

Grey Matter

March 2025



Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club

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Russ's Last Ruminations



Is this the last Grey Matter? It certainly is likely to be unless someone steps up to take on this vital communications role within the club.

For the last 6 or so years our newsletter has taken (essentially) the format you see today. Don't be concerned about that—if you can send the odd email or type up a document you CAN put our newsletter—in what ever format will work for you—together.

Assistance is at hand—

I understand from Jan that perhaps the most difficult part of the job is getting those busy Activity Convenors to send in their content. Blank space under the group name may assist. (Don't think, convenors, that that's an easy way out—no content in the newsletter means no time to spruكة activities at General Meetings)

While we're almost a quarter of the way through 2025, if February's provided a busy and very enjoyable month, the activities listed in this month's Grey Matter clearly indicate a great year coming up.

Our club has a wonderful membership and I know will continue to be organized by a great committee and kept active by those fantastic and hard working Activity Convenors.

Thanks to everyone for putting up with my ramblings over the past 12 months—it's been a privilege to work with our great committee.

Russ Dawe, President



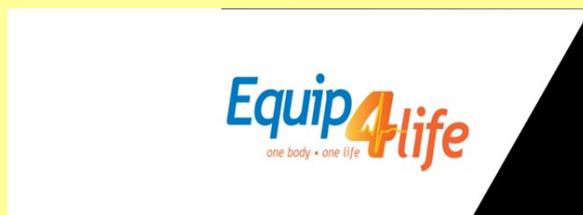
GREYTHORN PROBUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held at:

The North Balwyn Uniting Church Hall,
Duggan Street, North Balwyn,
Tuesday 11 March 2025,
commencing at **10.00 am.**

Our Guest Speaker:

Carly from Equip 4 Life



BOOST YOUR BRAIN

LIFESTYLE STRATEGIES to REDUCE DEMENTIA RISK

- * Activities and Puzzles to challenge the brain
- * Exercise to support blood flow and cognitive function
- * Balanced eating to boost brain health
- * Adequate sleep to clear toxins from the brain
- * Health management to reduce risk of cognitive decline
- * Maintenance of social connection to boost cognitive function



Resigned to his fate

WELFARE

This is my last Welfare report after some years and I have found my role in this area very rewarding and an opportunity to interact with many of you.

Margaret Steele is going to be your new Welfare contact and I thank Margaret for taking over from me.

Marilyn Poole is gradually improving from her serious fall and is showing good healing after her latest MRI. Lissa Drake has spent time in hospital with a badly damaged ankle. Unfortunately Cath Origlasso is at present most unwell and is having treatment.

Our best wishes to these ladies for speedy recoveries. All keep well and enjoy all our terrific Probus activities throughout the year.

Joan Teele

Join our Greythorn Groovers

Every Wednesday morning from 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 this specially designed 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.

BRING & BUY

Don't forget your donations for our Bring & Buy table for 2025!.... plants/ seeds/bulbs, crafts, books etc & your gold coins for your purchases at the March Annual General Meeting.



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



MARCH CALENDAR

Scrabble	3 March
Committee Meeting	4 March
Greythorn Groovers (Every Wed)	5 March
Solo	6 March
Greythorn Probus AGM	11 March
Canasta	12 March
3rd Sunday Lunch	16 March
Walking Group	17 March
Discussion	18 March
Film Luncheons	18 March
Gardening Group—Blue Lotus	20 March
Creative Pursuits	25 March
Secret Men's Business	25 March
Investors	25 March
April Grey Matter Due	25 March
Puffing Billy	26 March
Book Groups	27 March

Coming up in April

Solo	3 April
Scrabble	7 April
Visit to the Ambulance Museum	30 April

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Kathy PITSIKAS	2
Lissa DRAKE	4
Anna KUYT	4
Margaret BROWN	5
Ron JOHNSON	5
Lyn STAVRETIS	14
Mary DUNN	19
Suzanne PETTIT	21
Jan COFFEY	24
Lainie CARROLL	25
Judy WATTS	27
Roger FRITH	29



GREYTHORN PROBUS MEMBERS OUT AND ABOUT IN FEBRUARY



The Tina Turner Musical



Walkers at Yarra Bend Park



Gardening Group plans the year's outings at Jonathon's—Olive Tree & Wheelbarrow Nursery



Dining out with Chloe



Scrabble

Monday 3 March 2025 at 1:30 p.m.
Host at our March game was Denise Boschetti.

