



PROBUS CLUB OF MALVERN INC

Victoria Australia

ESTABLISHED DECEMBER 1983

No A 00449646 ABN 29 679 181 543

Volume 42 Issue No 7



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

Malvern Probussouthpacific is part of Probussouthpacific Ltd. www.probusouthpacific.org

Private & Confidential – Privacy Act 1988: This document is for Probussouthpacific use only – not to be used for any other purposes.

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 28th OCTOBER 2025

President's Report: David Richards



The Lions 🦁 it is. Fitzroy yet again. Chris Fagan what a legend with Damien Hardwick right up his back side we can look forward to 2026 being another historical year of AFL football. At football I prefer to watch the barrackers; 'watching the crowd' it's a sport. 🏈

FRIENDSHIP, FELLOWSHIP & FUN is the Probussouthpacific motto. The spirit in our club motivates and inspires me. Our blokes share their wide range of experience generously developing enthusiasm, happiness and fellowship. Last month for me was catching fish; this month has been chasing the unknown. Just get on with whatever it is and be happy. Come and chat amongst your Probussouthpacific mates.

In September we welcomed Andrew Baldwin. Andrew follows in his father's footsteps asking interesting questions of members, guest speakers and whoever. Andrew is vision 🧐 challenged and welcomes you introducing yourself. He identifies you by voice recognition. Try it. You will enjoy Andrew's friendly enquiring mind. Let Andrew get to recognise your voice.

In October we hope to induct three new members. Frank Brody, Jeremy Pearse, and Sandy Aesch. All young blokes like you and I. Welcome them and make sure they enjoy Georgios Friday morning tea, chocolate, coffee or whatever; go out of your way to say high. Through meeting and greeting we can get to know all of us better when you come to Georgios for 🍷.

Vale: This month we say goodbye to our friend Dr Alex Wood. Alex was a urologist. An "active, and amusing" member. On one occasion he threatened to tie me up by the 'short and curly's' assuring me, being a urologist, he had the skills. Alex introduced my wife Robin and I to the Victorian Mental Illness Fellowship where he was a Director; he had three children impacted through various levels of schizophrenia now living 'normal' lives. At that time, 25 years ago, mental illness was poorly understood; Robin and I had no idea. We have become involved with the Florey Institute and included research into mental illness in our wills. Please feel free to discuss the Florey with me; another of life's experiences I will happily share. Mental Illness is a major condition in our society effecting 1 in 4 people one of which is our son Aly. Thanks Alex.

Speakers have again been outstanding, including the special event on our personal security, with Dr Tony Zalewski. Tony advised the best security plan is to “step away from trouble rather than walking into it”. He who runs away lives to fight another day. There is a significant shift in behaviour in the community. His advice is ‘NOT TO BE A HERO’. Please review Tony’s presentation. You will gain access via Leigh Machin’s email linking you to both his presentation slides and presentation video.

On to club activities. Based on “Ask and you shall receive;” the committee’s waiting for your topic of interest. We share many interests and concerns, your club is keen to help members gain an understanding wherever possible.

Cycling 🚲 is starting in December thanks to Jamie Macleod; En Plien Air Art Group 🎨 with Mike Fitzgerald continues; Richard Uglow’s Investment Group is showing a healthy return with the game returning over 60% over the 3 years; and 11 walkers turn up one day or another, great result Alan.

November 5, is a busy day with Richard booking Sugo for lunch. With several activities scheduled on the same day, thanks to Melbourne Cup. Remember to book the theatre “Perfect Wedding” with Jeff Blight.

The Christmas lunch at Riversdale Golf Club is booked for 2nd December 11.00 am to 3.00pm \$85pp. We look forward to seeing you there; provided you book your places.

