



# NEWSLETTER

Probus Club of Beaumaris Inc.

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

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March 2023



*Above: Ken & Pat Rattray  
Below: Ian Marchment and  
Diane Segall  
Photos by Alan Stevens*



*Above: Elizabeth and Peter  
Harford (Peter had his 80th  
birthday the day before).  
Below: Rod & Wendy Kelly  
Photos by Alan Stevens*



*Geoff Stockdale and Geoff Abbott  
Photo by Alan Stevens*



## Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 21 March @ 10am  
Black Rock YC**

**Keynote Speaker: Terry Earle, Gallery Director**

**Topic: Emphasis on Indigenous Art**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Simon Appel OAM



We had a large attendance at our February Meeting and it was a pleasure to induct our new member John Carson. Tim Costello AM was our Guest Speaker and he delivered a powerful presentation to our members. He covered the massive gambling industry donations to the political parties of all colours, and delivered statistical coverage of the impact of "gambling in the community". *See report p7 and on our website.*

Our next meeting is the Annual General Meeting. In my time as President, I have been supported by a truly special Committee, who have diligently focussed on "best outcomes" for Members. There have been some challenging moments, consistent with a wide variety of opinions and desires. I will talk more of these special people at our Annual General Meeting.

I am confident Rod Hammond, our incoming President, will continue a strong focus on Member enjoyment. I thank Members for giving me the opportunity to be a two-time President. Previously as your "Covid President", and now as a real-time President. I have especially enjoyed this extended opportunity to serve our club.

Thank you all for that gift. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

**Simon Appel  
President**



← *Tim Costello in his talk on "The Impact of Gambling on Communities"*



*Induction of new member John Carson:  
L to R Proposer Keith Ross, John Carson, President Simon Appel.*

### Birthday Boys – MARCH

NASH, ALAN	6
POUND, JOHN	6
KEYS, Graeme	8
CONNELL, Mev	11
HOWE, John	13
WILSON, Richard	13
TOMKINS, Bruce	16
CRUTHERS, Bill	17
BUSHBY, John	20
READ, Tony	24
FARMER, Alan	27
MASKIELL, Ian	27
WHITE, Ken	29



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



*Geoff Bransbury promoting the Croquet/ BBQ night.*

# of Interest

## Pub Lunch

Roger Wilson OAM

After a very successful Pub Lunch at Brighton Beach Hotel on January 25, our next Pub Lunch is at the **Bridge Hotel Mordialloc on Thursday 9 March at 12 noon**. Cost is only \$30 pp for a pre lunch drink, choice of five mains and coffee to finish. A great fun day, so why not join us.



Click here for booking

[A registration form for our Pub Lunch - Beaumaris Probus](#)

## Wine Appreciation

Roger Wilson OAM

On February 16 we tasted 12 bottles of aged Red Wines from Roger Wilson's Wine Cellar including a 1991 Kingsley Portland (Vic) Cabernet Sauvignon. Top score by the 10 wine tasters present was an outstanding Penfolds 2014 St Henri Shiraz which won hands down from Saltram's 2016 Pepperjack Shiraz, closely followed third by Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Clare Valley just in front of Franklin Tate Alexander 2015 Grenache/Shiraz Frankland River WA.

Our next meeting is at **The Steak Bank Ormond on Friday 28 April at 12 noon** for lunch.



L to R: Robert Lander, Geoff Bransbury, Paul Stephens, Rod Hammond, Tim Harding, Garry Sebo, Dick Kirby, Rod Murrell, Rod Kelly  
Photo by Roger Wilson

## PRISMS

Geoff Wade

The next meeting of PRISMS (Probiars Responsibly Investigating Single Malt Scotch) will be held on **Tuesday 4 April at 2 pm** at Roger Wilson's residence, 35 Church St Beaumaris. Those delegated to provide bottles are Barry Amond, John Opie, Alan Nash and Geoff Wade.

Members will be delighted to hear that our November Guest Speaker, **Brooksy**, is well and back in the water at Brighton Baths after winning a six week spell in the Alfred!

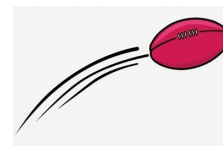
A warm welcome to our new Probus member—John Carson

welcome

## Beaumaris Probus AFL Footy Tipping Competition - Season 2023

Leon Laragy

Special note to **wives & partners**. You are invited! The AFL season begins mid March - and it is time to get on board and join in the fun! This is a reminder that the competition is not just for members. **Wives/ partners are also welcome to play**. You can play individually (it heightens the competitive spirit!). Go on ladies – show off your footy grasp – the more the merrier!



