



# NEWSLETTER

Probud Club of Beaumaris Inc.

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

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## Issue No. 378

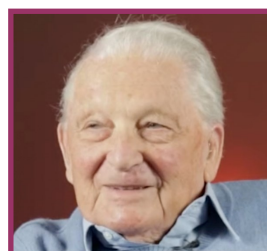
## June 2023



### RALPH BUTCHER OAM

Our congratulations to our very own member Ralph Butcher OAM for reaching his 105th on June 24.

Ralph Butcher has lived a life of service caring for others in the community. From his Army service in WWII to his continuing support for war widows, Ralph says he gets tremendous satisfaction from volunteering and helping people through his work with Probud, Legacy, Girl Guides and the Beaumaris War Widows Club.



Congratulations Ralph. We wish you health and happiness and a very special day to celebrate your impressive milestone.



**Tastes at Fazio's**



*(Photos by Geoff Bransbury. More photos on the website)*

**Next General Meeting**  
**Tuesday 20 June @ 10am Black Rock YC**

**Keynote Speaker: Winston Marsh**  
**Topic: Lies your mother never told you!**

**10-Minute Talk: Tony Phillips: Exciting Life & Times of a Pommy Accountant**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rod Hammond



What a wonderful club is Beaumaris Probus. Our 100 plus members and their partners have the choice of around a dozen interest groups to choose from, as well as four major functions plus exhibitions, day outings, Tastes, pub lunches, golf excursions etc. All to make our full or semi-retirement highly enjoyable. And cheerfully organised by over twenty of our members. The committee will continue to assess the popularity of each activity. Whilst NGV exhibitions attract only a few members, the Archibald Prize exhibition at Geelong and Elvis at Bendigo had good numbers, perhaps due to both the appeal of the exhibition topics, and the ferry trip and train trip respectively.

Bruce Green, as our May speaker, gave an account of his life in golf from caddying as a teenager to playing on the pro circuit and his career as a head professional at Riversdale, Peninsula and finally forty years at Royal Melbourne. Questions about playing with some of the world-famous pros followed.

Our ten-minute speaker, Geoff Abbott, enlightened us about nuclear submarines - not the political slant, but facts about the subs themselves such as crew, size, construction methods, speed, weight, depth, armaments and more. Well worth a look on the website.

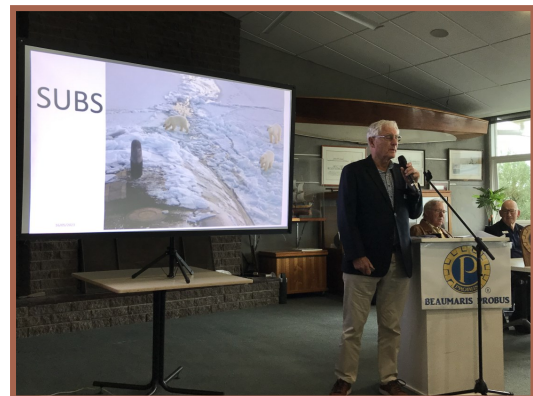
Our guest speaker for June will be Winston Marsh, a veteran of the speaking circuit for 30 years. He loves talking about his simple observations on life and the lessons that can be drawn from them. His topic is "Lies your mother never told you!" which should have you laughing, enthused, and looking at the world a different way.

Ralph Butcher turns 105 in June. His doctor does not approve of Ralph going out at night, so Roger Wilson will interview him as another feature of our June meeting.

Rod Hammond  
President



Bruce Green receiving gift from Garry Bradd (photo by Simon Appel)



Geoff Abbott presenting his 10 min talk (photo by Simon Appel)

### Birthday Boys – June

BRADD, Garry	2
KERR, Robert	11
DAVIS, Bill	22
<b>**BUTCHER, Ralph</b>	<b>24**</b>
CUPPLES, Geoff	24
TRUMBLE, Alan	25
SEEDSMAN, David	30



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**\*\*105\*\* CONGRATULATIONS!!**



New member Peter Fitzgerald presenting his induction speech (photo by Simon Appel)



# of Interest

## Wine Appreciation

Roger Wilson OAM

Ten of our members had a magnificent steak lunch at The Steak Bank Ormond, accompanied by 10 great red wines. Our special guest was 104 year old Ralph Butcher, who thoroughly enjoyed the lunch and chatter over the steak and red wines.

