

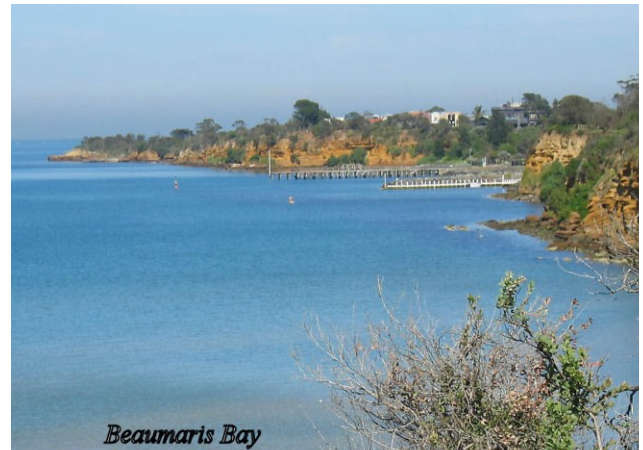


Beaumaris Waves

The Combined Probud Club of Beaumaris Bay Inc.
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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

Issue date: 8 August 2024 (No. 158)

President's report:

Probus South Pacific is the umbrella organisation for our Club. I have just read their Annual Report for 2023-24. The thing that stands out to me is that National Membership of Probus in Australia has fallen from around 128,500 in 2017 to around 76,500 in 2024, a drop of over 40%. In those years our own Club has had a drop of only around 14%, thanks to the good work of our Membership Officers, particularly Margot Ryan whose efforts are exemplary. In that period membership in U3A and Men's Shed has skyrocketed. It appears to me that Probus membership offers intangible benefits of fun, fellowship and friendship, while many of the Community Groups competing with Probus offer tangible benefits of courses and items made.

Your Committee is always looking to find ways to make Membership more relevant. We want to attract membership and most importantly to satisfy existing members. At the last General Meeting I was approached by a delegation of members asking that the Club reinstate bus trips, and they certainly had some compelling arguments. The Committee has had many discussions about bus trips since Covid, however the extreme increases in cost of buses led the Committee to believe Members would be reluctant to pay the increases. However, we will now look at bus trips in a new light following that interaction and will look at the practicalities of offering bus options in the future.

The point of this report is to say that your Committee is striving to keep our Club strong and vibrant. However, we do not always get it right. Member input is essential if the Club is to remain strong and vibrant. So please, if you have any thoughts on how we could improve the Club, let me or one of the Committee members know.

Michael Simmons

August birthdays: We wish Good Health and Many Happy Returns to: Morris Cotterill; Gwyn Edmonds; Liz Launder; Peter Pahl; Faye Wegat.

August speaker: There will be no speaker this month. You are encouraged to come dressed in your favourite footy team's colours.

Activities

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

On **Monday September 2** we will have a walk in East Brighton which will include Landcox Park and having a coffee break at the Bliss Café nearby. We will meet at 10.30 am on the corner of Hopkins and Brennan Streets McKinnon (Melway 68 B10) and then walk down Brennan Street to join the end of the Elster Creek Trail before walking to Landcox Park and the café.

Abbotsford Convent

On **Thursday 5th September** I have organised a trip to the Abbotsford Convent Precinct - this tour is a free event offered by Leah at the Good Shepherd's History Centre. However, if you feel inclined you can give a donation. This trip involves a train journey to Flinders Street station then we transfer to the number 1 platform to travel to Victoria Park. From there we will walk ten minutes to the gates of the Clarke Street entrance to the Convent. We are booked for a 10.30am tour after which you can select your lunch venue around 12 noon. Give me your name at this month's meeting or by phone on 0409 139 404.

Janette James

High Tea in September

I have arranged to have a High Tea on the **26th September** at the Mentone RSL from 12.30 to 3.00pm. The cost will be \$25.00 per head and will be limited to 30 guests. Please register your interest by replying via email to me – payment will need to be made before the August or the September General Meeting. I will also be compiling a waiting list in case of cancellations. I will also be looking at having another High Tea if this is popular with members.

Faye Wegat

Xmas lunch



Xmas lunch this year will be at the Dingley Hotel on **Thursday December 12** at 12 noon. Cost of a two-course lunch will be between \$65-\$70, with entertainment by singer Paul Hogan (by popular demand). Faye is now taking names, with payment due by the November General Meeting.

August lunch at Tudor Inn

If you like to join us for lunch at 12.15pm on **Thursday August 29** at the *Tudor Inn* (1281 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham). If you haven't already given you name to Joy Meekings (0434 558 437), you can do so at this month's General Meeting. A Seniors menu is available.

Crime Readers' Group



The Creeper by prolific Australian author Margaret Hickey will be the novel under discussion at the **August 22** gathering of the Crime Readers. If you've read this latest novel, please feel free to join us and share your views. Lyn Mather will lead the discussion which commences at 11.00am at the Cheltenham Golf Club on 22 August.

Margot Burke

Craft Group report

I am so happy that our **Craft Group** is meeting again after several months when we didn't meet because of my illness. I did appreciate all the love, care, visits and flowers I received from members of the Probus family - Probus fellowship at its best. I am sure it helped me recover from emergency surgery. Thank you sincerely.

Last month (July) Pamela Spencer brought a superb quilt she had made to show us. She's a very talented lady.

We continue to make cards and other "crafty" things, e.g., poms poms made from cupcake patty pans. We enjoy wonderful chats and many laughs during a coffee or a cuppa tea.

