

Grey Matter

February

Newsletter of the Greythorn Probus Club



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Judy's Journal

Greetings Greythornites,

Well, 2026 has certainly got off to a flying start for Greythorn Probus - our annual Picnic in the Park was enjoyed by 31 members. The weather was fine, the venue great, the company excellent & the bocce' ?? the competition fierce, talent lacking but so much fun was had by all.

Next we enjoyed a lovely Dineout at Nini's in Hawthorn thanks to the organising skills of Margaret & Barbara. 43 members dined on calamari, slow cooked lamb & chicken, salads & finished off with crisp honey dumplings tea & coffee.

Now the cricket is finished & we've run kilometers around centre court at the AO what will we do with ourselves? Here's a few ideas

It's not too late to put your hand up & nominate for our fantastic committee, many thanks to those members who have decided it's time to 'get on board' & have put in their nominations.

We will be busier than ever with two new activity groups that have developed from the survey we conducted last year.

Our first will be Wine, Cheese & Bocce' in Greythorn Park on the first Friday of the month while daylight saving is ongoing. February 6th is our inaugural date & as well as W, C & B we will discuss the venue, dates/times & their suitability for all attendees.

We will be applying for a grant for Mahjong sets, tables & a tutor because so many members are interested in playing. This activity will not commence until the later half of the year after grants are allocated. Dates, times & venues will be decided then.

Have you put your name on the list to join us on our GOLD SEEKING VENTURE to SOVEREIGN HILL on March 27th - don't miss out, get on board & pay asap.

It will be a lovely relaxed day of wandering, or not, around this great reenactment of our historic GOLD RUSH DAYS at a price too good to miss..

I look forward to seeing you all soon & don't forget 'BRING a FRIEND'!

*Cheers,
Judy*

FEBRUARY MEETING

Tuesday 10 February 2026 commencing @ 10.00 a.m. will be held at The North Balwyn Uniting Church Hall, Duggan Street, North Balwyn

**Our Guest Speaker is
MICHAEL RANSOM**



We are pleased to welcome Michael, Chairman of Probus South Pacific Limited (PSPL), who will talk to us about PSPL's plans for 2026, including Probus' 50th Anniversary.

REMEMBER FOR ALL MEETINGS and ACTIVITIES

Your **Name Badge**, Probus medical card, comfy shoes, hat, sunscreen, phone and coat (if rain possible).

It would be appreciated by all if people refrained from talking during the meeting whilst someone is speaking on the microphone. It is distracting for the speaker and for those in the audience. Please make it easier for all of us to hear.



February 2026 Activities

Scrabble	2 Feb
Committee meeting	3 Feb
Solo	5 Feb
Greythorn General Meeting	10 Feb
Canasta	11 Feb
Caring for Carers Lunch	12 Feb
3rd Sunday Lunch	15 Feb
Walking for Enjoyment	16 Feb
Film and Lunch	17 Feb
Discussion	17 Feb
Tours & Outings - Mornington Market	18 Feb
Garden Appreciation— Jonathon's Café	19 Feb
Secret Men's Business	24 Feb
Creative Pursuits	24 Feb
Investors	24 Feb
Theatre—Affinity Quartet Take Four	26 Feb
Book Group 1	26 Feb
Book Group 2	26 Feb

FORWARD PLANNING

Please see table located on page 8 of this newsletter for events scheduled in the following months in 2026

Scrabble

Monday, 2 February 2026 @ 1.30 pm

Host was Glenys Chalk.

Monday, 2 March 2026 @ 1.30 pm

Host will be Elaine Provan. Please let Elaine know by Friday 27 February if attending.

Convenor: Glenys Chalk

Solo

Thursday, 5 February 2026 @ 7.30 pm

Solo group host on 5 February is Peter Harman.

Thursday, 5 March 2026 @ 7.30 pm

Pat McLellan will host this game. Please contact Pat to let him know if you intend to play.

Convenor: Denise Powell



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

Bendigo Bank

Community Bank Inner East

Governor General's letter to Probus - Golden Anniversary of Probus



Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Golden Anniversary of Probus in Australia

I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations to Probus Clubs throughout Australia as you celebrate 50 years of service to our community. The strength and longevity of Probus Clubs reflect the dedication of your members and the tireless efforts of those who have given their time to leadership and service.

Since the establishment of the first Probus Club in 1976, your organisation has played a vital role in enriching the lives of retirees and semi-retirees by fostering friendship, fellowship and active engagement. For half a century, Probus has helped Australians remain socially connected, intellectually stimulated and involved in their local communities.

