

Grey Matter

September 2026

Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club

Box 85, Balwyn North, 3104

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



Summer Time
starts Sunday
4 October

ROBERT'S REFLECTIONS



I am always amazed at how quickly time passes. As of 1 September, we are already two-thirds of the way through our financial year, which ends on 31 December 2026. Based on Ron's finance report at 30 August 2026, and with only four months remaining, our finances are

looking very positive. A key measure of our financial strength is the balance of Members' Funds. Ron will provide more detail on this when he returns from his overseas trip at the end of September. In the meantime I will be looking after the books and any emails addressed to Treasurer@greythornprobus.org.au will also find its way to my email address Rhvw@bigpond.com

A more difficult issue for me this year so far has been the difficulty of attracting the volunteers needed to maintain a strong Management Committee through to the end of the club year in March 2027 and beyond. My main responsibility and key objective is to support the ongoing management capability of Greythorn Probus. To help achieve this, I will establish a small team to consider what we can do differently. There is absolutely no joy in warning that the Club may need to close when only a limited number of members seem prepared to volunteer.

However, it is not all negative. The initial response to Judy's comments at last month's General Meeting has been encouraging. Several members, both longstanding and new, continued the discussion over morning tea and expressed interest in attending a committee meeting to see how things work.

Another positive development from last month's meeting was the return of Theresa Petzall-Prasad, who had been absent for several months following surgery and is now keen to resume her previous role as Newsletter Editor. A heartfelt thank you to our Secretary, Jack Morgan, who generously stepped in from April to manage the club's essential newsletter needs and keep members and convenors informed

about the business side of our monthly activities. Well done, Jack!

Robert VanWoerkom,
President

September Meeting

LIFE AS AN AFL UMPIRE-GAVIN DORE

Gavin's career as an umpire spanned 26 years, commencing in 1979 as an 18-year-old with the West Gippsland Umpires' Association.

From this launching, his career accumulated 302 AFL games as a field umpire including the 1996 Grand Final won by North Melbourne (19.17) over Sydney Swans (13.10).

Coaching runs in Gavin's family with his son Cameron having umpired 125 AFL games.



September Birthdays

Ann Balfe	4
Greig Provan	12
Patrick Poppins	15
Anne Harman	18
Judy Brophy	28
Geoff Warren	29

Welfare

Special birthday cards were sent recently to two members for their 80th birthdays--Yvonne Dart and Patrick Poppins, and the Club wishes them good health and enjoyment in the years ahead.

Please keep me informed of any members having problems or medical procedures that the club ought to know of.

Heather Trumble
welfare@greythornprobus.org.au

September Calendar

Committee	1 September
Solo	3 September
Scrabble	7 September
General Meeting	8 September
Canasta	9 September
Film & luncheon	15 September
Garden Group Kyneton Gardens & daffs	17 September
3 rd Sunday Lunch	20 September
Walking for enjoyment	21 September
Investors	22 September
A Beautiful Noise	23 September
Book groups	24 September
Creative Pursuits – Dulig studio	29 September
SMB	29 September

MEMBERS NEWS



Presentations made to Rosemary and Carole to celebrate their 90th birthdays.

B

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

Bendigo BankCommunity Bank Inner East

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

BOROONDARA



Members at the Victoria Parliamentary Gardens on 20 August 2026.



The group gather at the Bowls & tennis 'shed' in the Parliamentary Gardens



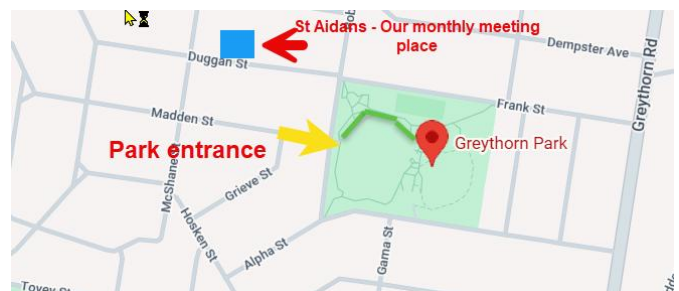
Checking out the 'Federal Oak' planted by Sir Henry Parkes in 1890 to celebrate the Australian Federal Conference which initiated federation.

