

## CHAPTER 15.

### PRESIDENT JOHN WATSON: 2014 – 2015.

President Jim opened General Meeting No. 357 on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and welcomed members and Lady Guests. There were no visitors at the general meeting. Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell reminded members of the following upcoming speakers:

April – COTA – Victoria the Age friendly state.

May - Ian White – Policing in the U.K.

June - Richard Carter – The history of Eastland and Ringwood.

July Geoff Walker and the didgeridoo

August - Pam Ross – Community mobility for older people

September - Rob Wills – The Bureau of Meteorology

Upcoming Events:

Car trip to Cobram from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March

On 25<sup>th</sup> the Probus Mates inaugural luncheon will be held at La Porchetta in Croydon in the hope that this will become a regular event.

27<sup>th</sup> March is Ten Pin Bowling at Chirnside, also the Ramblers will walk around Lilydale Lake.

The Probus Pals will meet at Bianchet Winery on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Geraldine Handasyde is arranging this.

The April outing is to the Jazz Museum on the 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 10.30 a.m.

M.O.E.R – No report

Media Mogul – No report.

Brenda McMinn announced that the Parish Players will perform “Breath of Spring” from the 10<sup>th</sup> May. Tickets available from her.

General Business. None.

The meeting closed at 10.12 a.m. and re-opened shortly thereafter when President Jim welcomed our visitors Helen Macdonald, President of Lilydale Rotary Club and Fiona McAlister, Mayor of the Shire of Yarra Ranges to the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting.

Secretary Stuart read the Notice of the meeting.

Minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> A.G.M. were read by the Secretary, moved by him and seconded by David Watson.

The President presented certificates to the following in recognition of their work done for the club.

Ron Barnett

Ray Reynolds

Geoff Fraser

Alan Peck

Russell Handasyde

Allan Coulton.

The President then presented his report for the past year.

Treasurer Cec presented the Budget for 2014/15 which was moved by him, seconded by John Nunn and PASSED.

The President then declared all positions vacant and called on the Public Officer Stuart to take the Chair. Stuart thanked President Jim for his report commending him on a good year.

He then read the nominations which equated with vacancies and he therefore declared them as elected for 2014/15.

President Jim resumed his seat and inducted John Watson as President for the coming year, presenting him with his symbols of office. President John then inducted/

presented the other officers with their pins and name tags. He also talked about his thoughts and ideas for the coming year.

The President had great pleasure in presenting Jim with his Past President's pin, badge and certificate of appreciation.

The list of Committee members and other appointees are, as usual, shown at the end of the chapter.

The usual procedural motions were read out, seconded and approved.

The President thanked all who had attended, invited them to stay for a light lunch and closed the meeting at 11.22 a.m.

President John opened his first full meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> April and welcomed members and lady guests. There were no visitors.

All stood to remember Ian Robinson and Marge Harding both of whom were wonderful assets to our club.

A momentous decision has been reached by the President that in the interests of hygiene, health and safety we will no longer have our "cuppas" in china cups but in disposable paper cups. His decision was approved. Your scribe has to say that the cups fulfil his criteria in that they neither collapse nor burn your fingers.

Treasurer Cec asked members to refrain from paying him in coin.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell listed the speakers through to August.

Len listed outings for April:

Jazz Museum Wantirna 15th.

China Town Tour and Yum Cha lunch on the 22<sup>nd</sup>

Probus Ramblers on 24th.

Probus Mates 29th.

M.O.E.R. Bert Milgate gave details of office bearers and meeting for the coming year. General Business.

Keith Taylor was the winner of the lucky door prize.

The advertised speaker for today was unable to come. A volunteer at COTA Wilma Marmur stood in and gave a very interesting address on the subject of depression.

President John welcomed members and ladies to the May meeting, there were no visitors to-day.

The President advised members of the death of Marilyn Carmichael's daughter.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell updated the speakers arranged through to September.

Len de Koning did likewise for trips.

Media and M.O.E.R. – No reports.

Probus Mates will meet at La Porchetta on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May.

General Business. The lucky door prize was won by Kellie Heber-Percy.

The speaker to-day was Ian White who spent over thirty years in the Wiltshire Constabulary. He gave each of us a list of 22 cases in which he had been involved and asked members and ladies to choose some of them from which he then gave an interesting and amusing glimpse of his years in the force.

