



# PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

Associations Incorporation Act 1981 - Registered No A0029363K

## NEWSLETTER

### PROBUS CLUB OF PORT PHILLIP Inc.

Chartered on 25 March, 1986, Incorporated on 9 May, 1994

This Probussouthpacific Club meets at:

Kew Golf Club, 120 Belford Road, East Kew 3102

At 10:00 am, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in the Month (excepting January)

The Club can be contacted by email at : [portphillipprobussouthpacific@gmail.com](mailto:portphillipprobussouthpacific@gmail.com)

The Club's web site details are: [www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/portphillipm](http://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/portphillipm)

### Issue 434

May 2025

#### PRESIDENT

Prof. F. Larkins (Frank)

Mob: 0400 109 785

E: [f.larkins@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:f.larkins@unimelb.edu.au)

#### SECRETARY

Dr. V. Beck (Vaughan)

Mob: 0418 362 792

E: [vbeck@bigpond.com](mailto:vbeck@bigpond.com)

### NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2025

At **Kew Golf Club**, 120 Belford Rd, Kew East, 3102 (Melway Ref. 45 G1)

Coffee and Fellowship: 9:00 am Meeting commences: 10:00am

### IMPORTANT DATES in May, 2025

Deadline for Lunch Bookings	5.00 pm	8 <sup>th</sup> May	page 6
Meeting	10:00 am	13 <sup>th</sup> May	page 4

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Probussouthpacific Colleagues,

The new Probussouthpacific year is well underway. I am delighted that the transition of Management Committee members has gone so smoothly. It is a great tribute to the professionalism of our members that the handover has been so successful. We are always looking for ways to improve the experience of our members. So if you have suggestions about refining current initiatives or introducing new ones, please share your ideas with a committee member. We are

currently acting on some of the suggestions from our February planning meeting. For example, is there any interest in a book club – biographical, historical or fiction? It could be held on-line or in person. We would need a co-ordinator.

Barbara Fox (Administration) will be approaching members to undertake desk duties on the day of our meeting. It is an important activity that does provide those contributing to become better known and to meet more Probus members. It can be a pleasurable task, so please respond generously if approached by Barb for this once a year commitment.

Neil Pearce has agreed to be our historian to update our record from 30 to 40 years of activities. If you have memorabilia that may be of assistance to Neil, please contact him. His details are in the Photographic Members Directory. Once again John Rankin has done an excellent job in compiling the directory. I find it to be an invaluable resource. Milton Myers kindly arranged for the production of the hard copies – Thank you Milton. Please check your entry and let John know of any amendments.

We have resolved to have a lunch in the second half of July to celebrate 40 years since our foundation. Details concerning date, venue and time will be resolved soon by the management committee. One constraint is that we need to find a venue where there is plenty of parking for members travelling by car. Our catering officer, Jim Studebaker, is investigating options. We will still have our regular general meeting at the Kew Golf Club on 8<sup>th</sup> July.

It is a delight to know that applications from citizens to join the club are healthy. They are being drawn from a wide range of professions. Most new members come because they are invited, ‘recruited’ by existing members. This is a task for all of us. If you know of people who would be suitable members please encourage them to join. There is detailed information on the website thanks to Dedrie Green and Adrian Farrell.

We intend to reactivate our membership subcommittee. We are looking for three members to serve on this group. The role would be to contact potential new members, assist with and review applications and meet and greet applicants when they attend an initial general meeting. It is an important task, and not onerous, as we normally are considering only one or two applications at any one time. I am also looking for the membership members to work with the management committee members to propose further initiatives to promote the club.

It was my pleasure to induct Susan Palethorpe as a full member of the club in April. She has already made a valuable contribution in assisting Colin in arranging our November getaway to Lakes Entrance. We have a good response for the getaway. It is not too late to register. Colin advises that we have sufficient participants to make the bus transport viable. More details are to follow. We will make visits to interesting places on the way down and on the return journey.

Colin Adam has arranged for his son David to be our keynote speaker in May. His topic '*Recent Developments in Cardiology*' will no doubt resonate with several of our members. Details are elsewhere in the newsletter. Colin would welcome suggestions about other possible keynote speakers for future months.

