



NEWSLETTER

Probud Club of Beaumaris Inc.

www.beaumarisprobud.org.au

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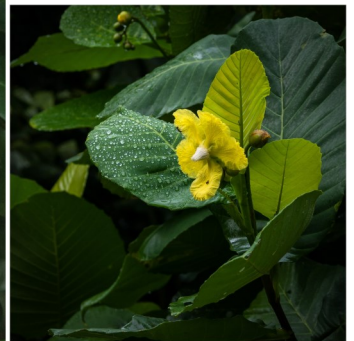
March 2022



1



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3



Our very distinguished photographer, Alan Stevens, belongs to a Photography Club. It has different themes each month for a competition and this month it is 'Flora and Fauna'. The three photos above are some past entries. The picture at right is another of his photos taken in recent times. The photo at left was not taken by Alan and is not in the competition. It was taken in Edward Street, Sandringham.

1 Windflowers

2 Fish Poison Flower

3 Simpho-national flower of Brunei

Flowering Gum (left): Peter McGregor



Next General Meeting:
Tuesday March 15 10 am
Black Rock Yacht Club
Keynote Speaker: Colin Neave
Former Commonwealth Ombudsman
Topic: There Is an Ombudsman for Everything
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Chris Renwick



I write this from the south coast of NSW. My wife and I have been here for a little over a week and we have had heavy rain every day. Much more is expected each day next week – but not nearly as much as the rain in southeast Queensland. In any event, we have given up and we are heading back to Melbourne. If it is not COVID, then it's rain!

My term as your President is nearly over. And it seems to have gone very quickly. Yet it has been quite a disrupted year with nearly all our meetings being held by Zoom. This has not been easy for many of our Keynote Speakers and I extend my thanks to them for their special efforts.

It was therefore pleasing to meet together face-to-face at our February meeting. It was even more pleasing that so many attended, nearly everyone of us staying for lunch. What made it special was the camaraderie! The comments made to me about our new venue were positive and I hope we can tweak things to further improve the experience.

Our Speaker for March is new member Colin Neave who will talk to us about his experiences as an Ombudsman. Many of us are not familiar with the role of an ombudsman, so this should prove very interesting. I for one, am looking forward to our next activities - the Croquet Social Evening and the golf trip to Murray Downs. Unfortunately, I cannot attend the Pub Lunch.

I look forward to seeing you all again at our March Meeting at the Black Rock Yacht Club.

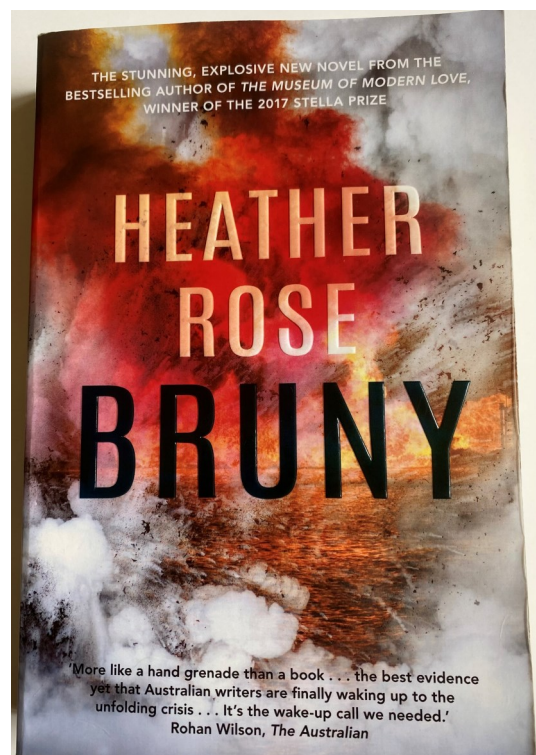


Left: President Chris holding the Olympic torch he would have carried—if he had been asked. Ed.

Bridge to Bruny

Paul Crompton was kind enough to lend me a copy of *Bruny* by award-winning writer Heather Rose. It is a fictional account of the forces at play both locally and internationally and the creeping tentacles of Chinese (CCP) influence. Set in peaceful Bruny Island off the coast of Tasmania, the story unfolds to reveal the massive amounts of subterfuge occurring without even our knowing. The key players in this tale are on opposite sides of the political spectrum but are from the same family. The incumbent (Liberal) Premier is building a bridge to Bruny Island and it has to be completed before he faces off in the next election against his (Labour) opponent and stepsister. The Premier's twin sister works for the UN on mediating between some warring nations. He wants her back in Tasmania to help reconcile multiple anti and pro factions and ensure there is no delay in building the bridge. Each chapter reveals more details regarding this seemingly unnecessary haste. Whilst it is fiction, there are a few home truths to be found here and a wake-up call of the risk to our most valuable assets. Very easy, but highly enjoyable to read.

