

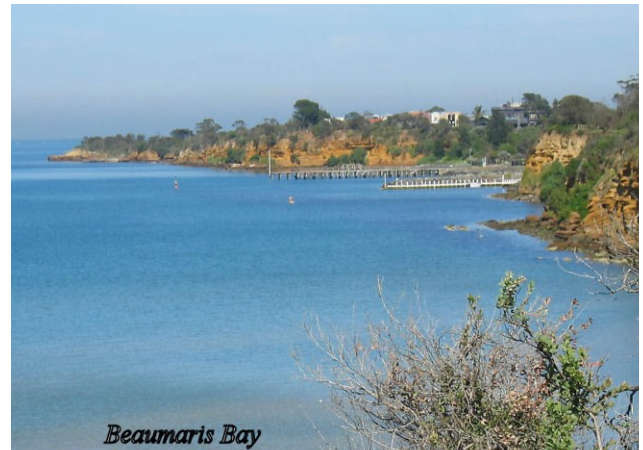


Beaumaris Waves

The Combined Probud Club of Beaumaris Bay Inc.
Reg. No. A0042553N

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Editor:	Graeme Storey
Membership:	Margot Ryan
Speakers' Panel:	Steve McColl
Welfare:	Lyn Mather



Meetings: The Club meets at 10.00am on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Cheltenham Golf Club, 33 Victor Avenue, Cheltenham (off Weatherall Road).

Apologies: Please ring or text SMS to Margot Ryan (0427 436 693) prior to 7.30pm on Tuesday evening beforehand or by **email to:** sec.beaubay@gmail.com

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT - APRIL 2024

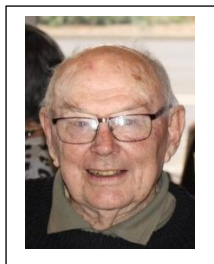
This month I had a lengthy meeting with the Chairman of the Probud South Pacific Board, Mr Michael Ransom. I wished to meet with him to discuss my concerns that Probud Australia seems to have lost 34,000 members over the past four years and because of this our capitation fees have risen 27% over the past two years. We now pay 38% of your membership fee to Probud South Pacific, and this seems certain to continue to rise steeply unless the PSPL Board does things differently. My comments were received graciously, but unfortunately, I am not optimistic that they will instigate any change.

On another note, we continually hear that the spoken word and face to face contact is dying out, and that electronic devices and social media are taking over. Well, I went to the four day Club event at Daylesford (April 29-May 3), and can tell you that that group still knows how to make a noise and enjoy themselves. There was plenty of laughter and fun, especially when Steve McColl stirred things up at the two Quiz nights. At the end of the four days I am certain many of us came away from Daylesford having learnt a lot more about each other and formed stronger friendships. The event certainly embraced to Probud aims of friendship, fellowship and a whole lot of fun.

I encourage you to read the Memory Book of the trip, which includes Michele Backholer's excellent account of the of the event. You will find it on the website under Club Events/Special Events or in this months Newsletter.

Mike Simmons

Vale Craig Kennedy



It is with regret that we announce the death last month of a former member, Craig Kennedy. Craig was a long-time member of the Club, having joined in November 2003 along with his wife, Esmae. He was an active member of the Club and helped operate the Book Exchange Table for some years with his friend Ed Patrick. We extend our sincere sympathy to Esmae and family.

May birthdays: We wish Good Health and Many Happy Returns to: John Backholer; June Ferguson; Marilyn Hubbard; Pauline Kerr; Lyn Mather; Phyl McLean; Christine Simmons; Frank Spencer; Beryl Strahan; Val Strauch; Judy Tindale.

May guest speaker will be Dot speaking on Elder Abuse. She represents Seniors Rights Victoria and will give members an understanding of their rights, the different types of elder abuse, prevention, and assistance, including legal options, support and advocacy.

Activities

Walking Group (Convenor: Ken Launder; Email: klauder@bigpond.com)

On **Monday May 6** we will meet at 10.30 am on the beach side of Beach Road opposite Marina Road, Mentone. If you have a Kingston Council Beach Parking Permit, free parking is available in the adjacent carpark. Otherwise, street parking can be found in Marina Road or on Beach Road. Our walk will be south along Beach Road. At the new Mentone Lifesaving Club, we will climb to the upper level of the building to have a view over the Bay before returning to ground level and then walking down the ramp to join the beachside path stopping opposite Warrigal Road. On our return to the Life Saving Club, we will cross Beach Road at the traffic lights to visit Chain of Fools café for refreshments.

