



ANZ BANKING GROUP RETIRED OFFICERS' CLUB (N.S.W.)

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Welcome to our January 2021 **NEWSLETTER**

CLUB UPDATE.

Good day & a big welcome to all Club members for 2021.

After we leave a tumultuous 2020, behind us, we move into 2021 with renewed confidence that the Club will be able to recommence in some format our luncheons and functions. During

2020 and following our February luncheon at The Boutique Hotel in the City, no further luncheons or functions were held.

In country areas, no functions were held until, Wagga & Canberra had Christmas functions in early December, with very limited no's in attendance.

ANZ Tower in the city was in lockdown from mid-March and did not reopen on a very limited basis until October/November, and then was placed back into full lockdown, following the most recent Northern Beaches cluster of Covid-19 emerging in mid-December.

Great news we have just been advised that ANZ Tower has reopened to external visitors from 1 February, so we are able to recommence our monthly Committee meetings.

In Metro members would be fully aware from recent notification from the Club, and following extensive research of our data base, specifically on a post code basis, of where our members live, and also taking into account feedback from members, we will holding our 1st Hub Luncheon at Wenty Leagues Club in Wentworthville on Wednesday 24 February.

The area around this venue is classified as our Western Hub and is the largest base we have in Sydney Metro.

This luncheon will also be the Club's AGM for 2021.

Once we have this first one, we are planning other luncheons in other Metro areas, such as Southern & Northern, so please stay tuned in this regard.

In Country districts we will shortly be liaising with our various Charters, and establish what they have planned for 2021, for luncheons/functions.

Despite 2020 being a big non-event for us & the community overall as a result of Covid-19, the Bank has again been very generous in their support of ANZROC Club's in Australia, and we received a very generous subsidy in late November for the 2020.

Obviously in 2020, the Club did not have a great level of expenditure, mainly monthly printing & courier costs for our newsletter, and postage and normal incidental expenditure.

The Club is therefore in a very sound financial position and will be supporting members both Metro & Country who attend functions that are arranged under our umbrella.

Your Committee had approved a very generous subsidy policy for members way back in February 2020, and we are in the process of reviewing this, taking into account all factors and our Bank balance at date, following receipt of the Banks 2020 subsidy.

Your Club Committee therefore approved in October that we would not collect annual subs (\$ 10) from members who would normally be asked to pay in 2021, so that is another good news message for members.

During 2020 your Committee worked hard to maintain communication link with members, mainly through the monthly newsletter, and also several Committee were involved in regular Zoom hook ups to ensure that Club operations were maintained.

A big thank you to all concerned, and we look forward to 2021 with renewed confidence.

Members please read your monthly NL on receipt for regular updates on Club position.

CLUB AGM 2021.

As detailed above the luncheon on the 24 February at Wenty Leagues Club will also be the Club's 2021 AGM.

In terms of the Club's Constitution any member can nominate for any position on the Committee.

We would welcome new members on the Committee, and if you require any details in regards to a particular role, please contact either:-

Club President	Terry Auld	M.	0402-111-323
Club Snr VP	Angelo Briganti	M.	0411-125-242
Club Secretary	Graeme Bool.	M.	0427-125-327

One very important we need to fill is Welfare Officer.

After many years on the Executive, including being Club President at one stage our Life members Ken Dighton has informed the Club he is stepping down at this AGM.

Ken has done an outstanding job over the years in various roles, and we need to fill his role quickly.

The positions of Club President & Senior Vice President require a written nomination, which is to be signed by the person nominating for the post, and also by 2 other Club members. Nomination forms can be obtained from Club Secretary Graeme Bool on email:- graemebool@outlook.com

Thanks again, and let's look forward to an enjoyable 2021.

Terry Auld Club President.

BEREAVEMENTS.

BART BYRNE

Jim Richardson, Convenor, Newcastle/Hunter ROC has written:

It is with much sadness that we advise that Bart Byrne passed away on 4th December, 2020 aged 77 years.

Bart was a fairly regular supporter of our Newcastle luncheons until a couple of years ago when health problems set in.

Bart grew up in Paddington and in 1959, when he was sitting for his Leaving Certificate exams, his father had a very serious motor cycle accident. Bart's intention had been to continue his education at university. However as a result of his father's accident he decided that it would be better if he got a job to help support his family.

