

Grey Matter

November 2025

Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club



Post: PO Box 85, Balwyn North, 3104

Email: info@greythornprobus.org.au

Web: <http://www.greythornprobus.org.au>



Good ol'
Charlie Brown



Judy's Journal

Greetings Greythornians,

It's hard to believe we are having our final General Meeting for the year next week, where has 2025

gone?

However when you look back at all the activities Greythorn has managed to fit in since January, it's clear we've been so busy no wonder time has flown.

And, in the final seven weeks of 2025 we still have many enjoyable things to be a part of, culminating in our not to be missed Xmas lunch at the beautiful Greenacres Golf Club.

I hope you have put your name down to attend, it promises to be another great day.

We have welcomed a number of new members this year & this month we welcome seven more.

We hope you join as many activities as you can, make new friends, enjoy our fellowship & have some fun along the way.

Your Committee are very disappointed we have received only one nomination for committee positions for 2026. All positions are open, please have a think about what you can do for your club, a club that has done so much for all of us over 18 years.

Some of us are off to Linga Longa in Yarrawonga at the end of the month, safe travels, we look forward to hearing about your adventures on your return.

Best Wishes
Judy

REMEMBER FOR ALL MEETINGS and ACTIVITIES

Your **Name Badge**, Probus medical card, comfy shoes, hat, sunscreen, phone and coat (if rain possible).

Our final General Meeting for 2025 will be held at the North Balwyn Uniting Church (St. Aidans) hall on

Tuesday, 11 November

Our speaker for November will be

Sgt. Matthew Bettiol

Matthew's presentation will be an overview of Victoria Police forensics capabilities.

Matt has been a member of Victoria Police for 16 years, 9 of which have been within the Forensic Services Department.

A qualified crime scene examiner with particular skills in hazardous material crime scenes (illegal drug labs, suspicious substances etc) and disaster victim identification, he currently manages the crime scene unit based out of Box Hill police station.

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

As always, remember to check with your organizer/convenor for any changes to times, dates or venues.

Later activities— Coming Up —refer page 8

Scrabble	3 rd
Greythorn Melbourne Cup Day Picnic—Beckett Park	4 th
Committee Meeting	5 th
Solo	6 th
General Meeting	11 th
Canasta	12 th
Theatre— <i>The Beggars Sing The Seekers</i>	12 th
3rd Sunday Lunch	16 th
Walking for Enjoyment	17 th
Film & lunch	18 th
Discussion	18 th
Garden Appreciation— <i>Duneira House & Garden, Mount Macedon & combined Xmas Lunch</i>	
Creative Pursuits & Gardens groups	20 th
Book Group 2	21 st
Tour & Outings— <i>North East Silo Tour 6 days from</i>	23 rd
Investors	25 th
Secret Men's Business Olive Lane	25 th
Book Group 1	27 th



Welfare

*To All Members who are unwell
Best wishes from your friends at
Greythorn!*

Cards have been sent to those who are unwell.

*If you come to a club meeting while you have a cough
or cold please wear a mask.*

Members are also invited to pass on information about members in need of assistance or support, including those who are ill, had falls etc to the Club's Welfare Coordinator, Marg Steele. Please send information to welfare@greythornprobus.org.au

Marg Steele

Welfare Coordinator

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Louise GILLET	2
Ian FRESHWATER	3
Ilsa ROSE	3
Judy BAILEY	6
Peggy JOHNSON	9
Diane ROBINSON	9
Roy PRICE	11
Peter PHELAN	12
Calvin CRISP	13
Liz JERICHO	17
Angela JOHNS	17
Pene WHITELEY	17
Kaye CREEK	22
Pam ESSERY	24
Peter GILLET	24
Phil PITSIKAS	24
Robin WILLIAMS	25
Janet COOK	27

and for December:

Mary MARSHALL	3
Carolyn SMYTH	6
Wendy LE GET	7
Anne PONSFORD	9
Peter OGIER	16
John QUARTEL	16
Ken PURNELL	17
Geoff JEWELL	18

Christmas Lunch



**Tuesday, 2 December 2025
@ 12 noon**

We are delighted to be returning to
Greenacres Golf Club
51 Elm Grove, Kew East VIC 3102
for our Christmas lunch

Cost to Members \$70
Non Members \$85

3 course meal & light-hearted, fun entertainment provided by Paul Gillett, guitar/vocals. Songs to enjoy, sing along with, dance to! Release your "young-at-heart self" and join in at our Christmas Lunch!!



