

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF BLACKBURN SOUTH INC.

Club Bulletin No. 405 December, 2025
Registration No. A0029946T

The Club meets at 10.00am 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

<u>President</u>	<u>Sandra Knight</u> <u>OAM</u>	<u>0409 551 029</u>
<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Lindsay Borgas</u>	<u>0418 177 428</u>
<u>Past President</u>	<u>Harish Shah</u>	<u>0430 380 806</u>
<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Gilly George</u>	<u>0408 801 624</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Harish Shah</u>	<u>0430 380 806</u>
<u>Editor</u>	<u>Nelsa Counsell</u>	<u>0420 802 526</u>
<u>Member Services</u>	<u>Kath Thompson</u>	<u>0418 390 875</u>
<u>Outings & Activities</u>	<u>Catherine Pratt</u> & <u>Ree Dowling</u>	<u>0417 058 804</u> <u>0410 478 304</u>
<u>Wellbeing</u>	<u>Ree Dowling</u>	<u>0410 478 304</u>
<u>Guest Speakers</u>	<u>Dot Thomson</u>	<u>0459 535 987</u>
<u>Publicity</u>	<u>Mike Bampfield</u>	<u>0413 007 528</u>

Diary Dates

<u>Next Meeting</u>	Christmas Lunch 3 December
<u>Keeping Active</u>	Fridays 11.30 am
<u>Showbiz Cinemas</u>	February date TBA
<u>Lilydale Theatre</u>	Sunday 15 th February
<u>Discussion Group</u>	Monday 16 th February
<u>Melbourne Aquarium</u>	Wednesday 18 th February
<u>Men's & Ladies Lunch</u>	Wednesday 25 th February
<u>Bright Chalet</u>	13 th -17 th April
<u>Coffee Club</u>	Friday 3.30pm weekly
<u>Bulletin deadline</u>	Friday 23 rd January



President's Message:

Hello Everyone



Well it is coming up to the end of another year. The Probuss Club has had a busy year, heaps of outings and activities to keep us all out and about and gives everyone a chance to get to know fellow club members.

Our final activity for the year will be the Christmas Lunch, I hope to see many of you there. It is always a fun way to celebrate Christmas and acts as our December meeting.

I know that some of our members will not be with us this year due to ill health, so I will take this opportunity to wish those members a very Happy Christmas, and a speedy recovery.

We hope to have you back enjoying club activities as soon as possible.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to the committee who have worked hard all year to ensure the club runs smoothly and have been a great support to me as President.

Also, a big thank you to all the members who have taken their turn on the roster each month. This is also great way of supporting the club.

Merry Christmas to you all

Sandra - President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hi to all, as this is the last bulletin for the year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. I hope you enjoy this holiday season and it brings you love, and many blessings. Hope to see you back in February.

Thank you again to everyone for your support this year, it was greatly appreciated.

A **BIG** Thank You to Sandra for all her excellent work this year on behalf of all members. You are certainly a wonderful leader for our club, and I am sure all members will join me in wishing you and Glen (and Ishka) all the best for the Christmas season and the coming new year.

Thank you also to Ree Dowling and Kath Thompson for organizing the Christmas luncheon. It is a great time to share with each other, and we all enjoy these social outings.

God's Blessings to each of you.

Thanks.

Gilly

MEETING ROSTER

BEFORE MEETING – SET UP/ AFTER MEETING - PACK UP & LOCK UP		
February	Lindsay Borgas	Ken George
March	Rolf Arnoldi	Mike Bampfield
WELCOME & DIRECTING TO SIGN IN		
February	Cath Pratt	Beryl Pakes
March	Bev Sutherland	Bruna Rosaia
ATTENDANCE RECORDING/COLLECTION OF NAME TAGS		
February	John Hally	Mary Rasmussen
March	Christina Hunter	Dot Brown
MENTOR TO VISITORS		
February	Ken Pakes	Lorelle Borgas
March	Mary Burton	Jenny Birt
MORNING TEA TEAM		
February	Ree Dowling	Joyce Wickins
March	Dot Thompson	Terry Roche
Buddy for Sheilah	February	Val Nixon
	March	Jan Roche

**BEFORE MEETING
WOULD ALL
VOLUNTEERS
PLEASE READ THEIR
COPY OF 'MONTHLY
MEETING
VOLUNTEER
PROCEDURES' &
BRING THE COPY TO
THE MEETING.**

**(If you don't have one,
please collect one
from Gilly.)**

**Please arrive at
9:00am to set up for
your task**

If unable to attend
Roster Duty please try
to exchange with
another member.

