



Deepdene Combined Probussouthpacific Club

Volume 12 Issue 6

For Events please deposit amount into Probussouthpacific Account with reference: 'yournameEvent' (Space for 18 letters available.)

Payments for events may be made through

Probussouthpacific Secretary:
Janet

Probussouthpacific Treasurer:
Angela

Welfare Officer:
Maureen

Anything you would like to put into the newsletter? Please send to editor: Marian

Thank you Marian for conducting the meeting in my absence on Monday.

Welcome to Warwick Honeycombe our new member.

I am currently at the *Torvill and Dean 50th anniversary show*. Just goes to show if you remain active and doing something you enjoy you can achieve anything. Now I do not expect our members to pull on a pair of skates and hit the ice, but let's all make the most of everyday doing something we love. Stay warm and safe.

Cheers,

Wendy



The Sorrento Fire Festival.
Saturday 21st June. 2025.

The *winter solstice* will occur this coming Saturday on June 21, and it will be the shortest day and longest night of the year.
Melbourne: 7.35 a.m. sunrise and 5.08 p.m. sunset.



Please look up our expanded Webpage!

The URL of The Deepdene Combined Probussouthpacific Club website is:
<https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/deepdenecombined>

Guest Speaker:

Monday 21st July:
Bolton Clark

Topic: Emergency response, cardiac arrest and use of Defibrillator

Our website is run by the Web Master Michael. He has taken on the task of maintaining our website and ensuring it is kept current.

If you have a query or a suggestion to make, please let Michael know at [xxxxxx](#)
Feed back is very welcome. It's your web site not the committee's.

Michael



Deepdene Combined Probud Club

GUEST SPEAKER

16th June 2025: Emeritus Professor Richard Broome on “The Lanes of Melbourne”.



Prof. Richard Broome, AM, FAHA is an Australian historian, academic, and emeritus professor of history at La Trobe University, Melbourne. He is known as an authority on Aboriginal history in Australia. Until recently, he had also been the President of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) for six years. Richard has been the author or co-author of over 20 books, and talked to us about one of his latest, ***“The Story of Melbourne’s Lanes: Essential but Unplanned”***, published in 2024. It is the second (expanded) edition of the work published in 1994 by Richard’s colleague, Weston Bate, entitled *“Essential but unplanned: the story of Melbourne’s lanes”*.



Richard grew up in Sydney, but is comfortable with becoming a Melbournian, a useful trait in someone who studies the intricate social and physical characteristics of places such as the laneways of inner Melbourne. Richard pointed out that *Homo sapiens* folk have always made meaning of their lives through stories of people and places, including the built environment. Localities have vitality. Studies show that given areas have layers of meaning, put down by successive users over time, be they humble and small, grand and large, or anywhere in between. Our knowledge and understanding of a place is gained from these layers.

The lanes of central Melbourne were not on the original plans made by Surveyor Robert Hoddle. His grid pattern included only main streets; the “little” streets were added at the request of the Governor, but not lanes. Then, there was a land sale boom: speculators subdivided Hoddle’s big blocks and new businesses grew up, with rich and poor intermingled. The sectors developed according to function, class and race, but the one thing they all needed was access to their properties. Laws were created to provide access and by 1856, 192 lanes had been created, 80 of them named.

The city area became packed during the goldrush period of the 1860s and some of the areas became rather chaotic and disorderly, with a reputation for being unsavoury and unhealthy (unlike the “respectable” suburbs, which were becoming more popular). Calls were made in the 1880s for the regeneration of the lane areas, led by the city council’s health department, churches, the press and the Board of Health. Slum clearance was begun, and drains, paving and lights installed, all made imperative by the imminent Melbourne International Exhibition (Oct. 1880-Apr. 1881).

By the 2020’s, Weston Bate’s book on the Lanes of Melbourne was out of print, so Richard Broome and his colleagues felt it was more than time for a new edition. Some of the original photographs were no longer available, so the second edition was re-imaged, using available old photos and new ones as “then” and “now” illustrations, giving great insight into the layered usage of the lanes. Every image has a story, as does every lane. Watertank Lane, for instance, still includes the water tank used from 1894 to 1982. Robert Fleming, butcher, is remembered in Fleming Place. The Shot Tower looks very different in its dome today.

An interesting point is that Richard persuaded the volunteer members of the U3A Camera Club to take over 3,000 images of the “new” lanes. Just 150 were used in the book, but the rest make up a new and valuable collection for the RHSV archives.