**Payment via EFT latest by
11 November 2025 to Club
bank account.**

Convenors: Margaret Cox
Barbara Van Woerkom

It would be appreciated by all if people refrained from talking during the meeting whilst someone is speaking on the microphone. It is distracting for the speaker and for those in the audience. Please make it easier for all of us to hear.



Birthdays continued

.....Happy Birthday to our members who celebrate in January

Jan JAMES	2
Stephanie FLIEGNER	3
Russ DAWE	12
Ann PRICE	18
Margaret MARCH	19
Michael SINCLAIR	20
Lisa ZUCCALA	21
Adrienne SALVAGNO	23
Liz OLIE	28

Click the link below to
Celebrate ageing and share your dreams

Before I turn 100—
reflect, connect, dream

From Boroondara Active Ageing

Scrabble

Monday 3 November at 1.30 pm

Host was Glenys Chalk.

Monday 1 December at
12.30 pm

Host is Elaine Provan.

This is our Christmas lunch

and game. Please note earlier time. Please let Elaine know by Friday 28 November if attending.

Monday 2 February 2026 at 1.30 pm

Host is Glenys Chalk. Please let Glenys know by Friday 30 January if attending.

Convenor: Glenys Chalk



NEXT GREY MATTER - Important reminder

It's likely that, with the Christmas break, there won't be a full Grey Matter in December or January. If you have an item that *needs* to be disseminated via Grey Matter over that period please send it to the newsletter mailbox (newsletter@greythornprobud.org.au) by **Tuesday 25 November 2025**

Solo

Thursday, 6 November 2025 @ 7.30 pm
(please note change of time)

Game commences at 7:30pm and Pat McLellan is the host. Please note the change of time and advise Pat if you will be playing.

Thursday 4 December @ 12noon

This will be the group's Christmas Celebration at the home of Peter and Ann Harman. Please contact Ann to confirm your attendance (or otherwise).

Convenor: Denise Powell

Canasta

Wednesday, 12 November 2025 @ 7.30 pm

Kevin O'Connor will host the November Canasta at his home at 7.30pm. Please advise Kevin if attending

December will see the final gathering for 2025 with a **Christmas Dinner** on a date & location to be determined at the November play.

Convenor: Denise Boschetti

3rd Sunday Lunch

Sunday, 16 November 2025 @ 11:30am



The venue is the Box Hill RSL,
26-28 Nelson Rd., Box Hill.

For bookings call Diane O'Brien by November 14th.

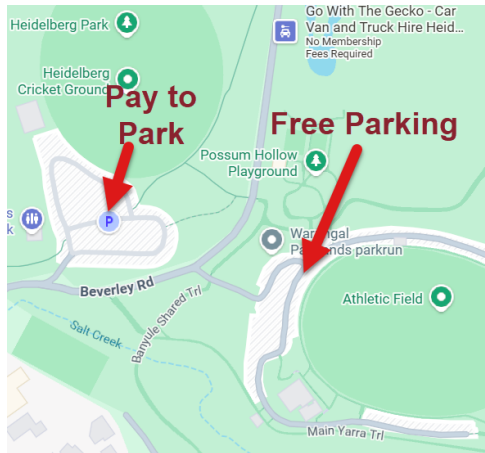
No 3rd Sunday lunch in December or January

Convenor: Diane O'Brien



Walking for Enjoyment

Monday, 17 November 2025 @ 10.00 am
Walk Main Yarra Trail - Warringal Parklands.
 Meet in the car park off Beverley Rd., Heidelberg
 Melway32 C4
 Coffee en-route
 Lunch at the Old England Hotel, Heidelberg
 12 noon (.....you don't have to walk)
 Put your name down by 14th November
Monday 15th December 10.00am
 Kew Billabong to Darebin Parklands
 Meet near the corner of Wattle Rd & Willow Grv.
 Kew East
 Melway 45 F1
 Coffee @ Briquettes
Convenor: John Astle



The rain stopped just before our walkers set off (as usual) but, of course, coffee was necessary by the half way point. [Delaying over the coffee for a bit too long, the return journey was actually in the rain]

Our thanks to Boroondara for their support of our club and its activities



Film Luncheon

Tuesday, 18 November 2025—Palace Cinema, Balwyn



Film and time will be announced at General Meeting. Optional lunch at East & Co following film.
 This will be the final film for 2025—to resume in February '26.
PLEASE HAVE CORRECT MONEY (\$12.00) IN NAMED ENVELOPE.

