



## PROBUS CLUB OF BENTLEIGH

No. A0015673M - ABN 733 837 961 35 - PSP 58178

### NEWSLETTER No.441 December 2025

#### Committee and Officers for 2025-2026

<b>President</b>	Helen Byron	0419 119 563	<b>Secretary</b>	Lyn Hinton	0401 153 668
<b>Vice President</b>	Mal Carter	0409 771 114	<b>Treasurer</b>	Alan Burns	0400 963 018
<b>Minute Secretary</b>	Margaret Darvell	0402 342 202	<b>Day Trips &amp; Tours</b>	Helen Byron	0419 119 563
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Sylvia Garrick	0400 820 871	<b>Membership</b>	Jenny Martin	0431 180 182
<b>Speakers</b>	David Halford	0419 338 517	<b>Newsletter</b>	Bruce Hinton	0417 365 817
<b>Website</b>	David Hutt	0412 563 433	<b>Other Activities</b>	Alan Ambrose	0407 711 030



#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members.

This Christmas, we celebrate not only the Season but also the gift of one another, through fun, fellowship and friendship. Your laughter, kindness and support have made this year truly special. We look forward to achieving even greater things in the year ahead.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Warmest wishes

Helen

#### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Christmas is more than just presents; it's love and harmony". Julie Hebet*

#### NEW MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome three new members, **Erica Harper, Pam Dwyer and Lyn Olarenschaw**. When you get the chance, please introduce yourself to them.

**BIRTHDAYS** Congratulations to the following members who celebrate a birthday in December. **Bev Cooper, Marlene Ries, and Lyn Bunn**

**SICK LIST:** One of our new members Pam Dwyer has been unwell recently: Former President Bev Cooper is now in rehab and we wish her well. Ailsa Hunt and Ivy Kratzer are feeling better. Please let our Welfare Officer, **Sylvia Garrick** (0400 820 871) know if anyone is unwell, injured or in hospital.

#### SPEAKERS

<b>11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	TBA	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> January</b>	LSC Tania Stacey	Personal Safety in the Home
<b>12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	John Sedunary	Moorabbin Airport Operations

If members have suggestions for future speakers, please contact **David Halford**.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

### *Coffee & Chat*

Our next get together will be on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2026** at about 10.30am in the back lounge of the Bentleigh RSL. Everyone is welcome to stay on for lunch.

### *Walking Group Venues (Alan Ambrose 0407 711 030)*

<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Sandringham Foreshore</b> , Sandringham Foreshore: Meet at 10.00am at the corner of Alicia and Hampton streets. (Opposite Sandringham football ground)
<b>Tuesday 13 January</b>	<b>Kingston Heath Reserve</b> , Kingston Heath Reserve: Centre Dandenong Rd Cheltenham (opposite DFO) Meet in car park (near traffic lights) at 10.00am
<b>Tuesday 17 February</b>	<b>Mordialloc Foreshore</b> . Meet at 10.00am in the car park on the railway side of Nepean Highway, over the bridge opposite the Bridge Hotel

### *Book Club*

The next regular meeting will be on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026** at 11.00am in the back lounge of the Bentleigh RSL. The month's book will be **"Flesh"** by David Szalay. New readers are most welcome.

### *Movie Group*

Please register your name with **Margaret Darvell** (0402 342 202). Margaret will advise the date, time and place for the next movie.

### *Live Theatre*

Well done and thanks to **Sylvia Garrick** who has organised several live theatre afternoons for our Club during 2025. The next theatre afternoon will be late February with the Peridot Theatre Company presenting a comedy **"A Night on the Tiles"**.

## TOURS & DAY TRIPS

**Tour of Classic Residences Retirement Village** - Once again **Alan Ambrose** used his excellent sales technique to organise a Tour of this retirement village at Brewer Rd, Brighton East on 25<sup>th</sup> November. Our members were rewarded for their attendance with an excellent hot lunch in the well-appointed dining room of the Village followed by a tour of various apartments. For arranging 20+ Club members to attend, our Club received \$500. Well done, Alan. Perhaps he can organise another retirement village tour in the new year!

### *Werribee Park Mansion and Rose Gardens Day Trip*

Thirty-two members and friends enjoyed a glorious day out at the Victoria State Rose Garden and a tour of the Werribee Park mansion on 20<sup>th</sup> November. After morning tea at a picnic site in the Park, everyone enjoyed a stroll among the magnificent display of roses of all colours and types. A tour followed of the Werribee Park Mansion built between 1874 and 1877 by Scottish brothers and pastoralists Andrew and Thomas Chirnside. It has been restored to its formal glory, and the National Trust has done a great job filling most of the rooms with period furniture from the 1800s. After the Tour members gathered at the RSL for a delicious lunch. A great day thanks to **Pauline Hanley** who organised this very enjoyable event.

