



Combined Probud Club Castle Hill Inc

General Meeting: 20 June 2023

MINUTES

Open Meeting: - 10.00am

INTRODUCTION: Chairperson: - Peter Wolnizer

- **Welcome**

Peter welcomed all visitors on this particularly cold morning. Peter referred to a hearing aid device provided by Alan Watson for those who have hearing aids or would like to trial this little device; all you have to do is put the head phones and switch it on. It was made available on the stage.

- **Visitors / guests** – Phillip Coombe, Bobbie Cochrane and Lorna Atkinson from Probud, Lennox Heads

- **Housekeeping.** Peter referred to the following:

- Please ensure that your phone is off or on silent.
- In the unlikely event that we need to evacuate the building, the emergency assembly point is adjacent to this building.
- Toilets are located near the ramp on your left as you exit the hall.
- If you need to leave the meeting early, please make sure you sign out using the form located just inside the hall doorway.
- At the conclusion of the meeting please vacate the hall and the foyer as quickly as possible. The Hornsby Council requires us to vacate the hall by noon.

- **Medical Cards** – all members are advised to carry their personal medical card when attending Probud events. If you don't have one, please see our secretary, Bev Rooney.

- **President's Message**

1. We were deeply saddened to learn that two of our long standing and much-loved members passed since our last meeting – Beverley Denison and Noel Milligan. We extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to Beverley's husband Carl, Noel's wife Dorothy and their families at this sad time of loss.
2. Peter referred to his verbal report of the May General Meeting and his email to all members dated 17 May explaining why your Committee enthusiastically and unanimously recommends changing of Standing Resolution #2 to allow for two additional positions on the Committee, to include the Newsletter Editor whose role is vital to the operation of the Club; therefore your Committee unanimously recommends that members approve the that Standing Resolution #2. Peter read the amendment as follows:

'The Club shall be managed by a Management Committee (herein after called 'The Committee') comprising the President, Vice-President (who shall be the President Elect), Secretary, Treasurer and up

to ten (10) Committee Members to be responsible for the Club's activities as may be decided from time to time by the Club.

The Immediate Past President shall be a member, ex-officio, of the Committee with full voting rights.'

Peter then asked for the members who agreed with the amendment to please show their hands. The amendment was accepted unanimously. Peter then went on to congratulate Annette Watson on her election to the Managing Committee in her capacity as Newsletter Editor.

In keeping with increasing the member contribution at General Meetings, Peter mentioned that Geoff Loraway had passed him some very interesting documents so that he could let members know some good news stories. On 13/6/63 Geoff received a notice from the Commissioner of Police referring to an incident where Geoff smelled gas escaping from a home. Geoff turned off the gas and entered the home, pulling out an unconscious woman; he showed courage and bravery in saving this woman's life. Geoff has also received a Certificate of Service for his 10 years volunteer work at Anglicare.

3. Peter thanked Anne Lockwood for preparing the May and June Newsletters while Annette Watson was overseas on holidays – in addition to her substantial duties as Treasurer.
4. Peter highlighted that our activities, events, and tours are the heartbeat of our Club and encouraged as many members as possible to participate in whatever activities interest them – for their own benefit and the benefit of fellow club members.
5. Peter encouraged members to make suggestions for tours, day trips, walks and other activities - and thanked everyone who completed the week away tours survey. As a Committee, we understand that members' interests, priorities and capacities change over time – as do the daily demands on our time - and that our programme of activities and events needs to adapt to accordingly. It is most unfortunate that our Heritage and History Group held its final meeting on Wednesday 14 June and our Tai Chi group will conclude on Monday 3 July – both due to insufficient member interest and participation. The Tai Chi group needs to have a minimum of 16 participants to make it financially viable and I understand that cost is a key factor in some members deciding not to continue. I know that John Wilkes and John Lucas who have convened those activities are exceedingly disappointed that these activities will cease – Peter asked John Wilkes and John Lucas to stand and all members were invited to show their appreciation for their wonderful service in the usual manner.
6. Peter informed the meeting that with the agreement of the Committee, it will dedicate one of our meetings in the coming months to brainstorming how to enhance the member participation in our General Meetings and invigorate our activities and events programme. Members would informally divide into groups at the meeting, and instead of a guest speaker, feedback to the Committee its deliberations. This idea was welcomed by members.
7. Peter advised the meeting that in response to member feedback the Committee has decided to change the time allocation at General Meetings to allow more time for sharing those experiences and promoting the activities of Club life - by extending the opening session by up to 15 minutes (from 10:00-10:45) followed by morning tea for 30 minutes and the guest speaker time slot being reduced to 40-45 minutes (from 11:15-noon).
8. Due to the necessity of the Committee maintaining up-to-date contact details, Peter explained that for all members where any member's contact details change, that they complete a 'Change of Contact Details' form available from Helen Strong our, Membership Officer.
9. Peter stated as indicated in his report in the Newsletter, our Club will celebrate its 19th anniversary at our next General Meeting – on 18 July 2023. We shall celebrate this special and happy day with a special birthday cake. During the cutting of the cake, we will express our gratitude to all former Presidents and our foundation members.
10. Lunch today will be at West Pennant Hills Sports Club; the decor of the Club has been significantly improved and the noise levels are quite low due to carpeted flooring. They offer a special and varied luncheon menu for \$20 and an extensive bistro menu with prices ranging from about \$18-mid\$30's. Drinks are reasonably priced. Attendees to sign the book or advise

Lyn Wilkes during morning tea.