Alan Stevens



NOTICEBOARD

Correction

In the February newsletter, one of the captions of the photos at the Geelong Gallery made reference to Howard Hoskins and his late wife, Annamarie. It should have read 'Howard and Vivienne'.



Probuss Bikers
Without comment

Discussion Groups

At their meetings on March 8 and 11 Probuss group members are discussing the topic, 'The treatment of indigenous peoples around the world'. There is still room to join us. Our discussions have covered a wide variety of topics but more than anything they are a great way of getting together for a chat. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the group.

At our February meetings, we accepted that too many sports are becoming increasingly commercial and geared towards the enjoyment of spectators. It was agreed, however, that that should be balanced with good sportsmanship. Our next meetings will be in May.

Barry Amond

Going My Way?

Going to our Meeting on March 15? How about giving a fellow member a lift to the Black Rock Yacht Club? There are lots of good reasons but simply: -

- It optimises parking availability!
- Maximises attendances.
- Provides members without transport the opportunity to participate

It is simply being a mate!
Phone a friend today and arrange it!



Keith Ross 0418 584 401

Energy Crisis

"In 2021, Europe had only enough battery capacity to back up less than one and a half minutes of its average electricity usage. By 2030, with ten times the stock of batteries, there will be enough for 12 minutes." Bjorn Lomborg, "Why soaring energy costs are just the beginning."

The Australian, 12-13/2/22

Join our Beaumaris Choir



Derek Skuse is forming a mixed Beaumaris Probuss Choir made up of members and partners. We have eleven already, including both male and female. The aim is to form a choir when COVID restrictions are lifted and have a repertoire ready to perform at our Christmas Lunch. Derek intends to arrange a choirmaster, accompanist, venue and even the weekly rehearsal time in the near future. This will be a lot of fun. You don't need to be a Pavarotti or a Joan Sutherland. All you need is enthusiasm! Call Derek 0418 893 676 or email him at skues.derek@gmail.com. Partners Welcome.

Footy Tipping Competition

Last chance to join the new Footy Tipping Comp. Come join in the fun - maybe win some of the pool! Easy to set up and easy to enter your tips. Season starts on March 16 so contact Leon Laragy on 0410 327 587 or email leon.laragy@gmail.com. Leon will assist you.

Wine Appreciation

Our next meeting is at the Steak Bank Ormond for lunch and red wines on Thursday May 5.

Roger Wilson

Digital Technology

After a two-year hiatus the Digital Technology Group will finally be meeting together on Thursday March 10 at Barry Amond's residence, 1 John St Beaumaris at 2 pm. A varied range of topics will be discussed and it is not too late to indicate you will be attending.

Geoff Wade

Birthday Boys – March

NASH, Alan 6/3	POUND, John 6/3
KEYS Graeme 8/3	AVERY, Tony 10/3
SIMPSON, Brian 10/3	CONNELL, Mev 11/3
HOWE, John 13/3	WILSON, Richard 13/3
TOMKINS, Bruce 16/3	CRUTHERS, Bill 17/3
BUSHBY, John 20/3	HENDERSON, Ian 25/3
FARMER, Alan 27/3	MASKIELL, Ian 27/3
WHITE, Ken 29/3	

Members' Page



*Left: Hungry members tuck into their first lunch at our new premises for Probus meetings, the Black Rock Yacht Club where facilities proved to be spacious and the views magnificent
Also, James Tomkins enjoys his soup at the President's table*



As part of his talk on the Olympics, James Tomkins passed around the Olympic torch he was given – even though, because of COVID, he didn't get the chance to carry it in Tokyo – which was eagerly inspected by Paul Crompton and other members



*New Members' Induction
From left: President Chris, John Green, Proposer Barry Amond, Leon Laragy and Derek Skues*

Far Left: Tony Read is inducted by President Chris Renwick

*At the Royal Brighton Yacht Club
Below LHS:
David and Margaret Rushworth, (front) Jill and Tony Phillips*



*Above RHS:
Ian Marchment, Linn Maskell and John Beatty OBE (front)*



Left: Incoming President for 2022, Jim Duggan, enjoying the night at the Royal Brighton Yacht Club

*Below:
Deb Skues and Anne Duggan*



*Left:
Our Ubiquitous Master of Ceremonies, Geoff Bransbury*



*Tasting International Wines
Host and Convenor of Wine Appreciation Group: Roger Wilson OAM*

*From left to right
Paul Stephens, Rod Hammond, Robert Lander, Howard Hoskins, Barry Amond*

Visits & Activities

Ken Beadle & Geoff Bransbury

Croquet Social Event and Spit Roast Friday March 25 4.30—9 pm



Croquet and Spit Roast Dinner Sandringham Croquet Club from 4.30 pm

Come along and have a great evening. Have a go at croquet or just come for the dinner and company. If you play, we have a special competition and a trophy to win.