He joined the bank at Bondi Junction Branch and this was the commencement of his 40 year career. Sometime later his first transfer was to ANZ Nominees.

Following his marriage to Lesley in 1966 he was transferred to Newcastle West. Over the years transfers to Mayfield, Hamilton and Hunter & Brown Streets followed. He did a stint on the Relief Staff, working state-wide.

Appointment as Accountant Belmont, followed by Accountant Toronto and finally to the Lending Department at the Hunter Area Administration from where he retired.

Bart had a number of interests – music and choir singing, he was a long time member of the locally renowned Waratah Male Voice Choir and also a member of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

Bart and Lesley were very active members of All Saints Anglican Church at Belmont where Bart served as Church Warden and Parish Representative. He and Lesley also visited and conducted services at retirement villages.

Bart planned his own funeral which was held on 11th December at All Saints Belmont and his beloved Waratah Male Voice Choir was able to sing at the service.

Due to Covid restrictions, overall numbers attending were limited.

Bart was highly regarded in his community and by his colleagues and will be sadly missed. Condolences have been conveyed to Lesley, Meagan and Graham and their families.

Vale Bart Byrne.



Bart Byrne

SPENCER MYERS

We were sadly informed by his son, Dean, that our esteemed member Spencer Myers passed away on 18 December at Forbes. Aged 81 years.

Dean advised that Spencer was diagnosed with lung cancer in late October and his wife Shirley cared for him at home until the last few days. He passed away in Forbes Hospital.

Spencer would be well known and respected by his colleagues, who worked with or knew him during his long career, firstly in E S & A and then ANZ Banking Group. He joined the E S&A in Newcastle in the mid 1950's as a clerk. He later transferred to Cowra, then Moss

Vale, where he met Shirley and they were married.

He then moved to Balmain and later transferred to Gerringong as second officer.

After a couple of years there he was transferred to Goulburn, then to Nowra where he was appointed accountant of the merged ES&A and ANZ Bank.

After Nowra he obtained his first managers appointment in Gerringong in 1977. He spent four years in Gerringong then he transferred and moved family to Forbes in December 1981.

He remained in Forbes until his retirement in 1998.

Spencer is survived by his wife Shirley and their 5 children and 7 grandchildren.

A private service was held on Monday 21st December in Forbes, attended by family and close friends.

Sincere condolences to his wife Shirley, children & grand children from all Club Members.

RIP Spencer.

GEOFF NELSON

We were sadly advised by his son, Richard, that our esteemed member Geoff Nelson passed away on 4 January 2021. Aged 96 Years.

Geoff had a long and distinguished career in ANZ starting with the Bank of Australasia in 1940, and would be well known to many colleagues who worked with him or knew him during his service in ANZ.

Richard and the family have provided us with a brief resume as follows:-

Geoffrey Davies Nelson passed away on 4 January 2021 at Epping, aged 96 years.

Geoff had a long career with the Bank.

Early in WW2, the Maitland branch of the Bank of Australasia had a young employee called-up for service. The bank approached Maitland Boys High School seeking a replacement from amongst its senior students. Geoff was one of the 3 who were recommended and he was offered the position. He accepted and began at the bank as a clerk on 12 February 1940 at 15 years of age.

He was later transferred from Maitland to Hamilton in Newcastle, where he was called up for service in 1942 and served in the army until he was discharged in 1946.

After leaving the army, Geoff re-joined the Bank and it is believed he went back to his old branch at Hamilton before transferring to Kings Cross in Sydney.

It was while he was working in Sydney that Geoff met his wife Beryl, and they became engaged in 1955 before he transferred with the now ANZ Bank to Victor Harbour in South Australia, starting 4 August 1955.

Geoff and Beryl married in Sydney in 1956, spending the next few years in South Australia before returning to NSW where Geoff took up his role in Newtown, Sydney.

Geoff obtained his first managers appointment in 1964 at the newly opened ANZ branch in Seven Hills. He had several managerial appointments over the ensuing years, including North Auburn and Camperdown.

His final role was as an Auditor for the Bank, travelling around various places in rural NSW.

Geoff retired in 1983 whereupon he and Beryl commenced many regular overseas trips, over the next 15 – 20 years, to a variety of countries around the world.

Geoff is survived by his two children, four grandchildren and two great grandsons.

