

Combined Probus Club of Blackburn South Inc.

Registration No. A0029946T ABN 77 158 432 990



Club Bulletin No 408

April 2026



Committee Members			Diary Dates	
President & Tours	Sandra Knight OAM	0409 551 029	Keeping Active	Fridays 11:30 am
Vice President	Glen Knight	0409 551 029	Coffee and a Chat	Fridays 3:30 pm
Secretary	Gilly George	0408 801 624		
Treasurer	Lindsay Borgas	0418 177 428	Discussion Group	Tues, 21 st April
Bulletin Editor & Website	Doug Westcott	0412 015 126	Happy Hour Drinks	Wed, 22 nd April
			Tramboat Scenic Cruise	Wed 29 th April
Outings & Activities	Ree Dowling & Catherine Pratt	0410 478 304 0417 058 804	Morning Melodies	Mon 11 th May
	Wellbeing	Ree Dowling	0410 478 304	Book Club
Guest Speakers	Dot Thomson	0459 535 987	Showbiz Cinemas	Thurs, 14 th May
Member Services	Rachel McAlavey	0423 663 979	Duldig Studio Museum	Wed, 20 th May
Publicity	Mike Bampfield	0413 007 528		
This Month's Meeting – Wednesday, 1st April			Next Bulletin Deadline – Friday, 24th April	

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello Everyone

Thank you all for having faith in me to be your President again this year. It is a great privilege.

I would like to welcome the new members of the committee, Glen Knight Vice President, Doug Westcott Bulletin Editor and Rachel McAlavey Guest Services. Lindsay Borgas is having a change of position and will be the Treasurer this year. I look forward to working with the committee to offer a great range of activities and outings this year.

As it is Easter time, don't forget to wear your best Easter bonnet. We will also be having an Easter-themed morning tea.

Sandra Knight

President

AFTER MEETING LUNCH

Time: 12:30 pm
 Venue: Ringwood Club
 Address: 523 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood

BIRTHDAYS – February

Best wishes to the following members:



Marlene Bryant 4th Sibylle Ahrens 17th
 Gerry Burton 20th Chris Frederic 26th



BIG congratulations to Stephen and Trish Clifton and to Ken and Beryl Pakes on their 70th Wedding Anniversaries. All members of the Club send them our best wishes and good thoughts on this wonderful achievement.

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE FOR 2026



Committee Members 2026 - Blackburn South Probus Club Inc.

Back Row R to L: Dot Thomson, Gilly George, Glen Knight, Lindsay Borgas, Ree Dowling.

Front Row R to L: Rachel McAlavey, Sandra Knight (with her Guide Dog "Ishka") , Doug Westcott, Mike Bampfield, Cath Pratt (absent).



Retiring committee members Kath Thompson (will be missed for her famous morning teas) and Harish Shah (past President and Treasurer) are presented with lovely succulent bowls prepared by Judith Sullivan of the Australian Cactus/ Succulent Society of Australia. (Note: Retiring committee member and previous Bulletin Editor, Nelsa Counsell, was absent when the photograph was taken.)



Some of the new inductees who were welcomed into the Club at our March meeting.

ROSTERS – Please arrive for duty by 9:00 am

MEETING VOLUNTEERS ROSTER

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

April	Jurgen Ahrens	Denis Hawthorne
May	Nelson Knight	Bob Grierson
June	Graham Ebert	Col Sando

Welcome and Directing to the Sign-in Desk

April	Denise Parry	Lois Cheevers
May	Cushla Appleby	Hazel HoellMueller
June	Mary Rasmussen	Kath Thompson

Attendance Recording/Collection of Name Tags

April	Jenny Fackrell	Kath Hawthorne
May	Woty Fanoy	Harish Shah
June	Jill Hiam	John Hally

Mentor to Visitors

April	Jenny Birt	Mary Burton
May	Vic McNamara	Lorelle Borgas
June	Phil Colbert	Bruna Rosala

Buddy for Shelia

April	Jenny Birt
May	Sibylle Ahrens
June	Christina Hunter

Morning Tea Team

April	Ree Dowling	Elaine Kendler
May	Terry Roche	Dot Thomson
June	Carol Ebert	Jenny Walker

Before the meeting, could all volunteers please read their copy of the 'Monthly Meeting Volunteer Procedures' and bring it to the meeting. (If you don't have one, please collect one from Gilly.)

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

If you cannot attend Roster Duty, please try to exchange with another member.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Gilly George 0408 801 624

Our next meeting will be held on 1st April at the Whitehorse Horticultural Centre, starting at 10:00 am. All are welcome to attend.

