



robus Club of Carlton-Parkville Inc.

ESTABLISHED IN MARCH 2009 CLUB NO 9003815

Contact us:

Email: probuscarltonparkville@gmail.com

Website: <http://probussouthpacific.org/microsites/CarltonParkville>

December Newsletter 2025

Greetings everyone,

At the end of 2025 I would like to take the opportunity of thanking everyone who has contributed to another successful Carlton-Parkville Probus year, and what a stimulating year it has been.

I am very aware that there is a large team keeping our programmes and administration operating. Special thanks to the Office Bearers, the Committee, the Coordinators and those carrying out other responsibilities for our membership, speakers, welfare, communication and general organisation. Too many to list individually but all highly valued and without whom the club would not function.

Many of you are continuing in your roles and for this I thank you. Others are stepping down after years of contribution. On behalf of all our members I express my heart-felt thanks.

However, and looking forward, we still have a couple of positions to fill before our March AGM. I am now calling for nominations for the Vice-President and President. Please take the holiday break to consider whether you could fill one of these roles. Or maybe you could 'shoulder-tap' a mate. These are positions we need to fill to keep our club running. As Past President I will play a supporting role.

Our Christmas lunch will be our next get-together, instead of a general meeting, at Graduate House on Tuesday 9 December. Bookings closed on Tuesday 25 November. I look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes to you all in the festive season.

Jenny Earle

President





December Birthdays

Anne Ada , Kingsley Gee, Bernadette Hosking, Carol Matheson, Christine Newcombe, Gay Ochiltree, Liz Oley, Margaret (Marg) Scanlon, Susan (Sue) Tickner

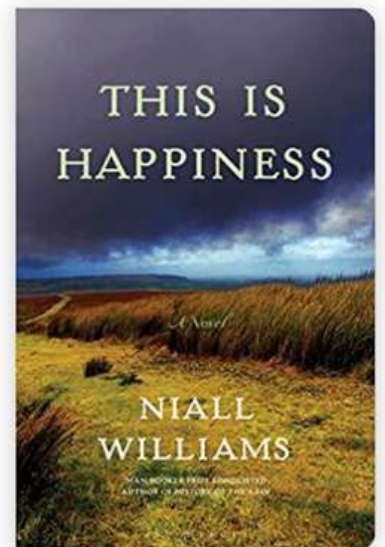
BOOK CLUB

The last meeting for the year will be held on December 8 at 7:30pm at the North Fitzroy Library. Regular Readers should note that this is a MONDAY to avoid a clash with the Probus Xmas Lunch. There will be an Xmas theme to this end of year meeting.

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The book we will be discussing at the meeting has been selected by Sue Girling-Butcher and is Niall Williams' "This is Happiness".

Goodreads describes it as:



"A tender portrait of a community – its idiosyncrasies and traditions, its paradoxes and kindnesses, its failures and triumphs – and a coming-of-age tale like no other. Luminous and lyrical, yet anchored by roots running deep into the earthy and everyday, it is about the power of stories: their invisible currents that run through all we do, writing and rewriting us, and the transforming light that they throw onto our world."

It's also a bit about rain.

There are always extra spots available and so If you would like to join our lively group then please register by email to dpcotterell@gmail.com

"Some people walk in the rain, others just get wet." — Roger Miller



Blues group

The final blues outing for 2025 has drawn a healthy response with 16 members set to enjoy a big night on Tuesday December 2.

As this will be my last event as blues co-ordinator can I thank all those who have come to these nights over my six-year term.

We've seen some fabulous artists, had more than a modicum of success in the raffle draws and, importantly, enjoyed each other's company at our regular table. My thanks, too, to the dedicated volunteers who run the Melbourne Blues Appreciation Society. They have always made our group feel very welcome.

After a break in January the blues night resumes on the first Tuesday of February under the enthusiastic leadership of Colin and Helen Macnamara.

Thank you to Helen and Colin for taking over and ensuring our club's support for live music continues.

Steve Foley

stevefoley7@bigpond.com

0417313022





Creative Arts

On 19 November Carol Matheson took us by tram to see the art and architecture in the Sofitel, and two new hotels, the W Hotel (with an excellent guided tour) and Hotel 1, Docklands. The latter two were a fascinating study of contrasts in approach - design, materials and colours. A brilliant outing!

In 2026 we shall continue with events on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, the first being 18 February. I have volunteers for the first three months and a couple more for sometime later in the year - my thanks to them. I shall be looking for more in due course!