October Guest Speaker: Clancy Moore

Topic: Transparency International Australia



Clancy Moore is the Chief Executive Officer of Transparency International Australia. He leads the Australian branch of the global anti-corruption coalition and has a long background in advocacy, governance, and international development. Clancy frequently appears in the media and lectures at Australian universities on corruption and governance. He is also a member of the Australian Open Government Partnership forum and the board of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

Key roles and experience

- CEO of Transparency International Australia: Since being appointed in 2022, Clancy has been a leading voice on anti-corruption issues in Australia, focusing on increasing integrity in both government and the private sector. He oversees a global mining program that operates in more than 20 countries.
- Advocacy for the extractive industries: Before joining Transparency International, Clancy headed the Australian arm of Publish What You Pay, a global anti-corruption coalition pushing for greater transparency in the mining, oil, and gas sectors.
- Extensive international development work: His nearly two decades of experience include working in leadership roles with international non-governmental organizations such as Oxfam, ActionAid, and UNICEF in countries like the Solomon Islands and Myanmar.
- Advocacy for human rights: During his career, Clancy has worked on campaigns to improve human rights and policy, advocating for issues including climate action, extractives transparency, and women's rights.

Chairman of the Day: Max Williams

Spotlight Speaker: Peter Penry-Williams

MEMBERSHIP

Vale, Alex Wood died on the 4th October. Please see the Presidents report for further details. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends

Birthdays in October:

Denis King	2nd	Chris Martin	4 th	Mike Wright-Neville	18 th
Roger Bourne	24 th	Wayne St Baker	25 th		

The membership as at 20th Oct is 82 (less three Life Members) thus leaving vacancies at 21.

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

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

ACTIVITIES

REMEMBER TO BOOK FOR OUR XMAS LUNCH, 2nd Dec. Phone Richard Middleton, 0408 328 465

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. It's usually a flat route, no steep hills, at a pace that is comfortable. Please contact Alan Bayliss, Ph. 0418 233 414, email gabayliss@hotmail.com or Greg Thompson, email gregthompson@gmail.com or 0438 826511

Monthly Bike Ride. Unfortunately, Jamie will be away, riding with his cycling club. So, watch out for the December ride.

5th Nov: Theatre Night The big day has finally arrived! In a few short hours, Bill and Rachel will be happily married. But when Bill wakes up in the bridal suite with a hangover, no memory of the night before, and a strange woman in bed beside him, he will have to think fast to save himself from disaster. When the best man arrives early, along with the chambermaid, and the mother-in-law, the only thing that could possibly make it worse would be for Rachel herself to ... well, your wedding day is a day you'll always remember!

With wild misunderstandings, hilarious mishaps, and loads of laughs, this frantic farce has delighted audiences in over 30 countries. You're invited to this 'Perfect' Wedding!

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

5th Nov: The first Tuesday Lunch is on a **WEDNESDAY**. (Nov 4th is Cup Day) Lunch is at Sugo, 105 Wattletree Rd, Armadale Vic, starting at 12.00am; just the other side of Glenferrie Road from our meeting room. Please contact Richard Middleton via SMS on 0408 328 465 or email sunbeam@bigpond.net.au

11th Nov: 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 and the consumption of Tim Tams. Contact Richard Uglow on 0408 574453.

12th Nov: Golf Group. The monthly Probus golf outing will be on Wednesday 12th of November – mid-morning – depending on available tee times. As always – a casual and social 9 holes. Bookings for tee times open 1 week before (and get snapped up very quickly) – so Brian needs to have your payment in his bank account by the previous Tuesday – i.e. 4th Nov in this case.

Green fees are \$20.50 per person, providing you have a concession card, or even the basic senior card. So please, don't delay. Pay Brian and Mary Stiebel, BSB 083-337 Acc: 519168547, or PayID 0415484585.

Please advise Brian by 3rd November at the latest if you want to play. And being a Probus group, coffee after the game is almost mandatory!

The October outing had an ominous weather forecast which reduced the numbers to 3 hardy souls, who saw out the brief rain patches but still had a great day notwithstanding.

13th Nov: Music Appreciation Group. The October theme is Musicals of the '50's and '60's'. Please contact Chris Begg by phone on 0419 105586, or on ckpjbeeg@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.

