

Grey Matter

December '24 & January '25



Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club

Post: PO Box 85, Balwyn North, 3104 Email: info@greythornprobos.org.au
 Web: <http://www.greythornprobos.org.au>



Russ's Ruminations



Greetings,

I hope everyone is looking forward to our Christmas lunch at the Kew Golf Club. It will be great to see so many of our members participating in this traditional club event. Unfortunately, unless we get nominations for committee vacancies it may be our last!

November provided a great range of activities – many pics from them will appear in the year's compilation PowerPoint. Hope you enjoy them as much as you enjoyed the actual activities.

Can I thank Marty for the initiative of the men's ('SMB') coffee mornings. The first get together at Tru Coffee provided an opportunity for some great fellowship. The very busy Christmas season is now upon us and many are planning summer get-aways. We intend, however, to continue this new activity in the new year. Hopefully it will also provide an opportunity for attracting more men to our club in 2025.

We are all seeing, on TV and elsewhere, many of the early outcomes of last month's US Presidential election, even in shopping centres we frequent. I noted this sign outside a shop recently. Love it!

BAN SHREDDED CHEESE
 MAKE AMERICA GRATE AGAIN

Our activity groups usually take a break over January – so everyone please enjoy the round of Christmas functions – and others - over the next couple of weeks. I do, however, look forward to a large gathering at Ruffey Lake Park on 14 January for our traditional start to the year's activities.

Grateful thanks to all our Committee Members and Activity Convenors for a wonderful Greythorn Probos year. I wish everyone a great Christmas and New Year and, of course, a wonderful 2025.

Russ

Russ Dawe, President Greythorn Probos

GENERAL MEETING 2025

Our first general meeting for 2025 will be held at the North Balwyn Uniting Church Hall, Duggan Street, North Balwyn, on **Tuesday, 11 February, 2025**, commencing at **10.00 am**.

DECEMBER CALENDAR	
Scrabble	2 December
Committee Meeting	3 December
Greythorn Groovers (Every Wed)	4 December
Annual Christmas Lunch	5 December
Solo	10 December
Canasta	11 December
<i>Rejoice & Be Merry @The Round</i>	11 December
Gardening Group & Creatives Xmas	12 December
OSMAD Theatre <i>Addams Family</i>	13 December
Book Group 1	13 December
3rd Sunday Lunch	15 December
Walking Group	16 December
Book Group 2	18 December



JINGLE BELLS
JINGLE BELLS
 Christmas is on
 its way!!



Our annual Christmas Lunch will
 be held on

THURSDAY 5th DECEMBER
 at
KEW GOLF CLUB
120 Belford Road, Kew East
12 NOON

3 course meal & entertainment by
 guitarist, Jason Vorheer,
 PowerPoint Slideshow of the year's
 events—and a raffle!



There is plenty of parking at the venue!

Merry Xmas to all!
 Barbara van Woerkom
 Margaret Cox



This event is subsidised by Boroondara
 Council



2024 Entertainment Finale with Jason
"Nothing Ever Happens in Scoresby" Singer, Song-
 writer and Guitarist, Jason Vorherr, will be our
 Special Guest entertainer for the Finale of 2024 at
 Kew Golf Club.

Bring along your good cheer and singing voices to
 join in and celebrate!!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Stay safe and well!!

See you in the New Year with
an eclectic array of speakers
and entertainment!!

Best Wishes to All
Adrienne



BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER 2024

MARY MARSHALL	3
WENDY LE GET	7
ANNE PONSFORD	9
PETER OGIER	16
KEN PURNELL	17

JANUARY, 2025

JAN JAMES	2
STEPHANIE FLIEGNER	3
MAUREEN TAYLOR	7
RUSS DAWE	12
ANN PRICE	18
MARGARET MARCH	19
MICHAEL SINCLAIR	20
LISA ZACCULA	21
ADRIENNE SALVAGNO	23
LIZ OLIE	28



Start 2025 at our January 14 Picnic in the Park

**Tuesday 14 January
12 Noon**

**Ruffey Lake Park
George Street
Doncaster East VIC 3109**

We will once again start the year with a picnic in the Park.

