



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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NEWSLETTER FOR TUESDAY OCTOBER 10th 2023

General Meeting

Man behind the Badge – Len Harvey will be presenting his life story.

Speaker– Leigh Hay - “Henry & Louisa Lawson”

Leigh Hay is a published author and poet. A former May Gibbs Writer-in-Residence, she is a freelance editor of manuscripts and poetry anthologies. Leigh is a member of Wordsmiths of Melbourne and Nandina poetry groups and is on the editorial committee of *Poetica Christi Press* - an independent Melbourne-based publisher of poetry. She is also currently the editor of *The Lawsonian* - member magazine for the Henry Lawson Society.

Along with her husband David, Leigh initiated *Tales from the Treehouse*, a publishing and writing cooperative to help promote authors, and her own published works include a novel, poetry collections, two musical librettos and books for children.

Next Meeting: – Tuesday November 14th – Speaker - Denis Davis - “The Kokoda Trail”

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

The meeting in September was in the hands of Bob Haydon who will clearly improve the role when he takes over the club presidency next year.

The regular attendees of the Club Dine Out enjoyed a successful night with 25 people attending. Please note that the October meeting will be on Wednesday 18th at the Veneto Club. It is advised that all the future Dine Outs will now be conducted on the fourth week of the month please note this change in your diaries.

Our Guest Speaker for September was Pam O'Brien, from the U3A, who spoke about the goldfields in areas around Ballarat and Bendigo on which she has done extensive research. The committee is conscious of the need to have a good microphone for our speakers and hopefully this can be attended to in the near future.

A highlight of the September meeting was clearly the Man Behind the Badge talk by Bruce Holmes. Bruce told the story of a time on the farm when he was trying by hand signals to ask his wife where the lost golf balls were. Quite simply, Ros pointed to her two eyes and then to his golf bag and finally to the golf handicap that he was playing off. She then interpreted her signals to the farmer beside her. Even he can see, and he will have another ball replace the first one that on average performance will still be only a few away. Bruce followed up his talk with the description that most golfers would hear of their ability to play the game, but this was too close to the bone to be related here.

Our thanks must be recorded to Richard Heal and Neil Smart for some good negotiation in relation to the Puffy Billy outing which ran into some difficulties that required their unique abilities.

Committee Members:

President (Ken Mitchell), Vice President (Bob Haydon), Secretary (John Thwaites), Treasurer (Peter Muir-Smith), Rodney Manser (Membership/Website), Richard Heal (Functions), Lothar Lanz (Theatre), Geoff Metcalf (Marketing), Gary Ray (Speakers) and Alan French (Newsletter).

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

PSPL advised Club Administration information which included the 2023 Constitutional Review has been sent to all Clubs for their information and approval.

PAV Minutes of their AGM including their Treasurer's Report was received.

PSPL forwarded a copy of their Certificate of Currency for our Insurance up to 30/6/2024.

Thanks to Rodney Manser our records will now be updated to contain Emergency and Next of Kin details.

Boroondara Seniors Clubs Newsletter for Active Ageing promotions.

The audio problems experienced at the Hub recently will be addressed prior to our next meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

As at 28th September 2023, our Westpac account showed club funds of \$1,636 down from \$2,052 in September. During the month, receipts of \$826 were received while approved costs totalled \$1242.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership is a total of 58 members, (48 active and 10 non-active members) with our Associates being 12.

John Hyson has been invited to be inducted at a future General Meeting of his choice.

Mathew Siles will be inducted at our meeting in October.

Brian Radden has been moved to the inactive list to stay in touch with the club and would appreciate anyone to give him a call at some time in the future.

Man Behind the Badge: **Len Harvey** will be presenting his life story.

DUTY ROSTER	October Meeting	November Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Alan French, Keith Atkins, Graydon Findlay, Gary Fleming	Don Campbell, Geoff Metcalf, Bob Haydon, Neil Gray
Tea and Coffee	Barry Bolger, Chris Murray, Ian Caldow	Barry Bolger, Bill Firth-Smith, Don Campbell
Buddy	Keith Atkins, Gary Fleming, Per Knusden	Cordell Short, Gerald King, Stephen Millard
Door Assistants	Neil Gray, Geoff Metcalf	Neil Gray, Bruce McInerney

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 has been upgraded to reflect various changes that the committee introduced recently 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.

