



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 videoconference

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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.

MONTHLY MEETING, 10.00 am TUESDAY 26th AUGUST 2025

President's Report:



With August virtually over, Spring is trying to burst all over with wattle blossom appearing everywhere, especially along the Yarra River where I spend many hours paddling 🛶 my kayak up the Yarra to the convent adjacent to Studley Park Road.

August has introduced changes to the Committee following the resignations of our Vice President Carlo Cercone and Secretary PP Richard Uglow. Both having contributed with excellence in the current year, Carlo with Membership and in the past Richard as PP on two occasions through and following the Covid. Carlo has said he hopes to spend more time travelling with his wife Lucy and visiting a daughter currently in Japan.

Our new Secretary Bruce Moore, also a new member, will be giving the Spotlight Speaker address on 26th August. Welfare and Attendance continues to be ably coordinated by Don Jones assisted by Peter Harries while our new Membership Officer is John Waters, a new member whom some of you will have met during the excellent new walking 🚶 group activities led by Allan Bayliss assisted by Greg Thompson.

Bruce and John were inducted in May and June this year and have enthusiastically adopted club Committee roles. Thank you Bruce and John. John will be the Spotlight speaker in September.

More change is in the offering as the Vice President appointment is in obedience awaiting a decision. At this stage PP Andrew Pyke is covering the VP Position. Thanks Andrew.

The new Art 🎨 group had its first meeting last week thanks to Michael Fitzgerald connecting with Don Jones. While they met in the park they are looking for volunteers to pose in the You can put your name forward as a presenter or even an artist or painter. Give Mike a call 0408 286 797.

The new Golf 🏌 Group had its first game of 9 holes on Wednesday 20th August at Royal East Malvern thanks to the planning of PP Brian Stiebel. Give Brian a call 0415 484 585 to participate. Everyone is welcome to join the fun and games 🏹.

Consider who among your friends and acquaintances would enjoy Malvern Probus activities; especially Fridays coffees ☕ at Giorgios. Regularly 20 -28 members enjoy frivolity sharing the past and positing the future; what a trump!

PS: I am off the Ningaloo Reef fishing 🐟 next week: I will think of you every day 😊. Cheers Dave

Guest Speaker: David Wright-Neville

Topic: Counter Terrorism Warfare



David Wright-Neville is a former Australian academic who specialised in international relations and terrorism. He was Deputy Director of the Global Terrorism Research Centre and an Associate Professor of Politics in the School of Political and Social Inquiry at Monash University until his resignation in 2009. His contributions to discussions on terrorism appear in Australian and overseas media. In 2008, he was selected to participate in the Australia 2020 Summit.

Prior to entering academia, David worked as one of Australia's most senior government intelligence analysts in the Office of National Assessments, Australia's peak intelligence agency. Until mid-2002, he was one of Australia's most senior terrorism analysts, primarily assessing and reporting on terrorist groups in Asia. His comments on a number of controversies in Australian politics have also attracted attention.

In 2003, he supported his former colleague Andrew Wilkie, who resigned from the Office of National Assessments in protest against Australia's involvement in the Iraq War. David described Wilkie as "very competent, very capable and very trustworthy".

In 2005, David publicly criticised the questioning of a Monash University politics student on the student's purchase of an academic text on terrorism. David alleged that the student had been unfairly targeted because of his Muslim background. David was also an outspoken critic of the Howard Government's treatment of Australian Guantanamo Bay inmate David Hicks. In an article in Melbourne newspaper, The Age, he described the treatment of Hicks as "outrageous in a human rights sense, and counterproductive from the perspective of counter-terrorism." He also described Hicks, as "a sacrifice to the Bush administration". (courtesy Wikipedia)

Spotlight Speaker: Bruce Moore, our new Club Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP

Birthdays in August:

Richard Uglow	3 rd	Doug Lee	7 th	Eric Estlin	7 th
Garry Terrill	28 th	Richard Middleton	29 th	Richard Fowler	30 th

The membership as at 20th Aug is 81 (less three Life Members) thus leaving vacancies at 22.

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

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

Vale, Graeme Baldwin died two weeks ago. Due to his health issues, Graeme had to resign from Probus and move to Mornington. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends

ACTIVITIES

If you were wondering where the myriads of emails come from to keep us to date with our Activities, then here is the source.



