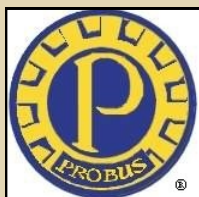


NEWSLETTER



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No A 001 — 6598G

Website: <http://www.beaumarisprobus.org.au/>

Probuss Bank Details: CBA BSB 063-144
Account No 10121288



Issue No. 318

February 2017

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday February 21 The Sandringham Club

Keynote Speaker: Kevin Norris
Topic: Saudi Arabia – The King's Grand Vision

10-Minute Talk: Simon Appel Dispense with Care



Kevin Norris has more than 30 years' experience in public transport in Victoria. His expertise lies in bus operations, bus network planning, public transport coordination and integration, ticketing systems and systems development, operator contract structures, negotiations, as well as industrial relations practice and advocacy. He was Executive Director for Bus Association Victoria from 1986 to 1999 and then

took up a role as Managing Director of Grenda Transit until 2008. He remained with Grenda Corporation as a Non-Executive Director until 2013 and is still actively involved in his consultancy practice. Currently, he is engaged on a major school bus expansion for Saudi Arabia aimed at encouraging more girls and students in remote areas to attend school through to the end of secondary level. In July 2015, he was appointed to the Board of Public Transport Victoria.

Probuss Beaumaris Tours Parliament

*23 of us were given
a very informative
tour followed by an
excellent lunch*



*Photos:
Alan
Stevens
and Ken
Beadle*



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

*** Office Bearers 2017**

* President: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507
* Past President: Kevin McDonnell	9598 8209
* Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9589 4884
* Functions: John Beaty	9583 9991
* Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
* Assistant Secretary: John Smyth	9885 3084
* Newsletter: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Almoner: Noel Ineson	9589 5263
President's Table: John Green	9580 6820
Speakers' Recorder: John Bushby	9598 7113
Projectionist: Philip Stewart	9589 3309

*** Committee Members**

* Vice-President: Ken Beadle	9589 6120
* Secretary: Alan Stevens	9597 0235
Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546
* Assistant Functions: John Green	9580 6820
Assistant Meetings: Keith Ross	9589 3580
Assistant Meetings: Graeme Keys	9585 7297
* Membership: Peter Flude	9585 5559
Grapevine: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Sommelier: Bill Green	9596 1548
Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310
Archive: John Howe	9598 2429

*** Interest Groups**

Bike Riding: Duncan Gibson	9586 3647
	Ken Beadle 9589 6120
Discussion: Barry Amond	95891143
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982
Wine Appreciation: Roger Wilson	0418395946
Golf: John Pound	9521 8252

Bowls: Ted Montfort	9589 5949
Digital Technology: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
Tastes: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Bridge: Alan Farmer	9598 2791
Photographer: Ian Maskiell	9592 3380

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Geoff Bransbury

In March and April, we are trying something completely new. It has been suggested that members might be interested in authoritative economic analysis regarding some of the issues simmering around us. No-one can doubt that we live in interesting and changing times; for example, Trump, Brexit, the rise of the Far Right in Europe that threatens the EU, China's slowdown. What does it all mean for Australia and each of us? Any one or all these issues could impact us in some way, hopefully positively - but who knows?

I would be interested in hearing such informed viewpoints and perhaps many of you would be as well. Therefore, we are trialling a new Interest group - perhaps to be known as Global Economic Issues. In the time-slot previously used by the Investment Group, we will meet at the Sandringham Club at 8.45 am sharp prior to the General Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday, finishing no later than 9.45 am.

In March, we have much-sought-after guest speaker Michael Heffernan on World Economic Development Scenarios in 2017. Michael is an excellent speaker, a Senior Economist and commentator who appears regularly on Sky Business TV.

