



PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

Associations Incorporation Act 1981 - Registered No A0029363K

JUNE NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

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

This Probus 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 : portphillipprobus@gmail.com

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

Issue 446

June 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, 9th June, 2026

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

IMPORTANT DATES and TIMES in June, 2026

Deadline for Lunch Bookings	5.00 pm	4 th June	page 4
Coffee and Fellowship	9.00 am	9 th June	
March Meeting	10:00 am	9 th June page 3

Message from the President – Colin Adam



I have received the resignation of our new Secretary, Ruth Bunyan. She has said that she found the role both interesting and rewarding. Ruth has other responsibilities which she has told me require priority, and which have precluded her devoting the necessary time to Probus. Our Management Committee is grateful for her assistance during the past three months. Our previous Secretary, Vaughan Beck, has generously agreed to take on his former role for June, but, he is unable to continue with

this. It is unfair for us to expect him to do so. We are now seeking a new Secretary, as well a small team to organise the November trip to Canberra.

Again, I need to draw to your attention the fact that we are still seeking a new Speaker Coordinator. I thank Margaret Hill for finding new speakers, and for assisting me until a new volunteer emerges. We have a capable and committed Committee, and I owe them a debt of gratitude for their encouragement and support. I will be asking them to help approach you all, as members, to consider undertaking one of our three vacant positions.

It is important for our membership to understand that a small number of dedicated volunteers keep our Club operational, and that it is critical that we do not overwork this group. Several smaller Probus groups have recently ceased to operate, with their members unable to fill positions of responsibility. I personally am finding it very challenging to undertake more duties for Probus. I have regular family commitments and other responsibilities which, as Ruth has described, need to take priority.

I would also like to schedule short “Volunteer” presentations – an opportunity to share your wider work in the community. Please let me know of your interest in speaking for a few minutes on this interesting facet of your lives.

Please consider accepting responsibility for one of our vacant positions.

Colin Adam President 2026-27

Annual Subscriptions Now Due – John Frew, Treasurer

The Annual Subscription (or “Subs”) for Members is \$60.00 per annum and fall due on 1 April 2026. They are payable by all Members, excluding Life Members, conferred Non-Active Members and Associates.

If paying your Annual Subscription by cash at the Front Desk, please include \$60.00 in a separate sealed envelope with your name and the word “Subs” on the envelope.

If paying your Annual Subscription by Bank transfer, please keep the payment separate to any “Lunch” or “Morning Tea” payment and include your name and the word “Subs” on your bank entry.

The Club’s Westpac Bank A/c is as follows:

A/c Name: Probus Club of Port Phillip Inc.

BSB: 033 058

Account No: 750 921

However, if you are paying your Annual Subscription by cash “over the counter” at a bank branch, your name will not show against the payment on the Club’s bank statement, so please call me or email me and let me know that you have made the deposit, otherwise we have no way of crediting you with having paid your Subscription.

John Frew– Treasurer Mob: 0407210441, Email:frewjohn@bigpond.com

Speaker for the June Meeting – Carmel Mckenzie

Will speak on “Early St Kilda”

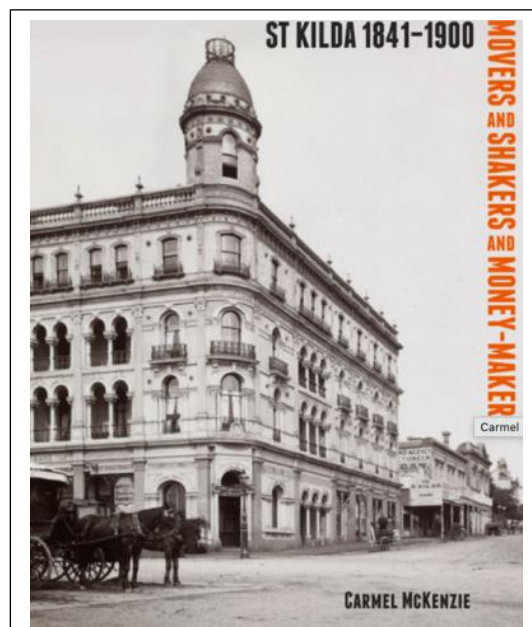


[Carmel McKenzie](#) is an award-winning author (see below) and historian who will share surprising and often amusing insights into nineteenth-century St Kilda, then the wealthiest suburb in Melbourne and known Australia-wide as a bastion of privilege and power until its golden age imploded in the 1890s.

Far from being a typical local history presentation, Carmel will consider the global turmoil in the 1860’s and 1870s that drove some fascinating characters to emigrate to St Kilda, and reveal how nineteenth-century St Kilda reflected, and affected, the social, political and economic history of Victoria.