Thank you for all your support throughout the year.

Convenor: Joan Teele

Discussion Group

Roy has indicated he wishes to step down as Convenor of the Discussion Group. Those attending the October Discussion were of the opinion that we should keep the Discussion Group going—that it's different in nature from the successful Secret Men's Business. **We require, therefore, a volunteer to act as Discussion Group Convenor.**

Tuesday 18 November @ 11:00am

This would be the regular date for the group's November meeting. Perhaps, for November, instead of meeting in the Harp's "Board Room" we could meet at **12 noon** in the bistro for a chat over lunch particularly on any ideas for this group for 2026. Please let Russ know—by text or email to discussion@greythornprobud.org.au if you will attend so we can book for lunch.



A very successful "Meet & Greet" morning was held on our normal monthly meeting date—celebrating 'Seniors Month' & 'Probud Month'.

We were very pleased to welcome several folk from the Boroondara community to the function.





Garden Appreciation & Creative Pursuits

Thursday, 20 November 2025 - Duneira House & Garden, Officer Lane, Mount Macedon

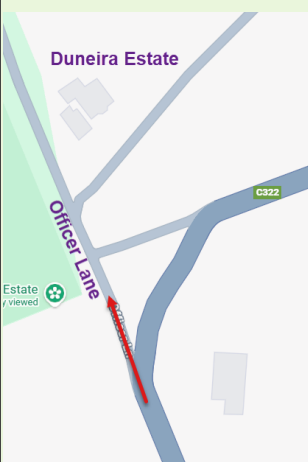
This is a car sharing outing. If you are willing to drive please indicate on the list. People wanting a ride please organise one with a driver.



Duneira House

A tour has been arranged for this historic house and garden to **start at 10:30am**. Please ensure your name is on the list at the General Meeting.

Tour length: 1hr:45 min – 2 hrs.
Cost \$35 pay on the day either cash or card.



Officer Lane isn't very obvious as it appears to be a track leading off into the forest. It's about 2.3km further up the mountain from the Mt Macedon Hotel (which is NOT the lunch venue).



Lunch at the
Macedon Village Hotel,
Cnr Smith & Victoria Sts,
Macedon Village.

This is the **Garden & Creative Pursuits** final function

for the year. Members not wanting to tour Duneira can take a train to **Macedon** and join us for lunch at the **Macedon Village Hotel** – only a short walk from the Macedon Station.

Please advise me (Liz) if you wish to come just for lunch as I will need to know numbers to make a booking.

Thursday 19 February, 2026, 11am
Olive Tree & Wheelbarrow Nursery

Meet at Jonathon's Café in the nursery at 11:00am for coffee/lunch to catch up and plan the activities for the coming year.

Please bring any suggestions for garden outings with you.
Looking forward to catching up

Convenor: Liz Dawe

Creative Pursuits

Thursday 20 November

—combined with Garden Group

Tuesday 24 February - 2026 - 1:30pm

Chat and Craft

Meet at Convenors home, bring small plate for afternoon tea

Thursday 16 April- 2026

Georges Remembered at Hawthorn Town Hall
20 tickets available

Contact Elaine to book

Convenor - Elaine Provan

Secret Men's Business



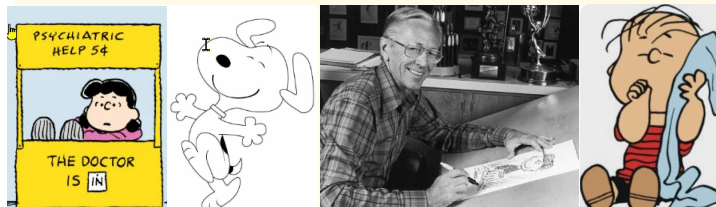
Tuesday, 25 November 2025 @ 9.30 am

The next gathering of **SMB** aka Secret Men's Business will be a brunch/breakfast held at '**Olive Lane, 69 Doncaster Road, Balwyn North**'. Bring a mate!