## Werribee Park Mansion and Rose Gardens Day - Trip Highlights



*Happy Rose Garden Visitors*



*Colin guiding Peter through the Rose Garden*



*Members on a stroll through the Rose Garden*



*Members and friends add to the colour of the Rose Garden*

## Tours and Trips for Next Year - 2026

Almost 50% of our members replied during the year to our survey of what types of trips and tours they would like to see the Club provide in 2026. Our Sub Committee of Di Stahmer, Pauline Hanley, Sue Coney, Helen Byron and Bruce Hinton prepared the following **Draft Trip and Tour Programme**.

**February - Warrnambool and Great Ocean Road Tour.** A 5-day all-inclusive tour operated by **Southern Star Tours**. 4 nights based in Warrnambool. Cost **\$2,089 per person**, Monday 23th to Friday 27 February 2026. Great ocean Road with visits to Port Fairy, Portland, Camperdown Cobden and Timboon

<https://www.southernstartours.com.au/melbourne-2026-over-60s-and-seniors-tours/warrnambool-5-day-tour>

**March - Yarragon Trip.** Train ride to Yarragon for lunch and walking around the picturesque Gippsland Town

**April - Moonlit Wildlife Animal Sanctuary,** - Bus trip and Lunch in Pearcedale

**May - Williamstown Ferry** with Lunch at Customs House Hotel

**June - Stella's Kitchen,** Lysterfield Lake

**July - Government House Tour** - Melbourne

**August - Winery Tour** - Yarra Valley or Mornington Peninsula

**September - High Country Tour No. 1,** 5 day fully inclusive tour with 4 nights based in Wangaratta with **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours**. Cost **\$2795 per person** Thursday 3rd September to Monday 7th September. Visits to Beechworth, Yarrowonga, Boat Cruise on Lake Mulwala, Bright, Whitfield, Mansfield and Lake Eildon

<https://www.oshannessys.com.au/tours/high-country-spring-tour-1-2026-5-day-tour#LearnMore>

**November - Beleura Homestead and Gardens.** Tour of homestead and gardens with Lunch



## LUNCHES & DINE OUTS

**Christmas Lunch.** This year our lunch will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> December at the Buckingham International Motel, Nepean Highway Cheltenham. The cost will be \$55 per person. Please put your names on the list today.

**January Lunch.** On 15<sup>th</sup> January we will gather at the Flight Deck at 37 First Avenue Moorabbin Airport. Members will order and pay for their own meals and drinks.

**February Lunch.** Lunch on 19<sup>th</sup> February will be at the Highbett RSL. Members will order and pay for their own meals and drinks.

## MANAGEMENT MATTERS

### *New Management Committee Members*

Our AGM in March 2026 is an opportunity for members to nominate and join our Committee. This provides a chance for members to give back to the Club from which they have benefitted so much during their membership. Being on the Committee helps build confidence and allows you to share your ideas, knowledge and experience with fellow members and to help the Club run smoothly continuing to provide interesting and exciting activities for all Members. Contributing behind the scenes to the running of our Club is a very rewarding experience, and you will know how much you have helped fellow members enjoy Probus fun and friendship.

For those considering joining our Management Committee, the current members listed at the top of this Newsletter would be more than happy to provide guidance, advice and information on what being on the Committee involves.

It is important to get new personnel onto the Committee so that we can continue to develop new ideas for all our activities. Our President **Helen Byron** urges everyone to please consider joining at our AGM next year. Specifically, we need to have someone in the position of Vice President for next year.

**Internet Banking:** Probus Club of Bentleigh inc. BSB 063 106, Account No. 1012 2148 Use your surname as the reference.

**Club Web Site:** <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/bentleighc/Welcome>. **Note:** All activities listed in this newsletter can be viewed on the Club's website. This site has a lot of very useful information including photographs from trips and lunches, "Active Retirees Magazine", "Victorian Probian Magazine".

**Editor's Note:** The Editor is always keen to receive feedback, comments, corrections etc. in relation to this Newsletter. Also, if members have any ideas and suggestions for new Section additions to this Newsletter, or news items of possible membership interest please send to [bl.hinton@bigpond.com](mailto:bl.hinton@bigpond.com) or phone 0417365817.

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## JUST FOR XMAS LAUGHS:

**Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?** A mince spy

**What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck?** A Christmas Quacker!

**What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?** Claus-trophobia!

**What happened to the man who stole an Advent Calendar?** He got 25 days!

**NEXT MEETING** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January – 10.30am at the Bentleigh RSL

**Hoping you have a holiday season that is merry and bright! – The Editor**