



# PROBUS CLUB OF MOUNT ELIZA *INC*

Po Box 667 Mt Eliza 3930  
Founded 1985 Registration No. A0011403Y

Meetings commence 9.45am second Monday of the month. If Public Holiday, then third Monday.

**Bulletin No. 384**

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

Committee Members 2017-18	
President: Carol Spencer 9787 5825	V/President: Brian Mellady 5973 6218
Secretary: Brian Coughlan 9775 3361	Treasurer: Andy Troy 9787 2146
Tours/Ent: Mardi Malone 9775 3546	Speakers: James Malone 9775 3546
Membership: John Roberts 9787 1322	House: Estelle Gold 9787 3682
Bulletin: Deborah Fleiner 9775 2535	Welfare: Maxine Coughlan 9775 3361

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Probuss Friends

Another Probuss year begins with some new members on our Committee. I was delighted with the response from our members to take a role.

We enjoyed a lovely changeover lunch at **Norwood House** and it was a happy occasion for all. Thank you **Estelle** for your great organization. We missed **John Chambers**, who has been back and forth to hospital to get his health on track. We wish you all the very best John.

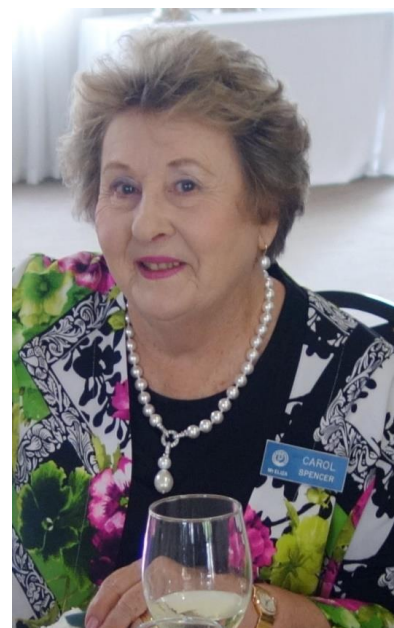
At our first Committee Meeting we discussed some new ideas to refresh our club and new places to visit. Please come along to these outings to support our club, and find new friends whose company you can enjoy.

We have introduced a new feature which we are calling **Fine Dining**. There will be a dinner or lunch every second month to a restaurant or venue, to be announced in our bulletin.

Mardi is working hard to bring us some different outings to places we haven't been before.

The visit to **Panorama Gardens** in Boneo on the Peninsular should be very enjoyable. This venue is newly built and opened to the public about eighteen months ago. Afterwards we are off to **Montalto Winery** to have lunch in The Piazza.

This is a good start to our year ahead.



**Carol**

## OUR MARCH MEETING

**Attendance:** 56 present, 19 apologies, 1 non-response, plus 1 visitor.

**President: John Chambers** opened the meeting by welcoming all members and visitors, and called for any apologies. He acknowledged the passing of **Lucille Reubens** who died on 15<sup>th</sup> February, and **Jack Andrew**, who died on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Lucille had firstly been a member of the Ladies Group, and continued after the merger. Jack had been a member for sixteen years, and was secretary in 2006/7. John described him as a "Christian Gentleman".

**Vice President: Carol Spencer** said that there had been a good attendance for the lunch at CB's after the meetings and that they will continue.

**Secretary: Catherine Johnson** requested that the minutes of the previous meeting be passed and accepted. Various pieces of correspondence were discussed including a resignation from **Jan Elliott**. Catherine thanked the membership for understanding her idiosyncrasies throughout the year.

**Treasurer: Lindsay Gordon** advised the members of the current financial position and said that the club was in a healthy state of affairs.

**Tours and Outings: Estelle Gold** spoke of the **Changeover Lunch on Wednesday 22nd March 2017 at Norwood House** and mentioned that some members were yet to pay. She also said that there was one place left for the visit to **Panorama Gardens**. She also asked for expressions of interest for a cruise next year to **New Zealand**. Estelle then thanked the members for their support during the past year, and introduced **Mardi Malone**, who is to be our new Tours and Entertainment Officer. Mardi spoke of the upcoming events at the **Frankston Arts Centre**.

