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Above: Robert Kerr, Noel Ineson, Ken and Margie Beadle enjoying our delayed President's lunch at Victoria Golf Club

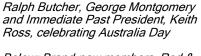
Right: Graham Ball and Gerald Ettershank sharing one of the winner's prizes

Above right: Another prize winner, Peter McGregor, wonders how he can eat a kilogram of chocolates

Our Delayed President's Christmas Lunch

Ra and Ro Be Pai





Below: Brand-new members, Rod & Pam Hammond [Photos: Alan Stevens]





Next General Meeting: Tuesday February 16 10 am Highett RSL Speaker: Peter Anderson Chief Executive Officer Victorian Transport Association

10-Minute Talk: Ian Marchment Organ Donations

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Simon Appel



Thanks to all the participants at the President's Luncheon at Victoria Golf Club last Friday. It was a very successful event with over 70 of us enjoying great company at last. The menu was excellent and the catering first class.

Ken Beadle again organised this special event so well - unfortunately, his 'swan song' as Functions Co-ordinator. Everyone generously applauded Ken's role and his preparations and deliveries for all the events over many years.

We welcomed two new members and their partners to the luncheon - Rod Hammond and Pam, and Tim Harding and Lisa. We should acknowledge Peter Flude who has done such an excellent job as our Membership Officer with six new members so far - and a seventh pending!

We now look forward to the February General Meeting at the Highett RSL (Covid willing!).

Barry Amond has provided some optional dates for resumption of the Discussion Group. Grant Sabin has dates for the Wine Discovery Group in 2021. Roger Wilson has pub lunches planned, and we look forward to our next Tastes event.

It is gratifying to hear our many group facilitators describing potential gatherings where we can meet and greet normally. Plenty of activities in which members can participate. (More in these pages.) I am pleased to be able to say that everything is in preparation for our February General Meeting and I look forward to seeing members in person.

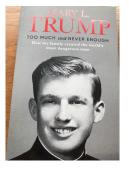
Mary L Trump Too Much and Never Enough

This is the story of a dysfunctional family where the only values are money and financial success, where apologies are unacceptable and lying is seen as a virtue.

Mary Trump is the niece of Donald Trump. A clinical psychologist with the requisite observational and analytical skills, she sets out to correct some of the wrongs, particularly her father's mistreatment by her grandfather Fred and her uncle Donald (who was Fred's favoured son). She is deeply involved in this story: "he (Donald) destroyed my father. I can't let him destroy my country …" Internal family matters are usually very private but Mary brings everything out in the open so that we might understand exactly what makes Donald Trunp tick and why he is such a danger to the country.

Fred shaped and fortified Donald's worst qualities bullying, disrespect, lack of empathy, insecurity and relentless self-aggrandisement. Mary asserts that Donald has never succeeded on his own. Honest work has never been demanded of him; no matter how badly he failed, he was rewarded and bankrolled by his father. "Worse, Donald...understands nothing about constitutional principles, geopolitics, history or diplomacy (or anything else, really). This is a story that is well worth reading and gives us an understanding of why Donald Trump is what he is. Chris Renwick

Book Reviews





Clive Hamilton & Mareike Ohlberg Hidden Hand

If you want to know about the insidious influence of the Chinese Communist Party, this is the book for you. However, if you see it in a bookshop, don't be put off by its size as a third is used for footnotes and appendices to authenticate and verify many of the statements in each chapter.

It's not just Australia where this has occurred and when reading the book you will be staggered by what has already occurred in the Europe, the UK the USA. My wish is that our following generations will read it as well so as to be fully aware (and thus armed) against the threat that is ever present and persistent. Alan Stevens

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Discussion Groups

Barry Amond There is still an opportunity for one or two new members in the groups so please let me know if you Probus Bikers are interested. The February meetings on the 9th and 12th are discussing 'How to deal with Wokesters'. We need to know because woke ideas are increasing rapidly!

The March meetings will be on the usual days, 9th at 2.30pm and 12th at 10.30am. The topic will be advised nearer the time.

Digital Technology

Geoff Wade We hope to be able to conduct an in-person Digital Technology meeting probably during early May. In the meantime I will forward relevant items regarding digital technology to those who have attended our session in the past. If you are a new member and would like to receive these items or have not been doing so please let me know and I can add you to our list - just email me at geoffp.wade@bigpond.com.

Directory

The Directory has recently been updated and added to the website in the protected area. All members are requested to check the directory for their details and advise me (geoffp.wade@bigpond.com) of any changes to details. Geoff Wade

Wine Appreciation

Roger Wilson Next meeting is lunch at The Steak Bank, Ormond, on Friday February 26 @12 noon. Tastings are aged magnums of shiraz.

Pub Lunch

Roger Wilson We will meet at Dovle's Mordialloc Hotel Café on Wednesday March 31. Cost: \$30pp+ drinks at bar prices.

