



NEWSLETTER

Probud Club of Beaumaris Inc.

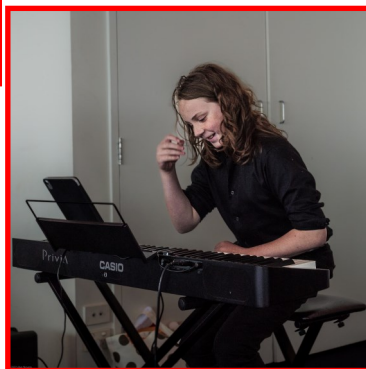
www.beaumarisprobud.org.au

Reg No. A 001 - 6598G

Probud Bank Details: CBA BSB 063144 Account No. 10121288

Issue No. 384

January 2024



more photos p8



Next General Meeting

Tuesday 16 January @ 10am Black Rock YC

Keynote Speaker: Lloyd Jenkins

Topic: Houses and their Contents from the Art Deco Era

10-Minute Talk: Tom Glass

Topic: Blue Water Sailing

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rod Hammond



Our last major activity for 2023 was the successful lunch held at the Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron clubhouse overlooking the Bay. With over 100 members, partners, and guests, we were treated to canapes and a welcome drink on arrival, followed by a traditional meal and dessert. This was supplemented by an Aussie Christmas Carol by my wife Pam, entertainment from 13yo Jack Brunialti-Sykes playing the piano with huge talent and feeling, and our own choir well organised by Derek Skues. Kevin Reed organised the free raffle with well chosen prizes. Everything went smoothly due to the impeccable organisational skills of Geoff Bransbury.

The year so full of so many functions, visits and activity groups was enabled by lack of any Covid restrictions. My thanks to all the coordinators who give so freely of their time and expertise to make my job so much easier. My thanks also to the speakers who have entertained and enlightened us at our monthly meetings, including Ian Marchment and Derek Skues at our last meeting of the year in November. At our January 16 meeting, the guest speaker is our own Lloyd Jenkins presenting "Houses and their contents from the Art Deco Era" which should be most interesting and knowing Lloyd, most entertaining.

It is now time for your Committee to both reflect on 2023 and to forward plan 2024. To help with the latter, we now invite you to tell us what you like or don't like, give us your ideas, suggestions, comments, criticisms etc of our current events, functions, activities, and monthly meetings. To do so, [click here](#) to email your thoughts. All responses will be kept confidential.

Rod Hammond, President.



Left: At the General Meeting on November 21 - Club Member Ian Marchment delivering his talk "Air Defence during WW2 from Darwin and Horn Island"

Right: 10 Minute speaker Derek Skues speaking on his topic "Derek of Arabia"



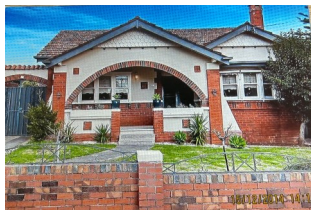
Left: Thanker Leon Laragy, President Rod Hammond, Ian Marchment.



(Photos by Alan Stevens. More on p6)

of Interest

A look ahead.....At the January meeting, **Lloyd Jenkins** will visit the 1920s and 1930s by giving an illustrated presentation of houses and their contents from the Art Deco era. Two popular house styles were the much loved Californian Bungalow and the Streamlined Style. Photos from Lloyd's wide collection of Australian houses used in his working career, will feature in the presentation.



Croquet and Fantastic BBQ Friday 22 March

Keep the date free!

PUB LUNCH

Roger Wilson OAM

**Thursday 22
February at 12 noon.
The Bridge Hotel**



Choice of five main courses, pre-lunch drink and coffee post meal. Cost \$37 (note slight increase!) Plenty of parking, great food, and everybody most welcome! PLEASE PAY BEAUMARIS PROBUS TREASURER.

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

PRISMS

Geoff Wade

The PRISMS whisky tasting group met at **Barry Amond's** residence on Tuesday 5 December and tasted three Scottish malts and one from Japan. The one which was favoured the best was Oban Little Bay from the West Highlands of Scotland. With the resignation of **Aub Gamble** after many years we are pleased to welcome **Leon Laragy** as our newest maltster.

Beaumaris Probus AFL Footy Tipping Competition— Season 2024

Leon Laragy

New Year's greetings fellow Probians.



