



# THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

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*Website: [balwynnorthprobus.org.au](http://balwynnorthprobus.org.au)*

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## SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

We are about to hold our third zoom general meeting. I suspect that when we began this survival strategy we did not know how long it was going to last. Hopefully, we do not have too many more meetings that rely upon it, but who knows? Interestingly, zoom is expanding its usefulness as we get to understand it better. After the last meeting a surprisingly large number of members who had attended the meeting stayed on and conversed about the guest speaker's speech using zoom as the medium. It seemed quite able to accommodate all of those who wished to be involved. In so doing, members were able to explore all sorts of issues raised by the speech. They were arguably able to extend their interest and involvement beyond what they had heard in the meeting to new themes. This was in a style that enabled them to continue their acquaintance or even familiarity with other members. Perhaps zoom has more to offer than we realize.

Our guest speaker for our Zoom General Meeting on **Tuesday 8th September** will be **Julian Battistella** and his topic is **"Estate Planning"**.

Prior to establishing Battistella Financial Services in 2007, Julian was employed by Wilson HTM Investment Group – a boutique National Stockbroking firm which listed on the Australian Stock Exchange in June 2007. Upon joining Wilson HTM as the sole Financial Planner in the Melbourne office in April 2002, Julian was responsible for establishing a successful Financial Planning business. Working closely with other specialists, including tax lawyers, accountants and stockbrokers, Julian was formally recognised as being a leading provider of sophisticated financial planning advice to high net worth individuals. This culminated in Julian being awarded Money Management Financial Planner of the Year – 2007 after being runner-up in the 2005 and 2006 Awards.

Julian's specific areas of specialisation include advising on self-managed superannuation, superannuation income streams, tax effective planning, borrowing to invest, risk insurance and comprehensive estate planning (incorporating testamentary trusts).

### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

To ensure members are kept informed of the full scope of Committee involvements, it was agreed at its 1<sup>st</sup> September meeting that in future the Secretary shall provide a report to members in the Newsletter on matters not already covered elsewhere: viz

- Probus South Pacific (PSPL) encouraged Clubs to celebrate Probus Day on 1st October 2020. However, it was agreed that as the exact nature of Covid-19 restrictions for this day are unknown at this time, no planning could be undertaken.
- The President and Secretary would attend (via Zoom) a regional Probus meeting on 21st September to discuss a range of issues currently affecting Probus Clubs at this time.
- The Committee, as well as keeping up to date with Community Restrictions generally, is in ongoing contact with Boroondara Council in relation to specific meeting restrictions applicable to the Greythorn Community Centre. These would include Covid-19 Protocol and guidelines to conduct a meeting submitted to, and approved by, the Council. It is thus not envisaged that meetings would be appropriate for the foreseeable future.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Club funds at the end of August, after allowing for meeting fees paid in advance, were \$5,990. All funds are now held in the Westpac account following advice last month that we were closing the CBA account.

The Club has never owned any financial software, preferring to rely on the Treasurer to provide his own accounting package. As a result, the Club has no historical data other than reports provided by the Treasurer during his tenure and the absence of a Club-owned package could limit the willingness of members to accept the position of Treasurer in future.

We are therefore currently trialling a couple of simple packages able to be used by non-accountants with a little upfront training. Further advice will be provided in due course.

## **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>
• MONTHLY GENERAL ZOOM MEETING	Tuesday September 8th
• HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Monday September 14th
• INVESTMENT GROUP Zoom Meeting	Thursday September 10th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Tuesday September 15th
• WALKING GROUP <b>(Tentative)</b>	Friday September 18th
• COMPUTER GROUP Zoom Meeting	Tuesday September 22nd
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday September 24th

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

Current membership is 70 comprising of 65 active & 5 non-active members our Associates members number is 13. Please continue to foster friends & neighbours to join one of the SIG meetings who may be encouraged to join PCNB. Our SIG meetings are all being conducted using Zoom video conferencing system.

## **BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH**

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

- **Bob Hayden, Keith Jackson, John Keogh, Per Knudsen, Thorold Merrett, John Mott, Peter Muir-Smith, Gary Ray and Evan Williams**

## **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

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

Our next H&G Zoom meeting will be on **Monday 14th September**. The meeting will be from about **10.40 to noon**. The specific H&G part will be about an hour from 11.00-noon. The 20 minutes prior to that will be available for welcoming people to the meeting, and for participants to chat.

We'll have another of the short talks about interesting and memorable places members have visited around Australia that are on the National Heritage List. This time it is about Burra in South Aust which is listed because it has an outstanding collection of 19th century civic, residential, church and Cornish mining structures that represent a milestone in Australia's early mining history. I'll also talk about what I have been able to find out about the lives of another of my great grandparent couples who migrated to Australia.

During our following meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October we'll have a guest speaker, Matthew Ety-Leal, who will talk about Banjo Paterson. Early Australian poets portrayed graphic pictures of life in Australia when many of our ancestors were living so they can help us gain an understanding of the conditions that ancestors faced.

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 14th.

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

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 10th September** at **10 am** using Zoom Video Conferencing facility. The subjects to be covered are:

- 1/ Part of a presentation by the Monash Business School on the subject of how the world has changed since Covid19 and what will persist in time in the business world
- 2/ Progress of vaccines
- 3/ How is CSL managing the present situation
- 4/ The lure of gold

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 15th September**. It will consist of a Denis Spinley slideshow presentation : "Caribbean Cruise", which will be followed by a video, discussing the use of Manual Mode, This will be a follow up relating to last month's discussion. As usual there will be time for questions/comments.

11 participants at our August meeting enjoyed the presentation by Richard and Robyn Heal on "Selected Gardens from Australia & Overseas", We then had a discussion on the pros & cons of shooting RAW format in lieu of JPEG. As always, there is an open invitation for any member or partner who would like to join the SIG to contact the Convenor. You can be assured of a morning conducted in line with Probus philosophy of Fellowship, Friendship and Fun.

- **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 will take place on **Friday 18th September**, which is the 3rd Friday of the month. The walk will be along the Gardiners Creek Walking Track through Glen Iris and Darling. Meet in the carpark in Darling Park, adjacent to Basil Street which is accessed via Stanley Grose Drive off Winton Road in Malvern East, at **10.30 AM**.

The East Malvern RSL is directly opposite. [*Melways Map Ref: Map 60 A12*]

We will have a picnic lunch at the conclusion of the walk unless the weather makes it too unpleasant to sit outside. However, there is a picnic pavilion adjacent to the carpark which would provide shelter in the case of wet weather. New walkers always welcome to join us.

- **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 22nd September** at **10am** will be conducted using Zoom Video Conferencing facility covering Information Technology & Internet Security for Apple devices. Our August meeting was attended by 22 members discussing Quick Assist for Windows 10 & Internet Security for Windows. Members are encouraged to discuss aspects in breakout rooms whilst having a virtual Tea or Coffee. John Thwaites joined for the first time and spoke about his experience with his IT challenges. Don Eltringham & Per Knudsen were welcomed back again to our SIG. Everyone, including partners, are welcome to join us at our next meeting September 22nd. Please contact the convenor for invitation instructions.

- **ZOOM LUNCH & CHAT – Fourth Thursday in the Month - Thursday 24th September. Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964 E: [graycol7@bigpond.com](mailto:graycol7@bigpond.com)**

Zoom Lunch and Chat meetings replace activities such as evening Dine-outs &, Balwyn Cinema 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 four 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 September 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.