



NEWSLETTER

Probus Club of Beaumaris Inc.

www.beaumarisprobus.org.au

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May 2019

Members inspect the workshop at Steamrail Victoria: Geoff Stockdale, Ian Marchment, George Montgomery and Ken Beadle while Richard Wilson waits his turn [Photos: Alan Stevens]



Going Solar



Next Meeting: 10 am Tuesday May 21 Beaumaris Sports Club

Keynote Speaker: Dr Rick Potter (see p3)

Topic: Solar Energy - House Design that Doesn't Cost the Earth

10-Minute Talk: Ian Johnson Eggs

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

* Office Bearers 2018

* President: Keith Ross	9589 3580
* Past President: Roger Wilson	0418395946
* Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9589 4884
* Functions: Ken Beadle	9589 6120
* Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
* Webmaster: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507
* Newsletter: Peter McGregor	0418 322 987
* Welfare: Alan Stevens	0418 336 354
Sommelier: Bill Green	9596 1548
Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310
Archive: John Howe	598 2429

* Committee Members

* Vice-President: Simon Appel	9585 6956
* Secretary: John Smyth	0438619189
Auditor: Don Lobb	9598 5546
Theatre:	
Assistant Meetings: Berrie Gibson	9589 3902
Assistant Meetings: Graeme Keys	9585 7297
* Membership: Peter Flude	9585 5550
President's Table: Garry Sebo	9583 2582
Recorder: Alan Stevens	0418 336 354
Projectionist: Philip Stewart	9589 3309
Photographer: Ian Maskiell	9592 3380

* Interest Groups

Bike Riding: Duncan Gibson	9585 3547
Ken Beadle	9589 6120
Discussion: Barry Amond	9589 1143
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982
Wine Appreciation: Roger Wilson	0418395946
Golf: John Pound	9521 8252
Travel: Simon Appel	9585 6956

Bowls: Ted Montfort	9589 5949
Digital Technology: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Music/Opera: Barry Amond	9589 1143
Tastes: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507
Bridge: Alan Farmer	9598 2791
Wine Discovery: Grant Sabin	9598 4768

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Keith Ross



As I compose this piece, I reflect upon the fact that as we are now well past the Easter celebrations / break, through the ANZAC day memorial services and endured a never ending political campaign. Before our next meeting, we will have been to the polls and have a new Federal Parliament. I also reflect upon the comments of Bob Elworthy AM, our recent guest speaker in respect to the celebration and conduct of ANZAC Day in the future and what form it may take in the years ahead. No doubt it will continue, but as the tangible contact with the participants of WW1 and 2 diminishes, I sincerely trust that it remains a day of national pride and consolidation regardless of our cultural origins.

Moving forward, one wonders, regardless of the parliamentary majority and the promises that have been outlined over past weeks which will actually come to pass; and, as a consequence, what impact the outcome will have on us individually and collectively. I guess we are all at the age and stage we can cynically take the view that whatever the outcome, our children and indeed theirs will have to pay the piper. No doubt also, we will be entertained / frustrated by our senators from the fringe parties with their views of the world as it should be!

Back to the important things we can focus on in the period ahead: this month we have a Tastes Dinner, the Brighton Theatre Group and a trip to Bendigo Art Gallery. Of course, it is also time to get your booking in for the Candlelight Dinner at the Sandringham Yacht Club on June 26 – and I look forward to seeing you all on May 21 for our next meeting and lunch!

Below: Rich River Golf - Gary Sebo and John Pound receive their well-earned trophies



Below: President Keith presents Geoff Carlson with the Aggregate Trophy from Rich River



Left: New Member, Ian Marchment, is welcomed to the club by President Keith. Ian is a serious wine buff and leading bush-walker in the Bayside area

NOTICEBOARD

Seeking A Mature Age Man!

To identify new theatre and film opportunities for group outings. If interested, please contact the President or Function Coordinator. Excellent opportunity.

Discussion Groups

On Friday May 10 at the new time of 10 am and Tuesday May 14 at 2 pm the groups are discussing migration over the centuries to put into perspective issues arising from the wave of migration around the world in recent years. Next meetings: August at the usual times.

Barry Amond

Music Group

It was generally agreed on April 17 that the new venue at Beaumaris Library is excellent. The evening's highlights were extracts from Handel's *Messiah* and the Paris Opera Ballet's performance of *Sleeping Beauty*. The facilities are excellent and may provide us with the opportunity to widen our repertoire to include movies and musicals. The next evening is likely to be in August.

Barry Amond

Wine Appreciation

Our next wine sampling will be at Rod Kelly's home on Thursday August 29 at 2 pm.

