



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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NEWSLETTER: JULY 13th 2021

TODAY'S MEETING:

Speaker: Meg Goulding - "Swanston Street Excavations"

Meg Goulding is an archaeologist with over 30 years' experience working in the fields of Indigenous and historical archaeological heritage management. She is the CEO and Principal Heritage Adviser at Ochre Imprints Pty Ltd and is the archaeology member of the Victorian Heritage Council and VCAT.

Meg will be presenting on what archaeology lies beneath the Melbourne CBD with a particular reference to a large excavation on Swanston Street next to Young & Jackson's that she directed in 2018 for the Melbourne Metro Tunnel project. This fascinating site provides a window into Indigenous occupation, early Colonial settlement and the expansion of commercial activity from the gold rush in 1851 to the recent past when the site was occupied by McDonalds, Witchery and the Commonwealth Bank.

NEXT MEETING:

AUGUST 10th

Speaker: Ted Baillieu - "Sir John Monash"

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

THE CURRENT COVID NORMAL:

Until we are all totally vaccinated and Federal and State Governments are prepared to acknowledge it's safe for us to move about freely and mix safely, then what we're currently experiencing is the next stage of "Covid Normal". So right now this still means that control by isolation and restriction can be invoked at any time, be wide spread and at very short notice.

Whilst control measures have eventually worked well in Victoria our position is still strongly influenced by what's happening with outbreaks interstate and particularly in NSW.

Consequently, until this situation changes, this means that when we attend the Hub for a General Meeting or The North Balwyn Uniting Church hall for SIG gatherings we are required to wear masks and maintain two metre square safe social distancing. Moreover, WE CANNOT GET AWAY WITH PAYING LIP SERVICE TO COMPLIANCE. A real challenge is at morning tea, if at no other time, and we cannot afford to be negligent on this one. Denial could be costly.

Nevertheless, our Club is doing well, attendance numbers and support for SIG activities in June was encouraging, despite our forced return to Zoom. So, whatever impacts us in July,-

"PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR SIG ACTIVITIES".

DINE OUT:

On a brighter note, I am delighted to report that Gerald King, together with Ken Mitchell and Neil Gray, have volunteered to recommence Dine Out events as soon as we have all had our second jab. The challenge nonetheless will be, because of the infectiousness of emerging strains of Covid, to find venues that will not be overcrowded, have adequate car-parking and will allow us to pay separately. In addition, it is becoming apparent that some members are not keen to go out at night, particularly in the winter, which might mean that lunch time alternatives need to be considered. The important thing is the chance to regularly get back together is not too far away.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

An email will be set to all members on Thursday after the government has advised what restrictions will be in place for our General Meeting Tuesday, 13 July.

PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY

It was noted that the Annual Return and Capitation fee had been forwarded to Probus South Pacific.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to fill the position of Membership Officer, Rodney Manser will continue to fill this role together with that of Website Co-ordinator. If any member feels that they would be able to carry out this role or even to assist Rod in some way, please contact Barry on 0448 058 604.

The transfer of our website to a new provider has been completed successfully.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Club Funds at 30 June 2021 excluding SIG funds of \$653, advance receipts for functions of \$1,368 and Unallocated Council grant of \$1,351 were \$6,189, a reduction of \$960 since 31 May. Probus South Pacific Ltd Capitation fees of \$885 were paid during the month.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is 59 active and 7 non-active members, totalling 66 members, with our Associates at 14.

As reported previously, we have been saddened to learn of the passing of **William Atherton** on 13th May. We offer our condolences to his family.

John Peyton has advised us that his wife **Valerie** passed away peacefully on Sunday night. Our condolences have been extended to John and his family, and our thoughts and prayers are with them at this sad time.

Our next General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 13^h July** at the Greythorn Community Hub, Balwyn North, subject to COVID regulations that are in place at that time. Please remember to continue to undertake your hygiene routine and wear face masks as required. Further information regarding the General Meeting will be sent out to all once we gain clarification from the medical experts.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH

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

- **Bryan Casey, Ken Davis, Rene Dupuche, Graydon Findlay, Tony Froster, George Hams, Richard Hanson, Len Harvey, Brian Morris and Joe Romano**

DUTY ROSTER	July Meeting	August Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Bryan Radden, Joe Romano, Keith Jackson and Lothar Lanz	Bryan Casey, Richard Hanson, Gerald King and Nino Xerri
Tea and Coffee	Graydon Findlay, Jeff Collinson and Geoff Metcalf	Ted Douez, John O'Callaghan and Alan French
Buddy	Bruce Mcinerary, Bob Haydon and James Kimpton	Don Campbell, Rodney Manser and Matthew Pattison
Door Assistants	Neil Gray, John Thwaites and Rod Alsop	Neil Gray, Ian Caldow and Mike Watts

FUNCTIONS:

WINTER LUNCH THURSDAY 29TH 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.

Final date for payment is Tuesday 13th July and 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.

NOTE: If the event has to be cancelled because of COVID restrictions at the time, all payments will be refunded to members.

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.

PALACE CINEMA, BALWYN. Matinee Film and Lunch sessions will probably resume later in 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
• INVESTMENT GROUP	Thursday July 8th
• HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Monday July 12th
• GENERAL MEETING	Tuesday July 13th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday July 16th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP	Tuesday July 20th
• DINE OUT	Wednesday July 21st
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday July 22nd
• BRIDGE	Thursday July 22nd
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday July 27th

NOTE - Before participating in one of the Face to Face or Zoom meetings, it might be worthwhile contacting the SIG convenor to confirm the final format and timing of the meeting.