18th Nov: Third Tuesday Outing: We visit a local icon 'DULDIG STUDIO MUSEUM & SCULPTURE GARDEN' in Burke Road Malvern East (opposite Central Park). Step inside the former home & studio of sculptor Karl Duldig, artist, designer & inventor, and wife Slawa Duldig. Discover an extraordinary piece of Vienna lovingly preserved in Malvern where original 1930's artworks, furnishings & personal objects, offer a rare window into an emigree family story. We visit the family's original Viennese style apartment, artist's working studio plus a tranquil sculpture garden filled with sculpture works.

Our guided tour includes a short introductory documentary and Morning Tea featuring Viennese plum cake. The Guided tour costs, including morning tea, \$25. Please pay to the Probus account as below using "Duldig"). Only 20 tickets available, partners welcome. Please book with Ian Connelly on mob....0419 368 088

24th Nov: En Plein Air Art Group. This artistic group next meets on Monday 24th November usually at Burnley Gardens. Please contact Michael Fitzgerald via email, michaelfitzgerald54@bigpond.com or on 0408 286 797. Bring your own materials, chair, pencils, sketch pads etc. Feel free to come and watch, or, if you're feeling brave, critique! And keep an eye on Leighs emails for time and location.

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.

September Guest Speaker Clive Duncan has been with the Bunnings Group for 42 years and shared the history of Bunnings' transformation from a very small hardware company in WA to the largest and well-respected home improvement retailer in Australia. The first Bunnings Warehouse store opened about 30 years ago in Sunshine, Melbourne. When it opened, total revenue for Bunnings was \$430M, it is now just under \$20B, and of that 12c in every dollar goes to the bottom line, about double that for the big supermarkets and big retailers. Today there are 286 Warehouse stores in Australia and NZ, 65 small Bunnings stores, 37 Trade Centres, and it owns 140 Beaumont Tiles stores across Australia. There are 5 million customers/week, 55,000 team members, 2000 suppliers. They are part of the Wesfarmers Group; Bunnings represents 42% of Wesfarmers 4.6 billion turnover and contributes 60% of their profit. Bunnings started 139 years ago as a sawmill. In the 1950s their business was expanded to cater from housing development which was then growing in Perth. In early 1980s Bunnings bought out Alco Handyman and other local companies. Given that WA was only 10% of the Australian market, they

decided to expand to the eastern states. Then Wesfarmers bought out the family and became owners. Then Wesfarmers took over Melbourne based Cuming Smith, which opened operations in Victoria for Bunnings. In 1993, Bunnings bought McEwans in Melbourne and Clive moved from Perth to Melbourne with another executive and turned an 11 million loss the previous year into a profitable business in 6 months.

Clive related an early experience when he was on the David Jones floor during a visit by the Board, who didn't acknowledge the staff, and this set his view of management and staff relationships for his career. The move from small store to Warehouse came from a staff visit to USA (via a discount Disneyland package!) followed by a Healesville staff conference, where the future of Bunnings was developed. Principles included 'Lowest prices, Largest range, Best Service'. And no 'Sales' - if there is a need at home, you buy now, not wait for a discount sale - prices are already lowest (backed by a solid guarantee)! At the time, typical stock range was 8-10,000 different products, Bunnings Warehouses got to 40,000 items, including an 'all brand' strategy - no Home brands. Knowledgeable staff, DIY clinics and lots of parking. The first Warehouse in Sunshine opened a year later very successfully, and turned over \$22M in the first year; so Wesfarmers proceeded further in other states, but struggled in NSW. In 2001 there was opportunity to acquire BBC Hardware House. Their average store was turning over \$17m, cf Bunnings \$26m so BBC shareholders were OK to sell! This was actually a property acquisition and the NSW stores were rebranded within 6 months. Bunnings were having a weekend at Cape Schank when the news came that Masters was opening in 2 years, so they spent 2 days working out a defensive strategy! Masters strategy was later published - the intention was to damage Bunnings.

