



PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

Associations Incorporation Act 1981 - Registered No A0029363K

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

Chartered on 25 March, 1986, Incorporated on 9 May, 1994

This Probud Club meets at:

Kew Golf Club, 120 Belford Road, East Kew 3102

At 10:00 am, 2nd Tuesday in the Month (excepting January)

The Club can be contacted by email at : portphillipprobud@gmail.com

The Club's web site details are: <https://www.probusportphillip.org.au/>

Issue 450

October 2026

PRESIDENT

Colin Adam

Mob: 0418 483 136

E: cmadam@bigpond.com

SECRETARY

Ruth Bunyan

Mob: 0418 363 784

E: ruthbunyan@bigpond.com

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, 13th October, 2026.

At **Kew Golf Club**, 120 Belford Rd, Kew East. 3102

IMPORTANT DATES and TIMES in October, 2026.

Deadline for Lunch Bookings	5.00 pm	8 th October
Coffee and Fellowship	9.00 am	13 th October
October Meeting	10:00 am	13 th October

Message from the In-coming President – Gail Smith



After three wonderful months away sailing up north, I have now returned to reality — and, rather conveniently, to become your new President! I will take on the role with a mixture of excitement, enthusiasm and, if I am honest, just a little trepidation. I know I have plenty to learn and this will be from everyone around me. However, I am looking forward to the challenge and to working with everyone to make the coming year enjoyable, interesting and, above all, fun. I hope we can share some great outings, good conversations, new experiences and plenty of laughter along the

way. Probus should be a time for all of us in our retirement to savour the days in the best way possible.

There is one small matter I should mention from the outset: my hearing is not quite what it used to be. So, if I occasionally smile and nod when I haven't actually heard what was said, please bear with me — I have discovered that this is a surprisingly effective leadership technique! I am looking forward to getting to know more of you, hearing your ideas (hopefully literally!), and enjoying the year together. After three months sailing, I am certainly back in reality — but I am very pleased that my reality now includes being part of such an enthusiastic group. Perhaps that is one of the great joys of retirement: having the freedom to sail away for three months, come home to a wonderful group of friends, and still have something new and worthwhile to look forward to. If that is what retirement is about, then I think we are all doing rather well

Gail Smith, In-coming President

New member inducted into the Port Phillip Probus Club – Wayne Killingsworth



Wayne Killingsworth was inducted into the Probus Club of Port Phillip at its September Meeting. Wayne, a mechanical engineer, was initially employed by Ford at their Broadmeadows plant for 10 years before joining the Department of Defence, supervising vehicles, parts, and components of munitions to ensure they met specifications.

In 1989 he transferred to the Engineering Development Establishment, Maribyrnong

where he was responsible for heavy logistics vehicles.

During his working life Wayne maintained an interest in 1950 – 1960 British Motor Cycles. Since retiring he has volunteered to assist Maths, Science and Trades teachers at Glenroy Secondary College as well as assisting with Maths and Science in sponsored homework clubs in the North and West of Melbourne.

[Wayne (centre) is pictured above with his sponsor Susan Harraway and the President Colin Adam]

Profile Talk – Monica Buhler

Monica Buhler gave a talk about her career and general background at the September Meeting of Probus. Here is a summary of her talk. [Monica is pictured below during her talk]



Looking back, nursing has been so much more than a job. It has been a journey filled with learning, challenges, wonderful people, and unforgettable experiences. My nursing journey began in Zurich, Switzerland, where I was fortunate to be the youngest student admitted to nursing training at just 17 years.

When I moved to Australia, my Swiss nursing qualification was not recognised, so I decided to retrain and begin again. In 1990, I studied at RMIT, becoming a student again after already working as a qualified nurse — an interesting experience in itself.

Over the years, I completed postgraduate studies in Critical Care, Aviation Nursing, Nursing Education, and Diabetes Education, among other nursing-related areas. Most of my clinical career was spent in critical care. Looking after very sick patients taught me to notice the smallest changes, think ahead, make quick decisions, prioritise, multitask, and, most importantly, stay calm under pressure. These experiences prepared me to become a Flight Nurse, transporting critically ill patients by air for a Swiss retrieval organisation.

I then moved into education, teaching nursing students at RMIT and in the TAFE sector. I quickly discovered that being a good nurse does not automatically make you a good teacher! Teaching also gave me the opportunity to travel to China several times, including to Beijing and Wuhan, and to present at an international healthcare conference in Beijing. Teaching kept me learning, too. Students ask lots of questions, and that is a good thing. More recently, my career took another unexpected turn into research. For the past two years, I have been involved in a research project with my son-in-law, exploring ways to improve chronic disease self-management for people living with heart failure.