Remarkably, the AFL 2024 season starts on 7 March in Sydney - just 2 months away!! ... so it's time to focus on participating in this season's tipping competition! The competition is open to Members and OR wives/partners - playing individually or as a team.

This year there will be another End of Season Grand Final Lunch! The Bridge Hotel will be booked for Wednesday in Grand Final week (25 Sept). Details on how the competition will run will be distributed via our website or I can send you information directly. If you have any questions, please call or email me.

Leon 0410 327 587 - leonlaragy@gmail.com

Discussion Group

Barry Amond

The first exciting discussion will be on **Tuesday 13 February** at 2pm.

If you wish to join the Group please let me know.

Digital Technology

Geoff Wade

The first meeting of the Digital Technology group for 2024 will be held on **Tuesday 6 February** at the home of **Barry Amond**, 1 John St Beaumaris commencing at 2:00 pm. As usual there will be a range of topics discussed. Any member who has a suggestion for a topic please advise **Geoff Wade** at geoffp.wade@bigpond.com. New members will be most welcome. This is a low-tech group with an interest in all things digital - phones, tvs, AI, computers, etc.

WINE APPRECIATION

Roger Wilson OAM

An excellent 3 course lunch at The Lobster Cave attended by 12 of our 16 members with a variety of 12 white and red wines. The winner voted by attendees, was a \$20 2016 Dolan Barossa Valley Shiraz. Great taste and excellent value for money as we tasted through the 12 wines.

Our next meeting is at **Roger Wilson's** home on **Tuesday 27 February** at 2pm where we will "raid" Roger's wine cellar for some vintage wines to taste.

*The proud owner of the winning red wine, **Barry Amond**.
(photo by Geoff Bransbury. See group photo p8)*



Birthday Boys – January

GREEN, John	3
MARSHALL, Geoff	4
HARDING, Tim	6
KNIGHT, John	10
SABIN, Grant	11
McDONNELL, Kevin	16
STURROCK, Jeff	16
LARAGY, Leon	28
MASON, Geoff	29



Activities

Tastes – Royal Brighton Yacht Club Tuesday 5 March at 6.30 pm

Our most popular annual Tastes- now in its sixth year. We have the place to ourselves! We have a 2 course dinner with FREE bottle of wine per two people. Always a great night. If you've never been to Tastes, come along to this event!

Cost \$70.00 pp (which includes the bottle of wine!) [Tastes at RBYC - Beaumaris Probus](#)



Travel Group Meeting

Simon Appel

There were 21 attendees plus two Guest Speakers at our meeting on November 10. QANTAS Captain, Tim Appel, commenced the Meeting by giving an insight into the frontline activities and customer "reflections" to crew during flight disruptions. He gave illuminating evidence of flight delays, and management. Tim also displayed the flight charts across nations, where all flights are presented on screen. Afternoon tea followed.



Guest speaker Tim Appel

We resumed with the presentation by Stuart Ingram, Managing Director, Destination HQ. Stuart described the actions taken by QANTAS and other airlines, on their cancellation of "fees" to Travel Agents for bookings, following the onset of the COVID epidemic. He talked about "better" ways to arrange travel, describing the options of ocean cruises and flights. He strongly recommended the use of Travel Agents under current circumstances, making use of their understanding of the constantly occurring changes. Members were impressed with both presentations. *(Photo by Alan Stevens. More photos p6)*

The next Travel Group gathering is on Friday 8 March at the Appel's home 1/35 Alfred Street Beaumaris

Melbourne Club Dining

Chris Renwick

60 members attended a special 'fine dining' dinner at the Melbourne Club on November 15. Most travelled to the Club by chartered bus under the baton and direction of **Geoff Bransbury**. They were welcomed by Club member **Chris Renwick**. Drinks in the Library were followed by dinner in the Breakfast Room. A short address "Some Melbourne Club Vignettes" was given by Melbourne Club member (and well known Melbourne urologist) Prof David Webb. It was a privilege to enjoy the history and physical surroundings of the Club. By all reports, the food and wine were a hit, and everyone had a wonderful time.