A celebration of Geoffrey's life was held in the Camellia Chapel, Macquarie Park Crematorium on 14 January.

Sincere condolences to all of Geoffrey's family from all Club Members.

RIP Geoffrey.

RICHARD JOHN DAVIES

We were sadly advised that Richard Davies of Bundanoon passed away on 9 January 2021, aged 57 years.

Richard was not an ANZROC member, however, worked for ANZ for many years ,in the Illawarra/South Coast and Central Coast .

Richard was much adored husband of Kat. Devoted and loving father & father-in-law of Brandon & Georgia and Mitch & Cirwun.

Much loved son of Liz & John. Dear brother & brother-in-law of Anthony & Lynne, Phillip & Angela and Mandy & Andrew.

Cherished uncle to his many nieces and nephews. Richard will be sadly missed by his great mate Adrian, all his loving family and many dear friends.

Aged 57 Years. 'Gone, never to be forgotten, our memories of you will long be remembered'

A service to celebrate Richard's life was held in the Northcliffe Chapel of Hansen & Cole, 634 Northcliffe Drive, Kembla Grange on Monday, 1st February 2021.

Due to COVID restrictions numbers were strictly limited.

Sincere condolences from all Club members to Richard's family.

RIP Richard.

Richard BAANER

Adored Husband of 33 years to Sharon. Cherished Father and Father-in-law of Ben, Maree and Dane. Much loved Brother of Paul and Ruth. Aged 56 Years.

A Celebration of his Life was held on Monday 4th January at the Chapel of Hanson and Cole, Kembla Grange.

Richard is warmly remembered as a highly skilled financial analyst, working within the Wollongong Commercial Banking department in the early days of Area Banking in the mid-1990s. He subsequently left the bank and pursued a highly successful career in a family-owned, industrial group of companies based in Wollongong. Rest in peace, Richard.

New Members since last NL.

Great news after many months we have a new Club Member.

Con Defippis from Fairfield Heights.

Con joined ANZ in 1971 and retired in 2004, after a 33 years service.

A big welcome to the Club Con .

**TO ALL OUR
DECEMBER &
JANUARY BIRTHDAY
MEMBERS**



THE HONS

Ken	ABRAHAMS	15th
Noel	CHIE	24th
Arthur	CRITTENDEN	16th
Noel	DIROU	28th
Noel	HALL	19th
Bill	KYNASTON	29th

Bob	McEWAN	17th
Peter	MURRAY	5th
Rod	PROSSER	11th
Jim	RICHARDS	29th
John	SNELLING	31st
Ian	STEWART	20th

The year ends with a "Nil" return for inductions into the Hons list.

John	BECROFT	24th
Phil	BIBLE	8th
Alan	BREWER	6th
Anna	CARNIATO	26th
Dennis	CARTWRIGHT	7th
Jenni	CEBOKLI	14th
Vicki	CROUCHER	22nd
Cheryl	DEAN	22nd
"Judy" (Judith)	ELLIOTT	9th
Craig	FORDER	4th
Allan	GIBSON OAM	3rd
Ed	HALE	20th
Tony	HARDMAN	8th
Chris	HARRIS	28th

Ella	KING	1st
Graham	KIRCHNER	5th
Jerry	KORNACKI	24th
Michael	LEATHERBARROW	31st
Kerry	LOVE	22nd
Bob	McELROY	13th
Keith	MORRIN	2nd
Cheryl	RICHARDSON	27th
Gail	RUTLEDGE	1st
Laurie	SAINSBURY	20th
Tony	SCHEMBRI	28th
Geoff	SHERWOOD	1st
Peter	SMITH	14th
Linda	THORNE	21st

Colin	KEEGAN	6th
John	KENNEY	20th

Steve	TRIFFITT	7th
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2021 has started with a "bang", with five new inductees to the Hons - David Braidwood, Gregory Croan, Bob Jennings, Eric Myatt and Graham Scarlett.

Welcome to you all.