The project was called 'Oxygen' -sucking the oxygen out of Wesfarmers! They had problems getting staff, and sites. With 2 years warning, Bunnings secured best sites around Australia, and secured their staff so they would not be available to Masters. Clive ventured his opinions on Bunnings success in general. In 1993 when the first Warehouse opened, Australia was emerging from 17% interest rates and recession. House building was active, DIY skills common, but support uncommon, together with a trades shortage. Stores culture was a factor (eg: Clives first action at McEwans was for staff never to wear a tie). Executive staff visiting stores had to wear the uniform so as to be seen as part of the team, rather than a bit senior. This vision of simplicity was part of the success story to be seen as not the biggest, but the best. The supplier base was also regarded as part of the team, Clive remembered the McEwan success due to supplier support. Buyers had a budget to wine and dine suppliers, and to look after them eg: pick up overseas suppliers at the airport, to promote a 'partnership approach'. Advertising consistency, distinctiveness was important. Offerings have also developed to be easier to DIY - ie: from basic components to semi and easy assembly. The sausage sizzle started by accident via a ladies cake stall and a footy club wanting to make some money. Now over 8 million sausages are sold each year! Management of each store is empowered to spend money in the community through local activities. Bunnings does not make large donations - this is part of the philosophy. Part of this philosophy is to do things differently, such as pay structures allowing working day flexibility, B&W catalogues - distinct from competitors colour, no hierarchy in the organisation, and executive teams asked to work in a store each month to learn what goes on. In conclusion, Clive announced he had 4 \$20 gift cards for those who answered his questions correctly. So who had remembered his talk? (Summary by WL (John) Johnson)

Spotlight speaker - John Waters

John spoke about his own career as a partner of Mallesons Stephen Jaques and about the founder of that firm Alfred Malleson. John completed law and commerce degrees at the University of Melbourne and started work as a young lawyer at Norris Collins and Barry Jones. He then moved to Mallesons where he had an enjoyable and rewarding career. He was a partner of MSJ for 22 years and always practiced in the field of commercial litigation. It was an interesting time for the big commercial law firms due to interstate mergers, the introduction of computerisation, new areas of law such as trade practices and the enormous growth and internationalisation of Australia's corporate sector. John referred to a history the firm had published privately last year which traced the firm's history back to the 1850's and, in particular, to Alfred Malleson who was the firm's first long term partner. Alfred Malleson had

arrived in Melbourne in 1857 as a 26 year old lawyer and quickly established himself in what was then a booming market for legal work. In 1858, he did the legal work to establish NAB and was the principal witness in a court case between rival investors in the bank. NAB remains a major client of the firm. Since retiring from the firm John has held a number of directorships and is currently a director

Pictures from October Activities.



Our Members at the NAB Museum, a trip down memory lane

And the walking group, or should we say coffee group, swells each week.



Special Member Interest Presentation – Personal Security

On October 7th we had another Special Member Interest Guest Speaker, **Dr Tony Zalewski JP**. Tony discussed issues around the increase in crime in Victoria and the steps we can individually take to increase our personal security.

For those who missed this presentation or simply wish to refresh themselves with Tony's advice, Leigh Machin has emailed all our members with a zoom copy of Tony's presentation and the Q&A session. See your email inbox dated October 8. In Addition, Dr Tony Zalewski has a book out – "An Introduction to Operational Risk Management". As yet, I have not seen or read this book. If anyone has read his book, would you please contact the Editor on ric.hallgren@gmail.com

Amongst other topics, Tony spoke to...

- Recent crime statistics
- Securing our persons, i.e. personal alarms etc
- Securing our homes, i.e. locks, alarms,

- Should we try to defend ourselves, some members have asked about weapons
- What to do when attacked
- What to do when a home invasion occurs
- Who to call and what information to pass on
- What happened to Neighbourhood Watch
- Who to talk to, what's the next step, e.g. installing a security system or whatever.

Of General Interest.....