Imbibing in Prosecco en route to dining at the Melbourne Club. (Photos by Geoff Bransbury and Alan Stevens)

Functions & Activities

Let's kick off 2024 with a great day out!
Wednesday 24 January

- * Portarlington by Ferry from Docklands
- * A coach for the day
- * Wine Tasting at Scotchman's Hill
- * 2 course Lunch at Jack Rabbit with glass of wine, beer or soft drink (For non-drinkers - a coffee and soft drinks)



We did it in 2018 - it was one of our best ever trips!
40 came. Let's do it again! And even better!

- * *Members to make their own way from home to/from the Ferry terminal at Docklands. Metro Train to/from Southern Cross station recommended.*
- * *Meet at 9.10am at the Docklands Ferry terminal (opposite Marvel Stadium). Ferry departure at 9.30am, arrival Portarlington at 10.40am.*
- * *Depart Jack Rabbit Restaurant at 3.25pm to board the return ferry at Portarlington. Departure at 4.00pm and arrival Docklands at 5.10pm.*
- * *Register no later than 13 January. Cost is \$135.00pp - pay our Treasurer not later than 15 January. (Note: Numbers for coach based on 40. There may be surcharge/credit if numbers differ significantly. [A booking form for day out - Portarlington - Beaumaris Probus](#)*

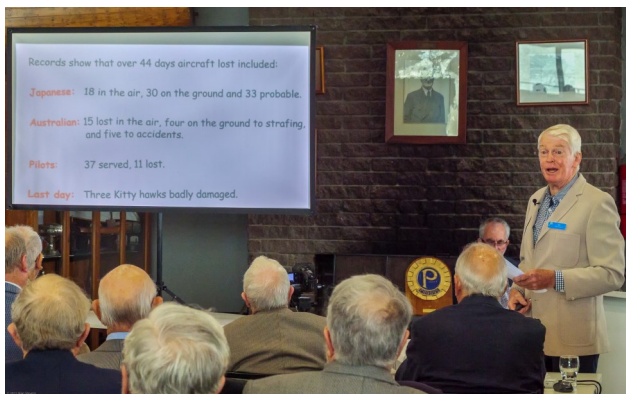
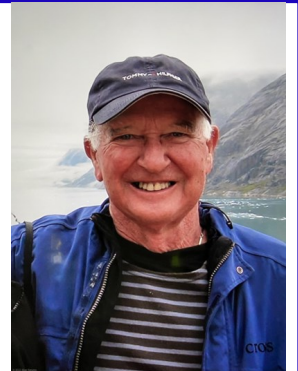
Identities



Vale

Bill Cleland

Bill Cleland retired from our club after 12 years in January 2023 due to ill health and passed away on the 1st December 2023. At his funeral service it was noted that as a Civil Engineer he left Scotland to undertake building of hydro-electric dams in the Middle East. He met his wife Jenny just prior to coming to Australia. He had a keen interest in people, a passion for gardening (orchids, roses), was a keen horse rider, skier, golfer and loved going to the gym. He and Jenny were married for 59 years and travelled widely both locally and overseas. RIP



Club Member Ian Marchment delivering his talk "Air Defence during WW2 from Darwin and Horn Island"



10 Minute speaker Derek Skues speaking on his topic "Derek of Arabia" (photos by Alan Stevens)



Travel Group on 10 November. Left: Simon Appel with guest speaker (son) Tim, Qantas pilot.

WINE DISCOVERY GROUP

Grant Sabin

Our Christmas lunch at Fazio's was hosted by convenor **Grant Sabin**. In addition to great food, Sam Fazio provided 3 wines for our judging and enjoyment.

L to R clockwise round the table: Grant Sabin, David Seedsman, Ian Maskiell, John Smyth, Bob Wigg, Paul Stephens, Garry Bradd. (Photo by Alan Stevens)



Guest Speakers

Australia Fights Back

Horn Island is a small island only metres from Thursday Island on the fringe of Cape York Peninsula and was the subject of **Ian Marchment's** comprehensive keynote address (including maps) at the November meeting. This insignificant little island was a major Allied airbase during the Second World War - known as Horn Island Aerodrome - which was constructed prior to the war and attacked several times by Japanese planes. In fact, it was bombed eight times, second only to Darwin. Little-known at the time, it was Australia's last line of defence but housed the 75th Fighter Squadron, a mere 440 km south of Port Moresby, made up of 75 Kitty Hawks the RAAF had somehow managed to acquire from Sydney. In 1939, Australia had sent 1000 men to the UK for 10 days' pilot training, many without any background in flying: they were anything from crop dusters to maintenance mechanics to accountants, with little or no experience in the military.