One highlight of the April meeting for me, and hopefully for you, was the opportunity to award 20-year certificates to John Hodder and Rod Grant. They are both most valued members. We congratulate them on their contributions to the club and look forward to their support for many more years.

Please contact me if you have suggestions as to how the activities of the club can be improved. [Frank.larkins@bigpond.com](mailto:Frank.larkins@bigpond.com) Mobile 0400109785.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**'Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Make good use of it'**

*Frank Larkins*

*President 2025-26*

## NEW MEMBER, SUSAN PALETHORPE INDUCTED AT THE APRIL MEETING



#### Induction of Susan Palethorpe

After graduating from Sydney University, Susan moved to Melbourne to take up a role as a Consultant Psychologist with Chandler and Macleod, Management Consultants. She cared for her children for some years which took her away from her professional work. She then returned to a position with Coopers and Lybrand in 1990, again as a Consultant Psychologist.

During her seven years living overseas in the 1990s, she was unable to work, so, she took up the study of languages (French and Spanish) and music. Since her return to Australia, she has carried out occasional consultancy work for former colleagues and their organisations.

Susan is pictured here with her sponsor, Russell Smith (far left), her husband Colin Palethorpe, and the President, Frank Larkins (on the right)

## TWENTY YEAR MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATIONS

John Hodder (left) and Rod Grant are presented with their 20 Year Membership Certificates by the President Frank Larkins at the April Meeting of the Port Phillip Probus Club



## PROFILE TALK - MAUREEN FARRELL



Maureen commenced by describing her childhood and schooling in Melbourne and Adelaide and went on to outline her subsequent life as an engaged and passionate teacher. Firstly in Adelaide, then in Melbourne, she taught in both Catholic and State primary schools. After initially working in high migrant intake schools in Adelaide she moved into Teacher Librarian positions in Melbourne and undertook a relevant Masters degree at Melbourne University. She outlined how, with the encouragement of a school principal, she was empowered to establish and run a Resource Centre in a school for many years.

She was also able to work closely with teachers in planning units of work, integrating the necessary skills and providing the resources available into the classroom teaching. After a change in school leadership, she set about meeting and mastering these challenges without being involved in the planning. She managed the introduction of computers and supported and developed other teachers' skills in this area. She then extended this support to parents. She concluded her talk by describing how she felt she had *lived and breathed* her role as a teacher librarian and expressed disappointment at the subsequent downgrading of the position in many schools, particularly now with the explosion of information and the need for students to have the necessary skills to access and use this information. Now that she has retired, her grandchildren haven't escaped the lure of children's literature either.

## APRIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

In the *Message from the President* (see above), several matters considered at the meeting are discussed. Some other issues considered at the meeting are noted below.

The existing grant from the City of Boroondara was used to support the Planning Meeting held on the 11 February 2025. Some \$800 of that grant remains to be spent. The Committee discussed options for use of these residual funds, including making a contribution to updating the Club's website (Adrian Farrell is investigating this matter) or to publish a flyer that would promote awareness of the club and its activities.

In addition, the City of Boroondara is now calling for applications for a \$10,000 grant. Jim Green is investigating options. One option is to subsidise the Lakes Entrance Getaway. Colin Palethorpe advises that buses will cost about \$7,000. The \$3,000 balance could be used to subsidise the accommodation of members who live in the Boroondara Municipality; there are some 47 members in that category. Members are invited to register with the Honorary Secretary their interest in presenting to the General Meeting a short presentation on matters of interest to them including volunteering activities.

**Vaughan Beck – Secretary - Mob: 0418 362 792 Email: [vbeck@bigpond.com](mailto:vbeck@bigpond.com)**

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS REMINDER

The Annual Subscription (or “Subs”) for Members is \$50-00 per annum and fell due on 1 April. If paying your Annual Subscription by cash at the Front Desk, please include \$50 in a separate sealed envelope with your name and the word “Subs” on the envelope.

