



Dear friends, what a month this has been! Great tragedy has befallen many at Bondi and I am convinced that many of you have wondered what has happened to this great country of ours. I am sure that we will rise above this with hope in our hearts and a determination to bring positive thoughts and actions to all our fellow members and to the community where we live.

Wishing you a joyful and uplifting Christmas, filled with laughter, love, and cherished moments with family and friends. May the spirit of the season bring you peace, hope, and a renewed sense of gratitude for all our blessings. Here's to making beautiful memories and to looking forward to a bright and wonderful New Year ahead.

Let's celebrate what made 2025 special. We are again indebted to Carmel Sanderson who has used her considerable talent to capture moments from many of the activities we have enjoyed over the last twelve months. Thank you Carmel. Merry Christmas!



On Monday 5th May we had a one-day mystery coach tour. Our destination was Meredith. We began with a tour of the Meredith History Group exhibition featuring 3-D sculptures among the many varied exhibits. Morning tea was served in a shearing shed where we were entertained by our driver who very competently sheared a sheep. An impromptu piano recital followed, given by the amazingly talented property owner (and shearer).

The Little Creatures brewery tour on the 29th of May offered a fascinating glimpse into the art and science of beer-making. While the common imagery of great steaming vats and bubbling cauldrons may ignite the imagination, the reality proved to be a sophisticated blend of stainless-steel pipes—countless in number—and advanced computer-controlled systems. What might seem like a sterile process was transformed into an engaging and informative experience, highlighting the meticulous craftsmanship behind every glass of beer.





On June 26th, we embarked on a delightful one-day outing to the Lara Museum and Historical Centre, an experience steeped in history and charm. The day began by enjoying Devonshire Tea with scones, clotted cream and jam, while a very knowledgeable volunteer regaled us with a detailed history of the museum.

The Grovedale Marshall Probus Club holds Australia's Biggest Morning Tea each year and raises vital funds to make a big difference for those impacted by cancer. Funds we raise go to the Andrew Love Cancer Centre in Geelong, which provides adults living in the Barwon Southwest region access to world-class cancer treatment.

\$480 was raised this year for this great cause. Thank you to all our generous members.

A huge thank you to our wonderful morning tea angels for this month, Carmel and Jill, plus Viv who made the sausage rolls, Barbara who made the apricot balls, Glenda who made the savoury scones and Jill who made the sandwiches. It was a great spread.



On July 24th, forty-two members of the Grovedale Marshall Probus Club enjoyed a great day with morning tea then a "Christmas in July" lunch with entertainment at the Shell Club.

Many of the more energetic members did an exceptional job of the "hokey cokey". No injuries were reported!!



It was a great privilege to welcome Dr James Mullins (AM) From the CFA as our guest speaker in August. Dr Mullins is Honorary Associate Professor, Deakin Research Office, Office of DVC Research, and founding researcher and Chief Technology Officer of Deakin's FLAIM Systems.

FLAIM's virtual firefighting training system is deployed with customers across emergency services, defence and training organisations in 45 countries. Last year, James was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his service to science and the community through an emergency service response organisation.

Brioche Café was the natural setting for a high tea enjoyed in August: sophisticated yet relaxed, a space in which friendships can blossom over pots of tea and plates of warm scones. Nestled along a bustling street in Newtown, Brioche Café is a local gem, loved for its ambient charm and commitment to artisanal baking. The aroma of fresh pastries greeted our members at the door, while sunlight occasionally streamed through broad windows.



August was the month when many members were seen trying to outscore each other at ten pin bowling. Barbara Lane achieved the highest score (114).

The editor didn't see our club champion Lawrence Glynn anywhere on the scoreboard photos!!!! (but a little bird told her that he was going by the name of Loz (94))!!!

The Grovedale Marshall Probus Club celebrated its 10th birthday in September. Thanks were expressed to all the Founding members who took part in sharing some of their life's highlights with the members. They were Jacqui Berris, Maria Borracci, Trish Whiteley, Viv Buchanan, Wendy and Merv Poyner, Sue Howard, and Helen and Robert Palmer. Unfortunately, there was insufficient time to hear from Lawrence and Shaaron Glynn.

It was the President's great pleasure to award a Certificate of Appreciation to Founding Member Sue Howard for carrying out the duties of Treasurer for 8 years and for organising Christmas lunches, representing the club at Zoom meetings, organising occasional day trips, maintaining the Membership register, lucky door prize purchasing, Post Office collection and liaising with head office re administrative matters for many years.



On Friday 24th October, those members who describe themselves as "rev heads" enjoyed an amazing visit to the "MG Museum of the Marque". This is a private museum located in Belmont and owned by Ray and John Abikhair. The museum displays over 40 MG cars manufactured between 1914 and 2000 to tell the brand's story. Ray is a sprightly 88-year-old who after serving us morning tea, regaled us with the history of many of the beautiful cars. This collection is possibly the largest and most comprehensive collection of MGs in the world.

On Thursday 30th October, our Werribee Zoo outing was attended by 22 members in 6 cars. Grateful thanks to all the drivers even though a few got lost getting there. We had a wonderful day with perfect weather and saw many interesting animals (including some very sleepy meerkats).



Following our fantastic cruise and lunch aboard the Hygeia Party Boat last year, we chose to host our Probus Club Christmas lunch on the Hygeia this year, making it a truly memorable celebration.

The impressive 37-metre catamaran offered another enjoyable cruise around the bay, where we spotted seals and indulged in a great roast chicken lunch, all under perfect weather conditions. Our intrepid photographer Carmel spotted these three newer members of our great club out on deck.