Past President Jim McMinn took the June meeting in the absence of President John. There were no visitors to-day.

The Club mourned the death of Founder Member Keith McLennan who died on the 31<sup>st</sup> May and Bob Holt who died on the 25<sup>th</sup> May. All stood for a minute to mark their passing.

On a happier note Jim presented 10 year pins to Jim McWharton and Kellie Heber-Percy.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell reminded members that the speaker to-day would be Richard Carter who will speak on Ringwood and Eastland. Next month it will be Geoff Walker speaking about the didgeridoo.

Len de Koning asked members who have booked for the Christmas in July lunch to pay to-day. He also referred to upcoming events as shown below.

Probus Mates will meet at La Porchetta, Croydon on June 26.

The next Probus Pals "do" will be at No. 3 Brompton Court which Lorraine Dineen will convene on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July.

General Business.

Doug and Marion Mackie are suggesting that a Book Club be formed and, as a start, invited members and ladies to go to their home on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Daw won the door prize.

As mentioned above the speaker to-day was Richard Carter whose family have been Estate Agents in Ringwood for 3 generations. He gave an interesting and in many ways amusing talk about the development of the Ringwood area with particular reference to Eastland.

Meeting No.361 was opened by President John on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July. He welcomed members and lady guests especially the return of Dorothy Holt and Ron & Pam Barnett. There were no visitors to-day.

It was with regret that letters of resignation were received from Henri Lausberg and Ken Brookes. And these were accepted.

Activities Reports.

The President reminded members that the speaker today will be Geoff Walker, that Pam Ross will address us on "Mobility in older people" in August and Rob Wills will visit us from the Dept of Meteorology in September.

David Watson advised that the Ramblers will meet at Schwerkolt's Cottage on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> July. Attendees were asked to bring a picnic lunch.

Shirley Miles presented the following up-coming trips and activities:

Birthday Lunch at Fortnum's on the Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Melbourne Cemetery and the Percy Grainger Museum on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

The old Treasury Building and Parliament house on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

Probus Pals as previously advised to meet on the 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 Brompton Court.

In the absence of the Secretary Geoff Fraser has arranged for the Probus Mates to gather at the Crown Hotel in Lilydale on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July.

General Business.

The President spoke about the Committee's consideration and progress on the subject of formalising a mixed club some time in the future.

The speaker Geoff Walker gave a brief history of the origins of the didgeridoo, demonstrated how to play it and invited members to try their hand. It has to be said that not one was able to play a recognisable tune.

The President opened the August meeting and welcomed members, ladies and visitors John & Judith Boyd, Cor Lurfel, Clive & Viv Baum and Michael Troy.

President John reported on the death of Doris Brookes on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July and thanked all who had attended her funeral.

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Brian Walsh who has served the Club in many roles for 30 years. Peter Tucker was presented his 10 year pin. Both presentations being made by President John.

The Secretary advised of the resignations of Max McKenzie, Henri Lausberg and Ted Brookes. He had sent out letters accepting, with regret, their resignations.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell provided a list of upcoming speakers:-

August – Pam Ross – Community mobility for older people

September – Rob Wills – Bureau of Meteorology

October – Dr. Peter Lewis – Arthritis

November – our own Dereck Brown – Faith and Science.

Shirley Miles spoke on trips and activities in the coming months:-

28<sup>th</sup> August – Melbourne Cemetery and Percy Grainger Museum

25<sup>th</sup> September – Visit to the Treasury Buildings and Parliament House

23<sup>rd</sup> October Possible visit to Coombe Cottage.

6<sup>th</sup> November Oaks Day at Yarra Glen Races.

Ray Galloway advised that the Car Trip for 2015 will be to Warragul and distributed an information sheet.

The Ramblers will walk along the Mullum Mullum Creek on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August finishing up with lunch at the Ringwood Club.

The Probus Pals will meet at Cherry Tree on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September and the Probus Mates at the Crown Hotel on the 26<sup>th</sup> August.

General Business..

John Nunn proposed that Les Wanstall be made a Life Member. This proposal had been accepted by the Committee and unanimously approved by members.