Looking back, I feel incredibly grateful for the patients I have cared for, the colleagues I have worked with, the students I have taught, the places I have travelled to, and all the wonderful people I have met along the way. It has been a varied career — challenging, exhausting, exciting, and occasionally all three at once! But most of all, it has been a career I have truly loved.

20 Year Membership Certificate – David Sutherland



David Sutherland (left), former President (2016-17) and former editor of this Newsletter is seen here being awarded his twenty year membership Certificate by the current President, Colin Adam at the September meeting of Probus.

Geelong Getaway 15th – 20th November, 2026 Novotel Geelong, 10-14 Eastern Beach Rd.



The November Getaway in Geelong is now being finalised with 44 members attending. Margaret Hill, working with Colin Adam has put together an exciting draft itinerary with visits to local places of interest, including historical landmarks, vineyards, and restaurants. The accommodation venue is the Novotel Geelong as pictured here.

Coffee and Conversation

10.30 am Tuesday 27th October 2026

The next Coffee and Conversation will be held at
at Rylands, 349 Riversdale Rd, Hawthorn East, not far
from Camberwell Junction and on the route of the 70 and 75 trams.

Please let Allan know if you are coming. Numbers are limited and coffee has to be ordered. Note: Coffee and pastry is now \$10.

Allan Brownrigg, C & C Coordinator: Ph 0420 401 310 or 03 9193 7785
ambrownrigg@optusnet.com.au

October Meeting Speaker– Colin Chipperfield M.A., Ph.D

Will speak on The Science of Fracture and Structural Failures



Everything contains cracks, flaws and defects. The good news is that they are innocuous unless the defect size and / or the local loading are sufficiently large.

The talk seeks to introduce the relationship between crack size, stress and a material property called ‘toughness’ to explain the behaviour of defects and the resistance of materials and structures to failure by fracture. Various materials and their fracture behaviour and performance are considered including steel, glass and carbon fibre

composites, aluminium alloys, diamond. Some key structural failures over the past 80 years will be discussed in detail as a means of illustrating the principles of fracture mechanics and the behaviour of defective structures under stress. These examples include:

- Liberty ship failures in the 1940s
- Early crashes of the Comet 1 aircraft (1954)
- Melbourne’s Kings Street bridge failure (1962)
- Gas pipeline failures
- Automotive windscreens
- Oceangate’s Titan submersible disaster on descent to the Titanic Wreck (2023).

Biography

- Bachelor, Masters & PhD degrees, Cambridge University, UK, majoring in Materials Science
- Over 50 years of experience in the conduct, management and implementation of R&D, innovation and commercialisation programs
- Author or co-author of over 50 peer-reviewed technical papers
- Extensive experience in senior research management positions both in the public and private sectors in the areas of manufacturing, steelmaking, mining, railway technology (including 17 years with BHP), nuclear science and engineering
- Extensive experience in developing and managing multi-disciplinary teams.
- Research management experience particularly in the areas of the steel development, metals manufacturing, the life extension and through-life cost reduction of materials and components (including, by way of example, welding and joining innovation and new surfacing technologies)
- Awards have included an Honorary Professorship at the University of Wollongong, an Adjunct Professorial appointment at the University of Swinburne and an Honorary Fellowship at the Welding Technology Institute of Australia (now Weld Australia).

Catering: October 13 Meeting



•
Meeting, Lunch & Tea/Coffee \$50 pp. Meeting & Tea/Coffee \$10
Tea/Coffee available pre and mid meeting.
Lunch Menu

Main Course

**Seared Barramundi on prawn and potato mash, charred asparagus with lemon
beurre blanc, petite herb salad (gf,nf)**

Dessert:

**White Chocolate, Ricotta and Mango Cheesecake with Raspberry Coulis and
Vanilla Cream**

Booking Arrangements: Please contact me (**Jim Studebaker**) on **0413 304 864** or
wjstudebaker48@gmail.com if you wish to attend lunch or just the meeting on
October 13th. Booking (and payment) must be made no later than **5 pm Thursday**
October 8th

Payment arrangements: Payments by direct credit to the club's bank preferred. For
the NEXT meeting, payment must be cleared into the Club's account no later than **5 pm**
Thursday October 8th and make sure your name is included on the transfer. Please
DO NOT pay before the 1st of the Month

A/C name: "Probus Club of Port Phillip", BSB: 033 058, A/C NO 750921

If paying by cash or cheque, please place in an envelope clearly marked ***Lunch*** or
Tea/Coffee and show your name and those of your attendees. The correct amount must
be tendered as no change is given. Envelopes need to be prepared before arrival.
Everyone who has paid will be given a table number and can request one for a guest.

