The 2025/6

Auburn Newsletter

A monthly record of the activities of the Combined Probus Club of Auburn
March - Edition No. 245 admin@auburnprobus.org.au PO Box 326 Mont Albert 3127

President Peter's closing address

My term of office is in sight not so for the Indian Pacific travelled on this month at some 875 metres in length. We actually left Sydney as three separate trains coupled up an hour later in Granville.

Reflecting back on my year there was the 21st birthday High Tea in May with the recognition that 25% of our current membership are 2004 Founding Members. Considerable resources were put into evaluating PSPL's proposal for a new Constitution encompassing up to date legal and business practices. Your endorsement of our recommendation to adopt will be sought at the AGM.
We also came to grips with the realities of membership numbers and struck a budget and subscription rate that saw the stabilisation of club funds to hand. This will be further enhanced through the extension of the Room Hire MOU with North Balwyn Bowls Club at prevailing rates to December 2027.
The filling of committee and speaker positions continues to be our Achilles heel. New appointees mean new ideas and we need these to maintain club vitality. A thank you to the committee who have supported me in the past year. We farewell Past President Peter Matthews and Membership Officer Sandi Fitzpatrick with their years of experience, an invaluable resource for the committee.

And finally a welcome to Pat Davies, the incoming President elect. Her support as Vice President has been hands on and guarantees a seamless transition of the President's role.

Remember our next meeting is Monday the 2nd of March.

Peter Gibbs

Morning Tea/Coffee roster

Barbara Edwards & Janet Howard Smith

Please be at the clubrooms by 9.30am to assist with the preparations.
If you are unable to attend on the day you are on duty,
please arrange for someone else to take your place.

Treasurer's report

John Lagzdins - 0434 870 199

Auburn Probus treasurer's report for the month to 20th February 2026.

The bank balance is $7,504.97 including the $1,760 grant from Council.

In the month to date we banked $2,130.00 for two outings and footy tipping of $30.00.

We paid out $2,130.00 for outings scheduled for March and April and minor expenses of $40.00.

The rent for the meeting room for $500.00 is unpaid.

The AGM meeting will report a surplus of $549.77 for the year to December 31st.

John Lagzdins Email: Lagzdins@melbpc.org.au

Our current bank account details are: National Bank: BSB - 083277 Account No. - 569521388
If paying any EFT or cash to this account please include your name for reference.

Our speaker for March is Scott Breschkin

Scott is a Marine Conservation Officer with The Nature Conservancy Australia and currently leads several marine restoration projects in Victoria, including restoring golden kelp in and on shellfish reefs.
Scott loves getting below the surface to experience firsthand the changes and benefits from these restoration projects over time and he's always looking for practical ways to get restoration to scale.

Scott's subject for our meeting is:

Shellfish reef Restoration

Club Section

Welfare

Judy Halpin - 0422 916 762

If you know of any member who is ill and unable to attend meetings please let me know so that contact can be maintained during their time of stress.

Vice President's Club Diary

Pat Davies

The diary lists all Club activities for the whole year. All Organisers and Convenors must contact Pat to let her know the proposed date of activities planned for verification thus ensuring that there are no clashes of activities.

Your Newsletter

The newsletter reports on the activities of the past month and future activities for the coming months, convenors are encouraged to submit articles and photographs covering both facets of past and future events by the due date as listed below.
Members are invited to submit articles of interest along with comments on attended activities.

Due date (2026) for newsletter articles	Date of monthly meeting
Thursday 19th February	Monday, 2nd March - AGM
Thursday 26th March	Monday 6th April
Thursday 23rd April	Monday 4th May
Thursday 21st May	Monday 1st June

2025/6 Committee

President - Peter Gibbs
Vice President - Pat Davies
Past President - Peter Matthews
Secretary - Peter Brown
Treasurer - John Lagzdins
Outings - (alternating) - Annette Brownscombe
Anne Tilley
Speakers - TBA
Movie Goers - Norma Griffiths
Newsletter - Don Porter
Membership - TBA
Welfare - Judy Halpin

2025/6 Activity Convenors

Armchair Travel - Shirley Fenemor
Brew & Chew - Ian Phillips
Canasta - Thelma Bourke
Dine Out - John & Maureen McIntosh
Coffee and Chat - Jan Cheney
Mahjong - Barb Richards
Golf & Cycling - Gary Jackson
Web Master - Mike Pavey
Sew'n' Sews - Barb Richards
Tuesday lunch Book Club - John Curry
Walking - Rita Hayes & Helga O'Loughlin