This year a special End of Season/Grand Final Lunch will be held at the Bridge Hotel in Grand Final week - a 'blockbuster' recognition of the AFL's big day and, more importantly, an event to celebrate participants' tipping achievements!!

The competition is great value - the fee is \$30. To join please copy the following link into your internet browser and follow the instructions on the ESPN footy tipping website:

[https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/BP\\_AFL\\_Tipping\\_Comp?p=Probus1965](https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/BP_AFL_Tipping_Comp?p=Probus1965)

Please contact me with any queries/ problems. Cheers, Leon 0410 327 587 - [leonlaragy@gmail.com](mailto:leonlaragy@gmail.com)

## Wine Discovery Group

Grant Sabin

On Wednesday 22 Feb the Wine Discovery Group met at Grant Sabin's home to taste some fine Tasmanian sparkling wines. All were of good quality, all scored reasonably well and showed great value for money. The next Wine Discovery Group tasting is on **Wednesday 26 April**, hosted by Bob and Tina Wigg and featuring South African reds. For more 2023 Wine Discovery Group sessions refer to the Activities Planner on the Probus website.



(Above: serious wine judging by Paul Stephens and Kevin McDonnell) . Photo by Alan Stevens

## Discussion Group

Barry Amond

In discussing New Zealand following Jacinda Ardern's resignation we agreed that she had an excellent international image but that local Kiwis were not so convinced of her success despite her empathy following disasters.

Since Maoris are so prominent in NZ we compared them with Aborigines in debating the forthcoming Voice referendum. We felt that the situations are so different in terms of language and representation, that what has occurred in NZ, is not relevant to our debate. Finally, we were unable to forecast how high interest and inflation rates are likely to go!

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 14 March at 2pm** when we will talk about cars we've owned or coveted before revisiting the electric vehicle revolution. As usual there will be time to worry about the economy and other current issues.



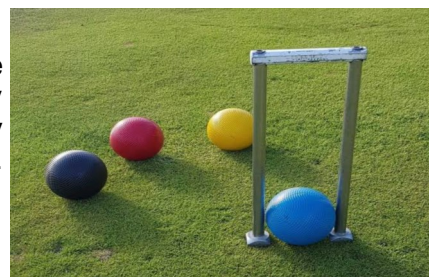
# Activities

## Annual Croquet Event and BBQ

Friday March 17 at Sandringham Croquet Club, opposite the Sandringham Club  
4.30—9.00pm

Come along to one of the best events of the year. Set in a lovely location, the event offers lots of fun, great food and company.

This year it falls on **St Patrick's Day** so dig out any of your green attire and join in the fun. You can either play or just come along and enjoy what's on offer. If you play, a unique competition has been especially designed just for us. Don't be put off if you haven't played croquet. Helpers will be there to show you what to do, and even how to correctly hold the mallet.



We have a delicious BBQ cooked by Chef de BBQ Howard Hoskins, plus salads and delicious desserts. Arrive at or before 4.30 for a practice. Bring an Esky with ice for your drinks and an umbrella if it's hot. Only \$35.00. This covers the Croquet and food. BYO drinks. Maximum 40 persons. To register click [here](#)

[A Registration form for Croquet Social Event and BBQ Dinner - Beaumaris Probus](#)

## **Visit to Beleura, Mornington** **Tuesday 28 March**

**Kevin Reed**

Relive the past gracious living in our visit to BELEURA on **March 28** which offers something for the art, theatre and music lover, historian, and gardener.

The state-listed property was home to successive generations of distinguished Australians over 160 years. It is exceptional for its fine Joseph Reed architecture, its 12 acre garden and for revealing the life of its last owner. Its 25,000 piece collection reflects the taste of Sir George and Lady Tallis and their composer son, John. Their stewardship of the JC Williamson entertainment empire, afforded them the means to create a peaceful place to house their renowned collection.



By 9:45am we are asked to park in the Visitors Carpark of Mornington Golf Club, gather in the clubhouse foyer for a bus transfer and after morning tea, we can join either the house or the garden guided tours which end at 12:30.

