



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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NEWSLETTER FOR TUESDAY MARCH 12th 2024

Annual General Meeting

Speaker: Ross McMullin - "Life So Full of Promise - Further Biographies of Australia's Lost Generation".

Ross McMullin returns to North Balwyn Probud to speak about his latest book, '*Life So Full of Promise - Further Biographies of Australia's Lost Generation*'. It follows his previous lost generation multi-biography '*Farewell Dear People*' which won the Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History. Other books by Ross include the award-winning '*Pompey Elliot*', another biography '*Will Dyson: Australia's Radical Genius*' and the ALP centenary history '*The Light on the Hill*'.

'*Life So Full of Promise*', which has been short-listed for a national literary award, feature a series of interwoven family stories, The main characters include a popular doctor, a brilliant cricketer and a talented barrister who was a potential prime minister. Barry Jones reviewed the book in 'The Age': "His scholarship is impeccable; he writes like an angel . . . and his narrative gift is Blaineyesque".

Ross is an engaging speaker, and <https://rossmcmullin.com.au> is his informative website about his work.

Next Meeting: – April 16th - Change-Over Lunch

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Members will now be aware that Bob Haydon is unable to take over as our President for the coming year.

I am delighted to be able to advise that John Thwaites has agreed to be nominated for the position for a second time.

Nominations for all positions are as follows:

President	John Thwaites	
Senior Vice-President	Stephen Millard	
Junior Vice-President	Michael Siles	
Secretary	Graydon Findlay	(Supported by Barry Bolger)
Treasurer	Mike Watts	(Supported by Neil Smart)
Functions	Richard Heal	
Membership/Website	Rodney Manser	
Newsletter	Alan French	
Guest Speakers	Gary Ray	
Marketing	Geoff Metcalf	
Theatre	Denis Spinley	
Welfare Officer	Ken Mitchell	

New Card Group For our Probud Club?

I have enjoyed playing a simple card game with friends over a few years and I believe that such an activity would be a great addition to the pleasures offered to members - particularly the inactive ones.

I will meet with anyone who might like to know what is involved to explain the simple rules

Please give me a call on 0408 172 836 or advise your interest by email me at mitchellkv@gmail.com

Current Committee Members:

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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Current membership is a total of 59 members, (48 active and 11 non-active members) with our Associates being 11.

- **John Peyton** has moved to non-active list at his request.

Birthdays:

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating birthdays in March 2024:

- **Norman Clewlow** (9/03), **Robin Pleydell** (11/03), **Ian Caldow** (14/03), **Bruce Holmes** (17/03), **John Peyton** (19/03), **Jeff Collinson** (20/03), **Don Eltringham** (22/03), **Michael Siles** (30/03) and **Ken Mitchell** (31/03)

DUTY ROSTER	March Meeting	May Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Len Harvey, Richard Heal, Ted Douez	Matthew Pattison, Mike Watts, Bruce McInerney
Tea and Coffee	Barry Bolger, Joe Romano, Denis Spinley	Barry Bolger, Richard Heal, Gerald King
Buddy	Ken Davis, Alan French	Geoff Metcalf, Graeme Goudie, Nino Xerri
Door Assistants	Neil Gray, Graeme Goudie	Neil Gray, Neil Smart

Roster Reminder:

The roster list is published in the 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 rostered members to contact a replacement member to take their place.

Our newsletter has two months' roster posted which will allow sufficient time to ensure the activities are covered at each meeting.

Emergency Contacts & Next Kin Project

The database development continues with 8 (16.7%) active members still to complete their details.

The report within the database has been developed for the first stage of the project and available to the Committee.

The next stage of this project Stage Two will commence over ensuring months which will be undertaken after the recommendation from members and approved by the committee to incorporate two Emergency Contacts on back of the membership badge as follows: -

- **EMG Contact 1** - Wife or Partner or in case there is no wife or Partner a Family member.
- **Emg Contact 2** - Family Member or Family members.

This change will mean significant changes to be undertaken within the existing database.

In the meantime, an Excel spreadsheet is being kept update with these details.

A huge thank you for those members how has provided the information for this important project.