David Watson gave an outline of the views of the sub-committee, set up for this purpose, to consider changing the Club Constitution to accept Ladies as members and therefore becoming a “Combined Club”. This will take some time but David was of the view that it may be possible for the change to be effective, if approved by the membership from the A.G.M in 2015.

Geoff Fraser raised the question as to whether members might care to join a Men's Shed. He will investigate a couple in the area and report back in due course.

After several attempts when non-attendees names were drawn it was finally decided that the lucky door prize should go to Doug Mackie.

The Speaker today was Pam Ross who gave an excellent talk on Community Mobility for the Elderly.

The 363<sup>rd</sup> meeting was opened by the President who welcomed members, ladies and visitors John & Judith Boyd and Michael Troy.

President John mentioned the passing of Jim & Brenda McMinn's grandson.

Lex Lillie was presented, rather belatedly, with a Certificate of appreciation for his services to the club since its inception. Ian Walker was also a recipient this time of his 10 year pin.

Ted Brookes return to the club was welcomed as was his presence.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell advised on his choice of speakers for the coming 5 months as listed later herein

Len de Koning did likewise in relation to trips and other activities.

David Watson advised that the next Probus Ramblers would be meeting at Blind Creek in Wantirna on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our worthy Secretary has arranged that the next meeting of the Probus Mates would be at the Olinda Hotel on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Nancy Loutit is arranging the Probus Pals meeting at Cherry Tree on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

General Business.

In the absence of Geoff Fraser Stuart Brown advised members of his investigation into local Men's Sheds. Pamphlets are available giving details of two such venues. Doug Mackie won the lucky door prize.

The speaker to-day was Rob Wills who gave an excellent talk on all aspects with which the Bureau of Meteorology is involved.

The President opened the November meeting and welcomed members, ladies and visitors Jerry Nyhouse, Cor Lefel and Han Eeson.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell reminded members of who is coming to speak to us in the coming months.

Len de Koning did likewise regarding trips and activities.

John Wilby will ramble with others around Jells Park on the 20th followed by lunch at the Wheelers Hill Hotel.

M.O.E.R. Bert Milgate reported that affiliation fees for 2015 will remain unchanged.

Probus Pals will gather in the Board room of the Bendigo Bank East Ringwood on the 18th November and Probus Mates at the Olinda Creek Hotel on the 25th.  
General Business.

President John advised members that a large packet of material will be posted to all members with full details of the proposal to change to a Mixed Club shortly.

Les Wanstall's Life Membership plaque will be presented to him at a "do" for him on Saturday 15th November.

The door prize was won by Russell Handasyde.

Our speaker to-day was our member Dereck Brown who gave us an excellent presentation on Faith, Science and the Universe. A difficult subject which was explained very clearly.

President John opened the last meeting of the calendar year and welcomed members and ladies. There were no visitors.

The death of Evelyn McLennan was announced together with notice that a Memorial Service for her will be held at the R.A.C.V. Country Club on Monday 15th December.

Activities Reports.

Keith Quibell reminded members of forthcoming speakers through to the A.G.M and said that he has speakers lined up well into the new club year.

Len de Koning laid out upcoming trips and activities. As our normal venue for meetings is not available for the January meeting, this will now take place at the Yarra Glen Memorial Hall. Not enough members had booked for the spit roast so it will be replaced by a BYO picnic lunch.

The Ramblers walk was enjoyed by the few who attended. There will be no Ramble in January due, as usual, to the probability of excessive heat.

Probus Pals will meet at the Ringwood Club on the 12th January. The arrangements are being made by Joan Watson.

Probus Mates will be in recession for January.

General Business.

There was no general business.

The door prize was won by Ian Walker.

The general meeting was closed and was immediately called to order for the Special Meeting to vote on the move to change the Club to a mixed club. There were a majority in favour of both this change and the changes to the Club Rules which follow this change.

It was made clear that while we won't be changing our name we will be changing some of our traditions. The President said "I believe we can look forward to the future with great optimism as we evolve in our new format and work to maintain a club with wide interests and great fellowship.

The speaker to-day was Mrs Cheryl Nye assisted by her husband on the subject of Manuka Honey. An interesting talk with tastings and the ability to buy some if desired.