Regular Activity Days This Month

Armchair Travel	4th Wednesday	Sew'n' Sews	3rd Friday
Brew and Chew	4th Wednesday	Tue lunch book club	2nd Tuesday
Canasta	1st Tuesday	Walking	2nd & 4th Monday
Cycling	1st & 3rd Thursday	Movie group	1st Wednesday
Dine Out	3rd Monday evening	Coffee & Chat	3rd Tuesday
Golf	Every Monday, except public holidays & meeting days		
Mah-jong	Last Thursday		

Membership

Sandi Fitzpatrick - 0418 750 780 Ass. Laurice Stainsby - 0404 273 371

March Meeting

Could you please let Laurice know if you will not be attending the Annual General Meeting.

New Members: nil **Deaths:** nil
Resignations: Glen Keane, Janie Pirret, Lee Phillips, Sandi Fitzpatrick (all moving to a local Probus Club)

Birthdays for March
Keith Creed, Barbara Edwards, Ann Rusden, Judith Tymms, Susan Hutchins, Ian Macfarlane, Ronda D'Paul, Jenni Williams and Carole Carr.
It is recommended that members wear their name badges on outings to make it easier for new members to join in.
Please ring or text apologies to **Laurice.**

Speaker summary

by Peter Gibbs on behalf of Sue Harris

Professor Helen Herrman AO, recounted her past WHO experience recognising and alleviating mental health issues in developing countries and in particular Nepal and North East India.
Medical attention can go so far but further success improves significantly with community involvement, be it the environment, counselling or bonding with others.
Whilst Australia with its different mental health issues does not come under the WHO umbrella, findings are shared with Australian health bodies.
Be it teenage depression/bullying through mid-life anxiety and substance abuse to old age results are being achieved with the concept of community engagement.
A serious topic and not one to be swept under the carpet.

Outings

Annette Brownscombe 0418 400 352 Sandy Tilley 0460 678 668

IMMIGRATION MUSEUM
On Friday 20 February four Probus members arrived at the Immigration Museum.
Our Treasurer, John Lagzdins, had a special task. He was looking for the Lagzdins family plaque that his brother had commissioned to go into the Tribute Garden. John had not seen the plaque and it seemed like finding a needle in a haystack. We all joined in and eventually John located it.

His parents, Eduards and Austra (the names that are difficult to read on the actual plaque shown above) and their 3 children, arrived in Melbourne from Latvia in 1949.
It was a pleasant, personal touch to start our tour of the museum.
We spent an interesting time reading and viewing an amazing amount of information about the many aspects and history of Australian immigration.

FERRY TRIP TO PORT ARLINGTON on THURSDAY 12th of MARCH.
Meet at the Ferry office by 9.10am.
Port Phillip Ferries, Victoria Harbour, 131 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands.
Ferry leaves at 9.30am and returns to Docklands at 5.10pm.
Lunch is at The Port Arlington Golf Club with a courtesy bus to and from Port Arlington dock.
The tickets are electronic and are on my phone.
Thanks everyone for paying promptly and sending in your menu choices to enable the booking to be finalised.
Any questions please ring Annette.

GEORGES REMEMBERED on THURSDAY 16th of APRIL.
All tickets have been sold for this event.
Thanks everyone for paying promptly to secure the seats.

MAY OUTING.
Proposed trip to Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden which includes The Chelsea Australian Garden.
Details to follow.
Any questions please ring Annette.

Sports Section

Footy Tipping

Mike Pavey 0418 990 815

The AFL Home & Away Season starts Thursday 5th March.

The tipping competition will again be run for members, family and friends for a bit of fun. No expertise required. In the past the less you think you know the better your results.

The cost will be the same as last year, $30.00 for each player.
Members who took part last year will be able to use logins and passwords they used last year. Those who have not entered in previous seasons, please consider for a bit of fun over the footy season.

New contestants will need to set up online, but it only takes 4 Easy Steps.
The competition uses the ESPN Footy Tipping App.

To Set Yourself Up

Step 1	Go to http://www.footytips.com.au and "Sign Up", providing email address and password. You may be requested to set up a My Disney account. Disney own ESPN.
Step 2	Join the Competition – **Auburn Probus Tippers** (Important).
Step 3	Pay $30 into Club Probus Bank Account. See Treasurers Report for bank account details.
Step 4	Start Tipping. If selected you can get reminders each week from ESPN.

If more information or assistance is required contact Mike Pavey.