If paying your Annual Subscription by Bank transfer, please keep the payment separate to any “Lunch” or “Morning Tea” payment and include your name and the word “Subs” on your bank entry.

**The Club's Westpac Bank A/c is as follows:**

**A/c Name: Probus Club of Port Phillip Inc.**

**BSB: 033 058 Account No: 750 921**

However, if you are paying your Annual Subscription by cash “over the counter” at a bank branch, your name will not show against the payment on the Club's bank statement, so please call me or email me and let me know that you have made the deposit, otherwise we have no way of crediting you with having paid your Subscription. Life Members, conferred Non-Active Members, Associates and non-Member Partners are not required to pay Annual Subscriptions.

**John Frew– Treasurer Mob: 0407210441, Email: [frewjohn@bigpond.com](mailto:frewjohn@bigpond.com)**

## **SPEAKER FOR THE MAY MEETING**



**Dr David Adam**

**Cardiologist, Victorian Heart Hospital**

Will speak on

“Recent Developments in Cardiology”

Dr David Adam trained at Monash University in Melbourne and completed his residency and general cardiology training at Monash Heart.

He then spent two years completing a fellowship in cardiac electrophysiology in British Columbia, Canada, before returning to Melbourne in 2006 to commence specialist practice

He has a public hospital appointment as a cardiologist and electrophysiologist at Victorian Heart Hospital and privately works at Melbourne Heart Care.

As a heart rhythm specialist, his interests include implantable devices including pacemakers and defibrillators, as well as catheter ablation of cardiac arrhythmias including atrial fibrillation.

David is married with 3 children. When not at work, he can be found either with the family or running. His golf game remains dreadful.

**Colin Adam Speakers' Co-ordinator Ph Tel: 9889 4774 Mob: 0418 483 136**  
[cmadam@bigpond.com](mailto:cmadam@bigpond.com)

**The Camberwell Chorale is holding their first concert for the year, next Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Hawthorn Arts Centre.**

**Tickets \$65 (Concession \$60, Students \$35)**

**For more information see Pages 13 and 14**



## CATERING: 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY MEETING



**Meeting, Lunch & Tea/Coffee \$50pp.**

**Meeting & Tea/Coffee \$10**

***Tea/Coffee available pre and mid meeting.***

### **Lunch Menu**

#### **Main Course**

**Pan roasted Salmon fillet with a spring vegetable fricassee and a Maltaise sauce**

#### **Dessert:**

**Individual Tarte Tatin with Vanilla Ice cream**

**Booking Arrangements:** Please contact me (**Jim Studebaker**) on **0413 304 864** or [wjstudebaker48@gmail.com](mailto:wjstudebaker48@gmail.com) if you wish to attend lunch or just the meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Booking (and payment) must be made no later than **5pm Thursday May 8th**.

**Payment arrangements:** Payments by direct credit to the club's bank preferred. For the NEXT meeting, payment must be cleared into the Club's account no later than **5 pm Thursday May 8th** and make sure your name is included on the transfer. Please **DO NOT** pay before the 1st of the month.

***A/C name: "Probus Club of Port Phillip", BSB: 033 058, A/C NO 750921***

If paying by cash or cheque, please place in an envelope clearly marked ***Lunch*** or ***Tea/Coffee*** and showing your name and those of your attendees. The correct amount must be tendered as no change is given. Envelopes need to be prepared before arrival. Everyone who has paid will be given a table number and can request one for a guest.

**Jim Studebaker - Catering Officer Ph 0413 304 864**

[wjstudebaker48@gmail.com](mailto:wjstudebaker48@gmail.com)

### **ALMONER**

Members who wish to inform the Club of the illness of themselves or of others, please contact;