Wine, Cheese and Bocce

DAYLIGHT SAVING
starts in OCTOBER, so
our
WINE, CHEESE &
BOCCE'
will be back on FRIDAY
OCTOBER 9th, 4.00pm
at GREYTHORN PARK.



COME ALONG, RELAX &
enjoy the company of your
fellow Greythornians.



Convenor: Judy Brophy

DINE OUT

Join us for our last DINE OUT for 2026

FRIDAY OCTOBER 30TH @ 12 NOON

A Banquet Lunch will be held at



AVATAR INDIAN / NEPALESE RESTAURANT

291 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn

(Opposite Balwyn Park)

Cost \$55pp

Drinks are not included but we will NOT be charged for corkage.

Payments to be paid to the club bank account by
Monday October 19

Convenors: Barbara van Woerkom & Margaret Cox

MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR



2026 MAGICAL MYSTERY BUS TOUR

DATE: Friday 2nd October

Meet at Balwyn Sports Complex,
Belmore Road for a 9.00 am departure.
Return at about 4.00 pm, depending on
traffic.

COST: \$25.00pp MEMBERS

\$35.00pp NON MEMBERS

Coffee & lunch at your own expense

There are 6 seats left.

Payment to Club's bank account by
Friday 25 September.

Please email/sms the Treasurer and
convenor when you have paid.

Convenor: Judy Bailey

Yarra Valley Races

COX PLATE DAY at YARRA VALLEY RACING



Saturday 24th October

Cost: \$55.00 pp – includes Entry, 2 course meal in
the Yarra View Dining room, Race book

FASHIONS ON THE FIELD

A GREAT DAY OUT WITH YOUR GREYTHORN PALS!!

Make sure your name is on the list by the
September meeting.

Payment due NOW!

Convenor: Judy Brophy

Wiser Driver

WHEN: NOVEMBER 6TH, 13TH, 20TH, 27TH

WHERE: THE HUB, NORTH BALWYN (GREYTHORN)

Time: 1.30 - 3.30pm

The Wiser Driver course is a 4-session driver education
program for older residents to upgrade their knowledge
of Victorian road rules, discuss safety, and gain an
understanding of car safety features and road-
worthiness.

No driving lessons or tests are involved; it's an
opportunity to build on your driving experience in the
company of peers.

*The participation list is now full but you may add
your name to the waiting list.*

Convenor: Judy Brophy

Scrabble 1st Monday

MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER AT 1:30PM

Host was Judy Brophy

MONDAY 5 OCTOBER AT 1:30PM

Hosts will be Theresa and Stanley Petzall. Please let
them know by Friday 2 October if attending

Convenor: Glenys Chalk-

Solo 1st Thursday

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 1:30PM

Host was Patricia Nosedá.

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 1.30 PM

Host will be Rhonda Browne. Please let her know if you will be playing.

On November 5th I (Denise Powell) will host the game at 7.30pm. **Note the change of time in November**

Convenor: Denise Powell

Canasta 2nd Wednesday

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 1.30 PM

Will be held at the home of Kevin O'Connor. Please advise Kevin if attending.

Convenor: Denise Boschetti

Walking for Enjoyment 3rd Monday

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 10.00 AM

MULLUM MULLUM CREEK TRAIL TO YARRA RIVER

Meet at the car park at what was Beasley's Nursery. The new owners have called it Kurunga Native Nursery, Warrandyte. (Melway 34 F2). Coffee at the Nursery.

Convenor: John Astle

Film Luncheon 3rd Tuesday

TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

PALACE CINEMA WHITEHORSE ROAD BALWYN

Name and time of film will be announced at the meeting. Please have correct money (\$12) in NAMED envelope. Optional lunch at EAST & Co to follow.

