



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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President: Rod Alsop

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NEWSLETTER FOR TUESDAY MARCH 14th, 2023

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME
2. APOLOGIES
3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2022 MEETING
4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
5. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
6. SETTING OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE
7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

Speaker: John Barlow "Will your next car be electric?"

John's CV: B.Ec. LLB Monash Uni. Worked for General Motors Holdens 1970 – 2004
Employment history in Industrial Relations, Materials Management, Human Resources.

Appointed Director and Board member 1988. Responsible for Human Resources, Industrial Relations, and Government Relations. Committee member of Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries Government Relations committee 1988 onwards, included involvement in negotiation of car industry plans. Chair of Automotive Training Australia (body responsible for vocational training initiatives throughout entire automotive industry) 1992 to 1995, 1998 to 2000, Demons' supporter, golf, occasional tutor at U3A Deepdene on topics ranging from car industry, Kokoda, and travel.

Next Meeting: April 4th, 2023 – Changeover Lunch (*see Functions below*)

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

I hope that all members enjoyed the Christmas break and returned to Probud refreshed and ready for the busy period ahead that includes our Annual General Meeting in March and the Changeover Lunch in April, followed immediately by Easter. We have learnt to live with Covid so the aim this year must be to lift our membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

After working with nine Presidents and six Secretaries over recent years this will be my final report, thank goodness. I am looking forward to having a little more time for myself.

Club funds at 28 February were \$2,760 after excluding SIG funds and Function Income in advance. Given that the Club is budgeting for a deficit in 2023/24 there is little capacity to subsidise any functions for the time being.

We have applied to City of Boroondara for a transport grant to assist with transport costs for to the Winter Lunch and theatre events. Whilst I believe we will be successful, advice is not expected to be received until early July.

The Annual Fee for 2023/24, subject to approval at the AGM, is \$75 for members under 90 and \$25 for those 90 and over on 31 March 2023. The fee is due on **31st March**, and as was the case this year, the preferred method of payment is direct deposit to our bank account at Westpac - BSB 033 054 Account 18 2752. Include your name and "Annual Fee" as reference.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Very little to report other than to remind members that our AGM will precede Club meeting on 14 March during which our Management Committee for 2023/24 will be elected. The Notice of Meeting was sent to all members on 24 February.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is a total of 59 members, (49 active and 10 non-active members) with our Associates being 12. (Chris Murray has been included in these numbers)

- **Chris Murray** will be inducted at our March 2023 General Meeting.

It was with sadness that Frances advised that **George Hams** passed away on 2nd February 2023. He joined Probus Club of North Balwyn on 10th September 1991 and has spent the last 4 years at an Aged Care Facility.

It is with extreme sadness that Margaret Froster has advised that her husband **Tony Froster** unexpectedly passed away on Monday 6th March after short illness.

He joined our club on 1st August 2003 and held the undermentioned positions on the committee:

- Membership Officer 2005-2006
- Junior Vice President 2006
- President 2007
- Immediate Past President 2008

Tony was valued member who generously supported the SIG's, Family History & Heritage, Investment, Walking Group and was a regular contributor to Photography/Travel & Computer. His contribution and assistance will be greatly missed by all the convenors and members alike.

Further details will be communicated once the family members release funeral details. We send our prayers and condolences to Margaret and family members at this difficult time.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating birthdays in March 2023:

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

DUTY ROSTER	March Meeting	May Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Don Campbell, Geoff Metcalf, Bob Haydon, Neil Gray	Peter Muir-Smith, Joe Romano, Keith Jackson, Michael Martin
Tea and Coffee	Len Harvey, Alan French, Graeme Goudie	Ted Douez, John O'Callaghan, Denis Spinley
Buddy	Cordell Short, Gerald King, Stephen Millard	Don Campbell, Mike Watts, Matthew Pattison
Door Assistants	Neil Gray, John Thwaites	Neil Gray, Jeffrey Collinson

Roster Reminder:

The roster list is published on the PCNB website under the Members Login and covers 18 months and with two months being published in our newsletter each month for the various activities within the function of the General Meeting. The roster is prepared at the beginning of each year and is developed to provide a balanced and fair contribution of activities across the year. As you can appreciate there is no way illness or holidays can be built into it.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of the monthly rostered members to contact a replacement member to take your place to allow a successful meeting for everyone.

- A new 18-month roster has been prepared and is available on our website.

- **Stay safe and well and observe the public health advice** -

FUNCTIONS: Convenor: Richard Heal M: 0415 776 039 E: richard_heal@bigpond.com

CHANGE-OVER LUNCH Greenacres Golf Club on Tuesday 4th April at 11.30am for 12 noon

The cost per person will be **\$70** which will include a two-course meal.

Payments can be made to the Probus Club account by bank transfer:

- Probus Club of North Balwyn Westpac Bank BSB 033054 Account No.182752

(Include your name as reference and add 'Change Over Lunch').

Final Payments due on **Tuesday 21st March**

NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY

Winter Lunch Thursday 27th July at Tokar Estate Winery, Coldstream.

Two course meal and a glass of wine for **\$62** per person.

THEATRE/CINEMA EVENTS: Convener: Lothar Lanz, Phone 98481729 E-mail: ljlanz@optusnet.com.au

” **Waiting for God**” (Based on the BBC TV comedy)

1812 Theatre, Ferntree Gully, Friday 26th May at 8 pm (transport by bus).

Tickets **\$25 pp.** Payment due at our April General Meeting.

Palace Balwyn Cinema for Seniors.

