

NEWSLETTER



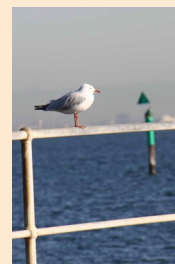
PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

Reg No A 001 — 6598G

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

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Account No 10121288



Issue No. 319

March 2017

Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday March 21 The Sandringham Club

**Keynote Speaker: Peter Stephens Technical Director – Water
Topic: Amazing Tunnel Boring**

NOTE: AGM No 10-Minute Talk

What Tunnel Boring Machines Do

In recent times, a network of new rail tunnels has been built across London by eight giant tunnel boring machines, to carry Crossrail's trains eastbound and westbound. Each tunnel is 21 kilometres long, 6.2 metres in diameter and up to 40 metres below ground. Over the last three years, eight 1,000 tonne tunnel boring machines (TBMs) have bored 42km of new 6.2 diameter rail tunnels under London. The machines were operated by 'tunnel gangs' of 20 people, working in shifts around the clock to construct the tunnels, carving out around 3.4 million tonnes of earth. Teams of dedicated workers have been working 24 hours a day to complete the tunnels for Europe's largest civil engineering project. The tunnels weave their way between existing underground lines, sewers, utility tunnels and building foundations from station to station at depths of up to 42m. [More](#)



[Credit: Crossrail]



Snapshots from our Gala Croquet Day, 2017

Some of the highlights from our most successful afternoon of fun and good food in the sun

Our eventual winner, Barry Amond (picture enlarged) accepts the prestigious trophy from VP 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
Webmaster: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507

*** 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	Bowls: Ted Montfort	9589 5949
Ken Beadle	9589 6120	Digital Technology: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Discussion: Barry Amond	9589 1143	Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982	Tastes: Peter McGregor	9533 4760
Wine Appreciation: Roger Wilson	0418395946	Bridge: Alan Farmer	9598 2791
Golf: John Pound	9521 8252	Photographer: Ian Maskiell	9592 3380

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Geoff Bransbury

It has been a special privilege to have served as your President over the past year. I'm very proud to leave the Club in such a fine state and I now pass the baton to a very capable new President, Ken Beadle, who has served us so well as Functions Co-ordinator for the past three years. I want to thank all 27 members who have participated in the running of the Club throughout the year to make it the strong club it is. We have welcomed many new members, each of whom adds a new dimension to the Club. Many, with their partners, have joined trips and functions and two - Peter Flude and John Beaty - have taken up official roles. This makes the future bright for our Club. On a sad note, three members passed away this year: Alleyne Small, Alan Reith (both Foundation Members) and Denis Bowdern. They will be greatly missed. 2016/17 has seen the introduction of our website which I hope members will find useful. I'm sure, however, that some members are still uncertain how to use it. Therefore, Geoff Wade is introducing our mentor program for this purpose and any other computer issues. Please put your name on the sheet if you would like a Club Mentor to work with you to improve your skills. Finally, I want to thank my Committee which has been so effective and supportive of me and the Club this year. Secretary Alan Stevens retires as Secretary after serving three years. He has been a superb, very efficient Secretary. John Smyth will now take control of the gong. Past President Kevin McDonnell, who has been a source of wisdom to the committee, steps down. Tony Bowles has retired as Theatre Organiser. Thank you, Tony, for your good work. John Green will take on this role as well as Assistant Functions Co-ordinator to John Beaty. I must add my special thanks to Treasurer Geoff Carlson for keeping our finances in such good shape, Peter McGregor for producing the best newsletter in Probud Australia and Geoff Wade for his many roles, not least the maintenance of the essential Members' Register and Meeting Coordinator.

Thank you everyone.

New Members



Above: President Geoff welcomes Grant Sabin to the Club. A meteorologist, Grant spent most of his working life forecasting for the Bureau of Meteorology



Phil Maddox (above) comes to us from Project Management in the Oil & Gas industry



His Honour, Jim Duggan, was a County Court Judge for many years

New member, David Dodd (below), proposed by Bruce Tomkins, is a polar historian and an Australian history researcher with an interest in cricket and rugby





NOTICEBOARD

March 21 8.45 am Global Economic Issues

Hear opinions from influential people on current world economic issues. Michael Heffernan, Senior Economist, Broadcaster, Commentator, gives us his view on 2017 World Economic Scenarios this month. 8.45 am – before General Meeting
The success of this session will determine whether we continue with other speakers in future months. Please come!

Discussion Groups

Barry Amond

Next meetings: Friday April 7 and Tuesday April 11.
At the February meetings, we analysed the early days of the Donald Trump presidency, then had a pessimistic discussion on the haphazard energy situation in Australia. Hopefully, we can find something cheerful to discuss at future meetings!

Music Group

Barry Amond

Our next meetings are on Wednesday March 29 and Wednesday May 31.

Wine Appreciation

Roger Wilson

Late in February, eleven members of the group 'raided' Roger's aged red wine cellar and tasted eight different red wines from SA, WA, and Victoria, (2002 to 2008) including a number of varieties.