Voted best wine was a 2021 Torbreck Woodcutters Shiraz from the Barossa in SA, from a 2016 Andersons of Rutherglen Basket Press Shiraz and voted third was a 2018 Majella Coonawarra SA Shiraz. (photos p6)

Our next meeting is at **Barry Amond's on Thursday 3 August @ 2pm.**

## Beaumaris Probus AFL Footy Tipping Competition Season 2023

Leon Laragy



We have 28 participants this season - to see how we are travelling [click here](#)

Each fortnight during the season, one of Paul Crompton's superb water colours of the twelve original clubs will be published on our Website.

To see the latest painting and all previously published paintings [click here](#)

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

## Wine Discovery Group - Nebbiolo

Grant Sabin

Our next tasting is planned for **Wednesday 7 June** to be hosted by **Simon Appel**.



We're delving into the Italian grape Nebbiolo, with a variety of 5 different wines including two from the home country - Italy. It's not an easy wine to find in the bottle shops, probably something to do with the price!

## Discussion

Barry Amond

The next meeting will be on **July 11** giving members a rest before grappling again with current issues. In May we agreed that 'art is in the eyes of the beholder' although it remains important to be sure of Aboriginal art's authenticity.

Although green hydrogen has the potential to become an important renewable energy source, it was agreed that there are significant technical hurdles to overcome and it may not be cheap.

## Sunday Music

Barry Amond

The first music afternoon went well. A full house seemed to be very happy with an hour's program of classical and jazz items.



We were left in awe of Yuja Wang's magic on the piano and went to afternoon tea after the soprano, Anna Netrebko, gave an exhilarating Lehar rendition at a last night of the Proms.

There will a repeat performance on **4 June** for the remaining members of this new group. (photos p6)

## Pub Lunch

Roger Wilson OAM



After a very successful Pub Lunch at the Marine Hotel on May 25, our next Pub Lunch is at the **Bridge Hotel Mordialloc on Thursday 27 July at 12 noon.** Cost is only \$35pp for a pre lunch drink, choice of five mains and coffee to finish. A great fun day, so why not join us.

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

## The Science Group

Grant Sabin



Article 105 - Venus is not the closest planet to Earth, is very informative. The Venus orbit is the closest, however depending where Venus and the Earth are on their respective orbits, determines their distance apart. The formula for calculating the closest planet is very complex. On average over time, Mercury is our closest planet. Many articles get this very wrong.

I will be going on a family holiday in June and Peter McGregor has kindly agreed to step back in his previous role and produce the July NL. Thank you Peter. Ed :)

# Functions and Activities



\*\*\**LAST CALL*\*\*\*

## *Candlelight Dinner at Victoria Golf Club*

**Tuesday 27 June – 6.30 for 7.00**

*We always try to make our Candlelight Dinner special and this year is no exception.* We have arranged a wonderful singer who will entertain us with gems by Edith Piaf, Cole Porter and other vintage classics of the 40's, 50's and 60's. Jennifer Salisbury's website describes her as the enchanting songstress who weaves her smoky jazz vocals and lively swing stylings with class, glamour and sophistication. Featuring Mark Morand on guitar who has been described as a "truly authentic jazz guitarist".

Arrive for drinks followed by a two course dinner. Wine beer and soft drinks included. Seating will be arranged. Dress code is jackets for men, ties optional. It will be a great evening at an excellent venue. The cost this year is \$90.00 pp. Please pay the Treasurer.

[A Registration form for our Annual Candlelight Dinner - Beaumaris Probus](#)

### Travel Group

Simon Appel

14 Members of the Travel Group met on **May 5**. We enjoyed two Member speakers, and lots of memories and "intentions".

**Lloyd Jenkins** provided an excellent summary of his many bookings, and cancellations. Lloyd has made more bookings and cancellations than anyone! He described the best way to access refunds for cancelled tours is by demanding to be referred to the senior company representative, rather than be referred to their website for a refund. The tactic of demanding to speak to the representative's Manager worked. Lloyd has received all tour refunds applied for! Lloyd concluded with a wonderful experience in meeting with an American Astronaut.