Helen Scott

Scheduled activities directory

Group	Convenor	Venue	Day of the month/time
Book group	Jan Storey	Cheltenham Golf Club	2 nd Tuesday @ 11.00am
Coffee, Chew & Chat	Graeme Storey	Rickett's Point Tea House (Beach Rd)	4 th Tuesday @ 10.30am
Craft group	Helen Scott	Cheltenham Golf Club	3 rd Monday @ 1.30pm
Crime Readers	Margot Burke	Cheltenham Golf Club	3 rd Thursday @ 11.00am
Mah jong	Phyl McLean	Cheltenham Golf Club	Tuesday weekly @ 1.30pm
Petanque	Steve McColl	Beaumaris Oval	Wednesday weekly @ 10.30am
Walking group	Ken Launder	Local areas	1 st Monday morning

Pentridge tour report

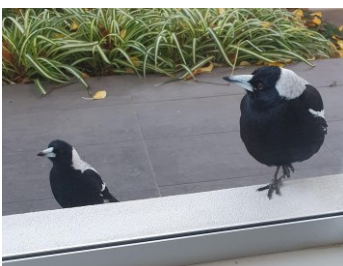
Twenty-six of us set off on a very cold and wet July morning for North Coburg on public transport while four decided to drive. The tram ride up Sydney Road never disappoints me. Pentridge is now a great tourist attraction with a modern shopping complex, a Palace cinema, hotels and high-rise accommodation - all behind those bluestone walls, but we were there to experience life behind bars! We were greeted by a guide who told us story after story, and we now know that H division really was a dismal place - a Hell Hole for all those prisoners who had tried to escape or had committed very serious crimes, confined to small cells, with strict rules, monotonous work and unspeakable cruelty being inflicted on Victoria's worst prisoners. This didn't stop our group from wandering into the cells and imagining how it might have been for the likes of Ronald Ryan, Chopper Read, Julian Knight and Peter Dupas. Pentridge closed in 1997 after 146 years of continuous operation. Lunch might have been slow for us, but tongues wagged, and some women were known to visit a clothing store! Weather, public transport and restaurant service can be challenging, so thank you all for being so flexible.

Janette James

August walk report

The walk in August was the Promenade Walk which had been cancelled earlier in the year. After some cold and miserable weeks, the mild weather was a treat for the seventeen members who arrived at the Federation Square restaurant called *Time Out* for a very pleasant communal lunch. We then walked along Swanston Street to Bourke Street where we caught a tram to the magnificent Exhibition Buildings next to the Museum in Carlton. On arrival, we joined the other members of the tour, which was capped at thirty people, and were all issued with hi-vis vests. This was necessary as there are renovation works being carried out in the building which is on the UNESCO World Heritage list. A knowledgeable guide then treated us to an hour's tour, beginning with the opportunity to admire this amazing building when it is not filled with exhibitions etc., and it is truly magnificent. We were then escorted to the basement of the building where there are many displays of the history and knowledge of the journey of this building since its opening in 1880. Some intrepid members of the tour then climbed the eight flights of stairs to the Promenade – fortunately there was also a lift available – and we then enjoyed vistas of the surrounding gardens and nearby buildings, all very different from early views. A day full of memories, and a reminder to treasure the history we have.

Anon



Seen on the sill of the Editor's Room with a View (see article in July's newsletter) – members of a family of magpies that are frequent visitors looking for a hand-out and serenade me with their melodic song, hoping to be rewarded. A magpie's voice is described as "strong, rich and varied carolling, with notes ranging from high and clear to deep and mellow. Often a group will join to construct a prolonged carolling duet or chorus.

July photo album



President Mike inducted Carol



Speaker Ian Marchant



Helen Scott and her Craft Group



Lyn spoke on her charity work.



Pentridge inmates



Pentridge 5-star room

Correction: The caption of the photo in the July newsletter of Acting President Janette inducting a new member should have read: "A/President Janette inducted Kathleen Ngoma."



BBPC Activities 2024

AUGUST

12	13 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	14 Petanque (10.30am)	15 Crime Readers Grp @ 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 (Nepean H'way, C'ham)	30

SEPTEMBER

2 Walk – E. Brighton	3 Mahjong (1.30pm)	4 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	5 Abbotsford Convent (See p. 2)	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 Grp @ 11.00am	20
23	24 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	25 Petanque (10.30am)	26 High Tea 12.30-3.00 (Mentone RSL)	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 a.m Melbourne Cup dressup	17 Crime Bk Grp a.m. 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	

NOVEMBER

				1
4 Walk	5 Melbourne Cup	6 Petanque (10.30am) Committee (1.30pm)	7	8
11	12 Book Grp (11.00am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	13 Petanque (10.30am)	14 Moorabbin Bowls @ 11.00am	15
18 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	19 Bridge (1.00-3.00pm) Mahjong (1.30pm)	20 General Meeting @ 10.00am	21 Crime Readers Grp @ 11.00am	22
25	26 Coffee (10.30am) Mahjong (1.30pm)	27 Petanque (10.30am)	28	29

DECEMBER

2 Walk?	3 Mahjong (1.30pm)	4 Petanque (10.30am)	5	6
9	10 Book Grp (11.00am)	11 Petanque (10.30am)	12 Xmas lunch @ Dingley Hotel	13
16 Craft Grp (1.30pm)	17	18	19	20
23	24	25 Xmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27