



Combined Probus Club of St. Helena Inc.

Incorporation No: A00048111V

Fellowship, Friendship and Fun

November

Newsletter

**Monday
17 November
2025**

(entry from 9:30am)

**Please do not attend if
unwell**

**General Meeting
10:00am**

**Guest Speaker
Marilyn Martin**

Venue and Meetings

**RSL Greensborough
111 Main Street,
Greensborough**

on the 3rd Monday of each
month, 10:00am, unless
otherwise advised

Postal Address

P.O. Box 131, Briar Hill, 3088

Email Address

Email 1008013sh@gmail.com

Club Website

<https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/sthelenacombined>

Next Meeting

Monday 15 December
At 10:00am



President's Message

October has been and gone in the blink of an eye. However, it did bring with it a very enjoyable caravan/cabin trip to Moama for 45 of us. We can now add the word "fabulous" to our alliteration of Fun, Friendship & Fellowship, because that sums up our time away together. David Wright, who was ably

assisted by Chris Kelly, put a huge amount of time and effort into making our experience a memorable one. Thanks go to these two gentlemen for yet another fabulous (there's that word again) trip. We enjoyed 2 wonderful dinners at local pubs, happy hours, barbeques, lunch at a winery and golf.

Unfortunately, our Cup Eve afternoon tea had to be called off due to the foul weather. I've heard what some of our members had already made to take and it's fair to say that while it was very disappointing to have to cancel, there will be a lot of bathroom scales that won't be flashing "one at a time please".

At our last meeting I had great pleasure presenting "20 year" badges to 18 of our 20 Foundation Members, being - Laurie Butcher, Pat Cartwright, Wendy & John Cornish, Jack Davies, Shirley & Ron Gates, Marg & Don Gowers, Irene Lane, Alyson & Bruce Lohrey, Irene Marks, Dot Nickson, Lorna & Arthur Sandford and Bev & John Stevens. Unfortunately, Lois Beevis and Wendy Macdonald weren't able to join us on the day. It's thanks to all these people and their efforts that we can enjoy this great Club 20 years on - may there be many more. And what a great excuse to have cake.

As mentioned at our meeting last month, our membership is now at 116 with offers of membership having been extended to 4 people from our waiting list. Hopefully these people will be inducted at either our November or December meetings. This will put our waiting list at 9.

Kaye

CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

Early notification that the **FEBRUARY** meeting will now be held on **Monday 09 February** at Greensborough RSL.

Contributions for
December issue to
Pat Cartwright
by Wed 5 December

BIRTHDAYS

Trevor Cameron 0455 281 740



To Ron Gates, Dianne King, Dot Nickson, Maureen Shewan and David Whiteman



GUEST SPEAKERS

Fred Harrington OAM 0417 116 304 fred.harrington@techinfo.com.au

October - Julie Armstrong "Hope in a Suitcase"

Sincere thanks to all members who contributed items to the Hope in a Suitcase program.

As mentioned at the meeting, should members wish to donate further items, they can be given to our member, Bev Sexton, who will deliver them directly to her neighbour, Julie.

Any donations of **brand-new** items from members, to place in children's suitcases, would be appreciated. Items from baby to 16 include sleepwear, underwear, outerwear, windcheaters and hoodies, toys, drink bottles, crayons/coloured pencils/textas.

A full list of items that can be donated is on their website: <https://www.hiasc.org.au/>

NOVEMBER – Marilyn Martin

Marilyn will discuss the reasons for writing a life story and how to prepare it with an emphasis on encouraging members to write their life stories, some tips, and resources available.