TREASURER - Harish Shah 0430 380 806

Bank Account BSB 633-108 Account No 151023272

Make sure that your name is registered with the deposit. Thank you

We accept Visa and Mastercard. Card payments.

Fees Apply. Credit Cards 1.4%. and Debit Cards. 0.7%

VALE

We wish to advise all members of the passing of Jacqueline Reilly on 13/11/25. We send our condolences to her family and friends. Jacqui worked as a colourist, colouring black and white photos which was all done by hand at the time. She loved her garden and home, taking great pride in having them both immaculately kept. Jacqui and her husband Bill also loved to dance. Jacqui joined our club in July 2013 being the 220th member. Although she was not a current member of the club. I am sure there are many members who have fond memories

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Best wishes to the following members

Christina Hunter 3rd, Ree Dowling 8th, Cushla Appleby 11th,
Ian Rose 13th, Col Sando 22nd, Dorothy Thompson 22nd,
Sheilah Blanchfield 24th.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS –

Catherine Pratt 9th, Mick Both 15th, Gillian Horlock 16th, Ron Henderson 18th.

WELLBEING: Ree Dowling 0410 478 304 December – 2025

Lois Cheevers: Lois is gradually recovering from a vertebrae fracture.
Eric Sutherland: Eric will remain in Maroondah Hospital until his neck brace is moved. A positive is the plaster has been removed from his fractured arm.
Eric has appreciated those who have popped by as they break up the day.
Bruna Rosaia: Bruna is having a hospital procedure early December.
Lois, Eric & Bruna are disappointed not being able to share Christmas festivities with everyone. We wish them the best possible recovery.
Ian Rose: Ian was recently in hospital for a week after a fall but has made a very good recovery and will catch up with friends at the Christmas gathering.

BOOK CLUB - Gilly George 0408 801 624

Book Club will not be held for the rest of this year; we will start again in February. I have been asked to change the date from the day before the meeting so I am looking at having it on the Tuesday following the meeting which will be on the 10th of February. More details to follow.



COFFEE AND A CHAT

Every Friday at 3.30pm at the Moon and Spoon, Forest Hill Chase, 2nd floor. All are welcome to come along and join this friendly group. Great catch-up time



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Ree Dowling ~ 0410 478 304
Wednesday, December 3rd 12:00 - 3:00
VENUE::CHIRNSIDE PARK COUNTRY CLUB,
68 KINGSWOOD Dr. CHIRNSIDE PARK

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL.



DISCUSSION GROUP – Mike Bampfield 0413007528

Next Meeting – 2-4pm, Monday, 16th February 2026

Venue – Vermont South Bowls Club, 30A Livingston Rd, Vermont South

The Discussion Group has been well patronised this year with all members contributing a range of interesting views on local, national and world events.

Members also enjoyed a laugh with monthly fun topics and occasional quiz events.

No doubt 2026 will see new things to discuss and then relax afterwards with afternoon tea knowing we have solved some world problems.

Many thanks again to Ken George for allowing us to meet at the Vermont South Bowls Club which has easily accommodated our large group.

The November meeting was the last for the year, with the next meeting to be held 2-4pm, Monday, 16 February 2026 .

New members in 2026 are most welcome – please contact Mike Bampfield



OUTINGS FEBRUARY 2026

KEEP THE DATES:

Lilydale Theatre: Sunday 15th February Matinee 1.30 for 2pm (Or Lunch before at 12:00)

'The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays' (A Farce/Mystery)

A weekend of revelry is expected but Christmas Eve is thwarted by a Murder amongst the guests.

Melbourne Aquarium via Tram 75 (with aircon) from Vermont.

Wednesday 18th February 9.30

Best way to stay cool whilst observing the beautiful sea creatures. Lunch TBA

Men's & Ladies Lunch

Wednesday 25th February 12.00

Venue: 'Persian Flavours' Springvale Rd.

