Country Club last month, superbly organised by Geoff Wade.

Geoff spends almost the whole year organising this event in every detail, organising the dates, booking at least a year in advance, promoting this special time together at every meeting, and arranging tee times of each day's play as well as the various prizes to be won. More than that, however, he tries to ensure that Everyone is a Winner and even prepares activities for those partners of golfers who don't play golf. It is an annual activity that represents the very best in fellowship that Probuss has to offer and a quite magnificent achievement that is deserving of our support and acknowledgement.

Congratulations, Geoff.

I am now looking forward to our Christmas Luncheon together at Victoria Golf Club, Friday December 17, which, for me, will conclude an enjoyable time shared with you all throughout this year. Thankyou all for making the year such a success. Regards Eric

Office Bearers, 2009-10

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

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

Meetings Co-ord:	Bill Green	9596 1548
Meets 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 Table:	Norman Griffiths	9598 8575

Group Leaders 2009-10

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

Adventure of a Lifetime

Members may not be aware that one of our very own - Functions & Activities Co-ordinator, Geoff Bransbury - is off on a very special activity of his own. By the time you read this, he will have started out on a motorcycle adventure across Northern India and Bhutan. He hopes to send us pictures and maybe a report or two along the way which we will bring to your attention as appropriate. All our best wishes, Geoff.

Investment

As well as the main topic for the day (see Page 1), there will be a revision of the model portfolio.

Barry Donaldson

Address Change

Please note that David O'Loughlin has joined the growing number of computer-literate members and has an email address: Daveolou@optusnet.com.au

Music & Opera

The Music Group celebrates its 10th anniversary on Wednesday December 1 at 7.30 pm (NOTE TIME). Please let me know if you would like to attend this special evening. Priority will be given to long-standing members of the group but it is hoped that there will be room for everyone.

On October 27, the Opera Group celebrated the life of Dame Joan Sutherland – who died on October 10 – by watching three of her arias. This was followed by Opera Australia's 1997 production of *Madam Butterfly* with a superb performance by Cheryl Barker in the lead role.

Barry Amond

STOP PRESS

Just received from Geoff Bransbury:

"I'm sipping some Darjeeling tea before the big ride into Bhutan tomorrow. The highlight was a flight over Everest in magnificent sunshine. So far we've been through Nepal. I've so far successfully avoided cows, dogs, potholes, millions of bikes, cars and people. The traffic is horrendous but somehow it works and now that I'm getting more confident, it is a lot of fun! The bike is a 500 cc Royal Enfield which dates from the 1950s and feels like it should have been put to sleep long ago but it is stubbornly battling on. So far I've only had one breakdown! Hope to see you all at the President's Lunch!" (Sent from my iPad.)

Geoff



Theatre

MORDIALLOC THEATRE COMPANY

The last play for the year, *I Hate Hamlet*, is on Wednesday evening, November 24.

Tickets available at the November meeting

Howlong 2010

What a great few days we had at Howlong this year from Sunday October 10 to Thursday 14. While our numbers dropped off a little in the few days leading up to the trip, we still managed to have 35 Probians and partners enjoying the hospitality of the Howlong Golf and Country Club.



The forecast for Wednesday was not promising so it was decided that golf would be optional. Enough scores were returned for the competition to be held but the rain meant cancelling the putting competition. The Golf and Country Club allowed us to use the outdoor covered area for our presentations. Results:

Monday Men: Best 9 holes - Allan Taylor (28 points)

Ladies: Best 9 holes - Beverly Ettershank (26 pts)

Tuesday Howlong Country Club Trophy -

Merv Davidson (46 points)

Bev Ettershank (45 points)

Wednesday Warburton Heirloom Trophy -

Jim McGann +4 (cb) Geoff Wade +4

This year, five people who did not play golf enjoyed a trip to Campbell's winery at Rutherglen and the Whisky and Chocolate Factory at Corowa.

Next year, we have reverted to our old time of the last week in October. Due to other bookings at the motel, we will not travel until Monday October 23 and will play Tuesday - Thursday and return on the Friday. At this stage, we are restricted to 18 motel rooms – so bookings will be taken strictly in order of receipt when they open in February next year.

Geoff Wade



Right: Last year's winner, Robyn Farmer, presents the trophy to this year's winner, Merv Davidson

Howlong photos: Allan Taylor, Patricia Tan Stevens, Gerald & Bev Ettershank; and Master of Ceremonies, Geoff Wade

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

Geoff Bransbury & Robert Dun

President's Christmas Lunch

Friday December 17
@ Victoria Golf Club



12.00: Welcome canapés and drinks, lunch at 12.30. Not to be missed! Come and enjoy a superb Christmas lunch, with lots of good company, as well as a chance to win the annual quiz and raffle! Tables will be allocated as in previous years. All drinks are included up to a generous float. This year, we have beaten inflation and have kept the cost the same as last year. Cost: \$55 pp which includes drinks.

Please register and pay at our November meeting

February 2011

Kilmore Turf Cup 2011 Sunday February 27



Something different!!! A day at the country races and a scrumptious lunch in the Members!

Members of Sandy Bay Probus have asked us to join them for this magnificent day – this is a Race Day Luncheon Package. The group will catch the train from Sandringham which connects with the Kilmore East train at Southern Cross. We are met at Kilmore East by a courtesy bus and driven to the Members where we enjoy a three-course Race Day lunch. We will have a reserved table and seating and race book.



