

Grey Matter



May 2026 Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club

Post: PO Box 85, Balwyn North, 3104

Email: info@greythornprobus.org.au

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

ROBERT'S REFLECTIONS



April was a busy and engaging month for our Club, driven by its talented members. Over 22 working days, the Club organized 18 activities. While the Grand Final of "Wine, Cheese & Bocce" was cancelled due to weather, events like "Have Myki Will Travel" to Warburton and other outings were very successful.

There were several Communications from me to all members during the month of April. Unfortunately, Kerry Williams had to step down from her role as Club Secretary due to a health issue within the family. There was the search for a replacement and the subsequent appointment of Jack Morgan, who volunteered to fill the vacancy. Thank you Jack.

This now opens up another opportunity for somebody in the Club to come forward and take on the position of Newsletter Officer. In the interim members should be aware that Jack with some help from Russ Dawe will continue publishing the Grey Matter.

There are now two vacancies on the Committee (Vice President and Newsletter Officer). Please note that it is important to cover these vacancies, not only is the current situation putting additional strain on the rest of the Committee, but it also reduces the total braincells available to make the right decisions for the overall benefit of club members. It will also allow the club to move forward in its endeavours to provide an environment to foster Fellowship, Friendship and having Fun.

It is still early days, but looking ahead, members should be aware there are likely to be several key retirements from the Management Committee at our next AGM in March 2027. I sincerely hope to have discussions with potential candidates well before the end of the year.

Robert Van Woerkom (President)

STOP PRESS

There are now only 9 spots left for the Tramboat outing so make sure you sign up for this event ASAP!

May Meeting

TUESDAY 12 MAY, AT NORTH BALWYN UNITING CHURCH HALL, DUGGAN ST, NORTH BALWYN @ 10:00AM

Growing up in Lighthouses'

PRESENTED BY JUNE RUSHTON



June's father was a member of the 'Coldstream Guards' - a regiment in the British Army with a primary role being protection of the Monarchy.

During her childhood June and her family emigrated to Australia and became a 'Lighthouse Family' responsible for protection of coastlines and shipping in Tasmania and Victoria.

June found this experience very enriching and provided a positive influence on her adult life.

Welfare

Our thoughts are with the following members who have had health issues. Chresley Robson has had recent falls and significant health issues - we wish her well. Lorna Johnson is recovering well after a shoulder operation. Theresa Petzall-Prasad has had a shoulder injury and we wish her and Jan James who has had a recent knee replacement good recoveries.

Please send any items to Heather Trumble (welfare@greythornprobus.org.au)

Birthdays

John ASTLE	5
Barbara MATHEWS	5
Jack MORGAN	5
Chresley ROBSON	5
Robert VAN WOERKOM	8
Margaret DOHERTY	12
Colleen MOORE	12
Sue ASTLE	14
Wally HAMILTON	17
Theresa PETZALL-PRASAD	17

Members News



The Governor, Margaret Gardiner, held a reception to mark the Fiftieth anniversary of Probus. Our immediate past president, Judy Brophy attended.

Activities

Scrabble – Host Angela Johns	4 May
Committee, Harp Hotel Boardroom	5 May
Solo – Host Joan Teele	7 May
General Meeting	12 May
Canasta	13 May
Bright Tour	11 May – 15 May
3 rd Sunday Lunch	17 May
Walking for Enjoyment	18 May
Film & Luncheon	19 May
Discussion Group	19 May
Dine Out – Philippe's Restaurant	20 May
Eliza Doolittle Day	20 May
Garden Appreciation – Whisper Garden	21 May
SMB	26 May
Investors	26 May
Shepparton Art Museum	26 – 28 May
Book Groups	28 May

ANNIVERSARY LUNCH



It's time to celebrate the 19th Anniversary of our wonderful Club to be held at-GREENACRES GOLF CLUB 51 Elm Grove, Kew East on TUESDAY 14th JULY 2026 at 12.30

It will be a two course lunch subsidised by the Bendigo Bank

Cost to Members is \$60 Non Members \$85

Everyone welcome

Due to popular demand we will be entertained once again by the fabulous guitarist Jason Vorherr

Payment required to Ron Johnson Treasurer **by Friday 26th June**. When payment is made please notify Convenors-Barbara Van Woerkom - -----, & Margaret Cox - -

Please advise Barbara or Margaret of any dietary requirements

Tramboat Cruise

Wednesday 24 June

Join us for a cruise downstream along the Yarra River through the Port of Melbourne and along the Maribyrnong River all the way up to the Anglers Tavern in Maribyrnong, where we will disembark for lunch. Choice of 4-5 options, including vegetarian and gluten free. Please let me know if you have any dietary requirements.