The success or otherwise of this new group, depends upon whether members attend the meetings and want it to continue; also, that some are prepared to lead or co-ordinate the meetings going forward. I will lead the meetings in March and April. I hope many of you will attend and lend your support



Below: Our two newish members, both originally Scots but now fully-fledged Aussies (and keen golfers), Andy Coogan (left) and Robert Kerr



Left: Bruce Tomkins and his visitor Above left: Susan Schofield makes her point Above: The old and the new Secretary, Alan Stevens and John Smyth



Right: two stalwarts of our club at work, Paul Crompton and Philip Stewart



NOTICEBOARD

No Investment Group Meeting in February

See Link: <http://www.beaumarisprobus.org.au/>

Music Group

Our next meetings are Wednesday March 29 and Wednesday May 31
Barry Amond

Discussion Groups

At the February meetings we are discussing the continuing implications for the world of Donald Trump's election. We will then switch to Energy which was last discussed over four years ago, well before the price rises which are now occurring. The following meetings will be on Friday April 7 and Tuesday April 11.
Barry Amond



Bike Group

As we are a very diverse group with a range of capabilities, our rides alternate between 'heroic' and 'less heroic'. For the next ride on Friday February 24, we encourage new riders to join us entirely off-road from Black Rock car park to Patterson River and return following refreshments at the bakery. This bike path is basically flat and easy-going – no cars, no dogs, no sweat! Please note the summer starting time is 8:30 am. Would intending riders please advise Duncan or Ken.
Duncan Gibson

Brighton Theatre

John Green

Members who are yet to pick up their tickets for the 2017 season of the Brighton Theatre Company are advised that they are available for collection from the functions desk. You are reminded that the first performance is Wednesday February 22 at 8 pm.

NZ Cruise: All Aboard

We leave Station Pier, Port Melbourne, at 4 pm on Sunday March 5 for our 13-night return cruise to the North and South Islands of New Zealand. Boarding is from 12.30 to 3 pm. Those using private transport can be dropped off reasonably close to the vessel by use of their boarding pass. Hopefully, all issues and questions were resolved at the recent informal gathering.
John Green

Wine Appreciation

Roger Wilson

At our next meeting on Tuesday February 28, we are tasting eight bottles of vintage reds from Roger Wilson's cellar from various wineries in four states – the youngest being a 2008 Parker Coonawarra (SA) cabernet sauvignon and the oldest bottle a 1995 Moorebank merlot from the Hunter Valley (NSW).



New in March and April - Special Guest speakers on major world economic issues

March: Michael Heffernan Senior Economist, Broadcaster, Commentator, Bayside Councillor 8.45 am March Probus meeting day (21/3) at the Sandringham Club.

Come and join us.

See also President's message p2.



Tastes 2017

Alan Stevens/Peter McGregor

Our First Vietnamese Banquet

WHEN: Thursday April 6

6.30 pm

WHERE: Le Phan restaurant

4-5 Melrose St Sandringham

COST: \$40 pp

BOOK NOW

A special night of beef, chicken and pork dishes. Carefully selected wines to accompany a unique and sumptuous range of Vietnamese street fare. As usual, best wines available @ \$15 per bottle

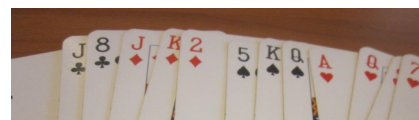
Directory change

Alan Taylor has a new telephone number - now 9551 0361. Will be incorporated in the next update to the Members' Register.
Geoff Wade

Cost of Lunch at Sandringham Club

As announced at the January meeting, the cost of lunch at the Sandringham Club will increase by \$2 to \$22 from the next meeting. This was unavoidable but through negotiation we were able to minimise the increase. We are assured that the quality of our meals will remain at the same high standard. GW

More Bridge



Our Bridge group commenced the 2017 year on February 7 at 9:30 am. Guru Gill began the session with one of her many gems by elucidating how to play "Stayman". Her introductory gem for the next session on February 14 will be on the mysteries of "Transfers". We look forward to crossing more Bridges with her in 2017.
Alan Farmer

Birthday Boys – February

Graham Symon 6/2	Dick Kirby 9/2
Paul Crompton 18/2	Gary Sebo 21/2
Lachlan McLean 25/2	Hugh Stevens 26/2
Allan Cox 27/2	Peter Harford 27/2

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

Annual Croquet Challenge and Spit Roast

Ken Beadle

Friday March 3 Sandringham Croquet Club

We have again booked the Sandringham Croquet Club (opposite Sandringham Club) for a fun evening from 4 pm to 8 pm on Friday, March 3. We look forward to spit roast beef, a feast not to be missed.