**Barry Amond** followed Lloyd with a summary of his extensive travels throughout the world. Barry is our most extensive tourist although he is now reluctant to pursue extensive experiences. We also heard of other Members' experiences with, again, a focus on Travel Insurance. **Alan Stevens** has extensively reviewed the options for Travel Insurance, with Probus Insurance being the preferred option.

Our next Meeting will be in **August**, where we will hear from a local Travel Company on the impacts following apparent "relief" from COVID.

# Activities



\*\*\*\***LAST CALL**\*\*\*\*

## *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll by Ray Lawler*

Mordialloc Theatre 64 Parkers Road, Parkdale

**Opening Night Friday 16 June at 8pm**

Promising to be a great social occasion in the stunningly refurbished Shirley Burke Theatre, just a few doors south of Parkdale Station. It's the opening night as well as the Playwright's 102nd birthday. Tickets have been reserved. **Just \$22 pp which includes tea/coffee at interval and supper after the show. Starts at 8pm.**

**If you haven't booked yet this is your last call. Don't be disappointed! Any queries to Kevin Reed 0419 565 520**

Click here to book

[Booking form for Summer of the Seventeenth Doll - Beaumaris Probus](#)

## Visit on Thursday 22 June to the NGV Winter Masterpieces Exhibition 2023 - Pierre Bonnard

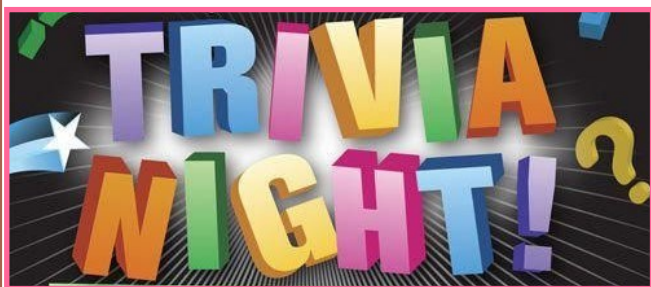
Pierre Bonnard is one the most loved painters of the 20th century, celebrated for his use of colour to convey an exquisite sense of emotion. His close friend Henri Matisse declared that Bonnard was "a great painter, for today and definitely for the future". The exhibition features more than 100 works by Bonnard presented within a contemporary scenography by India Madavi.



Our visit will start with a 30 minute illustrated talk by a gallery guide covering the key themes of the exhibition after which we will enter the exhibition. Meet at the north entrance of the St Kilda Road gallery (next to the Theatres building) at **10.20 am for entry to the lecture theatre for the talk at 10.30 am**. After viewing the exhibition, those wishing to have lunch will meet at **12 noon in the first floor Tearoom**, our usual venue for lunches at NGV.

The cost for the visit is **\$39 per person which covers the talk and exhibition entry**. **Please register now and pay no later than June 12 to meet the deadline for tickets purchase**. When registering online, please advise if you will be staying for lunch. **Any queries to Ken Beadle 0412 286 617**

[A booking for NGV Winter Masterpieces Exhibition 2023 - Beaumaris Probus](#)



## **Tuesday 22 August Sandringham Bowling Club 5.30pm**

If you are up to a light hearted fun night and a bit of friendly and competitive banter, then don't miss this Trivia night. We hope to have groups of up to 6 players. There is also a prize for members of the winning team. **Cost \$25pp which includes nibbles and pizza**. The Bar will also be open. This is not a Masterclass session but an enjoyable night with a few laughs along the way. So start recruiting your team members!

[A registration form for Trivia Night - Beaumaris Probus](#)



# Identity

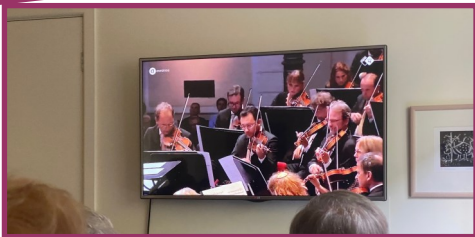


**Wine Appreciation at the Steak Bank on April 28**

*LtoR: Ralph Butcher, Geoff Bransbury, Robert Lander, Barry Amond, Garry Sebo, Rod Murrell, Howard Hoskins, Paul Stephens, Tim Harding (Photos by Roger Wilson and Geoff Wade) ←*