Leigh Machin is our **Communications Manager**. Communication is “the process of conveying information, ideas, or feelings through various means, including speaking, writing, electronic signals etc, with the aim of creating mutual understanding”. As a **Past President** of Malvern Probus, Leigh’s early communications were often face to face for many years. Actually, he has been a significant contributor to the club for over 18 years. You could say Probus is his current career given the time, effort and the herding of cats he has delivered over the years. Unfortunately, health issues have restricted his face to face communication these days. But undeterred, he ably adapted to the new tech, i.e. emails, to keep us informed. You may notice these crop up in your inbox EVERY WEEK. This he does without fail, in good spirits and without much praise or reward. That’s just one reason he was honoured as a **Life Member**, and deservedly so.

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).

Monthly Bike Ride. The weather this time of year is not very conducive to riding. The cold and rain can easily spoil a good ride. So, the monthly bike ride is suspended until the weather improves. Stay tuned.

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 usually a flat route, no steep hills, at a pace that is comfortable. All are welcome. The group meets locally and walks for 45 minutes or so. Please contact Alan Bayliss, Ph. 0418 233 414, email gabayliss@hotmail.com or Greg Thompson, email gregthompson@gmail.com or 0438 826511

27th Aug: Malvern Probus is invited to visit Sackville Grange, 378 Cotham Rd Kew at 10.30am for a grand tour and morning tea. If we have more than 10 members present then they provide \$1000 to our coffers. So, if you would like to know more, have a friendly chat and morning tea, please contact Ian Connelly on 0419 368 088 or Cadillac.connelly@gmail.com

1st Sept: Art Group. This new group meets at 1.30pm on Monday 1st Sept. Please contact Michael Fitzgerald on 0408 286 797 or via email, michaelfitzgerald54@bigpond.com

2nd Sept: The first Tuesday Lunch in July is at Sichaun Legacy, 259 Glenferrie Rd starting at 12.00am. Please contact Richard Middleton via SMS on 0408 328 465 or email sunbeam@bigpond.net.au

3rd Sept: Theatre Night. ‘The Humans’ is a poignant, award-winning drama (Tony Awards, Best Play) that, with humour and compassion, explores the tensions and bonds in family life these days. ‘The Humans’ is warm, funny, uplifting and unsettling. Malvern Theatre Company presents the Victorian premiere of this modern masterpiece, dubbed as “kind, rich and beautiful”.

Book in advance with Jeffery Blight, 0437 665 234 or jeffery.a.blight@gmail.com and don’t forget to nominate to Geoff if you would like to go to dinner with our group beforehand at the Racecourse Hotel, walking distance from the theatre.

9th Sept: Investment Special Interest Group will be taking a break in September.

10th Sept: Golf Group. The Probus Malvern Golf group is underway, with the inaugural game on 20th August with five participants. The weather was great – the company was great – and the golf – well there were flashes of brilliance which augurs well for when the cobwebs are finally blown off. The start of the game was disrupted by major traffic delays, so Brian will be using the bike path in future with his fit for purpose trailer! We will play once per month, 9 holes, on **Wednesdays @ 10:00 am**. Next game is on 10th September, with a regular schedule still to be determined for the future. As the game must be booked and paid for a week in advance, please advise Brian by 2nd September at the latest if you want to play on the 10th Sept. And to "encourage" more players Brian has alternative **Facts Rules** for newcomers. See page 7 of your Bulletin. Please contact Brian on 0415 484 585 or brian@stiebel.me

11th Sept: Music Appreciation Group. The September meeting theme is "An afternoon of Beethoven". Please contact Chris Begg by phone on 0419 105586, or on ckpbegg@optusnet.com.au. Chris's address is Apt 208, Toorak Place, 28-30 Jackson St Toorak, 3142. Press key #208 at the front door and Chris will let you in.

16th Sept: The third Tuesday Outing is to the JAHM Art gallery located on the corner of Williams Road and Lumley Court Prahran. Street parking is available or it's a short walk from Malvern Road and High Street tram lines. JAHM Art gallery is a three-level building with an elevator to all floors. Meet at 10.50am for 11.00am guided tour.

The 2025 exhibition "MINIMAL", is rare opportunity to experience two exhibitions from two collections, exploring the same theme and providing an expansive and rich insight into abstract works revealing the artists' processes and thinking. Less is More Something is Nothing is a rich and fascinating opportunity to learn what a seemingly blank canvas can reveal and what abstraction tells us about our society. This is a serene and beautiful exhibition. You will be taken on a journey of discovery.