We will be inducting new members at our meeting, who will wear name badges with blue dots. Please look out for these new members, welcome them to our club, and have a chat with them when you get the chance.

Don't forget your emergency contact forms if you haven't filled them out. Please see me for a copy. This is required for our Duty of Care to our members. Please also fill out or update the info on your badges.

If you are an apology for the meeting, could you please advise me on 0408 801 624.

Happy Easter to all our members and visitors, and we hope you have a lovely time with family and friends.

Gilly



GUEST SPEAKERS – Dot Thomson 0459 535 987

April's speaker will be Lincoln Emsley from the VerSo Place Keyton Retirement Village in Vermont South, which is currently under construction.

WELLBEING – Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to Joyce & Keith Wickins on the recent passing of their son Dr Anthony Wickins. Our thoughts are with you in your time of great sadness.

Bev & Eric Sutherland: Bev & Eric have moved and are settling into Advent Care – Central Rd. Nunawading.

TREASURER – Lindsay Borgas 0430 380 806

A sincere thank you to Harish for his dedication and work as Treasurer this past year. I'm grateful to inherit healthy, well-organised finances and a solid record-keeping system.

The message regarding payment of Club fees and costs remains the same.

- Where possible, please make deposits online from your bank account.
- Make sure your name is detailed with the deposit and indicate what the payments are for.
- Club's Bendigo Bank details: -
 - BSB 633-108 Account No. 151023272
- For members unable to pay online, we accept Visa and MasterCard at our regular monthly meetings.
 - (Fees apply: 1.4% Credit Cards and 0.7% Debit Cards).

Probus Membership Fees 2026/27.

The annual \$60 Membership Fee per member is now due. In addition, new members (**excluding** those from the previous Whitehorse Probus Club) need to pay a \$20 Joining Fee.

Please pay online where possible, using the Bendigo Bank details above. Thank you to those who have already paid.

MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING BULLETIN EDITOR – Doug Westcott 0412 015 126

Firstly, I would like to thank Nelsa Counsell for her outstanding job editing the Club's monthly Bulletin for more than 10 years. I hope I can live up to her high standards and dedication to keeping members informed.

In addition to being the editor of the Bulletin, at least for the time being, I will continue to manage the Club's website and look after the audiovisuals at our monthly meetings.

Being new to the editor role, I am looking for your help in providing me with: -

- Information from Activity Leaders as to upcoming meetings/activities.
- Photos taken at Club activities, dine-outs, tours, etc.
- Trip/activity reports from recent events and any other items which may be of interest to our members.
- Suggestions as to how the content of the Bulletin and/or website could be improved.

These can be emailed to me at 'editor@probusblackburnsouth.org.au', or you are welcome to come and talk to me at one of our monthly meetings (I'll be in the front row, looking after the laptop).

MEMBER PROFILE – Glen Knight (our new Vice President)

Glen was educated at Malvern Memorial Grammar School (now part of Caulfield Grammar) Trinity Grammar School, and Burwood High School (now Deakin University). His first job was as an accounts clerk at the Union Steam Ship Company of New Zealand in Melbourne. In 1974, he was accepted into La Trobe University, but because of his poor eyesight, he deferred entry until 1975. In 1975, Glen was in receipt of a Blind Persons' pension and completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at La Trobe University. Glen's eyesight was partially restored after a corneal graft, so he handed back his Blind pension, joined the Victorian Public Service and began working at the Registrar of Probates Office as a junior administrative officer. He was promoted to a more senior position in the Office of the Public Trustee (later known as State Trustees).

Glen then entered Monash University's Law School, and while working full-time in the Victorian Government's Law Department, he achieved his Bachelor of Laws degree. He was admitted to Practice in the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia and became a Senior Legal Officer in the Department of Agriculture. Glen retired in 2009 but still held an individual legal practitioner's licence to practice law until he ceased practice in about 2020. After retiring from the Public Service, Glen worked for four years at the Whitehorse City Council as a 'lollipop man' – a School Crossing Supervisor.