Website:

- **Probus Club of North Balwyn**
- [Probus Club of Balwyn North – An exciting place to share together \(balwynnorthprobus.org.au\)](http://balwynnorthprobus.org.au)

Statistics supplied by Statcounter:

Locations		State/Regions		Pages	
Australia	99.0%	Victoria	0.2%	Home Page	493
United States	0.6%	Virginia United States	0.2%	Loading Pages	4
Canada	0.2%	Iowa United States	0.2%	Widgets	1
China	0.2%	Arizona United States	0.2%		
		Canada	0.2%		
		China	0.2%		

Stories/Photos:

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

Birthdays of the Month:

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

- **Don Campbell, Ray Ken-Allan, Alan French, Gerald King, Lothar Lanz and John Thwaites**
 - *Stay Safe & Well and observe the public health advice.*

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

Puffing Billy Train Trip & Lunch Outing – Thursday 26th October.

There are now 18 participants for this event, and thanks to negotiations with the Boroondara Grants Committee by Neil Smart, we have been allowed to allocate the remainder of the Council grant to cover the train trip component of this outing which is a fantastic result. Those involved will be provided with car parking details and a parking voucher for use on the day in addition to a revised costing to cover the two-course lunch which is **\$30** per person.

We will be leaving the **Belgrave Station** on the **11.15 AM** departure to Lakeside, where we will have lunch.

The return train departs Lakeside at **2.15PM** and arrives back at Belgrave at **3.00PM**

Check-In time at Belgrave is from **10.15 AM to 10.45 AM**, as Check-In closes **30 minutes before** the train departs.

It is your responsibility to arrive on time. The train cannot be held and will depart at the scheduled time.

We will be arranging car-pooling to save the number of cars making the trip to Belgrave.

Christmas Lunch – Greenacres Golf Club – Friday 15th December.

The cost for this function is **\$72.00** per person which will include a welcome drink and a two-course meal.

This represents an increase in price on the 2022 Christmas function but then again the cost of everything seems to have increased. The timing will be **12 noon** for **12.30 PM** and there will be a board out for acceptances at the general meeting on Tuesday 10th October.

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

MOULIN ROUGE, REGENT THEATRE, 191 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000

All tickets have been sold for the matinee on **Wednesday November 15th, 1.00 pm.**

Please note that any outstanding payment is due prior to the October General Meeting

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 "Theatre").

Palace Balwyn Cinema for Seniors.

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

Tickets: \$10 Senior Ticket or \$8.50 Golden Club Member

Next Screenings:

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

Thursday 5th October – **A Haunting in Venice**

Thursday 12th October – **Shayda**

Thursday 19th October - **The Crime is Mine**

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 October 10th
• INVESTMENT GROUP	Thursday October 12 th
• PHOTOGRAPHY/TRAVEL GROUP	Tuesday October 17 th
• PROBUS LADIES GROUP	Wednesday October 18th
• DINE OUT	Wednesday October 18th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday October 20th
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday October 24 th
• FAMILY HISTORY & HERITAGE GROUP	Wednesday October 25th

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 at **10am on Thursday October 12th** at **Balwyn North Uniting Church**, Duggan Street, Balwyn North.

The program is:

1/ Delivering Nuclear Power 8th Report 2022/2023.

This was a conference in the UK where they are aiming for 25% baseline nuclear power generation

2/ A few comparisons with Australia's power generation

3/ Tony Burke's industrial Relations Legislation

4/ How to manage hacking of a credit card whilst travelling

5/ Gas reserves in Gippsland

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

Our next meeting will again be held at the **North Balwyn Uniting Church** on **Tuesday 17th. October** at **10.00am**.

The agenda is:

- Video Tutorial (yet to be determined)
- Discussion re its contents (pros and cons)
- Morning Tea
- Details of our potential 2-night stay
- Slideshow of area.
- Discussion about alternative locations.

As always wives and partners are welcome to participate in the meeting.