**Speakers: Neil Gold** announced that the April speaker will be **Wendy Johnston** who will be speaking on 24hour home care. He then introduced **James Malone** who will be our new officer for Speakers. James asked the members to advise him if there was any particular subject or speaker they would like to hear.

**Golf: Graeme Buckley** advised that the **Ken McArthur Trophy** will be played on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** against **Melbourne Probus**, and that **Margaret McArthur** will present the trophy to the winning team.



**Investment Club: Max Batchelor** reported that we are still in volatile times. Because of Donald Trump, people still do not know where things are going. If all promises are kept, then the USA will go broke.

The Australian Stock Market is still below what it was in 2007 before the GFC. Other Stock Markets in the world are doing better. Having said that, the market is up by 2.1%. The Probus competition is up by 1.7% from last month and overall 2.4%. **Andy Troy** is doing well on paper and has made a profit of \$20k in less than three months. **Diane Griffiths**, who is very conservative, is running second at 15% and **Graeme Buckley** third with 11%.

Max thought that there are strange things happening in the club, with the Ladies up 5.3%, while the Men lagged behind with 0.7%.

**Book Club:** **Lindsay Gordon** was the discussion leader for the March 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting so he gave the report: 'There were nine members present at the new home of **Brian and Lynn Mellady** for our review of the first book of the year, "**The Grapes of Wrath**"



The book describes the life of a family leaving a drought stricken farm in Oklahoma USA during the depression years, for a better life in California. The group comprises Pa; Ma; six children aged mid-twenties down to age ten; and a couple of "hangers on".

Discussion ensued on the format of the book where chapters alternated between the family's story, and general chapters on the political and civil situation in the USA at the time. Some of the group were distracted by this, wanting to just get on and read the story of the family's difficulties.

The novel is classified as a classic, and we discussed at length what makes a book a classic. The consensus was that the book must have relevance to the public in general, years or even centuries after it was written to be considered a classic. In this case seventy eight years.

In all, a lively discussion with all members contributing.

### **Speakers:**

There was no main speaker today due to the Annual General Meeting. However, **Margaret McArthur** gave a wonderful 10 minute talk entitled "**My Connection with Brazil**". Margaret and her husband Ken, were very involved in the Student Exchange Programme, and entertained fifty eight students during that time. Five from Arizona, Canada, Japan and Brazil actually lived with them.

The students from Japan and Brazil were a particular challenge, due to the language and cultural differences; however, they have kept in contact with them. They still call Margaret "Mum" forty years on.

Margaret and Ken went to visit one student called **Sergio** and his family in Brazil. Sergio had been a very friendly boy, who got on well with the McArthur children, but was dreadfully homesick and wanted to return home. Communication was limited with Sergio's family; however they seemed to manage with lots of signs, body language and laughs. The father being a Doctor had a good understanding of English.



The family made Margaret and Ken feel very welcome, and they had a wonderful two weeks exploring several cities and experiencing the rich Brazilian culture.

The **General Meeting** was closed by **John Chambers** at 10.30am.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NO.32

The **AGM** commenced after morning tea at 11.00am.

**President: John Chambers** asked that the minutes of the previous AGM be accepted and signed by the President and Secretary. There were no matters arising. He stated that he would not read the President's Report, as it had been published in the March Bulletin. The report was passed by the members.

**Treasurer: Lindsay Gordon** announced that an audited copy of the Annual Treasurer's report was available for anyone who was interested. The club has made a loss, which is in line with the budget, in order to bring the bank balance down to sufficient funds to run the club effectively. Funds do not earn interest, so there is no point in holding too much. The goal is to have no more than \$2000 to \$3000. The budget for 2017-18 is also available for perusal. It is based on a membership of 80, with the assumption to break even on events and outings. There are fixed costs that should be covered by member subscriptions. Lindsay moved that the annual subscription be raised to \$50 per year, with the joining fee set at \$20. This was passed by the membership.