Glen's hobbies are many and varied from stamp collecting, genealogy, photography, watching AFL football and cricket, listening to music through 'old school systems' like cassette decks and turntables that play vinyl recordings, travel outings and looking through op. shops. Overall, Glen is a bit of a hoarder of 'stuff' and finds it hard to move things on as they 'might be useful someday'. Glen married Sandra, our current Probus President, in 1977, and they have 5 children and 11 grandchildren, with a further grandchild expected later this year. Glen met Sandra at the Association for the Blind (now known as Vision Australia) in 1974 while recovering from his eye surgery. Glen has had many and varied eye surgeries since 1974. His meeting with Sandra was by pure chance and the circumstances of how Glen came to be at a blind institution was an event that was to become more coincidental than any movie script could be. In 1992, Glen and Sandra discovered that they were, in fact 3rd blood cousins, but despite this fact, he confirms that "we do get on well".

BOOK EXCHANGE

You can leave books, CDs, and jigsaw puzzles on the table in the meeting room foyer for others to take home and read or pass on to friends. As we do not have the facility to store these, any items you bring that are not taken by the end of the meeting must be taken home again.

CLUB MEMBERS - KEEPING ACTIVE

Come and enjoy our 'Roll Back the Clock' Program.

Time: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fridays.

Venue: Vermont South Bowling Club. 30A Livingstone Rd, Vermont South.

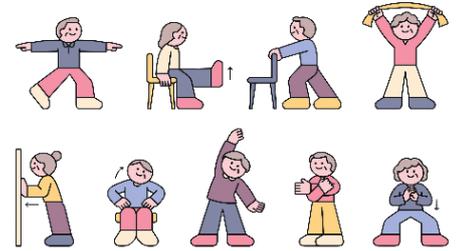
Helen, our qualified and very experienced leader, organises a suitable, interesting and fun program for retirees.

The hourly sessions are split into two sections:

An engaging and instructive visual presentation related to all aspects of health and 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.



DISCUSSION GROUP – Mike Bampfield 0413 007 528

Tuesday, 21st April – 2:00 pm - 4 00 pm.

Venue: Vermont South Bowls Club, 30A Livingston Rd, Vermont South.

Our relaxed and enjoyable monthly meetings cover a range of local and international issues as well as lighter subjects. A 'fun topic' each month also gives us a chance for some laughs.

Meetings conclude with a social chat over a cuppa and a biscuit/cake.

New members are most welcome and should contact Mike Bampfield.



BOOK CLUB – Gilly George 0408 801 624

Tuesday, 12th May at 1:30 pm.

3 Howqua Crt. Vermont South.

Due to the Bright trip, there will be **no Book Club in April**. See you on the 12th of May.

Thank you to those members who have been attending. We have discussed lots of books and films, and we are all enjoying learning from each other.



FOOD & DRINK

COFFEE AND A CHAT – MOON & SPOON

Every Friday afternoon, at 3:30 pm, Level 2 Forest Hill Chase Shopping Centre.

All are welcome to join this friendly group.

Great catch-up time.



COME AND JOIN IN A 'HAPPY HOUR' – Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Wednesday, 22nd April at 4:00 pm (The Chase 'Happy Hour' is 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm)

Forest Hill Chase Hotel Bar, 3rd Floor.

Share what's been happening for you and others over a chat and beverage!!

Stay on for dinner if it suits. Trivia Night Wednesdays – starts at 7:00 pm; join in if you wish.





MELBOURNE TRAMBOAT SCENIC CRUISE – Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Wednesday, April 29th.

Transport: Tram 75 from Vermont directly to Stop D3.

Arrive at the tram stop at 8:50 am.

(Cruise departs – 131 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands Ferry Terminal)

Tramboat departs: 10:30 am – Returns: 2.00 pm.

Cost: \$55.00 (concession).



Included:

- Cruise to Williamstown
- Commentary
- Morning tea: light refreshments
- Stop over for a wander at Williamstown for an hour. (Can remain on the ferry if you wish)
- Return cruise to Melbourne Lunch on board: Fish & Chips (GF) (Licensed – drinks at own expense).

NB: Male & Female toilets on board.

Access is suitable for all. Also, the staff are ready to assist.

Inside Seating + Outside roof area.

Trip: Cruise downstream along the Yarra River through the port of Melbourne, past Swanston Dock under the Westgate Bridge, out into Hobsons Bay to the historic port of Williamstown. Then dock alongside Gem pier for an hour to allow for a stroll around Williamstown before the return trip.

PS. It is sometimes referred to as ‘The Fish & Chips Cruise’!!

MORNING MELODIES – Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Monday, May 11th, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Venue: Club Ringwood Bistro, 523-535 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood.

Cost: \$25.00; pay at the door upon entering.

Enjoy ‘The Best of the Crooners’ show, starting with light refreshments on arrival at 10 00 am.

Entertainment commences at 10:30 am, followed by a 2-course set lunch.

