



In Friendship

Newsletter of the Probud Club of Kerrimuir Inc.

OCTOBER 2025

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Everyone,

As I sit to write my news letter this month it is with a heavy heart that I must report the passing of our long time member Rob Bromley.

I'm sure you will all be saddened to hear Rob passed away on 29th September after a short illness.

To Elaine and all of Elaine and Robs family we offer our sincere condolences and please know that we have you in our hearts and our prayers.

Rob was always a true gentleman and much loved within our club.

We will miss him greatly.

How quickly time passes, we have just two meetings left before years end.

If you have been preparing Dignity Bags for women please bring these along to the meeting on Thursday. Bernadette and Joan have volunteered to deliver them so that they reach those in need before Christmas. I'm sure they will be gratefully received and thank you so much for your generosity.

We are now well into Spring. Such a lovely time of the year.

I hope the usual spring allergies are not too bad. It is so good to see the gardens coming back to life.



.....continued overleaf

GENERAL MEETING :

Thursday October 23rd

TIME :

10:00 for an 10:30 am start.

VENUE :

**Blackburn Hotel Function Room
111 Whitehorse Road, Blackburn.**

SPEAKER :

Garry Kerr
The Golden Age of Musical Comedy

Since my last news letter, I had the pleasure of attending Floriade in Canberra. This was a wonderful few days away and the gardens an absolute delight, colour and perfume everywhere. Floriade is a spectacular event and one that I fully recommend if you have the chance to attend.

During seniors week I also managed to participate in several events on offer.

This included a trip by train to Geelong to view the Archibald prize finalists. As usual several of the paintings I'm sure were done by pre school children but the vast majority were excellent. It was such an easy thing to do, just two minutes walk from Geelong station to the gallery, a very enjoyable day.

We must keep seniors month of October, which also happens to be Probus month, in mind, maybe next year as a club we could join in some of the things on offer.

Our trip to Castlemaine will leave on Monday 27th October, a nice chance to have a few days away to relax with friends and enjoy our evening "get togethers". A little time out before the busy Christmas season.

November brings a few interesting things for us to do.

Wednesday 5th is coffee and chat at Moon and Spoon, Blackburn Square (Old Orchard). This proved to be very successful last month so the committee has decided we will meet there again, maybe this time we will reserve the seating along the back wall. It would be nice to see as many as possible come along. We really do solve the problems of the world over our coffee.

We have a trip to Riddles Creek, by train, planned for 7th November. This will include lunch.

Then on Sunday 16th we meet at Wattle Park for a BBQ/ picnic lunch. BYO food and a chair as later in the afternoon there will be a jazz band playing.

Wednesday 10th December is our Christmas lunch. The venue is the Coach Ringwood. This will be the last function for the year, the cost is \$35 per head and the menu is Christmas fare.

Please come along and make this a really special day, a fitting end to our Probus year. You may bring a friend, all will be welcome.

Make sure you put names on the sign up sheet as we must let the venue know numbers in advance.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting on 23rd.

To those on the "sick list" I'm sorry you won't be able to join us but we will be thinking of you and wishing you well.

Anne. x



Anne Carruthers
President
Probus Club of Kerrimuir

VALE

Robert Bromley

05.08.1941 – 26.09.2025

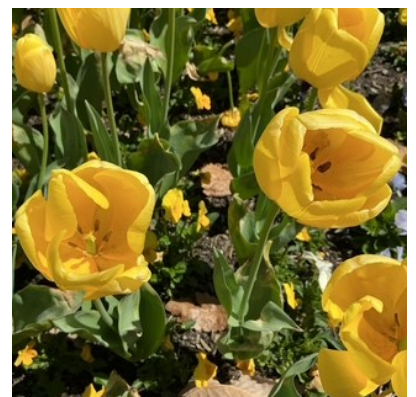
*It is with deep regret we announce
the passing of our
long term member Rob Bromley.*

*To Elaine and family we offer
our sincere condolences.*

*The members of the Probus Club of Kerrimuir
are saddened by his passing*



Anne shared some
photos from
Floriade.



AT OUR LAST MEETING

Our Speaker : **Darren Arnott**

WW11 internment camp in Rowville

Report : **Margret Paterson**

Our September speaker was historian and author Darren Arnott, who spoke about an internment camp for Italian prisoners of war , that operated in Rowville (where Darren grew up) during World War two. The campsite, on the corner of Stud and Wellington Roads, which was previously used by Australian, then US troops earlier in the war, was untouched until the 1980s, when a housing estate was built there. Some roads and foundations are still in existence today.

