



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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NEWSLETTER: MAY 11th 2021

TODAY'S MEETING:

Speaker: Bev Moss - "Come fly with me"

NEXT MEETING:

JUNE 8th

Speaker: Timothy Roberts - "Diabetic and general foot care"

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Firstly, I would like to again thank all those members and their wives/partners who attended the Changeover Lunch at Green Acres Golf Club on Tuesday 13th April. 64 people were in attendance and it was an extraordinary pleasure to see the Club back together again "in the flesh." I think it's fair to say that everybody had a great day out and were delighted to be back in touch after such a long period of being separated by measures to control the spread of the pandemic.

So, we are now what might be regarded as being in "Covid Normal" and our challenge is to make 2021/22 a very successful year for restoring our Club, not just back to full health but to an invigorated new future.

MEMBERSHIP has to be our catch-cry for this coming year and we must be passionate about it. And that means all of us if we want our Club to have a bright and viable future.

Firstly, we have to recapture our interest in all the Club does, PARTICULARLY IN THE SIG's, get involved and contribute wherever we can. The lock-down has cost us. Our effective membership is probably struggling to make 55 and we are ageing!! We need new younger members urgently and our Membership Marketing Officer, Geoff Metcalf, together with Rod Alsop, our Senior Vice President, is preparing to get a fresh and targeted campaign up and running without delay. But, as Geoff is want to remind us, member recruitment is down to us all, so please, gentlemen, anybody over mid 60's is our target market.

I personally am in training to have the health and strength to wear the "Chain of Office". I thought the start to the year would be a gentlemanly progression but there's been plenty of issues to deal with in this getting back to normal. The Committee has been really putting in and has met twice in the month to progress matters that have needed attention. We are very lucky to have the Committee we have and of course the SIG convenors.

Welcome to our first in-person meeting of the 2021/22 year, our first in over a year. I look forward to seeing you at the Hub on **Tuesday 11th May**, at which we will still be expected to practice some social distancing and so will be using changed seating arrangements with tables to achieve it. Please be there and please have regard for the arrangements. My thanks in advance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- **A REMINDER that two items of Special Business relating to Standing Resolutions (details forwarded by separate email last week) will be discussed at the General Meeting on 11 May 2021**
- The Webcam equipment resulting from a grant from the Boroondara Council has been received. Testing will be shortly to enable "Hybrid" meetings – where Zoom will be utilised in parallel with a Physical General Meeting – to incorporate this equipment into our meeting environment.
- The Club is applying for a further grant from Council to purchase an upgraded Laptop Computer to assist with membership administration and the conducting of General and SIG meetings
- An email was received by the Probus District Chairman advising Clubs to seriously examine how they set Annual Fees so that funds held by the Club are not excessive. Neil Smart advised that our available funds were well within overall guidelines and noted the Club contribution of over \$1,100 towards the recent Changeover lunch.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Whilst the bank account at 30 April shows \$10,033, available club funds after deducting funds held on behalf of the SIG's and the unspent Council transport grant of \$2,000 are \$7,235. During the month we spent \$1,799 on new video equipment which was funded by an additional Council grant.

As previously advised Club funds were to be used to subsidise the cost of the Changeover Lunch as it was such an important event after being unable to meet for so long. The actual cost of the subsidy was \$1,117.

At the time of writing this report we still have several members who have not paid their annual fee. Reminders have been sent and I trust members will settle their account promptly or get in touch with the club if they have difficulties or are considering not renewing their membership.

It will be great to get back to physical meetings in May and to catch up with those members I have not seen for some time.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is 62 active and 5 non-active members totally 67 members with our Associates at 14.

We would like to take the opportunity of congratulating **John Williams** for completing 20 years of membership

As a reminder, membership fees are now due so please refer to previous Newsletters and Treasurer's report.

Looking forward to our first face-to-face General Meeting on 11th May at the Greythorn Community Hub.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating birthdays in **May 2021**:

- **Bruno Coniglio, Stephen Millard and Graeme Seabrook**

DUTY ROSTER	May Meeting	June Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Don Campbell, Geoff Metcalf, Bob Haydon and Tony Froster	Denis Spinley, Gary Ray, Ken Mitchell and Michael Martin
Tea and Coffee	Michael Martin, Denis Spinley and Bryan Casey	Bryan Casey, Ken Davis and John Peyton
Buddy	Tony Froster, Gerald King and Alan French	Graeme Seabrook, Gerald King and Stephen Millard
Door Monitor	Stephen Millard and Jeff Collinson	Bruce McInerney and Geoff Metcalf

FUNCTIONS:

WINTER LUNCH Thursday 29 July

This function will be another 2-course lunch and will be taking place at **The Box Hill Golf Club**.