After we shall lunch at 'Kirk's on the Esplanade', Mornington. Cost of bus, entry, guided tour and morning tea is \$35 pp. Lunch to be paid separately.

**\*\* Last call – a few places left so register now! \*\***

**Final numbers need to be in by Tuesday, March 14.**

Click here to book

<https://www.beaumarisprobus.org.au/visit-to-beleura-mornington-and-lunch/>

# Functions and Activities

## Annual Golf Trip

John Pound

The annual 3-day golf trip, is again being held at the beautiful Murray Downs Golf Resort at Swan Hill, from **Wednesday April 19 to Saturday April 22**. The popular event is fully booked including last year's 7 members and partners and 7 new members and their partners. The event comprises two stableford competitions, a putting competition, a first night meet and greet BBQ, and a final night dinner with presentation of prizes. The Resort offers good accommodation, a great golf course, a good restaurant, and the ability to use the golf course on all days including departure day.



## Victoria Cup

The Victoria Cup, which has gathered dust for the last 2 years, will again feature during **May**, on a date and at a venue to be decided. The format will be 4 ball better ball stableford, with pairs formed by members of the same club, or if odd numbers or single representatives from a club wish to compete, we will arrange pairs or threes with modified scoring. The last winners were Don Lobb from Yarra Yarra and Phillip Maddox from Woodlands.



## Visit to Naked Racer, Air Museum and lunch at Flight Deck (photos by Alan Stevens)



*Naked Racer Cafe: Lt o R David Rushworth, Lachlan McLean, Simon Appel, John Pound, Jim Duggan, Geoff Bransbury*

On Tuesday 15 February, 12 members headed off to the Naked Racer Café for a coffee and tour by Chris of this unique establishment and its memorabilia. Some of the many interesting items including a 1907 Swedish bike, a jet bike and dozens more. We then drove the 500 metres to the Moorabbin Air Museum to view planes and in many cases sit in the cockpit. The planes on display are impressive and include Meteor, Beaufighter, Mirage, Viscount, Bristol Freighter and much more. Some of our more adventurous members tried getting in and out of the cockpits. One way to prove they're not 20 anymore!

Finally we had lunch at the Flight Deck restaurant adjacent to the Moorabbin Airport runway. The lunch was superb. Rod Kelly advised that his hamburger was the best he has ever had. He also said it was one of the best trips he had been on. If you haven't been before, all of the above places are certainly worth a visit.



*Our (Air)crew: L to R John Knight, Lachlan McLean, Simon Appel, Bob Wigg, Geoff Bransbury, David Rushworth, Ken Beadle, John Pound, Rod Kelly, Jim Duggan, Paul Crompton*

*Naked Racer Cafe: L to R Tour leader Chris, John Pound, David Rushworth, Bob Wigg*





# Identity

**Bike group at The 100 steps to Federation Monument, Altona Gardens on February 10. L to R: Duncan Gibson, Martyn Pickersgill, Robbie Kerr, Ken White, Ken Beadle, Geoff Carlson & John Pound.**  
Photo by Geoff Bransbury



**Synchrotron 2nd visit on February 1.**

L to R: Pat Rattray (wife of Ken), Jim Duggan, John Pound, Geoff Cupples, Geoff Bransbury, Ken Beadle Phillip Stewart, visitor and Presenter Meysam from ANSTO. Photo by Roger Wilson

*The joy of Wine tasting at the Wine Discovery Group: Ian Maskiell*  
Photo by Alan Stevens



*Simon Appel at the Naked Racer Café*  
Photo by Alan Stevens

*Geoff Bransbury in the Canberra Bomber cockpit at the Moorabbin Air Museum*  
Photo by Alan Stevens



## Probus Bike Riders

Vivid high viz vests on bike paths of Bayside,  
Elderly, but spritely men, on their Friday ride.  
You will sight them under summer's sunny rays  
Or in mid winter on those damp and windy days.  
They ride with great purpose no matter the weather,  
On the flat or on steep hills they pedal on together.  
Some wear black lycra shorts that brings on a sigh,  
Hiding padded crutches to protect each inner thigh.

Precisely eight-thirty at Ricketts Point they meet,  
Supplies stored behind each narrow bicycle seat.  
The destination always sought is a long coffee break.  
In St Kilda or "Waterways", by its calm and reedy lake.  
From Frankston or the City, to reduce the strain,  
These are the trips when they use a Metro train.  
If the leader diverts them from their chosen course,  
It often produces swear words with little discourse.