New Parking situation behind the restaurant.

PS Film 'The Choral'. Date TBA early February

Castlemaine trip 13 – 15 November 2025

Twenty-Two Probus Club members went to Castlemaine primarily to take a nostalgic trip on the “J” Class Steam engine No 549 that departed from the Castlemaine railway station then travelled to its destination at the Maldon railway station and return.

The Probus trippers made their way to Castlemaine by a car share arrangement which worked out well for all those who made the trip and stayed for two nights at the Castle Motel. The accommodation at the motel was close to the City Centre of Castlemaine where the group had their various breakfasts, lunches and dinners while in Castlemaine at venues that could accommodate us all.

Apart from the various food venues we went to, the Probus members were also treated to a tour of the historic Buda House and its beautiful gardens. If you are ever in Castlemaine a visit to the Buda House is highly recommended.

Our trip on the historic steam train was really an all-day affair that began after we had breakfast at the Blackbird café. The train departed just after 11.30 am and took about 45 minutes to arrive at Maldon station. The weather for the trip was absolutely perfect, a beautiful sunny day, no wind or rain at all. I’m quite sure that everyone enjoyed the trip on this fantastic old train, in particular the beautiful old carriages we were in were just fabulous. At Maldon we all went and had a look around this very historic town, which is really now catering to tourists, but I did notice on walking around that they do have quite a large fully operational local old style car garage that is in the Centre of Maldon’s main street. Some of our group walked from the Maldon station to Maldon town center – a good stretch of the legs for those who did so – they also walked back to the Maldon station to catch the return trip back to Castlemaine. On our return trip some of us enjoyed drinks and cheese platters all part of the service at a small cost. The service was very good on board and at the stations (both Castlemaine and Maldon) that service being solely provided by volunteers who staff the train as well as the chaps who actually drove the engine. It was my second time on this train tour and I highly recommend it to anyone.

Our final destination for those Probus members who wanted to do something further before returning home was a visit “Mica Grange” which is located in a place called Sutton Grange and not too far off the beaten track from Castlemaine. Mica is only open between the month of November and for a few weeks into December each year. It is privately run and contains quite a large area of land which is filled with various modern types of sculptures that are dotted over the landscape, and most are for sale. There is also a café/restaurant available and many of the group from Probus who visited Mica had refreshments there by way of tea or soft drinks or even the savory scones that were also on offer.

All in all the Castlemaine trip was really quite a fabulous two-day trip and congratulations to Sandra and Ree for organising it.



Dinner at The Five Flags Hotel

TRIPS

BRIGHT CHALET *Sandra Knight 0409 551 029*

Date 13th – 17th April (5 days) Cost \$795.00

Bus trip will pick up and return Forest Hill area
This will be a very picturesque time to visit Bright and the accommodation and the itinerary look fabulous.
There will be a sheet on the bench to put your name down as an expression of interest.
Itineraries will also be available on the bench.



KING ISLAND TRIP - *Sandra Knight 0409 551 029*

4 Days, 3 nights

Date to be announced

This trip would be run by Trade Travel.
Please put your name down if you are interested in coming along.
Hopefully by the meeting I will have more information for you all.

CLUB MEMBERS - KEEPING ACTIVE

Come and enjoy our 'Roll Back the Clock' Program

Time: 11.30 – 12.30 Fridays Weekly

Venue: Vermont South Bowling Club. 30a Livingstone Rd Vermont South

Helen – our qualified and very experienced leader organizes a suitable, interesting & fun program for retirees.

The hourly sessions are split into 2 sections.

An engaging and instructive visual presentation related to all aspects of health & positive living followed by activities to benefit flexibility, strength and general movement.

There are always fun activities involved.

Enjoy a free cuppa and chat to follow.



Thank you to John Mullahy MP, State Member for Glen Waverley District, for assistance with printing of this publication. If you require assistance with State Government or community matters, please contact John's office.



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The contents of this Bulletin are Private & Confidential and are for Probus use only and may not to be used for any other purpose. The Probus Club also gratefully acknowledges the community grant provided.