The cruise can take a maximum of 49 guests so sign up now! 40 members have already signed up so only 9 spots left at this time.

Departs Victoria Harbour Ferry Terminal at 10.30 am. Please be at the Ferry Terminal no later than 10.15 am when boarding commences.

The terminal is very close to Tram stop D3 on the 75 or 70 Tramline from Flinders Street, or you can take the Docklands Tram 86 from Southern Cross Station, corner of Spencer and Burke Streets, alighting at D2.

If you prefer to walk from Southern Cross, the terminal is a short 10 – 15 minutes stroll past Marvel Stadium.

Cost is **\$62.00pp** and should be paid to the club account **by the end of May**. When paying please inform both

me, Jan Coffey (by text or email) and the treasurer, Ron Johnson treasurer@greythornprobus.org.au

We return at approximately 2pm.

DURATION: 3.5 hours

Organiser: Jan Coffey, MOBILE:-----



Scrabble 1st Monday

Monday 4 May 2026 at 1.30 pm, host was Angela Johns.

Monday 1 June 2026 at 1.30 pm host will be Anne Ponsford. Please let Anne know on----- is attending.

Convenor: Glenys Chalk----

DINE OUT

12.00 noon Wednesday 20 May 2026
PHILIPPE RESTAURANT
115 Collins Street, Melbourne

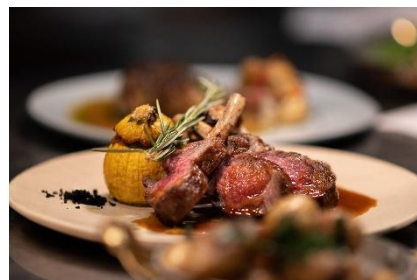


We are delighted to once again offer this outstanding French Restaurant for our next Dine Out.

The offer consists of your choice of entrée and main or main and dessert.

This is served with a free glass of wine, beer or soft drink. Coffee is not included

Price is \$65 per head



Phillippe is accessible by any tram travelling along Collins St. Alight at the second stop after entering Collins St from Spring St (stop no. 7) 101 Collins St. Walk just a few steps, enter via George Parade. Philippe is located on the right. It is then necessary to descend several steep steps into the restaurant.

NO LIFT IS AVAILABLE.

Numbers are limited so please book early.

Payment is required by 6 May 2026.

Convenors: Barbara van Woerkom----

Margaret Cox ----

Autumn in the High Country

Monday 11th May to Friday 15th May 2026

Pick up time is 8.45 for 9am departure time to see the Autumn leaves.

Meeting place is at the Russell St extension (next to the NGV Flinders St). Please bring a small suitcase/bag

Payment should have been made by the 4th of May: \$1150 twin share or \$1270 single after paying your deposit of \$200 to Designer Tours BSB 063546 ACC 10063122 with your name as reference

Advise designertours@bigpond.com and then SMS Judy Bailey on-----

Solo 1st Thursday

May 7, 1.30 pm, Joan Teele-----

June 4, 1.30 pm, Margaret Cox -----

Convenor: Denise Powell -----

Canasta 2nd Wednesday

Wednesday 13 May at 1:30pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME). Game will be at Judy Brophy's home. Please advise Judy on ----- if attending.

Convenor: Denise Boschetti -----

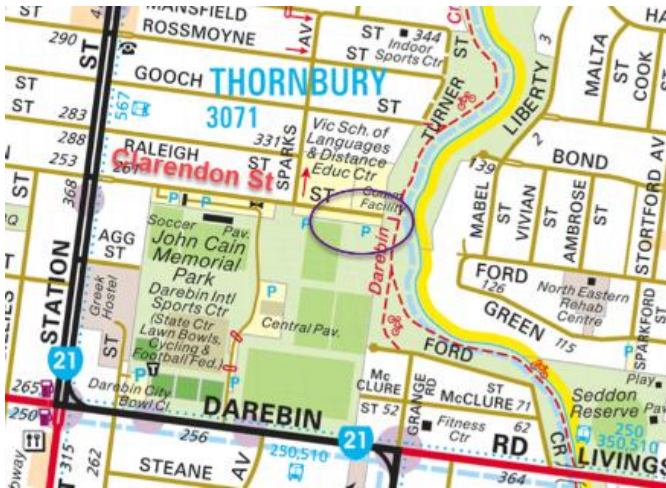
Walking for Enjoyment 3rd Monday

Monday 18th May 10.00am

Walk along Darebin Creek Trail.