THE HONS

Noel	BOTTRELL	22nd
David	BRAIDWOOD	21st
Harry	BROOKES	29th
Geoff	BROWN	21st
Doug	CANAVAN	24th
Gregory (Greg)	CROAN	19th
Ramon ('Ray')	CROUCHER	23rd
Alan	DEVESON	19th
Phil	DURNEY	23rd
(Thomas) John	HILLARD	17th
Bob	JENNINGS	22nd

Dick	MATTRESS	13th
Eric	MYATT	8th
Nick	OGLESNEFF	16th
Charles	ROSS	16th
Tony	ROWLEY	19th
Graham	SCARLETT	16th
Allan	SEAR	5th
Ian	TREDINNICK	31st
Col (Colin)	WALKER	10th
Cath	WOODWARD	30th

Robyn	BATE	24th
William	CHANG	16th
Rosalie	DERRICK	19th
Brian	DIGBY	29th
Marina	EYEINGTON	8th
Glen	FITZPATRICK	20th
Barry (Meadowbank)	GIBSON	10th
Barry (Ocean Shores)	GIBSON	24th
John	GRANT	2nd
Valmai (Val)	GRIFFIN	16th
Warren	HADLEY	27th
John	HARRIS	14th
Maxine	HEMLING	1st
Warren	HUDSON	26th
Bob	JONES	13th
Julie	LAYCOCK	7th

Ross	McKIMM	1st
Paul	McLACHLAN	7th
Kenneth (Ken)	McPHERSON	2nd
Irene	NORRIS	22nd
Susie	PANG	16th
Barry	PATEMAN	29th
Richard	PEDDAR	20th
Bruce	PHILPS	7th
Wilf	RODRICKS	1st
Bob	ROSS	26th
Doug	RUSSELL	10th
Craig	SMITH	21st
Bill	SULTANA	27th
Brian	THOMPSON	22nd
Bob	WATSON	20th
Bob	WILKINSON	8th

Happy birthday to all members who celebrated their birthdays in December & January.

Welfare Report

Ken Dighton – Welfare Officer

Report January 2021

Sick List:

We wish the following members (and any others for that matter who are not in the best of health) good luck and a comfortable recovery:

- **Ron Miller** – Members will recall that Ron received a late mention in our November Newsletter. Well, I'm pleased to say that his new Pacemaker/defibrillator is working a treat and, although tiredness is still a bit of a problem for him, Ron continues to make good progress.
- **Alan Deveson** – In December Alan had a couple of days in hospital with a respiratory issue and a heart abnormality. He is back on deck, and managed a small celebration for his birthday earlier this month.
- **Roy Crawford** – Roy has had a couple of stays in hospital with chest pains and some other symptoms. He had lots of tests and procedures, and he is now recovering well. He and Christine have sold their house and are looking for a suitable and smaller replacement closer to Hobart city.
- **Marshall Carter** – some people will go to extraordinary lengths for a bit of adventure! Marshall took an air-lift to John Hunter Hospital when he experienced some severe cardiac symptoms recently. He spent a few days in hospital, and it seems he is now recovering satisfactorily (we hope this is the case).
- **Irene Norris** – I spoke with Irene for her birthday. She said she is still upright but she "has seen better days". Hang-in there Irene.
- **Marj Farrell** – Marj hasn't been without a few health issues in recent times and she is currently undergoing some more tests. Best wishes Marj.
- **Fran Cunneen** – the wife of our Treasurer Mike is having some surgery early next month. Best wishes for a good outcome Fran and a speedy recovery.

The following people enjoy the esteemed title of **Honorary Member** and they were on the birthday lists for December and January. I contacted most of them to ascertain how they were travelling at present, and to extend good wishes for the year ahead:

- **Ken Abrahams (84)** – Ken said he was "reasonably OK", apart from a head cold. He wasn't planning any celebration, but generally all is good.
- **Noel Chie (91)** – In his typically understated way Noel said he is "alright". He still has an unrestricted driver licence (not a bad effort for a 91-year-old). Noel was planning to spend Christmas Day in Bathurst with family, which now includes 5 great-grandchildren (twins were born in 2020). Also, on the horizon this year is a 66th wedding anniversary for Noel and Mary. Well done both of you, and may you be "alright" for quite a while yet.
- **Arthur Crittenden (86)** – Arthur said "so far so good", but his ancient body may cause him to give up golf soon – he is NOT selling his golf cart at this early stage however! Family visitors helped him celebrate his birthday.
- **Peter Murray (87)** – When I first phoned, Peter was out at golf, a pursuit he follows twice a week. Not only does he play a couple of games a week, but he walks the course. No mean effort at 87. Peter celebrated in the Southern Highlands with an excellent meal and winery visit.
- **Noel Dirou (90)** – He was "resting up" after celebrating with some of his family – a few members were not able to get to the Southern Highlands because of Covid19 restrictions. Noel said he is not doing too badly, and he still has a driver licence which gives him a degree independence.
- **Bill Kynaston (95)** – I received a nice communication from Bill which I have cut and pasted: "Hi Ken - Thank you for the good wishes and I am somewhat surprised that I have reached my 95th birthday. It is 39 years since I retired from the Bank and I have been fortunate to have had good health during that time. However, last March a health problem made it necessary for me to join my wife (Rona) in an Aged Care Home. I am finding the change very beneficial - no more cooking, washing, or housework etc. I still drive my car and can come and go as I like. We have a Doctor in-house who comes to see each resident as necessary. Meals are good with alternative suggestions for both Lunch and Dinner. Drinks (wine, beer etc) are available at both meals.