June walk: Paris exhibition at Bendigo Gallery on Monday June 3, 2024

If you have previously registered to obtain free PTV rail tickets, you will need to go to your local station at least one day before our departure date with your concession card (Seniors or Pension card) which you used when registering for free travel vouchers. Here your concession card will be swiped to reduce your voucher entitlement by one. Following this your free paper return ticket will be issued. If you haven't applied for your free rail voucher, the return ticket cost is \$5.30, paid by using your Myki card.

On June 3 we will catch the 8.39am train from Mordialloc, 8.43am Mentone, 8.46am Cheltenham, 8.48am Southland, or 8.50am Highett, to Southern Cross station where we will then take the escalators down to the ground level on the Spencer Street side of the station and check the large, illuminated Departures screen for the platform from which our train will be departing. At 9.55am we will meet on the departure platform before boarding the train.

Walks (cont'd)

On arrival in Bendigo at 12.00 noon we will walk to the Shamrock Hotel, (approx. 15 to 20 minutes) on the corner of Pall Mall and Williamson Street to have lunch before another short walk to the Gallery for our 2.00pm booking.

Trains returning to Southern Cross (SC) leave Bendigo at 3.26pm (arriving at SC at 5.30pm) or 4.01pm train (arriving at SC at 6.11 pm).

Lunches

The next lunch is on **Thursday May 23** at Mordy HQ (Nepean Highway, Mordialloc) at 12 noon. A la carte and Seniors' menus are available. Entry to its carpark is from Epsom Road as well as from the Nepean Highway. The staff have requested that we order our meals one table at a time to facilitate the service of our meals. Names to Joy Meekings (0434) 558 437.

Mid-year lunch

A booking has been made for the mid-year lunch at The Bridge Hotel in Mordialloc on **20th June 2024** at 12 noon. The cost per person is \$65 for a two-course meal of main and dessert, including a welcome drink of beer, wine or soft drink. Please register your interest with Faye Wegat on (0409) 265 503 or you can put your name down at the General Meeting. Payment is due by the 15th May General Meeting and can be made via a Bank transfer to the Club's bank account or via the Website.

Membership

Two new members were inducted by President Mike in April. We welcome Sylvia Dowell (*L*) and Marie Hilbert (*R*), who bring our current membership to eighty-six active members, comprising sixty-five women and twenty-one men, including four Life Members and three Foundation Members still in our ranks.



Reports

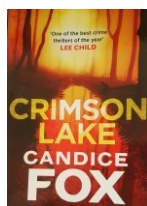
Our April walk started with a train ride to Newport station. Interesting artwork at the station, concrete mural on the underpass and wall called Nuts and Bolts, showing Sidchrome spanners, nuts, screws, cogs and pieces of broken machinery. From there we walked along Mason Street and were beginning to think we would never find our destination of the Newport Lakes Reserve until a friendly local instructed us to continue along the street until we saw the “ducks bum” “Diver” sculpture which was situated at the entrance of the car park. The marker turned out to be a bluestone sculpture of a duck’s rear as it is seen when diving and feeding. Through the car park we went up to the nature walk path which ran around the lakes. The lakes were created from old bluestone quarry pits and had a causeway of large rocks across its middle. That was our adventure for the day as we unsteadily crossed over, but we all made it without falling in. The path had large bluestones with beautiful bird mosaics and distances on them. Then it was back to the station and one stop to Spotswood to the Spotswood Hotel for lunch, which we all thought was well deserved after our walk. Back on the train for our journey home lots of laughter as our leader collected cash for services provided. Goodness knows what the other passengers thought of our shenanigans. All in all, another splendid outing thanks to Ken and Liz.

Wendy Crawford



- 1. Lunch
- 2. Nuts and Bolts mural
- 3. Newport Lakes
- 4. Crossing the causeway
- 5. Mosaic bird markers

New group: Crime Readers



A new group has been proposed by Margot Burke: *Criminal Acts*. The inaugural meeting of the Crime Readers' Group will be held on **Thursday June 27**, and run monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month through to November. For 2024 the Australian crime genre of "Outback Noir" will be the focus of novels chosen by individual members who will then lead the discussion about the book. Books must be sourced by individual members.

To get the group rolling, convener Margot Burke, has selected Candice Fox's book, *Crimson Lake*, to be discussed at the first meeting. Please join us for coffee and a healthy dose of crime at 11.00am on **June 27** at the Cheltenham Golf Club.

Questions should be directed to Margot at: mbburke2@bigpond.com

Daylesford trip (29th April-3rd May)

Good old Forest Gump got it right when he said "Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get." A trip away with the Beaumaris Bay Probus group is exactly like that box of chocolates. You can never know what will happen next, but the one thing that is always guaranteed is the warmth, fun and good humour of a group of like-minded Probarians!