Meet at the bottom of Clarendon Street Thornbury
Melway 31 B6

Coffee at Artiga



Convenor: John Astle – -----

THE APRIL WALK

And what an enjoyable walk it was in April. We gathered at the Station St. end of the Gardiners Creek Reserve – close to the Box Hill Golf Club – on a beautiful autumn day and walked along a well maintained path through the semi-bushland separating two sides of Deakin University's Burwood Campus split partly fronting Burwood Hwy and, on the other side of Gardiners Creek, the Elgar Rd. buildings.

The two sections are joined by a massive bridge. Stopping for a coffee at a Deakin café on the return journey to our cars we did see some of those strange creatures – young university students – but very few. They too were enjoying their coffees in the sunshine.



Film Luncheon 3rd Tuesday

There will be NO film luncheon for May.
Our next film will be on Tuesday June 16.

Convenor: Joan Teele – -----

Discussion 3rd Tuesday

The discussion group met on 21 April to discuss the war and its consequences in the middle east – with particular reference to Iran. We were particularly fortunate to have visiting us for the discussion Ms Pouneh Hatami and Ms Minoo Pirouzgar who are local members of the Iranian diaspora and who were able to assist our discussion with first hand information.

Thanks too to Dick Johnson who added to our discussions with pictures and commentary from a relatively recent trip to the country. In images we noted the mountainous nature of the country with desert basins and salt lakes in the east – and yet in a country a little smaller than Queensland and a population of around 93 million, Iran produces around 87% of its own food.

We noted the 6000 + year history of the region but found no inkling of the 'stone age' that some would seek to bomb 'back to'.

Next month the discussion group will venture to solve the energy dilemma – "WE know how to do it" – why can't the experts in Canberra achieve as much?.

AUSTRALIA'S ENERGY DILEMMAS -

should we ignore climate change and 'dig/drill baby' (I wonder who said that?) as some say, or is there another solution? Diesel can be produced from coal, we produce sufficient plant materials for biodiesel, and there is still oil and natural gas under our land.

An important issue for us all – come and put in your two bob's worth – we might come up with some thoughts to pass on to our elected representatives.

Let's produce the **Greythorn Think Tank**

Leader: Peter Phelan.

Convenor: TBA

Garden Appreciation 3rd Thursday

Thursday 21 May, 10:30am

THE WHISPER GARDEN AND CRANBOURNE BOTANIC GARDENS

The Whisper Garden is a private garden that backs onto the Botanic Gardens. Meet at 10:30 and David Duncan, garden developer and owner will talk to us for about an hour on how he has developed the native bushland to better provide for indigenous animals and support their access to the Botanic Gardens. There is no charge for David's talk.

If you require a coffee or toilet break on the way you will need to find somewhere in Cranbourne village before continuing to the Whisper Garden.

The Whisper Garden is only a short distance from the



village – a map will be provided to those attending. After our visit, drive the short distance to the Botanic Gardens.

Lunch has been booked for 12:30pm at the gardens Boon Wurrung Café.

Places have been reserved on the 1:45pm bus tour around the gardens which leaves from near the

visitors' centre. If you would like a seat on the bus tour please make sure you advise Liz. The cost of the bus is \$12.00 – (*cash to Liz on the day please*). Otherwise choose the areas you wish to see and walk around.

Thursday 18 June, 10:30am

STRATHDON HOUSE AND ORCHARD

Strathdon is located at 449 – 465 Springvale Rd. Forest Hill. It is a 6 acre site that includes the original cottage built in 1893 and its orchard.

Meet at 10:30am for Devonshire tea (cost \$10.00) followed by a tour of the house and garden. Parking on Springvale Rd entrance (near the police station) is limited. Additional parking is at the *Davy Lane* entrance at the rear of the site (access via Jolimont Rd. on the Canterbury Rd. side of the property). From this car park it is a 200m walk to the house.

