



# NEWSLETTER

Probud Club of Beaumaris Inc.

[www.beaumarisprobud.org.au](http://www.beaumarisprobud.org.au)

Reg No. A 001 - 6598G

Probud Bank Details: CBA BSB 063144 Account No. 10121288

**Issue No. 333**

**June 2018**

**Meeting: 10 am Tuesday June 19 Beaumaris Sports Club**

**Keynote Speaker: Mal Walden**

**Topic: Untold Headlines – Stories Behind the News**

**10-Minute Talk: Kevin Reed Genetic Manipulation - Nonsense and Sensibility**

Mal Walden is best known for having read the daily news each week night on Channel 7 and later at Channel 10. On his retirement in 2013, after a distinguished media career that started at Warrnambool radio 3YB in 1961 and spanned six decades, he was reported to have been the longest continuous face on Australian television. It was said that there was not a news headline or major event that he had not read or reported on. At a Victorian State Parliament function hosted by Premier Denis Napthine, he was farewelled and awarded a lifetime achievement quill by the Melbourne Press Club.

Since his retirement, Mal has published two books, *The Newsmen* and *Good News*, and will shortly be launching another book.



**“June 2018 is a very special month in the 31-year history of our great Club as we celebrate 100 years of our long-time member, Ralph Butcher.” President Roger, p2**



## **PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.**

### **\* Office Bearers 2018**

\* Committee Members

* President: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418395946	* Vice-President: <b>Keith Ross</b>	9589 3580
* Past President: <b>Ken Beadle</b>	9589 6120	* Secretary: <b>John Smyth</b>	0438619189
* Treasurer: <b>Geoff Carlson</b>	9589 4884	Auditor: <b>Don Lobb</b>	9598 5546
* Functions: <b>Andy Coogan</b>	9589 5742	Assistant Functions: <b>John Green</b>	9580 6820
* Meetings: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593	Assistant Meetings: <b>Simon Appel</b>	9585 6956
Assistant Meetings: <b>Graeme Keys</b>	9585 7297	* Assistant Secretary: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	9597 0235
* Newsletter: <b>Peter McGregor</b>	9533 4760	* Membership: <b>Peter Flude</b>	9585 5550
Almoner: <b>Noel Ineson</b>	0498 060 159	Grapevine: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593
President's Table: <b>John Green</b>	9580 6820	Sommelier: <b>Bill Green</b>	9596 1548
Recorder: <b>John Bushby</b>	9598 7113	Audio Visual: <b>Paul Crompton</b>	9583 1310
Projectionist: <b>Philip Stewart</b>	9589 3309	Archive: <b>John Howe</b>	9598 2429
Webmaster: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	9589 1507	Photographer: <b>Ian Maskiell</b>	9592 3380

### **\* Interest Groups**

Bike Riding: <b>Duncan Gibson</b>	9585 3547	Bowls: <b>Ted Montfort</b>	9589 5949
<b>Ken Beadle</b>	9589 6120	Digital Technology: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593
Discussion: <b>Barry Amond</b>	9589 1143	Music/Opera: <b>Barry Amond</b>	9589 1143
PRISMS: <b>Bill Davis</b>	9592 5982	Tastes: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	9597 0235
Wine Appreciation: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418395946	Bridge: <b>Alan Farmer</b>	9598 2791
Golf: <b>John Pound</b>	9521 8252	Theatre: <b>John Green</b>	9580 6820

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**



**Roger Wilson**

June 2018 is a very special month in the 31-year history of our great Club as we celebrate 100 years of our long-time member, Ralph Butcher. Born in London on June 24 1918 during World War One, Ralph is one of more than 4250 centenarians in Australia – one of the highest amongst countries – behind only Japan, France, USA, Canada and the UK. Chatting with Ralph recently, he has had a wonderful, varied life living his early years in New Guinea with his parents who were missionaries. Then to the UK for schooling followed by war service with the British Army in the Mediterranean and Middle East. In Australia, Ralph in his retirement was very active in the CMF following war service. His working life included a career in Human Resources-- where he no doubt learnt many of his caring and friendly skills – at BHP, CRA / Rio Tinto and Liquid Air, a career in Australia spanning 35 years. On retirement in 1982, Ralph and his late wife, Chris, did a lot of travelling in many countries. One of Ralph's great loves is golf - he has been a long-time member at Yarra Yarra – with other sporting interests including rugby and tennis. However, his major interest is Legacy where he is still actively involved. Ralph's secrets to a long life include being a non-smoker and social drinker, following a balanced diet, maintaining a healthy weight range, clean living and remaining positive about life. Ralph's family and close friends will be celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on his actual birthday on Sunday June 24 at Victoria Golf Club.