Fred



Presented with 20 year pins (Foundation Members), plus Lois Beevis and Wendy Macdonald

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TRIPS and TOURS

Phil Ciravolo 0409 940 468 ciravolo@netspace.net.au

NOVEMBER – Thursday 20 - 10:00am to 2:30pm – Beleura House and Garden Tour

1 Tallis Drive, Mornington

A reminder that we park at the Mornington Golf Course and Beleura will transport us to the property in 2 mini-buses. Trip is only 3 minutes away. I encourage you to check out the website for more details <https://beleura.org.au>

Phil

WALKING GROUP

Garry Solum 0417 274 421 garrysforklift@hotmail.com

NOVEMBER – Wednesday 19 at 10:00am – WILTON VALE (MIDDLE GORGE) PLENTY

RIVER WALK – LAST WALK OF THE YEAR

Map 184 -A4

If coming from Bundoora along Plenty Rd turn right at Hawkstowe Pde then right into Wilton Vale Rd and continue to end. There are plenty of kangaroos, maybe even an albino one, and lots of bird life along the river. Coffee at **Moon and Back**, 2/795 Plenty Rd, South Morang (near Spotlight).

Thanks to everyone who has attended this year. I hope you have enjoyed them and walks will resume February 2026

Garry

STRATHALLAN GOLF

Don Gowers 0474 209 278

Any member interested in a relaxing nine holes of golf, followed by a social cup of tea/coffee, please join our regular group of Probus members **EVERY** Tuesday at the Strathallan Golf Club, 100 Main Drive Bundoora. Our normal tee off times are between 8:00 and 8:30. New players - please phone or e-mail.

Don

THEATRE

Heather Wilson 0409 137 043 mrsraw48@gmail.com

- **A Booking Form is required for EACH person attending.**
- **Theatre outings are primarily for Probus members, then friends (provided they are Seniors).**

Pre-Payment is required for all **Theatre** and should be paid into the **Trip Account**

See details on the Payments Page of the newsletter.

FEBRUARY – Wednesday 11 at 1:00pm – “Anastasia”

\$72

Regent Theatre, 191 Collins Street

Click on this link to access the booking form for **Anastasia** or contact me.

<https://forms.gle/A3UqGubFG9GZxhnQ6>

17 November meeting - Deadline for cheque/cash payment, using a pink slip
(cheque preferred or correct money)

17 November - EFT payment deadline, using Payment Code **ANA** [Surname, initial]

Heather Wilson

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DINE OUTS / ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER – Thursday 11 at 12 noon to 4:00pm – CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON \$60

Heidelberg Golf Club, 8 Main Road, Lower Plenty

You are invited to join us at the Heidelberg Golf Club for our end of year celebrations. Please join us for a fun day – *bring your dancing shoes or singing voices!* The \$60 is inclusive of a traditional 2-course Christmas lunch, together with entertainment.

****Please note: The Heidelberg Golf Club is cashless so drinks must be purchased with a credit or debit card on the day.**



Click on this link to access the booking form for **Christmas Lunch 2025**

<https://forms.gle/6H3uwsZochjPWZcB7>

27 November - Bookings due

17 November - Deadline for cheque/cash payment (at general meeting)

27 November - Deadline for EFT payment Payment Code: **XMAS** [Surname,initial]

If you have any enquiries, please contact Sue or Phil

Sue & Phil Ciravolo

0408 993 523 or 0409 940 468

ciravolo@netspace.net.au

JANUARY – Thursday 8 at 9:30am – SLICES AT DOREEN BRUNCH

1/80 Hazel Glen Drive, Doreen

This dine out was quite popular last year, so we have decided to do it again.

There is an entry to parking under the building from the side street or there is parking in side streets. I will have menus at the next two meetings so you can choose your breakfast **as we will pre-order.**

The mains will be \$15 or less, plus extras and drinks.

We will be in an upstairs room again but there is an elevator.

Click on this link to access the booking form for **Breakfast at Slices Restaurant Doreen**

<https://forms.gle/HNZkHD7rUv6tLQGs9>

02 January - Bookings due

Jan Baker

0438 194 400

stujanb@bigpond.net.au

FEBRUARY – Friday 20 at 5:00pm – BAREFOOT BOWLS & BBQ DINNER

\$25

Heidelberg Golf Club, 8 Main Road Lower Plenty Melway 21 A9

Bowling and BBQ dinner included. Drinks are at bar prices.

Tea and coffee available.