It's a BYO picnic—and there are BBQs at our selected site . BYO Food and Drink.

DIRECTIONS:

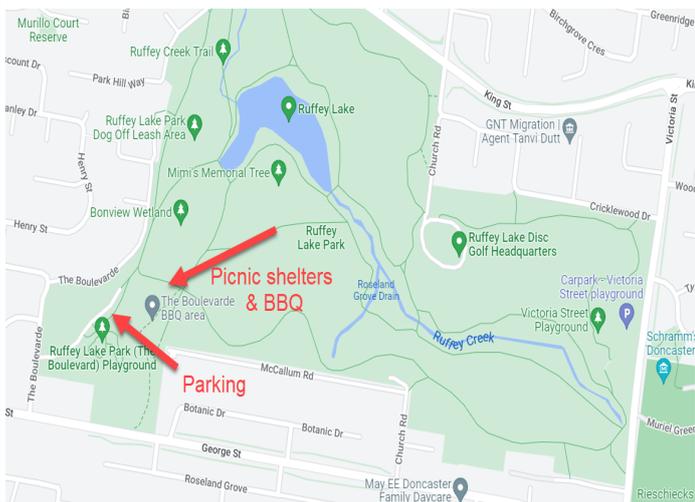
- **TURN into THE BOULEVARD** (The Boulevard is towards the Williamson Rd end of George Street) & **the entrance into the Park is about 200 metres on your RIGHT**
- **Follow the Park driveway almost to the end to park along the road**
- **The covered BOULEVARD BBQ AREA is up the rise to your right.** There is a path, or you can make your way 'across country'!

We will seek to 'hold' the shelter so there will be sufficient tables for all our members—but it may be a good idea to put a chair or two in the car so we can spread out to enjoy (hopefully) the sunshine.

Don't be concerned about the January weather though.

If the forecast is that it will be too hot or too wet to gather in the park we have a back-up arrangement for lunch at the well-regarded and nearby Templestowe Hotel.

If a change is to be made an email will be sent to all members.



WELFARE

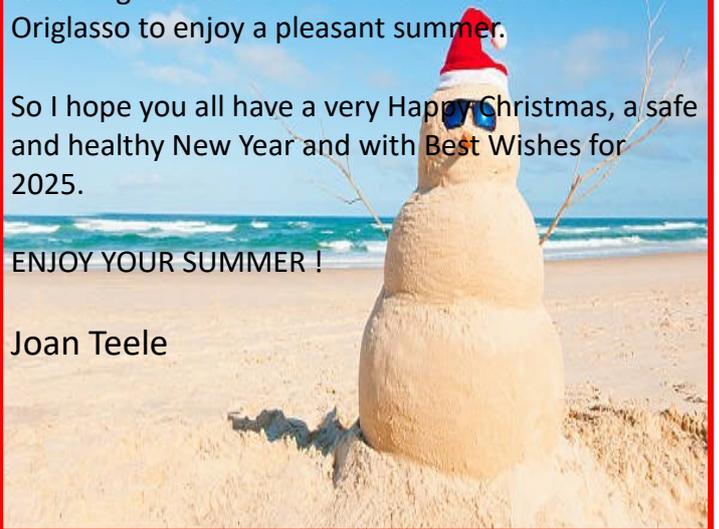
Christmas is fast approaching and we all need to be fit and healthy to survive all our activities!

Best wishes to Deirdre Lancaster for a successful rehabilitation following her recent hip replacement. Best wishes also to Angie Randall for a full recovery following her recent ill health and also to Cath Origlasso to enjoy a pleasant summer.

So I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas, a safe and healthy New Year and with Best Wishes for 2025.

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER !

Joan Teele



Scrabble



Monday 2 December at 12:30 pm

Host was Elaine Provan. This was our **Christmas lunch.**

Monday 3 February 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

Host will be Glenys Chalk. Please let her know by Friday 31st January if attending.

Convenor: Glenys Chalk



Solo



Tuesday 10 December 12 Noon

Hosts: Anne and Peter Harman. This is our **Christmas Break Up**. Please let Anne know on 0438 521 961 by Thursday 5 December if you will be attending.