At Beaumaris Probud, we are celebrating Ralph's wonderful life at our Candlelight Dinner on June 28 at the Sandringham Yacht Club and we hope to have as many members and partners as possible with us on the night. As Ralph's two daughters and their husbands will be joining us, I would like to see a record attendance of members, their partners and friends – which should make it a fun night! No doubt, Ralph will be in fine form during the evening where we will learn much more about this wonderful gentleman.

1&2: Members at morning tea (see p5); 3: New Member, Peter Loncraine, with Proposer, John Smyth  
4: Inductee, Graham Ball, being welcomed by President Roger Wilson [Photos: Ian Maskiell]





# NOTICEBOARD

## Bike Group

Ken Beadle

The weather gods smiled on us with a perfect late autumn day for biking along the beautiful Bay Trail to West Gate Park and coffee at the Pier 35 cafe.



*New Club Member, Garry Larkin (far left), Geoff Carlson, Noel Ineson, Ken Beadle, Tony Bowles and Duncan Gibson with West Gate Bridge in the background.*

The June ride, Friday 22, will commence from the Black Rock beach side car park @ 9am, proceeding off-road via the 'inland' cycle path through Carrum to the Frankston foreshore, returning by rail. Riders may, of course, start from any point on the route if the ride leader is advised in advance. We will pause to refresh ourselves at Patterson Lakes (and elsewhere as necessary!). Some disruption to services on the Frankston line is expected and buses do not allow cycles on board; however, we still have wheels to bypass any difficulty (if works are not completed by the 22nd). If you intend to join us, please indicate to Duncan or Ken - and do not forget your MYKI Card.

## Wine Appreciation

Roger Wilson



*Members gather at the Steak Bank in Ormond for the May meeting*

*Next meeting: July 24 at Barry Amond's place*

## Music and Opera Groups

Barry Amond

28 people braved the rain to attend the Music Group's evening on May 30. It was agreed that the new sound-bar was an improvement on the dual stereo system which had been used for many years. The program commenced with excerpts from the 1958 movie *South Pacific* and continued with items by Beethoven, Franck, Rossini, Mendelssohn (among others). The evening finished with Lang Lang playing Chopin's *Grande Polonaise* with great gusto at a Last Night of the Proms. The Opera Group will meet on Wednesday August 29 when there will be a performance of Rossini's *Barber of Seville*.

## Birthday Boys – June

David Robertson 18/6	Bill Davis 22/6
Ralph Butcher 24/6	Geoff Cupples 24/6
Alan Trumble 25/6	David Seedsman 30/6

## Theatre

John Green

Cerberus Probus Club has extended an invitation to us for a matinee performance of *Mamma Mia* at 1 pm on Wednesday, August 29, at the Princess Theatre. Seats are in the Dress Circle and the price is \$90 pp (covers the cost of the ticket and a return bus trip from the library in Reserve Road). All enquiries to me: johnfgreen17@gmail.com or tel. 95806820.

## Bridge Club



*The Probuc Bridge Club goes from strength to strength with a mixed gender afternoon planned for Sunday July 1 at Victoria Golf Club*

*Above (from L to R): Alan Farmer, John Green, Bruce Tomkins; Philip Stewart, Robert Lander, Norm Griffiths; and Alan Trumble*

## Annual Golf Day

John Pound

The golf day for the beautiful Elson Trophy will be at the Patterson River Golf Club, Bonbeach, on Wednesday, August 8, with first hit off at 8.59 am. All members of the Beaumaris Probus Club who have a current official handicap are welcome. Cost: \$60 per player (covers green fees and prizes). Please pay Geoff Carlson at our next meeting, or transfer the money to the Probuc bank account, marked 'Patterson River Golf'. Those who wish to use a motorised golf cart (\$40), please contact the Pro Shop, on 9772 1855, and pay direct. Also send me an e-mail, so that the appropriate groupings can be arranged. The Club bistro will be open after the golf for food and drinks and our presentation. Questions: 0414 251 292 or to me by email.



