



NEWSLETTER

Probus Club of Beaumaris Inc.

www.beaumarisprobus.org.au

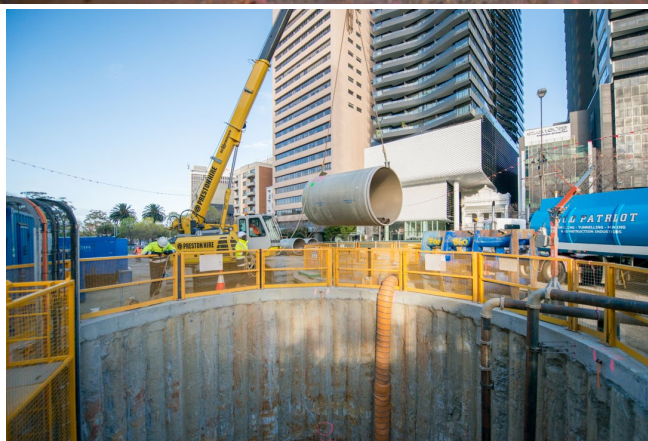
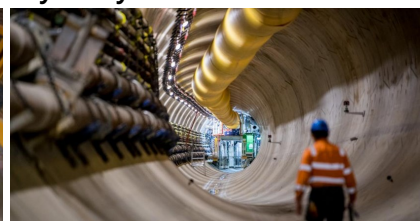
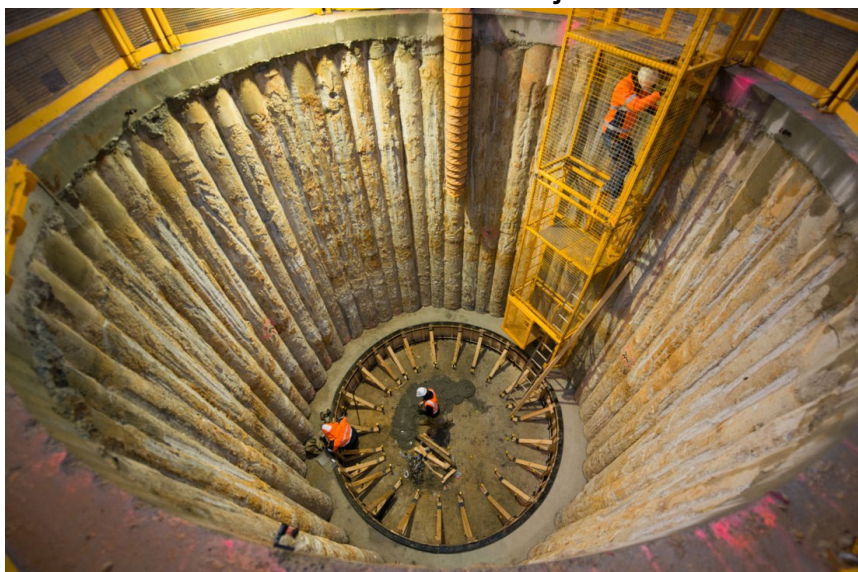
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June 2021

Metro Tunnel Project Visit Wednesday July 7



Next General Meeting:

Highett RSL Tuesday June 15 10 am

**Speaker: James Taylor, former Director,
Sandringham Hospital**

Topic: Good Health in Bayside

10-Minute Talk: Ken White

Anyone Can Fly a Jumbo

★ **NOTE: WE WILL ADVISE YOU OF ANY CHANGE IN ARRANGEMENTS**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Chris Renwick



Photos: Alan Stevens

Well, here we go again! It is hugely disappointing for Victorians to find themselves under a new lockdown regime once more. Being elderly, our membership is one of the most vulnerable groups in the community. To best protect ourselves (and others in society), we need to be vaccinated and follow the relevant health directives. Hopefully the latest COVID outbreak can be contained and our lives can return to some form of normality by June 4.

While overseas travel may be off the agenda for some time, interstate travel (particularly to northern climes) has been planned (and eagerly anticipated) by some of our members. I trust that their holiday plans will not be disrupted in the coming weeks.

I, for one, am looking forward to our annual Candle-light Dinner on June 16. It promises to be an excellent evening at Sandy By the Bay. Such Club activities are important, particularly in periods of social dislocation and disruption as at present. I'm sure that people's participation helps ward off issues commonly suffered in the community such as mental health problems.

I look forward to seeing you all on June 15 (COVID willing) when Dr James Taylor will talk on 'Good Health in Bayside'. Quite appropriate really! Stay safe and look out for your family and friends.