A venue for lunch after the tour is still under consideration.

Convenor: Liz Dawe -----

3rd Sunday Lunch 3rd Sunday

Sunday 17th May at 12 noon

Venue: Chapter Three Espresso & Bar
133-137 Mailing Road, CANTERBURY 3126
For bookings contact Diane O'Brien on -----
by the 15th May.

Convenor: Diane O'Brien – -----

Creative Pursuits



SHEPPARTON ART MUSEUM - 'SAM' DEGAS to PICASSO PLUS

MUSEUM OF VEHICLE EVOLUTION/LOEL
THOMPSON COSTUME COLLECTION - 'MOVE'
TUESDAY 26th - THURSDAY 28th MAY

ITINERARY

TUESDAY 26th- Depart Southern Cross- meet 'under the clock' at 12.00noon for DEPARTURE- 12.36pm
ARRIVE- 15.07pm

Book into BIG VALLEY LAKESIDE PARADISE MOTOR INN- all rooms are on the ground floor, Twin/Single- \$140, Double- \$120.

DINNER- to be decided- choice of Tea Stall- Malaysian, Dominics Pizza, Macintosh Fish & Chips; all 9min walk

WEDNESDAY 27th

8.00am Breakfast at the ELSEWHERE CAFE at 'SAM' or BYO

10.00am- enter SAM for "DEGAS to PICASSO"
EXHIBITION- \$24.00 to be paid to Greythorn account

Lunch – 'Elsewhere Café'

Afternoon- visit to 'MOVE'- AN AMAZING COLLECTION of CARS, MOTORBIKES, KENWORTHS, BICYCLES, GRAMOPHONES, TELEPHONES & RADIO, HARLEY

DAVIDSONS, FURPHY COLLECTION, BUS & COACHES & THE INCREDIBLE 'LOEL THOMPSON COSTUME COLLECTION'

PLUS . . . PLUS . . .

\$16.00 pay on admission

Dinner- PARK LAKE HOTEL- 12min walk

THURSDAY 28th- 10.00am checkout for motel; shopping / walk in Victoria Lake Park / Shepparton Botanic Garden / Heritage Centre

DEPART- 13.03pm- Shepparton Station

ARRIVE - Southern Cross - 15.40pm

Please contact Elaine Provan ASAP to book yourself on this fantastic trip

Convenor Elaine Provan -----

Investors 4th Tuesday

Tuesday 26th May 7.30pm at Greythorn Hub

I'll make no comment on King Donald's effect on the market, because I don't know which way he jumps and neither does he.

New members welcome

Convenor Charlie Boschetti -----

Book Groups 4th Thursday

BOOK GROUP 1

Book Group 1 will be meeting at the Balwyn Library on 28 May 2026 to discuss "The Women" by Kristin Hannah

Convenor: Stan Petzall -----

BOOK GROUP 2

Book group 2 will meet at 2pm on Thursday May 28th.

Book- The Butterfly Women by Madeleine Cleary

Hostess- Margaret Cox

Please advise Margaret if you are unable to attend.

Convenor: Lyn Stavretis: -----

Have Myki will Travel



We had a wonderful day out on Wednesday 29 April with our journey to Warburton. Multi travel modes – suburban train and country bus – and all worked effectively.

There will be no outing in May.

Secret Men's Business last Tuesday

This group continues to provide a convivial atmosphere to a loyal group of 'regulars' as well as guests as prospective new members.

Meeting at 9.30am on the last Tuesday of each month 'Olive Lane' in Doncaster Road is an ideal venue proving great service and comfortable surroundings.

Convenor: Peter Gillett – -----

Theatre various

Bookings –Barbara Mathews -----

42nd Street

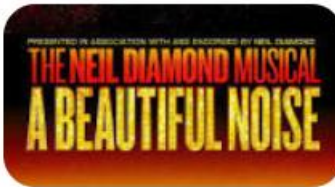


Saturday 6th June at 1.30pm at The Round. Babirra Music Theatre.

Come along and listen to the lullaby of Broadway. The score is full of Broadway hits like We're in the money, Dames and many more.