December—it might be a case of prepare to see the new year in as the meeting date would be December 30. If you're in town get yourself to Olive Lane—usual time.

Convenor: Peter Gillett

And in 2025—Celebrating 75 years of 'Peanuts'



94.1FM 3WBC

the community radio station for Boroondara, Whitehorse and Manningham
supports Greythorn Probud Club
Listen to them on 94.1FM



Book Group 1

Thursday, 27 November 2025 @ 2:00 pm

Book group 1

Book Group 1 will meet at 2:00 pm at the Hawthorn Library to discuss *'The Widow Clicquot'* by Tilar J Mazzeo —

maybe with a glass of it in hand !

We don't have a discussion but do have lunch at Box Hill RSL on *18th December* and we haven't selected a book yet for January.

Convenor: Erin Courtney



Book Group 2

Friday 21 November @ 2pm. *Note change of Date*

Book: *Restless Dolly Maunday* by Kate Grenville. The hostess is Margaret Goding. Please let Margaret know if you are unable to attend.

December

The plan is to meet for Christmas lunch on *December 11th 2pm* at one of our places- yet to be determined for a relaxing end of year celebration.

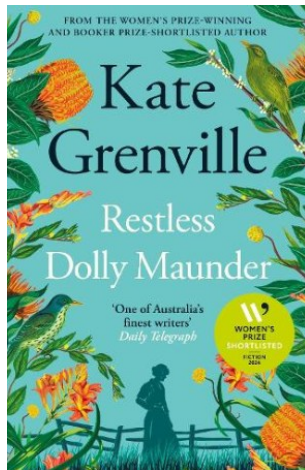
January.

We will not have a book club meeting but do plan to meet for lunch.

We are waiting for Boroondara Library to confirm our 2026 choices.

Will meet on 26th February 2026.

Convenor: Lyn Stavretis



COX PLATE DAY - A very enjoyable day at the beautiful Yarra Valley Racing Club enjoyed by all who attended. It was good to see some of our new members, a great way to get to know each other. Unfortunately no one required a wheel barrow to get their winnings to their car, & but fortunately everyone was fully clothed at the end of the day (no shirts lost). A great day of fun & friendship.

Investors

Tuesday, 25 November 2025 @ 7.30 pm

As a few of us will be lingering Longa in Yarrowonga there will be no meeting in November.

Our next get together is at **The Living Room, Templestowe** on *Tuesday, 9 December 2025* at 7.00 pm

Please let Vivienne know if you are attending

Convenor: Charlie Boschetti

Theatre

The Beggars Sing The Seekers

Wednesday, 12 November 2025 @ 11 am at The Round

Tickets are finalized and will be distributed at the November meeting.

Barbara has booked lunch after the show at 12:30pm at the Mitcham Hotel. Please let her-know your lunching intentions by 11th either by message or email to theatre@greythornprobud.org.au



Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Wednesday, 10 December 2025 @ 11.00 am at The Round



Melissa Langton and Mark Jones sing many Christmas favourites including *Mary's Boy Child, Santa Baby*, and many others. **Cost is \$22 pp** and must be paid by the **November meeting** at the latest.

Come From Away

Friday, 12 December 2025 @ 7:30pm

Geoffrey McComas Theatre, Morrison St., Hawthorn



The show is based on the events in the Newfoundland town of Gander during the week following the September 11 attacks, when 38 planes, carrying approximately 7,000 passengers, were ordered to

land unexpectedly at Gander International Airport. Special Probud group tickets. If you haven't booked but would like to attend, contact Russ

Organiser: Russ

(Theatre continues over page)



Theatre—cont.—2026



Morning Melodies at The Round—2026

Wednesday, 25 February 2026
@11.00 am at
The Round
Affinity Quartet Take Four:
Chamber music for everyone

Cost is \$22pp and *must* be paid by

the December Lunch.

Frankly Sinatra

Wednesday, 11 March 2026
@11.00 am at The Round

Starring actor and music theatre star Ian Stenlake, this new production tells the story of one of the greatest crooners the world has ever known - Ol' Blue Eyes himself.