When participating in any Zoom meeting, it might be worthwhile checking out the following advice

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

- **INVESTMENT GROUP: Second Thursday in the month. Convenor: Don Campbell P: 9836 6330 M: 0418 512 001**
Our next meeting will be **Thursday 8th July at 10am**. The venue is yet to be decided. We will notify everybody in the next few days regarding this.
The program is
1/ The fluctuations of the share market during the COVID pandemic. Are there any comparisons with the GFC collapse of 2007. Are there any lessons to be taught. I will be interested in contributions from members in trying to understand these gyrations of the sharemarket.
2/ Where are we with the bitcoin phenomenon. Why has China accepted it as a means of financial exchange.
3/ How have the banks managed since the Royal Commission
4/ COVID. Where are we with the vaccination program and how effective is it. Is the Indian variant a problem. It may be more contagious but is it as lethal.
- **HERITAGE / GENEALOGY GROUP: Second Monday in the Month. Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com**
The next H&G meeting will be on **Monday 12th July**. It will be via Zoom and will run from about **10.40 till noon**. It will follow on from our successful June meeting when we demonstrated how to log into your local Municipal Library and then search the huge 'Ancestry' genealogy data base to find information about each generation of ancestors along a branch of a family tree.
Jeff Collinson will talk about Family Tree Building software programs that enable you to systematically record your family history research findings, track your information sources and print family trees and charts to share with others. Jeff will then go through the steps to download a Windows Family Tree software program and outline the process to start entering information about a new family on the Windows software program.
Graeme Seabrooke will give an overview of Mac Family Tree, a Mac software program for recording family history research findings. Denis Spinley will then talk about his family tree that is on Mac Family Tree and show examples of family trees and charts that can be printed from it.
John & Annette Thwaites will report on what they have discovered about the Logan Branch of Annette's family tree.
Graydon will finish the meeting by comparing Ancestry and the other three major family history research engines that you can search to find information about your ancestors. He will also talk about which research engine is the likely to be best to use when researching ancestors from specific countries.
- **WALKING GROUP Third Friday in the month** - Richard Heal M: 0415 776 039 E: richard_heal@bigpond.com**
The next walk will be held on **Friday 16th July** and will be along The Gardiners Creek Trail commencing close to Burwood Highway. Meet in Sinnott Street Bennettswood at **10.30 AM** and park in either Sinnott Street or McComas Street.
[Melways Map Ref: 61 A6.]
Lunch at the conclusion of the walk will be in the Bistro at the Box Hill Golf Club.
New walkers most welcome to join the group.
NOTE: Regular walkers will be notified by email should the walk have to be cancelled because of COVID restrictions.
- **PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP: Third Tuesday in the month. Convenor Nino Xerri M: 0410 571 446 E: ninros1946@gmail.com**
Our July Meeting will be a face-to-face meeting at Balwyn North Uniting Church on **Tuesday 20th July at 10.00 am**. Nino will present a "workshop" on how he edits his images in Photoshop with questions/discussion being welcomed during the process.
After our Morning Tea Break Richard Heal will present a tutorial on the process he undertakes to produce his Photo Books.
If time allows, Barry Bolger will give us a presentation on his editing procedure within the inbuilt Presets in his iPhone.
Should we be not able to have the face-to-face meeting for whatever reason, then an amended agenda will be issued.
Looking forward to what will be (as always) a fun morning in the spirit of Probus : Fellowship : Friendship and Fun.
Should the Covid19 restrictions prevent us from conducting a Face-to-Face meeting it will revert to a Zoom meeting with a revised agenda and the Webcam setup will be held over to the next month.
Come and join us everyone is welcome including partners with a hands-on project with the setup of the webcam.

- **DINE OUT - Third Wednesday in the month** Convenor: Gerald King M 0417 323 599**
The next event will be at Doncaster Shoppingtown Hotel, 19 Williamson Road, Doncaster on **Wednesday 21st July at 6.00pm.**

NOTE: There are certain restrictions regarding moving around the dining room and the wearing of masks. Gerald proposes to speak to the members at next week's meeting and explain the requirements.

- **ZOOM FILM LUNCH & CHAT – Fourth Thursday in the Month – Thursday July 22nd**
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 July will be emailed to participants 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

- **BRIDGE: Third Thursday in the Month at Kew Golf Club - July 22nd at 1pm**

For some years a small group of us have enjoyed a monthly game of bridge at Kew Golf Club on the third Thursday of the month starting at 1 pm Unfortunately, some players have fallen by the way-side so we are now looking for two or more fans. If you are interested, please contact **Per Knudsen M 0402 810 644**

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

Our next meeting **Tuesday 27th July at 10am** at Balwyn North Uniting Church, Duggan Street, where Graeme Seabrook & Denis Spinley will cover a presentation on Basic to intermediate software "Keynote" on a Mac. Also, our group will investigate & undertake the setup of our Logitech webcam system that was recently purchased to enable the club to conduct hybrid meetings in the future. We had 15 members attend our meeting this week which gave some of them the opportunity to show their PowerPoint presentations which have developed from the last month's introduction of PowerPoint. Two videos were shown to the members showing intermediate tuition on developing PowerPoint slide show tips & tricks.

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 INFORMATION

Our Membership Marketing Officer, **Geoff Metcalf**, would like to pass the following information on to all members, following a recent experience he had when updating his house insurance!

"I have had hearing aids for some years & my wife has just acquired 2. She had heard stories about hearing aids falling out & being lost down the toilet & also being chewed by the family dog. Both of these incidents proved costly for the owners. These stories prompted me to phone my 'home & contents' insurer & I was pleased to be advised that I could insure the hearing aids for losses 'within or outside' the property for a modest cost (\$109/annum covering both sets of hearing aids). Needless to say, I immediately took out the required insurance."

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 also 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.