

Beaumaris Waves

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

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Activities Co-ord: Geraldine McGann Editor: Graeme Storey Membership: Margot Ryan Speakers' Panel: Steve McColl 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 message:

When I was a young boy I woke up each morning wondering whether I would play with my friends, build a billycart or play "cowboys and Indians". In Summer from around the age of ten I was allowed to walk to Centre Road, Bentleigh, get on the bus (we knew all the drivers) and go to the Brighton Baths for the day. As long as I was home for dinner all was well. I look back at that simple carefree life and realise that is where I leant my parents values, their moral code and my ability to make MY decisions.

In the early eighties computers started appearing. What miraculous machines they were, enabling us to be more productive and learn about the world. Then along came the 2000's with the invention of the smartphone. What a truly amazing advancement, it allowed instant knowledge (Google) and instant communication to our friends. Alas, it seems to have gone too far and now the use of modern technology appears to control many peoples lives. Social media has become addictive to a proportion of society, and too often today's young people's values seem to come from these inanimate objects and their peer groups. I think the technological advancements during my life time are truly fantastic, I just regret how a few greedy global companies have used it to manipulate so many peoples lives with social media. I would like to see a bit of a reset with social media, but somehow that seems a fair way off.

I believe that our generation is the luckiest of all. We were born into a simple uncomplicated era and have seen the greatest technological advancements of any generation. We have even seen a man land on the moon. We should be very thankful.

Michael Simmons

July birthdays: We wish Good Health and Many Happy Returns to: Jennifer Harrington; Brenda Matthews; Lyndell O'Brien; Pamela Spencer; and Graeme Storey.

July speaker: will be Ian Marchment who will talk about Horn Island, the last line of defence in World War Two. As the Japanese had taken Singapore, Timor, Rabaul and Lae, the next stop was Australia. After 44 bombing raids on Darwin, Horn Island was the second most bombed territory in Australia.

lan's presentation will cover the role played by the RAAF 75th Fighting Squadron over a 44-day period in Port Moresby and the importance of the RAAF Base on Horn Island seventeen kilometres from Cape York in stopping the Japanese coming further south. Ian's father left some interesting notes from his time in the RAAF on Horn Island in 1942/3 which he will share with us.

Activities

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

AUGUST 5 PROMENADE WALK – REMINDER

We will be catching the 11.09am train from Mordialloc, 11.13am st Mentone, 11.16am at Cheltenham, 11.18am at Southland and 11.20am at Highett.

On arrival at Flinders Street station at 11.54am we will make our way over to Federation Square to have lunch at *Time Out* restaurant.

After lunch we will walk to Bourke Street and catch a tram to the Melbourne Museum where at 2.00 pm, we will collect our tickets, meet our guide and be escorted to the Promenade level of the Exhibition Building.

June walk report

The walk in June was what has become an annual train trip to Bendigo for the Art Gallery's special exhibition. This year it was titled, "Paris Impressions of Life 1880-1925". Our group travelled by train to Southern Cross station to catch the Vline train with some of us stopping for sweet refreshments before boarding the busy train. It is interesting to travel through towns you know of and see another view of them and the surrounding countryside. Liz provided jubes to keep our sugar levels up, but I believe it was an attempt to keep our noise level down. Arriving at Bendigo station at noon, we proceeded to walk to the centre of the city with one of its busiest and most prominent intersections where the Alexandra Fountain is situated, opposite the entrance to Roslyn Park, and which is made of highly polished Harcourt granite, cast iron and painted stone and stands twenty-eight feet tall with lion head spouts. Then we walked up Pall Mall to the historic Shamrock Hotel, built in 1854 and classed as one of the three most haunted hotels in Victoria, for lunch. Our leader, being super organised as usual, had given out copies of the menu so we could decide on lunch and order promptly. The meals were delicious. We then walked to the Gallery, some of us going steeply uphill through Roslyn Park. The exhibition was situated in several rooms with each dedicated to a theme, e.g., the Eiffel Tower, Seine River,

June walk (cont'd)

City of Paris and Arc de Triomphe. Each room had art works, posters and maps depicting the area. There were also a few displays of costumes of different eras. They were all most interesting and it is still hard to believe that women had such small waists in those times. Then it was time to head back to the train station but some of the sweet tooths had to stop at the "best vanilla slice award" café for a treat to take home. The trip home was a lot quieter, and it was early evening when we arrived home. All in all, it was another fantastic experience and thanks must go to our organisers, Ken and Liz.

Wendy Crawford

Editor's note: Apparently at least one vanilla slice came to a sticky end (pardon the pun)!



Snail restaurant statues



Shamrock Hotel in background



Moulin Rouge poster



Elaborate costumes of the era

Pentridge tour



The day trip to Pentridge Prison on *Thursday 25th July* is fully booked and paid for.

Please note that on the day buses will replace trains from Cheltenham to Frankston. The plan is to catch the Frankston line train and to meet in the LAST carriage at the following stations and times: Cheltenham 8.46am, Southland 8.48am, Highett 8.50am. At Flinders Street we will walk to the closest exit to Elizabeth Street and catch the No. 19 tram up Sydney Road and hop off at Stop No. 36 for a short walk to the entrance of the prison. Our tour of H Division is booked from 10.30am

until 12 noon. After the tour we can choose from three or four nearby cafés for lunch and then have time afterwards to look around at the new developments in the area.