The price for the lunch is **\$40.00** per person with alcoholic drinks at bar prices.

Payment due at the July General Meeting but can be made at any time via one of the usual methods, however a bank transfer is preferred:

Account Name -The Probus Club of Nth Balwyn Inc.

BSB- 033 054

Account No.- 182752

Use your name as reference.

THEATRE EVENTS: – **Convenor: Lothar Lanz, P: 98481729 M: 0405220835 E: ljlanz@optusnet.com.au**

“MOULIN ROUGE” Musical at the Regent Theatre, Wednesday January 19th 2022, Matinee 1 pm. Tickets \$79 pp.
(own transport). Payment due at our October General Meeting. **Board out today.**

PALACE CINEMA, BALWYN. Matinee Film and Lunch sessions will probably resume in **June 2021**.

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	Tuesday May 10th
• GENERAL MEETING	Tuesday May 11th
• INVESTMENT GROUP Zoom Meeting	Thursday May 13th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP	Tuesday May 18th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday May 21st
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday May 25th
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday May 27th

NOTE - The convenors of some SIG activities in May have elected to continue with Zoom meetings, in which case before participating in one of these Zoom meetings, it might be worthwhile contacting the SIG convener to confirm the final format of the meeting.

When participating in any Zoom meeting, 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**
The next H&G Group meeting will be on **Monday 10th May**. It will be via Zoom and will run from about **10.40 till noon**. Graydon will do a presentation on what he has been able to find out about the lives of two of his ancestors whom he was not told about, and their two children who moved from Sydney to Melbourne in the 1860's and had large families. We'll also have a discussion about the family history topics that members would like to have organised for future meetings and a brain-storming session on possible heritage topics for future meetings.

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

Our next Investment Group Meeting will be held on **Thursday 13th May at 10 am** via Zoom.

The program will be:

1/ The minerals of the new age. Cobalt, Copper, Rare Earths and Lithium. The mining companies involved.

2/ Several different views on investment strategies

3/ Covid update and the changing nature of the pandemic and the roll out of vaccines. The surfacing of national interests in first world countries.

NOTE - Any changes to the meeting venue or format will be announced at the General Meeting.

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

Firstly, thank you to Rodney for standing in as the Convenor at last month's meeting.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 18th May at 10am**, and with all things being equal will be at the North Balwyn Uniting Church. Failing that we will then conduct our meeting via the Zoom Video Conference Facility.

Nino will show a Travelogue on Malta and is prepared to answer questions as best he can. We will then adjourn for morning tea and on resumption, Nino will undertake a "Workshop" on his method in editing images via Photoshop.

As this meeting will be the first face-to-face meeting for over 12 months, it is hoped that as many members, along with wives and partners, can attend.

NOTE - Any changes to the meeting venue or format will be announced at the General Meeting or shortly after.

- **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 21st May** (third Friday of the month) and will be along the Koonung Creek Linear Park track commencing at The Miniature Steam Railway at the end of Belmore Road in Mont Albert North.

Meet in the carpark near the Railway at **10.30 AM**. [*Melways Map 47 Ref B4*].

Lunch at the conclusion of the walk will be at a local café. New walkers most welcome.

- **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 25th May at 10am** at the Balwyn North Uniting Church, subject to rules re the Pandemic at that time. The topic of this meeting will be PowerPoint presentation setup. Everyone including partners are welcome to join us at our next Meeting, please contact the convenor for further information about our meeting at the Balwyn North Uniting Church.

Our April meeting was attended by 12 members via Zoom Conferencing which covered the Apple Special event released on 24th April and Website Statistics and selection of a website Host. Breakout rooms were set up with participants given the task to look at various designated website pages and come up with recommendations and or enhancements.

Suggestions that were raised have been implemented. A sub-committee of Cordell Short, Geoff Metcalf, Rodney Manser & Denis Spinley to select an appropriate Host provider.

- **ZOOM FILM LUNCH & CHAT – Fourth Thursday in the Month – Thursday May 27th**
Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com

The Thursday Zoom Film, Lunch and Chat meetings will continue during 2021 until the Balwyn Cinema Film and light lunch meetings can resume. The format this month will be similar to 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 three movies nominated for May will be emailed to participants on about **7th May** i.e., about three weeks before the lunch. Please get in touch if you would like to become a participant and receive details about the nominated movies

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.