Richard is very pleased that this book fulfils all the core functions of an RHSV project: it investigates culture and Victorian history, increases the RHSV collection, promotes volunteering and partnerships (e.g. with U3A and State Library of Victoria), and improves funds! I think the RHSV, which was established in 1909, is a non-government and not-for profit organisation, with 1,200 members and an “umbrella” to 350 other historical societies, would agree!!

Thank you for a very interesting talk, Richard. I’m sure we’ll look at Melbourne’s lane with a new eye from now on.

Janet



Deepdene Combined Probud Club

For Further Reading:

*Essential but unplanned : the story of Melbourne's lanes / Weston Bate. Melbourne : City of Melbourne : State Library of Victoria, 1994

*The Story of Melbourne's Lanes: Essential but Unplanned / Weston Bate, Richard Broome, Nicole Davis, Andrew J. May, Helen Stitt. Melbourne : RHSV and State Library of Victoria, 2024

*Remembering Melbourne : 1850-1960 / Richard Broome. Melbourne, Victoria : Royal Historical Society of Victoria Incorporated, 2016

All books are held by Boroondara Library. (Dewey Class No. 994.51)

POST MEETING LUNCHEON

Our June 16th post-meeting luncheon was held at the *Olive Lane Café*, Balwyn North. Nine members attended and enjoyed some yummy food and great conversation. But we were a little concerned about the wind ghost that kept opening the back door. Brrrr.....

Marian

MONTHLY MEETINGS, GROUPS, OUTINGS & WALKS What we have done....

WALKING GROUP

Thursday 22nd May

RED BRICK CAFÉ TO ACORN NURSERY

What a wonderful walk today with eight members braving the early morning cold to complete our last walk for autumn. Well rugged up, we met at Red Brick Café to complete the lane walk to Union Road and then on to *Acorn Nursery*.

We were lucky to be accompanied by one of our mascot pooches, Cooper.

Lunch on the deck at *Acorn Nursery* was greeted with sun shine, hot tea and coffee and some wonderful food.

Everyone agreed, it was a picturesque walk with amazing autumn colours on display, and beautifully restored, vintage architecture to view and discuss.

A lovely day with great friends.

Monday 2nd June

BALWYN LIBRARY TO THE BOULEVARD CAFÉ MONT ALBERT

Four club members met at the Balwyn Library to walk to the *Boulevard Café* in Mont Albert. The weather was cold but the sun was a welcome addition to the day.

A fifth member met us on Mont Albert Road and joined our enthusiastic group. One of our doggy mascots, Cooper, set the pace and we made great time to snag an outdoor table at the *Boulevard Café*.

On arrival at the Café we were joined by a further club member, so six club members made a very sociable group to enjoy lunch in the sunshine.

This was a great way to enjoy the first week of winter.

Julie

BOOK CLUB

"Muster Dogs" by Lisa Millar

A cheerful crowd of 14 were at *The Baker & Me* for our book club discussion. Twelve have read the book and most had seen at least part of the ABC's three seasons of Muster Dogs.

As always, it was a lively discussion with some reminiscences by those who came from a farming background and also about pets known in the past.

The book was generally well received with an overall score of 8.5 but some found it disappointing in the way it was written and in the fact that it was prepared by TV presenter rather than a professional author. It was felt this detracted from the telling of the story.

All found the dogs, the trainers, the people behind the scenes fascinating and all expressed an admiration for the farmers on the huge properties in the different states. We were in awe of how they coped with the problems arising from their remoteness especially when out of range of any communication as we know it. It's a concept far removed from what city dwellers know.

It was a book a bit different from our usual fare with many concepts included in the story which gave pause for thought. A great response from everyone.

Lucy



Deepdene Combined Probus Club

KOGO

Our Deepdene Probus knitters have started up again for our 2025 contribution to KOGO. Five members met on the 26th May to start our annual group knit-up! (Cups of tea and coffee as well as biscuits included to cheer everyone along)

If you are unable to knit but would like to help, contributions of 8 ply, pure wool would be gratefully appreciated. The balls or hanks of wool do not have to be new. Any half used, left over balls or hanks, as well as any unraveled pure wool yarn can be re-worked by our knitters.

Julie

MOVIES

The Salt Path

Six members went to see this month's movie selection: *The Salt Path* based on the 2018 memoir, nature, and travel book (of the same title) by Raynor (Ray) Winn.