11. Peter referred to birthdays in June and extended birthday wishes to all members who celebrate a birthday in June – including one of our recently joined members Joyce March whose date missed the Newsletter (Peter invited all to stand).

SECRETARY’S REPORT - Bev Rooney

Today’s meeting: Present 117; Apologies 16; Leave of Absence 14; No contact 14; Inactive 2; Visitors 3
Welcomed visitors: Phillip Coombe, Bobbie Cochrane (returning member), Lorna Atkinson, Probus Lennox Head.

Correspondence received: A Thank You card from Judy Rochford for the card and kind wishes we sent.
Suggestion Box: We have successfully changed our details in the Hills to Hawkesbury Magazine.

Announcement: Could those members of the gardening club intending to visit the Rose Garden on the last Wednesday in June, let Les Dyball know so that he can advise the coffee shop of numbers, please?

TREASURER’S REPORT - Anne Lockwood -Anne’s Financial statements are not on display on the notice board today. Anne explained the birthday list error in the Newsletter. Anne has given it back to Annette and will not do again. All people have paid their membership fees. There is money in the bank.

INDUCTIONS -

Today I have the pleasure to induct two new members. I ask the following people to please make their way onto the stage – Fred and Lily Wong. The President inducted our new members.

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome our new members.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Committee reports	Coordinator
International tours	Rodica Benton-Presented a trip to Sri Lanka from 14 th to 27 th March, being 14 days and 13 nights. The cost is \$5948 twin share with a single supplement of \$1298, and the agent is asking \$236 for taxes. The flights are with Singapore Airlines, with most meals included. Escorts will be provided by the Travel Agent, with luxury coach travel and accommodation in 4- and 5-star hotels. The Deposit is \$1,000 due 1 st December. Sri Lanka has a large variety of birds, animals and reptiles.
Week away tours	Frances Orr -I am making a final call for folk to go to <u>Gloucester</u> today, there are 18 folk definite in going and 1 unsure; I am very happy with these numbers especially, as 21 of our regular travellers are going on Colin’s trip. It means the lower priced trip has appealed to many. 3 rooms are still available, but the deposit of \$200 is due today. I would also like to present a <u>High-Country</u> trip today, a 5-day 4-night trip from 7 th to 1 st May. This is hot-off -the press with a company called Crowthers and they are holding it for us for a short time and there are already two other probus clubs who are also interested in it. This could be good if we don’t get the numbers. The cost is \$1290 for 25 and will be held end of Feb early March TBA. A holding deposit of \$100 is required by next meeting. I will also present the <u>Berry Celtic</u> festival spoken about at the last committee meeting and On Course has booked us in. 24/25/25 May 2024, cost \$950, staying at the Sebel. This is a 3-day, 2-night tour.
Day Tours	Elizabeth Lessells-For those people going to <u>Western Sydney Airport</u> on 27 th June, could they please provide their contact details to Elizabeth as this is a requirement of the tour. The tour for the <u>Police Museum</u> (which missed the Newsletter) for Friday 14 th July is a low-cost day out with travel costing only \$2.50,

	<p>Entrance to the museum is free and the largest expenditure will be on the lunch chosen. It is at Circular Quay on the corner of Phillip and Albert Street meeting at 10.00 am. Please see</p> <p>In August we are going to the Maritime Museum costing approximately \$25.00 plus lunch and details will be in the next Newsletter.</p> <p>In September we are travelling to <u>Bowral for the Tulip Festival</u> on either 21st and 22nd September. We will visit Greenbright Park to observe the tulips, then on to one of the special gardens at Burradoon (3 Hectares). The cost is \$105.00.</p>
Special events	<p>John Michell-Christmas in July has 42 listed and paid attendees. We need 50 people for Thursday 20th July, featuring 2 bottles of wine, 2 course meal, tea and coffee. Please register in the next 2 weeks.</p> <p>September 13th-Crazy Whist at a cost of \$10 in the Red Gum Room.</p> <p>The Christmas Party will be on Tuesday 28/11/23 at Allegro. It contains a drink on arrival, 3 bottles of wine on each table, 3 appetisers, a 2-course meal, The price is \$65.00, which has been heavily subsidised by the club.</p>
Activity groups	<p>Chris Savage-Wine and Cheese will be held in August by Lyn and John Wilkes.</p> <p>The Gardening group numbers are required by Les Dyball.</p> <p>The walk will be held on this Friday meeting at 9.55 at Circular Quay to walk around Clontarf and Manly.</p> <p>The men's group is very successful. Last month they visited the gym and out of 13 people who attended, 11 joined the gym.</p>

Angelina Bonifacio spoke on behalf of the library ladies, herself, Dianne and Carol. They need to be able to load all books into the plastic crates to store. Recently people have been returning quite a few books and not borrowing, causing storage problems. The new rule is that if you return 15 books, you must borrow 15 books to ensure a balance so that the ladies can load these crates onto trolleys for later storage.

ADJOURN FOR MORNING TEA AND RECONVENE AT 11:15 a.m.

GUEST SPEAKER –

Barry Haywood introduced Mark Robinson - a partner of RetireInvest RI Advice, Retirement Advisory Specialists.

Mark spoke at length on new rules affecting investments and reminded all that "where there is a will there is a relation".

Barry made a presentation of a gift card to Mark on behalf of the club for providing his valuable presentation

CLOSING COMMENTS

Peter thanked everyone for attending and commended the Newsletter and lunch at WPH Sports Club.

The Meeting Closed at 11.45 am.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS ON TUESDAY 18 JULY 2023

Peter Wolnizer
President

Bev Rooney
Secretary