As Governor-General, I promised to put care, kindness and respect at the heart of my work. I talk about care in all of its forms across our country, from care for each other and for those who care for others, to care for our democracy and institutions, care for the way we discuss the issues of our time, not with anger, but with respect and kindness.

At Probus, you have care, kindness and respect deep in your commitment to inclusiveness, volunteerism and lifelong learning. As a community, you make a lasting contribution to wellbeing across cities, towns and regions nationwide. I have seen and continue to celebrate the profound impact of Probus in the lives of many of my family members, and in the communities I have visited across Australia.

I hope all Probus Clubs will celebrate this significant milestone throughout 2026. I thank all involved with Probus for your enduring contribution to Australian life and wish you every success in the years ahead.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



<i>Sally KNIGHT</i>	2
<i>June CAITHNESS</i>	4
<i>Elaine PROVAN</i>	8
<i>Charlie BOSCHETTI</i>	9
<i>Ros RICHMOND</i>	9
<i>Rosalie HEYMANSON</i>	10
<i>Helen SANDERS</i>	14
<i>Shirley BRANAGAN</i>	17
<i>Stuart WILLIAMS</i>	25
<i>Dierdre LANCASTER</i>	27



Welfare

*To All Members who are unwell
Best wishes from your friends at
Greythorn!*



Get Well & Friendship Cards sent to:

- Veronika McLellan
- Anne Ponsford
- Shirley Branagan
- Denise Powell
- Chresley Robson
- Helen & Joe Sanders
- Lisa Zuccala
- Geoff Warren
- Anne Balfe
- Peggy Johnson
- Robert Van Woerkom
- Lorna & Dick Johnson (daughter)
- Anne & Peter Harman
- Roy Price
- Angie Randall

**Marg Steele
Welfare Coordinator**

Members are also invited to pass on information about members in need of assistance or support, including those who are ill, had falls etc. to the Club's Welfare Co-ordinator, Marg Steele. Please send information to welfare@greythornprobud.org.au

**The club's Annual General Meeting will be held
on Tuesday, 10 March 2026.
Committee nominations REQUIRED by the
February Meeting.
All members are eligible to be nominated**

94.1FM 3WBC

the community radio station for Boroondara, Whitehorse
and Manningham
supports Greythorn Probud Club
Listen to them on 94.1FM

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT
GREENACRES GOLF CLUB**





Canasta

Wednesday, 11 February 2026 @ 7.30 pm
The February Canasta will be held at Denise & Charlie's home at 7.30pm. Please advise Denise if attending.

Wednesday, 11 March 2026 @ 7.30 pm
Barbara Mathews will host the March Canasta at her home at 7.30pm. Please advise Barbara if attending

Convenor: Denise Boschetti

Film Luncheon

Tuesday, 17 February 2026 - Palace Cinema Balwyn

Film and time will be announced at Probud Meeting.



PLEASE HAVE CORRECT MONEY IN NAMED ENVELOPE.

Optional lunch at East & Co following film.

Convenor: Joan Teele

3rd Sunday Lunch

Sunday, 15 February 2026 @ 12 noon

Venue: Vibrante Restaurant
133 James Street
Templestowe VIC 3106



For bookings contact Diane O'Brien by Friday 13th February 2026.

Convenor: Diane O'Brien

Walking for Enjoyment



Monday, 16 February 2026 @ 10.00 am

Collins Bridge to Dights Falls

Kerb side parking Yarra Boulevard Kew.

Park near Collins Bridge Kew **Melway 2D B11**

Coffee at the Convent Bakery

Convenor: John Astle

ANNUAL PICNIC AT RUFFY LAKE PARK IN JANUARY 2026



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





Discussion

Tuesday, 17 February 2026

**DISCUSSION GROUP-
PODCAST & PDF FORMAT**

"DID YOU KNOW..."

WHY ARE THE MAJOR COUNTRY POWERS SO INTERESTED IN THE ARTIC ZONE AND GREENLAND?



A GOOD SUMMARY IS THAT *"The world's largest island sits in the Arctic Circle and is strategically and economically valuable. and that is GREENLAND.*

THE FOLLOWING PDF COVERS PICTURES AND COMMENTS ON GREENLAND

 **Artic facts & major country powers.pdf**
Use QR CODE to read the article. 

THE FOLLOWING PODCAST COVERS GREENLAND LOCALS ON USA, RUSSIAN, AND CHINESE INTERESTS IN GREENLAND.