Solo on Feb 6th 2025 is at the McLellans', and March 6th at Patricia Nosedá's home. Both games at **7.30 pm**.

Convenor: Denise Powell

Canasta



Wednesday 11 December 7:30pm

The Canasta Group will meet at the home of Judy & John Brophy, for a Christmas get-together. Bring your BBQ meat or cold meat if preferred, plus the salad or dessert decided at the November meeting. Please advise Judy if NOT attending.

The February 2025 Canasta will be at Diane Robinson's home at 7.30pm

Convenor: Denise Boschetti



Canasta—for most it's a serious business?!

Girls—and Boys—just wanna' have fun, 2024



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



Gardening Group

Thursday 12 December --- **NOTE: This is the 2nd Thursday 12 noon**



Gardens and Creative Pursuits combined Christmas lunch has been booked at the **Warrandyte Stonehouse Café,**

321 Ringwood– Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte. Please include your name(s) on the booking list at the *Christmas lunch*.

Thursday 20 February 2025

Olive Tree – Wheelbarrow Nursery

2 Gladstone St., Kew [cnr High St – opposite the clock tower]



This nursery is small but has very nice plants. Meet at 11am for coffee and a catch-up at Jonathon’s Café in the nursery. Some may like to enjoy lunch after.

Come with garden ideas: some suggestions are:-

- Blue Lotus Water Garden
- Alowyn Garden
- Muskers’ Broughton Hall, Jindivick
- Garden World
- Ripponlea Garden
- Government House garden
- Duneira Estate – home and garden.

There will be a list at our February General Meeting so I can indicate numbers to the café.

Convenor: Liz Dawe

Greythorn Probus Club supported by

Surrey Hills Community Bank® Branch

 **Bendigo Bank**

Creative Pursuits

Thursday 12 December 12 noon



Combined Christmas lunch with Garden Group **Warrandyte Stonehouse Cafe**

FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2025 10am

“Inspired By Women”

The Johnson Collection \$23pp

Details at February general meeting.

Please Note change of usual day

Convenor: Elaine Provan

Book Groups



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Friday 13 December 12:30pm

Book Group 1 will meet to celebrate the 2024 year on December 17 at Box Hill RSL

26/28 Nelson Rd, Box Hill

Convenor: Erin Courtney

Thursday 18 December at 3pm

Book Group 2 will meet at the home of Wendy Le Get, to celebrate a year of reading and sharing ideas. Please let Wendy know on 0402 906 561 if you cannot make it.

Convenor: Lyn Stavretis

Walking for Enjoyment

Monday 16 December 10:00am

Kew Billabong Walk

Meet at Victoria Park carpark, High St Kew

Enter the Park opposite Belford Rd

Melway 45 G5

Coffee at Brickettes opposite the Harp of Erin

Convenor John Astle

November Walking and then Xmas Dining!



Investors



Tuesday 26 November

Investors had an enjoyable Xmas Lunch at The Living Room in Templestowe.

We will start again February 25th 2025

Convenor: Charlie Boschetti

Investors celebrating the Ups and down of 2024!



Discussion Group

FROM DISCUSSION GROUP

--TO ALL MEMBERS

*Merry
christmas
and happy
new year*



THE GROUP WILL RETURN IN

FEB 2025

Convenor: Roy Price

GOOD NEWS FOR XMAS??



Daily, we are bombarded with so much negative news it's nice to realise that there are good things happening in the world too.

There is a group whose job is to report on the good stuff. Worth-while checking it out - again! Click on the link below.

[FIX THE NEWS](#)

We first posted information about this publication in August, but thought it might be a good time to re-post! Christmas can be a joyous time, but also a time of stress and anxiety for many, so it's good to know there's a news website that promotes hopeful stories.

Fix The News is an independent, subscriber-supported publication that reports good news from around the world.

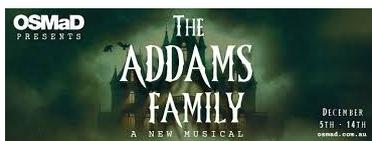
It's free although there is also a higher level (more info) for paid subscribers.

