

## OCTOBER SPEAKER

Our speaker for October was Cliff Hardy speaking on his childhood memories of "The London Blitz". He was aided by his wife Barbara who provided photos from a power point presentation.

With the evacuation] of British troops from Dunkirk in 26 May - 4 June 1940 Hitler's forces were assembling across the channel to invade England. Himmler was directing the Luftwaffe to bomb airfields and factories so Germany could control the air space over the invasion. On the 25 August 1940 Britain conducted a night bombing raid on Berlin which surprised the German people, in retaliation Hitler instructed Himmler to bomb the City of London.

On 6:00pm 7 September 1940 345 bombers accompanied by 617 fighter aircraft started bombing London. At 4:00 am the next morning another wave of 430 bombers arrived.

Four year old Cliff was living with his parents in a group of multi-storey Council flats at Ponders Gardens, Chatham. When the air raid sirens sounded the occupants had to evacuate via a single staircase and take cover in the community air raid shelters. Some areas lacked shelters and these people had to use the underground railway platforms. Initially this was banned but proved impossible to police. Eventually bunks were provided along the platform walls. People living in houses were supplied with corrugated iron and sand bags to dig their own shelters. All windows had to be blacked out and gas masks were provided, even the children had smaller masks called Mickey Mouse masks. The street signs were removed and there were anti-aircraft guns in local parks. People had ID Cards and Ration Books for food items and petrol which was in short supply.

Initially there were Hurricane Fighters but later the more superior Spitfire were coming out of the factories and they were starting to control the air space. The radar was able to provide early warning and where the fighters could locate the bombers. One day Cliff's school was hit but the teachers and students were in a shelter. Cliff came out of the shelter and everyone just walked home. His mother had heard that the school had been hit and she left work but Cliff was nowhere near the damaged school. She rushed home to find Cliff sitting reading a comic. She was not too pleased but what else could he have done? The London Blitz ceased on 11 May 1941 with the Luftwaffe being sent to the Russian Front.

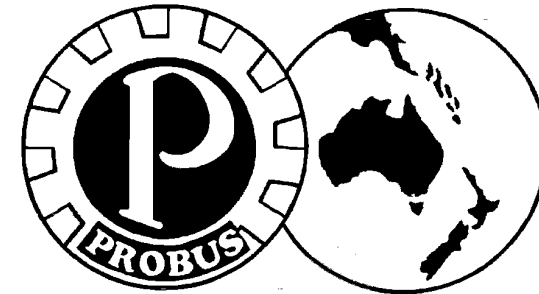
As the war moved on Germany developed the V1 Flying Bomb. This was a pulse jet and made a distinctive sound and was nick named "doodle-bug". It was OK if you could hear it but once the sound stopped it would have run out of fuel and it was falling. Later in the war the V2 Rockets took up the attack, these had a longer range, went higher and just dropped out of the sky.

In 1945, at wars end, the King wrote a letter to the school children but it was not until 1953 that lollies came off rationing.

Cliff and Barbara were thanked and it was noted that our memories of WW2 were somewhat different.



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# COMMUNICATOR

## PROBUS CLUB OF GLENROY INC.

Meets at 9:45 am on the second Tuesday of each Month  
at the Glenroy RSL, 186 Glenroy Road, Glenroy.

**Next Meeting Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 9:45am.**

Elected Committee 2023/24 :-

President:-	Ken Pryor 9338 4394	Secretary & Public Officer:- Noel Walsh 0400 566 944
Vice President:-	Liliana Ward 9306 8153	Mail to PO Box 2083, Oak Park 3046
Treasurer:-	Barry O'Connor 0425 867 948	Past President:- Liliana Ward 9306 8153
Communicator		Inter-club Liaison Officer:- Bea Hammond 0419 581 463
Editor:-	John Elletson 9306 7492	Stroll Co-ord:- Wal Jarvis 0438 057 194
Distributor:-	Geoff Woods 9306 9108	IT Consultant Tony Bajoras 0431 249 087
Attendance, Records & Nametags:-	Les Hooke 9309 3212	Catering Officer:- Joe Milanese 9306 6820
Welfare Officer:-	Vacant	
Speakers:-	Max Smedley 9306 7987	