**Cost is \$22pp and *must* be paid by
the December lunch.**

Convenor: Barbara Mathews



Dine Out



The Portuguese Chicken skewers were popular at the **October Dine Out** at The Meat & Wine Co. A great time was had by all



29 January 2026 @ 12 noon

NINI's,
Level1/302
Burwood Road
Hawthorn



Lunch with a difference.
Delicious Mediterranean share menu including a glass of wine, Beer or soft drink. Coffee and tea supplied.
Cost \$60.00 per person. *No limit on numbers.*

There is a lift in the building for those who need it.
Payment ***required by January 13th 2026*** to be made to the club bank account *and* advise treasurer and Convenors.

Convenors Barbara Van Woerkom
Margaret Cox

Tours & Outings (2025)

NOVEMBER SUNDAY 23rd 2025
6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS



NORTH EAST SILO ART TOUR

**THIS TOUR HAS BEEN FINALISED, TRAVELLERS ARE
PACKING BAGS AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 6 DAYS OF
FUN & FRIENDSHIP**
[Download Itinerary here](#)

Please let Pene know if you have any questions
And look forwards to viewing some aspects of this great trip in a future Grey Matter and powerpoint.

Convenor: Pene Whiteley



**Our thanks to Community Bank
Inner East for their support for our
activities**

Bendigo Bank

**Community Bank
Inner East**



Tours & Outings (2026)

Get your hands on some **gold** at Sovereign Hill—
...expected to be Friday 27 March. Watch this space

Get ready for a Bright adventure – 5 day Tour Monday 11 May to Friday 15 May 2026



We're heading off on an exciting 5-day tour to the beautiful town of Bright:

- **Departure: Monday, 11 May 2026**
- **Return: Friday, 15 May 2026**
- **A full week of fun, fresh air, and exploring!**

More details will be shared soon – including what to bring, where we're staying, and all the great places we'll visit.

A hyper link on this visit can be found at

[2605 Bright itinerary.pdf](#)

Convenor: Judy Bailey

"DID YOU KNOW..."

"You're likely *not* as immune to scams as you think – here's why"

What do Tiger Woods, Ben Stiller and Australian pensioners have in common? Despite being from different walks of life, they have all fallen prey to various scams.

In 2024, more than \$2.03 billion was lost to scams in Australia across 494,732 reported cases. Most of these scams were enabled by technology, with scammers contacting their victims either online or on the phone. However, about 600 of these scams happened in person.

All of us are vulnerable to being scammed

If you think you're immune, you are not. Police officers fall for scams. Even cyber security professionals fall for scams. So what hope is there for the rest of us?

What does help is to understand the underlying techniques online scammers rely on, so that you can better spot them.

Use this link to read the complete article.

<https://theconversation.com/youre-likely-not-as-immune-to-scams-as-you-think-heres-why-264687>

The Conversation Australia and New Zealand "is a unique collaboration between academics and journalists, and is a leading publisher of research-based news and analysis.

Hope you find this interesting and helpful, Roy

For the diary..

COMING UP

DECEMBER 2025

Scrabble	1 December
Christmas lunch	2 December
Solo	4 December
Investors	9 December
Canasta	
Theatre—Santa Clause is Coming	10 December
Book Group 2 –Christmas Lunch	11 December
Theatre—Come From Away	12 December
Walking for Enjoyment	15 December
Book Group 1 Christmas Lunch	18 December
SMB	30 December

JANUARY & beyond—2026

Traditional Ruffey Lake Park Picnic	13 Jan
SMB	27 Jan
Dine Out –NINI's	29 Jan
Garden Group—Jonathon's Café	19 Febr
Theatre—Affinity Quartet @ The Round	25 Feb
Book Group 2 resumes	26 Feb
Theatre—Frankly Sinatra @ The Round	11 Mar
Goldfields Day Trip—details follow	27 Mar
Georges Remembered @ Hawthorn T-H-	16 Apr
Bright 5 day tour commences	11 May

Nelson Alexander

Estate Agents
278 High Street,
Kew 3101

Call Christopher Ewart 0419 897 979 or our office on
9854 8888. cewart@nelsonalexander.com.au

Subscriptions and Payments

Please ***always*** insert your name and the event in the message/reference area.

Also email the relevant **convenors** or **organisers** ***and*** the **Treasurer, Ron Johnson**, advising the activity/ies you have paid for into the club account.