Day one – Monday- saw the arrival of 29, eager for adventure, club members. Actually, to be fair, 27 of us arrived as expected during the afternoon, but Ken and Liz Launder arrived quite a bit later after surmounting unbelievable hurdles to get there! In fact, they were awarded the Determination and Perseverance Award for surviving a day that went from Ken breaking a front tooth and requiring emergency dental treatment, to waiting patiently in traffic due to an unfortunate motor cycle accident, to waiting patiently in for a traffic jam caused by road works to be cleared - and consequently arriving at the holiday park a little after 7:00 p.m. that night.

Nola Ambry and Gwyn Edmonds were not without their dramas that first night. They tried desperately to light their cabin oven to heat their homemade lasagna. Despite much help from their "neighbours" it refused to light. The consequent use of the microwave resulted in an explosion that apparently can only be described as creating a wallpaper of meat sauce and pasta.

Tuesday was slightly cooler than anyone expected but after a morning tea at the Botanic Gardens our intrepid explorers separated and went to a variety of local destinations. Daylesford was a perfect location providing many places of interest -Lavendula Swiss and Italian Lavender Farm, the Mill, Chocolate Mill and of course the beautiful lake itself – all proved popular haunts. Many small towns also were close by – Trentham, Woodend, Creswick and Clunes all provided good day trips.

The Daylesford Hotel was a meeting place for the evening meal. Trish Buggy proved what a gracious person she is by remaining totally cool, calm and collected when a big container of mayonnaise was dropped – the contents of which covered the sleeve and back of her pink

jacket! Thankfully the hotel management did the right thing and after scrubbing her jacket so only an oily residue remained, they presented her with a beautiful bottle of wine and her meal was free of charge.

Neil Howard proved to be a real trooper by transporting his “harem” (Faye Wegat, Ilsa Schuller and Julie Walshe) to various surrounding towns and venues. The men in our group could only shake their heads at the thought of a couple of days in the car with three such lively companions.

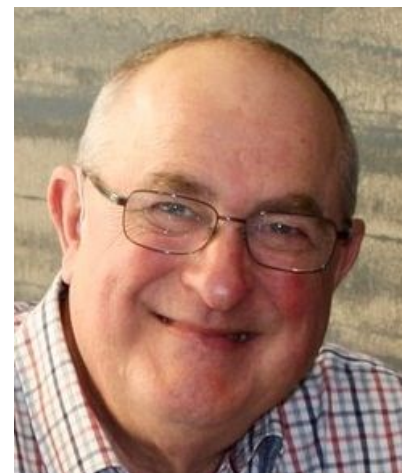
After a first-class meal (served in record time) at Jacky Chen’s Chinese restaurant we headed back to camp for our first quiz night on **Wednesday** night. This was hosted by Steve and Penny McColl and was surely one of the highlights of the trip. Steve insisted that no correspondence would be entered in to regarding the correct answers – and only his would be accepted! It was absolutely hilarious to watch the various attempts to challenge his authority and for the record, not one answer successfully overturned.

Thursday saw many of us meet at the beautiful Convent for morning tea (dare I mention Ken and Liz’ late arrival due to getting lost?) and then it was off for more exploring – and yes, Neil’s Harem was in full flight again. We gathered for a group photo in the late evening and then it was round two of Steve’s Quiz. Prizes were awarded on both nights and thanks to (wooden bowls), Steve McColl (pickles) and baked goodies from Lyn Mather and Brenda Matthews.

As with everything else in life, such great events as this do not just happen. We all extend our sincerest thanks to Geoff Bakes and Brenda Matthews; Mike and Christine Simmons and Penny and Steve McColl for everything they did to make this such a brilliant time away. And a big shout out to Gwyn Edmonds who stood up at the end of the second quiz night to thank everyone at the club for the warmth and friendship extended to her as a new member.

Times chosen for these get aways do not always suit everyone. But I encourage all our members to open the box of chocolates that is the Beaumaris Bay Probus Club and discover the various flavours that make up its members. Please try and join in next year - the variety of the assortment makes for a wonderful, fun filled, friendship enriched experience and like all good chocolate makes you want more!

Michele Backholer



L Some of the Daylesford trippers
R Geoff made some lovely wooden bowls as prizes for Steve’s quiz

Coffee anyone?