Jennie and Tony Bowles, with other croquet members, will show us how to play. Remember: no special skills required. Last year's competition was won by John Smyth and the handsome trophy will again be up for grabs. The club greens can accommodate a maximum of 40 players, so register and pay early to ensure your place in the year's first major social event.

Cost: \$35 pp (includes croquet and all food). BYO drinks. Registration and payment by February 24.

March

David Hockney @ the NGV

Wednesday March 1 at 10.30 am

Visit to the David Hockney Exhibition at the NGV.

Tickets: \$35 (concession which includes guided tour) to be purchased in advance. A sign-in sheet will be available at our next meeting.

We will travel into the city by train – suggested departure time from Cheltenham Station is the 09.25 am train arriving at Flinders St at 10.02 am (allowing 15 minutes to walk to the NGV building in St Kilda Rd). Assemble at NGV reception area by 10.20 am. We will organise an optional lunch in the NGV at the end of the tour. For more information about David Hockney [CLICK HERE](#). If you have any questions, contact John Beaty (0400 988 208).



May

Tour & Lunch in the Dandenong Ranges Wednesday May 10

Depart Beaumaris Community Centre @ 9.30 am, returning 4.30 pm. Drive to Rhododendron Gardens, Olinda, for free tour with coffee shop access. Drive to *Fortnum's* restaurant, Sassafras, for lunch. (Cost: \$60–\$70 includes scenic drive return to Beaumaris). Minimum 30, maximum 48. [More](#). Full details will be published on the website and in the March edition of the Newsletter

NOTE: I plan to have the program for the rest of 2017 on the website by the end of February.

John Beaty



April Melbourne Star Observation Wheel

Date to be confirmed, probably Wednesday April 5 at 11.30 am. The cost per person is \$28 plus transport costs.

The Melbourne Star Wheel is almost 120m high and around 38 storeys above ground level with 21 air-conditioned cabins accommodating 20 passengers. The flight lasts 30 minutes providing uninterrupted 360 degrees views to a distance of about 40 km. Lunch will be either in the Melbourne Star complex or at an adjacent restaurant.

It is important that you register your interest at the February meeting.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subs are due and payable on January 1 each year. It is now February and there are still a few subscriptions outstanding.

Payment of outstanding subscriptions (at \$70 for the year) may be paid at next general meeting or direct to our bank account, or by cheque to Geoff Carlson, Treasurer, 22 First Street, Black Rock 3193.
Geoff Carlson

Ride for Life

A study of 45,000 Danish adults (aged 50 to 65) who regularly biked for recreation or to commute found they had between 11 percent and 18 percent fewer heart attacks during a 20-year follow-up (1993-2013).



Persons of the Forest

John Bushby

Native to Indonesia and Malaysia, orangutans are currently found only in the rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra. Our January keynote speaker, Susan Schofield, made the point that they are primals not monkeys, and are closely related to humans, having 97% of DNA in common with us. Their tragedy is that of a total population of about 7 000, there is an annual loss of 3 - 6 000 and predictions are that they will be extinct by 2020. Loss of rainforest at a rapid rate has the orangutans falling prey to loss of food resources and to poaching practices. Mothers are often killed for their babies which are then sold on the black market as cute pets. The massive loss of forests has been caused by the world's quest for pulp paper and palm oil and government inability to change these pursuits. Magnificent creatures, the male orangutan stands at about five foot, weighs 90 kilos and has an arm-spread of about 8 feet. The female is smaller at about four feet, weighing about 45 kilos. All indications are that our forest cousins cannot be saved as we do nothing to prevent their extinction. We were left hoping that the numerous NGOs have some success but without government assistance and a rapid curtailment of the short-sighted activities of international companies these hopes will be dashed. With a passion for trying to save these beautiful animals, Susan Schofield was a delight to have as our speaker even though her subject reflected the limits of man's compassion.

