



PROBUS CLUB OF MALVERN INC

Victoria Australia

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Supported by the Rotary Club of Malvern and sponsored by the City of Stonnington. The club meets 10am, 4th Tuesday each month, Presbyterian Church House, 163 Wattletree Rd, Malvern and via Zoom video-conference

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FRIENDSHIP, FELLOWSHIP & FUN

Copies of the Bulletin will be available at the Church House Meeting and will be emailed to members. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5170019102>. The Meeting ID is 517 001 9102. By phone - (03) 7018 2005 or attend in person at the Presbyterian Church House, 163 Wattletree Road at 10.00am.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING, 10.00 am Tuesday 27th May 2025

Presidents Report: April's Spotlight address by Adrian Wallis was fabulous, followed with the guest speaker presentation on Sir John Monash, topped off with an affable lunch at Kooyong. Let's maintain the club's infectious enthusiasm. Noel Cunningham offered to take over as 'Reviewer of Accounts'. It looks like Stuart Nicol won't have to shout the first round after all.



I have checked out Bruce Waxman's community choir which meets at the Ewing Church on the corner of Coppin St and Burke Rd at 6.45pm every Tuesday. I attended and there were 75 participants with great enthusiasm. All ages represented, the oldest around 96. All are welcome. Singing is an excellent health activity; the breathing and exercise is perfect for us blokes.

Some members haven't given a Spotlight talk yet and are bubbling over with excitement at the prospect of being invited. The Chairman of the Day will need to be strict with their time allocation because morning tea socialisation is a critical club component.

A Friday coffee 'outside' at Georgios recently was terrific; the noise dissipating into the open, enabling better hearing and uninterrupted conversation. We shared 1 minute's silence at 11.00am and shared the Anzac ode.

Inducting Stephen Russell was a thrill for me and the club; Stephen is the first of three new members in the pipeline. Keep up the good work Carlos our enthusiastic Vice President and Attendance chief.

The variety of discussions throughout the month have been so encouraging and I look forward to sharing next month with you.

Your President,

Dave

LAST CALL. If you haven't yet paid your Annual Fee, it is now **overdue**.

Annual Membership \$50.00, Non-active Membership \$30.00. Application Fee: \$35.00

Please use an online electronic bank transfer using the following details:

Account Name: Probussouthpacific Club of Malvern Inc. BSB 633 000 Account 158 555 409.

Please ensure that your name is entered under "Remitter".

Alternatively, you may hand \$50 to our Treasurer, Mr Stuart Nicol, at the May Meeting.

Guest Speaker:

Jhonnie Blampied

Topic:

Springboards of Positivity



Jhonnie is an engaging Public Speaker and has an inspiring 'Resilience' story that people can use to enhance their work and social lives. Jhonnie, called the "Miracle Man" by The Australian newspaper, was in a near death bicycle crash. His recovery, experience & study makes him a unique 'Resilience Coach'.

He has married a challenging life experience with scientific research in the field of resilience to provide a palette of actions that anyone can adopt to "Live (and work) with Resilience."

His story is a bare all view on brain injury and the value of "Positive Psychology". He has tools that don't just teach you how to weather a storm, but actions and techniques to bring more sunshine into how you live and work. He states his learning is not rocket science, but it is based in science and human truths.

Spotlight Speaker:

Matthew Damman from Malvern Rotary

MEMBERSHIP

Vale, John Brownbill died on the 5th April 2025. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

The membership in November is 85 (less three Life Members) thus leaving vacancies at 18

New Members: Stephen Russell was inducted last month, Bruce Moore this month.

Birthdays in May:

Ron James	4 th	Arie Herrnsstadt	4 th	Max Salveson	10 th	Noel Cunningham	13 th
Jamie Mcleod	18 th	Greg Thompson	19 th	Carlo Cercone	31 st		

Please let Leigh Machin know on leighmachin@bigpond.com, if you change your contact details.

Executive Committee Meetings: 5th Aug, 5th Nov, 3rd Feb 2026

ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Every Friday morning, Probus Morning Coffee, (except Good Friday and Christmas Day) from 10:00am – 12:00 noon, at Giorgio's in Malvern (opposite the Malvern Town Hall).