**Election of Office Bearers: John Chambers** announced that all positions were vacant and that there had been one nomination for each.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Carol Spencer</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Brian Mellady</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Brian Coughlan</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Andy Troy</b>
<b>Tours and Entertainment:</b>	<b>Mardi Malone</b>
<b>Speakers:</b>	<b>James Malone</b>
<b>Bulletin:</b>	<b>Deborah Fleiner</b>
<b>House:</b>	<b>Estelle Gold</b>
<b>Welfare:</b>	<b>Maxine Coughlan</b>
<b>Membership:</b>	<b>John Roberts</b>



All nominations were declared and appointed.



**Carol Spencer** as the new president thanked the members for their support and closed the **Annual General Meeting** at 11.30am.

## FUTURE SPEAKERS

**Today:** Short Talk: **Andy Troy** "Relations"  
Main Talk: **Wendy Johnston** from **Freedom Aged Care**

**May:** Short Talk: **Carol Spencer** "Gerry Brown Delta Flight 15"  
Main Talk: **Darylle Kelly** "Gemmology"

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

5 Brian Mellady    9 Judy Crook    9 Kay Stephen    11 Len Christie  
12 Christine Hallam    25 Robin Cooper    29 Jane Long



## THE CHANGEOVER LUNCH MARCH 22<sup>nd</sup> NORWOOD HOUSE



A delicious meal was enjoyed by members at **Norwood House**, to commemorate the induction of the new committee for 2017-18. The option of Roast Pork or Beef, followed by Lemon Tart or Sticky Date pudding went down a treat. The absence of **Past President John Chambers** due to ill health was sadly noted by all. We all wish John good health for the future.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Tours and Outings: **Mardi Malone** 9775 3546

**April 2017** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am \$25 pp Car Pooling.  
**Panorama Gardens Browns Road Boneo**  
**20 places available**

**May 2017** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 am Car Pooling **15 places available**  
**Dandenong Market Tour**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> **Frankston Arts Centre - Big, Blonde & Beautiful**  
*Celebrate the music of history's favourite iconic blonde songs*

**June 2017** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> **Frankston Arts Centre - Rachael Beck and Michael Cormick.** *A magical theatrical experience of musicals such as Chess, Les Miserables and Chicago.*



**Coffee & Chat @ Degani's: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am.** Meet up with friends at Degani's for half an hour (or more) & enjoy a relaxing tea or coffee and a chat. No need to book – just come along.

**Sylvia Chambers 9775 4498**

**Lunch at Canadian Bay Hotel:** All members are invited to join **Keith and Carol Spencer** for lunch at the **Canadian Bay Hotel** after the Monthly General Meetings. There is a specials menu that includes a glass of wine for \$22. Please let Carol know if you would like to attend by Morning Tea, so that she can make the booking.



**Bi- Monthly Fine Dining:** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00 pm  
**Licciardos's Gallery Bar and Grill,**  
1408 Nepean Hwy Mount Eliza.

**Cathy Toft** is introducing **Fine Dining**, to include restaurants and wineries for lunch or dinner, weekdays as well as weekends.

Please contact **Cathy** for details and bookings on **97879561**



**Membership Drive:** Vice President **Brian Mellady** is organising a **Membership Drive** to be held outside **Ritchie's Supermarket** on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April** between **9am and 3pm**, and **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April** between **9am and 1pm**. Members will be asked at the next meeting to volunteer an hour of their time to man the display and talk to anyone who is interested in joining the club. This has proved successful in past years, so your assistance would be appreciated.



**Committee for 2017-2018**

**Brian Coughlan** (Secretary) **Maxine Coughlan** (Welfare) **Deborah Fleiner** (Bulletin)  
**Andy Troy** (Treasurer) **Carol Spencer** (President) **Brian Mellady** (Vice President)  
**Mardi Malone** (Tours & Ent) **Estelle Gold** (House) **John Roberts** (Membership)

Would any member who is unable to attend a general meeting please send their apologies to Membership Officer **John Roberts** Ph: **9787 1322** or email [j\\_jroberts@hotmail.com](mailto:j_jroberts@hotmail.com).

**Next General Meeting:** 9.45am on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at the  
Uniting Church, Canadian Bay Rd. Mount Eliza.

**Next Committee Meeting:** 9.30am on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at the  
home of Brian and Lyn Mellady.