On first-past-the-post voting, two wines were equal: 2002 Penfolds' Bin 128 Coonawarra shiraz and 2004 Tahbilk shiraz. A 2008 Parker's Coonawarra Estate cabernet sauvignon was a close third.

Next meeting: lunch meeting at The Steak Bank at 12 noon on Friday May 19 – where members will bring their own bottle for others to taste.

Theatre

John Green

Full details of our Live Theatre program are now available under FUNCTIONS and VISITS on our [website](#). In many cases, the prices offered are at a concessional rate and payment is critical in order to seal the deal. Accordingly, prompt payment would be appreciated once you have decided to attend a performance. Brochures are often available but best arrangement is to google the show to find all details and information. Do not hesitate to email me your particular requirements for your preferred show.

For Your Interest

Victoria Golf Club members of Beaumaris
Probus: 41+

Tastes

Alan Stevens/Peter McGregor

Last chance to join us for our Vietnamese Banquet.

Where: Le Phan Restaurant, Melrose St, Sandy

When: Thursday April 6 6.30 pm

Cost: \$40 pp

YOU NEED TO BOOK AND PAY NOW

Members' Directory Update

The Directory has been updated to include details of new members inducted at the February meeting.

The changes have now been posted on our website in the members' section. Also included in the update are the following changes: email address for Roger Leeming (rogerleeming66@gmail.com) and Geoff Goodwin (janandgeoffgoodwin@gmail.com); also Barry Amond's new mobile phone number: 0407 877 539.

The Register will be updated over the next month. If your details have changed, please advise me as soon as possible.

Geoff Wade

Spectacles left on Lectern

A pair of spectacles was left on the lectern after the February meeting. If yours, contact the manager, John Hudson, at the Sandringham Club.

Website and other Digital Mentoring

Geoff Wade

Some members may not be confident in accessing our website and, perhaps, the use of other digital devices/programs. A sheet will be available at the March meeting to record your name if you would like some hands-on assistance in anything digital. We will then arrange a mentor for you. Similarly, if you would be prepared to assist in this program, sign a separate sheet of those willing to help.

Bike Group

Ken Beadle

Our next heroic (not really) ride on March 17 will be the Moonee Ponds Creek trail from north of the city finishing at Docklands. We meet at Sandringham Station at 8.30 am to catch the train to Flinders Street where we will transfer to the Craigieburn line train at 9.14 am – destination Jacana Station. We join the bike trail close to the station and follow the trail south. We will stop for coffee and muffins at Docklands before following the Yarra eastwards to South Yarra station and back to Sandringham. It is mainly downhill with a good surface - approximately 25 km. Remember to bring your MYKI card.

A really interesting ride. New members are always welcome - contact me with any questions.

(See also Duncan Gibson's Bike Report, p5)

Bowls

Birthday Boys – March

Tony Avery 10/3

Bill Baker 9/3

John Bushby 20/3

Mev Connell 11/3

Bill Cruthers 17/3

Alan Farmer 27/3

John Howe 13/3

Graeme Keys 8/3

Ian Maskiell 27/3

Ted Montfort 24/3

Alan Nash 6/3 *

John Pound 6/3 *

Brian Simpson 10/3

Bruce Tompkins

16/3 Ken White 29/3

FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

April

Visit to the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel
101 Waterfront Way, Docklands.
Tuesday April 4 (Note change of date) 11.30 am

See your city from a new perspective and enjoy a 30 minute flight from ground level up to 120 metres and down again in one rotation. Enjoy 360 degree views for up to 40 km as far away as Mount Macedon and the Dandenong Ranges. Travel by train and tram or drive and park at Harbour Town Shopping Centre

We have to book by March 24 so please register for this visit at the March General Meeting. Cost: \$28 per person (please pay direct to the Club account). We will lunch at a local restaurant after the flight if you wish (own cost). We need at least 20 members to book a private cabin (no kids!) If not attending the March meeting, please pay direct and advise John Green or John Beaty. [More](#)

May

Tour and Lunch in the Dandenong Ranges
Wednesday May 10

Depart by coach from Community Centre at 9.30 am returning at approximately 4.30 pm. Tour includes a visit to the Rhododendron Gardens, Olinda, free tour and coffee shop access, then drive to Fortnum's Restaurant for lunch followed by scenic drive and return home.

Cost (including lunch): \$60 - \$70 but depends on the number attending) - more members makes it cheaper for everyone.

Please register at the March meeting or if not there by contacting John Green or me.

June

Annual Candlelight Dinner at Sandringham Yacht Club
Wednesday
June 21

Full details and costs will be announced in April but will

be similar to last year. Registration available at the March General Meeting



Picture above: John & Louise Pound with President Geoff

Australia's Coffee Culture

Kilograms of coffee Australians consume per head annually: 3 (marginally higher than Britain)
World coffee consumption per capita (Australia's ranking): 42nd [More](#)

July

Visit to the Seeing Eye Dogs Australia
Tuesday 11 July 2017



Tour including lunch. See how this valuable service is provided to so many vision-impaired people and how the dogs are trained. [More](#)
Cost: \$52 - \$56 depending on numbers

October

Holiday Package to Norfolk Island
October 15 - 22

7-night package with flights via Sydney
Luxury accommodation at Executive Suites at the [Governor's Lodge](#) (with daily breakfasts)
Six organised tours
Cost: \$2189 pp twin share; \$2689 single



Norfolk Island is an island of pristine beaches, towering pines trees and rugged cliff faces. As simple community with a laid back lifestyle, the island is located in the South Pacific Ocean midway between Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand with 32 km of stunning coastline. With a rich English ancestry, the island has a heritage feel with striking colonial architecture. There are no ports, railways or busy roads to disturb the peace, only 80 km of laneways where cows have right of way.