Click on this link to access the booking form for **Barefoot Bowls:**

<https://forms.gle/NragPMWKK6k2yPN7>

09 Feb - Bookings due

09 Feb - **At Probus meeting** - Deadline for cheque/cash payment (cheque preferred or correct money)

09 Feb - EFT payment due EFT Payment Activity Reference Code: **BOWLS**

Fran and Colin Wilson

0410 698 225 cfwilson11@bigpond.com



Continued.....

.....Dine Outs / Activities Continued

APRIL 2026 – Thursday 23 at 12 noon – LUNCH AT HIGHLANDS HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN

Cnr Aitken & Grand Blvd, Craigieburn Ph. 8358 7000

\$27.90 – International Buffet – Payable at the venue on the day

You are invited to come to Craigieburn for a pleasant buffet lunch. Please click on the following link to register your wish to have a great smorgasbord lunch.....

<https://forms.gle/ohKNiYPJ1Qixe81C8>

The Highlands Hotel is 33 km from the RSL. Further travel advice will be provided individually to all attendees via email.

Chris Kelly 0417 571 588 chrisnshirl@bigpond.com

CARAVAN and CABINS GROUP

Chris Kelly, 0417 571 588, chrisnshirl@bigpond.com and David Wright 0438 740 353

MARCH 2026 – Tuesday 17 to Sunday 22

BIG4 Ingenia Holidays Queenscliff Beacon

78 Bellarine Highway Queenscliff, Victoria

Phone: **03 5258 1133**



If you wish to join the group, please ring the park and mention **Group Booking No 56390** and make an appropriate booking. Please then **advise Chris Kelly of your booking.**

At the moment we have 46 members heading to Queenscliff and an empty waiting list.

OCTOBER 2026 - Tuesday 20 to Sunday 25

BIG4 Traralgon Park Lane Holiday Park

<https://www.parklaneholidayparks.com.au/traralgon/accommodation/cabins>

If you are interested, please send an “**expression of interest**” email **TO CHRIS KELLY** quoting all the information Chris has requested in the email sent to all members.



Regards

Chris Kelly & David Wright

Convenors – Caravan and Cabin Group

0417 571 588

OUT AND ABOUT

Caravan & Cabin Moama Riverside Holiday Park Report

By Tuesday dinner time 43 members had arrived at Riverside Park in Moama. The weather was cool with light rain. Boy scout Garry lit the home-made pot belly stove and soon constant heat was produced in that corner. Happy hour drifted into dinner, but not before David welcomed members to our 53rd trip. Newbies Robyn and Jim were named and welcomed.

The open-air (on 3 sides camp kitchen worked well for dinner with the BBQs adding to the warmth). It was an excellent start to the trip.

Continued.....

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..... Caravan & Cabin Moama Continued

Wednesday morning saw around half of the members gradually drift into the camp kitchen for breakfast. Conversations continued on from last night as the rain gradually became more consistent and the temperature dropped. Plans for the day were discussed.

The evening meal at the Border Inn Hotel was excellent with the parmas mostly being taken home in 'doggie bags', as they were huge.

Thursday started badly with the *Canberra* having some fault and both river cruises were cancelled. Lunch at Morrison's Winery eventuated thanks to member transfer by bus. Refunds were offered for our members and that is in process. Some accepted a free cruise that afternoon or the next day.

Thursday dinner was a BBQ pack provided by the caravan park that seemed to contain the wings and legs of the parma-chickens from the previous night. It was a huge cooking effort by Ron, Phil and Chris. Members enjoyed sausages, hamburgers, chops and plenty of chicken, plus three salads. The camp kitchen was only open on two sides as someone closed the roller-door.

Friday morning saw the best weather of the week with eleven golfers tackling the Echuca Back 9 Golf Course. David Wright was the winner on 23 points, with Chris Kelly runner up on 22 points. Golf prizes were donated by Nancy LaMotte. We thank Nancy for her generosity.

Dinner at the (Irish) Echuca Shamrock Hotel was another enjoyable affair. It was a bit weird that they ran out of wine glasses.

A number of members headed home on Saturday while the remainder started with a BBQ breakfast and various trips around the area. A number headed to "The Great Aussie Beer Shed and Heritage Farm Museum'. It is an amazing place that is run by an amazing character.