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

Australia is implementing new legislation to restrict access to some social media for individuals under 16, which will take effect by December 2025, requiring platforms to take steps to prevent underage accounts. The law aims to protect young people online, and platforms have a 12-month period to develop and implement age-verification systems. In the meantime, parents can limit access by setting time boundaries, using parental controls, and moving devices out of bedrooms at night.

There have been those who praise the initiative and those who realise that young people have ways of circumnavigating restrictions. This attempt is best viewed through a risk management/mitigation perspective. If the initiative saves some lives, diminishes those who suffer from mental abuse and increases face to face communications skills overall, then the initiative is worth it. Australia's initiative has countries watching its implementation and results world-wide.

Australian legal restrictions

- Minimum age: Social media platforms are required to prevent users under 16 from creating accounts.
- Implementation timeline: This law is expected to be fully implemented by December 10, 2025, giving platforms one year to comply after it received Royal Assent in December 2024.
- Penalties: Platforms that don't comply could face significant penalties.
- Platform coverage: The law defines social media broadly and is expected to include platforms like Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, Snapchat, X, and potentially others like YouTube, Roblox, and Discord.
- Exemptions: Some services, such as those primarily for messaging, gaming, or educational and health-related purposes, may be exempt.

Parental (Grandparent) controls and strategies

- Set time limits: Establish firm time boundaries for social media use.
- Use parental controls: Utilize built-in parental controls on devices and apps to restrict access at certain times or for specific content.
- Create device-free zones: Make bedrooms device-free, especially at night, by moving devices to a central location.
- Engage in regular check-ins: Have open conversations with young people about what they are seeing and experiencing online.
- Monitor passwords: For younger children, parents can insist on knowing passwords and having access to their accounts.

In the meantime, consider-

- What is the difference between social media and a rottweiler? At least you get the kids back from a rottweiler.
- Golden rule of social media: "Tweet others the way you want to be tweeted".
- Facebook is now hiring! No need to apply, we already have your details.

- What's the opposite of social media? Social life.
- If it weren't for my wife, I'd probably be writing depressive Facebook messages all day. But she changed my password.
- Social media is like waking up in a mental asylum. You have no idea you're committed until you try to leave.

Green Energy

A probus member asked about **Green Energy**. This topic is increasingly in the news as the old school coal generated electricity is now more expensive than “green” electricity and also as the detrimental impact on the air and climate of coal becomes more well known.

Green energy (also often called sustainable or renewable energy) means power from sustainable, natural sources like solar(sun), wind, and hydropower that are naturally replenished and cause minimal environmental harm, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and lowering carbon emissions. Green energy specifically emphasizes the natural, low-impact nature of the energy source itself, focusing on sustainability and an eco-friendly approach. The key characteristics of **green energy** are-

Naturally Replenished:

- The sources are natural resources that don't get depleted over time.
- Eco-Friendly: The processes for creating and using green energy are designed to have a low or no environmental impact, producing heat or electricity without significant pollution.
- Sustainability: Green energy is a sustainable alternative to non-renewable fossil fuels, which take billions of years to form.

Examples of green energy sources:

- Solar Power: Harnessed from the sun's abundant rays.
- Wind Power: Generated from the natural movement of the wind.
- Hydropower: Produced from the flow of water, such as rivers and dams.
- Geothermal Energy: Derived from the heat within the Earth.

Why green energy is important:

- Reduces Pollution: By not releasing pollutants like those from burning fossil fuels, green energy helps to improve air and water quality.
- Combats Climate Change: Shifting to green energy sources helps to reduce the carbon footprint and lessen the impacts of climate change.
- Minimizes Environmental Damage: Green energy avoids environmentally damaging processes associated with non-renewable resources, like drilling and mining.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING.

Malvern Probus Meeting, 10.00am Tuesday 25th November 2025

Guest Speaker: Paul McDonald, CEO Anglicare

Topic: Youth Justice, Family and Domestic Violence

REMEMBER TO BOOK FOR OUR XMAS LUNCH, 2nd Dec.

Phone Richard Middleton, 0408 328 465 then

Pay \$85 p.p. to our Probus account using “XMAS”