**Sunday Music on May 21**  
*(photos by Geoff Bransbury and Barry Armond)*



**Beauy Bikers**  
waiting comfortably outside Sandringham station for their leader to show up for the 8.30am train to Yarra Trail on May 12. *LtoR Martyn Pickersgill, Geoff Carlson, Robbie Kerr and Duncan Gibson. (Photo by Ken Beadle)* ←



**Pub Lunch at the Marine Hotel on May 25**



# Guest Speakers

## Bruce Green—Keynote Speaker Tuesday 16 May, 2023 *My Time at the Royal Melbourne Golf Club*

We were privileged to have Royal Melbourne GC's long-serving professional, **Bruce Green**, address us at the May meeting. He told us he has never lived more than a kilometre from Royal Melbourne and can see the 13th hole on the West course from his bedroom window. He gave us details about his humble beginnings as a 13 year-old in short pants looking to make some pocket money as a caddie 60 years ago. "I have been extremely fortunate to work at the game's cathedral as a head professional for 40 years," he said, but in his early days he frequented Victoria GC where he was assistant pro, did his apprenticeship at Sandringham and later joined Peninsula Country Club. For someone who has never had a golf lesson he had a distinguished record as a player. He won two Victorian PGAs and came close to winning an Australian PGA - but, ironically (as a teaching professional), he learnt the game from his many years as a caddie. "It was a very natural way to learn the game," Bruce said. "You just watched your boss - the member whose bag you were carrying. I learnt about shaping shots, recovery and how to make something out of nothing. I watched them and thought I could do it better." He has had some unique experiences such as playing against Bob Hope, Billy Crystal and Sean Connery. Amongst the best players he has seen he lists Bob Stanton, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods. Golf, he says, is about 'feel' not techniques or mechanics. Interestingly, he has no qualms about golfers who have taken the Saudi money as part of the LIV tour - "I would, too," he chortles.



**Peter McGregor**



## Geoff Abbott -10 minute Talk Tuesday 16 May, 2023 *Nuclear Powered Submarines*

Geoff Abbott made a good fist of a very difficult exercise: he said he knew nothing at all about submarines so he decided to learn what he could before presenting his 10-minute talk on Australia's decision to acquire a fleet of nuclear-powered subs as part of the AUKUS pact. The Virginia class, also known as the SSN-774 class, is a class of nuclear-powered cruise missile fast-attack submarines, of which there are about 130 operating around the world's oceans at present. The United States Navy's current model, which incorporates the latest in stealth, intelligence gathering and weapons systems technology, will cost Australia \$368 billion and will take 20-30 years to complete. That means that many of the submariners who will operate them have not been born yet.

Geoff's talk - which included some amazing details about its speed, the depth at which it functions and the fact that it is virtually untraceable - left us gobsmacked.

**Peter McGregor**

## PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc

### \* Office Bearers 2023 -2024 \* Committee Members

*President:	<b>Rod Hammond</b>	0438 571 912	*Vice President:	<b>David Rushworth</b>	0438 010 181
*Past President:	<b>Simon Appel</b>	0417 600 419	*Secretary:	<b>Garry Sebo</b>	0419 340 565
*Treasurer:	<b>John Hewison</b>	0419 357 203	*Asst Treasurer:	<b>Geoff Carlson</b>	0408 568 971
*Asst Secretary:	<b>Leon Laragy</b>	0410 327 587	Functions:	<b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	0416 294 452
*Functions Asst:	<b>Kevin Reed</b>	0419 565 520	Functions Asst:	<b>Howard Hoskins</b>	0432 868 952
Webmaster:	<b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	0416 294 452	*Meetings:	<b>Keith Ross</b>	0418 584 401
Meetings Asst:	<b>Barrie Gibson</b>	0435 454 057	*Membership:	<b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 385 946
Newsletter:	<b>Vivienne Fry</b>	0411 207 553	Newsletter Asst:	<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>	0435 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			

### \* Interest Groups

Bike Riding:	<b>Ken Beadle</b>	0412 286 617	Golf:	<b>Garry Bradd</b>	0418 107 800
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	Tipping:	<b>Leon Laragy</b>	0410 327 587
Pub Lunch:	<b>Roger Wilson</b>	0418 395 946			