Monday 7 April 2025 at 1:30 p.m.
Hosts – Stanley and Theresa Petzall.
Please let Stan know by Friday April 4th if attending.
Convenor: Glenys Chalk

Solo

Thursday 6 March 7.30 pm
Solo at Patricia Nosedá's home. Phone 0412487750.
Thursday 3 April 7.30pm
Solo will be at the home of Barbara Mathews. Please let Barbara know by 1 April if you will be attending.
Convenor: Denise Powell

Canasta



Wednesday 12 March 7.30pm
The March meeting will be held the McLellan's at 7.30pm. Please advise Pat or Veronica by Friday 7 March if attending.
Convenor: Denise Boschetti

3rd Sunday Lunch

Sunday 16 March 12 Noon
Vibrante Restaurant
133 James Street, Templestowe
Set price \$35 for Entree and Main
For bookings call Diane by the 14 March
(No 3rd Sunday lunch in April as it would fall on Easter Sunday)
Convenor: Diane O'Brien

Walking for Enjoyment

Monday 17 March 10am

Walking along Sandridge beach Port Melbourne

Kerb side parking The Boulevard, Garden City, Port Melbourne.

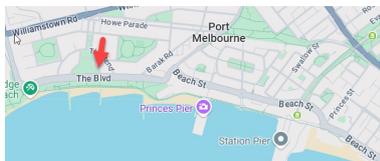
Melway 56 G3

Coffee en-route

Lunch at the Clare Castle, Graham St Port Melbourne

Bookings to John Astle or at the March meeting.

Convenor: John Astle



Film and Lunch

Tuesday 18 March

Palace Cinema, Whitehorse Rd., Balwyn ‘

Film and time will be announced at Probus Meeting, PLEASE HAVE CORRECT MONEY (\$ 12.00) IN NAMED ENVELOPE.

Optional lunch at East & Co following film.

Convenor: Joan Teele

Discussion Group

Tuesday 18 March 11am

‘A TALE OF 2 CITIES’

THE TITLE BY Charles Dickens- THIS CONTENT IS DIFFERENT



IN THIS CASE THE 2 CITIES ARE –BOTH EUROPEAN, ‘WOLFSBURG, GERMANY & DEBRECEN, HUNGARY’. BOTH ARE INVOLVED IN CAR MANUFACTURE. 2 VERY DIFFERENT ECONOMIES FACING CURRENT WORLD PROBLEMS.

DISCUSSION GROUP CAN REVIEW THIS TOPIC ON 18 MARCH 2025 AT THE ‘HARP HOTEL’ AT 11.00am. PLEASE ADVISE ROY IF ATTENDING.

Convenor: Roy Price

Garden Appreciation Group

Thursday 20 March 2025

Blue Lotus Water Garden

2628 Warburton Hwy, Yarra Junction



The gardens open at 10:30am so meet at the entrance by 11am.

The cost of a ticket is \$23 with a Senior’s Card.

Pay on the day

There is a café on-site for lunch

Please put your name on the list and arrange car sharing.

Thursday 10 April— *second* Thursday

Burnley Gardens, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond

The gardens have evolved since the 1860’s and display nearly 1000 different species of plants, including some of thee oldest trees in Melbourne.

More information in April Grey Matter.

The planning meeting at the Olive Tree & Wheelbarrow nursery developed a full plan for 2025 as follows:

- 15 May Muskens ‘Broughton Hall’, Jindivick
- 19 June Garden World—talk on Roses requested
- 17 July Geelong Botanic Gardens & Wool Museum
- 21 August Maranoa Gardens, Balwyn
- 18 September Kyneton Daffodil Festival
- 17 October Government House Garden*
- 20 November Duneira Estate, Mt Macedon or Banool Gardens, Ringwood
- 11 December Christmas Lunch

We look forward to a great range of interesting visits. All Welcome

* fully booked—waiting list

Convenor: Liz Dawe



‘Muskens’ Broughton Hall, Jindivick

Secret Men's Business

Tuesday 25 March 10am

The next gathering of the morning coffee group – aka 'Secret Men's Business' will be held at 'The Jolly Miller Cafe', Greythorn Centre Balwyn North on **Tuesday 28 March 2025** Starting circa 10.00 am, concluding at circa 11 am.

