



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

Website: balwynnorthprobus.org.au

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MARCH 8th 2022 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

The 8th March 2022 is a significant day. It marks the end of the 2021/2 Probud year and the beginning of the 2022/3 Probud year. The election of a new President and likewise other executive positions and Committee officers.

We will also be receiving and discussing the findings of the President's Survey of Members views and intentions to commit to the future running of the Club. Members will have already received the Discussion Paper I prepared to hopefully assist us in considering all the relevant issues relating to the survey, its findings and suggested options.

The AGM will be an eventful day and the beginning of some months of concerted effort involved with how best take the Club forward and how best we seek to protect the deeply invested emotional ties Members have to the Club. Our Club is special to us all and it will take a special effort to preserve it and all we expect of it.

2021/2 has been a challenging year with essential all our normal Club interaction having to be conducted by Zoom. However, we have done extraordinarily well in this regard and should be proud that we have done much to preserve the Club's vitality and our bonded fraternity. So, we made it through, but membership reductions, the natural ageing of the Club and effectively two years of Covid lockdowns that have torpedoed our efforts to bring in new younger members. In going forward, it will be very demanding on the Committee and the membership generally to preserve and foster what we have and where we'd like the Club to be. Alternatively, we will be forced eventually to consider the alternatives which the survey results and my Discussion Paper lay out.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Correspondence Received; Tabled in the absence of the Secretary;

- From Boroondara (Marie Guthrie) Re; Community Strengthening Grants. Following discussion, and advice from Neil, it was agreed to hold off making an application until the second-round invitation was received.

- From Boroondara (Marie Guthrie) Re; Capacity Building Workshop.

Following discussion it was agreed that as the Club's Committee of Management was essentially unchanged and all members were versed in the issues, the invitation would be respectfully declined, particularly with our preoccupation.

- From Boroondara (Marie Guthrie/Deanna Boulos) Re Digital Story Telling. Following some discussion, it was agreed that participation would be respectfully declined in view of the pressing Club issues that needed to be addressed and resolved in the next four to five months.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Club funds at 28 February, after excluding SIG funds of \$701 and an unallocated Council grant of \$1,351, were \$4,882, a slight decrease from 31 January.

After consideration of the 2022 budget the Management Committee has decided to maintain the 2022/23 fees at the same level as the current year, namely, \$65.00 for active members under 90 at 31 March 22 and \$20.00 for those members 90 and over at that date. A fee notice will be sent to members during March with details of how fees can be paid.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is a total of 63 members, (52 active and 11 non-active members) with our Associate members being 13.

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 next General Meeting in 2022 will be on **Tuesday 8th March** and will be conducted at the Greythorn Community Hub. 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.

For the comfort and safety of all, it is recommended that, where possible, **masks are worn** during the meeting and that all members maintain appropriate **social distancing**.

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

BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH

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

- **Jeff Collinson, John Peyton, Don Eltringham, Robin Pleydell, Ken Mitchell, Norman Clewlow and Ian Caldow**

DUTY ROSTER	March Meeting	May Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Bryan Radden, Joe Romano, Keith Jackson, Lothar Lanz	Don Campbell, Geoff Metcalf, Bob Haydon, Neil Gray
Tea and Coffee	Graydon Findlay, Jeff Collinson, Geoff Metcalf	Michael Martin, Denis Spinley, Stephen Millard
Buddy	Bruce McInerery, Bob Haydon, James Kimpton	Tony Froster, Gary Fleming, Joe Romano
Door Assistants	Neil Gray, Jeff Collinson, Rod Alsop	Neil Gray, Nino Xerri, Stephen Millard

FUNCTIONS:

CHANGE-OVER LUNCH Greenacres Golf Club on Tuesday 12th April at 12 noon for 12.30pm.

As this will be our first function for members and their partners for 2022, please make an effort to support it and meet up with other members of your club and enjoy a day of fellowship and good times.

The cost for the function, which will be the usual two course lunch, will be **\$60.00** per person, payable via bank transfer into the club account or by cheque made out to **Richard Heal**.

Payments can be made at any time, but no payments will be accepted after **Tuesday 5th April**.

Club Bank Account Details:

Probus Club of North Balwyn Inc

BSB: 033054

Acc: 182752

Use your name as Reference

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	Tuesday March 8th
• INVESTMENT GROUP Zoom Meeting	Thursday March 10th
• FAMILY HISTORY & HERITAGE GROUP_Zoom Meeting	Monday March 14th
• DINE OUT (CANCELLED)	Wednesday March 16th
• WALKING GROUP <i>Joint Meeting with</i>]	Friday March 18th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP]	
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday March 22nd
• ZOOM LUNCH AND CHAT Zoom Meeting	Thursday March 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. Convenor Graydon Findlay
P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com**

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 14th March**. It will be via Zoom and will run from about **10.45 to noon**.

The Family History 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 paternal grandparents, John Findlay and Agnes Welham. During the talk he will outline how he used a range of online resources such as Railway Employee records, family photos / memorabilia, Trove Newspaper searches, Google maps and a few other family history online information sources to find sufficient information to develop an interesting narrative about their lives.

We'll finish by following up on some of the comments and questions that were asked during the presentation at our February meeting.

- **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 March at 10 am**

The venue will be announced beforehand. It is hoped that it will be at Balwyn North Uniting Church with a possible remote link - it will be announced before the meeting.

The program is:

1/ LICs and LITS. Are they an alternative venue for investing

2/ Up-date on power crisis in Europe and changing investment options in Australia, eg Origin energy play by tech mogul

3/ Discussion on future investment topics for our SIG. Is there interest in establishing a hypothetical investment portfolio?

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

Nino will be away on our scheduled March meeting on Tuesday 15th March. However, we will on this occasion be joining the Walking Group on **Friday 18th March**.

Please consult the Walking Group's Newsletter insert for time and place. You are reminded to bring your cameras/iPhone with you. And as always, particularly on this different occasion, partners are more than welcome.

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

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

However, a booking sheet will be prepared & ready for members at our AGM who wish to attend a Dine-Out at the **Veneto Club** on **Wednesday April 20th**.

- **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 March** and will be along the Merri Creek Trail, towards Dight's Falls, commencing from the car park in Fairfield Park just off Heidelberg Road in Fairfield. [Melways Map Ref: 30 H 12] Meet at **10.30 AM** in the car park which is best accessed when travelling towards the city along Heidelberg Road. At the conclusion of the walk we will have another enjoyable picnic in the park. New walkers always welcome.

**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 on Tuesday 22nd February at 10am was a face-to-face meeting at Balwyn North Uniting Church covering the setup of Logitech video conferencing system. This was our first attempt for a Hybrid meeting which was 90% effective, although a few tweaks still need to be ironed out. This project was hands-on Project allowing Members to actively participate.

Our next meeting **Tuesday 22nd March at 10am** will be at the Balwyn North Uniting Church where we will test the Logitech system again. There will also be agenda items about Windows 11.

Everyone including partners is welcome to join us at our next meeting. Should anyone have any item to present or need clarification, please contact me.

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

The Zoom Film, Lunch & Chat meeting will be on **Thursday 24th March**. 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 the three movies nominated for March 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.