Roger Wilson

Digital technology

Next meeting will be at 2 pm on Tuesday May 28 at 1 John Street Beaumaris. Topics to include will be dash-cams, artificial intelligence (brain waves to speech), digital radio, monitoring solar panels, Alexa monitoring, Samsung's folding phone and anything else you would like to suggest.

An attendance sheet will be available at our May 21 General Meeting.

Geoff Wade

Member Register

The Register is regularly updated and placed on our website in the members area. If you need to check an address or phone number, that is the place to go. If you want a printed copy, it can be printed when you open the register. Changes to the register can be advised through the website or directly to Geoff Wade at geoffmarg@bigfoot.com.au.

Tastes.

Special gourmet Tastes. Modern Indian cuisine with flair. Delicate food, surprisingly light with wonderful flavours. To register [CLICK HERE](#).

When: Tuesday May 28 @ 6.30 pm

Where: Elich, 6-8 Bluff Road, Black Rock

Cost: \$45 pp. Selected wines: \$15/bottle

A unique local restaurant with 90+ rating on Trip Advisor



May Keynote Speaker

Rick Potter graduated from Melbourne University with a Bachelor of Science and then his PhD from Colorado State University. He spent another four years working as a Senior Research Scientist at ARCO Solar in Los Angeles.

Wine Discovery

Grant Sabin

Nero d'Avola: the most important red wine grape in Sicily; one of Italy's most important indigenous varieties



The third session of the Wine Discovery Group was held on Wednesday May 8 at Alan Stevens' place in Sandringham. A group of seven members sampled wines made from the grape Nero d' Avola, three from Sicily and one from Victoria. The vote was unanimous that the most expensive wine was best with a majority voting for Tahbilk next. Next meeting: Ian Maskiell's place on August 7.

Travel Group

Next meeting: Wednesday June 19. We will be 'entertained' by Australian Pacific Touring (APT) presenters located at Kingston Council offices, 1230 Nepean Highway. Parking: at car park behind shops in Charman Road, Cheltenham.

NOTE: APT has requested that we meet in the foyer of the building at 2 pm prior to the presentation.

To register attendance [CLICK HERE](#) or contact me direct.

Simon Appel

Next Pub Lunch

Where: Half Moon, Church Street, Brighton

When: Wednesday July 24 from 12 – 2.30pm

Cost: \$20

Roger Wilson

Bike Group

The next ride on May 24 is on dedicated bike paths around picturesque Blackburn Lake, an outing of about 20 km led by experienced wheelman John Pound. Would riders please advise John or me of your intention to join us. We will convene at Sandringham Rail Station at 9 am - with your tyres tight and your MYKI Card. All welcome, especially ladies.

Duncan Gibson



FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

Ken Beadle



Above (from L to R): Geoff Stockdale, Alan Stevens, Bob Wigg, Richard Wilson, George Montgomery, Ken Beadle, Ian Marchment, Lachlan McLean, Tony Bowles and Roger Wilson.

Around 160 volunteers work at Steamrail Victoria with over 30 on-site at any one time. The enormity of their task to restore these steam trains and carriages is daunting. Bob Wigg and his team have remarkable resilience to achieve such success with their restoration.

[Text & Photos: Alan Stevens]

June

Tudors to Windsors

**British Royals Portraits at Bendigo Art Gallery,
Wednesday June 12.**



From the London National Portrait Gallery, the exhibition explores five royal dynasties shedding light on key figures and important historical moments. We will catch the 9.14 am train from Southern Cross arriving Bendigo at 11.16 am and walk or ride to the Art Gallery stopping at the nearby Basement Cafe for lunch. Our tickets for the exhibition are for a 1 pm entry. Return train departs Bendigo at 4.02 pm. Seniors Card and Pension Card holders can use their free VR vouchers to obtain tickets from Sandringham or any other staffed railway station. Cost: \$25 (entry ticket) - all other costs at your expense. We have purchased 20 tickets and cannot guarantee more - first come, first served. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and pay now to secure your place.

June

Annual Candlelight Dinner

Wednesday June 26 6.30 for 7pm

One of the major social events of our Probus year. Venue again by popular choice is the prestigious Sandringham Yacht Club's Port Phillip Room.

Cost: \$70 per head (includes a 2-course dinner plus coffee and drinks)

Please make a big effort to attend. [CLICK HERE](#) to register now. Payment by June 17. Please advise any dietary requirements and table seating requests by June 12.



