



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022

Probuss Club of Ballarat South Inc.

President's Report

Greetings Members,

Welcome to 2022, let's hope it's a better year than the last one, although it hasn't been too good so far!

It was fantastic to see 104 members at our Christmas meeting and we all had a wonderful time catching up with each other.

It was also great to welcome 3 new members, Sally, Rob and Jan and I am sure you will all make them feel welcome. Thanks also to the members who attended our picnic at Kirk's Reservoir and we had beautiful weather as well.

We will have our February meeting as planned unless there is another dreaded lockdown. I understand that some members may not feel comfortable about large groups but attendance is not mandatory. We will take all Covid precautions and members will need to be double vaxxed (booster shots are encouraged but not mandatory) and wear a mask.

This meeting is important for two reasons:

We need to approve our fees for next year and we have 4 places to fill on our committee for 2022.

Nomination forms will be available at the meeting and I encourage you to consider nominating.

I hope to see you there.

Cheers Lynne.



***Many members
enjoyed getting
together for our
January picnic.***



MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:

Payments to the club should be made online or direct credit to our bank account

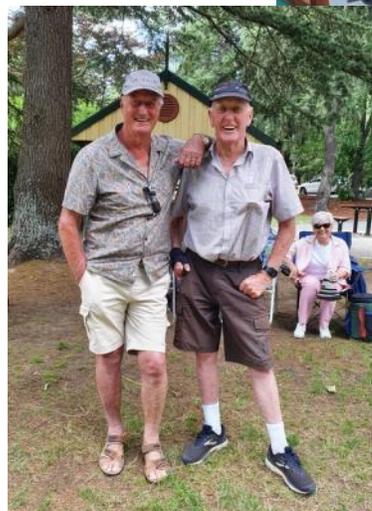
BSB 063870 Account No 10239604

Please follow these requirements:

1. In reference box please put your **name first always** (can be Hank P or Ian C etc)
2. State what is being paid for.
3. Pay for one item or event at a time. **Don't combine payments for different items or events.**

Other people or friends may pay for you (separately please) but use the name of person for whom the item is to be paid.

These guidelines will greatly assist the Treasurer to keep the accounts as simple as possible.



Probuss Club of Ballarat South Inc. Inc. No. A0053491L

P.O. Box 599W, Ballarat West, Victoria 3350 Email: info@probussballaratsouth.org.au

Web site - www.probussballaratsouth.org.au

This newsletter is private and confidential for Probuss use only and should not be used for any other purpose.

Banking details: Account Name: Probuss Club of Ballarat South Inc.

BSB: 063870 Account No: 10239604

REFLECTIONS OF COVID TIMES:

At the start of the restrictions in March 2020 we were only allowed to exercise within 5kms of our homes. Normally pre-Covid, I would walk around Lake Wendouree as I've got a fear of dogs attacking me, and there they are all on leads. Anyway I decided to try walking around my neighbourhood instead! So, on April 1st 2020 I ventured out to the Canadian Lakes and walked on the bike/walk track there.

On my walks I ran into lots of people I knew at different times. I saw Libby exercising Clancy and Sparky, Helen H was getting outside for some free time, Denyce was exploring also, Trish (and often Barry) were walking to Midvale for supplies and exercise, Geoff was riding his bike or out in the garden and Deanne was recovering from her hip operation and watching me walk past their house regularly. I often ran into Lyn walking the track, or her Geoff collecting the daily paper, and I even caught up with Lynne and Hank on a couple of occasions. It became a great thing to wonder who I was going to run into on my walks, and the long chats helped me cope with the challenges of living alone.

Eventually Deanne's recovery started and I was able to say hello to her. I could stand at her mailbox and have a chat while she was at her front door. As the lockdown continued, and Deanne's hip improved, we were able to meet up in groups of 2/4/6 or whatever to walk together, as the restrictions lessened. We were able to get takeaway coffees sometimes and that really added to our interaction with each other. We would sit (socially distanced) on a low brick wall, and (if the weather was bad) eventually under the wooden gazebo at "The Hidden Garden". We had discussions on houses under construction and debated on whether they would be double storeyed – Barry won that one!! We learnt so much about the birdlife and the trees and gardens on our walks and took lots of photos (me especially!). We welcomed a brand new member of the group many months later... Ellie (Denyce's fur baby), and she was readily accepted by Clancy and Sparky too! Ellie especially adored Geoff and could hardly control her excitement each day when she saw him! We watched the seasons change with the birdlife, trees, and gardens. We eventually were able to enjoy our coffees inside at Azzuri's (at the Mercure), or at Paul's (Espresso District) at Midvale. More people discovered our walking/coffee group and joined us either on the track or at coffee and we loved seeing all the new faces there! Judy, Felicity, Erica, Lyn & Geoff, Lynne & Hank, Bruce & Jenni, Robyn, Lorraine & Serge and many others!