At the conclusion of our tour, we go to the gallery top floor to enjoy a light meal and opportunity to chat with the gallery owners. The cost including refreshments is \$30 per person.

Please pay to the Probus bank account, details below, using "JAHM", and book with Ian Connelly, mobile 0419 368 088 or email cadillac.connelly@gmail.com

30th Sept: Fifth Tuesday lunch: This entertaining lunch is our infamous Kelvin Club Lunch, known for the discussion and resolution of every important event in the world. A 12.00 noon start at the Kelvin Club for pre-lunch drinks, followed by lunch when everyone has arrived. It is held at the Kelvin Club, 14-30 Melbourne Place in the CBD (it's down an alleyway). This lunch is a classic! Please phone Richard Middleton on 0408 328 465 or email sunbeam@bigpond.net.au

Activity Payments. When paying via bank transfer for Probus activities, please ensure that you enter your surname under "Description or 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.

July Guest Speaker: Richard Middleton's detailed presentation on sustainable agriculture is accessible on our web site under "Meetings". Alternatively, Leigh Machin sent the presentation out on a recent email, July 23rd.

July Spotlight Speaker: Jamie McLeod told a joke on himself that would be hard to repeat herein. It was of a delicate nature. Ask Jamie.



Our Walking Group, bring an umbrella and your appetite

And then there is.....



Now I heard an unlikely story over coffee that Chris Begg took a trip with some friends up north, seriously up North. There was some scuttlebutt about exhaustive climbing over rocks for ages and really long 4 wheel drives etc. But after some clever detective work and concern from Alan Bayliss about a missing walker, we discovered that Chris took a wrong turn on one of Alan's Thursday walking groups and wound up as in this picture. Something about the Tip of Australia! An amazing trip.

I'm sure Chris has a different version but.....perhaps ask him! Possibly at the Music Group meeting.

Insurance - "The White Man's Burden"

In our increasingly litigious society, PSPL has revised its policies and procedures for Probus sanctioned events. Regrettably this is necessary for our group as a formal chapter of Probus.

Carlo Cerone has kindly provided members the following (edited for brevity) summary of our Probus Insurance Policies.

"The Program provides coverage for all participants in an approved Probus activity. Hence the need to keep attendance records at ALL Probus functions. These activities include any event organised by an accredited Probus Club or Association such as meetings, outings, tours, trips and interest groups.

The approval of the activity should be reflected in the Probus Club or Association minutes.

The Program has the following categories:

Personal Accident - this provides lump sum benefits and non-medicare related expenses if an Insured/Covered Person is accidentally injured whilst on approved Probus Club and/or Probus Association activities. Medical expenses that attract a Medicare benefit, whether claimed or not, are not covered under this Policy.

Public Liability – this protects Probus Clubs and Members if they are found legally liable (negligent) in causing bodily injury or damage to a third party's property. It is important to note that in the majority of cases, Public Liability coverage would be available through a third-party provider or operator of the activity, event or service that Probus Club members are participating in.

Association Liability – this is protection for Club Management Committee members in the event that they receive an allegation of wrongdoing or a wrongful act. Club Money – this is self-insured by PSPL and provides coverage to Probus Clubs and Associations for theft up to \$5,000 per Club or Association.

Risk Management – Effective risk management assists in ensuring the safety of participants and, in turn, the success of Probus activities. Although it is not mandatory to have a Risk Management Policy in place, PSPL recommends that Clubs and Associations implement a risk management process when approving activities. Please refer to the Risk Management Policy Guidelines and associated checklist in the Club Administration Section of the PSPL website.

Insured/Covered persons – This includes Probus South Pacific Limited, directors, staff and all accredited Probus Clubs, accredited Probus Associations and provisional Probus Clubs including members of those Probus Clubs and Probus Associations, honorary members, life members, non-active members, spouses and/or partners of these members, Probus Club self-assessed non-members, voluntary committees and voluntary workers.

Note: Guest speakers, visitors and/or participants in any organised or officially recognised activity of an accredited Probus Club, accredited Probus Association or PSPL are also included as Insured/Covered Persons under the Personal Accident and Public & Products Liability Insurance policies only."

Many Thanks Carlo

Of General Interest.....

This new section is for items of interest to our members. If you have something to say, present, discuss, which is relevant to our club's members, please contact your Editor.

This month I present a high-level positive perspective on AI. I shall present the negative perspective in next month's bulletin. Please feel free to contribute to a very serious subject.