The President opened his last full meeting on the 12th February and welcomed members, ladies and guests Brian & Jan Shaddick, Lois Dunlop, Wayne Milfull, George & Catherine Hill and Michael Troy.

President John then called to the front the following lady guests to induct them as our first lady members-, in alphabetical order

Marion Mackie

Brenda McMinn  
 Shirley Miles  
 Meredith Quibell  
 Joan Reynolds

Almoner Joan reported on Les Wanstall, Brian Walsh, Cec Lewis, Audrey Bolton and Max Wilson .

A letter of resignation was received from Dereck Brown. He and Fran have moved to Adelaide.

Activities Reports.

Len de Koning advised members of the upcoming trips and activities

19th – Probus Ramblers will meet at the Tim Neville Arboretum on the Blind Creek Track.

24th – Probus Mates meet at the Olinda Hotel.

26th – Visit to ScienceWorks and Planetarium.

16th – 20th March – Car Trip to Warragul.

M.O.E.R. Bert Milgate gave details of the recent A.G.M and upcoming picnic to be held on 30th March.

Probus Pals will next meet at Platinum on the 20th March.

General Business.

Secretary Stuart has tickets available to see “The Second Best Marigold Hotel” on the 25th February.

The door prize was won by Bert Patrick.

There were two Speakers to-day. First up was “Gonz” from St John Ambulance. He spoke mainly about first aid treatment for burns. He was followed by Rob from the CFA. His main focus was on rural fire preparedness. He strongly recommended that all households should have a diagram of their home with agreed exits and meeting places. To this end he handed out pamphlets.

#### 2014 -2015 Office Bearers.

Office	Bearer
President	John Watson
Vice President	Geoff Fraser
Treasurer	Cec Lewis
Secretary/ Public Officer	Stuart Brown
Assistant Secretary	Geoff Fraser
Committee	Len de Koning
Committee	Ron Barnett
Committee	Peter Tucker
Committee	Allan Coulton
Trips/Activities	Len de Koning/Peter Tucker/Shirley Miles
Almoner	Joan Reynolds
Speakers	Keith Quibell
Newsletter Production	Lorraine Dineen
Media & Membership Master Lists	Bill Molyneux
Catering	Russell & Geraldine Handasyde
Safety Warden	Jack McGuinness
Auditor	Bert Patrick
Assistant Almoner	Kellie Heber-Percy
Door Prize	Ralph Sibley/ Les Wanstall
Trades Register	Russell Handasyde
Newsletter Delivery	Doug Mackie
M.O.E.R.	Bert Milgate

Welcomer & Interclub Bowls	Keith Taylor
Registrar & P.A. System	Bill Molyneux
Probus Ramblers	David Watson
Club History	Kellie Heber-Percy
Evacuation Warden	Jack McGuinness

### 2014 -2015 Outings and Trips.

Date.	Details.
17 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Car Trip to Cobram
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Men's luncheon at La Porchetta
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Ten Pin Bowling Chirnside Park
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Probus Ramblers will walk around Lilydale Lake
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Probus Pals at Blanchet Winery
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Jazz Museum at Wantirna
24 <sup>th</sup> April	Probus Ramblers at Norton Park Wantirna
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Probus Mates lunch at La Porchetta
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Play "Breath of Spring"
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Probus Pals at Wyreena Croydon
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Probus Ramblers – Westerfold Park
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Chinatown tour and Yum Cha lunch
29 <sup>th</sup> May	Probus Mates Lunch at La Porchetta
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Visit to Potter Gallery and ACMI Film in Melbourne City Centre
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Book Fair -Extra Curricular
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Probus Ramblers – Wattle Park
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Probus Mates –La Porchetta
26 <sup>th</sup> June	City Walk – Immigration Museum and lunch at The Mitre Tavern
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Book Fair – Extracurricular
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Probus Pals at Brompton Lodge
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Ramblers at Schwerkolt's Cottage
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Probus Mates at Crown Hotel
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Birthday Lunch at Fortnums Restaurant
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Book Fair – Extracurricular
21 <sup>st</sup> August	Probus Ramblers – Mullum Mullum Creek
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Probus Mates – Crown Hotel Lilydale
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Melbourne Cemetery & Percy Grainger Museum
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Book Fair – Extracurricular
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Probus Pals Cherry Tree
18 <sup>th</sup> September	Probus Ramblers Blind Creek off Boronia Road
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Probus Mates at Olinda Hotel Lilydale
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Visit Old Treasury Building and Houses of Parliament
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Theatre – Jesus Christ Super star
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Book Fair –Extra curricular
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Visit to Coombe Cottage