New Keynote Speaker Video Available

Paul Crompton has excelled himself with his video of Sue Schofield on the plight of the Orangutans.

See: <http://www.beaumarisprobus.org.au/members/speaker-videos-archive/>.

Maybe your wives would be interested? GB

Parking Notice

As many are aware, ample parking is available for our meetings in the car park on the other side of Beach Road adjacent to the Croquet Club. However, we ask that members be especially careful crossing the road and remember: you need to display your Bayside parking permit.

PRISMS Dates 2017

Tuesday, April 4 at the Davis residence

Tuesday, August 1 at the Howe residence

Tuesday, November 28 at the Nash residence

Thank God For Flies

Without flies there would be no chocolate. For the cocoa tree, pollination is essential for fruit production but only flies, rather than bees, are small enough to enter and pollinate the small white flowers emerging from the stems. [More.](#)

Three Years Underground

John Bushby

Members who may have been concerned that Gus Bravo was about to disclose his activities within the gangland were delighted to receive an excellent presentation on his three years working in Deep Level Mining in South Africa. The enormous gold reserves of South Africa represent a substantial part of the world's total resources. The main producing area is concentrated on the Archean Witwatersrand Basin which has been mined for over a hundred years and has produced about 40 000t of gold. It also remains the greatest unmined source of gold in the world. Along with several other sought-after minerals, the mining activity in South Africa is mind-blowing in size and wealth. Gus described in detail some of the inevitable obstacles encountered in his work for Anglo-American; for example, training and harnessing a work force of thousands of Africans from diverse backgrounds and with very different languages, coupled with inherently difficult working conditions. All of which made for a most challenging work environment. We thank Gus for his excellent illustrated presentation, emphasising once again the quality and diversity of members' life experiences.

PRISMS

Since 2002, Probus members interested in single malt Scotch have met as a tasting group with a format used by twin club, Mississauga South in Canada. The Probians Responsibly Investigating Single Malt Scotch group meets three times a year and tastes four malts at each meeting. The group is limited to 12 members (the maximum comfortably accommodated for each meeting). During the 15 years of our existence, we have tasted more than 90 malts from some 50 Scottish single malt distilleries. Even so, we are not yet expert by any measure – but we will keep trying!



[See website](#) for more information.

Bill Davis

VALE

Foundation Member, Alleyne Small, passed away peacefully on Wednesday January 18 at the age of 96. Allan was a member of Victoria Golf Club for more than 30 years and was an active member of Beaumaris Probus since its inception 30 years ago. In accordance with his wishes, no memorial service was held.

Probus Club of Beaumaris

Events Calendar

Tuesday February 7	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Friday February 10	9.30 am	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday February 14	2 pm	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday February 14	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday February 21	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Wednesday February 22	8 pm	Brighton Theatre Group	
Friday February 24	8.30 am	Bike Ride	
Tuesday February 28	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday February 28		Wine Appreciation	Roger Wilson's Place
Wednesday March 1	10.30 am	David Hockney Exhibition	NGV
Friday March 3	4.00 – 8.00 pm	Croquet/Spit Roast	Sandringham Croquet Club
Sunday March 5		Cruise to New Zealand	Station Pier
Tuesday March 7	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday March 14	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Saturday March 18	7 am	NZ Cruise Return	
Tuesday March 21	8.45 am 10 am	Global Economic Issues GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Wednesday March 22–24		Annual Golf Trip	Port Fairy GC
Tuesday March 28	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday March 29	7 pm	Music Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday April 4	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday April 4	2 pm	PRISMS	Davis Residence
Wednesday April 5		Melbourne Star Observation Wheel	
Thursday April 6	6.30 pm	Tastes	Le Phan, Sandringham
Friday April 7	9.30 am	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday April 11	2 pm	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday April 11	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday April 18	8.45 am 10 am	Global Economic Issues GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Tuesday April 25	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club