Cost (excluding train fare): \$64 or \$59 concession. Numbers are limited so please register in November. First-come-first-served.

March 2011

Warrnambool, Portland, Port Fairy - 3 days, 2 nights
Tuesday 22 - Thursday 24



Travel by train to Warrnambool where we will stay for two nights. Members with a Senior's concession card could use the two free V-line trips to travel free. Each member will need to make own arrangements to get to and from Southern Cross Station. Shared taxis could be a reasonably cheap and convenient option for the early start.

We will tour Flagstaff Hill Maritime Museum and Tower Hill reserve and see the unique spectacular Shipwrecked Light & Laser Show. On Day 2, we travel by coach to Portland, ride the tram, tour the wharf and surrounds, visit Cape Bridgewater and a Portland strawberry farm. We spend some time at Port Fairy in the afternoon. This tour includes accommodation, all meals and entry to the Maritime Village, Shipwrecked Show and Portland tram ride.



Port Fairy on the Moyne

Cost: only \$275 twin share; Single: \$395
IMPORTANT: Please register your interest for this wonderful tour at the November meeting.

Did You Know ?

Australia is ranked the seventh cleanest country in the world? Just ahead of Austria, Iceland, Denmark. So who is in front of us?

New Zealand, then Switzerland, Sweden, Canada, Norway – and World Number 1 is Finland.

What are the top three deepest oceans?

The Pacific (3 939 metres)

The Indian (3 840 metres)

The Atlantic (3 575 metres)



Amazing Facts

All we ever wanted to know about bees and ants but never dared ask

Peter McGregor presented the 10-minute speaker's address in October, his subject being Amazing Facts most of which, in his own words, were completely useless. He then launched into a series of quick-fire facts that held the audience's attention, such as that there are more chickens in the world than people; and if we could move as quickly as ants relative to body size, most of us could outrun a racehorse, and more people are killed each year from bee stings than from snake bite. He said many people assume that over-population and poverty go together. Wrong. Monaco is the most densely-populated country (16 people per square km) and yet it is one of the world's wealthiest countries. Also, Wellington did *not* defeat Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo. On the point of being routed, his men were saved by the 72-year old Prussian, Colonel von Blucher, who arrived on the scene just in time with fresh soldiers, superior numbers and new fire-power. An Englishman, William Siborne, solicited money from anyone who said they had been there to contribute to an account of the battle he was going to compile - but only English views were accepted. This became the official record of the battle, disputed at the time (and ever since) by every other country. Many other interesting facts might have followed, but unfortunately Peter's 10 minutes had expired.

Ian Gallagher

Safe Living for Senior Citizens

With humour and clarity, Sergeant John Woodward from Moorabbin described his area of work as 'trying to stop things happening' as distinct from other areas of police work where their responsibilities normally occur after the event.

His first topic, driver health, he said was essential, and our responsibility is to ensure we are healthy enough to drive competently. "Imagine the distress of perhaps killing your own grandchild," he said "because you suffer from occasional blackouts or poor vision". He urged members to seek a doctor's advice and be aware of the effect of medications. On pedestrian safety for all ages he strongly advocates not walking with headphones which distract attention from driveways, approaching traffic and also warning signals. His message was to be alert and aware all the time and constantly monitor one's surroundings.

An important priority for all is to have a safety plan on what to do in the case of feeling unsure or unsafe – develop a network of family and friends who expect to make contact with you at least every two days as a minimum. He also gave some excellent tips on home security; and on the subject of ATMs he advised not to use any machine where the 'insert card' lights are not flashing.

Alan Trumble



Sgt John Woodward was pleased with the gift he received from us

Your Committee At Work



The Committee meets for an hour or so after each monthly meeting to review the progress and plan the future activities of the club. Left: Geoff Bransbury and Secretary, John Howe, in deliberation over some of the latest correspondence

In October, thanks were expressed to the good folk at the Beaumaris Library for making available places for the two computers, courtesy of the NEC Project, to be used by Probus members. Thanks were expressed also to the new catering staff at the RSL for the new arrangements that worked so well, but there was some discussion about the rise in the cost of morning tea and coffee from \$2 to \$3. However, as it is in line with the cost to other Probus clubs, the committee agreed to accept it. Geoff Wade agreed to continue to compile a list of members' mobile phone numbers, even though the response so far has not been strong. It was reported that numbers for the 2010 President's Christmas Lunch had reached a very healthy level.

Computer Action

An invitation is extended to all members to go to the Beaumaris Library, ask the librarian to direct you to the Beaumaris Probus computers and show your Probus name badge as authorisation. For these computers, remember the Username is Probus, and the Password is Probus1. Wives of members are welcome to play/use/learn on these machines – the latest in pc computers – with their husbands should they so desire.

Alan Farmer

NEW MEMBERS

This club is strong because our numbers are being renewed and refreshed constantly by new members. As Geoff Mason said in the last newsletter, "I'm thrilled to think that there are so many new people coming into the club with fresh ideas." We know that new people and new ideas make for a much more interesting fellowship of members so we ask you all to think of people outside the club—from all walks of life—who could enrich us by their presence. It would be great to think that there are some other people Out There lining up to join us and share the superb experiences and times we have together. Please make an effort to invite a new member to our next meeting. Let's make 2011 Bring-a-Friend Year.