

Grey Matter



July 2026

Post: PO Box 85, Balwyn North, 3104

Email: info@greythornprobus.org.au

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

Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club

ROBERT'S REFLECTIONS



June finished up on a sad note with the death of Charles Povey on 29 June. He was a former member of the Surrey Hills Probus Club. One of his previous colleagues Bruce Wilson quoted:

"Charles was an outstanding contributor to our club at Surrey Hills. He was a previous treasurer, vice president and president and for many years acted as auditor of the club's finances. He was also one of the leadership group which helped the club continue at a time when leadership was needed some years ago.

For many years he became our interface with Boroondara Council and was responsible for applying for many grants that added so much to our club's activities. I enjoyed my friendship with Charles and feel that I have lost someone who I respected as a fine gentleman."

On a brighter note, June brought plenty of opportunities to exercise, play cards, watch a film, and enjoy Bernadette Robinson's wonderful singing performance, preceded by coffee and cake at the Round—all for \$22. Another highlight was the outing by 39 Probians, who travelled on a tram that "rides" on water before enjoying lunch at the Anglers Tavern on the Maribyrnong River.

These, and many other activities, are featured each month in our newsletter, "Grey Matter". It is a credit to our Convenors, who continue to offer fresh ideas and interesting venues. We are very fortunate to have them looking after our interests.

On 14 July, we will celebrate our nineteenth birthday at the Greenacres Golf Club, with 98 members booked to attend. Newcomers, please note that there will be no General Meeting at St Aidan's this month. I look forward to seeing almost all of you at the Greenacres Golf Club at 12.30.

Robert Van Woerkom President

July Meeting our ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

**Celebrate the
19th Anniversary of our wonderful Club**

at-GREENACRES GOLF CLUB

51 Elm Grove, Kew East

on TUESDAY 14th JULY 2026 at 12.30

We will enjoy a well subsidised two course lunch and, by popular demand, we will be entertained once again by the fabulous guitarist Jason Vorherr.

**Convenors :-Barbara Van Woerkom - ,
and Margaret Cox -**

Welfare

Marty Malone has been able to get out and about – with care – after his skin grafts.

Diane O'Brien is in Epworth Box Hill following Open Heart Surgery- stents were inserted some years ago- she is doing ok.

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

July Birthdays

Frank O'BRIEN	1
Joy GLEESON	6
Lorna JOHNSON	10
John DOWLING	12
Erin COURTENAY	19
Heather TRUMBLE	19
Carol FRASER	25
Robert CREEK	26
Liz DAWE	26
Pauline O'BRIEN	31

July 2026 Activities

Solo	2 July
Scrabble	6 July
Committee meeting	7 July
Canasta	8 July
Discussion	9 July
International Day of Hope	12 July
Anniversary Lunch at Greenacres	14 July
The Broadway We Love – The Round	15 July
Garden group	16 July
3 rd Sunday Lunch	19 July
Walking for coffee	20 July
Film & Lunch	21 July
Morning Music – ‘Elvis for Ever’	21 July
Book Groups	23 July
Secret Men’s Business (9:30am)	28 July
Creative Pursuits – CARTIER EXHIBITION NGV	28 July
Investors (7:30pm)	28 July
Scrabble	3 August
Australian Ballet School– The Round –	5 August
Pretty Woman – The Musical – Regent Theatre	19 August
Tenori – The Round –	26 August
A Beautiful Noise – Princess Theatre	23 September

Scrabble 1st Monday

MONDAY 6 JULY AT 1:30PM

Host was Glenys Chalk.

MONDAY 3 AUGUST AT 1.30 PM

host will be Elaine Provan. Please let Elaine know by Friday 31 July if attending.

Convenor: Glenys Chalk-

Solo 1st Thursday

THURSDAY 2 JULY AT 1:30PM

Play will commence at 1:30pm, host will be Peter Harman. Please contact him if you will be playing. On August 6th Janet Cook will host play. Let her know on if you’ll be playing

Convenor: Denise Powell –

Canasta 2nd Wednesday

WEDNESDAY JULY 8TH 1.30PM

Will be at Mary Marshall’s home. Please advise Mary on if attending

Convenor: Denise Boschetti –

GREAT DAY OUT

NEXT STOP, THE ANGLERS’ TAVERN!



On Wednesday 24 June, a mild winter morning, 39 happy cruisers boarded the fabulous Tram Boat at Victoria Docklands for our return trip to the Anglers Tavern. The Tavern was completely flooded in

late 2022 but reopened, completely refurbished, 21 months later.