28 <sup>th</sup> October	Probus Mates
6th November	Yarra Glen Races
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Book Fair – Extracurricular
18th November	Probus Pals – Bendigo Bank Board Room
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Probus Ramblers to Jells Park
25 <sup>th</sup> November	Probus Mates at Olinda Creek Hotel
26 <sup>th</sup> November	William Johnston Collection and Lunch
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch at Fortnums
8th January 2015	BYO Picnic at Memorial Hall Yarra Glen
12th January 2015	Probus Pals at Ringwood Club
19th February	Probus Ramblers at Blind Creek, Boronia
24th February	Probus Mates at Olinda Hotel
26th February	Science Works and Planetarium

### 2014 - 2015 Guest Speakers.

Meeting No.	Date.	Speaker.	Subject
358	10 <sup>th</sup> April	COTA	Victoria – the Age friendly State
359	8th May	Ian White	Policing in the U.K.
360	12 <sup>th</sup> June	Richard Carter	The history of Eastland and Ringwood
361	10 <sup>th</sup> July	Geoff Walker	Didgeridoo
362	14 <sup>th</sup> August	Pam Ross	Community mobility for older people
363	11 <sup>th</sup> September	Rob Wills	Bureau of Meteorology
364	9th October	Dr. Peter Lewis	Arthritis
365	13th November	Dereck Brown	Faith & Science
366	11th December	Cheryl Nye	Manuka honey
367	8th January 2015	Jim McMinn	A talk on early cameras
368	12th February	Gonz and Rob	St John Ambulance and CFA

### 2014 - 2015 New Members.

Date.	Member.	Partner.
12/02/15	Marion Mackie	Dough Mackie
12/02/15	Brenda McMinn	Jim McMinn
12/02/15	Shirley Miles	
12/02/15	Joan Reynolds	

### 2014 - 2015 Resignations.

Name.	Position(s) Held.	Dates of Membership
Henri Lausberg	None	11 <sup>th</sup> December 1997-10 <sup>th</sup> July 2014.
Ken Brookes	None	13 <sup>th</sup> April 2000- 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2014

Max McKenzie	None	9 <sup>th</sup> June 2005 – 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2014.
Dereck Brown	None	11 <sup>th</sup> April 2013 – 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**2014 - 2015 Bereavements.**

Name.	Position(s) Held.	Dates of membership.
Harry Brennan	President, Treasurer, Life Member, MOER Delegate, Outings, Committee Member, P.A. System	13 <sup>th</sup> April 1969 – 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2014
Ian Robinson	Committee 2003-2011, Speaker Co-ordinator 2005-2008, back-up 2009-2011, Trips Co-ordinator 2009-2011, Grapevine Contact 2006-2011 and back up 2012-2014	11 <sup>th</sup> November 1999-1 <sup>st</sup> April 2014
Bob Holt	None but often recited poetry at Meetings	12 <sup>th</sup> December 2002 – 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2014
Keith McLennan	Founder Member 02/06/1983, Vice President 1983 -1984, President 1984-1985, Speaker Co-ordinator 1983-1984 and 1991-1992, Trips Co-ordinator (Car, Walks, Christmas lunch) 1991-2008, Yarra Glen Races Co-ordinator 2009-2012, Club History writer and editor for period 1983-2000	2 <sup>nd</sup> June 1983 – 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2014.

**2014 - 2015 Attendance.**

Month.	Members.	Ladies.	Visitors.	Apologies.
March	35	35	2	26
April	38	33	0	19
May	33	30	0	29
June	34	33	0	29
July	26	34	0	28
August	24	33	6	34
September	27	30	3	13
October	35	28	2	21
November	33	37	3	16
December	37	39	0	9
January	25	30	2	14
February	34	39	8	12

**2014 – 2015 O.B.E's Presented**

Name.	Date of Birth.
Allan Coulton	31st December 1934