Every Thursday morning, The Walking Group meets at 10.00am. Here is your chance to get some *gentle* exercise while solving the world's problems with other Proberians. It's a flat route, no steep hills, at a pace that is comfortable. Bring wives, partners, friend and dogs, all are welcome. The group meets locally and walk for 45 minutes or so. Please contact Peter Harries on pharries@bigpond.com or 0411 733 473

3rd June: The first Tuesday event. We are invited to Aveo's Retirement Village, 100 Station St Burwood. Meet there at 10.00am for a presentation of their new apartments and Community Centre. Morning tea / refreshments will be served, and any questions answered. Our attendance delivers a \$500 gift to Malvern Probus so both yourself and the club benefit from a pleasant social get together. Please confirm with Richard Middleton on (03) 7074 5313, or email sunbeam@bigpond.net.au

4th June: Monthly Bike Ride. First Wednesday of the month. The weather this time of year is very conducive to riding at a leisurely pace and it's exercise you probably need. **Please** phone Jamie if you intend to ride. Meet at Vision Australia at 9.30am on Glenferrie Road opposite Kooyong Tennis Club. Bring your MYKI card. Please contact Jamie McLeod on 0417 037 855

10th June: Investment Special Interest Group. Held on the second Tuesday of the month at 10.00am in the Church House 161-163 Wattletree Road Malvern, and on Zoom (Meeting ID=804369746). Discussion topics: Economic trends, Monetary and Fiscal policy, and investment issues generally. Come along and contribute to managing our virtual investment portfolio. Contact Richard Uglow on 0408 574453.

12th June: Music Appreciation Group. Those that attended the May meeting very much enjoyed the Chopin music. The June meeting will feature extracts from Mozart concertos. Mozart wrote a concerto for virtually every instrument in the orchestra so it should be a fun afternoon. Please contact Chris Begg by phone on 0419 105586, or on ckpjbegg@optusnet.com.au. Chris's new address is Apt 208, Toorak Place. 28-30 Jackson St Toorak 3142. Key #208 at the front door and Chris will let you in.

17th June: Third Tuesday outing. We are off to see the National Gallery of Victoria's display of Winter Masterpieces. The finest of French Impressionism from the Museum of Fine Arts Boston. Please note that this is a **timed** entry for 10.45am, Tuesday 17th June. As usual, Ian has arranged a lunch at 1.00pm at the N. G. V. Tea room. Please book as early as possible as we have an allocation of just 20 tickets. If you book your own ticket with the N.G.V. please advise Ian in advance. Please contact Ian Connelly on cadillac.connelly@gmail.com or mobile 0419 368 088, and pay \$39.00 per person as below citing "NGV".

2nd July: Theatre Night. Macbeth. Shakespeare's most thrilling story. One of unchecked ambition, witches and ghosts, castles and sword fights. It is a harrowing exploration of crime and guilt, power and corruption. Don't miss this, tickets are limited. Theatre Tickets Cost \$25 pp. Please Pay by Bank Transfer. Remember to add your name and "Theatre". Bookings are essential. Please contact Jeffery Blight on 0437 665 234 or jeffery.a.blight@gmail.com. As usual, there is an optional dinner from 6pm at the Racecourse hotel 895 Princes Hwy, (Service Rd. Malvern East), a short 5-minute walk from the theatre.

Activity Payments. When paying via bank transfer for Probus activities, please ensure that you enter your name under "Remitter" and indicate for which activity or purpose.

Account Name: Probus Club of Malvern Inc. BSB: 633000 Account Number: 158555409
Alternatively, you can tender cash to our Treasurer, Mr Stuart Nicol.

March Guest Speaker - Michael Headberry

Our Guest Speaker reminded us that ANZAC day owes its existence to Sir John Monash. Monash was born on June 27, 1865, on Dudley St West Melbourne to Prussian/Jewish parents. He spent 3 years around 1874 in Jerilderie where his father ran a general store, he attended Scotch College where he matriculated at 14! In 1881 he began an Arts degree. At 16 he was involved in extracurricular activities, but failed first year! But he was on the committee to start the University Union and commenced and edited the Melbourne University Review. By age 30 he had degrees in Arts, Law, a Master's in Engineering. He spoke German and French as well as English, but also Latin, Greek and Hebrew. In a letter to a cousin in USA he expressed his commitment to the nation of his birth, rather than his ancestry. From 1886, as the family provider, he worked on the Princess Bridge, Queen's Bridge, Merri Creek Bridge and was consulting engineer for the Outer Circle Railway and later the Harbour Trust. He established Monash and Anderson Consulting Engineers in the 1890's, after which he obtained a patent for the Monier system for reinforced concrete, and a partnership with cement producer David Mitchell of Lilydale. By 1914 when he volunteered for the Army, he was well off and well regarded. In 1885 he had joined the 4th Battalion and later the Citizen's Reservists – never went to Duntroon or Sandhurst. He received the Volunteer Colonial Officers Decoration as a Colonel. At this time, he was still developing his business, supporting his family, and was prominent with Boy Scouts, President of Melb Uni Graduates Association, President of the Vic. Institute of Engineers, Member of Melb Uni Council, Chairman of Luna Park and on the Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee. A busy man! After leaving Gallipoli and the Middle East, he arrived in Europe as a Major General with the 3rd Division. He was promoted to Lieutenant General in 1918, and given command of the Australian Corps, which had 5 Divisions and for the first time – in Amiens - they fought together, previously having been under British commanders. Monash was renowned for his ability to formulate battle plans which optimised the abilities of all three Services. Monash's losses averaged 5.7% killed compared with 18% for the whole of WW1. His meticulous planning and operations was demonstrated by the success at El Hamel, the plans for which have been used as examples in military planning and training. He was highly thought of in England and was knighted by King George V on August 12, 1918, at Château de Bertangles in France. This knighthood was a significant event, the first time in 200 years that a British monarch had knighted a commander on the battlefield. He received many awards - France, the Croix de Guerre, Legion of Honor, Belgium, Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown, USA Distinguished Service Medal, Britain Companion Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of Bath. However, Monash received scant