We were under “lock-down“ early in the Covid19 virus problem but as you probably know WA took strong border control early and, as a result, things over here are almost normal.

We had a good roll up at the ANZROC WA Xmas luncheon but I missed seeing many faces of years gone by. I send my regards to all who may remember me including Barrie and Wilhelmina Smith. All the Best for 2021. Bill K.” **Great to hear from you Bill, particularly as you seem to be in such fine fettle.**

- **Bob McEwan (92)** – Rosemary said that husband Bob (who is in an aged care facility) has his ups-and-downs but on the whole he is going alright. The Covid19 restrictions have limited Rosemary’s visits to a couple of times a week but she said Bob contacts her regularly by phone. Best wishes Bob.
- **Harry Brookes (90)** – Unfortunately, I wasn’t able to make phone contact with Harry for this special milestone. I sent him an email (late in the piece) but by copy deadline I hadn’t received a reply. We extend our very best wishes to you Harry for a happy 90th birthday, and for the year ahead. More importantly, we hope you are well and able to enjoy a good celebration.
- **Doug Canavan (89)** – Doug said he is keeping quite well, and ensures he gets an appropriate amount of exercise with an early morning walk each day.
- **Alan Deveson (90)** – Alan was “shouted” a nice lunch by his son at a waterfront restaurant. He was actually at the table when I phoned him, and it seemed he was quite enjoying himself. Alan said he is now a “fully paid-up member of the Dunwith Strenuous Activities Club” (or words to that effect!).
- **Phil Durney (85)** – Phil is in quite good form, although social activities have been curtailed, and their ocean cruise itinerary has been blank for a while (and for a while to come). Phil was quite chuffed that he managed to pass his mandatory driver test without a problem. Dorothy is well.
- **Geoff Brown (85)** – Geoff (and Betty) are OK but have been keeping a low profile because of the Covid19 issues in their Northern Beaches neighbourhood. Geoff is philosophical about the lockdown, and that is probably the best approach. A lunch was the order of the day to celebrate #85.
- **Allan Sear (85)** – Allan has a “few aches and pains”, and he has noticed that it is taking him longer to get over ailments these times (who said “me too”?). Having said that, he added that he is “firing on all cylinders” at the moment. He had a nice restaurant lunch with family to celebrate #85.
- **John Snelling (84)** – I received this email from John: “First of all, thank you and ANZROC(NSW) very much for your kind wishes. Ken, after all these years I have adjusted to the Christmas – New Year’s Eve celebrations.

Background: In March 1952 I joined the ANZ Bank in Kempsey, my home town. Did RAAF Nasho in 1956 and in January 1957 back at the bank at S(P&H) I met the woman who became my Wife, Rosalind Snelling, nee Guyett, who also worked at S(P&H) before we were married in 1961. Her father was Len Guyett who was Assistant Manager of S(P&H) and he retired as Manager of Queen & Wharf street, Brisbane. My sister-in-law, Wendy Guyett (she is Rosalind’s twin sister) was in the S(P&H) Ledgers Department. Jack Hoffman was married to another Guyett, sister-in-law of mine. One of my sons, James, was in the ANZ for a little while in the ANZ at Glen Waverley. James is and has been a long-qualified horticulturist on the Wilsons Promontory area. Another brother-in-law, Garth Guyett was manager of Pymble branch, ANZ. I’ll stop boring you but, you can imagine the occasional family bbq. At one point I was working in Advances Dept at S(P&H) and guess which one of the four managers I was writing for? before I was transferred to the NSW Division Office - Staff Department, up in Martin Place. Incidentally, we have a very nice picture taken by a professional photographer – all staff of the branch standing on the very wide stairs. It took up the entire stairs top to bottom. At least 100 staff members are in that photo at Pitt & Hunter St in those days. Yes, I know. S(P&H) no longer exists. My apologies for that long beginning. But it doesn’t hurt to give you some family background. Ros and I are long retired. Seven years ago we left our Glen Waverley home where we had been 34 years, and moved to a nice quiet area on the eastern side of the Mornington Peninsular. On the Westernport side and we’re just 3 kms from Balnarring beach where I swim train on the really hot days for a few months each year. But most often, all year round in one of three council outdoor pools not far from home. In 1990 I started competing in all the open ocean swim races along the