Theatre

The Addams Family

Friday 13 December

“Spooky” OSMaD production at the Geoffrey McComas Theatre at Scotch College, 1 Morrison St, Hawthorn, 7:30pm



Beauty and the Beast



Wednesday 29th January 2025 at 1pm at Her Majesty’s Theatre. A new production of the famous story full of songs and dance.

Rejoice and Be Merry

Wednesday 11th December at 11am at the Round.

Get into true Christmas spirit with favourite traditional and contemporary Christmas carols and song.



Tickets for Rejoice and be Merry and Beauty and the Beast will be distributed at the Xmas Lunch. Tickets have been purchased.

Make ‘Em Laugh



Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 11am at the Round. Bursting with show stopping songs by Irving Berlin and George Gershwin it tells the story of

David O’Connor who starred in Singin’ in the Rain. New price is \$22pp & must be paid by the Christmas Lunch at the latest. EFT is preferred but if paying by cash please bring your money in a named envelope.

Tina – The Tina Turner Musical

Wednesday 19th February 2025 at The Princess Theatre at 1pm.

Shaken Not Stirred



Wednesday 16th April, 11 at the Round

Celebrating the classic James Bond films this show features the well- known songs combined with extravagant costumes and stunning singing and dancing performances



Cost is \$22pp and includes a lovely morning tea. Payment must be made by the February meeting at the latest.

PLEASE NOTE DUE DATES FOR PAYMENT OF ALL SHOWS IN THIS NOTICE. Remember to email both Ron Johnson, Treasurer, and me, when you make an online payment.

Convenor Barbara Mathews

Greythorn Groovers

Every Wednesday 10 am at the SENIORS’ EXERCISE PARK VICTORIA PARK KEW



Regular exercise helps improve your Balance, Mobility, Strength, Range of Motion & Functional Movement.

We have access to the facility every Wednesday morning at 10:00am for about 45 minutes.

CONVENOR JUDY BAILEY - is trained in the use of the equipment so can advise how to get the most out of this special facility.

November Events!



WALKING GROUP XMAS AT ST GEORGES. Delicious Pudd and Wendy, Xmas fairy!



YARRA VALLEY OAKS DAY PACING CUP

27 Greythorn members headed off to the Yarra Valley Racing Club on a beautiful sunny day. A coffee was very welcome after our early start for our drive to the lovely Yarra Valley.

The dining room looked impressive & our tables along the windows were perfect as we all settled down to study our form guides.

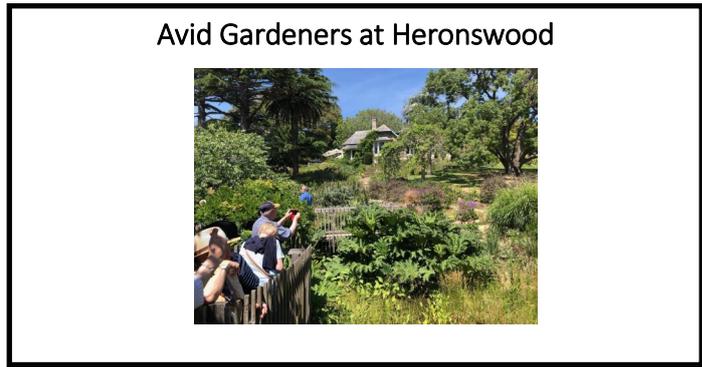
Everyone was dressed to impress, hats, fascinators, ties & jackets were the order of the day. The gals looked gorgeous & the guys looked pretty good too. We enjoyed a lovely three course meal, accompanied by the Traveling Troubadours - a doubtful duo on trumpet & sax.

'Vast' amounts of money were won & lost although all were still clothed at the end of the day & security escorts, booked to accompany our newfound wealth, cancelled.

The headline in the local paper the following week read "OLD MARE BEATS YOUNG FILLIES IN FASHIONS ON THE FIELD at YARRA VALLEY"



Creatives "Abstracting" at the Charles Nodram Collection, Town Hall Gallery, Hawthorn.



What's happening in 2025?