This will be a regular event on the 4th Tuesday for 1 hour. Bring a mate—he'll get a free coffee.

Please contact Marty Malone ASAP if you are willing to help in this most important of initiatives (for the survival of our club).

Convenor: TBA

Marty Malone

Just received from Toronto....



Investors

Tuesday 25 March 7.30pm

Investors meet again at the Greythorn Hub for another year of excitement! — and what a year it may turn out to be.

Convenor: Charlie Boschetti

Creative Pursuits

Tuesday 25 March 10am

The exhibition "JOY" at the Immigration Museum
Please pay \$10 to club account *before* that date and advise Elaine & Treasurer if you wish to attend.

Tuesday 22 April—10am

Seasonal Shifts & Healing Garden
at Hawthorn Town Hall

This is a Free exhibition

Convenor: Elaine Provan

Book Groups

Thursday 27 March 2pm

BOOK GROUP 1

Book Group 1 will meet on Thursday 27 March 2 p.m. at the Hawthorn Library to discuss *Dropping the Mask* by Noni Hazlehurst.



Convenor: Erin Courtney

BOOK GROUP 2

The next meeting of Book Group 2 will be at Barbara VanWoerkom's home on Thursday 27 March 2pm to discuss *The Naturalist of Amsterdam* by Melissa Ashley.



Please let Barbara know by Tuesday 25 March if you cannot attend.

Convenor: Lyn Stavretis

Big Brother is tracking you.

Our February discussion was on the development and place of 'Artificial Intelligence'.

One of our members at the discussion related about a chat with his wife in Whitehorse Rd. shortly after looking at a poster advertising a new flat – and arriving back home to receive texts from the estate agent about that particular property.

AI was active and passing private information the estate agent. Scary!

Theatre

The Music Man,

Sunday 30th March at 1.30 pm
at The Round

Tickets have been purchased and will be distributed at the March Meeting.



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

Tickets have been purchased and will be distributed at the March Meeting.

Both Sides - Rachael Beck

Wednesday 28th May at 11 am at The Round. Rachael stars with David Cameron on piano and guitar to bring a selection of songs from musical theatre including from Beauty and the Beast in which she was the lead singer.



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

I know members thoroughly enjoyed TINA at the Princess Theatre But did you know, several members with Apple Smart Watches received messages actually during the show about ---;

excessive decibel level and how 10 continuous minutes at this level would cause temporary hear impairment!

AI to the rescue?

Perhaps, instead of Judy's 'stand ups' we'd better do some hearing checks at our AGM

Theatre (Cont.)

Jesus Christ Superstar

Wednesday 11th June at 1.00 pm at the Princess Theatre.

A musical event from Andrew Lloyd Webber with many famous and well-known songs.



Tickets are in A Reserve in the Dress Circle and cost is \$71 pp and must be paid by the April meeting at the latest. There is no lift at the Theatre so there will be several steps to climb.

My Fair Lady.

Saturday 14th June at 1.30 pm at The Round.

This well-loved show is being presented by Babirra Music Theatre.

Cost is \$54.50 pp and must be paid by the May meeting at the latest.



For all shows please put your name on the list if interested at the March meeting.

Convenor: Barbara Mathews

Greythorn Probus Club supported by

Surrey Hills
Community Bank® Branch

 **Bendigo Bank**

DOIN' TIME

A visit to Her Majesty's Prison Pentridge

Constructed by prisoners, largely between 1858 - 1864, of bluestone from local quarries, Pentridge Prison is a foreboding collection of many Divisions. 33 curious Greythorn members visited B & H Divisions & heard the terrible history of the largest prison built in Victoria, from our knowledgeable guides David & Sandra.

We managed to keep our recalcitrant members (they shall be identified only as ID 1, 2 & 3) on their best behaviour & as a result they all came home with us handcuff free!

It was a very interesting day, punctuated by an enjoyable, relaxing lunch at Brew Dog . . . the calamari was delish & the chicken wings yummm!!

Footy Tipping 2025



A very warm welcome to our five new players for the 2025 season. They are Rhonda Browne, Margaret Doherty, Kathie Nickson, Sue Pettit and Chris Thornton. We are very happy that you have come to the "Tipping Point" and would be genuinely excited if one of you could win the Mavis Cup – well maybe not this year!

Thirty tipsters this year – yes, we reached the 30 threshold – means we have enjoyed a 50% increase in players in the last two years.