An exceptional leader, John Francis Jackson, was appointed Squadron Leader, tasked with taking this inexperienced group of diehards to Port Moresby for active service, where conditions at the nearby Seven Mile Airstrip were dire - leeches, malaria and dengue fever were the least of their problems. Though sleeping and eating under the wing of their plane and doing the necessary mechanical servicing at night after the plane had cooled down, this rugged group of Aussies - who did not have to wear uniforms or salute (but were required to grow moustaches) - relentlessly attacked Japanese planes across PNG and were instrumental in turning the course of the war against the Japanese. Of the pilots, 37 served, 11 were lost with only three serviceable aircraft left at the end of the 44 day period.

Ian's interest in the saga was generated from his father, David, who served in the RAAF on Horn Island for 18 months.

Peter McGregor

Derek Skues, our 10-minute speaker for November, gave us a comprehensive review of his time in Saudi Arabia some 40 years ago. "A very different place today," he said, "having tripled its population to 36 million and the capital, Riyadh, having grown from one to eight million people." In 1982, he accepted an appointment as Chief Architect for the Bureau for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diplomatic Quarter overseeing the development of community buildings, flanked by more than 80 embassies with associated housing around the perimeter. It included government offices, sporting and diplomatic clubs, schools, kindergartens, mosques and a fire station. One of his proudest moments was participating in a Diplomatic Quarter Tennis Team from a number of countries and competing against German, French and Filipino teams. He has promised us a fuller picture of his colourful life in Saudi Arabia at a later date.



Peter McGregor

PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc

* Office Bearers 2023 -2024 * Committee Members

*President:	Rod Hammond	0438 571 912	*Vice President:	David Rushworth	0438 010 181
*Past President:	Simon Appel	0417 600 419	*Secretary:	Garry Sebo	0419 340 565
*Treasurer:	John Hewison	0419 357 203	Asst Treasurer:	Geoff Carlson	0408 568 971
*Asst Secretary:	Leon Laragy	0410 327 587	Functions:	Geoff Bransbury	0416 294 452
*Functions Asst:	Kevin Reed	0419 565 520	Functions Asst:	Howard Hoskins	0432 868 952
Webmaster:	Geoff Bransbury	0416 294 452	*Meetings:	Keith Ross	0418 584 401
Meetings Asst:	Barrie Gibson	0435 454 057	*Membership:	Roger Wilson	0418 385 946
Newsletter:	Vivienne Fry	0411 207 553	Newsletter Asst:	Peter McGregor	0418 322 987
Welfare:	Alan Stevens	0418 336 354	Archive:	John Howe	03 9598 2429
Auditor:	Robert Lander	0435 930 082	Recorder:	Peter McGregor	0418 322 987
Projectionist:	Geoff Cupples	0411 251 406	Audio Visual:	Paul Crompton	0491 147 389
Photographer:	Alan Stevens	0418 336 354			

* Interest Groups

Bike Riding:	Ken Beadle	0412 286 617	Golf:	Garry Bradd	0418 107 800
Digital Technology:	Geoff Wade	0416 257 683	PRISMs:	Geoff Wade	0416 257 683
Discussion:	Barry Amond	0407 877 539	Wine Appreciation:	Roger Wilson	0418 395 946
Tastes:	Geoff Bransbury	0416 294 452	Travel:	Simon Appel	0417 600 419
Wine Discovery:	Grant Sabin	0419 595 757	Tipping:	Leon Laragy	0410 327 587
Pub Lunch:	Roger Wilson	0418 395 946	Sunday Music:	Barry Amond	0407 877 539

PHOTO GALLERY



Left: Wine Appreciation on December 15 @ Lobster Cave. L to R Guy Pianella, Barry Amond, Howard Hoskins, Tim Harding, Thorolf Thoresen, Roger Wilson, Rod Hammond, Rod Murrell, Dick Kirby, Paul Stephens, Geoff Bransbury, Robert Lander.



President's Lunch on December 13 at the Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron Club



Photos by Alan Stevens