



Issue No. 356

July 2020

First Probus Zoom AGM



Snapshots of some of the shenanigans at the recent AGM



Main picture: New President, Simon Appel, presents outgoing President, Keith Ross, with his Meritorious Service Award

Top left: Geoff Bransbury accepts his Life Membership Award from Keith Ross – and a corona virus handshake; former Probud President Keith brings the meeting to order via Zoom; and a quick reminder to new President Simon (from Keith) that it is a short distance from top cocky to feather duster

Next General Meeting:
Tuesday July 21 11 am via Zoom
Speaker: Chris Renwick
Topic: My Burma Campaign

10-Minute Talk: Geoff Bransbury -Tears of Thanks from the Bush

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Simon Appel OAM



I am reminded of the valuable work done by so many in our Club. The ongoing commitment to connecting and enjoying the friendship of members is inspiring. It is so important to maintain contact and to provide opportunities for us to maintain that connectedness. I reflect on the wonderful attendance at our Annual General Meeting. To see so many members joining the ZOOM meeting is an inspiring outcome for our Club, summarised so well by Gus Bravo:

"It was a departure from the norm but in this time of COVID-19 isolation, the virtual meeting of a large group of our members will be seen as an historic event for the Club."

Keith Ross maintained his commitment through the most challenging of times and we all acknowledge his determination and humor throughout, while at the same time delivering excellent Committee and Club leadership.

Your Committee met on June 23, again via Zoom. All members were present and Geoff Bransbury kindly hosted me and Alan Stevens hosted Chris Renwick. The changes to your Committee members for the remainder of the

years are minimal, but nevertheless important. Chris Renwick AM moves into the position of Vice-President; Garry Sebo AM has accepted an Assistant Secretary role and Graham Ball will be Assistant Functions Coordinator. The Committee acknowledged the contribution from Roger Wilson OAM during his time as President, and as immediate past President. We look forward to more Pub Lunches and Wine Appreciation from Roger.

This year, I will continue to urge each of you to consider accepting a nomination for one of the many Committee positions for the future.

At our last meeting, the Committee agreed to our next General Meeting to be held, Tuesday July 21 (again on Zoom). As per p1, Geoff Bransbury will be our 10-Minute Speaker and Chris Renwick, Guest Speaker. The timing for a return to face-to-face meetings and activities remains very uncertain. Meanwhile, we had hoped to explore options that encouraged events via Zoom. The Committee expected members to host guests for our next General Meeting, providing non-Zoom-user members the opportunity to participate. Unfortunately, this is not possible in the circumstances that prevail at present.

Below right: Hobby time—Lachlan McLean filling in his day taking up an old hobby assembling plastic model aircraft



*Left: Your President at work (removing graffiti)
Below left: Your President at play (on his guitar)
Below: Your President taking office at the AGM*



Below: The new President, Simon Appel, in full regalia

Below right: Teller of tall tales, Noel Ineson at the AGM



NOTICEBOARD

General Meeting Via Zoom

Tuesday July 21 11 am

Keynote Speaker: Chris Renwick

My Burma Campaign

10-Minute Talk: Geoff Bransbury

Tears of Thanks from the Bush

Discussion Groups

Barry Amond

Members have supported continuation of the format adopted when our discussions commenced all those years ago in September 2011. However, as a result of the virus, we need to continue for the time being with virtual meetings using Zoom. If numbers permit, there will be two meetings:

Tuesday July 14 at 2 pm and

Friday July 17 at 10.30 am.

Topic: "The Difference between News and Opinion"

- but there will also be time to discuss the continuing saga of the virus.

If any members of the Club who are not in the groups would like to join the Friday Zoom meeting, please let me know.

Wine Appreciation Group at Vincent's

From Left: Rod Kelly, Roger Wilson, Dick Kirby, President Simon Appel, Howard Hoskins, Geoff Bransbury, Garry Larkin
Photo: Geoff Bransbury



Next meeting:
To be advised.

Champagne Consumption

".... Aussies - per person - consume more than twice as much as Germans, three times that of Italians, Spaniards and the Japanese, and almost five times as much as Americans."

Tyson Steizer, *Good Weekend* 13/6/20

Member Register

The updated Register reflects the changes in office bearers and co-ordinators following the Annual General Meeting. It is now on the website in the members' protected area where it can be viewed and also downloaded so you can save a copy to your device or print out a copy for retention. If there are any discrepancies in members' details or amendments to make, please advise me at geoffp.wade@bigpond.com.

