



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

We are undertaking shortly no less than our fifth General Meeting via Zoom. When these are added to our Committee Meetings and our SIGs this makes us a significant consumer of Zoom. We are also very satisfied.

That said, it is exciting that we are enjoying our first access for many months to our shopping centres and so forth.

It is perhaps appropriate that we bear in mind that this access is not without factors we need to take into account.

As well as the virus itself there are many limitations to which the rules are subject such as numbers, times, frequency, distance from where we live and so forth.

It is important that we know these things so that we do not unwittingly break the rules.

That said, if we comply, we are no doubt assisting very adequately in Victoria's recovery from Covid-19.

Our guest speaker for our Zoom General Meeting on **Tuesday 10th November** is **Ross McMullin** who will be presenting

Pompey Elliott – in his own words



Harold Edward Elliott

Major General Harold Edward "Pompey" Elliott, CB, CMG, DSO, DCM, VD was a senior officer in the Australian Army during the First World War. After the war he served as a Senator for Victoria in the Australian parliament.

Pompey Elliott was a remarkable Australian. During the Great War he was a charismatic, controversial, and outstandingly successful military leader. An accomplished tactician and 'the bravest of the brave', he was renowned for never sending anyone anywhere he was not prepared to go himself. As a result, no Australian general was more revered by those he led or more famous outside his own command. A man of unimpeachable integrity and unwavering commitment, he was also forthright and volatile. His tempestuousness generated a host of anecdotes that amused his men and disconcerted his superiors. Yet surprisingly little had been written about Elliott until the original edition of this book appeared in 2002. Now in a new format and with a foreword by Les Carlyon, this comprehensive, deeply researched biography tells Elliott's fascinating story. It vividly examines Elliott's origins and youth, his peacetime careers as a lawyer and politician, and his achievements – as well as the controversies he aroused during his years as a soldier. Ross McMullin's masterly work retrieves a significant Australian from undeserved obscurity. It also judiciously reassesses notable battles he influenced – including the Gallipoli Landing, Lone Pine, Fromelles, Polygon Wood, and Villers-Brettonneux – and illuminates numerous aspects of Australia's experiences during his lifetime, particularly the often-overlooked period of the aftermath to the Great War.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Matters discussed at the recent Committee meeting of 2 November 2020, included the following:

- A grant application has been submitted to the Boroondara Council for a Sophisticated Webcam that would allow us to display the proceedings of General Meetings being held at the Hub in Greythorn (when we are allowed), via the Zoom technology. This would provide access to the meetings to those members who could not attend.
- We have received notification of the Annual General Meeting of the Probus Association of Victoria of which we are a member. This is being held on 23rd November via Zoom. Anyone interested in attending or reviewing the meeting documents should contact Barry.
- We have received a request from the Nossal Institute of Global Health requesting assistance from members in participating in a survey on the effects of the Pandemic. The Committee agreed that Barry could forward the request to members
- Rod Manser reported that he was running a new section called Member's Jottings on the website in which members could write some notes on their experiences during the pandemic. These would be available for all members to read. He advised that this area was only available to members and not to the public.
- The application for membership from Matthew Pattison was accepted. Welcome Matthew!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Very little to report this month, gentlemen.

Club available funds at 31 October are \$5,309, a reduction of \$50 from September.

Work on possible introduction of an EFTPOS facility has been put on hold until such time as there is a need which may not be until fees are due in 2021.

Dates of the 2021 meetings have been confirmed with the Greythorn Hub.

The big question is whether or not we have any use for them.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is 65 active and 5 non-active members, with our Associate members being 12.

It was reported with sadness that an Associate member, **Phyl Sherwen**, had passed away on 20th October.

A new application for membership has been received from **Matthew Pattison** and presented to the committee for approval.

Recently a new website page has been added to the members' login folder "Members Jottings" for members to provide their stories during the pandemic lockdown. Please provide your stories to Website Master by email rmanser@bigpond.net.au. Let us all get our thinking caps on add to the interesting stories on the website.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH

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

- **Bill Atherton, Barry Bolger, Graeme Goudie, Doug McNeil, Matthew Pattison and John Williams,**

FUNCTIONS:

Christmas Zoom Function - Tuesday December 8th at 11.00am.

This function will be conducted with members and their partners providing their own specific lunch requirements. Obviously something prepared in advance such as sandwiches, for example, will allow for easier interaction with other participants.

