



# NEWSLETTER

Probud Club of Beaumaris Inc.

[www.beaumarisprobud.org.au](http://www.beaumarisprobud.org.au)

Reg No. A 001 - 6598G

Probud Bank Details: CBA BSB 063144 Account No. 10121288

Issue No. 370

September 2022



Mawson's Huts at Cape Denison, East Antarctica, one of just six buildings which remain intact from the 'heroic era' of Antarctic exploration which extended from 1897 to 1917. They were used as the main base for two years by the Australasian Antarctic Expedition (AAE) of 1911-14 led by Dr Douglas Mawson.

## Next General Meeting:

**Tuesday September 20 10 am**

**Black Rock YC**

**Keynote Speaker: Eric Kelly**

**Topic: Visit to Mawson's Hut Antarctica**

**10-Minute Talk:**

**Alan Trumble – Humorous Memories**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Simon Appel OAM



Spring is here! Members are here (mostly), AFL finals are here, US Tennis Open is happening and school holidays are near. In fact, the school holidays commence the Friday prior to our next General Meeting. If that Tuesday is typically spring, and calm and sunny, we will need to arrive even earlier at the Black Rock Yacht Club to ensure a car park.

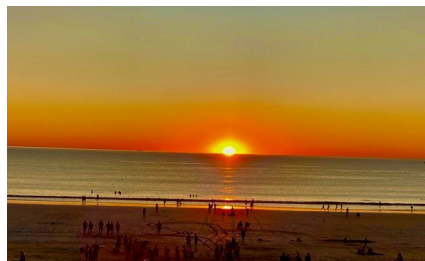
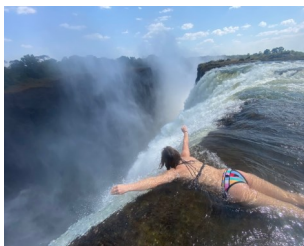
Our August Meeting enjoyed an excellent Guest Speaker in Laraine Stephens, author and Beaumaris resident. Laraine described the background to her two recent novels, and reminded us of the Bayside historical events with storms and notable renegades. We also enjoyed lunch with the new caterer at Black Rock Yacht Club. It is pleasing to have a large percentage of members staying for lunch.

A notable item was the successful nomination from Howard Hoskins, as our Vice President. Howard was congratulated by members and delivered a thank you to members for their good wishes. We now look forward to our Spring gathering.

### What Members Do in the Holidays



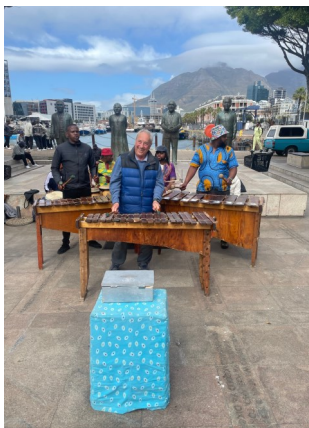
*Above: If you look closely, you may see Peter McGregor lying on the beach at Noosa*



*Left: Ken Beadle in Broome*

*Top Left: Barry Amond surveys his kingdom at Royal Pines, Qld*

*Meanwhile, below, members gather for lunch at the August General Meeting*



*Left: Geoff Bransbury in Zambia  
Daughter Lucy peers over Victoria Falls;  
Geoff on the drums; and below, a few of the locals*





# NOTICEBOARD

## Discussion Group

There is no meeting in September. The new single group will meet on Tuesday October 11 at 2 pm.  
Barry Amond

## Digital Technology

The next meeting of the Digital Technology group will be held on Tuesday October 4 commencing at 2 pm at the home of Barry Amond, 1 John St Beaumaris. If you have an item you would like discussed, please advise me on geoffp.wade@bigpond.com. Geoff Wade

## Beaumaris Probis Golf 2022



*President, Simon Appel, presents the Elson Trophy to this year's winner—and co-ordinator—John Pound*

The annual contest for the Elson Trophy was held at the Dunes Golf Course at Rye on Friday August 26. The Dunes, rated number 5 in Australia, is truly beautiful and daunting. We had a field of a dozen entries for the day which was down on our usual field size, due mainly to many taking the opportunity at last to travel to warmer climes. The weather and the company were both great. John Pound scraped in winning on a countback from Howard Hoskins. Howard also won the Nearest-the-Pin. Third place was Roger Wilson.  
John Pound

## Wine Group

Red Wines with a difference was the theme for nine members of the Wine Appreciation Group at Barry Amond's home in August, the selection excluding shiraz, cabernet sauvignon and pinot noir but it did include many different varieties - gamay, durif, sangiovese, cabernet franc, malbec and grenache varieties. We welcomed Tim Harding, one of our newer members, who is very knowledgeable on wines, plus we welcomed back Rod Kelly, who caused a stir by introducing a non- alcoholic red wine which didn't score any points!