Convenor: Joan Teele

Garden Appreciation 3rd Thursday

KYNETON VISIT—DAFFODILS AND BOTANIC GARDEN

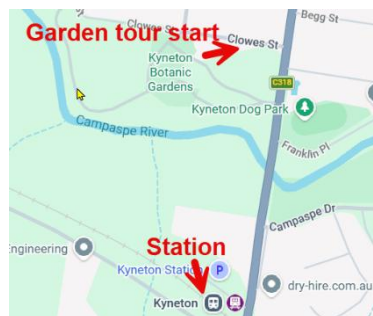


THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

A 45 minute walking guided tour of the Kyneton Botanic Gardens has been arranged with the Friends of the Kyneton Botanic Gardens which has many significant

trees and displays that are of interest. It is a moderate walk to the gardens from the station or there is a local bus which will stop at the gardens. We have been asked for a \$10 per person **cash** donation to the Friends of the garden.

Lunch will be at the Social Foundry at 12:15.



Participants will be emailed information and maps and there will be hard copies at the September General Meeting.

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER

We hope you will join us for our GARDEN APPRECIATION day at the **MELTON BOTANIC GARDEN** where the



Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Inc.

will take us on a guided tour of their award winning gardens at 10.30am.

Meet at the entrance, 40 LAKEWOOD BOULEVARD, MELTON, 10.00am.

There is a rotunda and toilets located here.



You may wish to have a coffee beforehand at the **Grey Matter Café**, 1/265 High Street, Melton.



We have booked for lunch at this aptly named cafe at 12.30pm.

This will be a car sharing day.

Organiser: Judy Brophy

**THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER –
BROUGHTON HALL SPRING GARDEN
JINDAVIK**

DETAILS TO BE ADVISED

Convenor: Liz Dawe

3rd Sunday Lunch 3rd Sunday

SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER AT 12 NOON.

VENUE: AUGELLO'S RISTORANTE & PIZZERIA

200-202 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn 3103

For bookings contact Diane O'Brien by the 18th September

Convenor: Diane O'Brien

Creative Pursuits 4th Tuesday

Tuesday 29 September 10:30am

PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT DATE

**TOUR OF DULDIG STUDIO, MUSEUM SCULPTURE
GARDEN**

\$25

92 Burke Road Malvern East

Meet at venue 10:20am

TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER

Archibald Prize 2026 Shepparton Art Museum

Register at next general meeting

Organiser- Denise Powell

Convenor- Elaine Provan



Creatives enjoy the AME Bale exhibition at the Boroondara Gallery at the Hawthorn Town Hall

Convenor: Elaine Provan

Investors 4th Tuesday

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER.

GREYTHORN HUB, 7:30PM

Looking forward to see you all at 7.30pm at the hub for a review of the portfolio.

New members welcome!

Convenor: Charlie Boschetti-

Book Groups 4th Thursday

BOOK GROUP 1

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2.00 PM

Meet at the Balwyn Library to discuss 'Cherrywood' by Jock Serong.

Convenor: Stan Petzall

BOOK GROUP 2

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2.00 PM

Meet at the home of Jillian Quartel to discuss 'The Bookbinder of Jericho' by Pip Williams.

Please advise Jillian and Joan if you are unable to attend.

Convenor: Joan Teele

Secret Men's Business last Tuesday

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 AT 9:30 AM.

OLIVE LANE, 69 DONCASTER ROAD, BALWYN NORTH.

On the last Tuesday in August, nineteen happy chatters enjoyed exchanging 'war stories' and a 'two bob's worth' presentation by Tony Schou on highs and lows of his career as a VFL umpire. The risky side of the profession was not restricted to 'on field' activities. After one game Tony was assaulted by an umbrella wielding spectator who was of the opinion that an incorrect umpiring decision had been made!

Starting in the profession umpiring games for U17's Tony progressed to the prestigious role of a central umpire amassing a career of over 400 games. Despite the physical rigours endured (hip and knee replacements) his overriding sentiment was 'I'd do it all over again'! Well done, Tony!

Jeff Rae- formerly a member of Surrey Hills Probus was welcomed to the session- reconnecting with his former club members and meeting many of SMB's regulars.

Nominations now being sought for the next 'two bob's worth' presenter!



The 25th August roll-up!

Convenor: Peter Gillett

Theatre *various*

Bookings for these: Barbara Mathews

A BEAUTIFUL NOISE

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



A new and extremely popular new musical featuring the numerous works by Neil Diamond. Tickets have been distributed.

FROZEN

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH AT 1PM AT THE ROUND.