Golf Group

Gary Jackson 0418 578 863

In March we move to Wattle Park Golf Course, with a Tee off time for Tuesday 3rd and Mondays 9th (no game scheduled for Labour Day week) 16th, 23rd and 30th is 9.40am.

Golf results for February

Date	Weekly Winner	Longest Drive	Nearest the Pin	Best off the stick
3/2	Einhart Lincke	Gary Jackson	-	Mike Pavey
9/2	Gary Jackson	Mike Pavey	-	Mike Pavey
16/2	Gary Jackson	Sue Harris	-	Mike Pavey

Bike Group

Gary Jackson 0418 578 863

January Ride

January 29th Ride. Our first ride of the year was held at Shirley and Tom Fenemor's beach house at Somers. For the past 13 years the bike riders would cycle into Balnarring to meet the non-riders for coffee. On our return to the beach house we would enjoy a wonderful lunch with sweets prepared by our hosts.
Great memories had by all and thank you Shirley and Tom.

February Rides

Thursday 5th Three riders cycled from Burnley following the Yarra River along north side to the Morell pedestrian bridge. Then around 'The Tan' to Alexandra Ave to the new Anzac transport interchange. We parked our bikes and took the train into Town Hall station for coffee at Brunetti café, then returned by tram to our bikes. We cycled to Albert Park Lake and rode clockwise around the lake to view the preparations for the Grand Prix. On our way back we stopped by the Shrine of Remembrance then cycled on the south side of the Yarra to Burnley. Thanks David.

Thursday 19th
Six members travelled down to Capel Sound Foreshore to join Thelma and Ian Bourke at their foreshore camp site. Three riders cycled north along the foreshore camping areas of Capel Sound, Rosebud, stopping at the Wildflower café in McCrae to the meet the non-riders for coffee. We continued to Dromana before returning to Rosebud Pier and back to the campsite for a wonderful lunch prepared by Thelma and Ian. Great day out.

March Rides

Thursday 5th Port Melbourne. Meet at 10.00am at Yarra Blvd near Burnley Golf course (Melway Ref 44 K1). We will cycle on the main Yarra Trail North side, crossing over Morell Bridge and continuing through South Bank to Jeff's Shed and connect to Normanby Road trail to Port Melbourne. At Beach Road we will ride to the Gasworks Cafe for refreshments. We will continue on Beach Road to Kerferd Road to connect to Albert Road to Domain Road and Anderson Street, then follow the main Yarra Trail back to Burnley. The ride will be mainly on bike tracks, total distance about 25 kms.
Gary Jackson 0418 578 863

Thursday 19th Dandenong Creek Trail Ride. Meet at 10.00am at the Wantirna Tennis Club Car Park off Mountain Highway 500 metres west of Eastlink (Melway Ref 63 C8). We will ride south through the Dandenong Valley Parklands, past Bunnings and the Waverley Public golf course, through Bushy Park and into Jells Park where coffee and refreshments will be welcomed at the new 'T' House at Jells (where Madeline's Café used to be). Return on either Dandenong Creek or Eastlink Trails, total distance about 20 kms. The ride will be on designated bike tracks with part concrete and/or gravel surfaces. Mostly reasonably flat grade 1 terrain. Leader Mike Pavey 0418 990 815

Walking Group

Rita Hayes 0417 988 859 & Helga O'loughlin 0427 829 000

Rita and I are just starting on this activity so we issue a warm welcome to everyone.
We are open to ideas on how we can we make it enjoyable for all.
The 9th of March is a Holiday (Labour Day) so no walking.

23rd of March
I have chosen the Yarra River Walk, leaving at 10.00 am.
Please arrive at 9.50 am, Hotel Amora, 649 Bridge Rd. Richmond (photo left).
Transport:
Tram # 75 Stop 23 Yarra Boulevard/Bridge Road. Tram # 48 Stop 23
Cars (Melway ref: 45 H9) use side streets - 2 hour parking available.
Our walk will be a moderate and beautiful one no steps except a little incline.
Rita will be away on holiday, so I will be your tour Leader.
Any enquiries, text or phone me.

Indoor section

Mahjong

Barb Richards - 0408 179 885

Our March games will be held over until April at which time a notice will be issued re the date.
It will be good to get back to our games again and I look forward to seeing you all.

Canasta

Thelma Bourke 0417 053 549

The next canasta will be held on Tuesday March 3rd at 7:30 pm, 1st floor lounge, Applewood.

Please note, for the future, to access the entry gates press 8888#
and say you are there for Thelma Bourke's Canasta night.
Any questions, contact me!

