

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF BLACKBURN SOUTH INC.

Club Bulletin

No. 378

5th July 2023.

Registration No. A0029946T

The Club meets at 10:00 am on the first Wednesday of every month (except Dec and Jan.)
at the City of Whitehorse Horticultural Centre, 82 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill.



All correspondence to: The Secretary, P.O. Box 620, Brentford Square, 3131.

Web address: www.probusblackburnsouth.org.au/

Club Bank A/C BSB 633 108 - A/C No 151023272 (Bendigo Bank)

Committee Members

President	Mary Burton	9722 1249
Vice President		
Past President	Ree Dowling	0410 478 304
Secretary	John Hally	0411 314 218
Treasurer	Bob Grierson	9887 1431
Editor	Nelsa Counsell	8809 0313
Guest Speakers	Beryl Pakes	9897 3454
Services	Kath Thompson	9817 5546
Welfare	Ree Dowling	0410 478 304
Outings		
Events Co-Ordinator		
Publicity Officer		

Diary Dates

Next Meeting	Wednesday 5 th July
Coffee Club	Every Friday 3:00 pm
Golf	Every Friday 9:30 am
Discussion Group	Monday 17 th July
Christmas in July	Tuesday 18 th July
Ladies' and Men's Luncheon	Wednesday 23 rd August
Lilydale Theatre	Wednesday 12 th July
Bulletin Deadline	Friday 22 nd June



Hello Everyone,

I don't know about you but, to me, the last month seems to have gone by very quickly. I've been spending time in the garden on the very few fine days and sitting by the fire catching up on my reading on the rest.

The days are now getting longer as the winter solstice was on the 22nd of June, but we still have a way to go before it's noticeable.

Keep smiling and stay warm and think about supporting your club by volunteering your services on the committee.

We are still needing a Secretary and Vice president.

Trivia for the month: Did you know that cats once delivered mail in Belgium?
(I think they stopped it because the cats kept falling off their bikes.)

AFTER MEETING LUNCH

Knox Club, 480 Boronia Road, Wantirna South

BIRTHDAYS – JUNE

Best wishes to the following members.

Bruna Rosaia 5th
Beryl Pakes 13th
Chris Stott 28th

Keith Wickins 5th
Doug Westcott 23rd
Jan Roche 29th

Alan Hunter 8th
Lyn Williams 24th



SECRETARY'S REPORT – John Hally 0411 314 218

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING: Our next Monthly Meeting will be held at the Whitehorse Horticultural Centre, 82 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill on Wednesday, 5th July 2023 commencing at 10:00 am.

CORRESPONDENCE: Proms Concert – “The Legends of Brass” Sunday 6th August at The Ivanhoe Centre, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road. Tickets \$30. Brochures on counter

TREASURER: - Bob Grierson 9887 1431

Club Bank Account: BSB 633-108 Account No 151023272

(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF BANK A/C)

Make sure that your name is registered with the deposit.

WELFARE: - Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Sue Needham – 0412 356 082 Sue is recovering at home after surgery and two weeks in the hospital. She was diagnosed with a brain tumor which was removed and was fortunately non-malignant. She is hoping to be back at our meetings and events in August.

Peter Rasmussen – (Mary 0427 057 638) Peter is moving permanently to Regis Blackburn Residential Aged Care, Central Rd Blackburn as of Thursday 29th June.

ROSTERS - JULY to SEPTEMBER

Before the meeting would all volunteers please read their copy of the “Monthly Meeting Volunteer Procedures” and bring that copy to the meeting.

MEETING VOLUNTEERS ROSTER

Before Meeting Set Up and After the Meeting Pack Up & Lock Up

July	Alan Hunter	Nelson Knight
August	Rolf Arnoldi	Keith Wickins
September	Ken George	Colin Sando

Welcome and Directing to Sign-in Desk

July	Keith Hawthorne	Kath Hawthorne
August	Jaya Shah	Chris Stott
September	Cushla Appleby	Val Nixon

Attendance Recording

July	Joyce Wickens	Keith Wickens
August	Keith Booth	Col Rogers
September	Dot Browne	Lois Cheevers

Mentor to Visitors

July	Val Nixon	Dot Thompson
August	Christine Hunter	Dennis Birt
September	Catherine Pratt	Bruna Rosaia

Morning Tea Team

July	Sue Needham	Jenny Birt
August	Mike Bamfield	Gerry Burton
September	Gilly George	Mike McGorlick

Please arrive for duty by 9.15 am

If you are unable to attend Roster Duty, please initially try to exchange with another member; failing that, please contact Mary Burton ASAP - 0458 866 991.

