



PROBUS NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the Probus Club of Wheelers Hill

October 2025 Volume 40 Folio 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Probians,

Firstly and (hopefully you read this BEFORE Friday!) I would like to mention that our next meeting this Friday 6TH October is NOT at the normal venue. Instead, it is at the **Youth Community Centre in Miller Road, Mount Waverley**. So please DO NOT turn up at the Wheelers Hill Library!

Regarding guest speakers and the books that many have written and bring with them to our meeting, I hadn't realised, but our Secretary has informed me that we do in fact purchase a book from any visiting Guest Speaker for the enjoyment of our members. This does not preclude you from also buying your own should you so desire. Books purchased become part of our Club Book Exchange.

COMING UP.... **Vice President Val** has kindly offered to open her home for a Sunday musical afternoon on **Sunday October 19th**. Bring a plate and whatever you would like to drink...also a CD of your choice should you so wish.

I know it seems early, but it's time to start thinking about Christmas. Our **Christmas Lunch** was such a success last year at The Village Green, it is to be repeated at the same venue on **Friday December 12th**. Please check out Doreen's table and put your names down should you wish to attend. A flyer has already been sent out by our Event manager, Doreen.

We recently enjoyed another of **Paula's Wine and Cheese** afternoons. Good company and a nice mix of food nibbles, which included some yummy smelly blue cheese, and of course, Paula's delightful sausage rolls. Everyone is most welcome and should perchance a musician / pianist turn up...there is a piano. Many of us sing but no musician as yet!

It's a beautiful time of year, pretty blossoms and the soft green of new growth, everything is waking up and colour is coming back into our gardens. Nesting birds and the odd kookaburra landing on our back fence and laughing at us...it's just lovely. Looking forward to some warmer days and sunshine.

Cheers everyone, stay well and happy if you can!

See you all on Friday at the **Mt Waverley Youth Community Centre**.

Kindest regards,
Rose Randell
President



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2nd – Raelene Smedley; 22nd – Doreen Hall.

DUTY MONITORS for OCTOBER

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Door: | Laurie Fraser Alva Purkiss |
| Tables set up: | Committee Members |
| Tea Table: | Elizabeth Fraser |
| Coffee Table: | Jan Hills |

Should a member be unable to attend on the above date, kindly inform **Noel Heather** on 0407 668 941.

We appreciate the support of the **City of Monash**, which meets the costs of our two meeting venues, and **Carina Garland MP**, whose office prints our newsletter.

Probus Club of Wheelers Hill Inc.
Reg No. A15650M
Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Glen Waverley
Founded 10 July 1987 Incorporated 7 March 1988

President: Rose Randell 0409 744 854
Secretary: Ian Wood 0411 259 650
Email: whprobus275@gmail.com

Meets 10:00am on the 2nd Friday of each month at
Wheelers Hill Library, Cnr Ferntree Gull & Jells Rds
Postal address: PO Box 3118 Wheelers Hill 3150
Emergency contact number during meetings: 0414 627 049
Banking: BSB 083 266 Acc.No. 03545 0191
Website:
<https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/wheelershill/Home>

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER, 10:00AM

Members are reminded that due to renovations at the Wheelers Hill Library, the October meeting **ONLY** will be held at:

**MOUNT WAVERLEY YOUTH CENTRE,
45 Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley.**

**PARKING and ENTRY to the hall are via
HOLSKAMP ST at the REAR. Turn into
Holskamp St from Stephenson Rd.**

Don't forget your **Name badge** and a **\$2 coin** for morning tea.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

President Rose welcomed 39 members and extended a warm welcome to 3 visitors – **Lidia, Lien and Zita.**

SERVICE PINS

President Rose presented Service Pins to two members, **Peter Russell** and **Ian Wood.**



Peter Russell was presented his **30 Year pin** by **President Rose**, along with a **bottle of red** to celebrate this commendable achievement of participation and service in the Club. Peter very ably convenes the monthly Chat Group.