Vic coast as well as those run by Life Saving Clubs all around the Port Phillip Bay. The best-known open ocean race down here being "The Pier to Pub" ocean swim at Lorne every January. None of us know what will now become of those events since early this year and we were restricted to our homes for the last three months. Now, after four weeks or so, my swim training is back almost to my normal times before COVID. I don't know but, maybe the nine months we were confined to our homes and allowed to drive no more than 5 kms from home did not do much harm after all. I definitely increased my usage of an eKindle. We did daily physical exercises that I had not done for a long time. Nevertheless, I understand all those people who were not at all happy with their confinement.

Again, thank you for your email, and I wish you and all members of ANZROC(NSW) a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Kind regards". **Thanks very much John, it's great that you keep in touch this way.**

- **Charles Ross (88)** – Charles is another on The Hons list to send us a newsy up-date on his anniversary: "Hi Ken - Has been a rugged year, it is 12 months since we have seen our many NSW relatives. Particularly miss having not seen our youngest great-grandchild who is almost 1 year old. Today is the third day of our 3-day lockdown currently in force, hoping that it is not extended. We are Coralie and myself now in our 62nd year of married life and both are pretty good. We live in dual accommodation with our daughter and her family so we are watched over but to date have not needed to rely on her assistance. I am a shareholder member of Wantima Country Golf Club and play each Monday and Friday. Also look after the Seniors and Veterans competitions which comes via the position of Seniors and Veterans Coordinator on the Golf Committee. I also do a couple of hours voluntary work on the course each Thursday. That is after I get home from the Men's Shed which I attend each Thursday morning for 5 hours approx. This has enabled me to learn quite a bit about Woodturning and Carpentry and I have built up quite a workshop here at home. I will try and send you a photo of some of the work I have done. But my computer skills have not kept pace with what is available so will need help to do that. Thank you grand-children. I believe in keeping busy to keep healthy and so far it is working. I thank you very much for your E-mail and am looking forward to the time monthly Newsletters become regular again as I do like to keep up with happenings. Regards to all." **Thanks Charles, it certainly seems that you have no time to wander the streets!**
- **Ian Tredinnick (84)** – Ian is well and continuing to live life and have a laugh. He and Dorothy are expecting to catch-up with some former colleagues (John Richardson and David Wright) and their respective wives (Eileen and Margaret) for a dinner quite soon. Ian said he and Dorothy will celebrate 60 years of wedded bliss next month (I don't know how you've done it Dorothy!), and they now are great-grand-parents.
- **Ian Stewart (82)** – Ian celebrated his birthday with a family get-together at home which was rained upon, but spirits were certainly not dampened. Ian said his health is good.
- **Jim Richards (82)** – Jim said he had a "quiet" birthday, but he and wife Barbara are both well. He has a bit of involvement in the community, including a local men's choir.
- **Ramon Croucher (83)** – Ray is going along nicely with "no real problems". He said he exercises regularly and likes to keep mobile. He hopes to join us for a meeting this year (and we hope this is a possibility).
- **Cath Woodward (86)** – I had to resort to leaving Cath a couple of phone messages. We trust you are well Cath and enjoy a very happy birthday on the 30th. And may the year ahead be a good one for you. Best wishes.
- **Noel Bottrell (83)** – Noel is in "good shape" and celebrated with a nice lunch at Paddington, and a further celebration in the form of a dinner get-together with "quite a few people".
- **Dick Mattress (82)** – Dick is travelling well. He had a visit from his son and grandson who travelled over from Canberra for a game of golf with Dick – it was a nice family celebration.
- **Colin Walker (84)** – Col had a "quiet one", mainly because he is under doctor's orders following a gall bladder operation. There was a complication with a blood clot

in his knee, but it all seems to be coming good and he's hoping to be back on track in two weeks or so. Wife Jean is OK and looking after him well.