The Tram Boat owners Anthony, our Captain, and “first Mate” Lisa, were excellent hosts making sure everybody was comfortable, happy and warm. Anthony provided an animated and knowledgeable commentary as we sailed out of the harbour, downstream along the Yarra and along the beautiful Maribyrnong, with quite a few laughs thrown in!

Lisa explained the boat’s safety features as she dressed our birthday boy in his fetching orange life-saving vest! We enjoyed morning tea onboard and lunch at the Tavern, before returning to the Terminal.



A great day out was had by all.

JAN COFFEY

Discussion Group

THURSDAY 9 JULY, 11:00AM – UPSTAIRS HARP HOTEL

LAND & HOME OWNERSHIP IN AUSTRALIA

Do we really have a problem – what are the causes and what may alleviate the issue without making the solution ‘worse than the disease’?

Lunch in the bistro after.

Session Leader: Robert Creek

Convenor: TBA



Garden Appreciation 3rd Thursday

THURSDAY 16 JULY 10:30AM

THE GREENERY, 4 BANKSIA ST., HEIDELBERG

Meet at the Greenery at 10:30am and begin the day with a coffee and perhaps a tempting cake or scone.



At 11:00am the manager of The Greenery will take us around the displays, talk about them and answer any questions. Then we can explore the delights on our own. The nursery has both native and exotic plants chosen for their suitability to local climates. Themed display areas show creative ways to combine plants, pots and garden materials.

The Emporium features homewares, gifts, art exhibits, furniture and decor items.

Lunch has been arranged at the Greenery.

Organiser: Elaine Provan

AUGUST: CHANGE OF PLAN

Following the advice from garden volunteers at Kyneton, the train outing is being postponed until **September**. Options are being explored. More information as it becomes available.

AUGUST THURSDAY 20 AT 12:00PM
VICTORIA PARLIAMENTARY GARDENS

A booking has been made for 20 people to tour the Parliamentary Gardens at 2:00pm.

Established in the 1860's, the gardens are based on a William Guilfoyle design and are a classic example of a late Victorian landscaped garden.

Names of attendees are required so please add your name to the list at the Anniversary Lunch or notify me (Liz).

The free tour is 50 minutes in duration with some uneven ground. The main entrance to Parliament House is on Spring Street. We need to meet in the Vestibule (foyer) at least 15 minutes ahead of the 2:00pm start for security checks. You will need photo ID e.g. drivers licence, passport etc. Bags are expected to be stored during the tour.

Lunch in the Strangers Corridor at 12:00 noon or ?????

Getting there:

Public Transport: Train: exit at Parliament Station using the Bourke St exit.

Tram Route 86 or 96 stop 9 (Spring St / Bourke St) or Route 75 Flinders St / Spring St stop and walk up Spring St.

If you wish to add to your day a morning walk through the daffodils in the Fitzroy Gardens and the conservatory (cyclamen and cineraria) then a stroll through the gardens to Parliament House would be a nice way to begin.

Tram routes 48 and 75, stop 10.

Convenor: Liz Dawe

3rd Sunday Lunch 3rd Sunday

SUNDAY 19 JULY AT 12 NOON

OLD ENGLAND HOTEL

For bookings contact Angela Johns on by Friday 17 July

Convenor: Angela Johns

Walking for Enjoyment 3rd Monday

MONDAY 20TH JULY 10.00 AM

FAIRFIELD BOATHOUSE TO DIGHTS FALLS .

Meet in the carpark off Fairfield Park Drive near the toilet block Melway 30 J12

Coffee Fairfield Boathouse

Convenor: John Astle –

Film Luncheon 3rd Tuesday

TUESDAY 21 JULY

PALACE CINEMA, WHITEHORSE RD., BALWYN

Name and time of film will be announced at Meeting.

Please have CORRECT MONEY (\$12) in named envelope.

Optional lunch at EAST & CO.



Convenor: Joan Teele-

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



Creative Pursuits 4th Tuesday

TUESDAY 28 JULY- \$43 ENTRY- 10AM
CARTIER EXHIBITION N.G.V.

Lunch at Tea Room – NGV. Please pay into Club account a.s.a.p.

Last week, Adrian Dickens spoke to us about the Cartier exhibition, his knowledge of the exhibits, their origin and history. An amazing presentation. We will go to the exhibition well-schooled in precious jewels.



At the Eureka Tower

TUESDAY 25 AUGUST- 10:30AM
AME BALE EXHIBITION- HAWTHORN ARTS CENTRE

Lunch to be advised

Convenor: Elaine Provan –

Investors 4th Tuesday

TUESDAY 28 JULY AT GREYTHORN HUB

Our group had a very enjoyable EOFY Dinner at Box Hill RSL for our June meeting, with almost no talk about shares.