It is now about 18 months since I began exploring my neighbourhood, and what an amazing experience it has been! I've made lots of new friends, learnt a lot about nature, had lots of exercise, taken numerous photos, enjoyed coffees and chats, discussed health concerns, and managed to stay sane (??) throughout this extraordinary time in our lives. I'm even walking with dogs now...major achievement! "They" say every cloud has a silver lining and it's certainly true about this experience. We could have all stayed at home, complained about the restrictions etc., and got more depressed and angrier, but we didn't! It's hard living on your own (or with a partner) during lockdown, but the walks gave us a reason to get out of bed in the morning and get organized.

We've been with and without masks, learning how to get vax info on our mobiles, practicing watching the public line up for jabs, getting to know the barista staff, and enjoying lots of laughs! Now we are finally "free" but we will continue to catch up when we can and will never forget our "connections" during this period of our lives!

Ruth F.

I'm sure other members also have reflections/stories about this extraordinary time in our lives. I would be very happy to receive contributions for the Newsletter at any time and about any subject you think would be interesting to Club members. You know where to send them..... newsletter@probusballaratsouth.org.au



Signs:

On a Maternity Room's door
"Push, Push, Push"

In a Radiator Shop
"Best place in town to take a leak"

On the back of a septic tank truck
"Caution, this truck is full of political promises"

At an Optometrist's office
"If you don't see what you are looking for you have come to the right place"



It was great to welcome Sally, Jan and Rob into our Club. We hope you enjoy getting to know other members and being involved in one or more of our group activities.



**What a
great day it
was**



MEETINGS

FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 7th, 9.30am at Sebastopol Bowling Club.

FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING

Thursday 10th February, 2022. 9.30am for 9.45am start at Masonic Centre, Barkly Street.

GREETERS: Fran H and Helen H

KITCHEN:

Lynne and Ray R, Margaret W, Maggie and Steve D.

BIRTHDAYS

Those celebrating birthdays in February are invited to coffee at Azzuri on **Monday 7th at 2pm**. **RSVP to Lynne P by Thursday 3rd** so a table can be booked.

Happy Birthday in February to Geoff B, Fran H, Denyce M, Richard P, Jill R, Bev S and Trish W.

PROBUS BOWLS

Contact Neil D

The Probus Club of Ararat will be conducting it's annual bowls tournament on Monday March 28th at the Ararat Bowling Club. Hopefully, COVID-19 won't get in the way.



I will enter one team into this event as the number of active bowlers in our club is getting a bit low. One of our teams was the overall winner last year, so we will try to defend our title this year.

DAYLIGHT SAVING WALK

Contact Fran H

Held every Monday during daylight saving. The time for Daylight saving walks in **January and February** will change, **starting at 7 pm** instead of 6pm. This is mainly because of the hotter evenings and the choice of those who have been attending the walks.

BUSHWALKING

Contact Ross and Margaret W

Bushwalk Tuesday February 8 2022

Starting at the old township of Fryerstown we will head north into old gold country. A beautiful bush ramble. 13kms. Bring lunch and morning tea. We depart from the Reid Street Brown Hill carpark (less hassle than Eureka with less school traffic) at 8:30am sharp.

Two Hour Walk – Tuesday February 22 2022

Still to be organised.



Just prior to Christmas, this group of walkers had a wonderful day enjoying each other's company and the scenery on a 13k walk in Geelong. Lunch followed.

COFFEE GROUP

Contact Ruth F

We managed to catch up throughout Christmas and New Year, albeit in reduced numbers! Remember any member is welcome to join us at any venue.

Our **February venues** are:

Tuesday February 1st 2022 10.30am at Café at Provincial, Upstairs, 222 Sturt Street, Ballarat.

Thursday February 17th 2022 2pm at Espresso District, Midvale Shopping Centre.
Hope to see you soon enjoying a coffee and chat with us.

HERITAGE

There are no planned outings at this stage and we will re-start when it is safe to do so.

Chris and Steve

TRIPS AND TOURS

Hopefully we will have some outings to announce at the February meeting. It has been a difficult time planning group excursions.

Chris and Cathryn

CRAFT GROUP

Contact Heather D

Date: **Friday 18th February at 12noon.**

Venue: Home of Jenni E. Bring your lunch.

CYCLING GROUP

Contact Peter N

Cyclists meet at Windmill Drive, Lake Wendouree at 9.30am Wednesdays. Coffee at completion of ride. All welcome.

MOVIES

Contact Mary C

Announced at monthly meeting

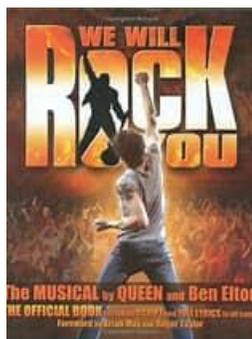
THEATRE

Contact Bev W

**New date is Saturday,
February 26 at 1.30pm at Her
Majesty's Ballarat.**

New tickets have been issued to replace those given to you for cancelled show.