*Distinctive resort-style feel, Santa Ana Couch fairways and tees with large, fast and true Penn Link greens. There are water features prominently on course with more than 40 bunkers and abundant bird life.*

## Discussion Groups

Barry Amond

There are no meetings in June but members have been sent an interesting article about online free-thinkers paving the way for a revolution against the extremes of political correctness. Groups will meet on July 10 at 2 pm and July 13 at 9.30 am when that article will be one of the topics.

# FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

John Beaty & Andy Coogan

## Thursday June 28

### Annual Candlelight Dinner at the Sandringham Yacht Club



6.30 for 7 pm

This year, Ralph Butcher will be our Club Guest as we celebrate with him his 100th birthday. Not all of us can expect to make this landmark and this is our opportunity to celebrate his achievements and contribution (to our Club but also to the Legacy Club of Melbourne where he has given valuable service to families and widows of servicemen who have served our country and given their lives in our country's cause).

Dress is jacket for men (with equivalent for ladies). The cost is \$75 per person. PLEASE REGISTER NOW. To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

We want to complete the table plan by June 15 and finalise the number of members and guests attending, avoiding a rush to complete these actions at the last minute. If you intend to register for this important function please TAKE ACTION NOW. You can register on line via our club website or you can email me at <johnhbeaty2@icloud.com> or phone on 0400 988 208. Payment please via direct debit from your bank account to the club account at CBA (see p1) or by cheque to Geoff Carlson or me. John Beaty

## Tuesday August 28

### Millionaire Hot Seat



Thankyou to those who have expressed interest in being with us on this no doubt interesting day. More details will be available at our next meeting but for now please indicate your interest either by emailing me or, preferably, by signing the form at our next meeting (June 19). Please be aware that we will be guests of Channel Nine and they have offered food and drink to sustain us during the recording. Should transportation be required, do not hesitate to ask. Free parking is provided on-site.

Attendees automatically go into a draw for cash prizes and Footy Show tickets, so all you have to do is bring your general knowledge for a stimulating experience. Andy Coogan

To register your interest [CLICK HERE](#).

## Late January / Early February 2019

### Holiday Tour to Sri Lanka



Good News: This tour now has 11 members and guests registered and will definitely be going ahead.

NOTE: The event on June 28 is my last function as Co-ordinator of Functions & Activities for Beaumaris Probus. I have held this position for 16 months and it has been hectic, somewhat stressful, but enjoyable. My commitments with Melbourne Legacy – including as a committee member which meets on the same day each month as our Probus Club meeting – means I can't manage both. So, with regret, I am handing over the job to Andy Coogan who will be in charge from July. I look forward to catching up with you all at Probus events and functions and, hopefully, some Club meetings when I am not required at Legacy. JB

### Tastes at Il Forno



Tina & Bob Wigg, Anne & Nick Caris enjoying the variety of Italian dishes

Below (L to R):  
Helen McGregor,  
Marlene Byass and  
John Smyth



Above: Geoff Mason and daughter, Jan Elizabeth Harford (foreground)

Below: Organiser John Pound presents the Rich River golf trophies to winners Kevin McDonnell, Geoff Carlson and Robert Kerr; President Roger holds aloft one of the illustrious trophies





## Dumbing Down; or In Defence of Standards

Chris Renwick gave us a very entertaining 10-minute talk illustrating that his view of 'dumbing down' seems to be occurring everywhere. He cited some examples that many of us experience:

- In tourism, the Aussie yobbo in singlet and shorts; wearing of American baseball caps, almost everywhere; wearing mini skirts in the Sistine Chapel - people not understanding that their choice of clothing can be a symbol of respect or disrespect;
- In the media, the trivialising of news with no fact-checking nor analysis in depth;
- In education, smaller classes yet declining numeracy and literacy;
- In politics, parliament was once considered a place of respect. Now, we have such inane commentary and serious issues are covered by the media with 10-sec sound bites for a dumbed-down audience.

## What next, he asked.

Another very serious issue he cited was concerning socks at the golf club. Once, socks meant knee-length socks; then it was short socks (but with club logo); then no logo; then short socks, or sockettes. Now, some clubs even allow no socks at all to be worn. What next, he asked.