**Ross Fardon** telephone 03 9874 6838, or e-mail:- [rossfardon@gmail.com](mailto:rossfardon@gmail.com)

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

The next Coffee and Conversation will be held at

**10.30 am Tuesday 27th May 2025**

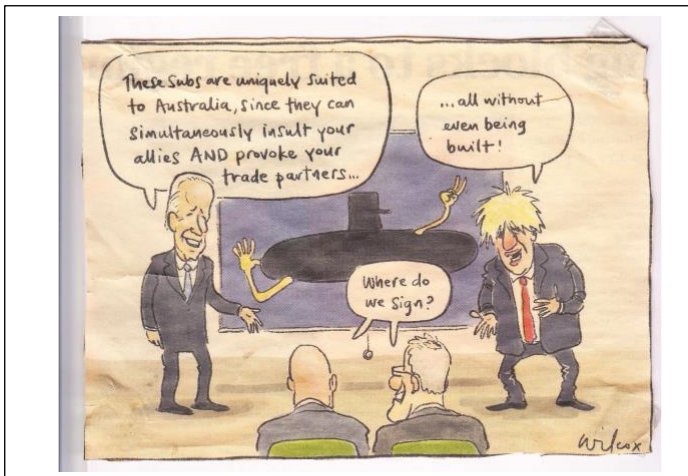
**at Rylands, 349 Riversdale Rd, Hawthorn East. Not far  
from Camberwell Junction and on the route of the 70 and 75 trams.**

Further information will be provided in a later email. Please let Allan know if you are coming. Numbers are limited and coffee has to be ordered. Note Coffee and pastry is now \$10.

**Allan Brownrigg, C & C Coordinator: Ph 0420 401 310 or 03 9193 7785**

[ambrownrigg@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ambrownrigg@optusnet.com.au)

## REPORT OF COFFEE AND CONVERSATION APRIL 22 : AUKUS – DEAL OR NO DEAL



The discussion was initiated by a paper presented by Don McAllister

The participants were well informed and there was a consensus that the decision to embark on AUKUS was difficult to understand, to justify, or to support.

There were a number of concerns expressed, and questions raised, including:

- Why do we need new submarines? For defence or attack?
- The problem of obsolescence as a result of:
  - New detection methods (radiation, thermal plume, and magnetic image).
  - Rising use of drones and other unmanned devices.
  - Further development of smart missiles, up to and including intercontinental supersonic devices.
    - What are the motives and outcomes of the agreement – Is it a form of colonization? Will it result in a loss of Australian sovereignty?



- There was concern about the risk to Australia compared to existing arrangements. Are we going to be a strategic target?
- There was the problem with the involvement of someone like Boris Johnson at the outset.
- There was concern that USA's agendas are further confused by a chaotic administration, with no end in sight.
- The UK Government is currently reviewing their ability to support/participate in the AUK part of the program.
- There was the issue of Australia's ability to support the project with the appropriate manpower at all stages of the proposed scheme.
- There was a view that any significant increase in defence spending should be in Research & Development.

Basically, our C & C group thought that as of April 2025 Australia's defence interests could be better served by something other than AUKUS, which means "No Deal"

Don McAllister Ph 0409 967 208 Email: [domca@bigpond.com](mailto:domca@bigpond.com)

NOTE: A copy of Don McAllister' full Paper  
***All About AUKUS: Is AUKUS a Deal or No-Deal?***  
 as presented to the Conversation Group  
 is available from the Editor. Email: [graham.marshall8@icloud.com](mailto:graham.marshall8@icloud.com)

## APRIL VISIT REPORT— CRANBOURNE GARDENS



The 10 members of the Port Phillip Probus Club who went to Cranbourne Gardens on 15th April were well rewarded. It was a beautiful autumn day and there was a lot to see. We all

elected to do the half hour garden tour in an electric cart with a pleasant and knowledgeable driver. It was a delightful way to see many of the treasures of the gardens. Many of us also spent time wandering around and seeing more sights. They included many water features and new additions to the gardens. The on-site cafe had an interesting menu so we all enjoyed our lunch too.

(Additional Note)

The Immigration Museum in Flinders street has a marvellous interactive exhibition about Notre Dame Cathedral which I went to recently. Unfortunately, it finishes on 18th May, but it is well worth going to. You are given a iPad type device and by using this and relating it to huge pictures you can travel in time from the building of the cathedral in the 1100's to the restoration after the recent fire.