Most important is the fabulous Spit Roast Dinner cooked by our own Master Chefs. Desserts-to-die-for to follow. It is a great event!

Come between 4.00 – 4.30 for practice. It finishes around 9.00.

NOTE: BYO drinks, a hat and wine glass.

Cost: just \$35. Numbers limited to 40 so book now.

[CLICK HERE](#) to book



The Elvis Exhibition

Direct from Graceland Bendigo Art Gallery,
Wednesday May 11

Relive your Presley years by visiting this unique exhibition which celebrates the life and legacy of Elvis Presley.

The exhibition features a wide range of costumes and ultra-cool outfits, vintage memorabilia and treasured items from his beloved Graceland home. These include Elvis and Priscilla's wedding outfits, the costume he wore to meet President Nixon, his diamond encrusted Maltese Cross necklace and his gold telephone.

We will catch the 10.06 am train from Southern Cross arriving in Bendigo at 12.07 pm. and walk (20 minutes) or bus to the Art Gallery and "Basement on View" cafe for a 12.30pm lunch. Our tickets are for a 2 pm entry.

Return trains depart Bendigo at 3.26 and 4.01pm. Seniors and Pension Card holders can use their free vouchers to obtain tickets from Sandringham or any other staffed railway station. Alternatively you can use your MYKI card to pay the \$24 return fare.

Cost for the visit is \$25 (entry ticket) - all other costs are at your expense. Please register and pay now to ensure we are able to secure tickets for all registrants. A gallery limit applies.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access booking form

The Last Word

All About the Olympics

Our Keynote Speaker, one of the Oarsome Foursome, James Tomkins, provided an interesting overview of the organisation involved in rescheduling the Tokyo Olympics Games to 2021. The competitors had to keep training for an extra 12 months without certainty the games would actually happen. All the contracts relating to the facilities, media rights and the like, had to be renegotiated. Accommodation had to be found for the thousands of people who were going to take up residence in the Olympic Village after the games. It was a major financial challenge for the City of Tokyo.

However, he said, these games were a fantastic success and competitors were extremely grateful. As a result of the deferment, the IOC had to assist sporting bodies and the host cities. James said that 17,500 people (athletes, coaches, etc.) arrived in Japan; all had to be covid-tested on arrival and each day during the games. He handed round the actual torch he would have carried had there been the usual torch event from Olympia in Greece. Some of us were surprised how much it weighed (a bit on the heavy side!) It was a professional and most interesting presentation.

Grant Sabin



Flying the Furrow

Our expert 10-min speaker for February was Paul Stephens who told an extraordinary tale of derring do. Following the Great War, Britain was determined to use aircraft to police its Middle East territories and convey mail from Cairo to Baghdad. To achieve this, and also provide a corridor for future air travel to the Far East, Britain needed to develop a route from Amman to Baghdad - 900km across the desolate Syrian Desert. In 1921, pilots navigated visually but in the desert there were no roads or railways to follow. So what do you do? Answer: the RAF ploughed a furrow right across the desert, complete with 26 landing grounds, two of which provided refuelling facilities. Its first dedicated transport aircraft, the Vickers Vernon, transporting mail between Cairo and Baghdad was a gruelling 5-day trip for the crews. The glare of the desert, a noisy open cockpit, bouncing along in the desert thermals as well as multiple refuelling stops were tough work. Forced landings were common often in fading daylight which meant an overnight stop at one of the desert landing grounds. In 1937, with the introduction of flying boats and more sophisticated conventional aircraft, along with radio navigation, the practice of Flying the Furrow came to an end.

Grant Sabin



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** 0416 294 452
 * Webmaster: **Geoff Bransbury** 0416 294 452
 Assistant Meetings: **Barrie Gibson** 9589 3902
 * Newsletter: **Peter McGregor** 0418 322 987
 * Welfare: **Alan Stevens** 0418 336 354
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 Audio Visual: **Paul Crompton** 9583 1310
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 * Meetings: **Keith Ross** 0418 584 401
 Sommelier:
 * Membership: **Peter Flude** 0405 127 271
 Auditor: **Robert Lander** 0435 930 082
 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** 0407 877 539
 Tastes: **Geoff Bransbury** 0416 294 452
 Bridge: **Peter McGregor** 0418 322 987
 Wine Discovery: **Grant Sabin** 9598 4768
 Pub Lunch: **Roger Wilson** 0418 395 946

Golf: **John Pound** 0414 251 292
 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