Chris had many more anecdotes interspersed with some highly amusing quotes – such as the one about Gough Whitlam. As a university student, his chosen sport was rowing, which he described as the perfect preparation for politics, "You can face one way, while moving in the other direction". Chris could have spoken for a full hour. He certainly had a good grasp of our changing society. Alan Stevens



*Robert Kerr, left, and John Smyth, right, discuss the serious problem of declining standards with 10-minute speaker, Chris Renwick, over a cup of morning tea*

**p2 captions: Members at morning tea**

1: Mev Connell & Alan Stevens

2: George Montgomery, Ted Montfort & Aub Gamble

### Scamwatch

A website run by the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission. For a list of the current scams and more information, [click here](#). NOTE: Research shows that older Victorians lose more financially in scams than any other age group. Consumer Affairs Victoria also runs a scam awareness campaign that features real-life people who have been scammed. [CLICK HERE](#). Their motto is: If in doubt, don't.

## Retirement, What Retirement? (Book Title)

Bill Noonan would be best known to many people for his union activity as head of the militant Transport Workers Union (TWU); however, that only describes one of the many facets of this man.



Born in Yarraville in 1942 of good Irish stock, his father, a boilermaker (and part time SP bookie), his mother a bobbin chaser\*, he had a hard upbringing - but not as tough as his forbears who arrived from Cork in 1841. He left school at 14, worked in the railways goods sheds - where he acquired his first experience of unionism – and later, was a petrol tanker driver at Essendon which led to a 40-year career in the TWU. The workforce was very diverse, from rural milk tanker drivers to trucks operating on the wharves. After an accident with a child on a bike, he developed A Safe Work Guide to Industry. Subsequently, he looked closely at fatigue and sleep apnoea. This led to screening tests for drivers (so far 20,000 have been screened). The pressures of the job and time away from family showed up in the statistics of drivers with a higher than average suicide rate. An avid runner who has competed in 24 marathons, Bill used his skills to start the Police Blue Ribbon Fun Run in 1986 which raised \$8000 and has grown over the years to \$2.5m in 2017.

Author, recipient of the Order of Australia and, since 2009, an ambassador for Australia Day, Bill keeps himself and his wife of 51 years busy at their hobby farm at Johanna in the Otways – the expense of which hasn't escaped him, quipping that his book title should read, 'Inheritance? What Inheritance?' An interesting talk that provided a new insight into Bill Noonan and his life. Alan Stevens

['bobbin chaser': worker in a knitting mills]

**"The secret of life is honesty and fair dealing. If you can fake that, you've got it made."**

Groucho Marx  
[More](#)

### STOP PRESS

From Geoff Bransbury at Jasper National Park in Canada. This cuddly grizzly approached his car so he asked Merry to get out and take a picture with him in the background (in the car) - but she wouldn't! Spoilsport, Merry.



# Probus Club of Beaumaris Events Calendar

Tuesday June 12	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday June 19	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Beaumaris Sports Club
Friday June 22		Bike Ride	
Tuesday June 26	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Thursday June 28	★ 6.30 for 7pm	Candlelight Dinner	Sandringham Yacht Club
Sunday July 1		Mixed Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday July 3	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday July 10	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday July 10	2 pm	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Friday July 13	9.30 am	Discussion Group	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday July 17	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Beaumaris Sports Club
Tuesday July 24	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday July 24	2 pm	Wine Appreciation	25 Third Street Black Rock
Friday July 27		Bike Ride	
Tuesday July 31	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday August 7	2 pm	PRISMS	25 Third Street Black Rock
Wednesday August 8		Annual Probus Golf Day	Patterson River GC
Tuesday August 14	2 pm	Digital Technology	25 Third Street Black Rock
Tuesday August 21	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Beaumaris Sports Club
Tuesday August 28		Millionaire Hot Seat	Channel Nine
Wednesday August 29	1 pm	Mamma Mia	Princess Theatre
Wednesday August 29	7 pm	Opera Group	25 Third Street Black Rock

## Member Profiles on Website

Newly added: Norm Griffiths, Paul Stephens, Stan Phillips and Noel Ineson. Get to know more about them and 21 others. Visit the Member Section and click Member Profiles or [CLICK HERE](#).

## Public Events

Prostate Cancer & You Wednesday June 13 7 pm – 9 pm  
Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia  
Hampton Senior Citizens' Centre 14 Service Street Hampton FREE

Stem Cell Research – Now and in the Future  
Monday June 18 5 pm – 6.30 pm  
Deakin Edge, Federation Square Swanston Street Melbourne FREE