Secretary Ian Wood was presented with his **10 Year Pin** by **President Rose.**

BIRTHDAYS



Vice President Val presented birthday chocolates to **Alva, Peter, Colin, George and Jan.**

SPEAKER

DARREN ARNOTT

Prisoner of War Camp, Rowville

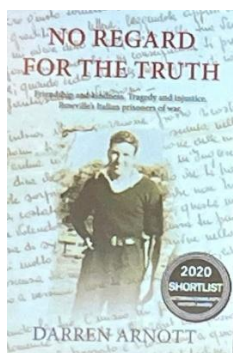
Speaker **Darren Arnott** was welcomed by **Colin Goodrem IPP**. A long-time resident of Rowville, Darren recalled hearing stories as a child about the POW Camp that existed in the area during WW2. The camp was situated near the intersection of Stud and Wellington Roads, opposite the Stamford Hotel and diagonally opposite the now 7 Eleven. Concrete stumps of the original cabins can still be seen in Starlight Reserve off Stud Road.

His curiosity piqued by the stories he had heard, Darren went on to research the camp in adulthood, eventually publishing *'NO REGARD FOR THE TRUTH: Friendship and kindness. Tragedy and injustice. Rowville's Italian prisoners of war'*.

Arnott follows a number of official inquiries into the question of whether a tragic shooting of Italian POW Rodolpho Bartoli was justified or not. There were certainly questions about how the camp was run. Along the way, he discovered a love story between Rodolpho and a local girl Nora.

Shortlisted for the 2020 Victorian Community History Award – and currently available through our book exchange – the text is also available at Dymocks and online bookstores.

Darren was thanked for his fascinating research and insights into local history by **Sheila Mallia**.



UPCOMING SPEAKERS

October – Tony Danino, Electric Vehicles Present and Future

November – Anne Pateman, The Strength Within

Colin Goodrem
IPP – Speakers

*Thinking
of you*

WELFARE

This month we celebrate the fact that by and large our members are doing well.

If you, or another member is unwell, please let me or a member of the Committee know.

If necessary, we can arrange transport for member who might have difficulty accessing club activities.

Anne Dunstone (0408365542)
Welfare Officer

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Members are reminded that the Club offers the facility to carry your emergency contact information (2 contacts) in the hopefully unlikely event that you become ill or incapacitated during a Club meeting, activity, outing or trip.

We encourage you to take advantage of this facility for your own peace of mind.

Emergency Contact Forms can be collected from Secretary **Ian Wood**. Pick one up at a General Meeting. Forms are held by the Secretary and are accessible, if required, by members of the Committee of Management.

We currently have **53** members.

We expect some visitors at the next meeting, so please make them feel welcome. Please help us to find new members to ensure the future of our club by following up friends and acquaintances. Tell them about Probus.

Updated contact details – Please advise me of any current, and future (as they occur), changes to your contact details.

Lost badges – If any member has lost their badge, please contact me and I will replace it at a cost of \$13.00.

Medical Record Card – For those members requiring one, I will have copies of the Medical Record Card at the next General Meeting.

Godfrey Gin
Membership Officer

\$100 Power Saving Bonus

The Victorian Government has announced a new \$100 Power Saving Bonus program for eligible concession card households to help ease cost-of-living pressures.

To be eligible, households will need to:
Have a recent residential electricity bill
Hold one of the following concession cards:

- Health Care Card
- Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Gold Card; and
- Only one payment per household is available.

Applications can be submitted on this website, over the phone, or through a participating community organisation.

<https://compare.energy.vic.gov.au/>

*The first three letters of 'Sweden' and 'Denmark' spell 'Sweden'.
The remaining letters spell out 'Denmark'.*

WINE and CHEESE



Ten members and two guests gathered for Wine and Cheese on **Thursday 18th September**. In attendance were **Paula, Elizabeth, Laurie, Doreen H, Rose, Noel, Raelene, Craig, Carol and Sheila**, and there were several apologies. As usual, good company, conversation and Paula's legendary sausage rolls and cake contributed to a successful event.



Laurie, Elizabeth, Paula and Doreen.



Paula cutting the birthday cake, with Laurie, Elizabeth and Carol.



Rose and Noel lead the singing of 'Happy birthday'.

CHAT GROUP

On **Monday 1st September**, the Chat Group held our usual monthly meeting at Mulgrave Country Club.

Clearly the early coffee is proving popular as the majority of members arrived before 9.45am. We were delighted to welcome **Jan Smart** for her first visit which lifted our attendance to 14 members.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 6th October 2025** in the lounge at Mulgrave Country Club and we welcome any of our Probus Club members to come along and join us.