Moving backward and forward in time we discover Ray and her husband Moth (recently diagnosed with Corticobasal degeneration aka CBD) are now homeless due to investing a "substantial sum" into a company owned by a friend. They lose everything and must move out of their farmhouse within days. To give themselves 'thinking time' as the bailiffs are bashing on their farmhouse door, on eviction day, they decide to 'walk' the South West Coast Path, in South West England (630-mile or 1,010 km), following the steps of 'Paul' from a guide book.

What follows are their extraordinary travels. We see them learning to adjust to this on-the-move, foreign lifestyle, the life lessons and experiences they have along the way and how to survive on forty pounds a week.

Eventually they become quite expert at this lifestyle and develop 'the look'; they are *salted*. And Moth's health improves, not deteriorates as predicted by the specialists. Moth is still alive and doing well (2025).

A really interesting movie. We then walked to a new café nearby for lunch: *Petit Peace Coffee Shokudo* (食堂, shokudō casual café serving inexpensive Japanese dishes). Good food. Lovely staff. A very enjoyable day out.

Marian

OUTINGS

Martin Grant Exhibition

On Thursday 12th June, three cold (but brave) members attended the stunning *Martin Grant* Exhibition held at the NGV-Ian Potter Gallery.

Firstly, our free guided tour was fantastic. Our guide was a contemporary of Martin's in Melbourne's 'rag-trade' days. Her knowledge was so deep and amazing; little anecdotes and facts were so enlightening. Her understanding of Martin's working and professional life were so insightful.

Secondly... the clothes. Oh, they were so beautiful and classical. Even though he is known for using a 'limited colour pallet' that is not how you experienced his clothing.

His concept of a '*good design is always a good design, so reinvent it over time*', was really well illustrated by how the collection was collated.

Lastly, his joy of working (collaborating) with the same group of people over a long period of time was evident. Especially working with his photographer 'Polly'.

He is also a very generous man, aware of his working roots and training, giving rise to Martin donating two very extensive sets of his clothing collections and their associated memorabilia. He still has more to donate... but is not quite ready to hand over certain special pieces yet. But when he does, they will also be given to the NGV. This means they will own the most extensive Martin Grant Collection in the world. The pièce de résistance was the final display room. Set in a moody dark grey with stunning gowns hung from the ceiling, so as to allow you the full 360 degree viewing of each gown. Glorious!

We then strolled to the other end of Federation Square and had a yummy Japanese lunch @ Chocolate Buddha.

Marian



Deepdene Combined Probus Club

MONTHLY MEETINGS, GROUPS, OUTINGS & WALKS Coming up.....

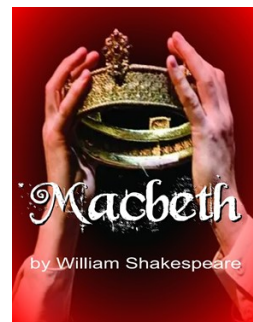
PLAYS

Saturday 21st June

Our third play for 2025 is ***Macbeth***. As one of the most well-known plays by William Shakespeare Macbeth embarks on a ruthless quest to become King of Scotland. Many will probably be well acquainted with this play given its prominence in upper secondary English classes over many years.

For those of you who don't know much about Macbeth (I'm one of them) it's a story, of unchecked ambition, witches and ghosts, castles and swordfights and harrowing exploration of crime and guilt, power and corruption. Come along and find out how much or how little things have changed over some hundreds of years.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY EMAILING ME AT xxxxxxxxxx NO LATER THAN MONDAY 16th JUNE 2025.
FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE VERY WELCOME.



Our remaining 2 plays for 2025 are:
6 September 2025: THE HUMANS
8 November 2025: PERFECT WEDDING

If you think you might like to attend any of these other plays, just let me know as per my contact details and I'll put you down on our booking lists. There's no obligation if you change your mind as I'll verify your booking BEFORE I finalise our block booking with the theatre.

Co-ordinator: Michael

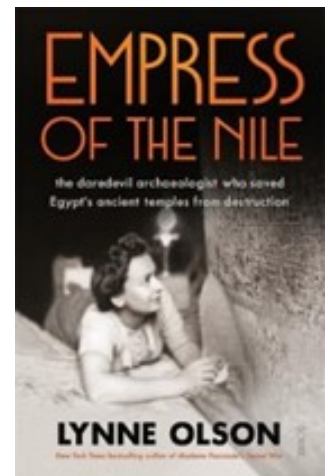
BOOK CLUB



Book for June (Noela)
Empress of the Nile
by Lynne Olson
Date– 23rd June @ 11.00 a.m.