 **The New Silk Road in the Bering Sea.m**
Use QR CODE to Listen to the article. 

Hope you find this interesting, Roy

Convenor: Roy Price

MARCH GREY MATTER - Important reminder

Please ensure that information about March and, as appropriate, beyond activities are sent to the newsletter mailbox (newsletter@greythorn-probus.org.au) by **Tuesday 24 February 2026**

BRING & BUY



Don't forget your donations for our first Bring & Buy table for 2026! .. plants/seeds/bulbs, crafts, books etc & your gold coins for your purchases at the February Meeting.

Garden Appreciation

**Thursday, 19 February 2026, @ 11.00 am
Olive Tree & Wheelbarrow Nursery**

Meet at Jonathon's Café in the nursery at 11:00am for coffee/lunch to catch up and plan the activities for the coming year.

Please bring any suggestions for garden outings with you. Looking forward to catching up.

Thursday, 19 March 2026 - State Rose Garden, Werribee Mansion

March is an excellent time to visit this spectacular rose garden to enjoy the autumn bloom of modern roses. There are over 5000 roses in the garden.



Arrive by 10:30am to enjoy coffee at the café before strolling around the rose garden.

Lunch details to follow.

After lunch you may wish to tour the mansion at a cost of about **\$8 pp** or walk around the mansion gardens.

Convenor: Liz Dawe

Secret Men's Business



Tuesday, 24 February 2026 @ 9.30 am

The next gathering of SMB aka Secret Men's Business' will be a brunch/breakfast held at 'Olive Lane, 69 Doncaster Road, Balwyn North'.

Convenor: Peter Gillett



TOURS & OUTINGS 2026



HAVE MYKI WILL TRAVEL
Wednesday, 18 February 2026
Mornington Market

We will meet at Flinders Street Station at 9.30 am to catch the Frankston Train at 9.40 am.

At Frankston we will catch the 781 or 784 bus to Mornington, Main Street.

We will then amble/stroll along looking over the market stalls, before meeting at 1pm at The Bay Hotel (62 Main Street) for lunch.

After lunch you can resume your stroll, before returning to our bus stop at 2.30pm to return to Flinders Street the same way. 4.30pm arrival time.

Convenors: Pene Whiteley
Judy Bailey
Vivienne Newman

SOVEREIGN HILL ADVENTURE
Friday, 27 March 2026
REMINDER – STILL SEATS AVAILABLE!

Don't miss our day out to Sovereign Hill.

We still have a few seats left for our Sovereign Hill Adventure, and we'd love you to join us. It will be a relaxed, enjoyable day out, and a wonderful chance to step back in time.



Travel Details :

- Bus leaves the **Boroondara Sports Complex at 8.30am sharp**
- Arrive at Sovereign Hill around 10.30 am
- Depart Sovereign Hill at 3.30pm
- Back in Balwyn at approximately 5.30pm

At Sovereign Hill

Enjoy the day at your own pace. Stroll along Main Street, visit the many attractions and take in the sights.

For coffee or lunch, you may like to visit the New York Bakery or one of the other eateries—entirely at your leisure.

If you've been thinking about coming along, now is the time—places are still available, but won't last. We'd hate for you to miss out on this lovely day. Looking forward to sharing this special outing!

Cost: \$40 per member (\$79 for non-members)

Please pay into the club account and include your name as the reference, and advise Ron (Treasurer) and Pene W.

Convenors: Pene Whiteley
Judy Bailey
Vivienne Newman

Get ready for a Bright adventure – 5 day Tour
Monday 11 May to Friday 15 May 2026



We're heading off on an exciting 5-day tour to the beautiful town of Bright:

- **Departure: Monday, 11 May 2026**
- **Return: Friday, 15 May 2026**
- **A full week of fun, fresh air, and exploring!**

More details will be shared soon – including what to bring, where we're staying, and all the great places we'll visit.

View the [2605 Bright itinerary.pdf](#) here

Convenor: Judy Bailey

Creative Pursuits

Tuesday, 24 February 2026 @ 1:30pm

Chat and Craft

Meet at Convenors home, bring small plate for afternoon tea.

Sunday, 22 March 2026 @ 10:00 am (note change of day)

1 Hour Tour of Manchester Unity Building.

Cost is \$43 pp.

Only 10 tickets available - Payment to the club's account .

Thursday, 16 April- 2026 @ 1:15pm (note change of day)

Georges Remembered at Hawthorn Arts Centre
Contact Elaine to book asap.

20 tickets available—cost \$40 pp. Please pay into the Club Bank account no later than 20 March 2026.

Convenor: Elaine Provan



Theatre

Morning Melodies at The Round—2026

Wednesday, 25 February 2026 @11.00 am at The Round



Affinity Quartet Take Four:
Chamber music for everyone

Tickets have been purchased and will be distributed at the February meeting.

