



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

Website: balwynnorthprobus.org.au

President: Cordell Short

Secretary: Barry Bolger M: 0448 058 604 E: barryandkath@netspace.net.au

Newsletter Editor: Alan French M: 0408 584 398 E: santé@bigpond.net.au

FEBRUARY 8th 2022 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Bearing in mind the age demographic of our club and our duty of care for Members' safety, it was decided to run our February General Meeting on Zoom. Not a pleasing outcome, but with Covid/Omicron infections and deaths running at such high levels it was considered prudent we wait until we are further over the peak than we are now. A disappointing outcome because Gary Ray had arranged an excellent guest speaker in Ted Baillieu and we had targeted this meeting as a great opportunity to introduce potential new members.

Regrettably, my 19th January appeal to Members to nominate for our two vacant executive positions in the club did not produce pleasing results. The Committee, at its 1st February management meeting, discussed at great length the implications of all aspects of this and it was agreed I would write to you directly on the implications of this and obtain your feedback before putting a refined proposal to you at the AGM on 8th March.

I have asked you for a response back to our Secretary Barry Bolger by **15th February** and would be most grateful if you would kindly meet that deadline. It's important.

In regard to SIG meetings, the Committee agreed it should be left to the discretion of Convenors as to whether or not these smaller gathering should be face-to-face or by Zoom. Individuals can also make their own judgement or need to isolate if they have health concerns. Rodney is also making every effort to facilitate hybrid meetings which if feasible will allow a mixture of in person and zoom attendance to be contemplated. The main thing is Convenors put a great deal effort into running SIG activities and we should do everything we can to support them.

Hopefully just about everybody now has had that very important booster but in any event stay as safe as you can. After two years it's a bit wearing we know but we have a lot going for us to help weather this pandemic storm. At least we get to see each other on the silver screen and we have Netflix!!

Today's Speaker: Andrew Campbell "Could ageing be a treatable disease"

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

PSPL were calling for nominations for Victorian Director and Assessment Panel positions. After discussion at the Committee meeting, it was agreed that we would advise that we did not believe were in a position to put forward any nominations.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Club Bank account at 31 January 22 was \$6,879 which includes \$701 in SIG Funds of and \$1,351 Boroondara Transport Grant in Advance. Unallocated Club funds total \$4,827 which is slightly less than the amount at 31 December 21.

The Club's financial accounts are being presented to the February Committee meeting, and if approved, will be circulated to members in February for presentation and approval at the March AGM. The financial result for the year is a loss of \$393.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is a total of 63 members, (52 active and 11 non-active members) with our Associates being 13. Pat Smith has been admitted to an aged care facility.

Congratulations to **Ken Davis** for 20 years membership.

Please provide your stories/photos to **WEBSITE EDITOR & IT SUPPORT** by email rmanser@bigpond.net.au. Let us all get our thinking caps on and add to the interesting stories or excursions on the website.

Our first General Meeting in 2022 will be on **Tuesday 8th February via Zoom Video Conference.**

For all our face-to-face events that may be held, all participants **MUST** be double vaccinated, with the recommendation that the third booster injection be completed before attending any event.

Stay Safe & Well and observe all the public health advice.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating birthdays in February 2022:

- **John Chisholm, John Courtney, Michael Martin, Geoff Metcalf, Bruce McInerney and Mike Watts**

FUNCTIONS:

Diary Note. **Change-Over Lunch** for members and their partners at Greenacres Golf Club on **Tuesday 12th April.** More details next month.

THEATRE/CINEMA:

Current indications are that we may be able to organise suitable events sometime later in the year.

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
• MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING Zoom Meeting	Tuesday February 8th
• INVESTMENT GROUP Zoom Meeting	Thursday February 10th
• FAMILY HISTORY & HERITAGE GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Monday February 14th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Tuesday February 15th
• DINE OUT (CANCELLED)	Wednesday February 16th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday February 18th
• COMPUTER GROUP Zoom Meeting	Tuesday February 22nd
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday February 24th

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

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

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 14th February**. Our meetings in February, March & April this year will be via zoom and will run from about **10.45 to noon**.

The Family History & Heritage part will be for about an hour from 11.00-noon. The 15 minutes prior to that will be available for welcoming people to the meeting, and for participants to chat and catch up with what others have been doing since our last meeting.

Graydon will begin with a presentation about his maternal grandparents, Ted Pruny and Una Vary. During the talk he will outline how he used a range of online resources such as Sands and McDougall directories, Electoral Rolls, Trove Newspaper searches, Google maps and a few other online information sources to find sufficient information to develop an interesting narrative about their lives.

We'll finish with a short discussion about some of the significant buildings and important institutions that have been built on land that was previously used for various markets when our ancestors lived in Melbourne.

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

Our first meeting in 2022 will be on **Thursday February 10th at 10am** and will presumably be via Zoom

The program is:

- 1/ Cryptocurrencies, the nature of them, block chain technology, and taxation.
- 2/ The European energy crisis and its wider consequences.
- 3/ Buy now pay later shares.

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

The first meeting for this year, on **Tuesday February 15th at 9.45am**, will be fairly informal and hopefully a face-to-face one. Members will be contacted to bring with them images taken at our Westerfolds Park Christmas Function, or any images taken during the Christmas Holidays. Usual comments will be sought particularly with respect to the usage of Westerfolds Park for perhaps future picnic/outings.

Nino will be showing one, perhaps two (allowing for time constraints) videos and again the views of members will be sought as to the contents.

As mentioned above, it is hoped that a face-to-face meeting will be held, however if this is cancelled the meeting will be via Zoom. Zoom meetings, however, fall short in achieving Probus objective of "Fellowship, Friendship and Fun". It's just as important to get the message across to participants.

- **DINE OUT – Third Wednesday in the month – Convener Gerald King M 0408 172 836**

There are currently no plans to hold this event during February.

- **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 18th February 2022** commencing at the earlier start time of **10.00AM**.

The walk will commence at The Canterbury Gardens [*Melways Ref: Map 45 D 11*] and will be along the Outer Circle Trail towards Hartwell. Park in the Canterbury Railway Station Carpark which has its entry off Canterbury Road at the end of Rochester Road. The meeting point will be the Rotunda in the centre of the gardens.

We will have an early picnic lunch in The Canterbury Gardens at the conclusion of the walk. Bring your own chairs and picnic lunch, however there are several cafes in Maling Road close by, which provide takeaway food items and coffee.

The walk will have to be cancelled if the weather is not conducive to walking and **please note the earlier start time of 10.00 AM** for this walk.

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

Our first meeting for the year 2022 will be **Tuesday 22nd February at 10am** is proposed to be conducted as a face-to-face meeting at Balwyn North Uniting Church covering the setup of Logitech video conferencing system. Further advice will be issued closer to the event and once the COVID regulations have been clarified. Everyone including partners is welcome to join us at our Meeting. Please stay tuned for further information.

- **ZOOM FILM LUNCH & CHAT – Fourth Thursday in the Month – Thursday 24th February
Convenor Graydon Findlay P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com**

The first Zoom Film, Lunch & Chat meeting for 2022 **will be on Thursday 24th February**. The format will be similar to previous Zoom Lunch & Chat meetings when participants have chatted about a range of topics and discussed movies that they had watched on Channel 32 or on SBS or On Demand prior to the Zoom lunch. Details about three movies nominated for February 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

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.