



Combine Probus Club Castle Hill Inc

General Meeting: 19 July 2022

MINUTES

Open Meeting: - 10.00am

INTRODUCTION: Chairperson: - Aldo Cantori

- **Welcome and President's message**

Good morning and welcome to our July general meeting.

- **Visitors / guests**

A big welcome to the three visitors who have joined us today: Paul March, Joyce March and Jerry Wajzer.

- **Housekeeping**

A reminder of the usual housekeeping rules. Please ensure that your phone is off or on silent. Take note of the location of the emergency exits and our emergency assembly point which 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.

- **Medical Cards** – for your own safety, you should be carrying a personal medical card at all Probus events. If you don't have one yet, please see our secretary, Bev Rooney and she will arrange one for you.

Although not mandatory, the government has stated that it's advisable to wear a mask at indoor venues. Members are encouraged to do so at next month's general meeting.

- **Lunch** – as usual, lunch will be held today at the West Pennant Hills Sports Club. If you'd like to attend, please see Lyn Wilkes during morning tea so she can add you to the attendee list.

- **July birthdays** – A list of the names of those who are celebrating a birthday this month is included in the newsletter. On behalf of the management committee and all our members, I wish you all a very happy birthday.

- **Probus birthday** – this month the club celebrates its 18th birthday. The significant number of foundations members that have remained involved with the club says a lot. Congratulations to all members, particularly to those who have been members since the club was launched.

- **Other announcements**

1. **Vacant roles**

We have been able to fill one of the vacant roles since the last meeting. Many thanks to Viv Wilson for volunteering to manage the book exchange. Viv is unable to be with us today but will take over the book exchange function from our next

general meeting. I'm sure she would welcome the assistance of a male member to assist with lifting the boxes of books onto the display tables.

That leaves us with two vacancies, namely,

- Theatre Outings
- International Tours

I'd just like to say that taking an active part in the running of the club's activities is a very rewarding and satisfying experience and is a great way to keep our minds active. If you look at our newsletter (specifically on pages 5 and 7) you will see that there are 12 committee positions and approximately 25 convenor or activity lead roles. The people in these positions ensure that the club continues to function efficiently and effectively for the benefit of the members. What I urge you all to do, is to have a look at those roles and consider which might be of interest to you. You may like to be an assistant to one of the existing convenors so that if the role is vacated for any reason, you will be familiar enough with the role to be the next convenor, if you so choose. As an example, Alan Watson does a great job of setting up the IT and multimedia for each of our meetings but if Alan is ever sick or unable to attend a meeting for any reason, you wouldn't want to rely on me to do his job. It would be very useful to have a backup person who can step in at short notice. The same applies to most of the other roles.

As a club we need to ensure that we have a robust succession plan. So, please think about this and feel free to have a chat with me, any member of the management committee or the relevant convenor or co-ordinator.

2. Spotlight on a Member

This month's SPOTLIGHT on a Member feature two of our foundation members, Myra Stack and John Lucas. Thanks Myra and John for agreeing to participate. I'm always on the lookout for members willing to share a few facts about themselves so, please let me know if you'd like to take part and I will send you the standard questionnaire.

3. Heritage and History Group

Our genealogy group has been renamed to the Heritage and History Group to better reflect the activities of this group. As you will read in our newsletters, this group does a lot of interesting things including visiting local historical sites and listening to informative guest speakers. John Wilkes will continue to be the convenor of this renamed activity

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Bev Rooney

-Today's meeting: Present: 130; Apologies: 30; Leave of Absence: 6; No contact: 16; Visitors: 3

Correspondence In:

-Receipt of & circulation by President of Trivia Night Invitation by Rotary Club of WPH & Cherrybrook

-2 Letters from Probus South Pacific re incidence reports submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Anne Lockwood.