Peter Russell
Convenor



Paula, Noel, Rose, Val, David and Ian.



Val, David, Ian, Raelene, Craig and Aziz.



Graeme L, Peter, Len and Jan. (Thanks once again to **Godfrey** for the photos.)

There was a piece of chocolate cake in the fridge with a note, "DON'T EAT ME!"

Now there is an empty plate with a note, "DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO!"

STROLLERS

Eleven members gathered on **Thursday 25th September** for our monthly stroll. As always, it was a friendly crew that gathered to walk and chat.

Members are welcome to come and enjoy the exercise, or just sit, chat and soak in the serenity, and of course enjoy coffee afterwards at Paul's Patisserie at the Wheelers Hill Shopping Centre. For new attendees, we start at the table next to the Lake behind the Wheelers Hill Library, at 10 am.

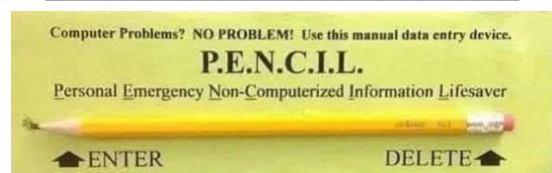
Barry Cronan
For the Strollers



Colin, Len, Jan, Rose, Noel, Morris, Barry, Sheila, Paula, Joan (and Barry behind the camera).



Jan, Rose, Morris, Barry, Paula, Barry, Colin, Joan, Noel and Len.



OUTINGS AND EXCURSIONS



Badge reminder

A reminder to wear your name badge at all meetings, activities and outings.



Payment for Outings

If you normally prefer to pay any monies due via deposits to the Club Account, then please continue to do so. The Bank Account details are listed on the front page of the Newsletter. Make sure to include your **name** and **activity** when you make the transfer.

For those members who prefer to pay cash at meetings, please note that there will be **pre-printed envelopes** available on the Registration table at each monthly General Meeting. We suggest you take 2-3 envelopes so you can complete these at home with the correct amount and also save any queries or delays at the table.

Doreen Allison
Outings and Excursions Officer

Me: What's the wifi password?

Bartender: You need to buy a drink first.

Me: Okay, I'll have a coke.

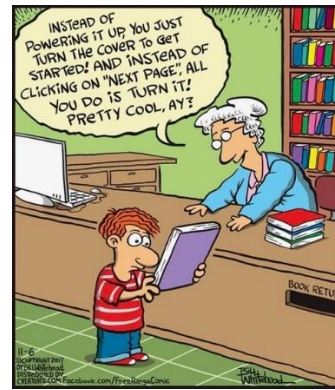
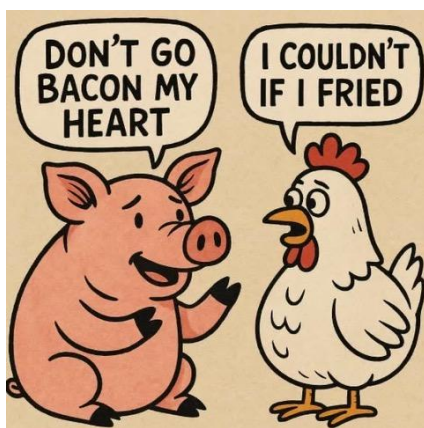
Bartender: Is Pepsi okay?

Me: Sure. How much is that?

Bartender: \$3

Me: There you go. So, what's the wifi password?

Bartender: You need to buy a drink first.
No spaces, all lowercase.



When I complained to Amazon about a missing parcel they asked me to send photographic evidence.



*Last night my wife asked me if I'd seen our dog bowl.
I said I didn't know it could.*

A Look At The Change In Phone Booths Over The Years



THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to all who contribute to the Newsletter, including Doreen Allison, Carole Carless, Barry Cronan, Anne Dunstone, Graeme Findlay, Carol Gaida, Tina Gem, Godfrey Gin, Colin and Joan Goodrem, Noel Heather, Marj Lampard, Robert Maslen, Rose Randell, Peter Russell, Paula Slamet, Craig Smedley, David West and Ian Wood.

Contributions to the Newsletter are most welcome.