Access to the immigration museum is free to Seniors and the special exhibition costs \$25 entry. It is easy to get to from Flinders street station. The tram along Flinders street drops you outside the museum.

**Susan Harraway – Ph 0447 941 963 [susanrlharraway@gmail.com](mailto:susanrlharraway@gmail.com)**

## **MAY VISIT – SKYDECK EUREKA TOWER**

**10.30 am Tuesday 20 May**

Our May visit is to the Melbourne Skydeck, which can be found perched on top of the Eureka Tower, a skyscraper located in the Melbourne South Bank precinct. On offer are stunning 360° panoramic views from the highest observation deck in the Southern Hemisphere.

Occupying the entire 88<sup>th</sup> floor, the Skydeck features twenty viewfinders that help visitors to pinpoint numerous significant landmarks around all of Melbourne, along with several free binoculars for use. As the public is only allowed after 12:00 pm, we'll have the whole venue to ourselves for the visit.

We'll meet at 10:30 am at Admissions on the ground floor of the Eureka Towers. Included in the price of \$30 per person are: admission to the observation deck via the building's very fast lift, a fun facts and landmark guide; and scones served with jam and cream and tea or coffee. Please let me know about any dietary requirements.

As we need to confirm booking numbers and purchase tickets in advance, could participants please transfer \$30 per person into the bank account of the club before or on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May. Please remember to state your name and 'May Visit' when making the payment.

A/C name: Probus Club of Port Phillip BSB: 033058 A/C No. 750921.

If paying by cash or cheque, please tender the correct money in a sealed envelope at the front desk at the May Meeting. Please write your name and 'May Visit' on the front of the envelope. Please let me know by the 8<sup>th</sup> of May if payment is going to be done this way.

Visit Venue: Melbourne Skydeck, Level 88, Eureka Tower, 7 Riverside Quay, Southbank

How to get there:

- Walk: 5- to 10-minute walk from Flinders Street Station
- Bus: City Rd/Southbank Blvd. bus stop of Bus 605.
- Tram: Casino East/Queens Bridge St. tram stop of Tram 58.
- Paid parking is available at Wilson Eureka Parking underneath the building.

**Dedrie Green** Mobile: 0407 093 124 – email: [dedriegreen@gmail.com](mailto:dedriegreen@gmail.com)

## Getaway Lakes Entrance November 2025

While Colin is away, he has arranged for blank expression of interest forms to be available at the front desk for those who wish to go on the Lakes Entrance Getaway, and haven't yet indicated an interest in going. As reported in the April Newsletter, participants then need to book their own rooms at the Bellevue On The Lakes. Colin suggests that those needing a ground floor room should book as early as possible as there are now only 6 (six) ground floor rooms left and no lift (previously there had been 16 rooms, so they are going fast). See below for information from the Group Booking lady at the hotel.

Accommodation: **Bellevue On The Lakes**

Dates: **17th - 21st November 2025**

Telephone: **03-5150 9488** and quote **reservation 1717761** Probus Club of Port Phillip Getaway. A booking can also be done by e-mail to [info@bellevuelakes.com.au](mailto:info@bellevuelakes.com.au) and quoting the above Reservation number.

Guest rooms @ \$175 per room per night

Executive Spa suites @ \$195 per room per night

### Terms & Conditions

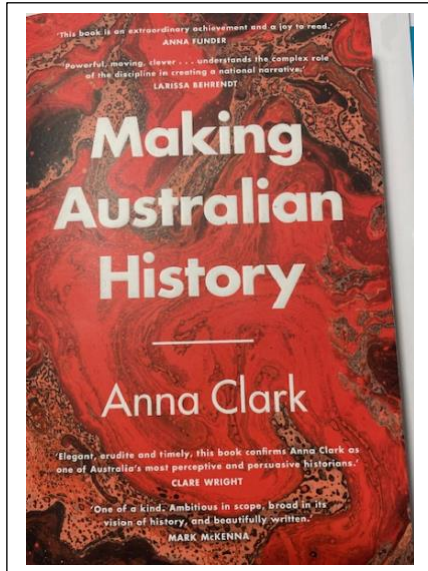
Guests are welcome to call and book, quoting reservation number **1717761**, as the hotel will continue to have rooms on hold. A \$100 deposit is due at the time of booking. The remaining payment due 60 days prior to arrival

If fully cancelled between 60 and 20 days prior, a cancellation fee of \$100 will be payable, and the balance will be refunded. No refund is available within 19 days before arrival.

