



THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH BALWYN INC.

A0016781Z

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NEWSLETTER FOR TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10th 2024

Man Behind the Badge - Geoff Metcalf

General Meeting

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Speaker: Peter Tully "Friends of the Cerberus"

"The HMVS Cerberus, as the only survivor of its type in the world, illustrates a particular type or phase in the development of naval technology. Its design, by prominent naval architect E. J. Reed of the British Admiralty, is widely regarded by maritime historians as a complete break with established tradition, which had been manifest in sail-powered timber vessels, towards iron clad steam turret ships, the forerunners of the modern battleship. It incorporated developments in metallurgy, steam power, gun turrets and use of low freeboard. The design for the Cerberus was the first in the world to incorporate the combination of a central superstructure with fore and aft gun turrets, mounted on the deck. It was also the first British warship to dispense completely with sail power and to incorporate the shallow draft, a feature which gave it the ability to reduce the amount of target space for enemy fire."

Next General Meeting: – October 8th

Speaker: Alan Hall – "The Four Men and The Walrus"

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

For our next General Meeting on 10th September our Guest Speaker will be Peter Tully from Friends of the Cerberus.

We look forward to a very interesting morning as this was the first British Warship of the then modern era of battleships which was commissioned in 1868.

Our next Committee meeting, scheduled for 3rd September, has many general business items for discussion, including the future of our Club.

So, we should all give our attention to encouraging new membership when we see what we achieved in August with two new members, Graeme Adam and Peter Barnett, both of whom have shown interest and joined our Club as a result of reading our Website.

To our SIGs, we congratulate their perseverance and the hard work the convenors are contributing to the changes and opportunities which have now become a constant challenge.

Finally, it is important to support our SIGs and activities, as Spring is now on the way, consider joining one of our very interesting SIGs.

Current Committee Members:

President (John Thwaites), Immediate Past President (Ken Mitchell), Senior Vice President (Stephen Millard), Junior Vice President (Vacant), Secretary (Graydon Findlay), Treasurer (Mike Watts), Membership/Website (Rodney Manser), Functions (Richard Heal), Marketing (Geoff Metcalf), Speakers (Gary Ray), Theatre (Denis Spinley), Welfare Officer (Ken Mitchell) and Newsletter (Alan French).

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

One of the things we received by post this month was a box with a framed 40th Anniversary "Congratulations" certificate from Probus South Pacific, the umbrella organisation for Probus Clubs in this region.

The arrival of the certificate was a little premature in that our Club was actually formed on the 13th November 1984, but this does give our committee sufficient time to organise a celebratory function when the 40th Anniversary Certificate will be formally handed to our President, John Thwaites by a dignitary.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Club Funds are down somewhat at present mainly due to; - Tokar Christmas in July Lunch showing a net deficit of \$901.54 following a 50% subsidy allowed to all participants in recognition of the pending Council Grant which although approved has not yet materialised.

Also, the recent \$500 deposit paid last month to the KEW GOLF CLUB to secure our Christmas Lunch venue which amount will be fully recovered by participating Club Members as a matter of course.

All Annual Membership payments have now been paid.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Current membership is a total of 55 members, (43 active and 12 non-active members) with our Associates being 11.

- **Peter Barker** resigned on 6th August, due to ill health. We wish him well on his health journey.
- **Don Eltringham** has completed 35 years of service.
- **James Kimpton** has moved into care @ Kew Gardens 22-24 Gellibrand St Kew 3151 Tel 9261 8600.
- Man Behind the Badge: **Geoff Metcalf** will present his life history.

Birthdays:

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating their birthdays in **September 2024:**

- **John Mott** (04/09), **Per Knudsen** (10/09), **Evan Williams** (11/09), **Keith Jackson** (15/09), **Peter Muir-Smith** (15/09), **Gary Ray** (15/09), **Bob Haydon** (26/09) and Thorold Merrett (30/09)

DUTY ROSTER	September Meeting	October Meeting
Tables and Chairs	Matthew Pattison, Mike Watts, Bill Firth-Smith, Alan French	Bruce McInerney, Keith Atkins, Graydon Findlay, Ken Davis
Tea and Coffee	Denis Spinley, Neil Smart, Keith Jackson	Denis Spinley, Bill Firth-Smith, Ian Caldow
Buddy	Geoff Metcalf, Graeme Goudie, Harold Ball	Ted Douez, Joe Romano, Richard Heal
Door Assistants	Nino Xerri, Len Harvey	Nino Xerri, Stephen Millard

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 member** 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.

Stories/Photos

Please provide your stories/photos to WEBSITE EDITOR & IT SUPPORT by email manser@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

- **Note for your diary:**

Christmas Lunch and 40 Year Celebration at The Kew Golf Club on Tuesday 17th December.

More details closer to the date.

THEATRE/CINEMA EVENTS: Convenor Denis Spinley M: 0408 567 858 E: dbspinley@gmail.com

Palace Balwyn Cinema.