*Wine Appreciation Group (Left to right): Rod Hammond, Rod Murrell, Howard Hoskins, Tim Harding, Barry Amond, Rod Kelly, Paul Stephens, Dick Kirby*



A Saltram's Argentinian Pepperjack Malbec scored best by the nine attendees judging, with second place going to The Ethereal One, a SA grenache, followed by a durif and a cabernet franc, equal third. We learnt a lot from the comments on each of the different red wine varieties!

NOTE: Our next Meeting is lunch at The Steak Bank, Ormond, on Friday October 28 at 12 Noon.  
Roger Wilson

## Pub Lunch

Next Pub Lunch is on Thursday October 13 at the iconic and historic Elsternwick Hotel. (At Elsternwick Junction cnr Nepean Highway and Glenhuntly Road) starting at 12.30 pm. Cost is \$30 payable in advance to the Treasurer.

Selection from five main meals. Plenty of off-street parking, entrance off Glenhuntly Road. Always a great lunch and partners are most welcome.

Roger Wilson

## Probis Choir

The first rehearsal of the Beaumaris Probis Choir is to take place, at the Beaumaris Seniors Centre hall behind the Library, Reserve Road. Jill Page has agreed to be our conductor. Jill was the conductor of the Bayside U3A Baytone Singers, who have not got together in two years and will be invited to form part of the Community Choir. This is a joint venture with Beaumaris Probis, as the sponsors of the choir, Bayside U3A and the City of Bayside, who have provided funding. [BOOK HERE](#)

Derek Skues

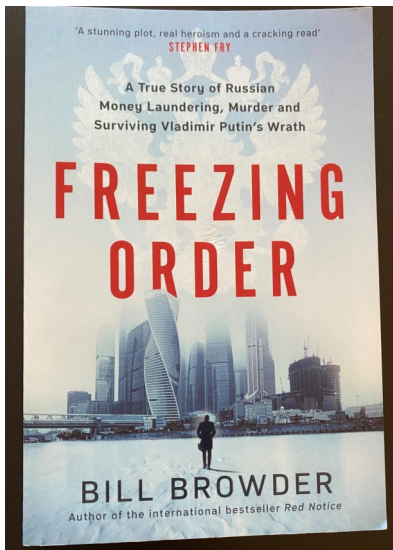
## AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES NOT THE OLDEST CONTINUOUS CULTURE ON EARTH

Comprised of several sub-groups, the San people have roamed the African continent as a distinct ethnic group for around 150 000 years. Also known as the Bushmen of the Kalahari, they are hunters and gatherers of tremendous skill, with complex social structures and (perhaps) enviable lifestyles who continue to live the lifestyle of their ancient ancestors. This makes them probably the oldest continuous culture on Earth.

## Birthday Boys – September

INESON, Noel	1/9	SHERMAN, Peter	1/9
MANN, Andrew	2/9	READ, Mike	6/9
JENKINS, Lloyd	10/9	PETCH, Roy	13/9
Phil MADDOX	14/9	MARTIN, Ian	21/9
WILMOT, David	23/9	PHILLIPS Tony	27/9
RENWICK, Chris	29/9		

# Book Reviews



This book, lent to me by John Pound, reveals the money laundering by corrupt Russians; amongst others. The author, Bill Browder, was the key person who instigated the famous Magnitsky Act which allows a government to freeze the assets of these corrupt people.

The Magnitsky Act - formally known as the Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal and Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012. It is a bipartisan bill passed by the US Congress and signed into law by Barack Obama in December 2012, intending to punish those Russian officials responsible for the death of Browder's tax lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky, a respected lawyer in Russia, in a Moscow prison in 2009. They were also able to grant permanent normal trade relations status to Russia.

There are many heroes in this book as they defy the coercive actions of powerful Russians and oligarchs and their enforcers. It is very easy to read and an insight into Russia under Putin's control. Highly recommended.

Alan Stevens



*Our new Vice-President, Howard Hoskins and Vivienne Fry, the new assistant editor of our newsletter*



## Patriot or Pariah?

Vladimir Putin is a pariah to the West. Alone among world leaders, he has the power to reduce both the United States and Europe to ashes in a nuclear firestorm and has threatened to do so. He invades his neighbours - most recently Ukraine - meddles in western elections such as the US and orders assassinations inside and outside Russia. The regime he heads is autocratic and corrupt.

Yet, it seems, many Russians continue to support him. Despite western sanctions, the majority have been living better than at any time in the past. By fair means or foul, under Putin's autocratic leadership, Russia has once again become a force to be reckoned with.

Philip Short, formerly BBC's correspondent in Moscow, in this biography explores in depth the personality of its enigmatic and ruthless leader and demolishes many of our preconceptions about Putin's Russia. Since becoming President in 2000, his obsession has been to wind back the clock and restore Russia's status as the great power it once was, unbound by western rules. What forces and experiences shaped him? What led him to challenge the American-led world order that has kept the peace since the end of the Cold War?

To explain is not to justify. Putin's regime is dark. He pursues his goals relentlessly by whatever means he thinks fit. But on closer examination, much of what we think we know about him turns out to rest on half-truths.