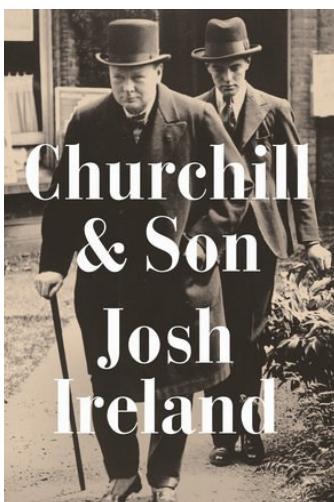
President Chris inducting Neil Seedsman into the Club ; seconded by Geoff Carlson



Left: Proposer, Ken Beadle, and President Chris welcome David Rand at our May meeting



President Chris welcomes David Wilmot, another retired accountant, to add to our distinguished group of bean counters!



Book Review: Inside the Churchill Family

Winston Churchill was a very complex, somewhat eccentric, person whose achievements are sometimes overshadowed by his monumental failures – in particular, his single-minded responsibility for the catastrophic Dardanelles campaign during the First World War that cost more than 500 000 lives, many of them from the colonies such as Australia and New Zealand.

Nowhere is his eccentricity more apparent than in his intense relationship with his only son, Randolph. Not to repeat the mistakes that his father, Lord Randolph, made in Winston's careless upbringing, he showered his own son with an obsessive affection that lasted his lifetime through war, politics and family turbulence. On the other hand, Randolph's erratic and irresponsible behaviour never seemed to embarrass Churchill in any way, even during his Prime Ministership. Winston's forceful, overpowering personality and his pre-eminence as an orator and writer – he was said to have a vocabulary second only to Milton and Shakespeare in English – always carried the day amongst his peers; and Randolph's advocacy for his father never faltered. This is a fascinating tale containing rare insights into a prominent family as well as recent British history and politics.

Peter McGregor

NOTICEBOARD

★ NEED A LIFT? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Members who are finding it difficult or inconvenient to get to meetings at the Highett RSL should contact Meetings Co-ordinator, Keith Ross (0418 584 401), to arrange to be picked up by a member nearby. Please get in touch to arrange a pickup for the June Meeting (15/6/21). We would like you to attend!

CORRECTION: PRISMS

Alan Nash

Tuesday August 3 is the date of the next meeting of PRISMS. To be held at the home of John Howe at 2pm, not as previously advertised.

Thank You

The Committee wishes to acknowledge two recent responses to our newsletter:

From Mississauga, Canada

"Thank you, Peter. Here in Canada we are jealous to see you will be meeting in person again. Here we are still hoping for relief by summertime..."

[CLICK HERE](#) for Mississauga newsletter, *Contact*.

From Probus South Pacific

"Dear Peter, What a great newsletter. Plenty of activities for members to be involved in. I have forwarded your email to our editorial team for their consideration."

Wine Deliberations

Twelve of our 15 members enjoyed the May wine tasting at Barry Amond's home. We voted on 12 red wines of many varieties from different Australian regions plus one Italian.

Roger Wilson



Both ends of the table

Our next meeting (subject to COVID restrictions at the time) will be on Thursday August 5 at Kevin McDonnell's home at 2 pm.

VALE: NORM GRIFFITHS

All family were present when Norm passed away peacefully at home on Monday May 31. Alan Stevens has passed on our condolences on behalf of Club members. Norm was a highly valued member of the Club who was a regular participant in a wide range of activities – from golf and music, to discussion, Bridge and Tastes. He will be sorely missed.

Tribute Page for donations to Peter MacCullum instead of flowers [CLICK HERE](#)

Candlelight Dinner

Anyone who is anyone is going to this year's Candlelight Dinner! This is very special event in the Probus calendar. Don't miss the talented artists, the Stiletto Sisters, who will perform for us at Sandy by the Bay, Sandringham FC.

WHEN: Wednesday June 16

WHERE: Sandy By the Bay

TIME: 6.30 pm Cost: \$75

[CLICK HERE](#) to register.



Geoff Bransbury

Digital Technology

Geoff Wade

Our meeting scheduled for June 1 was postponed due to the lockdown and we have now re-scheduled to June 22 at the home of Barry Amond - subject to being able to meet. Items to be discussed include, buying a laptop, Apple's airtag trackers, free ebooks, printer problems, and streaming services. An attendance sheet will be at the General Meeting on June 15 to record your intention of attending.

Discussion Groups

Barry Amond

To Zoom or not? On Tuesday June 8 at 2 pm and Friday 11 at 10 am the groups will meet in person if permitted but otherwise by Zoom. The topic is to be 'China Revisited' covering the virus, trade and the future of Taiwan. In 2013 we discussed China's amazing progress but much has changed since then. The Tuesday meeting in July will have to be on a different day - details later.