Our next meeting will be at the Greythorn Hub, Tuesday July 28th at 7.30pm
 New Members welcome.

Convenor: Charlie Boschetti-

Book Groups 4th Thursday

BOOK GROUP 1 THURSDAY 23 JULY
BOOK GROUP 1 WILL MEET ON THURSDAY 23 JULY AT 2PM

at the Balwyn Library to discuss “**Madame Brussels**” by Barbara Minchinton.

Convenor: Stan Petzall

BOOK GROUP 2 THURSDAY 23 JULY
BOOK GROUP 2 WILL MEET ON THURSDAY 23 JULY AT 2PM

Book: “**The End of the Morning**” by Charmian Clift
 Hostess: Wendy LeGet. Please advise Wendy *and* Lyn if you are unable to attend.

Convenor: Lyn Stavretis:

Have Myki will Travel

FRIDAY 10 JULY 2026
RONE AT CHADSTONE

Part of the inaugural *Light to Night Festival*.

It's the inner workings of a home to explore and consider what it is that truly makes a space a home.

RONE@chadstone.au

We have limited free tickets for the 11am session on Friday 10th July. Lunch after.

Meet at Box Hill bus stop (upper level) shopping centre for the 9.34am 903 bus to Chadstone Shopping Centre arriving at 10.07am

Convenor: Judy Bailey
 Pene Whiteley

Secret Men's Business last Tuesday

TUESDAY 28 JULY 2026
OLIVE LANE CAFÉ, BALWYN NORTH

Another successful Secret Men's Business session was held on the morning of Tuesday June 30 with 24 enjoying themselves at the usual haunt- Olive Lane cafe. The morning's conviviality introduced a segment 'Two Bob's Worth' where Ron Johnson and John Quartel presented their 'Personal Pars' to the enjoyment of all. It is intended that other contributors will similarly share anecdotes at continuing SMB meetings.

As always, the details of our next enjoyable gig will be:

When? Tuesday, 28 July at 9:30 am

Where? Olive Lane Cafe, 69 Doncaster Road, Balwyn North-in the strip shopping near the intersection with Bulleen Road

Parking? Ample 2-hour parking available on the corner of Doncaster Road and Macedon Avenue

Put in your 'Two bob's worth' and enjoy others' stories – the coffee and the company are great!

Convenor: Peter Gillett –

Theatre *various*

PRETTY WOMAN

Wednesday, 19 August
2026 at 1.00 pm at The
Regent Theatre in A
Reserve in the Stalls.
**Most tickets have already
been distributed.**



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. Cost is \$91.00 and
must be paid by the Anniversary Lunch 14 July.

Bookings for these: Barbara Mathews –

BOOKINGS FOR THE ROUND: MARY DUNN –

THEATRE @ THE ROUND THE BROADWAY WE LOVE

Wednesday, July 15. The Round.
All tickets to be distributed by July Luncheon.

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

Wednesday, August 5. The Round. 11am

Booking for this show has closed. Tickets will be
distributed at the July lunch at Greenacres at
Greenacres.

TENORI: MOMENT BY MOMENT

Wednesday, August 26 The Round 11am

Showcases the talents of Queensland's powerhouse
singers: David Kidd, Stewart Morris and Andrew Pryor.

Cost is \$22.00 and must be paid by the July lunch at
Greenacres at the latest.

BOOKINGS FOR THE ROUND: MARY DUNN –

Convenor: Barbara Mathews –

Our thanks for the support from

Nelson Alexander

Estate Agents, 278 High St. Kew 3101

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

Bits and Pieces

Visit to Concierge, Balwyn on Friday 3 July

Thank you to the 25 members who accepted the
invitation to attend The Concierge for afternoon tea and
an informative information session.
We were thanked in appreciation by AVEO with a gift
card.
Most of us agreed we were not old enough to sign up
now.

Judy Brophy

Activities

If you have signed up for an activity – including having
included your name on a list- please think twice before
'pulling out' in the last few days because you are too
busy, have changed your mind, forgot or 'I didn't know I
was on the list'.

The Convener of the activity has spent a great deal of
time organising, making bookings, payments etc which
will require much time and frustration re-organising at
the last minute. It is completely understood if you are
unwell and need to cancel.

Club rules are that, where the club has committed to or
made a payment for an activity there is an obligation on
anyone who withdraws and can be no refund to any
who subsequently cancels.

Meeting etiquette

Please do not talk during meetings while someone is
speaking on the microphone, it makes it very difficult
for other members to hear and is disrespectful of the
speaker.