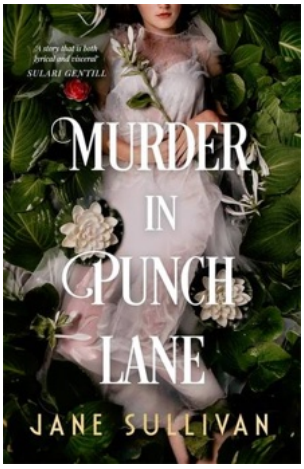
Sew'n' Sews

Barb Richards 0408 179 885

Our March session will be held over until April at which time a notice will be distributed re the date.

Tuesday lunch Book Group

John Curry 0417 581 126



No books were reviewed at our February meeting,

We discussed instead the various books we had read over the holiday period. These ranged from a biography about Quentin Bryce, the former Governor General, to a history of Penfolds Wines and Sally Hepworth's new book "Mad Mabel." A very eclectic group of readers.

At our March meeting we will review "Murder in Punch Lane" by Jane Sullivan. The blurb describes the book as "…a dark and gripping crime novel that maps the sins and secrets of nineteenth century Melbourne."

We shall see!

Outdoors Section

Coffee & Chat

Jan Cheney 0400 889 705

Being the third Tuesday in the month, our next get-together will be on Tuesday 17th of March at 10.00am at Olive Lane Café in the North Balwyn Village Shopping Centre in Doncaster Road.
We regularly have some dozen or so members attending. It is a very pleasant way for newer members to get to know their fellow members and have an enjoyable chat and coffee, at the same time.
You can contact me by text (0400 889 705) or email (jancheney@bigpond.com)to let me know of your attendance.
Or - just turn up! You will be made most welcome to this regular informal get-together.
We look forward to you joining us then.

Outdoors Section

Colin Richards 0406 599 990

BOROONDARA SYMPHONIC BAND INCORPORATED

SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2.30pm Summer Festival Concert at Holy Trinity Kew.
Come along and enjoy this free concert.

Brew and Chew

Ian Phillips 0428 858 272

Should we tip-toe around controversy or plunge right in – a day or so ago, I took myself to Box Hill for a quick bite in the food hall – jammed with CNY celebrations and happy faces (and the occasional Caucasian, besides me). Did I feel threatened or even uncomfortable? No, and the food was delicious.
I suppose Bob Menzies faced a challenge or two when putting the Libs together, enduring a year or two in the wilderness and, more than survived, so there may be hope for a stronger opposition to better hold the Government to account some time – in absence of that, minorities of all colours flourish.
And maybe the US President will open up with his flotilla off-shore Iran to divert attention away from the Supreme Court, redacted files and names and how to pay tariffs back. Not that the UK is in better shape (what is the name of the leader of the opposition – or perhaps the next Labour PM?).

For further information and input, contact me by mobile or irp@alphalink.com.au

Dine - out

John McIntosh 0402 458 061

A lunch has been arranged at the Malvernvale Hotel, 1321 Malvern Rd., Malvern on Thursday 12th March @ 12.30pm.
Attendees please report to the Dine Out desk.

Box Hill RSL is to be held on Monday 16th March, 6.30 for 7.30pm dinner.
Numbers are limited to 20.
ONLY THOSE LISTED CAN ATTEND.

The Movie Group

Norma Griffiths 0438 584 198

MOVIE GROUP NEWS - for March
Movie Review - Hamnet.
The film Hamnet was seen by 10 Probus friends who formed various opinions of the movie.
As the film was set in the times of Tudor England, the interior shots with candle light were dark but atmospheric. The tale had a sad dark storyline in which the son of Will and Agnes Shakespeare died at the age of 11. The cinematography was excellent with shots of the English woodlands a picture to behold.
The acting too was excellent.
This film was based on the book Hamnet written by Maggie O'Farrell; it is a fictitious account of the family life of Shakespeare in Tudor times of poverty, disease and pestilence.

One of our friends stated that he wants a film to be uplifting so I shall do my best with the next film which will be on: WEDNESDAY 4th MARCH.

A separate notice will be sent when the movie timetable becomes available.
Put the date in your diary for Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

Australia Feature

Wonderful things to look at and appreciate about our country!

Floating away from summer and into Autumn

Smile Section
Cartoon of the month

"I think you'll find, sir, our brochure says 'safe beach.' You must have gone into the water."

Thought for the month *

Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked,
the good fortune to remember the ones I do,
and the eyesight to tell the difference!

anonymous