Ducking under bridges, stopping at the noisy lights,  
Watching out for others while taking in local sights,  
Even in wetlands on a narrow wooden walkway,  
In file, they bravely speed on, and seize the day!  
Asking hapless bystanders to take photos on the built stage  
For a Probus newsletter, when the editor needs to fill a page.  
Riding through deep puddles after heavy rain the day before,  
These, other experiences, who could ask for anything more?

Rarely the group stops for a puncture to mend.  
Do have a tube to help a close, dear friend?  
If one can't be found the outcome may seem hard  
To be left all alone, thank god for your MYKI card.  
Naming the individuals is not a very wise thing to do  
'Cause the lawyers amongst them most likely will sue.  
Some in the seventies the others young octogenarians,  
Who are they, none other than Beaumaris Probarians.

**Derek Skues January 2023**

## Member Register

**Geoff Wade**

The member register which can be accessed from the members' section of the website, is undergoing its annual major review. All members are requested to check their respective entries and advise of any amendments they would like done. Notification should be to [geoffp.wade@bigpond.com](mailto:geoffp.wade@bigpond.com)

# Guest Speakers



Our Keynote Speaker for February, Rev Tim Costello, has a distinguished record in public service, including as mayor of St Kilda and CEO of World Vision for many years, but his enthusiasm has never been greater for any cause than his current focus, the Alliance for Gambling Reform. Last year, over \$2.69 billion was lost in pokies across Victoria; that is the equivalent of \$550 per adult, or \$7.38 million lost every day! What disturbs him above everything else is that pokies are concentrated in areas of social and economic disadvantage so that those who can least afford to carry this burden are being targeted by big operators. Rev Costello said it is significant that 62% of all revenues are collected from poor and addicted people. As a result, many ordinary people finish up either bankrupt or in gaol; or both. Gambling purports to create a spirit of community but, he says, on the evidence the very opposite is the case. For example, West Australia, without pokies has a greater level of sports and other participation than Eastern states. The goal of Rev Costello's Alliance is to secure a \$1 maximum bet on poker machines, together with a suite of complementary harm reduction measures - such as changes to opening hours, no access to cash machines in gambling venues, and increased

local government and community say over the planning approval of poker machine gambling. Meanwhile, \$24b is lost from gambling in Australia each year, \$16b on pokies. Amazingly, 75% of all the world's pokies are located in pubs and clubs in Australia and efforts to bring about change are hampered by our politicians' enthusiasm for accepting donations from the gambling industry. Food for thought.

**Peter McGregor**

Tim Harding gave members an introduction to a local identity with a distinguished war record. Born in the UK, Geoff Taylor migrated to Australia at a very early age, later living in Brighton and becoming one of the Icebergers. What many didn't know was that he joined the RAF as one of its youngest members and became a WW2 bomber pilot aboard a Lancaster with a crew of seven. Unfortunately his daring exploits led to him becoming a POW for 18 months in Stalag 14 after being shot down near the village of Hamelin. It was one of Germany's biggest camps for POWs and was liberated by the Russians in 1945. The last thing he remembered before being captured was trying to destroy anything that might give the Germans a clue to his identity, including a train ticket which he decided to eat. Tim highly recommended Geoff Taylor's autobiography called *A Piece of Cake*.

**Peter McGregor**



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

### **\* Office Bearers 2023 \* Committee Members**

* President: <b>J Simon Appel</b>	0417 600 419	* Vice President: <b>Rod Hammond</b>	0438 571912
* 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
Assistant Meetings: <b>Barrie Gibson</b>	0435 454 057	* Membership: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946
Newsletter: <b>Vivienne Fry</b>	0411 207 553	Newsletter Assist: <b>Peter McGregor</b>	0418 322 987
Welfare: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	0418 336 354	Archive: <b>John Howe</b>	03 9598 2429
Auditor: <b>Robert Lander</b>	035 930 082	Recorder: <b>Peter McGregor</b>	0418 322 987
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	PRISMS: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	0416 257 683
Discussion: <b>Barry Amond</b>	0407 877 539	Wine Appreciation: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946
Tastes: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	0416 294 452	Travel: <b>Simon Appel</b>	0417 600 419
Wine Discovery: <b>Grant Sabin</b>	0419 595 757	Tippling: <b>Leon Laragy</b>	0410 327 587
Pub Lunch: <b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946		