**PROBUS LUNCH
GENTLEMEN, JOIN US
FOR LUNCH!
NO NEED TO BOOK -
JUST TICK THE
ATTENDANCE SHEET ON
ARRIVAL.
EXCELLENT FOOD - EVEN
BETTER COMPANY! KR**



*Above left: Philip Stewart assists Bob Elworthy
Above right: Our keynote speaker in full flight*

Vietnam and Back

Bob Elworthy AM, currently Victorian President of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA), was a career soldier - which ensured the talk was light and often humorous. In preparation for Vietnam, Bob underwent three weeks of intense training at the Jungle Training Camp in Canungra, Queensland, and three days of inoculation jabs and headed for Toowoomba. From Brisbane (in public armed with weapons), then Sydney and Holsworthy Army base, he took a flight to Singapore where the troops changed into Hawaiian shirts to look like tourists (Singapore had to be seen as neutral) - no way of disguising that army haircut though - finally ending up at Nui Dat. This all took four days and 12 hours and taught him a lot about the Army's 'hurry up and wait' strategy. With some humour, Bob outlined some of the problems faced in those days: MUA unionists not loading resupplies on Australian wharves, left-wing activism at Monash and posties not delivering mail. But coming back from Vietnam was worse, a less than joyous return; many of the veterans suicided. Work by the VVAA helped in eventually getting government support. In the Q&A, he told of his working with drums of Agent Orange without protection and in 2012 had a brain tumour operation which he attributes to that chemical. The VVAA has also worked for veteran nurses, many of whom suffered similarly. A passionate speaker who could have continued for a lot longer. Alan Stevens

Birthday Boys – May

Rod Kelly 1/5	Neil Jones 3/5
Barry Amond 4/5	Don Lobb 5/5
Kevin Reed 7/5	Brian Davey 10/5
George Fabinyi 12/5	Ossie Obst 15/5
Bob Matthews 25/5	

Special thanks to Alan Stevens for miscellaneous photos, editorial comments and regular contributions in the preparation of our monthly newsletter. Ed.

Interesting But Useless Fact

If we could take all the ants in the world and place them on one side of a giant set of scales; and on the other all the animals – eg wombats, elephants, zebras, hippos, giraffes, whales, monkeys, rabbits, foxes, kangaroos and people, as well as birds, fish and insects (except termites), the ants would outweigh them all. (Why exclude termites? Termites are the second largest group.)

10-Minute Talk: Lucky To Be Alive



Lachlan's quick thinking in an emergency enabled him and the pilot to escape

Lachlan McLean spoke about his boyhood ambition to be a pilot like his father who enlisted in the RAAF in March 1941 and was assessed as being 'above average', consequently ending up training future pilots for most of the war. He was learning to fly 4-engine Liberator bombers when the war finished and he had amassed over 2000 hours in the RAAF, an experience that enabled him to pursue a career with ANA, then TAA. At 10 years old, on a family holiday to Queensland with his father as pilot and allowed up front, Lachlan was forever hooked on flying. Although he preferred the RAAF, he joined ASIO - a career cut short after he developed severe DVT eventually leading to a stroke. Despite this, he joined the AAAA (Antique Aeroplane Association of Australia) and with full certification even for night flying he achieved his desire to fly (but not solo, due to medical restrictions). His mother lent him \$50,000 to buy a 1944 Howard DGA15 which was rebuilt and flew until its eventual demise after catching fire. Lachlan's quick thinking in that emergency enabled him and the pilot to escape. We are, indeed, lucky to have him with us today. Alan Stevens

Mississauga Contact

For those interested in reading the newsletter of our friends at Probus Mississauga, [CLICK HERE](#).

Wine Appreciation May Meeting

Members (left to right): Paul Stephens, David Seedsman, Howard Hoskins, Kevin McDonnell, Roger Wilson, John Brimage, Barry Amond, Norm Griffiths and Dick Kirby



Probus Club of Beaumaris Events Calendar

Friday May 10	10 am	Discussion Group	1 John Street Beaumaris
Tuesday May 14	2 pm	Discussion Group	1 John Street Beaumaris
Tuesday May 14	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday May 21	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Beaumaris Sports Club
Friday May 24		Bike Ride	Blackburn Lake
Tuesday May 28	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday May 28	2 pm	Digital Technology	1 John Street Beaumaris
Tuesday May 28	6.30 pm	Tastes	Elich, Black Rock
Wednesday May 29	8 pm	Brighton Theatre Group	<i>Hate Hamlet</i>
Tuesday June 4	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Tuesday June 11	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday June 12		Tudors to Windsors	Bendigo Art Gallery
Tuesday June 18	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Beaumaris Sports Club
Wednesday June 19		Travel Group	Visit to APT Headquarters
Tuesday June 25	9.30 am	Bridge	Victoria Golf Club
Wednesday June 26	6.30 for 7.00 pm	Candlelight Dinner	Sandringham Yacht Club
Tuesday July 16	10 am	GENERAL MEETING	Beaumaris Sports Club
Wednesday July 24	12 noon	Pub Lunch	Half Moon, Brighton

Below: More of Alan Stevens' fine photographs from the Beaumaris Probus visit to Steamrail Victoria's workshop

