



# THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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## AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Last month we foreshadowed the first in what might be a series of Zoom-based General Meetings. It appears that it was a success despite participants being separated and attending via computer technology. We expect to do the same this month and maybe in subsequent months, given the apparent reluctance of our State to see the number of cases substantially reduce and the apparent involvement of aged-care premises in their continued elevation.

As we made clear last month, we are using Zoom for the SIGS so that its use for the General Meetings merely takes it forward a further step. If you would like assistance please let us know – we are happy for members to seek assistance from others with the relatively straightforward technology.

That said, we are hoping that the day when we can return to life as we formerly knew it is not too far away – although we may have several months to wait before then.

Our guest speaker for our Zoom General Meeting on **Tuesday 11th August** will be **Andrew Mitchell** who will discuss

### **Electric Cars and Clean Energy – Why?**

Following about 30 years on the corporate treadmill, Andrew bought a health care manufacturing business. He has been running this for nearly 25 years while failing to fully retire for more than a decade! He was a member of Balwyn Rotary Club for some 15 years including President in 2008-09. Current interests include bushwalking, travel, sustainability and family.

### EVENTS DIARY:

If you thought that, in these anxious times in lockdown, there was not much going on within the club – please think again!

Below is a list of activities organised by our hard-working SIG Convenors and Committee.

Put these events in your diary **NOW** so that you can maintain contact with your fellow members.

Details of each activity are available in this newsletter:

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
• HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Monday August 10th
• MONTHLY GENERAL ZOOM MEETING	Tuesday August 11th
• INVESTMENT GROUP Zoom Meeting	Thursday August 13th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Tuesday August 18th
• <b>WALKING GROUP (Cancelled)</b>	<b>Friday August 21st</b>
• COMPUTER GROUP Zoom Meeting	Tuesday August 25th
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday August 27th

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

Current membership is 70 comprising of 65 active & 5 non-active members. Our Associate members number is 15.

**John Mott** is now back as a member on the non-active list.

**Mike Watts** was inducted at our General Meeting using Zoom Video conferencing. Please make him welcome at one of our meetings.

## **BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH**

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating birthdays this month:

**Rodney Alsop, Ted Douez, Richard Heal, Rodney Manser, John Meadows, John O'Callaghan and John Roberts**

Caution: If you are blowing out your candles on the birthday cake with your mask on, that mask will not adequately protect you from COVID-19!

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The available balances in our bank accounts at the end of July were;

Westpac \$2,829

CBA \$2,813

All refunds for functions cancelled as a result of Covid-19 have now been paid to members

During the month many payments that would normally be paid from the CBA function account were paid from the Westpac account using our new online payment capability. As a result, the Committee have agreed to my proposal that we transfer all CBA funds to Westpac and operate from a single bank account in future. Those members who are signatories on the CBA account will become signatories on the Westpac account and have full online access. Consolidation of the accounts will make it less confusing for members once we recommence functions post Covid-19, as they will be dealing with a single bank account. Furthermore, it will make EFTPOS easier to implement if we decide to go down that path.

## **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

- **HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP:** Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964  
E: [graycol7@bigpond.com](mailto:graycol7@bigpond.com)

Our next **H&G Zoom** meeting will be on **Monday 10th August**. The meeting will be from about **10.40 to noon**. The specific H&G part will be about an hour from 11.00-noon and the 20 minutes prior to that will be available for welcoming all members and their partners to the meeting, and for participants to chat.

We now have sufficient volunteers for us to proceed with the topic that was originally scheduled for our July meeting. On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August five members who have offered will be giving short talks about interesting and memorable places they have visited around Australia that are on the National Heritage List. To be included on the National Heritage List Natural, Historic or Indigenous places have to be of outstanding significance to the nation. We'll also have few videos on National Heritage sites in Australia. Please get in touch if you have not yet participated in a Zoom meeting and I will organise a time when we can practice joining a zoom meeting so that you will be able to take part on Monday 10th.