Anne reported that she held \$6,500 in funds for current Day Tours that have been booked & that she expects to receive \$37,000 for the upcoming Silo Art Tour & \$12,000 for the Hunter Valley Christmas lights tour. The Floktu function had been used 123 times for tours this current month & 770 registrations for the year to date which was very pleasing.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

1. Week Away Tours – Colin Yates – The Silo Art Tour is on 20-27 October, with 15 members attending. Colin called for members to show expressions of interest for 2023 week away tours, currently priced around \$3,000 as follow:
 - February – Sunshine Coast
 - March – Endless Summer: Kangaroo Point, O'Reilly's Guest House
 - September: Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers
 - September/October - Adelaide: York & Eyre Peninsula
 - October – Lakes Entrance & Phillip Island
2. Special Events – John Michell – The Christmas in July function is coming up on Thursday week. On September 28 there is a Crazy Whist function to be held in the Red Gum Room at a cost of \$10. On November 29 the Christmas Party Function will be held at the Epping Club & on 10 January we have booked for our Picnic in the Park.
3. International Tours – Aldo Cantori - I don't have anything new to report. We are still awaiting details from a couple of alternative tour operators for a possible trip to New Zealand.

In the newsletter we have called for expressions of interest in a cruise and we've asked for people to indicate their preference for cruise destination, duration, cruise line etc. Your feedback will be very welcome. Until we have an International Tours Convenor, please address your expressions of interest to me.

4. Day Tours – Elizabeth Lessells – Elizabeth discussed the Tour of the Quarantine Station on 19/8 which had 21 people booked. There is a need for another 9 people or Elizabeth will either cancel the tour or increase the price. Friends are welcome to make up the numbers. During the tea break, a number of people added their name to the list – we now have 32 and have met the minimum number however we can still take a few more. On 13/9 we have 20 people booked for the Bare Island Tour. On 11/10 we have the Seven Islands Tour of the Lower Hawkesbury followed by the Melbourne Cup Function at the Fiddler on 1/11 & the Hunter Valley Lights Tour on 4 & 5 December.
5. Heritage and History – John Wilkes – John spoke of the recent name change and how it reflected more of what the group was pursuing researching the history of the Parramatta, Hills & CBD regions. The tours include Cemeteries, Historical Houses, old Pubs & Other places. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday between 1 & 3pm at a cost of \$5 to cover the hall hire & afternoon tea. To attend an excursion, you need to register through flocktu & pay in advance. Our August meeting will have Judith Dunn as a guest speaker.

6. Activity Groups – Aldo Cantori (on behalf of Chris Savage) Aldo mentioned the \$2.50 Club trip to Cronulla on Thursday, followed by the Walk from Kellyville Station to Rouse Hill on Friday. John Lucas Men’s Group is very popular, so ladies please get your husbands out of the house to attend. The next meeting is on 3/8. There is a ladies High Tea on 30/8 so please contact Anne Gover by no later than 23/8.

DEFIBRILLATOR PRESENTATION

Before we break for morning tea, I’d like to show a short 4- minute video on the use of our defibrillator. Whilst we hope never to have to use it, it’s always good to be armed with some basic knowledge in case we ever do need to use it.

Aldo Cantori & Alan Watson showed the members the short video which showed the ease with which the defibrillator could be used.

ADJOURN FOR MORNING TEA AND BIRTHDAY CAKE - RECONVENE AT 11:00am

GUEST SPEAKERS – James Teo and William Zalloua. Subject: Podiatry – caring for your feet.

Hosted by: Anne Lockwood

James & William gave a presentation on various common foot ailments showing gory photos to support their discussion. They went on to discuss the different treatments that could apply & fielded questions from several members of our club.

CLOSING COMMENTS

- Anne Lockwood thanked James & William & presented them with a gift of appreciation.
- Aldo Cantori thanked Maryann and Richard Vella and those who assisted in the preparation of the special birthday morning tea.
- Date of next general meeting: 16 August 2022
- Close meeting at 12 pm.