Website:- [www.glenroyprobus.org.au](http://www.glenroyprobus.org.au)

Email:- [glenroyprobus@gmail.com](mailto:glenroyprobus@gmail.com)

## NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Book Club. (Cup Day) ?  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Meeting - Glenroy RSL at 9:45am.  
 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> - Technology - and or Sip N'Chat - Glenroy RSL at 10:30am.  
 Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Stroll - Boeing Reserve to stroll Northwards,  
 Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> - **Committee Meeting** - Glenroy RSL at 10:30am  
 Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> - Combined Christmas Breakup with Pascoe Vale Probus Club..

## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> - Book Club.  
 Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Meeting - at Glenroy RSL at 9:45am.  
 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Technology - Glenroy RSL at 10:30am.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Our Congratulations and Best Wishes go to:-

Donna Jackson, Lyn O'Conner & Liniana Ward ... Barry O'Conner

Special Birthday Merva Gorham 85

## CLUB NEWS

At the October Meeting Treasurer Barry O'Connor reported that we started the month with a balance of \$4656.03, (including the Merri-bek grant).

Income	Door Prize Income	\$ 70
	Christmas Party Payments	<u>\$400</u>
		<b>\$470</b>
Expenses	Door Prize Purchase	\$ 60.00
	Morning Teas	\$ 33.10
	Speaker's Gifts (Wine / Chocolates)	\$ 12.00
	Members Birthday Gifts (chocolates)	\$ 24.00
	Purchase of Speakers' Gift bags	\$ 20.00
	Pascoe Vale Probus Club Christmas Party	<u>\$400.00</u>
		<b>\$549.10</b>

This leaves the club with available funds of :- **\$4,576.93**

Max Smedley reports that the November speaker will be Lyn Watson from the Dingo Sanctuary .

There will not be a speaker in December but Bea will organise a trivia quiz.

The combined **Pascoe Vale and Glenroy Probus Clubs' Christmas Lunch** will be held at Sanctuary House, Healesville, on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

For those who have registered and paid, the bus leaves at 9:30am. from the same location as last year, car park in Cole Reserve, corner Cumberland and Kent Roads, Pascoe Vale.

For further details please contact Bea 0419 581 463.

## BOOK CLUB First Tuesday in the Month

The book for this month is "The Other side of Beautiful" by Kim Lock. Meet Mercy Blain, whose house has just burnt down. Unfortunately for Mercy, this goes beyond the disaster it would be for most people: she hasn't been outside that house for two years.

The "Other Side of Beautiful" is a story of life, loss, grief, trauma, health, wellbeing, anxiety, acceptance, travel, friendships, recovering and starting over.

It is poignant, moving and oh so splendid .



If you would like to join the Book Club, call Bea 0419 581 463 or Tony 0431 249 087.

## TECHNOLOGY & SIP N'CHAT Third Tuesday this Month

These two activities will be combined this month and our Committee Meeting will be held on the Fourth Tuesday.

These groups are open to all, the numbers vary from month to month, but that is OK. What gets discussed is up to you.

There is an alternative to get Technology assistance, the Glenroy Library in conjunction with the Whittlesea U3A have commenced sessions to increase your skills in Digital Technology. Just go to the Glenroy Library on Wednesdays 2pm to 5pm, bring your mobile phone or device for one on one assistance. Attend for the whole three hours or just pop in anytime. It is up to you.

## COMMITTEE MEETING Fourth Tuesday this Month

Tuesday 28th November at Glenroy at 10.30am.

Agenda and previous minutes will be emailed closer to the date.

## STROLLERS Fourth Monday in the Month

**Monday 23rd October - Stroll Gavin Park, Pascoe Vale**

On a cool spring morning six strollers meandered along the Westbreen Creek enjoying the quiet and the bird life. They then returned for a well earned cuppa and a chat.



**Monday 27th November - Stroll from Boeing Reserve.**

Stroll along the Moonee Ponds Creek towards Gowanbrae.

Meet at **10am** in the car park, Melways 16 D5 Come along and enjoy the company.

Do not forget your lunch, thermos and chair. All members are welcome