Book for July (Neva)
Girl Falling
by Hayley Scrivenor
Date- 28th July @ 11.00 a.m.

Book for August (Marcia)
Storm Child
by Michael Robotham
Date-25th August @ 11.00 a.m



Co-ordinator: Neva

KOGO

KOGO Square-a-thon

On Monday 23rd June, after our Book Club meeting and lunch, we will meet at Julie Vango's house for a knitting afternoon to support KOGO (Knit-One-Give-One). If you are interested in joining this afternoon knit-up, you will be required to bring a ball or lengthy pieces of 8 ply wool plus a pair of 4mm (Size 8) knitting needles.





Deepdene Combined Probud Club

Please email or tell Julie and if you plan to attend.

If you are unable to join the group but would like to participate by making knitted items at home, KOGO are seeking scarves, beanies, socks, gloves (including fingerless), children's jumpers and cardigans, knitted toys, cot and pram blankets, baby cardigans (not Jumpers) as well as baby beanies and booties. For more information about KOGO and how you might support this organization please visit:

<https://www.kogo.org.au>

Co-ordinator: Julie

MOVIES

Wednesday 25th June @ 11.00 a.m.

Jane Austen Wrecked My Life

A lonely bookseller, immersed in fantasy, must pursue her writing aspirations to improve her love life. She's compelled to turn her dreams into reality to stop sabotaging a romance.

In one write up the movie is describe as 'delightful and witty'.

In French and English

Running time: 1 hr. 34 min

Diary dates for 2025 are: June 25th; July 23rd; August 27th; September 24th; October 22nd; & November 26th.

These Outings to the *Golden Years* screenings on the 4th Wednesday of the month. **Meet** at Ticket Office @ 10.45 a.m. and buy your own ticket. We may arrange lunch afterwards among yourselves.

Co-ordinator: Marian

WALKS

FRIDAY 4TH JULY (LONG WALK asphalt and gravel)

Start: 10.30 a.m.

Meet: Frog Hollow Reserve, corner of Culliton Road & Fordham Avenue Camberwell

ROUTE

We walk north through the reserve to Shalless Drive and then cross the railway line at Willison Station. We continue along Lansell and Orrong Crescents to Camberwell Road, then along Camberwell Road to Tyrone Street and then to George Street. We then cross the Hartwell Station Reserve to reach *Fordam Café*, our Pit-stop (116/118 Fordham Ave, Camberwell)

The return walk is through Hartwell Station Reserve, along Tyrone Street to Gilbert Parade and then on through Fairmont Avenue Reserve and Willison Park. We then follow Culliton Road under the railway bridge and arrive back at the starting point.

Co-ordinator: Julie

OUTINGS

Mid-winter lunch

Date: Monday 7th July 2025

Where: *Pavillion - Auburn Hotel*. 85 Auburn Road, East Hawthorn. VIC 3122

Time: 12.30 p.m.

Join us for winter cheer and upbeat conversation at the above venue. Bring your friends as all are welcome. This is the same venue we were at last winter and I made it a Monday as they have more senior specials available than the rest of the week, including the lamb pie which a lot of you enjoyed last time. Prices for the senior's specials are approx \$22-00.

You can order by QR code or at the counter and pay individually for meals and drinks. Be wary of parking signs nearby as there are lots of restrictions. The Auburn railway station is opposite the hotel as an alternative.

Please sign the attendance sheet if you or friends are coming and there is an attached menu as a guide. If you cancel or are coming unexpectedly, please SMS me on my mobile as I will confirm the number to the hotel a couple of days before.



Deepdene Combined Probud Club

The booking is under Lucy/Deepdene Probud Club.

Coming Up:

August, Friday 29th: 10 Pin Bowling
September: Police Museum
October: Ferry to Port Arlington \$27-00

Co-ordinator: Lucy

NEXT MEETING

Monday 21st JULY 2025, meeting commencing at 10.00 a.m.

Venue: *St Aidan's Church*, 17-21 Duggan Rd, Balwyn North.3104

Guest: Bolton Clarke

Topic: Emergency response, cardiac arrest and use of Defibrillator



MORNING TEA ROSTER

DATE	NAME
21-07-2025	Heather
18-08-2025	Lucy
15-09-2025	Vivienne
20-10-2025	Janet
17-11-2025	

We really need some people to sign up for Morning Tea Volunteers please.

Co-Ordiantor: Neva