I thank also those who led events during 2025 to entertain and inform members across a wide range of art experiences, followed by convivial chat over coffee.

All the best for the Holiday Season

Susanne Pearce, Coordinator. (susannepearce60@gmail.com or SMS 0432614585)





Dome Walk and Devonshire Tea

Hello - to all 25 Probus members who have paid for the Dome Walk and Devonshire Tea.

Thank you for your interest and prompt payments!

I now have our tickets and will distribute them when I see you next at various Probus events or on the day.

We are asked to meet by the information desk just inside the foyer of Melbourne Museum by 9.45am.

Fingers crossed it will be a nice, mild and sunny day.

My mobile number is 0414 913 821, if you need to contact me.

Cheers

Jenny Bowling

****Walking Group****

This is the final activity for the 25 Walkers, the Exhibition Building's Dome Walk followed by Devonshire Tea to mark the culmination of another enjoyable year of walks to all sorts of different and interesting places and the best of cafes around Melbourne.

Many thanks to Kinsley Gee, the Walking Group Coordinator.

Annual PhotoCompetition

The Photo Competition is now closed.

Some great shots have been taken throughout the year. We have narrowed it down to three photographs.

The winner will be announced at the Christmas Lunch.

“The two Peters”

Peter (Campbell) Pearson and Peter Parussolo





**Open Invitation to Fellow Probus Members,
We need your thinking caps to improve Probus Guest Speakers;
Contemporary/Popular Music and Stem activities because:
Your Ideas Matter Most!**

1. Guest Speakers

Do you know someone with a fascinating story to tell?

We are looking for engaging speakers for the monthly meetings.

- Who to look for: People with unique careers, discoveries or achievements, former colleagues with specialized knowledge, local authors, community leaders – or anything else you think will be interesting to Probus Members.
- Who do you know? We need fresh Guest Speakers. If you know an interesting character—a pilot, a historian, a scientist, or an adventurer—please pass on their name to me asap.
- Action: If you have a contact, please let us know. You don't need to organize it; just provide the lead, and I will do the rest.



1. Contemporary/Popular Music Group

We are always looking for fresh ideas to freshen up the playlist! To date, we have locked in five themes.

BUT your suggestions & participation are essential to complete & make them better.

- “Indie: a journey into the unknown”

Inspired and to presented and hosted by Steve Foley on 23/2/2026

Steve has completed a full program and is ready to go.

A generic theme, and provides scope for future presentations.

- “Female African American Vocalists from any period”

Inspired by Lyn Crellin, additional contributors and presenters required

- "Flowers in your Hair"

Psychedelia/hippy themes, inspired and to be led by David Cottrell

- “Original Song vs. Cover Song: Which is better?”

Affirmed by consensus to be scheduled for an evening in 2026

- “Desert Island Discs”





Contemporary Music Con't

Six members given 12 minutes to present two songs they would take to a desert island and explain why (memories, musical beauty, etc.)

- "The Stories Behind the Songs"

Focusing on the lyrics and history rather than just listening.

- Music that made movies famous/ Movies that made Music Famous

Inspired by a Probus Member who wishes to remain anonymous today!

STEM Interest Group (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)

The world is changing fast, and the STEM group wants to keep up. We are looking for topic suggestions that spark debate and curiosity.

We are seeking ideas for: Artificial Intelligence (AI), renewable energy, scientific and medical breakthroughs, or visits to local engineering sites or laboratories.



How to contribute: Please reply or contact me directly.

Your suggestions drive successful Probus activities.

Guest Speakers I know someone who would be a great speaker:

Name: _____

Topic: _____

Contact Info (if known): _____

Interest Groups I would be interested in a Contemporary/ Popular Music session on:

Name: _____

Topic: _____

Contact Info (if known): _____

STEM I would be interested in a STEM activity on:

Name: _____

Topic: _____

Contact Info (if known): _____

Mario (Mick) Butera

Co-ordinator Speakers, STEM and Contemporary/Popular Music

Email: gmaym@iimetro.com.au or 0417 511 724



Always Football Season Footy Tipping Report

Stephen Alomes

One 1960s paper called it "Waiting for the footy season". Then the AFL marketing machine created non-stop events - trading used players (some with warranties), Gather Round announcements, and the Draft.

Now AFLW finals and I gave live reports to our WhatsApp group - Melbourne first 3 goals, North comes back, finally wins by 10 points - 6.10.46 to 5.6.36. Can they be challenged or only for a quarter?