I recently read a newspaper article where the writer said her favourite coffee shop seems to hate her. Why? She said it was because there is no interaction with her, and they just look at her. Why does she still go there? It's because of the vibe, apparently. If it is true that the cafés we support say something about us – “it's a public declaration of who we are”, what does this say about the writer? A true coffee lover prepared to be treated indifferently for the sake of the “vibe”? I'll leave it to you to judge.

Everyone is doing coffee, it seems. Well, almost every adult, in my view. There's obviously a range of personal factors that determine our choice of coffee shop. So, what is so special about your favourite café? What are the criteria for your favourite coffee shop where you meet up with whoever for a coffee. For me, it's a combination of ambience or atmosphere, friendly staff, and proximity (close to home) and importantly, clean accessible toilets.

All of this, however, begs the question, why is coffee such an important part of our lives nowadays? What is its role? I suggest that it's not so much the coffee itself that is the attraction of a coffee shop but its basic function as a meeting place. Good, bad or indifferent, the coffee is incidental in my opinion.

Regardless, we are spoilt for choice in my local bayside area, with a range of cafés to cater for individual preferences, from spacious to crowded, themed cafés to sidewalk cafés, some with water bowls and even mats for your pooches. The Rickett's Point Teahouse in Beach Road is popular, and it is where our Coffee, Chew 'n Chat group now meets in the morning on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10.30am. This group first commenced gathering in 2012 at the Golf Club, with freshly baked muffins supplied by some of the group. This wouldn't be permissible nowadays with the new food handling rules for eateries.



The Rickett's Point Teahouse/Café overlooking the Bay suits our group with its seating arrangements, efficient service, large array of scrumptious cakes and other delicacies, as well as a spacious adjacent beach carpark with free parking for Bayside residents. A cosy wood fire in the main area adds to the atmosphere in winter. There is no need to book for the aptly named Coffee, Chew 'n Chat group - it is a very informal gathering around a long table I reserve for us each month. There is usually about twelve or so of our members who attend regularly to enjoy each other's company and engage in friendly chat and banter. So come along and join us, you'll be most welcome, and you will get to know your fellow members.

Graeme Storey

Postscript: There was an interesting article in *The Age* on Saturday April 20 (pages 10-11) analysing the different coffee preferences of Melburnians according to where they live and the popularity of a 'magic' coffee. A 'magic' is a double shot of ristretto (a coffee shot more potent than an espresso) topped up with a three-quarter flat white. According to the article, the epicentre of Melbourne's 'magic' ordering is Cheltenham, where around 4% of all coffees ordered are 'magic' and Beaumaris follows close behind. There are some interesting comments about the local demographics why this the case. Nevertheless, however, according to the statistics of the Square online payment system, the latte reigns supreme in Cheltenham and the rest of Melbourne.



BBPC Activities 2024

MAY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 Walk - Mentone	7 Mahjong (1.30pm)	8 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	9	10
13	14 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	15 General Meeting @ 10.00am	16	17
20 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	21 Bridge 1.00-3.00pm Mahjong (1.30pm)	22 Petanque (10.30am)	23 Lunch @ Mordy HQ (12 noon) – see p. 4	24
27	28 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	29 Petanque (10.30am)	30	31

JUNE

3 Walk - Bendigo	4 Mahjong (1.30pm)	5 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	6	7
10 King's Birthday	11 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	12 Petanque (10.30am)	13	14
17 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	18 Bridge 1.00-3.00pm Mahjong (1.30pm)	19 General Meeting @ 10.00am	20 Mid-year lunch Bridge Hotel	21
24	25 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	26 Petanque (10.30am)	27 Crime Reader's Grp @ CGC (11.00am)	28

JULY

1 Walk	2 Mahjong (1.30pm)	3 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	4	5
8	9 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	10 Petanque (10.30am)	11	12
15 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	16 Bridge 1.00-3.00pm Mahjong (1.30pm)	17 General Meeting @ 10.00am	18	19
22	23 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	24 Petanque (10.30am)	25 Pentridge trip - TBA	26
29	30	31 Petanque (10.30am)		

AUGUST

5 Walk	6 Mahjong (1.30pm)	3 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	8	9
12	13 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	14 Petanque (10.30am)	15	16
19 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	20 Bridge 1.00-3.00pm Mahjong (1.30pm)	21 General Meeting @ 10.00am	22	23
26	27 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	28 Petanque (10.30am)	29	30

SEPTEMBER

2 Walk	3 Mahjong (1.30pm)	4 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	5	6
9	10 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	11 Petanque (10.30am)	12	13
16 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	17 Bridge 1.00-3.00pm Mahjong (1.30pm)	18 General Meeting @ 10.00am	19	20
23	24 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	25 Petanque (10.30am)	26	27
30				