- **Rod Prosser (81)** – Rod is managing to “keep out of mischief”, probably enabled by his back operation from last June which is still causing him some grief. However, the day I phoned was his first day back on the golf course for some considerable time. He had a pre-Christmas date with a surgeon for the excision of a melanoma and a skin graft. We hope that procedure went well Rod.
- **Tony Rowley (81)** – Tony sent this email: “Thanks for your birthday 🎉 greetings. Keeping in reasonable health and playing bowls regularly. Life in the Tweed Heads has been pretty normal with no COVID dramas during the past year. Our biggest complaint is the traffic problems associated with the Queensland border and the passes required to cross over. Hopefully life will return to normal in this coming year and I wish all members good health and a happy new year. Best regards”. **Cheers Tony, and a happy 2021 to you and yours.**
- **John Hillard (81)** – A message from John: “Thank you for best wishes Ken. We have moved into a retirement village. We had to cancel out of overseas trips but overall considering others we cannot complain for a few inconveniences. Lyn and I are both well and it was good to enjoy my birthday with daughters and grandsons at Terry Hills Tavern recently. Kind Regards” **Thanks John.**
- **Nick Oglesneff (81)** – Nick is going well, so well in fact that he spent a major part of his birthday working in the home yard. His family did however pay him a visit which he enjoyed.
- **Eric Myatt (80)** – one of our several new members onto The Hons list. Eric has a problem back but otherwise he is OK, and life is good. He celebrated his milestone with his family, but according to Eric the big milestone counted for nothing when it came to who paid the bill.
- **Graham Scarlett (80)** – another newcomer to The Hons list. Graham said he and wife Caroline are both well and enjoying the quietness of retired life out in the valley (Hunter, that is). However, they make a regular sojourn to Port Stephens to get some sea air into their lungs. Sounds idyllic.
- **Bob Jennings (80)** – and one more new entry on The Hons list. Bob felt it was not a bad achievement to reach 80 unscathed, and he is right of course! Both he and Roslyn are in good health, and Bob was about to head off to golf when I phoned.
- **David Braidwood (80)** – yet another new inductee to The Hons club. David said he is “as fit as a fiddle, but worn-out from celebrating”. He had a nice lunch on the harbour-front with family. David is the full-time carer for his wife Meryl so he has very little spare time.
- **Gregory Croan (80)** – and finally another new member for The Hons list. Greg sent us the following message: “Thank you Ken for your personal birthday wishes and for extending those good wishes to me on behalf of members of ANZROC(NSW). I am pleased to report that my health has been good and has allowed me to enjoy all those things that we do when on holidays which is every day when retired. I play golf at Twin Waters each week, ride my bike when the mood strikes me. I enjoy our ANZROC(SSC) bi-monthly luncheons, our next one is scheduled for February. I am a past president of our club and I think it is nearly time for me to accept nomination for that role once again. This is to show what age does, I have joined a play group named the “Merryatics”. This group performs in a theatre down in Caloundra. With the Covid19 I don't think we will get a spot in the theatre until near the end of this year. This coupled with my singing in the Sunshine Coast Barbershop Chorus keeps me active in the entertainment world. I am thinking of diving down to the Greek Club in Brisbane for my birthday, they always put on a great banquet. The only draw-back to that is negotiating the Bruce Highway with the free-flowing Southerners if the borders are open again. I feel privileged to be welcomed to “The Hons”. Fond regards to all” **Thanks Greg, and all the best to you.**

I was unable to make contact with **Noel Hall** (phone disconnected). If anyone has

information about Noel's current circumstances, please let us know.

Finally, it has been my pleasant duty to submit a Welfare Report for the ROC Newsletter each month since 2013. I'm "retiring" at the forthcoming AGM, and I want to take this opportunity to extend thanks to all those who have made my job so rewarding over the years. Thanks, Ken.

Nostalgia Corner

Committee member Ann Morgan, has sent in 3 photos, from our very esteemed and oldest member, Betty Gemmell.