**This book is social history
at its very best’
Winner, 2023 [Victorian
Premier’s History Award](#)**

**‘She shows herself with
this work to be amongst
the nation’s best
popularly accessible
amateur historians’
Review, *Victorian
Historical Journal*, June
2024**



Catering: June 9 Meeting



Meeting, Lunch & Tea/Coffee **\$50 pp.** Meeting & Tea/Coffee **\$10**

Tea/Coffee available pre and mid meeting.

Lunch Menu

Main Course

Grilled pork rib eye topped with a brioche and herb crust, apple and broad bean puree, fondant potato, green beans, red wine sauce.

Dessert:

Chocolate ganache tart, flake crumbs, petite macron, vanilla cream, edible flowers

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 June 9th. Booking (and payment) must be made no later than 5 pm Thursday June 4th.

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 June 4th 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

June Visit – Victoria Police Museum and William Angliss Restaurant

11.00 am Tuesday 16 June



Our June visit is to the Victoria Police Museum followed by lunch (optional) at the nearby William Angliss Institute restaurant.

The Police Museum is located on the ground floor of the new Victoria Police headquarters building at 313 Spencer Street, Melbourne, on the west side of Spencer St close to the

La Trobe St intersection. As such, it is two city blocks walk from the Bourke St end of Southern Cross station and tram route 86 runs right past the building (alight at La Trobe St). The museum itself, although not large, traces the history and the many facets of community policing including past and present forensic techniques, tools and equipment, artifacts from notorious past crimes, and the part policing in plays Victoria's social fabric. Entry is free.

The plan is that we meet out the front of the Museum entry by 11 am and enter as a group where will be given a short verbal introduction to the Museum and its contents by one of the museum staff. Participants will then be able to look at the exhibits and explanatory panels at their own pace. (Any late arrivals can let the Museum reception know that they are a part of the PPPC group and proceed to the displays).

At noon – for those who opt in – we have a reservation at the nearby William Angliss Institute restaurant in La Trobe St. This restaurant is staffed by senior hospitality students under staff supervision and enjoys good reviews for its quality of food and service. Whilst the menu choices are limited the charges are modest – entree \$11, main course \$23. By dining at this restaurant, we will be facilitating students gaining practical experience in their chosen vocation whilst under expert supervision. (A copy of the menu will be available with the booking sheet at the June meeting).

Final numbers for the lunch option are required by Tuesday 9 June. Please use the booking sheet at the front desk during the June meeting. Any members wishing to participate who have not previously recorded their name on the booking sheet and will not be at the June meeting should contact **Miles Pierce 0429 349 832, milwen@ozemail.com.au** before **9 June**.

April/May Visits Reports – Airways Museum and Burnley Gardens



In April, we visited the Civil Aviation Historical Society & Airways Museum in Essendon Heights. The museum holds a nationally significant collection tracing the development of Australia's civil aviation airways system from the 1920s to today, showing the country's leading role in aviation innovation.

Twelve members attended. Our guide, air traffic controller Phil Vabre, gave an excellent tour, sharing deep knowledge of systems and equipment installed throughout

Australia after the Second World War. We also watched a video on the history of airline travel and control systems, which enriched our understanding of the exhibits.

Afterwards, we enjoyed coffee and tea with biscuits, followed by a convivial lunch at the nearby BASQ restaurant, rounding off a successful and enjoyable club outing.



On May 15 a group of 15 of us visited Burnley Gardens for a guided tour organised by Judith Scurfield, leader of the Friends of Burnley guides. We split into two groups to explore this leafy oasis within the University of Melbourne's Burnley campus. Over an hour and a half, we followed winding paths and open lawns ringed with pines and wisteria. The nine-hectare, heritage-listed gardens

contain nearly 1,000 plant species, some of Melbourne's oldest trees, and several historic buildings.

Located on Wurundjeri land, Burnley Gardens has been a horticultural teaching and research centre since the 1860s. Highlights included early horticultural teaching facilities that welcomed women students from the 1920s, the Luffman Lily Ponds, the old Milking Shed and Bull Paddock, and the billabong and native plantings along the Yarra River.

After the tour, we enjoyed lunch at the nearby Mint Lane Restaurant.

Dedrie Green 2026-27 Visits Co-ordinator Ph: 0407 093 124 Email:
dedriegreen@gmail.com

Coffee and Conversation

The next Coffee and Conversation will be held at

10.30 am Tuesday 23rd June 2026

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.