Public Transport – Myki and your Credit Card

*Beware of the **RFID** (Radio Frequency Identification)
readers at Public Transport stations (and possibly on
trams etc.)*

Credit cards and phone 'wallets' can now be used for
Victorian public transport fares – but NOT for seniors
concession fares. For seniors fares a Myki card must be
used. Use a credit card and the *full adult fare* will be
charged.

But there may be a problem.

It has been reported that, particularly when passing
through major station readers, the updated Myki
system may 'accidentally'¹ read **BOTH the myki card
and**, via the RFID readers, **your credit card as well**-
consequently charging you for **both** a senior's journey
and a non-concession journey.

It is understood that at least one of our members has
discovered this multi-charging – even though the credit
card was not presented but *in a handbag*. If using a
phone 'wallet' it's possible that both the wallet and the
'linked credit card' may be charged.

1. Transport Victoria website

RFID readers are widely used today for both beneficial and criminal activities to read information stored in credit cards, passports, ID cards etc. It may be therefore that until this issue is fully clarified, members using public transport should ensure their credit cards are shielded from RFID.

Keeping credit cards in an **RFID** blocking holder (even a special small credit card sized envelope) can protect against unauthorised or unknown reading of your information.

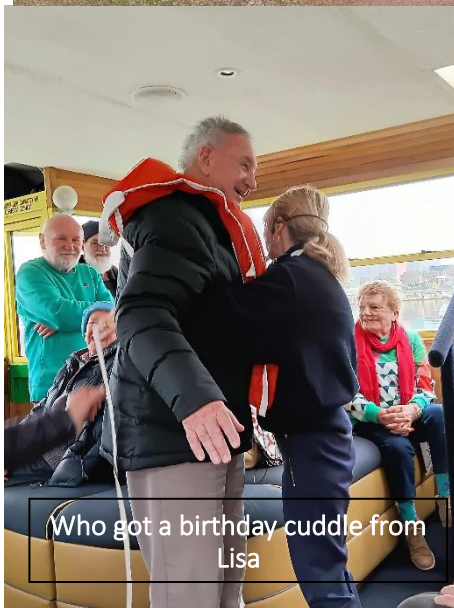
AUGUST GREY MATTER

If you wish to have your information included in the August Grey Matter copy **MUST** reach the newsletter team on newsletter@greythornprobus.org.au by 5:00pm, Tuesday 28 July.

Late information may miss out!



Garden group visit Strathdon House & garden in Vermont



Who got a birthday cuddle from Lisa



Creative Pursuits visited the Eureka Tower

Tramboat expedition to The Anglers Tavern.





BOROONDARA EVENTS

BOROONDARA MORNING MUSIC
21 July 10:30am – 12noon at Hawthorn Arts Centre

ELVIS FOREVER

Hall opens 10:10am coffee/tea available. Performance begins 10:30.

11:20 performance concludes followed by morning tea. \$20 bookings essential – online from Boroondara.vic.gov.au/events/morning-music-Elvis-forever

18 August at Kew Seniors Centre

MOSTLY MOZART

\$7 at the door: bookings essential

15 September at Kew Seniors Centre

‘PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE – MINOR CHARACTER, MAJOR SONG’

Victoria Mantynen: \$7 at the door: bookings essential.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PAYMENTS

Direct Debit (EFT)

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 the Treasurer, Ron Johnson**, advising the activity you have paid for.

Greythornians gather at The Round for coffee and chat prior to enjoying Bernadette Robinson's 'They Sang at Carnegie Hall'

AUGUST ACTIVITIES

Scrabble 1:30	3 August
Committee meeting	4 August
Australian Ballet School at The Round	5 August
Solo	6 August
General Meeting	11 August
Canasta	12 August
Discussion	13 August
3 rd Sunday Lunch	16 August
Walking group	17 August
Film and luncheon	18 August
Pretty Woman at The Regent Theatre	19 August
Garden Appreciation	20 August
Creative Pursuits	25 August
Secret Men's Business	25 August
Tenori at The Round	26 August
Investors 7:30pm	25 August
Book Groups	27 August
A Beautiful Noise at The Princess Theatre	23 Sept

Footy Tipping *weekly in season*

June was a difficult month for our tipsters. Several certainties were beaten and the resurrection of the Blues caught many by surprise. Tipping against the Tigers and the Bombers was reliable but Port Adelaide, GWS and the Suns always confuse.

Even with the bye rounds, perfect scores were difficult to come by during June. Indeed, Roy Price, tipping 7 correct winners in round 16 was the only one to achieve the feat.

Judy Lewis has relinquished her lead to Roy Price. However, four tipsters, John Brophy, Judy Lewis, Chris Thornton and Shirley Branigan are all equal on tips just one tip behind Roy.