**NO ADDITIONAL TICKETS ARE
AVAILABLE.**

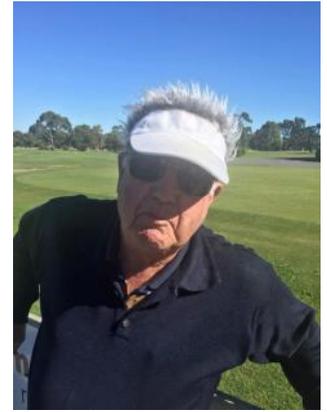


GOLF

Contact Kelvin J

Golf will at the Snake Valley Golf Club on Friday February 4 at 9.30am, followed by lunch at the local hotel. All welcome. Contact Kelvin if attending lunch so booking can be made.

What has happened to one of our esteemed Golfers.... has he had a hair transplant over the break?



GARDENING

Contact Cathryn O

Visit to Food is free is on 23rd February 2022 at 10.15 am, \$5 donation. Meet at 305 Ripon St South. Then to green space with lunch at Western hotel to follow at 12.00.

For booking purposes please contact Cathryn if attending .

BOOKCLUB (Evening Group)

Meets 4th Thursday. 7:30pm

Contact Margaret W. Library Contact: Ann D

Date: **Thursday 24th February**

Book: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Venue: Home of Chris G

BOOKCLUB (Daytime Group)

Meets 4th Monday. 1.30pm

Contact Kathy P

Date: **Monday 28th February.**

Book: *Showtime* by Judy Nunn

Venue: Home of Raelene D



CARDS

Contact Barry W

Wednesday 2nd February at 1.00pm

Last month we had 18 people at cards with Geoff & Deanne as hosts. There were 4 winners.

Next cards will be at the home of Neil & Heather D. Please look at your list to get their address & telephone number. To save your place please ring prior to the day. We can only fit a certain number of people into our private homes.

Be there for great friendship, fellowship & fun. There may even be coffee & prizes.

Date	Meet at	Coffee
28 Jan	Ballarat Yacht Club	Yacht Club
4 Feb	Boatshed	Boatshed
11 Feb	North Star Hotel	North Star
18 Feb	Common Ground, 306 Howitt St.	Common Ground
25 Feb	Lake Esmond	Café Golden Point

STROLLERS

Contact Alan E

Half hour stroller walks start at 10.00am on Fridays. If it's wet we will still meet for coffee and a chat.

HOOR WALKS

Contact Raelene & Ian D
9.30am start.

Date	Meet at	Coffee
28 Jan	Sebastopol Bowling Club, Yarrowee St	BYO
4 Feb	Alfredton Reserve, Cuthberts Rd	BYO
11 Feb	Gong Reservoir	BYO
18 Feb	Creswick Town Hall	Creswick
25 Feb	Azzuri, Golden Point	Azzuri

Cycling is on every Wednesday, meeting at Windmill Drive at 9.30am.

Daylight saving walk is on every Monday evening through January and February starting from Yacht Club at 7.00pm.

Tues 1st February	Coffee group 10.30am	Café at Provincial
Wed 2nd	Cards 1.00pm	Home of Neil and Heather D.
Friday 4th	Strollers 10.00am	Meet at Boatshed
Friday 4th	Hour walk 9.30am. Alfredton Reserve, Cuthberts Rd	BYO Coffee
Friday 4th	Golf 9.30am hit off followed by lunch	Snake Valley Golf Course. All welcome.
Monday 7th	Committee meeting 9.30am	Sebastopol Bowling Club
Monday 7th	Birthdays coffee 2.00pm	Azzuri
Thursday 10th	Club meeting 9.30 for 9.45am start or TBA	Masonic Centre
Friday 11th	Strollers 10.00am	Meet at North Star Hotel
Friday 11th	Hour walk 9.30am. Meet at Gong Reservoir	BYO Coffee
Tuesday 15th	Bushwalk	Lunch will follow walk, details on page 4.
Thursday 17th	Coffee Club 2.00pm	Espresso District, Midvale Chopping Centre
Friday 18th	Hour walk 9.30am. Meet at Creswick Town Hall	Coffee at Creswick
Friday 18th	Strollers 10.00am	Meet at Common Ground, 306 Howitt Street
Friday 18th	Craft Group 12 noon	Home of Jenni E
Tuesday 22nd	Two hour walk	Details TBA
Wednesday 23rd	Food is Free 10.15am	305 Ripon Street Sth
Thursday 24th	Evening Book Club 7.30pm	Meet at home of Chris G
Friday 25th	Hour walk 9.30am. Meet at Azzuri	Coffee at Azzuri
Friday 25th	Strollers 10.00am	Meet at Lake Esmond
Saturday 26th	We Will Rock You 1.30pm	Her Majesty's Ballarat
Monday 28th	Daytime Book Club 1.30pm	Home of Raelene D