Artificial Intelligence, What's in it for Australia?

The following is an edited communication from Scott Phillips, Chief Investment Officer, Motley Fool Australia.

"I know that I can't know the future. And I'm not going to make any specific predictions, either of outcomes or timeframes.

I am, however, going to share some developing thoughts on Artificial Intelligence. I simply underestimated, two years ago, just how quickly AI would develop and be put to work across the business landscape.

Atlassian and CBA have made workers redundant, citing AI as one of the reasons. Temple & Webster uses AI to write product descriptions and handle customer queries, saving the company \$4m per year as of last year.

It is being used to

- *write computer code and marketing messages.*
- *It can create images and songs.*
- *You can turn a document into a podcast and personalise it to your situation or business, to make it more digestible.*
- *AI can quickly find relationships in data that would take humans years... or which may never have been found at all.*
- *It can research, write, edit, suggest, refine and iterate.*
- *It will make many things faster, cheaper and better.*
- *But it will cost many jobs. Perhaps many, many, jobs.*
- *And it will make mistakes and amplify misinformation.*

The thing is... the train has left the station. The AI genie is well and truly out of its virtual bottle.

We could try to regulate its impact (and we should be mindful of how we can prevent misuse), but this is a global technology with no interest in national borders.

To restrict its use would simply put Australia at a significant competitive disadvantage and rob us of the positives.

I understand some people wishing it had never been invented (if that's even the right word), but the world can't unlearn Artificial Intelligence.

I would love to see humanity deal with some of the still-extant downsides of the progress we have made in the world, pollution, social injustice, wars, discrimination, etc – we're doing an imperfect job (to put it mildly) of dealing with them.

I don't think this time will be different.

And so, I think we have a couple of things to do, as members of society, and investors.

- *First, acknowledge and accept that change is underway.*
- *Second, think hard about what it might mean, and how we need to adapt.*
- *Third – and this is most vital – we need to start adapting, now.*

The AI Luddites will, I fear, just be plain wrong. But they're a small group.

The (large) group most at risk is the sceptics; the 'wait and see' crowd.

Don't get me wrong; I don't think we need to be on the bleeding edge here.

AI mightn't move as quickly as some think. And we don't need to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

But we do need to let the wave carry us, if we're to avoid being swamped by it.

It could lead to societal disharmony, if there is a noticeable and sudden surge in unemployment – a surge which is hopefully temporary, but could actually lead to a 'new normal' of permanently higher unemployment.

Or not.

But if you bet on the latter, and the former happens...we'll wish you were better prepared."

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Malvern Probus Beginners Golf Rules.....(Brian's Rules)

Rule 1. A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed in the fairway at a point equal to the distance it carried or rolled in the rough. Such veering right or left frequently results from friction between the face of the club and the cover of the ball, and the player should not be penalised for erratic behaviour of the ball resulting from such uncontrollable mechanical phenomena.

Rule 2. A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed not to have hit the tree. Hitting a tree is simply bad luck and has no place in the scientific game. The player should estimate the distance the ball would have travelled if it had not hit the tree and play the ball from there, preferably from a nice tuft of grass.

Rule 3. There shall be no such thing as a lost ball. The missing ball is on or near the course somewhere and eventually will be found and pocketed by someone else. It thus becomes a stolen ball, and the player should not compound the felony by charging himself with a penalty stroke.

Rule 4. If a putt passes over the hole without dropping, it is deemed to have dropped. The law of gravity holds that any object attempting to maintain a position in the atmosphere without something to support it must drop. The law of gravity supersedes the law of golf.

Rule 5. Same thing for a ball that stops on the brink of the hole and hangs there defying gravity. You cannot defy the law of gravity.

Rule 6. Same thing goes for a ball that rims the cup. A ball should not go sideways. This violates the laws of physics.

Rule 7. A putt that stops close enough to inspire comments, such as "You could blow it in", may be blown in. This Rule does not apply if the ball is more than three inches from the hole, because no one wants to make a travesty of the game.

From "Golf and the Game of Leadership" by Donald McHugh, contributed by John Vansetten

NEXT GENERAL MEETING.

Malvern Probus Meeting, 10.00am Tuesday 23rd September, 2025

Guest Speaker: Clive Duncan

Topic: A Retail Giant - Bunnings

Behind a successful man is his woman.

Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.

This space is empty awaiting your contribution