- **DINE OUT – Third Wednesday in the month – Convenor: Gerald King M:0417 323 599**

The next Dine-Out will be held on **Wednesday 18th October** at the **Veneto Club, 191 Bulleen Rd, Bulleen** at **6 pm**.

A booking sheet will be on hand at the October General Meeting for those members wishing to attend for dinner.

During local roadworks, access to the club is available with plenty of parking space.

- **WALKING GROUP** Third Friday in the month – Convenor: Richard Heal M: 0415 776 039
E: richard_heal@bigpond.com

The next walk will take place on **Friday 20th October** and will be along the Main Yarra Trail and The Artists' Trail towards The Yarra flats, commencing in the carpark of The Eaglemont Tennis Club in Ivanhoe East.

Meet in the carpark which is accessed via an entry road off The Boulevard in Ivanhoe East at **10.30 AM**. [Melways Map Ref:31 K 10]. Lunch at the conclusion of the walk will be available 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

At our next meeting **Tuesday 24th October** at **Balwyn North Uniting Church**, we will further explore the new application in Microsoft 365 Copilot Artificial Intelligence app.

The Members Choice presenter will be Ted Douez on a topic of his choice.

Morning Tea is provided at the meeting to provide members with the time for fellowship and exchange of life experiences. A small fee of **\$7.00** is levied to cover costs of room hire and refreshments.

Everyone including partners are welcome to join us at our meeting in October, should anyone need to have the challenge clarified please contact me.

Our last meeting on Tuesday 26th September commenced at 10am was a face-to-face meeting at Balwyn North Uniting Church Introducing Members Choice Presentation by Barry Rogers his topic was his work history on the use of computers. A fascinating journey on the many projects and positions Barry held.

We had 11 members join this session the agenda included a TED Talk presentation on the inside story of ChatGPT's astonishing potential. Also, the announcement of Microsoft 365 Copilot a new enhancement being released in Windows 11 as 26th September 2023.

- **FAMILY HISTORY & HERITAGE GROUP:** Fourth Wednesday in the month. Convenor: Graydon Findlay
P: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com

The next **Family History & Heritage SIG** activity will be a joint meeting with the **Balwyn Central Probus Club's Family History SIG** on **Wednesday 25th October**, instead of on our usual second Monday of the month meeting date.

The meeting will be held at the **Balwyn Community Centre**, 412 Whitehorse Road, Surrey Hills from **9.30 - 11.30am**.

The topic for the meeting will be **Writing a Family History Narrative**. **John Hopkins**, Treasurer of the Balwyn Central Probus Club will lead us through how he has gone about writing a narrative of his family history.

The last, and often unfulfilled task for family historians is converting their family history discoveries into a format that they can share with their relatives. Hence the meeting will be particularly interesting for those who have done family history research but have not converted it into an accessible document. The meeting will also be relevant to those who are still researching their family history, as John will also talk about organising and storing your discoveries in a logical and easily retrievable format.

- **PROBUS LADIES GROUP:**

Our next meeting will take place on **Wednesday October 18th** when **Venita Mitchell** will host a morning tea at "**Sackville Grange**", Cotham Road, Kew. **N.B. Sackville Grange** is located at 376-378 Cotham Road, Kew, near the corner of Burke Road, on the opposite side of the road to **Genazzano College** and **St. George's Hospital**.

Venita Mitchell will meet all attendees in the entrance foyer at **10.00 am**.

Attendees are requested to contribute **\$10.00** towards the cost of the refreshments, which will be served for morning tea. The sum should be paid into the PCNB's bank account:

Westpac Bank account: BSB 033 054 Acc No. 182 752

Please supply your name for reference purposes and add 'Ladies Morning Tea'

To assist with catering, it would be appreciated if you could inform one of the organizers of your intention to attend before **Friday, October 13th**.

Robyn Heal	0408 526 342	richard_heal@bigpond.com
Margaret Lanz	0414 295 550	ljlanz@optusnet.com.au
Sandy Muir-Smith	0418 128 958	sandy_muir_smith@hotmail.com

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.

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USEFUL RESOURCES:

- You are encouraged to go to our website <https://balwynnorthprobus.org.au> that contains much useful information.
- 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.