Ann said.

I was with Betty recently looking at her photo album and I thought you may like some for the Newsletter.

The first one is our first lady teller...Ella (Ella the Teller) Smith with Betty Gemmell



Sorry don't know what year this was. Probably around 1963/64.

No 2 is Betty and I at one of the Patrons Luncheons at the ANZ Tower. I am pretty sure the Patron was The Hon Warwick Smith



No 3 is some of the dolls that were dressed by lady staff members to be given to the little girls at the Children's Christmas party. I think they were being judged for the best dressed doll.



Correspondence received from members

Treasurer Mike advises,

Alf McDermott.

Treasurer Mike was talking to Alf McDermott recently. He is still not very well.

Alf advises that he has kept in touch with a **Colin Coleman** (who is aged in his late eighties) since he returned to London.

Colin was a banker in ANZ London in the early 1970s and was transferred out here to Sydney for a few years.

He was employed as the Assistant Accountant at Martin Place and Pitt Street Branch and Mike replaced him in this position when he returned to London in 1973/4.

He worked on in ANZ in London and retired some years ago now.

Alf advises that both Colin and his wife Audrey have both been in hospital in London for some time due to the Corona Virus and Colin has **now** been released from Hospital.

Sadly his wife Audrey died a **few weeks ago**.

On Spencer Myers:

Noel Bottrell wrote

I knew Spencer well over the years, a good bloke and a true country banker.

Elaine David wrote

Thank you for this sad news. Yes, my father Bruce worked with Spencer at Balmain during our sad time when my brother was very ill and we were housed at the Balmain bank premises for his hospital time and subsequently passing away 1963. It was later time when my father moved to Berry as Manager that I commenced my banking career in Nowra, relieving staff and Gerringong and later Nowra Branches that I met up with Spencer Myers again. I had over time made contact with the family however sadly there was no response.

John Turnbull wrote

I did my last Audit at Forbes in October, 1986. We got on very well. My parents had only moved to Gerringong the November before and he wanted an update on the town and certain people that he remembered and we spent some time at the Tennis club.

He was a gentleman.

Irene Norris wrote

Sad news indeed.

Paul Crowe wrote

Sorry to hear. Knew Dean and Spencer from my time in Parkes.

Doug Ricardson wrote

RIP Spencer.

Not sure if I worked with him at Cowra Branch during the 1960's, Manager at that time was Jack Thickett.

On Geoff Nelson.

Tony Knight wrote,

Thanks for passing on the sad news, although Geoff had a good innings.

Caught up with Geoff several times after his appointment to Seven Hills, I was at Blacktown and had worked in the Seven Hills Agency before it became a branch.

Later met him several times on the Advances Inspection? - although he may have been on the Audit staff. A good bloke and banker who was very approachable and a pleasure to be with.

Condolences to his family.

Ron Miller wrote

I was Geoff's Accountant/Teller when we opened the new Seven Hills branch in 1964. I have always held him in great esteem. I last saw him at Beryl's funeral some years ago.

Noel Bottrell wrote

Geoff was Accountant at 327 King St Newtown where I worked as met Teller and then as Bill Clerk, also where I my now wife Jenny who came there while on Relieving Staff.

Geoff was a good bloke, ran a tight ship and I enjoyed working under him at Newtown 327

Roy Crawford wrote,

I am sorry to hear of Geoff's passing. We worked together for a time when I was Assistant Manager at Auburn and I remember Geoff as personable and easy going - a pleasure to work with.

Another good man gone. RIP

Ken Abrahams wrote

Saddened to hear the news.

My banking association with him goes back sixty six years to when I was transferred to William Street Kings Cross branch as junior (Dec 1954). He was the Advance Clerk.

He was helpful to me many times in the months prior to his move to Victor Harbour.

Our friendship was rekindled in 1969 when he came to North Auburn branch as Manager. (I was the Accountant). We worked well together until merger day (1970). Unfortunately for me and the Bank he was not appointed Manager of the merged branches.

I last saw him two years ago (visited him at "Poplars" - Epping). He was in good spirits.

He was, as us Aussies would say, " a good bloke".

Members please enjoy reading our January 21 Newsletter, and stay tuned for regular updates as we move into 2021, in a more positive manner.

Terry Auld Club President.