This book is as close as we will come to understanding Russia's ruler. It also makes us revise long-held assumptions about the course of global politics since the end of the Cold War.

Peter McGregor (with the assistance of Booktopia)

# Visits & Activities

## 2022 Archibald Prize Exhibition Wednesday September 28



The venue for the exhibition this year is the Bunjil Centre (City of Casey Arts Centre) in Narre Warren.

Address is 2 Patrick NE Drive, Narre Warren, Melways 110D4. Parking on site.  
There were 816 entries and 52 were selected for the exhibition.  
Meet at 10.50 am at the Gallery entrance for admission at 11am.  
After viewing the exhibition, we will have lunch at the Gallery café.

Cost: \$15 per person for exhibition entrance  
Lunch at your own expense.  
Please register and pay online by September 21 at latest.  
To book, [CLICK HERE](#).



**Johnson Collection**      To Book [CLICK HERE](#)

**Tony Read's Aircraft Workshop**      To Book [CLICK HERE](#)

**Brighton Theatre**      To Book [CLICK HERE](#)



# The Last Word

## Mayhem in Melbourne

Laraine Stephens, author, was our Guest Speaker for the August Meeting. Laraine, living in Beaumaris, described her background which included an Arts degree from the University of Melbourne, a Diploma of Education and Graduate Diploma in Librarianship. She then worked in secondary schools as a Head of Library. On retirement, Laraine decided to turn her hand to the craft of crime writing. Her debut novel, *The Death Mask Murders*, was published by Level Best Books (USA) in June 2021. It recently ranked at #31 on Amazon.com.au in historical mysteries (Kindle) and has been in the Top 100 six times. She has a three-book contract with her publisher. Her second novel is *Deadly Intent*, published in May 2022. Laraine, an accomplished speaker, delivered an interesting, humorous and educational talk which included background to her two novels.

Laraine's talk covered the historical background to *The Death Mask Murders* and *Deadly Intent* and the research that they involved. This included the Brighton storm of 1918, the effects of the Great War (including 'shell shock'), phrenology and death masks. She also included stories on the Old Melbourne Gaol and the Ararat Lunatic Asylum,

the Police Strike of 1923, amongst other topics. Lloyd Jenkins delivered an enthusiastic thank you on behalf of members and many then purchased copies of her novels. Simon Appel



**Battleship Battle**

Tim Harding was our 10-Minute Speaker in August. Tim delivered a comprehensive description of "The Battle of Surigao Strait", with maps and photographs of the battle, significant as the last battleship-to-battleship action in history. The Battle of Surigao Strait was one of only two battleship-versus-battleship naval battles in the Pacific campaign of World War II). It is also the most recent battle in which one force (in this case, the US Navy) was able to "cross the T" of its opponent. However, by the time that the battleship action was joined, the Japanese line was very ragged and consisted of only one battleship (Yamashiro), one heavy cruiser, and one destroyer, so that the "crossing of the T" was notional and had little effect on the outcome of the battle. Simon Appel

**Warren Mundine, former President of the ALP and of Indigenous descent says he will oppose the Voice because Australia has "a very strong liberal democracy and Indigenous people have achieved equality within that framework."**

## **PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.**

### **\* Office Bearers 2022 \* Committee Members**

* President: <b>J Simon Appel</b>	0417 600 419	Vice President: <b>Howard Hoskins</b>	0432 868 952
* Past President: <b>Jim Duggan</b>		* Secretary: <b>Garry Sebo</b>	0419 340 565
* Treasurer: <b>John Hewison</b>	0419 357 203	* Assistant Treasurer: <b>Geoff Carlson</b>	0408 568 971
* Functions: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	0416 294 452	Visits: <b>Kevin Reed</b>	0419 565 520
* Webmaster: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	0416 294 452	* Meetings: <b>Keith Ross</b>	0418 584 401
Assist Meetings: <b>Barrie Gibson</b>	0418 454 057	* Membership: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946
* Newsletter: <b>Peter McGregor</b>	0418 322 987	Newsletter Assistant: <b>Vivienne Fry</b>	
* Welfare: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	0418 336 354	Archive: <b>John Howe</b>	9598 2429
Auditor: <b>Robert Lander</b>	035 930 082	Recorder:	
Projectionist: <b>Geoff Cupples</b>	0411 251 406	Audio Visual: <b>Paul Crompton</b>	0491 147 389
Photographer: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	0418 336 354	* Assist Secretary: <b>Leon Laragy</b>	0410 327 587

### **\* Interest Groups**

Bike Riding: <b>Ken Beadle</b>	0412 185 029	Golf: <b>John Pound</b>	0414 251 292
Digital Technology: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	0416 257 683		
Discussion: <b>Barry Amond</b>	0407 877 539	PRISMS: <b>Alan Nash</b>	9589 2934
Tastes: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	0416 294 452	Wine Appreciation: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946
Wine Discovery: <b>Grant Sabin</b>	0419 595 757	Travel: <b>Simon Appel</b>	0417 600 419
Pub Lunch: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946	Tipping: <b>Leon Laragy</b>	0410 327 587