official recognition in Australia. In a 2 Hour speech to Parliament about the war, PM Billy Hughes did not mention Monash once. Monash wrote to the PM offering services in any capacity to the Government, but there was no reply for 9 months! Bob Carr has said the snubbing of Monash was one of the most distasteful events in Australian history. Efforts to recognise him with a posthumous promotion to Field Marshal are continuing. In 1919, he was put in charge of demobilisation. This was achieved in 8 months v's a 2 year schedule. He was appointed Chairman of the newly created Victorian SEC and he built Yallourn and wired Victoria for electricity, having insisted the SEC be publicly owned. He was President of the Naval and Military Club from 1921 until he died. He was honorary Chancellor of Melbourne University from 1923, a joint founder and second President of Melbourne Rotary, President of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, and sat on many Boards. In 1921 a committee was set up for a WW1 commemorative construction. There were many strong proposals, but in 1927 at the ANZAC Day lunch, then Duke of York, Monash gave a rousing speech supporting the concept of the Shrine of Remembrance, achieved majority agreement and as an engineer figured largely in the building. He died before it was complete in 1934, at the age of 66 in 1931 from a heart attack. 30,000 people lined the streets, a third of the population of Melbourne. Summary by WL (John) Johnson)

Spotlight Speaker for March - Adrian Wallis

Our Spotlight Speaker was born in Greymouth on the West coast of South Island of New Zealand. The area produces gold, coal, and timber. There are farms and sawmills along the river Grey Valleys including the first sawmill set up in 1920 by Adrian's father. At 12, he was sent to a boarding school in Christchurch, followed by a Chemistry degree at Canterbury University for 7 years, emerging as a synthetic organic chemist. In 1965, he left for Canada with a postdoctoral scholarship to study alkaloid synthesis at McMaster Uni in Ontario. Next to London to study alkaloids of biological interest. Then he decided that forest product skills were needed in New Zealand, resulting in him becoming a consultant at Washington University in Seattle, where he spent '3 glorious years' studying wood structure, pulping etc. He then obtained an offer from Australia's CSIRO Division of Forest Products, a 3-year contract, extended to 55 years! He married 51 years ago and continues to live in East Malvern. Massive funding cuts to the CSIRO resulted in early retirement but he stayed as an Honorary Research Fellow for a further 10 years. One CSIRO project concerned a huge effort to synthesize liquid fuels from biomass – successful but uncompetitive. 30 years ago, there was much interest in forest pulp applications and the Government set up the National Pulp Mill Program in 1989, but no new industries have developed. The paperboard mills of Amcor and Visy are Australian owned but the CSIRO Division of Forest Products is no more. Australia is now a net importer of forest products.

One of Adrian's 32 grandparents was John Wallis. He made dissected maps and puzzles now called Jigsaw. Adrian has one dated 1812. An Armadale shop had one of his 1813 instructive games called 'The Naturalist' with a current local price of A\$14,500! John Wallis's son – Adrian's great grandfather – was an Oxford graduate who studied Hindi Sanskrit hoping to work in India. His wife contracted TB and they moved to Sydney, but she died. The son then returned to India and married a 15 yo whose son became Adrian's grandfather. He was educated in England, graduated as an agricultural scientist at Cirencester Agricultural College, then emigrated to Melbourne in 1871. He then started as a reporter on agricultural affairs for the Australasian newspaper and was appointed the first head of the Agricultural department in Victoria. He founded Dookie Agricultural College in the Goulburn Valley, now part of Melbourne University. After 10 years, he moved to New Zealand and took up the management of a large estate in Southland NZ, which is why Adrian was born in NZ! (Summary by WL (John) Johnson).

NEXT GENERAL MEETING.

Malvern Probus Meeting, 10.00am Tuesday 24th June, 2025

Guest Speaker: Cam Stirling

Topic: Your on-line security, reducing the risks of scams and hackers

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.