Change of Address

Geoff Carlson's new address: #105/ 216 Bay Road Sandringham 3191 Phone: 9521 0024



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.



Above: Getting organised for the ride to Hastings -Ken Beadle, Louise Pound, Geoff Bransbury and John Pound

Bridge Lunch

Jim Duggan A reminder to everyone that we will be resuming at VGC Tuesday Feb 9 @ 9: 30. All are welcome. Furthermore, our annual lunch will be at the club on March 2.

Wine Discovery

Grant Sabin For information about plans for 2021, CLICK HERE.

Tastes 2021

Royal Brighton Yacht Club A Great Evening! Last chance! Tuesday February 23 at 6.30 pm. Fabulous location overlooking the bay. Excellent food and company. (We have the whole venue to ourselves so only we make the noise!) A very special event. Cost: \$55 pp Cost includes a bottle of wine per couple. CLICK HERE to book and please pay the Treasurer.

Victoria International Container Terminal

We hope to organise a visit to the fully automated Container Terminal presented to us by our January Speaker, Patrick Chang.

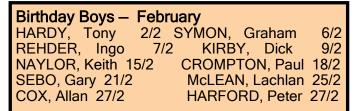
The visit would include a bus tour of the terminal and visit to the office to see the operation in action. It should be a fascinating outing but numbers will be limited. Some industrial issues have prevented us from organising a date at the moment, but.....





Melbourne's International

Container Terminal



The Last Word

A World of Containers

Grant Sabin

Inside the Taxi Industry

Patrick Chan provided an amazing, comprehensive talk on Melbourne's new International Container Terminal, operated by ICTSI. His full presentation, accompanied by a number of videos, covered the history, location, equipment, layout, automation and also what's in a container and non-container cargos.



The Victoria Container Terminal incorporates an amazing amount of automation. The five large cranes are operated remotely from a central control room and there are 11 automatic container carriers that move containers around the terminal. Patrick described six different types of containers ranging from standard 20 and 40 footers to the refrigerated containers and more. He said that 90% of goods are shipped in containers. Large cargo items such as boats and electric generators that cannot fit in a container are loaded and lashed down in amongst the containers.

One amazing video showed a 25-tonne pilot boat moving up to Webb Dock before being lifted out of the water and placed in a cradle on a container ship, along with 000s of standard containers.

Wine Appreciation: Roger Wilson 0418395946

Wine Discovery: Grant Sabin

".. the radio centre in Oakleigh is capable of looking after the whole of Australia.."

Garry Bradd provided an interesting overview of the technology changes that have taken place in the taxi industry over the last 60 years. From many years' experience, he explained how the industry evolved from an owner driver operation to a highly technical nationwide system. For example, how the automated booking and dispatch system that now incorporates customer profiles has replaced the very labour intensive manual operations of the 60s. He highlighted that the radio centre in Oakleigh is capable of looking after the whole of Australia. He said that taxis are not just radio-equipped cars; they are fitted out with over \$6,000 of high-end computer technology. Some of these systems have been developed in Australia and are used in many other countries. Cabcharge now looks after about 68% of all taxis in Australia.

"Garry said that taxis are not just radioequipped cars..."



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* 0	ffice Beare	Committee Members	
*President: <i>Simon Appel</i>	9585 6956	* Vice-President: Chris Renwick	0419 927 536
Past President: Keith Ross	9589 3580	* Secretary: John Smyth	0438 619 189
Treasurer: Geoff Carlson	9521 0024	Assistant Secretary: Garry Sebo	0419 340 565
Functions: Ken Beadle	9589 6120	* Assistant Functions: Graham Ball	9598 4125
Meetings: Geoff Wade	9588 2593	Assistant Meetings: Barrie Gibson	9589 3902
Webmaster: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507	Assistant Meetings: Graeme Keys	9585 7297
Newsletter: Peter McGregor	0418 322 987	* Membership: Peter Flude	0405127271
Welfare: Alan Stevens	0418 336 354	Auditor: <i>Robert Lander</i>	0435 930 082
Sommelier: Bill Green	9596 1548	Recorder: Grant Sabin	9598 4768
Audio Visual: Paul Crompton	9583 1310	Projectionist: Philip Stewart	9589 3309
Archive: John Howe	9598 2429	Photographer: Alan Stevens	0418 336 354
	* Interest	Groups	
Bike Riding: Duncan Gibson	9585 3547	Golf: John Pound	9521 8252
Ken Beadle	9589 6120	Digital Technology: Geoff Wade	9588 2593
Discussion: Barry Amond	9515 0725		
PRISMS: Bill Davis	9592 5982	Tastes: Geoff Bransbury	9589 1507

9598 4768

Bridge: Jim Duggan

Travel: Simon Appel