Pub Lunch

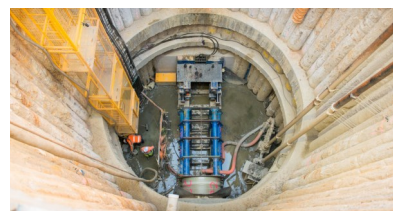
Roger Wilson

Pub Lunch at McKinnon Hotel Tuesday July 13 at 1pm. Cost \$30 pp. Please book and pay.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

Metro Tunnel

Full details of this visit on p4. Contact: Ken Beadle. [CLICK HERE](#) to register



A special thank you to Alan Stevens for his help each month in compiling the newsletter – his comments, editing and suggestions are much appreciated. Ed.

Birthday Boys – June

BRADD, Garry 2/6	KERR, Robert 11/6
BALL, Graham 14/6	DAVIS, Bill 22/6
BUTCHER, Ralph 24/6	*CUPPLES, Geoff 24/6
TRUMBLE, Alan 25/6	SEEDSMAN, David 30/6

[*80th]

Probus Activities

Candlelight Dinner [COVID willing]

Where: Sandy by the Bay (Sandringham Football Club)

When: Wednesday June 16 at 6.30 pm

Deadline for bookings and payment is Tuesday June 8.

At time of writing we assume the event will go ahead.

However, if we are forced to cancel, a full refund will apply, providing payment is received before the 8th.

Parking is available at the Council car park on the foreshore. Make sure you have your Bayside sticker. Limited parking is available at the Football Club itself.

YOU WILL BE ADVISED IF THERE IS A NEED TO CANCEL THIS FUNCTION



Metro Tunnel Project

Wednesday July 7

Located in the heart of the CBD across the road from the Town Hall on Swanston Street, the Metro Tunnel Headquarters and Visitors Centre is a great place to find out more about Victoria's biggest ever public transport project and how it will benefit Melbourne. Meet at 10.45 am at the Visitors Centre on the corner of Swanston and

Little Collins Streets for an 11.00 am presentation with morning tea provided. The exhibition includes a large model of the city centre which highlights station locations; also artefacts from the half million recovered from under Swanston Street. At the end of the presentation, we will walk down Swanston Street to visit the Town Hall station site.

NOTE: We are booked for lunch at Young & Jacksons at 12.15 pm.

We will make our own way to the CBD. The 10 am train from Sandringham is recommended for Bayside members to travel into the City. No charge for this visit but reservations are essential. To register [CLICK HERE](#). Numbers limited to 25, so register now to secure your place on the visit.



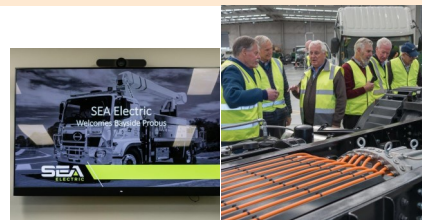
SEA ELECTRIC

Our club visited SEA Electric in Dandenong to see this new company building electric motor-driven trucks ranging in size from 3.5 to 29 tonnes. So far over 230 vehicles have been delivered in Australia/New Zealand covering community applications such as garbage disposal, commercial delivery trucks, cherry-picker trucks, dump trucks and buses, to name a few. The company has its own patented SEA -Drive® Technology.

In addition to having zero emissions when operating, its key selling point is a lower cost of ownership versus an equivalent diesel truck. They are now based in the USA and looking to expand into that market.

For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

*Right: Presentation started with a welcome to our club.
Far right: Warren (SEA) outlining the electric motor and cabling layout
Below: Glen (SEA) explains smart design with battery packs between chassis rails*



Right: Duncan Gibson, Noel Ineson, Tony Bowles and Geoff Stockdale



Members In Action

Right: Alan Kermond delivers his 10-minute talk at the May General Meeting



Above: Members show their appreciation of the Malaysian food and local wine selection at Tastes – at the Mid Valleys restaurant in May

Organiser, Geoff Bransbury, and President Chris thank owners and chefs, Lilly and Johnny



Right: Centenarian, Ralph Butcher, at the head of the table amongst other Probus members awaits his wasabi king prawns, lemon chicken, prawn san choi bao with satay sauce and sizzling Szechuan beef



Left: For those who have wondered what Geoff Bransbury does in his spare time, here is a picture of him painting his daughter's place



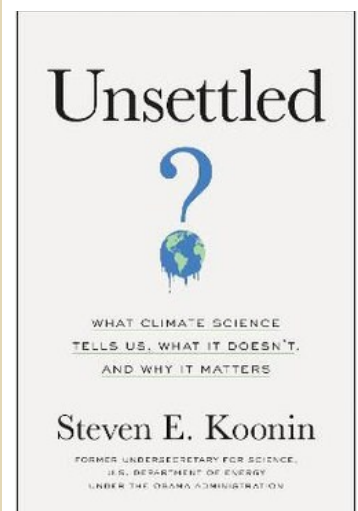
[Photos: Alan Stevens]

Climate and Science

Alan Farmer

Koonin is an American scientist who served as Undersecretary for Science in the US Department of Energy. Currently a distinguished professor at New York University, he holds a wide variety of eminent positions including in climate science. One of his specialties is modelling of climate. His new book explores the chasm between what is represented as 'settled science' about climate and what it actually tells us. Koonin accepts that there is some human influence on warming caused by carbon dioxide; however any correlation between CO₂ and temperature does not prove causation anywhere near the scale presented in the media.