Geoff Wade

Birthday Boys – July

MURRELL, Rod 1/7	BOWLES, Tony 3/7
MEADE, Colin 14/7	LANDER, Robert 20/7
APPEL, Simon 21/7	HOSKINS, Howard 21/7
SLATER, Eric 24/7	SMYTH, John 24/7
LONCRAINE, Peter 15/7	

Right: One of Alan Steven's many spectacular photos

Roulettes, 2019



Photography

Members should know that one of our multi-talented number, Alan Stevens, has an abiding passion for photography, and joined the local Southern Suburbs Photographic Society (<http://ssps-photographicclub.org.au>) four years ago. He writes that the club has a number of photographers who have won awards in international competitions yet spend hours of their time assisting others to develop their photography skills. "Obviously," says Alan, "the club's activities are all suspended due to COVID-19 but we have been meeting on Zoom and had over 50 people the other night listening to a presentation by a top A-Grade photographer." In this issue, we feature some of Alan's outstanding work (see p5). Index of titles (p6). Ed.

Golf News

In the past we have had a Beaumaris Probus golf day competing for a beautiful trophy during August. Unable to play due to a torn Achilles tendon, I am postponing this event until late September, as I would not be happy running a golf event and unable to compete. Invitations to play will be sent by e-mail to last year's competitors shortly and in next month's Newsletter.

John Pound

Pub Lunch

Our next Probus Pub Lunch is in our own room at The Half Moon Hotel 120 Church Street Brighton at 12 Noon Friday August 21. Number limited to 20 people – first in best dressed (partners invited). Cost for main meal will be \$25 per head with drinks purchased on the day. If you wish to attend, please pay Geoff Carlson \$25 per person. Once we get to twenty paid-for people, that is it! If there are more than 20, there can be another booking the following Friday August 28 at 12 Noon at same venue. **Don't forget:** partners are invited.

Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.

June Bike Ride

Below: Waterways near Mordialloc, our biggest group ever. We have had 11 weekly rides since lockdown but most have been sunny with just one rained out.

Geoff Bransbury



L to R: Geoff Carlson, Ken Beadle, Ian Marchment, Rod Kelly, Judith Phillips, Jim Duggan, Ken White, Robert Kerr and Richard Phillips

Profiles

Mev Connell

Born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, into a working-class family, Mev finished High but deferred studies to complete mandatory military service straight from school, commencing age 18. He undertook basic training with The Gordon Highlanders, volunteering for the Parachute Division and participating in active service in Cyprus; took part in the Suez Invasion in 1956.

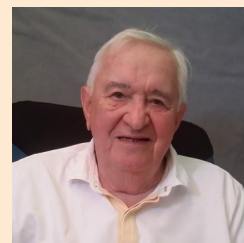
On demobilisation from the Regular Army, he completed three years of service with the Territorial Army, during which he earned a Bachelor's degree in Botany and Zoology and joined the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF), specialising in Stored Product Entomology. He participated in a number of programs in tropical countries ranging from Guyana in South America, West Africa, and East Malaysia and in 1968 joined the Australian Wheat Board as the Chief Inspector for Pests and Diseases and Chief Flour Mill Inspector for the Commonwealth in 1968; later a member of the Advisory Committee of the CSIRO Division of Entomology for nine years. Mev served as CEO with the Grain Elevator Board

of Victoria, retiring in 1995 on its privatisation after which he continued for some years consulting on the storage of durable and semi-durable agricultural products in Middle Asia and the Middle East.

A Rotarian for 33 years, he served as the President of the Rotary Club of Melbourne (2005/6), a member of the Board of Rotary District 9800, and Chairman of the Unified Rotary Districts of Victoria Bushfire Recovery Committee following 'Black Saturday'. A Life Member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, his current hobbies include gardening, motor boating, fishing, and caravanning. As the one-time Chairman of Community Service in Rotary District 9800, he did have responsibility for Probus connections.

Married to Brenda in 1961, they have two daughters and five grandchildren which occupy much of his attention.

As a Rotarian, one of Mev's responsibilities was for Probus connections.



Bob Wigg

Born in Kew, Bob moved at an early age to a house in Parkdale which had been bought during World War 1 by his great-grandparents; went to Parkdale Primary State School and then Frankston High School when the family bought six acres of land and built a house in the then-bush at Mt. Eliza.