GUEST SPEAKERS: - Beryl Pakes 9897 3454

August – The speaker is Harish Shah, one of our own members, a keen student of British Indian history.

PRELUDE

Year 1942.

Japanese Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita attacked Singapore on 8th February, with 35,000 men. The defender, Lieutenant General [Arthur Ernest Percival](#), had 85,000 men and Singapore was considered to be an invincible fortress and yet, he surrendered unconditionally on 15th February. That was while Gen. Yamashita himself was considering a withdrawal from the island of Singapore!

The photo depicts Gen Percival being led by a Japanese Officer to sign the surrender treaty.



There were 22,000 Australian soldiers in Singapore. 14,972 were taken prisoner. Of the remaining, some died fighting and others escaped. Among the escapees was Major General Bennett; two post-war inquiries found him to be unjustified in leaving his command.

The loss of almost a quarter of Australia's overseas soldiers, and the failure of the Singapore Strategy had stunned the country.

Amongst the POWs, there were 45,000 Indian soldiers of the British Indian Army. They had left their homeland and loved ones to fight for their oppressors and defend Singapore. They were demoralised and felt debased and betrayed by their surrender under order by the meek British command.

Gen. Percival was well placed but surrendered after just five days of fighting. In stark contrast, an Indian civilian, Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose, having no military experience, left Germany in a submarine, travelling through enemy infested waters, he reached Singapore to organise these demoralised Indian POWS into a fighting force again.

He called his army, the Indian National Army (INA for short). Besides the Indian POWs, it recruited Indian ex-pat men and women from Malaya. He even created a woman's Regiment, who took up arms and fought the British forces in the jungles of Burma. He had only two criteria for recruiting; adults of Indian origin and willingness to fight for India's freedom. Thus, INA turned out to be a true representation of a united India.

The INA soldiers marched 3550 Kms from Singapore to Burma. The hungry and exhausted army had but one aim, to throw the British out of India. It succeeded in doing so. The outcome got delayed due to the Japanese surrender in 1945. However, the British were forced to leave India by 1947 and that triggered the winddown of the British Empire. The corrupt despot-ruling politicians of independent India made concerted efforts to erase all memories of the INA from peoples' minds. Hence the name "Forgotten Army". But the DNA of the "Forgotten Army" lives on in the present-day Indian Army and in the hearts of every nationalistic Indian at home and abroad. The new ruling government (since 2014) has reinstated Subhash Chandra Bose into his rightful place in the modern Indian history.

During my talk, you will view unseen original footage from that era, discover shocking secrets and learn the truth behind distorted facts and propaganda.

August - Martin Semken, who is a garden landscaper, will talk about Australia's exhibit at the Chelsea Garden Show.

DISCUSSION GROUP - Chairperson – Bill Wallace 0458 880 866.

Monday 17th July at 2:00 pm

The meeting will be held at the home of Harish Shah,
12 Chippendale Terrace, Burwood East. 0430 380 806.

All are welcome.

DINEOUTS

CHRISTMAS IN JULY - Mary Burton – 9722-1249

Tuesday 18th July 2023 at 10.30 am.



Caldermeade Farm is situated on the South Gippsland Highway (about 1 hour's drive from our club rooms – 67 kms) at 4385 South Gippsland Highway, CALDERMEADE 3984

They are offering a Morning Melodies Christmas in July and a two-course meal which is a Christmas roast dinner with two meats and fruit cake with custard for dessert.

The cost is \$21.95.

LADIES' AND MEN's LUNCH – Kath Thomson 9817 5546

Wednesday 23rd August at 12:30 pm

Sweet Lime Café, 1/620 Mitcham Road, Mitcham

FRIDAY COFFEE: MOON & SPOON,

Every Friday afternoon, 3:15 pm, Level 2, Forest Hill Chase Shopping Centre.

There is more on our web pages – thanks to the Bendigo Bank, Blackburn South for sponsoring our website. The password for the members-only pages is "██████".

The contents of this Bulletin are Private & Confidential, are for Probus use only, and are not to be used for any other purpose.

The Probus Club gratefully acknowledges the community grant provided by the Whitehorse Council.