Janette James (0409) 139 404

Xmas lunch

Xmas lunch will be at the Dingley Hotel on *Tuesday December 12* at 12 noon. Cost of a two-course lunch to be advised (possibly \$65-\$70), with entertainment by singer Paul Hogan (by popular demand.). Bookings will be taken in due course by Faye Wegat.

Constitution review

In response to a query about the long overdue revised Standard Probus Club Constitution that we were informed by PSPL earlier in the year would be distributed in June, the following information has been received by the Editor:

"As you would be aware, the first stage was for PSPL to consult with Clubs on the Preamble and Articles of Accreditation which is also known as the Standard Probus Club Constitution, this took some time with both the Preamble and Articles being finalised in February 2024.

The next stage is to provide Recommended Constitutions for incorporated Clubs which include the Preamble and Articles as well as the legislative requirements of Incorporated Clubs.

PSPL provided an update to Clubs advising that we anticipated providing both the Recommended Constitutions and the Recommended Standing Resolutions to Clubs by the end of May this year, however this process has been delayed.

As we are working with external lawyers, this process does take time, and the timeline itself is not entirely within our control given that there are external parties involved.

While we cannot give you a definitive timeframe because we are working with third parties, we can assure you that this matter is a high priority, and we will provide both the Recommended Constitutions and Standing Resolutions to Clubs as soon as practicable."

June General Meeting pix



Acting President Janette



A/President Janette Inducted Ngoma



Indefatigable Welfare Officer Lyn



Joy & Jan entertained us

July walk report

On a cold sunny winters morning we gathered at Waterways to walk the two-kilometre loop circuit of the lake. It is an easy walk to enjoy the views out over the water with both fountains sending water into the air and to check out the variety of bird life. There were lots of red billed Purple Swamphens, white billed Eurasian Coots, Black Swans, Wood Ducks and one lonely Black Cormorant with wings outstretched drying in what sunshine there was. We were entertained by a cheerful young man on his three-wheeled bike doing laps of the lake and verbalising every time he passed us. His carer said she was trying to wear him out, but it appeared not to be working as she was the one left behind. On arriving back at our starting point, we entered the Nest Cafe for coffee, cake and more chat. What a great way to spend a morning.

Wendy Crawford









Artificial Intelligence helps the Editor

Editor's trials and tribulations, with some help from Al

As a newsletter editor, life is a delicate dance between deadlines and creativity. Each month, I wade through the contributions, seeking the gems that will sparkle in the newsletter. Here are the trials and tribulations that colour my days:

My inbox can overflow with material — a cacophony of notices, photos and reports. I sift through them, my cursor hovering over the delete button. The challenge? Balancing relevance with variety. Too many syntax errors? I juggle the contributions like a circus performer, hoping to entertain the readership.

Crafting the opening paragraph of the occasional editorial is an art form. It needs to be magnetic. I rewrite it a dozen times, agonizing over the perfect blend of wit and gravitas. "Dear members," I'll type, then delete. "Greetings, fellow Probians" — no, too stuffy. Finally, I usually settle on a simple, "Hello."

Despite my meticulous proofreading, typos slip through like mischievous sprites. "Pubic" instead of "public," "manger" instead of "manager." The embarrassment! I cringe when readers point them out. But I have learned to laugh at my own fallibility, blaming it on late nights and too much coffee.

As I design the layout, I feel like a Picasso with pixels, as sometimes I need a smaller font or more whitespace. And when the layout is finally to my satisfaction, I marvel at how fonts and colour photos can evoke emotions — like a symphony for the eyes.

There's sometimes feedback frenzy: Readers can be vocal. Some praise the prose like I am a Pulitzer contender. Others? Well, they send emails in ALL CAPS, accusing me of conspiring with lizard people. I sip chamomile tea, take a deep breath, and reply politely. "Thank you for your passionate feedback," I'll type, resisting the urge to add a winking emoji.

The dreaded resignation from the club that necessitates my updating the mailing list, stings every time. "We're sorry to see you go," I'll write, masking my disappointment. But secretly, I wonder: Was it the font? The cat memes? Or did they find a more captivating newsletter — one that whispered scandal and promised moonlit adventures?

Actually though, I love my role. The late nights, the quirky submissions, the occasional typo — they are all part of a newsletter editor's tapestry. And when a reader replies with a rare but heartfelt, "Thank you," I smile, knowing I've at least one appreciative reader.



BBPC Activities 2024

JULY				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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 tour Crime Readers 11.00am	26
29	30	31 Petanque (10.30am)		
AUGUST				
5 Walk – Exhibition Building promenade	6 Mahjong (1.30pm)	7 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	8	9
12	13 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	14 Petanque (10.30am)	15 Crime Readers @ 11.00am	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 Lunch – Tudor Inn	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 Crime Readers @ 11.00am	20
23	24 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	25 Petanque (10.30am)	26	27
30				
OCTOBER				
	1 Mahjong (1.30pm)	2 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	3	4
7 Walk – Bacchus Marsh	8 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	9 Petanque (10.30am)	10	11
14	15 Bridge (1.00-3.00pm) Mahjong (1.30pm)	16 General Meeting @ 10.00am	17 Crime Readers11.00am BBQ 5.00 pm @ Jim's	18
21 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	22 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	23 Petanque (10.30am)	24	25
28	29 Mahjong (1.30pm)	30 Petanque (10.30am)	31	
DECEMBER				
				1
4 Walk?	5 Mahjong (1.30pm)	6 Petanque (10.30am)	7	8
11	12 Xmas lunch @ Dingley Hotel	13	14 Book Grp (11.00am)	15
18 Craft Grp (1.30pm)?	19	20	21	22
25 Xmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29