Opening round, four Victorian teams playing interstate, all of whom, last year, finished below their opponents. Why is it so hard to be a loyal Victorian?

Convenor: Peter Harman

Dine Out

DINE OUT

12.30pm May 29 2025

PHILIPPE RESTAURANT

115 Collins Street ,Melbourne



We are delighted to offer this outstanding French Restaurant for our next Dine Out. The offer consists of your choice of entree 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 \$65.00 per head



Philippe 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 and 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 May 13th.

Convenors

Barbara van Woerkom

Margaret Cox

Tours, Trips and Outings. What's happening in 2025?

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.

NOTE: PAYMENT \$40.00 DUE NOW or MARCH 11th at the latest..

Meet at CANTERBURY STATION at 9.15am

Park in the station car park (if you're lucky) or streets to the west of the station. You can also catch a train from Hawthorn, Glenferrie, Camberwell or East Camberwell and get off at Canterbury.

APRIL WEDNESDAY 30th 2025
AMBULANCE MUSEUM
\$10 per pp **DUE MARCH 11th**



Only 2 places left. Check the list at the March Meeting.

CAR POOLING—Please put your name down to **DRIVE** or **PASSENGER** on the list & see who you can join up with.

9.30am: Meet at **CAFÉ OREXI** , 67 Barry Street, Bayswater (Ambulance Museum is at 55 Barry Street)

10.00am: Ambulance Victoria Museum Tour

12 Noon: Lunch at the Bayswater Hotel , 780 Mountain Highway. - Order and Pay.

AUGUST 24th - SEPTEMBER 2nd—2025
THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT
Organised by Group Link Travel—Belinda



A fantastic Itinerary!

There may be places left. 21 maximum

Contact **GROUP LINK 9852 1311 ASAP** and tell them you are from **GREYTHORN PROBUS & DATES OF TOUR.**

Deposit of **\$500.00pp** will be required **NOW** to confirm your place. **Payable to GROUP LINK. Let me know after you have paid please.**

We are joining Eltham Probus for this trip.

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



Come and join this Adventure-filled Trip with Linga Longa!

Total cost \$1395 p.p. or \$1695 for single bookings. There may still be places Available—40 maximum—see the list& put your name down at the **MARCH AGM.**

Deposit **\$100.00 pp** by **EFT ASAP** to **LINGA LONGA TOURS**, Details with Itinerary. When paying include **"23/11/25 Tour and Your Name"** and let Ron and myself know when you have paid.

If you took an Itinerary at the **FEBRUARY MEETING** please bring it back to the **MARCH AGM.**

Convenor: Judy Brophy

Activity Group Convenors 2025

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
SMB	TBA	4th Tuesday
Greythorn Groovers	Judy Bailey	Every Wednesday
Theatre	Barbara Mathews	Various
Footy Tipping	Peter Harman Phil Pitsikas	Every week in season

FORWARD PLANNING

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

APRIL ACTIVITIES

Greythorn Groovers (every Wed.)	2 April
Solo	3 April
Committee Meeting:	4 April
Scrabble:	7 April
General Meeting	8 April
Canasta:	9 April
Garden Appreciation:	10 April
Walking for Enjoyment:	14 April
Film Luncheons:	15 April
Discussion:	15 April
Shaken Not Stirred:	16 April
Good Friday	18 April
Easter Sunday	20 April
3rd Sunday Lunch:	postponed
Creative Pursuits:	22 April
Investors:	22 April
Book Groups:	24 April
Secret Men's Business:	29 April
Ambulance Museum:	30 April
Grey Matter Copy (May)	1 May
Dine Out @ Philippe Restaurant	29 May
Jesus Christ Superstar:	11 June
My Fair Lady:	14 June
North East Silo Tour:	23 Nov—6 days
Great Australian Bight tour:	24 Aug—2 Sept

Subscriptions and Payments

Direct Debit (EFT) **BSB 633 000**
Account No. 168 764 322

Please *always* insert your **name** (and others you may be booking for) 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.



GREY MATTER

This will be my last Grey Matter, after three years as Editor.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this publication over my time in the role. There would be no GM without you!

Please send copy and photos for the **APRIL GREY MATTER** to the Newsletter Editor **and** Russ Dawe by **TUESDAY, 27 March at the very latest!**

Jan

Nelson Alexander

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