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

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

Movies: -

Wednesday 4th September - **Touch**

Wednesday 11th September - **Midas Man**

Wednesday 18th September - **A Horse Named Winx**

Wednesday 25th September – **Bennard, Pierre and Marthe**

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
• FAMILY HISTORY / HERITAGE GROUP	Monday September 9th
• GENERAL MEETING	Tuesday September 10th
• INVESTMENT GROUP	Thursday September 12 th
• PHOTO/TRAVEL GROUP	Tuesday September 17th
• DINE OUT	Wednesday September 18 th
• WALKING GROUP	Friday September 20th
• COMPUTER GROUP	Tuesday September 24 th
• NBPC LADIES' GROUP	Wednesday October 9th

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- **FAMILY HISTORY/HERITAGE GROUP: Second Monday in the month. Convenor Graydon Findlay Ph: 9859 6964 E: graycol7@bigpond.com**

The next (first for 2024) Family History & Heritage SIG meeting will be from **10.00 – 11.30am** at the **Balwyn Library on Monday 9th September** in Meeting Room 2 (upstairs/lift), 336 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn.

The change of meeting venue to the Balwyn Library is because attendance at meetings last year was too low to be financially viable at the North Balwyn Uniting Church and I discovered a suitable less expensive meeting room at the Balwyn Library.

Being in recess for several months does have a silver lining, in that I realised that I needed to assess where we as a SIG are up to on our Family History journey. i.e. Establish a base of our Family History experience so we can share that experience to help each other & attract new members and thereby develop a program for future Family History SIG meetings

The format for meeting will be a guided chat so that each attendee will have a chance to briefly relate their experience on the following three topics: -

- A. Why did you start doing family history and how long have you been doing it.
- B. What categories of family history information have you investigated e.g. births/marriages/deaths, locations where they lived, achievements during their lives and DNA matches.
- C. How much of the information you have collected is in a format to give to your children and share with DNA matches

- **INVESTMENT GROUP: Second Thursday in the month. Convenor: Denis Spinley M: 0408 567 858 or dbspinley@gmail.com**

Our next meeting is at **10am on Thursday September 12th** at **Balwyn North Uniting Church**.

There will be small charge of \$7pp to cover room and morning tea costs.

Topics for Discussion are:

1 **Scarborough (WA) Gas Project**

2 **Short Livewire Video interview with CEO of Ausbil regarding Offshore Small Cap Investments**

3 **Short Livewire Video interview with CEO of Suncorp regarding August results**

11am Morning Tea/Coffee Break

4 **The Importance of Your Will (Part two)**

- **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 September will be held on **Tuesday 17th September** at **10.00 am** at The Balwyn North Uniting Church, Duggan Street, North Balwyn.

The agenda will be:

- Video Tutorial: Composition techniques can be practised

- Video Tutorial: Techniques put into practical/actual situations

- Discussion as to how one goes about thinking/using composition in their photography

- Morning Tea.

- Workshop: How to use Off Camera Flash.

- Spring is around the corner: Time for Photography Outings. Suggestions very welcomed.

October Echuca Excursion:

Nino Xerri has organised another trip away to Echuca.

The full itinerary is available on our website on the Activities tab.

The trip is from **22nd – 25th October**.

Staying at Georgian Motor Lodge: 373-375 High Street Echuca. (Another motel may need to be booked) undertaking the Iconic Silo Art trail, Port of Echuca, St Annes Winery, Echuca Historical Museum, Murray River cruise, visiting picturesque Tongala township and stopping at Benalla on the way home visiting Munro Sargeant Café & Benalla Gallery.

Please contact Nino Xerri M: 0410 571 446 E: ninros1946@gmail.com & / or Rodney Manser M:0418 164 432 E: rmanser@bigpond.net.au for further details.

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

The next Dine-Out will be held on **Wednesday September 18th** at the **Shoppingtown Hotel**, Williamsons Road, Doncaster, with a start time of **6 pm**.

A booking sheet will be available at our August General Meeting for those wishing to attend.

- **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 September** and will be along a section of The Mullum Mullum walking track, commencing close to Reynolds Road in East Doncaster.

Meet in the Mullum Mullum Reserve carpark off Springvale Road in East Doncaster just before the intersection with Reynolds Road at **10.30 AM**. [*Melways Map Ref: Map 34 H7*]

There will be lunch at the conclusion of the walk at a local Café. New walkers most welcome to join this happy group of walkers.

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

Our **September** meeting on **Tuesday 24th** will be along the line of basic IT skills, folder setup on computer and email system.

Our meeting on Tuesday 27th August was attended by 7 members who enjoyed a workshop solving challenges of the members. Welcome to **Richard Heal** who was celebrating his birthday.

Morning Tea was provided at the meeting with coffee, tea and biscuits allowing members time for fellowship and exchange of life experiences. A small fee of \$7.00 is levied to cover costs of room hire and refreshments.

Please diarise the date and try to join for the fellowship & fun. It was pleasing to see everyone joining in and solving the challenges presented today.

Everyone including partners are welcome to join us at our Meeting, should anyone need to have their challenge clarified please contact Rodney.

- **NBPC LADIES GROUP**

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place on **Wednesday October 9th** at **Beasley's Nursery and Tea House** in **Warrandyte**. We will meet for lunch at **11.45 a.m.**

Location: Please note that **Beasley's Nursery** is located at **195 Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road**, about one kilometre from the intersection with **Blackburn Road**.

If you are able to attend, it would be appreciated if, prior to **Monday October 7th**, you could inform **Robyn Heal** (0408 526 342) or **Margaret Lanz** (0414 295 550) or **Sandy Muir-Smith** (0418 128 958) so that we can notify the **Tea House**.

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.