It would be nice if those attending could invoke their own brand of Christmas cheer, involving wine beer or soft drink at the meeting, to take the place of what would normally be provided, if this event were to be held at a function centre.

Looking forward to seeing you all there, at what will be the last official club function for 2020.

EVENTS DIARY:

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:

Meeting	Date
• HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Monday November 9th
• MONTHLY GENERAL ZOOM MEETING	Tuesday November 10th
• INVESTMENT GROUP Zoom Meeting	Thursday November 12th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Tuesday November 17th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday November 20th
• COMPUTER GROUP Zoom Meeting	Tuesday November 24th
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday November 26th

Before participating in one of these Zoom meetings, it might be worthwhile checking out the following advice which was recently sent to all members on:

Zoom Etiquette

- Advise convener acceptance of the invitation to the meeting.
- Join Zoom Session on time.
- Rename your name if it is not displayed correctly within Zoom.
- Position your camera at eye level.
- Adjust your screen so that you have a head and shoulders in the frame.
- Have appropriate lighting in the room, avoiding bright sunshine from a window behind you.
- Participants to talk without overtalking each other.
- To mute your microphone if you need to answer the phone/mobile/or front door.
- Have your mobile devices on mute if it all possible.
- To mute your microphone if there is uncontrolled noise in your environment.
- To use the chat function to ask question of the presenter.
- Use the hand reaction feature to ask a question of the presenter.
- Do not undertake other functions that distract you from the presentation.
- Avoid multi-tasking during the session.
- Turn off your email notifications during the meeting.
- Be careful when using virtual backgrounds as they can be distracting.
- If you are providing a presentation during the meeting have your material queued and ready to present.
- Provide constructive comments and positive feedback to the Convener.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- **HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP: Second Monday in the Month. Convener Graydon Findlay
P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com**

Our next H&G Zoom meeting will be on **Monday 9th November**. 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.

Jeff Collinson will talk about research he has done about a Coast Watcher stationed in New Britain NG during WW2. He alerted officials in Port Moresby that Japanese planes that were flying in their direction and their need to get prepared. I'll also do another presentation on a branch of my family tree.

Please get in touch if you would like to join this zoom meeting, but have not participated in H&G meetings this year.

I'll then add you to the list that I use to email the electronic link that you'll need to join zoom meeting on Monday 9th Nov.

As always wives and partners are welcome to join H&G SIG meetings

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

The Investment SIG will meet on **Thursday 12th November** starting at **9.45am**. Subjects to be covered are:

- 1/ Bob Haydon will give a presentation about hydrogen as a future green energy source. Will it be a major player?
- 2/ Two interesting prospects about future economic directions as the present system falters under stresses on the present system.
- 3/ Update on vaccines. Will they work?

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

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 17th. November** at **10.00** am utilising the Zoom Video Conference facility. Cordell Short will be presenting a series of images taken with his iPad and Camera. Nino will present 3 short tutorials on how to improve our photographic skills and a slide presentation on Malta. As usual time will be allocated to discuss/comment on the presentations or any aspect of photography or travel.

12 members, including our newest attendees Cordell & Judith Short enjoyed the presentations by Denis Spinley, Rodney Manser, Tony Froster and Nino Xerri as well as the images taken by members during the lockdown.

As always there is an open invitation for any member or partner to join us by contacting 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**

The next walk will take place on **Friday 20th November**, 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.

Please provide your own requirements with regards to portable seating so that we can maintain the required social distancing. 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**

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday 24th November** at **10am** and will be conducted using Zoom Video Conferencing facility. We plan to cover Information Technology and Apple shortcuts, and a possible Christmas breakup function.

Further advice will be issued once the ISO regulations have been clarified.

Our October meeting was attended by 19 members with Diana Kimpton joining for the first time. The session covered Windows shortcuts, file structure and Apple iPhone 12 products. Cordell Short presented a topic covering various iPads and accessories.

- **ZOOM LUNCH & CHAT – Fourth Thursday in the Month – Thursday 26th November
Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com**

Zoom Film Lunch and Chat meetings replace activities such as evening Dine-outs &, Balwyn Cinema lunches, that were held each month prior to the corona virus pandemic, where wives and members could chat and keep up with other participants. The format this month will be similar the five previous zoom Lunch & Chat meetings when participants chatted about a range of topics and discussed 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 November will be emailed to participants on about 13th November, i.e. 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.,

Everyone including partners is welcome to join us at our next Meeting in November, please contact the convenor for invitation instructions.

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 to be put on the mailing list for their regular Newsletter.