When: every Monday (Complimentary Morning Tea on sessions before 12pm)

Tickets: \$10 Senior Ticket or \$8 Golden Club Member

Next Screenings:

Palace Cinema has advised that the following movies will be shown:

- **Fisherman's Friend 2: One And All** March 1
- **Aftersun** March 8
- **Empire of Light** March 15
- **Living** March 22
- **Till** March 29

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 March 9 th
• MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING & AGM	Tuesday March 14 th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday March 17 th
• FAMILY HISTORY & HERITAGE GROUP }	Tuesday March 21 st
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP }	
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday March 28 th

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

The next meeting is on **Thursday 9th March 2023** at the Balwyn North Uniting Church

The program is as follows:

- 1/ Progress with electric powered aircraft. What looked like an impossible task may be changing
- 2/ World Bank Update for 2023
- 3/ Seven guidelines for investors to consider
- 4/ Interview with the amazing investor who is in his late 90s

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

Our next activity is a **joint excursion with the Photography & Travel SIG on Tuesday 21st March**. It will be a group tour of **Schwerkolt Cottage and Historical Museum at 2-10 Deep Creek Rd., Mitcham (Mel Ref 49 D7)**.

Meet in the Schwerkolt Cottage car park at **9.45am** for a **10 am** start of the tour of the Museum and Cottage. The cost of the tour is **\$7.00** per person.

August and Paulina Schwerkolt migrated from Germany as newlyweds in 1849 and lived for a time in Northcote. In 1861 they purchased 63 acres in Mitcham to support their growing family. August cleared the land for a farm with an orchard, vines, dairying, poultry, beehives & wine-making. In 1884 August & his sons excavated stones from a nearby quarry to build Schwerkolt Cottage.

After the guided tour of the Museum and Cottage, participants have a choice of wandering around taking photos, looking at other historic buildings such as the smokehouse, the wine cellar & orchard sheds or sitting and having a chat in the Schwerkolt Cottage picnic area.

There is also '**The Little Buddy**' café at **91 Loughnan Road, Ringwood**, which is just a two-minute drive from the Cottage for those wanting to have lunch. It should be a very pleasant and informative outing. As always wives, partners and friends are very welcome to participate in our events. **Board out today**.

Our April meeting will be by zoom on **Monday 3rd April**, a week earlier than our usual second Monday to avoid the Easter Monday holiday. We'll have our Club member, Lothar Lanz talking about producing a book about his absorbing life's story which spans from when he was born in East Prussia in 1939 until now.

- **DINE OUT – Third Wednesday in the month – Convenor Neil Gray P: 8848 0938**

The first Special Interest Group Dine-Out will be held on **Wednesday 15th March 2023** at the **Box Hill RSL Club**. As it is a group booking, we are limited to 20 members & partners & are required to be at the Club by **5.30 p m**. A booking sheet will be available at our March General Meeting for those wishing to attend.

- **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 March 17th**.

The walk will be along a paved walking track towards the Darebin Parklands, commencing from the Willsmere Park Sports Oval near Willow Grove in Kew.

Meet in Willow Grove in Kew at **10.30 AM** [Melways Map Ref: 45F1] where there is parking at the end of the road.

There will be the option to get together for lunch at the end of the walk at a local café.

New walkers always most welcome to attend and join us in this most enjoyable activity.

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

Our next meeting, due on **Tuesday 21st March at 10.00am** will be a joint excursion with the **Family History & Heritage Group**.

The venue will be **Schwerkolt Cottage Reserve, 2-10 Deep Creek Rd, Mitcham VIC 3132**

All respective details have been emailed to Photography/Travel SIG members.

I am looking forward to members along with partners, attending this event and so kick start 2023 with a **success**.

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

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 28th March at 10am** will be at Balwyn North Uniting Church (BNUC) and will be a hybrid meeting for those folks not able to join us at BNUC.

The agenda for this meeting will be investigating Partitioning of the Hard Drive and arranging how to designate the various partitions on the Hard Drive.

At our February Meeting, Lothar Lanz continued on from our October meeting explaining how he has undertaken the production of his memoir. This was well conducted and received by members. We had 12 members at BNUC and 4 members joining us by Zoom.

As the convenor of our SIG, I would like some of the members to undertake the running of a future meeting and presenting a topic of their choice. This can be about how they have purchased a new device or software and used it for what purpose. Similar to how Lothar stepped up to the challenge. Well done, Lothar!

Everyone including partners are welcome to join us at our next Meeting at BNUC.

- **Inaugural meeting of the Ladies Group: Morning Coffee**

The first meeting of the **Ladies Group** will take place from **10.30 a.m.** on **Wednesday, March 29,** at **4 Kirton Court, Doncaster,** the home of Margaret and Lothar Lanz.

This Morning Coffee will provide an opportunity for the associates, wives and partners of NBPC members to socialise in an informal setting. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be provided.

If you are interested in attending but did not complete the acceptance form at the Probus Christmas Lunch or at a later date, please contact **Robyn Heal** on **0408 526 342** or via email **richard_heal @bigpond.com**

Please note that 2-hour parking is available in Kirton Court or in Council Street: but only on one side as there is Permit Parking on the other side. Car-pooling, if possible, may be advantageous.
N.B. It would be appreciated if all attendees could wear their Probus Name Badge.

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 meeting arrangements, you are encouraged to register with the relevant convenor.

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.



The Club needs YOU!

Alan French, our Newsletter Editor, is looking for a member who can assist by putting together the newsletter during May and June this year. He is going overseas during this time but will be back by mid-June.

If you are interested in helping out, please send him a message on 0408 584 398 or sante@bigpond.net.au