During his absence **Colin Palethorpe** is available for queries at [cpaletho@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cpaletho@bigpond.net.au)

## CULTURAL NOTES – REVIEW OF *MAKING AUSTRALIAN HISTORY*

*Making Australian History* by Anna Clark (2022) reviewed by **Maureen McAllister**



As the title suggests this book is about the approaches to studying and writing Australian History since the earliest days of white settlement. It is timely though controversial, as it throws a light on the new understandings of our past, some highly contested, that have been developed by new generations of historians. These new perspectives have come about as the result of new evidence and additional sources becoming available; aboriginal history being the most significant but not the only example.

The world of Australian History has changed dramatically and aborigines are now included. But these changes have led to controversies and a more contested history.

This contested history provides part of the context for Anna Clark's book which, however, takes a longer - term view of how Australia's history has been written and the people, not all of them historians, who have done the writing.

Anna Clark is the granddaughter of the late Manning Clark, arguably the foremost and most prominent of recent historians of Australia, though she largely leaves him out of her narrative. At school we were all taught a defined and progressive version of Australian History and in my case this extended to the way history was approached at Melbourne University. It was later referred to as the "Three Cheers" version of our past with a good dose of patriotism and national success thrown in. Anna Clark shows that a more complex, contested, and changing version of our past is warranted.

She questions why sources such as indigenous and other oral history, indigenous art, and texts from authors, such as Judith Wright and Tony Birch, as well as other non-traditional sources have been ignored in the past. She also notes how history written by non-historians such as Bruce Pascoe with his book *Dark Emu* can raise significant controversy.

The book is structured so each chapter deals with a theme, some unconventional, such as: *Beginnings; Nation; Family; Contact, Memory; Protest; Imagination and Time*.

I recommend this book on a difficult but important subject. It is well researched (7 years). It demonstrates the need to thoughtfully engage with our past.

## MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

**The Camberwell Chorale is holding their first concert for the year, next Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Hawthorn Arts Centre**

It promises to be a most enjoyable afternoon.

Direct from four successful concerts in China, the Camberwell Chorale will present the fifth and final performance of “Music for the Theatre”, an eclectic and exciting programme with selections from Phantom of the Opera, The Beatles in Revue, well-known choruses and arias from the operas of Verdi and Puccini, and Sir Michael Tippett’s powerful setting of five spirituals from his Oratorio, A Child of our Time.

**Featuring the acclaimed Simon Stone Trio, our four distinguished soloists are -**

- **Lee Abrahmsen (soprano)**
- **Kerrie Bolton (mezzo-soprano)**
- **Michael Lapina (tenor)**
- **Michael Lampard (bass)**

**Conductor – Douglas Heywood OAM**

Sunday 4 May at 2.30 pm, Hawthorn Arts Centre

Tickets \$65 (Concession \$60, Students \$35)

For ease of booking, following is a link direct to the Event Page at Boroondara Arts: <https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/events/music-theatre>