Jim Studebaker - Catering Officer Ph 0413 304 864

• wjstudebaker48@gmail.com

October Visit – Wilson Botanical Park

668 Princes Hwy., Berwick

Tuesday October 20, 11.00 am



[Above] A view of the Wilson Botanical Park

The next Probus visit will be to the Wilson Botanic Park, 668 Princes Highway, Berwick on Tuesday 20th October. This is an ideal time to visit this garden which is in an old quarry with lots of trees, lakes and flowers. At 11am there is a video and bus tour which takes about an hour and a half with an expert guide who will explain what we are seeing and tell us about the history of the park. The cost will be \$8 per person which includes a cup of tea or coffee. This payment is paid at reception when you arrive.

There is a cafe at the park which has toasties and other simple food for lunch afterwards.

The East Pakenham train takes about an hour from the city. At Berwick station you catch the 828 or 839 bus which meets the train and goes to a stop opposite the entrance to the park. Please tell the bus driver you want to stop at the park and press the stop button. It is only about a five minute bus journey. You then cross the Princes Highway which is dual carriage, and take a short walk to the Park. Alternatively, you can drive to the Park where there is car parking. However, using the train and bus saves you looking out for potholes and is an easy option.

There will be a signup sheet at the October Probus meeting so I can inform the Park how many people will be going on the Park bus.

Susan Harraway: susanrharraway@gmail.com

There is no report on the September visit to the Farren Bicycle Collection, as it had to be cancelled because of insufficient numbers.

Access our club website from anywhere in the world, at any time.

<https://www.probusportphillip.org.au/> Adrian Farrell - Webmaster

Contributions: The Victorian Opera 2027

By Peter Laver



(Above) Taken from *The Magic Pudding: The Opera*. Produced by the Victorian Opera in 2026. Still available on-line till the end of this year

Opera is not for everyone but in the new season of Victorian Opera there will be something most of us could find interesting and entertaining. If they live up to the expectations of past seasons there will be four or five star reviews, a few things not seen before and work for many of the brilliant young professional singers and musicians Australia has produced.

Highlights for 2007 include in January, Artistic Director Stuart Maunder's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*, all about fairies, with Rhonda Burchmore as their Queen. In March there is Mozart's arguably most popular opera *Marriage of Figaro*. The full version is a bit numbing for some, so the VO version will be stripped down to preserve the essentials.

In June/July there will be a new production of *Streetcar Named Desire*, a popular modern opera, written by jazz pianist Andre Previn, based on a Tennessee Williams play. Marlon Brando starred in the film but is unavailable.

In September, *Der Freischutz* by Weber is programmed. All about a shooting competition with some stirring music. Very Germanic and not presented often so I have not seen it but know and very much enjoy the music.

Victoria Opera is a high quality, very innovative and professional. For anyone who appreciates opera, or is curious to find out more about it, Victorian Opera is a good start.

More details of their program can be found on – victorianopera.com.au/season-27

Camberwell Chorale presents ...



**2.30 pm Sunday 18 October
Hawthorn Arts Centre**

Join Camberwell Chorale and the Camerata Orchestra for an afternoon performance of *Elijah*, a large-scale sacred oratorio by Felix Mendelssohn which tells the story of the biblical prophet Elijah, a work that is dramatic and vivid, and is known for its strong sense of narrative, memorable melodies and emotional range.

Featuring distinguished soloists ...

Lee Abrahmsen (soprano)
Kerrie Bolton (mezzo soprano)
Paul Biencourt (tenor)
Kiran Rajasingam (bass)

Conductor – **Douglas Heywood OAM**

Tickets \$65 (Concession \$60, Students \$35)
Phone (03) 9278 4770 or use the online booking link

<https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/events/camberwell-chorale-presents-mendelssohns-elijah>

Tickets on sale now!

Newsletter Editor – **Graham Marshall**

Mob: 0408 308 382 Email graham.marshall8@icloud.com

The November Probus Meeting is on November 10

The Closing date for the November Newsletter is Wednesday October 28, 2026