The Babirra Company brings the Broadway adaptation of the Disney film to life on the stage with uplifting songs, glittering snow effects and sumptuous costumes in an uplifting story about family and self- acceptance. Cost is \$60pp and must be paid by the September meeting at the latest.

Bookings for those: Barbara Mathews –

Bookings for *The Round*: Mary Dunn –

THE AUSTRALIAN BARBRA STREISAND SHOW

Wednesday October 14, The Round 11am

Experience the magic of Barbra Streisand with Rachel Grace, as she brings to life the timeless hits that have defined Barbra's legendary career.

Tickets \$22 and payment due by September Meeting.

POT-POURRI

Wednesday November 18. The Round. 11am

Australia's award-winning entertainment sensation Pot-Pourri delivers a spellbinding musical experience that's guaranteed to captivate. Led by acclaimed soprano Tania de Jong AM.

Tickets \$22, Payable by October Meeting.

Bookings for *The Round*: Mary Dunn –

OSMaD Musical

FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER



the musical.

Geoffrey McComas Theatre, Morrison St., Hawthorn presented by OSMaD - always wonderful presentations. Winner of 5 Tony Awards including Best Musical and the Drama Desk Award for Orchestration, Titanic has a score that can only be described as symphonic grandeur. Epic and majestic, with moments of heartbreaking intimacy, Titanic captures the triumph and tragedy of the hopeful passengers on the ill-fated Ship of Dreams.

The sinking of the Titanic in 1912 remains a defining disaster of the 20th century. The loss of 1,517 people, contrasted with the ship's reputation as unsinkable, defied belief. Beyond the tragedy, it prompted re-evaluation of progress and class divisions. The unequal survival rates among passengers highlighted social inequalities and marked a shift in societal values. This event signalled the end of 19th-century ideologies and questioned perceptions of wealth and privilege.

Our special probus group ticket price is \$44.

Please ensure your name is on the list at the General meeting.

Payment to the club bank account required by 13 October.

Organiser: Russ Dawe

Theatre Convenor: Barbara Mathews

Trips & Tours

BROKEN HILL THE ACCESSIBLE OUTBACK

Monday 17 – Saturday 22 May 2027

6 days 5 nights experiencing Australia's first Heritage-listed city and discovering the unique landscape.



Living Desert Reserve, Broken

Experience the 'Accessible Outback', enjoy Broken Hill and its surrounds as well as a cruise on the Murray River as we return via Mildura.

Ctrl+Click on the pic for the link to tour itinerary.

Footy Tipping *weekly in season*

The Wildcard Round lived up to its name with two close matches between evenly matched teams making it very difficult for tipsters. Your convenors were not alone in failing to get even one correct tip.

Roy Price has a comfortable lead of two and with just 9 matches to go should be expected to hold his lead to the end – but then again, you never know, the finals often produce surprising results. Judy Lewis and Chris Thornton are waiting in the wings ready to pounce should Roy falter.

Convenor: Peter Harman - & Phillp Pitsikas

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PAYMENTS

Direct Debit (EFT) -----

Account No. -----

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

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

Forward Planning

Solo	1 October
Magical Mystery Tour	2 October
Frozen	4 October
Scrabble	5 October
Committee	6 October
Wine, cheese & Bocce commences	9 October
General Meeting	13 October
Canasta	14 October
The Australian Barbra Streisand Show	14 October
Garden Appreciation- Melton	15 October
3rd Sunday Lunch	18 October
Walking for enjoyment	19 October
Film & luncheon	20 October
Book Groups	22 October
Cox Plate Race Day	24 October
Creatives- Archibald Prize at SAM	27 October
SMB	27 October
Investors	27 October
Dine out at Avatar	30 October

Wiser Driver (start)	6 November
Pot Pourri	18 November
Garden Group – Broughton Hall in spring	19 November

Titanic the musical (OSMaD)	11 December
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2027

Broken Hill trip	17-22 May
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NEXT GREY MATTER

If you wish to have your information included in the September Grey Matter copy MUST reach the newsletter team on

newsletter@greythornprobus.org.au by 5:00pm, Tuesday 25 August.

Late information may not miss out!