He began work in the Department of Crown Land and Survey and was promoted to a position in the then Ministry of Housing, Property Branch - now the Department of Health and Human Services. During the evenings, he completed a Certificate of Business Studies (Real Estate) and when he wasn't working six days all over Victoria, he completed a Graduate Certificate of Management at Holmesglen. About this time, in the 1970s, he met Tina and they were married at St. Joseph's, Black Rock, in 1980, setting up house in Sandringham and then Parkdale, moving to Black Rock in 2000 where they still live.

Bob and Tina have hosted over 20 international students and says he could write a book about 16-18 year-olds - they continue to have contact with many of them, with a wedding in Brazil and catch-ups in Italy and Japan. As many know, Bob has had an interest in steam locomotives and heritage carriages since the 1970s with Steam Rail Victoria Inc. He is

currently their Volunteer Co-ordinator which takes up a large part of his spare time (just ask Tina). Bob retired from work in 2012 and continues to travel. They both love cruising, with 32 cruises to date and have visited over 100 countries. Their favourite trains trips have been the Blue Train in South Africa, Trans Mongolian in China, Mongolia and Russia, End of the Earth Train in Argentina, Machu Picchu train in Peru, Swiss and European Expresses and, of course, The Indian Pacific and The Ghan.

With an early history of residence in the Bayside area, many of the Wigg family can be found in the Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery.



Bob writes, "We escaped Melbourne and are currently in Tuncurry-mid North Coast of NSW. Yes, we made it across the border." (June)

To see other profiles [CLICK HERE](#)

Photography Plus

A Short Exhibition by Alan Stevens



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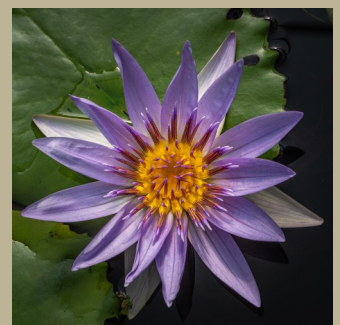
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The Last Word

For Lexophiles Only

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered

He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed

When she saw her first strands of grey hair she thought she'd dye

Hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

A reminder that to enlarge a picture or a page in this newsletter, simply hold 'Ctrl' button while scrolling the wheel on your mouse. That way you can blow anything up to the size you need. You may not even need your glasses! Ed.

Natural Disasters

Decline in death toll from natural disasters since the 1920s: 92 per cent .. during a period when the global population quadrupled.

In that same decade, 5.4 million people died from natural disasters. In the 2010s, 0.4 did.

Michael Shellenberger, President, Environmental Progress
The Australian 4/7/20

Anzac Day 2020



Above: Lachlan McLean and daughter, Catherine - a piper in the Ambulance Victoria Pipes & Drums - playing in her driveway. It was requested that all pipers play Amazing Grace through twice at 11 am. NOTE: Lachlan is wearing Maclean of Duart hunting tartan.

Alan Stevens' Photograph Index see p5

1 Napa poppies 2 Gotcha!
3 Million Man shearer 4 Blue-faced honey-eater
5 Docklands detail 6 Steam-boat, Bergen
7 Grand Final parade 2019
8 333 Collins Street 9 Rickett's Point
10 Water lily 11 Last drop

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

* Office Bearers 2020

* Committee Members

* President: **Simon Appel** 9585 6956
* Past President: **Keith Ross** 9589 3580
* 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

* Vice-President: **Chris Renwick** 0419 927 536
* Secretary: **John Smyth** 0438 619 189
Assistant Treasurer: **Garry Sebo** 9583 2582
Assistant Functions: **Graham Ball** 9598 4125
Assistant Meetings: **Barrie Gibson** 9589 3902
Assistant Meetings: **Graeme Keys** 9585 7297
* Membership: **Peter Flude** 9585 5550
President's Table: **Garry Sebo** 9583 2582
Recorder: **Grant Sabin** 9598 4768
Projectionist: **Philip Stewart** 9589 3309
Photographer: **Alan Stevens** 0418 336 354

* Interest Groups

Bike Riding: **Duncan Gibson** 9585 3547
Ken Beadle 9589 6120
Discussion: **Barry Amond** 9515 0725
PRISMS: **Bill Davis** 9592 5982
Wine Appreciation: **Roger Wilson** 0418395946

Golf: **John Pound** 9521 8252
Digital Technology: **Geoff Wade** 9588 2593
Music/Opera: **Barry Amond** 9515 0725
Tastes: **Geoff Bransbury** 9589 1507
Bridge: **Jim Duggan** 0432 150 675