Details on how this will be undertaken will be advised by email to the Membership shortly.

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.

Stay Safe & Well! Looking forward to continuing a successful 2024.

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

Change Over Lunch – Tuesday 16th April – 12 Noon for 12.30pm

This will be held at **Kew Golf Club**, 120 Belford Road, Kew East.

The price per person for the two-course meal will be **\$70.00 pp**.

Please note that parking at Kew Golf Club is very limited, so you may wish to consider car-pooling or taxis/uber.

Board out at the AGM on **Tuesday 12th March**. Last date for payment is **Friday 5th April**.

Note for your Diary: 'Christmas Lunch in July' will be on **Thursday 25th July** at the Tokar Estate, Coldstream.

THEATRE/CINEMA EVENTS:

Palace Balwyn Cinema.

Golden Years screenings every **Wednesday at 11am**

Tickets: \$10 Golden Club Member, \$12 Senior Ticket

Movies: –

March 6 – Dune: Part Two

March 13 – The Great Escaper

March 20 – The Great Escaper

March 27 – Wicked Little Letters

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
• ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	Tuesday March 12th
• INVESTMENT GROUP	Thursday March 14 th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday March 15 th
• PHOTO/TRAVEL GROUP EXCURSION	Tuesday March 19-21 st
• DINE OUT	(Cancelled)
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday March 26 th

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

Our next meeting is at **10am on Thursday 14th March** at **Balwyn North Uniting Church.**

Subjects are-

- 1/ Assessment of CSL and its multiple branches. I think it is not well understood by investors
- 2/ Comparison with Cochlear which is in many ways a contemporary.
- 3/ The path ahead for BHP which is undergoing significant changes.
- 4/ Rare earth miner, Northern Mining. Is it subject to a takeover by Chinese companies by stealth?
- 4/ Introduction of Harold Ball who will be taking over the Investment SIG.

- **WALKING GROUP: Third Friday in the month – Acting Convenor: Sandy Muir-Smith. M 0418128958.**

The next walk will take place on **Friday 15th March** and will be around Ruffey Lake Park in Doncaster.

Meet in the carpark just off Victoria Street in Doncaster at **10.30 AM.** [Melways Map Ref: 33 J10]

Lunch at the conclusion of the walk will be at a local café.

New walkers always welcome to attend

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

The Photography/Travel SIG meeting for March will be a 2-night stay at **Lancefield Lodge** from **19th – 20th March.**
Consequently, there will be no usual formal meeting at the North Balwyn Uniting Church.

On a warmish 20th February, three members (disappointing numbers) along with two guests enjoyed the excursion to the Titanic Artifacts Exhibition at the Melbourne Museum, with a pleasant chatty lunch and a wander through the Museum afterwards. Great day and a wonderful opportunity to once again visit a Melbourne iconic building.

- **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 26th March at 10am** will be at Balwyn North Uniting Church (BNUC)
At this meeting we will be getting back to the basic operations of IT, actual agenda will be published and circulated to members when available.

Morning Tea is provided at the meeting to allow members to circulate giving them time for fellowship and exchange of life experiences. A small fee of \$7.00 is charged to cover costs of room hire and refreshments.

Everyone including partners are welcome to join us at our Meeting. Should anyone need to have the challenge clarified please contact me.

Our first meeting for the year on Tuesday 27th February 2024 had six members attending.

The topic was exploring the AI world.

The Member's Choice Presentation was undertaken by Graydon Findlay on the Topic of Boolean Algebra these functions were originally invented [George Boole](#) in 1847 his first published book was "The Mathematical Analysis of Logic". The Boolean operations are expressed with the corresponding [binary operators](#) (AND and OR) and the [unary operator](#) (NOT), collectively referred to as Boolean operators.

A video presentation of Melissa McVeigh VA Consumer Product @ Conda Nast GQ presenting at Photo Vogue Festival 2023 Talk. This video was a basic introduction into the AI world., given examples of the technics involved.

Microsoft has an application called Co-Pilot their AI tool which was developed within their software last year. A demonstration using information from the audience members to develop an outline of their chosen subject using the AI tool.

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.