Note: today's prices may increase during the year
Registration will be available at the March meeting
I would like to have our group fully organised and confirmed by our April club meeting – later additions would be at the then-current prices.

For Your Diary

President's Christmas Lunch: Friday December 15 at Southern Golf Club.

FACT CHECK

Top City Travel Destinations 2017

1 Hong Kong	6 Macau
2 Bangkok	7 Dubai
3 London	8 Istanbul
4 Singapore	9 New York City
5 Paris	10 Kuala Lumpur

Euromonitor International Jan 16

Dispense With Care – A Brief Pharma History



We don't usually equate pharmacy with humour but our members were pleasantly surprised that Simon Appel's presentation of his life as a chemist was both educational and entertaining. Introduced into the family pharmacy by his father, Simon related how he graduated from a clumsy apprentice to a successful life in his own practice. His description of the methods used in the early years for making tablets and potions from the illegible Latin scrawl of doctors was very enlightening. In the intervening years, these methods have evolved into modern robotic systems which assist in the dispensing of medicine based upon science and modern knowledge. Simon's photographs of his former tools of trade allowed members to gain insight into a world that has been a mystery environment to many of us. Lack of space prevents details of numerous chemist-patient contacts being disclosed herein.

John Bushby

Parking Notice

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

Bike Report

Duncan Gibson

In February, seven Probiants enjoyed the scenic ride to Patterson River where (at Ken's suggestion) we took a refreshment break at the interesting Cafe Moto which has vintage motorcycles as its theme and our President met up with a soul mate (yes, another long-distance motorcyclist adventurer). The coffee and cakes were voted 'excellent'.



Left:: One of a number of great photos taken by Ian Maskiell our resident photographer as we prepare to redesign and revamp the masthead of our newsletter

**TASTES: LAST CHANCE TO JOIN US FOR
A VIETNAMESE BANQUET AT LE PHAN
COST: \$40 April 6 PLEASE PAY NOW**

Lunch Bookings

Geoff Wade

At the February meeting we had 60 members stay for lunch which was an excellent result. However, examination of the sign-in sheets revealed only 55 had indicated they were staying for lunch. Although our chef, Scott, did an excellent job in catering for all, it meant that not all choices were available for all. PLEASE, ensure that you indicate on the sign-in sheets if you intend to stay for lunch.



The King's Grand Vision

Kevin Norris (without fluency in Arabic) is CEO of a transportation service company in Saudi Arabia which was established to encourage and assist more girls and students in urban and remote areas of the country to attend school through to the end of secondary level. Kevin spends two-week periods in every 6-8 weeks working in Riyadh. Saudi Arabia has 25 Universities (with plans for another two) and 207,000 students studying at overseas universities.

"School facilities in many areas are poor and unsuitable"

When the changes to the education system were actioned four years ago, emphasis was placed on improvements for girls and boys including those from remote areas. The company was formed in a reform program focusing on moving teaching away from the traditional method of memorisation and rote learning to one of analysis and problem-solving. It also encouraged a more secular and practical approach. Kevin described some of the obstacles that hinder progress: cultural differences between different tribes, long-distant travel by both teachers and students on dilapidated roads, unsafe buses, bad drivers and corruption. School facilities in many areas are poor and unsuitable. Kevin's company continues its efforts to introduce a modern linked computer system but at best the collection of data is haphazard and often of little use. His options to overcome the range of current problems include: operating some of the services themselves, building a proper tendering service, dealing directly with safety and security issues, strategic partnerships with investors, and dealing with cultural issues. All this in the context of a young population seeking its own destiny. Something to think about!!

John Bushby

Probus Club of Beaumaris

Events Calendar

Tuesday March 14	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday March 15	Victorian Probus Bowls Association Metropolitan Annual Bowls Day		
Friday March 17	Bike Ride		
Saturday March 18	7 am	NZ Cruise returns	
Tuesday March 21	8.45 am	Global Economic Issues	Sandringham Club
	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	
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	11.30 am	Melbourne Star Observation Wheel	Docklands
Thursday April 6	6.30 pm	TASTES: Vietnamese Banquet	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	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Tuesday April 25	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday May 2	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday May 9	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday May 10	9.30 am	Dandenong Ranges	
Tuesday May 16	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Sandringham Club
Friday May 19	12 noon	Wine Appreciation Group	Steak Bank Restaurant
Tuesday May 23	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday May 24	8 pm	Brighton Theatre Group	
Wednesday May 31	7 pm	Music Group	25 Third Street Black Rock