



PROBUS CLUB OF BALGOWLAH-MANLY (Inc.)

Inaugurated 14th December 1984
No. 56824

President	Mary Bacon	9948 4362	Secretary	Peter Bracher	9948 2580
Vice Pres.	Peter Amos	9949 4340	Treasurer	Brenda Traves	9949 3629
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Tours	Bill Richards	9451 4286	Outings	Glenda Johnson	9907 0795
Membership	Max Cooper	9400 2826			
Welfare	Ray Hamilton	9948 5236	and	Pauline Gazzard	9949 5924
Functions	Mary Bacon	9948 4362	and	Peter Bracher	9948 2580

**Meets second Friday of each month at 10.30 am
at Balgowlah Bowling Club**

**Website: www.probusbalgowlah.org
P.O.Box 4016 Balgowlah Heights NSW 2093**

Newsletter No.397

For the Meeting on Friday 9 November 2018

Speaker's Corner: Our speaker this month is Ralph Seccombe to talk about his book *From the Suburbs to the Trenches, the Story of Two Soldiers of the Great War*.

His book is about two family members who served in the First World War. Earlier working titles were *One Came Back* (with obvious implications) and *Australian Bridge* (for reasons he will explain during the talk).

From the Suburbs to the Trenches, is the Story of Two Australian Soldiers of the Great War. This book brings you together with two fine young men who joined up for their great adventure a century ago. The letters of Gunner Ralph Berryman, who enlisted in 1914 at the outbreak of the war, take you on his voyage from Melbourne via Colombo to Egypt, where the troops trained in the shadow of the pyramids, and on to Gallipoli. The diaries of Cecil Seccombe give a vivid account of his passage to England via Cape Town, his training on Salisbury Plain and his fighting at Ypres and the Somme, where he won the Military Medal. *From the Suburbs to the Trenches* reproduces writings and photographs by both soldiers. The third voice in this book is the author, Ralph Seccombe, who journeyed to the battlefields of his two great-uncles and writes of his experiences with curiosity, empathy and humour, exploring the meaning of war for past generations and the present. This is an endearing, moving, entertaining book, taking you to Gallipoli and the Western Front, the two main theatres for Australia in the Great War. It is the mission of the author, who shares a name with each of the soldiers, to tell the story of these men he came to love and respect, these ordinary men from the suburbs who went on to achieve extraordinary things in the trenches.

Last month we had the pleasure of a talk from Chris Maxwell who gave a very interesting talk about his ancestors and how they came to own land in the Goulburn and Shellharbour areas.



★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

Birthdays, We wish a very happy birthday to all of our members who celebrate their birthday in November: Trish Thompson on the 9th, Betty Reid on the 12th, John Grant on the 13th, Pamela Jordan on the 29th, and Brenda Traves on the 30th.

Cruise to Bobbin Head on Wednesday 17th October, unfortunately had to be cancelled because the booking had not been written down properly and the boat was being used for something else. With the weather being as it has maybe it was a blessing.

BBQ at Clontarf Reserve on Wednesday 21st November at 12 noon. Our annual BBQ is on again. \$15.00 per person includes steak, sausages, chips, salads & bread rolls. BYO beverages. Final registration and payment is at this November meeting. If you are not attending this meeting and wish to attend the BBQ, please contact Glenda on 9907 0795.

Christmas Luncheon at the Balgowlah Bowling Club at 12 noon on Friday 14 December. The Christmas lunch will be held at the Bowling Club on 14th December and the cost is \$60.00, following a brief monthly meeting. There are drinks and canapes served on arrival and the meal is turkey breast and leg ham, cranberry sauce and hot vegetables. Dessert is traditional Christmas pudding with brandy custard. Tea or coffee. Both red and white wine will be on the table with 8 persons per table.

Welfare: Pauline Gazzard and Ray Hamilton have contacted a number of members who have been absent from our monthly meetings to check on their welfare. They will give us an update at the meeting

Privacy Statement: Information given above is kept private and confidential and may only be used within the confines of the Probus Club of Balgowlah -Manly and shall not be used for any other purpose.