Tickets will be distributed at The Round on the day. If you're late they will be held at the Box Office

A Beautiful Noise



Wednesday, 23 September 2026 at 1.00 pm at The Princess Theatre in Dress Circle

A new and extremely popular new musical featuring the numerous works by Neil Diamond. Cost is \$91.00 and must be paid by the July meeting. **Please put your name on the list at the next meeting interested.**

Pretty Woman

Wednesday, 19 August 2026 @1.00 pm at The Regent Theatre in A Reserve in the Stalls.

Most tickets were distributed at the April meeting.

Bookings for these: Barbara Mathews – -----

Bookings –Mary Dunn -----

BERNADETTE ROBINSON: THEY SANG AT CARNEGIE HALL

Wednesday 10 June @ 11am at The Round

From Billie Holiday to Maria Callas and the unforgettable night Judy Garland recorded her best-

selling album, this legendary venue has created melodic history.

Tickets will be distributed at the June meeting.

THE BROADWAY WE LOVE:

PROMAC'S 40TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

Wednesday 15 July@ 11am at The Round.

Star Australian Tenor Roy Best will be joined on stage by Michelle Fitzmaurice, William Schmidt and Christopher McKenna to showcase their love of Broadway.

Cost is \$22.00 and must be paid by the June meeting at the latest.

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET SCHOOL

Wednesday August 5 @ 11:00am at The Round

Experience the energy and artistry of Australia's finest young dancers in a vibrant mix of classical and contemporary works.

Cost is \$22 and must be paid by the July meeting at the latest.

Bookings for these: Mary Dunn – -----

Footy Tipping *weekly in season*

Congratulations to Kathie Nickson. After 8 Rounds and 72 matches, Kathie is our first tipster in 2026 to achieve the perfect score by correctly tipping the result of all nine matches.

Our leading tipster after Round 8 is Chris Thornton with 56 correct tips. Chris is averaging 77.8% correct tips with the rest of us less and some considerably less.

It all seems so easy on a Thursday, but there is always an upset, and by Monday, we wonder why we did not foresee it.

Convenor: Peter Harman - ----- &
Phillp Pitsikas – -----

BOROONDARA EVENTS

PLANNING AHEAD: POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Tuesday May 19, Kew Seniors Centre 10am,-11am followed by morning tea.

For bookings click > [BOOKINGS](#)

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PAYMENTS

Direct Debit (EFT) **BSB** -----
Account No. -----

Please *always* insert your **name** and the **event** in the message/reference area. A single payment for each specific payment is preferred to avoid incorrect attribution.

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

JUNE GREY MATTER - Important reminder

For inclusion of your item in the **June Grey Matter**

it must be received in the newsletter mailbox
– newsletter@greythornprobus.org.au –
by **TUESDAY 26 May 2026**

FORWARD PLANNING

Scrabble	1 June
Committee meeting	2 June
Solo	3 June
Australian Ballet School, The Round	5 June
42 nd Street, Babirra Music Theatre	6 June
General Meeting	9 June
They Sang at Carnegie Hall	10 June
Walking group	15 June
Cinema & Lunch	16 June
Discussion	16 June
Garden group – Strathdon	18 June
3 rd Sunday Lunch	21 June
Creative Pursuits	23 June
Investors EOFY Dinner	23 June
Book Groups	25 June
Secret Men's Business	30 June
The Broadway We Love	15 July
Pretty Woman – The Musical	19 August
A Beautiful Noise, Princess Theatre	23 September
The Broadway We Love	15 July
Pretty Woman – The Musical	19 August





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



DID YOU KNOW...



THE FILM 'CASABLANCA'.....
Set in colonial Morocco during WW2 1942. Many European refugees fled to Morocco to escape from German wartime horrors and a safe haven pending travel to the Americas. They spend time in Rick's Cafe Americaine owned by American expat Rick Blaine. The café is also a centre for forgers passing fake letters of transit giving entry into Lisbon then on to freedom. Nazi officers are also welcome into the café!!

And those sayings...

"Play it, Sam. Play As Time Goes By."

"Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world,
she walks into mine."

"Here's looking at you, kid"



THIS IS A PDF FILE -TO VIEW &
READ- ABOUT THE FILM
CASABLANCA.
SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW ON
PHONE & IPAD.

THIS IS A BBC PODCAST
SPOKEN ABOUT THE FILM
CASABLANCA.
SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW
PHONE & IPAD.



THIS IS A LINK TO THE FINAL
MINUTES OF THE MOVIE.
SCAN TO DOWNLOAD



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

Bendigo Bank

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