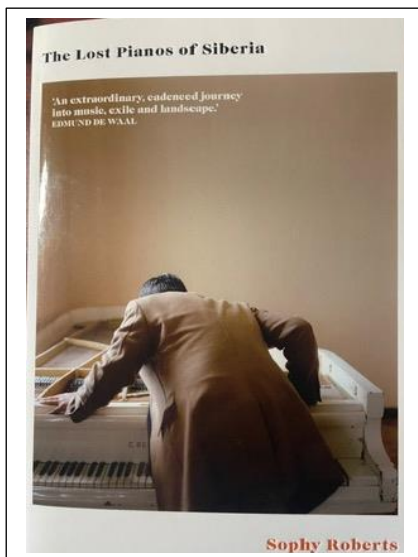
Allan Brownrigg, C & C Coordinator: Ph 0420 401 310 or 03 9193 7785
ambrownrigg@optusnet.com.au

Wellbeing Coordinator

Members who wish to inform the Club of the illness of themselves or of others, please contact;

Ursula Tursky Ph 0429 459 759 or e-mail ursulatursky@gmail.com

Contributions 1: Book Review – *The Lost Pianos of Siberia* by Sophy Roberts



Reviewed by Ursula Tursky: *The Lost Pianos of Siberia* by Sophy Roberts

Most of us think of Siberia as the place of gulags or bird migration. This book, however, is about music, survival, politics, and hospitality, a defiant culture in a very remote place. Only once did Roberts travel to Siberia in summer and was almost eaten by huge mosquitoes; subsequent visits took place in minus 40 to 50 degree Celsius, when warmth poured from the hearts of Siberians. Music and theatre provided nourishment and even temperamental outbursts. Icy temperatures and frosty regimes may take the reader

on a ride of interpretive challenges but one also discovers where a certain big country has been buying its gold.

Contributions 2: AI is here for everyone – including retirees (Part 2) - By Adrian Farrell



Image created by ChatGPT –
See P 9

In the last edition of this Newsletter (May 2026) we published an article on *How Artificial Intelligence can empower retirees*, drafted by ChatGPT under the direction of Adrian Farrell.

Adrian explained what he did as follows;

After logging into ChatGPT I started the conversation with, “I would like an article on how can AI empower retirees”. This promptly generated an informative, two-page, 627 word article consisting of seven main points with examples where AI has a place. This is the 627 word article we published last month.

On instruction from Adrian, ChatGPT was then asked to produce a shorter version which it did. This version of 161 words we reproduce below.

However, as Adrian pointed out

One important part left out of this 161 word abbreviated version was the point about Challenges and Considerations: While AI offers many benefits, there are challenges to address:

- *Digital literacy: Some retirees may need support learning new technologies.*
- *Privacy concerns: Handling personal data securely is essential.*
- *Accessibility: Interfaces must be simple, intuitive, and inclusive.*

How AI Can Empower Retirees (Shortened 161 word Version created by ChatGPT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping retirement by helping people live more independently, stay connected, and maintain their wellbeing.

AI-powered assistants like Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant can support daily routines by setting reminders for medications, appointments, and tasks. Smart home features also improve safety by automating lighting and detecting unusual activity.

In healthcare, devices from Apple—such as smartwatches—can monitor vital signs and detect falls, while telehealth services make it easier to access medical care from home. These tools can help identify early signs of conditions like Type 2 Diabetes.

AI also helps reduce loneliness. Apps like Zoom and WhatsApp keep retirees connected with loved ones, while AI companions provide conversation and engagement.

Beyond this, AI supports lifelong learning and financial management, helping retirees learn new skills and manage their savings more effectively.

Overall, AI empowers retirees to live safer, healthier, and more connected lives—turning retirement into a time of opportunity rather than limitation.

Adrian then asked ChatGPT to create an image: “Create a high-quality photo of a senior person using a tablet to make a ChatGPT request”. The photo appeared some 30 seconds later.

ChatGPT and other AI tools can help us retirees in many ways. If you haven’t tried it, I would encourage you to do so. It’s fun and rewarding. (See image created by ChatGPT on P8)

Adrian Farrell adrianfarrell33@gmail.com www.candowisdom.com

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in the contributions section of the newsletter are entirely the responsibility of the individual author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Club or any member associated with the Club. On this understanding contributions are welcome from all members on a range of matters including film, art, literature, concerts, exhibitions, the arts generally, the sciences, travel, broad aspects of Australian and overseas culture, in fact any activity that might be of interest to other Probus members. (Ed)

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

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

Newsletter Editor – **Graham Marshall**

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

Please send copy for the next newsletter to Graham

The July Probus Meeting is on July 14

The Closing date for the July Newsletter is Wednesday **July 1, 2026**