Frankly Sinatra

Wednesday, 11 March 2026 @11.00 am at The Round

Starring actor and music theatre star Ian Stenlake, this new production tells the story of one of the greatest crooners the world has ever known - Ol' Blue Eyes himself.

Tickets have been purchased and will be distributed at the February meeting.



Spirit of the Anzacs

Wednesday, 22 April 2026 @11.00 am at The Round



Commemorating the Anzacs with songs, stories and letters from the 40's, 50's and 60's. **Cost is \$22.00 and must be paid by the March meeting at the latest.**

Pretty Woman

Wednesday, 9 August 2026 @1.00 pm at The Regent Theatre in A Reserve in the Stalls

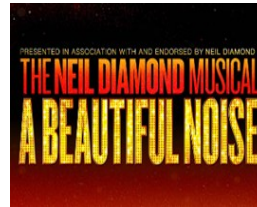
The musical version of the film of the same name. **Cost is \$91.00 and must be paid for by the March meeting.**

Please put your name on the list at the February meeting if interested.



A Beautiful Noise

Wednesday, 23 September 2026 @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 if interested.

Convenor: Barbara Mathews

Investors



Tuesday, 24 February 2026 at 7.30pm

Our next Investors Group meeting will be held on Tuesday 24 February at 7.30pm at Greythorn Hub.

A good time to change your share pick?

New Members welcome.

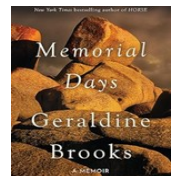
Convenor: Charlie Boschetti

Book Groups

Thursday, 26 February 2026 @ 2:00 pm

Book Group 1

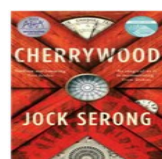
Book Group 1 will meet at **The Balwyn Library, 336 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn VIC 3103** to discuss *Memorial Days* by Geraldine Brooks.



Convenor: Stanley Petzall

Book Group 2

Book group 2 will meet at Margaret Goding's place at 2.00 pm to discuss *Cherrywood* by Jock Serong. Please let Margaret know if you are unable to attend.



Convenor: Lyn Stavretis

Nelson Alexander Estate Agents, 278 High Street, Kew 3101
 Call Christopher Ewart 0419 897 979
 Office: 9854 8888



We look forward to seeing you at our first . .

Wine, Cheese & Bocce'



*our new monthly activity while daylight saving is hap-
pening*

*Friday 6th February 2026
at GREYTHORN PARK at 5.00 pm*

*bring your wine, cheese & cushion, maybe a chair etc.
We have 3 sets of Bocce', thank you Lisa Zuccala for
donating the money for these, they will now be
known as the LZB's!*

*You don't have to play Bocce', just come along & en-
joy the company of your fellow Greythornites, meet
our newer members.*

*We will be discussing the suitability of the venue,
time, day/date etc for future W, C & B.*

*GREYTHORN PARK is not far from St Aidan's (monthly
meeting venue) if you came out of St A's car park &
turned left . . . drive down Duggan Street you
would arrive at the park & Robert St.*

*Enter Greythorn Park via Robert Street, follow the
drive around to your right, past the tennis club & the
Scout Hall, to the parking area in front of the picnic
shelters. We will sit at the large table to the left.*

*I hope you will be able to join us for lots of FUN, FEL-
LOWSHIP & FRIENDSHIP*

*If you would like a lift please let Margaret Steele
know.*

See you there Judy

DIARY DATES -

MARCH 2026 & BEYOND

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

Scrabble	2 Mar
Committee meeting	3 Mar
Solo	5 Mar
Greythorn Annual General Meeting	10 Mar
Canasta	11 Mar
Theatre - Frankly Sinatra at The Round	11 Mar
3rd Sunday Lunch	15 Mar
Walking for Enjoyment	16 Mar
Film and Lunch	17 Mar
Discussion	17 Mar
Garden Appreciation - Werribee Mansion	19 Mar
Creative Pursuits -Tour of Manchester Unity Building	22 Mar
Investors	24 Mar
Book Group 1	26 Mar
Book Group 2	26 Mar
Tours & Outings – Sovereign Hill Adventure	27 Mar
Secret Men's Business	31 Mar

FORWARD PLANNING

Creative Pursuits - Georges Remembered	16 April
Tours & Outings - Bright Tour	1 May – 15 May
Theatres - Spirit of the Anzacs	22 April
Pretty Woman—The Musical	9 Aug
A Beautiful Noise - The Neil Diamond Musical	23 Sept

Subscriptions and Payments

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

Please **always** 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.