See over for attached Flyer

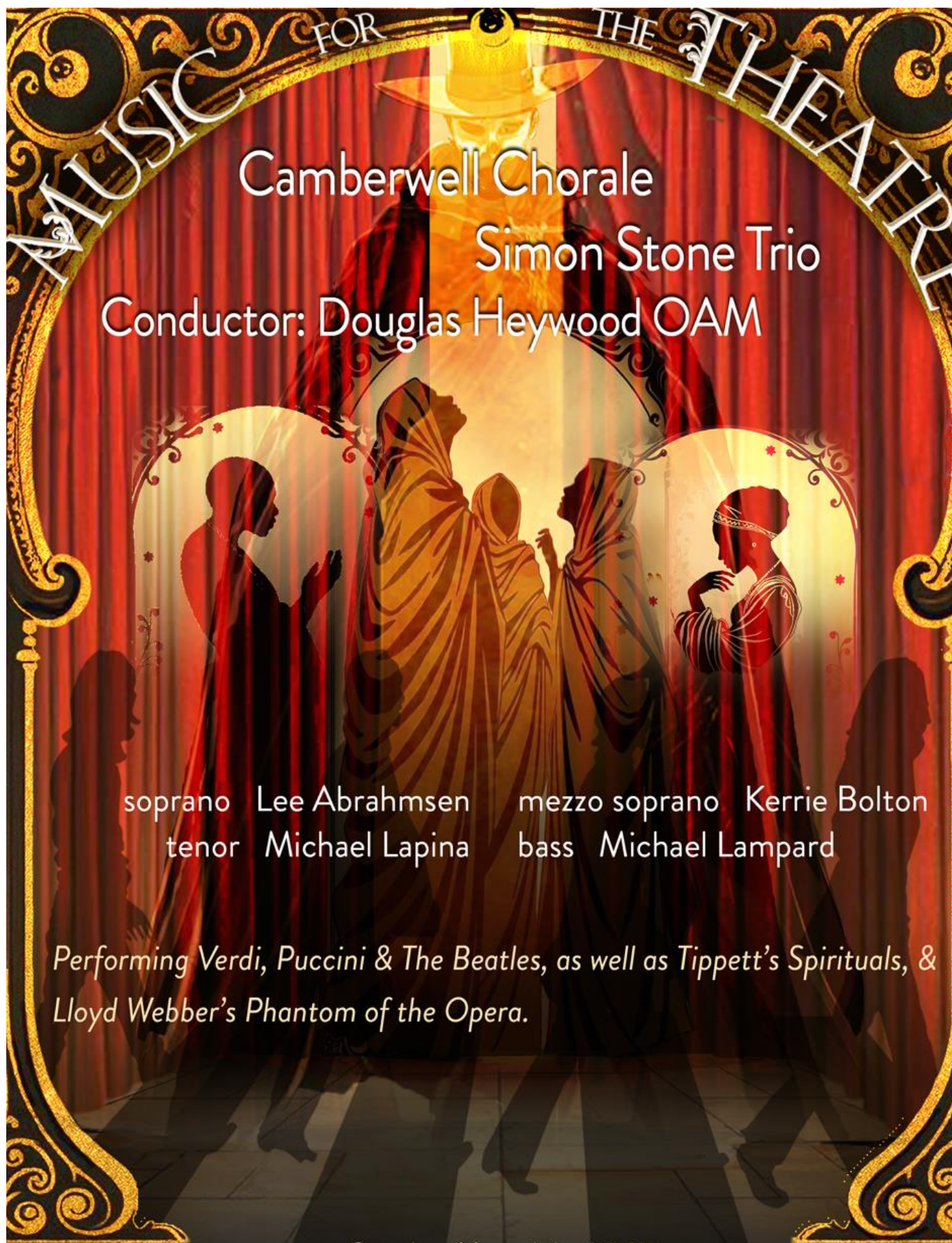
Newsletter Editor – **Graham Marshall**

Mob: 0408 308 382 Email [graham.marshall8@icloud.com](mailto:graham.marshall8@icloud.com)

Please send copy for the next newsletter to Graham

Closing date for the **JUNE 2025** Newsletter is: **am – Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**





Camberwell Chorale  
Simon Stone Trio  
Conductor: Douglas Heywood OAM

soprano Lee Abrahmsen  
tenor Michael Lapina

mezzo soprano Kerrie Bolton  
bass Michael Lampard

*Performing Verdi, Puccini & The Beatles, as well as Tippett's Spirituals, & Lloyd Webber's Phantom of the Opera.*

Sunday May 4th, 2025

2.30pm Hawthorn Arts Centre

Tickets \$65 concession \$60 students \$35

To book: [boroondara.vic.gov.au/arts](http://boroondara.vic.gov.au/arts)  
or call 9278 4770