Club Service Roster for 2025 – 2026

| A | B | C | D | E |
|------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 2025 | Entrance door monitors for the group attendance record, and collection for Tea/ Coffee 2 DOLLAR donation PLEASE ARRIVE CLOSE TO 9:15/ 9:30 | Arrange meeting tables & seating and later replace into store.... PLEASE ARRIVE CLOSE TO 9:30/ 9:45 | Tea table- set up and serve at break then Deliver empty cups and load dish washer PLEASE ARRIVE CLOSE TO 9:30/ 9:45 | Coffee table- set up and serve then Deliver empty cups and load dish washer PLEASE ARRIVE CLOSE TO 9:30/ 9:45 |
| October | Laurie Fraser and Alva Purkiss | Committee members | Elizabeth Fraser | Jan Hills |
| November | Alan Morris and Peter Russell | Committee members | Pauline Coe | Jan Smart |
| December | CHRISTMAS LUNCH | | | |
| 2026 | | | | |
| January | Aziz Abazzaz and Carl Kelsen | Committee members | Dawn Neuweck | Arlette Pat |
| February | Colin Goodrem and Barry Crittle | Committee members | Joan Goodrem | Sheila Mallia |
| March | Morris LePage and Tony Hills | Committee members | Anne Dunstone | Jan Hills |
| April | Tony Hough and Graeme Findlay | Committee members | Tina Gem | Elizabeth Fraser |
| May | Godfrey Gin and Ivor Stephens | Committee members | Carol Gaida | Carole Carless |
| June | Len Smart and Craig Smedley | Committee members | Jan Smart | Raelene Smedley |
| July | Graeme Little and Peter Russell | Committee Members | Tina Gem | Anne Dunstone |
| August | Barry Cronan and Godfrey Gin | Committee members | Doreen Hall | Pam Browne |
| September | Creagh Bown and David West | Committee members | Lorraine Mussett | Sheila Mallia |

Should a member be unable to attend at the above date, kindly inform Noel Heather on 0407 668 941.... Thank you.

Instructions for Set-Up and Morning Tea are posted on the wall in the kitchen.

We are always grateful for the many members who arrive early for meetings to assist set-up.

Probus Club of Wheelers Hill

What's On 2025



| | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|--|---|
| October | Thursday | 9 | AIRPORT Outing | Details from Doreen. Bookings essential. |
| | Friday | 10 | General Meeting (change of venue) | Mount Waverley Youth Community Centre, 45 Miller Cres, Mt Waverley |
| | Sunday | 19 | Musical Afternoon NEW! | 2:00pm – 4:00pm. Details will be emailed. |
| | Tuesday | 21 | PAV Friendship Day | Details from Doreen. |
| | Friday | 24 | Strollers | 10:00am, Wheelers Hill Library lake, followed by coffee at Paul's Patisserie. |
| | Monday | 27 | Coffee and Conversation | 10:00am, Café Verdi, Brandon Park S.C. |
| | Mon – Fri | 27-31 | 5-Day CANBERRA Trip | Details from Doreen. Bookings essential. |
| November | Monday | 3 | Chat Group | 10:00am MCC Lounge area |
| | Friday | 7 | Committee Meeting | 10:00am, Brandon Park Community Centre |
| | Friday | 14 | General Meeting | 10:00am, Wheelers Hill Library, Meeting Room |
| | Wednesday | 19 | Water Treatment Plant, Rose Garden, Werribee | Details from Doreen. Bookings essential. |
| | Thurs | 20 | Wine and Cheese | Details will be emailed. |
| | Monday | 24 | Coffee and Conversation | 10:00am, Café Verdi, Brandon Park S.C. |
| | Friday | 28 | Strollers | 10:00am, Wheelers Hill Library lake, followed by coffee at Paul's Patisserie. |
| December | Monday | 1 | Chat Group | 10:00am MCC Lounge area |
| | Friday | 5 | Committee Meeting | 10:00am, Brandon Park Community Centre |
| | Friday | 12 | CHRISTMAS LUNCH | Village Green Hotel. Bookings essential. |
| | Sunday | 21 | Musical Afternoon TBC | Details will be emailed. |
| | Friday | 19 | Strollers (note change of date) TBC | 10:00am, Wheelers Hill Library lake, followed by coffee at Paul's Patisserie. |
| | Monday | 29 | Coffee and Conversation TBC | 10:00am, Café Verdi, Brandon Park S.C. |

NOTE: For **essential bookings**, sign on at the outings table, or book directly with Doreen.