- **INVESTMENT GROUP:** Second Thursday in the month. Convenor: Don Campbell P: 9836 6330  
M: 0418 512 001

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 13th August at 10 am** using Zoom Video Conferencing facility.

The subjects are to be covered are:

- 1/ How to set up your financial affairs in case of illness or death
  - 2/ Update on Coronavirus and likely outcomes for ASX
  - 3/ Real Estate market update
  - 4/ Bring along your list of queries for discussion in this uncertain time.
- All members and their partners are invited to join in the discussions.

- **PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP: Third Tuesday in the month. Convenor Nino Xerri M: 0410 571 446**  
E: [ninros1946@gmail.com](mailto:ninros1946@gmail.com)

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 18th August at 10 am**. It will be conducted once again via the Zoom Video Conference. Richard Heal will be presenting a Powerpoint presentation on "Selected Gardens from Australia & Overseas" And as usual there will be time for discussions/comments.

We will then show a video relating to the difference between shooting in RAW format as distinct from Jpeg format, then break up into groups to discuss the pros and cons relating to the video.

Looking forward to another enjoyable and actively participated meeting in line with the Probus philosophy of Fellowship, Friendship & Fun.

10 participants at the July meeting watched two Powerpoint Presentations from Lothar Lanz (Iceland) and Graydon Findlay (Peru), which were very well received.

If there are any members or their partners who would like to join the SIG, please contact the Convenor.

- **WALKING GROUP Third Friday in the month\*\* - Richard Heal M: 0415 776 039 E: [richard\\_heal@bigpond.com](mailto:richard_heal@bigpond.com)**

The next walk, scheduled to take place on **Friday 21st August**, has been **cancelled** due to the Stage 4 lockdown.

- **COMPUTER GROUP: Fourth Tuesday in the month. Convenor: Rodney Manser M: 0418 164 432**  
E: [rmanser@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rmanser@bigpond.net.au)

Our next meeting **Tuesday 25th August at 10am** will be conducted using the Zoom Video Conferencing facility covering Information Technology, including discussion with members and their partners on all aspects of IT whilst in Isolation.

Our July meeting was attended by 20 members with videos Gmail Labels and filter tricks with discussion on I have been Pawned & Skype installation at start-up. Members were encouraged to discuss aspects in boardrooms whilst having a virtual Tea or Coffee.

Members and their partners are all welcome to join us at our next Meeting August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact the Convenor for invitation instructions.

- **ZOOM LUNCH & CHAT - Thursday 27th August. Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964**  
E: [graycol7@bigpond.com](mailto:graycol7@bigpond.com)

Zoom Lunch and Chat meetings replace three activities (evening Dine-Outs, Balwyn Cinema lunches and Walking Group lunches) that were held each month prior to the coronavirus pandemic where wives and members could chat and keep up with other participants. The format this month will be similar the three previous Zoom Lunch & Chat meetings when participants chatted about what they have been doing during the changing COVID-19 restrictions and to discuss several nominated movies that they had watched at home on Channel 32 or SBS On Demand prior to the Zoom lunch. Details about the three movies nominated for August will be emailed to participants about a fortnight prior to the lunch. Please get in touch if you would like to become a participant and receive details about the nominated movies or if you are likely to need assistance getting connected to Zoom.

If you are a regular attendee at SIGs, your SIG Convenor will be in touch with you in due course. If you are not a regular attendee but would like to be included in the video conferencing arrangements, you are encouraged to register with the relevant convenor and advise if you are likely to need assistance getting connected.

#### **USEFUL RESOURCES:**

- You are encouraged to go to our website <https://balwynnorthprobus.org.au> that contains much useful information, including a link to the Department of Human Services regarding the Coronavirus
- The following article on "Coronavirus Survival Guide" has been published by Probus South Pacific P/L (PSPL):  
<https://livewellclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/flipbook/2/mobile/index.html>
- You may wish to contact PSPL to receive a copy of their regular newsletter.  
Email [marketing@probussouthpacific.org](mailto:marketing@probussouthpacific.org) to be put on the mailing list for their regular Newsletter.