Suggested: come early for a table, as it can be busy.



Keep the dates for future sessions!

- August 10th Hits of Motown
- September 14th Hot August Night

FILM ‘THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2’ – Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Thursday, 14th May

Showbiz Cinemas Pinewood Shopping Centre, 41 Centreway, Mount Waverley.

Time: 10:30 am (Meet at the cinema before 10:15 am.)

Parking: Designated Cinema Parking - opposite Coles.

(Members without a disability sticker collect a parking pass from Ree in the car park.)

Cost: Film followed by ‘Basket Lunch’ in the cinema \$22.00 (Exact cash please.)

Minimum of 15 required.



Overview: Miranda Priestly struggles against Emily Carlton, her former assistant turned rival executive, as they compete for advertising revenue amid declining print media, while Miranda nears retirement.

(Original all-star team reconvened for this film.)

DULDIG STUDIO MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN – Ree Dowling 0410 478 304

Wednesday, May 20th.

Address: 92 Burke Rd, Malvern East.

Time: 10:30 am.

Cost: \$26.00 for Tour and Morning Tea (Please pay at or by the May Meeting).

Self-Share Drive (**Whom could you offer a lift to?????**).

Parking: Nyora St. / Brunel St. / Burke Rd. Plenty of parking - explanation at the monthly meeting.

Access: Suitable for all.

Discover the rich artistic and cultural legacy of Viennese Australian artists Karl & Slawa Duldig.

Private 90-minute guided tour includes:

- Morning Tea.
- A short introductory documentary to set the scene.
- A guided walk through the current exhibition.
- Access to the historic Duldig family home, complete with original rooms, the artists' studio and the sculpture garden.

Lunch: Racecourse Hotel, 895 Princes Highway, Caulfield South.

A five-minute drive and easy access to parking behind the Hotel.

Booking for 12:30 pm. Table Service - a broad menu, especially for seniors.

TOURS

BRIGHT CHALET – Sandra Knight 0409 551 029

Sunday, April 13th to Friday, 17th.

Thank you to everyone who is coming along on the trip. Full payment is overdue; if you haven't paid, **please** finalise your payment today.

Single room - if you paid a \$200 deposit, the outstanding balance is \$795.00.

Twin Share or Double - if you paid a \$200 deposit, the outstanding balance is \$595 per person.

Pick up on Monday, 13th April at 10:00 am at the Horticultural Centre, 82 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill (where we hold our monthly meeting).

Return around 3.00 pm on Friday, 17th April.

You will not be able to leave your cars at the Horticultural Centre, so if you can't organise a lift there, I will organise a taxi to pick people up.

Please let Sandra Knight know if you require a taxi.

Murray Magic Riverina Tour – Sandra Knight 0409 551 029

Sunday, October 18th to Friday, 23rd – 6 Days, 5 nights.

Cost Double or Twin Share \$1,550.00 per person approx. Single \$1,750.00 approx.

The actual cost will depend on how many people come along.

Pick up by coach at the Hall and returned to the Hall.

Four days of tours to places of interest as per the itinerary.

- Entry fees covered for attractions listed on the itinerary.
- Travel in our coach with a professional coach driver/tour guide.
- Two cooked / continental breakfasts and three continental breakfasts.
- Light snack meal and dessert on the night of arrival.
- Three two-course set menu evening meals at Riverland Motel, one two-course set menu at Pretty Pine Hotel.
- Three morning teas and one afternoon tea.
- Two lunches.



HIGHLIGHTS

The Spanner Man! • Shepo's Whey: A dairy farm with a twist! • Shear Outback Hay • Bishops Lodge Hay • The Great Aussie Beer Shed • Deniliquin's Ute Muster Display and The Depot • Restdown Wines • Wedderburn's Coach House Museum and live demonstration of the Eucalyptus Distillery.

List on the bench, please put your name down if you wish to attend.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am (except December and January) at the City of Whitehorse Horticultural Centre, 82 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill 3131.

Website: <https://probusblackburnsouth.org.au>

Postal Address: P.O. Box 620, Brentford Square 3131

Club's Email Address: probusblackburnsouth@gmail.com

Club Secretary's Email Address: gill.george@hotmail.com

Bulletin Editor's Email Address: editor@probusblackburnsouth.org.au

Bank Account: Bendigo Bank: BSB 633108 Account No 151023272

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

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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.



 (03) 9955 2501    JohnMullahyMP
 John.Mullahy@parliament.vic.gov.au
 2 Brentford Square, Forest Hill, VIC 3131