Pic Jasmine Garner Kangaroos - best AFLW player in 2025

Playing Brisbane in the Grand Final, Princes Park, Saturday 29 November, 7 45 pm.

This report will appear after the final siren.

As some of you know many of us wear "cultured bugger" hats. Summer reading and reflection, while we wait, a meeting of the two cultures:

<https://doubledialogues.com/article/the-lie-of-the-ground-aesthetics-and-australian-football/>



Pedallers

If you have a bike why not join us. We meet every Thursday despite the weather.
(Contact Al McGain on rockdoc3@bigpond.com for further information)



GARDEN GROUP **SUMMER ACTIVITY**

Monday 8th December at 10.30 am

Brief visit to Dig Emporium in Fitzroy: Cambridge Parklet and a Residential Rooftop in Collingwood viewing different styles of gardens and planting.

led by

Carol Matheson

0408 335 967

candbmatheson@gmail.com

JANUARY 2026 SUNDAY TWILIGHTS

PRINCES PARK- NEAR THE PRINCES PARK BOWLING CLUB
(same as previous years)

WHEN : Sunday January 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, and February 1st and 8th.

TIME : 6pm till 7.30pm

BRING: Yourself, your own chairs and picnic rug / picnic table

if you have one, a cool drink and food/nibbles to share.

A sense of humour and be ready for a game of Bocce...no skill required.

There is no need to book...just arrive

Please feel free to contact us with any queries:

Sue Bradshaw 0419 834 273 or Randall Bradshaw 0438 012 886

Travel Group

Steve Foley

(Outgoing) Travel co-ordinator

stevefoley7@bigpond.com

0417313022



The club's trip to Port Douglas next July is attracting keen interest with 16 now booked to go.

With a minimum of 20 required there are still vacancies so, if you are considering, I would suggest contacting Ashleigh Hughes of Trade Travel on 1800 034 439 to avoid disappointment.

As the locals say: 'Barefoot in winter - why not?'.

If you have not been to this part of Far North Queensland in the depths of a Melbourne winter you can expect warm, dry, sunny weather with temperatures ranging from 25C to 26C on average, dropping to a mild 17C to 19C at night.

With low humidity, July is considered the ideal time to visit.

The itinerary has been structured to offer not only the major attractions, such as a day trip to Agincourt Reef on the outer Great Barrier Reef - a once-in-a-lifetime experience, as is the World Heritage listed Daintree rainforest - but essential free time so you can discover the real pleasure of being in this tropical paradise.

I'm referring to Four Mile Beach (pictured this July), one of the finest in Australia.

Mantra PortSea, where club guests will stay for six nights beginning July 18, offers direct access. Catching a sunrise from the beach or walking the kilometre into town on pure white sand or at the water's edge or riding a bike along the same stretch is definitely a must.

In future posts I will have more to say about the fabulous food scene in Port Douglas - in my opinion, one of the best anywhere.

(Caption) Steve and Anne Foley strolling on Four Mile Beach in July this year and the view of the beach from the walking path up to Flagstaff Hill.

FRIDAY FRIENDS

(Contact Diana Carlton or Constance Jenkin on dicarlton41@gmail.com or cjenkin6@bigpond.com for further information)

GRUMPY OLD MEN

(Contact Stu Gregory on stu_tamaragregry@emai.com for further information). The Group meet at the " Naughty Boys Café at 499 Lygon St. Carlton every Friday from 10am.

MEMBER LIAISON

(Contact Liz Jungwirth on liz.jungwirth@icloud.com for further information)

MOVIE GROUP

(Contact Margaret Smith on margaretJSM@yahoo.com.au for further information)
The Group meet on the 4th Monday of each Month at Cinema Nova at Lygon Court Carlton

TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR/SECRETARY

(Contact Peter Beckwith on peter.j.beckwith@gmail.com for further information)

THEATRE GROUP

(Contact Fleur Rubens on vivianandfleur@gmail.com for further information)

Carlton-Parkville Probus WhatsApp group

The club's WhatsApp group is a light-hearted way for members to stay in touch.
To join, make sure WhatsApp is installed on your phone, then send your mobile number to Heather Trotter on 0423762779.
Please note that the notification (sound) can be switched off...help available if needed!

The Club meets at GRADUATE HOUSE at 220 Leicester Street Carlton on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month.