The final dinner was attended by around 23 members, again in the camp kitchen heated by the pot belly wood heater. Entrée was left over chicken wings and freshly cooked BBQ pork ribs for all interested members. Dessert was ice-cream and topping for those with a sweet tooth. The evening was a much quieter affair than was Tuesday evening.

Over the week, most members wandered the streets of Echuca and/or Moama and/or went for drives to places like Picola, Kyabram, Tongala and Rochester. The silo/tank art was a popular viewing item. A few members also headed home via Colbinabbin. The silo art there is very impressive.

It was a wet drive home for remaining members on Sunday. Some were disappointed to find out that a power outage in Heathcote prevented the Bakery from being able to provide coffee.

Another good trip

Chris Kelly



*Dave 'n' Chris at
Happy Hour*

Friendly natives



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Beer Shed

A MESSAGE FROM YVONNE LOCKWOOD

To all the beautiful Probus knitters

A very big thank you to everyone for such a FANTASTIC result in knitting the KOGO squares. I collected 106 squares from you wonderful people at Probus and another 40 from friends making a total of 146 squares!! A great achievement!

Here is the message I received from the lovely lady who organised it all.

"We are delighted with the response we have received for the KOGO Challenge. Your help of 146 squares from St. Helena Probus and your friends has taken us well over the 400 target we aimed to achieve. Please pass on our thanks to all your helpers and let them know our total was 582 Squares which will make either 19 Cot Blankets OR 12 Adult Blankets.

Thank you again, your kindness is very much appreciated."

Yvonne

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PIYADA THAI MACLEOD

Thanks to Alyson and Bruce for arranging this scrumptious 3-course banquet. The food kept coming and we kept eating it, pausing for lots of quite noisy conversation. A great night.



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FUTURE OUTINGS and ACTIVITIES

Weekly: Strathallan Golf every Tuesday

Please wear your name badge at social functions so you can greet members by name

NOVEMBER 2025			MARCH 2026		
Mon	17	Probus Meeting	Mon	16	Probus Meeting
Wed	19	Walk: Plenty River Walk (Wilton Vale, Middle Gorge)	Wed	18	Walk: NO WALK
Thu	20	Trip: Beleura House & Garden	Tue-Sun	17-22	Caravan and Cabins: Big 4 Ingenia Holidays Queenscliff Beacon
DECEMBER 2025			APRIL 2026		
Thu	11	Dine Out: Christmas Luncheon	Wed	15	Walk:
Mon	15	Probus Meeting	Mon	20	Probus Meeting
Wed	17	Walk: NO WALK	Thu	23	Dine Out: Highlands Hotel lunch
JANUARY 2026			MAY 2026		
Thu	08	Dine Out: Slices at Doreen Brunch	Mon	18	Probus Meeting
Mon	19	Probus Meeting	Wed	20	Walk:
Wed	21	Walk: NO WALK			
Mon	26	Australia Day Function			
FEBRUARY 2026			JUNE 2026		
Mon	09	Probus Meeting – change of date	Mon	15	Probus Meeting
Wed	11	Theatre: <i>Anastasia</i>	Wed	17	Walk:
Wed	18	Walk:			
Fri	20	Barefoot Bowls			

BOOKING AN ACTIVITY AND PAYMENTS FOR ACTIVITIES

• STEP 1 – BOOK

Note: this STEP 1 is required before undertaking STEP 2!!!!

Each activity has its own Booking Form. Click on the link in the newsletter. **A separate booking is to be submitted for each person OR** book direct with the organiser.

• STEP 2 – PAY

EFT payments are made to the Trip Account; one payment per activity, quoting the advertised EFT Payment Activity Code and showing Surname and Initial (or initials, if for 2 people) **OR** pay at a Probus Meeting by cheque or correct cash and submitting two Pink Slips, filled out in full.

Apologies: If you are unable to attend a meeting please submit an apology to
Lorraine Jelley 0419 547 941
ljelley@hotmail.com

Welfare: Please advise **Jan Spiden** if you are ill or know of another member who may not be well so the club can keep in contact and offer support. The Road to Recovery may be mentioned at a Probus meeting, but medical condition details are not made public without prior approval of the member.