Climate has been changing constantly in the past, but there is scant evidence that human contributions have been significant, much less disastrous. Koonin cites the annual number of high temperature records that show no significant trend over the past century, nor over the past 40 years. What is of concern is that with increasingly more connected communications we are more aware of floods, fires, droughts, hurricanes and other serious weather events – all of which have occurred over the past millennia. But they do not provide any proof of catastrophic climate change. US tornadoes, for example, have become more benign over the past 75 years. Sadly, media, politicians, and even 'science' reports, often misrepresent what science actually says. Dr Koonin's book testifies that the science of climate change is far from settled.



NEXT MONTH: Bill Gates on Climate Change

The Last Word

RACV Road to Recovery

Leisure has always been part of the RACV, Geoff Cosgriff, President and Chairman said, from its beginnings in 1903 as a social and car and motorcycle club. "Leisure is in our DNA," he said. But it now sees its purpose as improving people's lives. Adding value to members, Geoff said.

"The RACV put the experience of our members and customers at the centre of everything we do," said General Manager of RACV Leisure, Geoff Peachey. Via its eight resorts with 1197 accommodation rooms, four golf courses and 23 restaurants - from the Murray, to the Gold Coast, Noosa and Hobart - its aim is to provide the best experiences for all members and to make their RACV membership more meaningful, world-class experiences. Also, it seeks to deliver benefits to members through key partnerships with key providers such as Thrifty, APT, Mantra, Marriott and others.

Not surprisingly, COVID had a significant impact on the organisation, down 49% from December 2020. "The business halved in size because of COVID," Craig said, "and many staff moved elsewhere (half its chefs moved into jobs such as construction, for example)". However, half the country's travel agents also disappeared - which the organisation sees as an opportunity for growth. RACV was hit hard but already there are signs of recovery.

"The business halved in size because of COVID"

Medical Breakthrough

In his May 10-minute talk, retired radiologist Alan Kermond, spoke about a remarkable development that has occurred in the detection and treatment of cancers. For those of us without medical training, the secret to success seems to rest with the glucose molecule. Treatment - which has a 90% cure rate - involves removing oxygen from the cancer cells and replacing it with particles that are radioactive. This is made possible by the use of PET scans which can create an image of the entire body and show if (and where) cancer is spreading to other parts of the body. PET, once rare, are now found in more than 50 hospitals in Australia and can be used to see if tumours are malignant or not. It can even tell the difference between active tumours and scar tissue; or help diagnose or manage central nervous system disorders such as depression and epilepsy.



Right: Geoff Peachey receives a gift from Simon Appel on behalf of Probus



PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

*** Office Bearers 2021**

** Committee Members*

* President: **Chris Renwick** 0419 927 536
 * Past President: **Simon Appel** 9585 6956
 * Treasurer: **John Hewison** 0419 357 203
 * Functions: **Geoff Bransbury** 9589 1507
 * 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** 9598 2429

* Vice-President: **Jim Duggan** 0432 150 675
 * Secretary: **Garry Sebo** 0419 340 565
 * Assistant Treasurer: **Geoff Carlson** 9589 4884
 * Assistant Functions: **Ken Beadle** 9589 6120
 * Meetings: **Keith Ross** 9589 3580
 * Assistant Meetings: **Barrie Gibson** 9589 3902
 * Membership: **Peter Flude** 0405 127 271
 * Auditor: **Robert Lander** 0435 930 082
 * Recorder: **Grant Sabin** 9598 4768
 * Projectionist: **Geoff Cupples** 0411 251 406
 * Photographer: **Alan Stevens** 0418 336 354

*** Interest Groups**

Bike Riding: **Ken Beadle** 9589 6120
 Digital Technology: **Geoff Wade** 9588 2593
 Discussion: **Barry Amond** 9515 0725
 Tastes: **Geoff Bransbury** 9589 1507
 Bridge: **Jim Duggan** 0432 150 675
 Wine Discovery: **Grant Sabin** 9598 4768
 Pub Lunch: **Roger Wilson** 0418 395 946

Golf: **John Pound** 9521 8252
 Visits: **Ken Beadle** 9589 6120
 PRISMS: **Alan Nash** 9589 2934
 Wine Appreciation: **Roger Wilson** 0418 395 946
 Theatre: **Graham Ball** 9598 4125
 Travel: **Simon Appel** 9585 6956