FEBRUARY WEDNESDAY 26th 2025
PENTRIDGE PRISON TOUR



Tours of B & H DIVISIONS - \$45.00 pp, payment due Tuesday December 10 or at the **CHRISTMAS LUNCH Lunch at BREW DOG at own expense**
 There is a waiting list.

NOVEMBER SUNDAY 23rd 2025
6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS
NORTH EAST SILO ART TOUR

DON'T MISS OUT, PUT YOUR NAME ON THE LIST AT THE XMAS LUNCH!



DEPOSIT of \$100.00 payable by 31 January 2025.
 Total cost \$1395 p.p. or \$1695 for single bookings.
Balance due 23/10/25.

Pay by EFT direct to Linga Longa Tours (details with brochure) When paying include **"23/11/2025 Tour"** and **your name.**

This will be a week of fun and adventure!
 Itineraries available at Christmas lunch.

Convenor: Judy Brophy

MARCH WEDNESDAY 26th 2025
PUFFING BILLY



Join us for a great day out on **PUFFING BILLY**, for a **return trip Belgrave to Lakeside. . . . \$40.00 pp LUNCH**, at own expense, at the **LAKESIDE VISITORS CENTRE RAILWAY CAFE.**

Travelling by Metro train to Belgrave.
 Put your name on the list at Xmas Lunch
PAYMENT DUE FEBRUARY 11th.

APRIL WEDNESDAY 30th 2025
AMBULANCE MUSEUM



Put your name on the list at the Xmas Lunch
\$10 per person

FIRST DINE OUT for 2025

will be held at our traditional February venue.
YOUNG & JACKSONS



Cnr Swanson & Flinders Streets
MONDAY 24th FEBRUARY
at 12 noon

The menu consists of -
 A glass of wine or soft drink
 Fresh bread
 Choice of four mains
 To finish -

A bite size treat with Leaf Tea or Barista Coffee
 All for a total of \$40pp
 Maximum of 36 members are able to attend, so get your name on the list ASAP

Payment by February 11, 2025

(For those who cannot manage stairs there is a lift)

Convenors

Barbara van Woerkom
 Margaret Cox

Activity Group Convenors 2024

Scrabble	Glenys Chalk	1st Monday
Solo	Denise Powell	1st Thursday
Canasta	Denise Boschetti	2nd Wed'day
Walking	John Astle	3rd Monday
Film Luncheons	Joan Teele	3rd Tuesday
Discussion	Roy Price	3rd Tues/Wed
Garden Appr'n	Liz Dawe	3rd Thursday
3rd Sunday Lunch	Diane O'Brien	3rd Sunday
Creative Pursuits	Elaine Provan	4th Tuesday
Investors	Charlie Boschetti	4th Tuesday
Book Group 1	Erin Courtney	4th Thursday
Book Group 2	Lyn Stavretis	4th Thursday
Dine Out	Margaret Cox Barbara Van Woerkom	Bi-monthly
Greythorn Groovers	Judy Bailey	Every Wednesday
Theatre	Barbara Mathews	Various
Footy Tipping	Peter Harman Phil Pitsikas	Every week in season

Management Committee 2024

President	Russ Dawe
Vice President	Judy Brophy
Secretary (R)	Glenys Chalk
Treasurer	Ron Johnson
Welfare (R)	Joan Teele
Membership	Marty Malone
Trips & Outings (R)	Judy Brophy
Newsletter & Report (R)	Jan Wedekind-Coffey
Guest speakers	Adrienne Salvagno
Immediate Past President (R)	Stuart Williams

Anniversary & Christmas Lunches	Margaret Cox & Barbara Van Woerkom
Financial Reviewer	Marty Malone
Archives / Web	Russ Dawe
Hospitality / Morning Teas	Ros Richmond & Anne Balfe

(NB: R—Retiring 2025)

GREY MATTER



There will be **NO** newsletter in January.

Please send copy and photos for the **FEBRUARY GREY MATTER AND THE 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT** to Newsletter Editor Jan Wedekind-Coffey by

THURSDAY, 30 January, at the very latest!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to **YOUR Grey Matter in 2024!**

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable Christmas and a safe New Year. See you all in 2025!



Committee 2024

Subscriptions and Payments

Direct Debit (EFT)

Please *a/ways* 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.

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