Through researching archives, Darren was able to discover much information about the prisoners and their life in the camp.

Approximately 130,000 prisoners were captured in Africa and the Australian Government took 18,000 of them, sending them to various camps, where they were mainly employed on local farms.

The Rowville internment camp which was operational between December 1944, and August 1946 was classed as a "Hostel ". It was a low security camp, enclosed by a single wire fence. The men had their own canteen and cooks.

A controversial and tragic incident occurred in March 1946, when a prisoner, Rudolfo Batoli was shot and killed by the camp commandant, Captain John Walker Waterson. The official reason for the shooting given by Captain Waterson was that Batoli was attempting to escape, and had ignored warnings to desist.

At a subsequent Military Court of Inquiry Captain Waterson was exonerated. At a later enquiry headed by Major Archer, witnesses gave evidence that no warnings were heard, either verbal or shooting. Also, witnesses stated that Captain Waterson had been known to be drunk and beat prisoners.

However, again Captain Waterson and his staff were cleared of any wrong doing.

Darren looked at the original Coroner's Report, untouched since 1946, and viewed the crime scene and Captain Waterson's original handwritten report.

At a later enquiry, Captain Waterson was found guilty of assault only and received a reprimand.

Darren was convinced that a miscarriage of justice occurred in this instance, and he determined to give Rudolfo Batoli voice. His book about the Batoli incident, " No Regard for the Truth " was shortlisted for the Victorian History Community Awards in 2020.

Darren gave his presentation with enthusiasm and passion, bringing to light a little known but important part of our local history.



Our Activities : Details & Sign up sheets available at our meeting

Contact Val Donnely unless otherwise advised

Next C&C Nov 5th

COFFEE 'N CHAT

@ 10:30 am on the first WEDNESDAY of each month

moon&spoon North Blackburn

Just come along and enjoy a cuppa

Probus Club of Kerrimuir

Trip to Castlemaine

DATES

Monday 27th October to Thursday 30th October

Click [HERE](#) for details

ACCOMMODATION

BIG 4 Castlemaine Gardens Holiday Park.

Located at 1 Doran Avenue Castlemaine, right next to the Castlemaine Gardens.

The Club has prebooked five 2-bedroom cabins. Other options may be available – please contact the Park to confirm.

Members are to confirm their own bookings by contacting the Park on (03) 5472 1125 and quoting booking reference number 31129.

As this Holiday Park is very popular members are encouraged to confirm their booking as soon as possible in order to secure a cabin



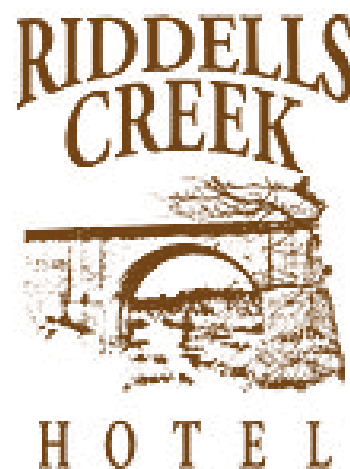
Our Activities : *Details & Sign up sheets available at our meeting*

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Friday 7th November

Train trip to Riddells Creek

Lunch at the Hotel



Sunday 16th November @ 12:00 noon

Picnic lunch at Wattle Park

BYO food / BBQ available

Later we will be entertained by the

Tramways Band

Bring your own chair!

Wednesday 10th December

Christmas Lunch at the

12 Noon @

The Coach Hotel Ringwood

Pay deposit by Nov 11

**DENIAL, ANGER,
BARGAINING, DEPRESSION,
ACCEPTANCE...
THE 5 STAGES OF
WAKING UP.**

**90% of the things I worry about never
happen**

WORRYING WORKS



**Principal: Your
child always
causes trouble
in school.....**

**Me: my child
causes trouble
at home, do I
ever call you...**

**I think the word you're
looking for is 'retinal'**



**On a bad hair day...
There's always lipstick.**



**It's another hot day, so
I've taken all my
clothes off and opened
every window...**

**I feel so much better,
although the other
people on the bus don't
seem so pleased!**

**Rare image of a
remote control from the 1970s.**

