



Combined Probis Club Castle Hill Inc

General Meeting: 15 August 2023

MINUTES

Open Meeting: - 10.00am

INTRODUCTION: Chairperson: - Peter Wolnizer

- **Welcome**

Peter wished everyone good morning and welcome to our August General Meeting. He said it is a particular delight to welcome back Graeme Lockwood just a few weeks after major surgery. He was looking forward to rolling out the red carpet to welcome back Aldo and Karon, but alas poor Aldo has succumbed to Covid.

- **Visitors / guests** – Jenny Tozer and Janet King.

- **Housekeeping** -Peter read the following points to ensure the meeting runs efficiently.

- 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. I hope you will be able to join us for lunch after at the West Pennant Hills Sports Club.

- **Medical Cards** – Peter advised all members to carry their personal medical card when attending Probis events. He referred anyone without one to please see our secretary, Bev Rooney.

- **President's Message**

1. Peter thanked the many members on behalf of the Committee for their positive and encouraging feedback on our 19th anniversary celebrations at our July meeting and indicated that he had been asked to thank all our ladies whose contributions were widely appreciated at morning tea.
2. Peter stated that likewise, your Committee was delighted with the spontaneous and positive response by members to the idea of devoting our October meeting to having informal, small group conversations about enhancing member participation and time allocations in General Meetings. We will be considering adapting in a very casual manner our extensive activities and events programme to the contemporary interests of our members. The Committee will discuss your ideas and feedback at our November meeting. Peter gave a very sincere and personal 'thank you' in anticipation!
3. Peter stated that to the best of his knowledge, the following matter does not apply to us but advised the meeting that our Property Officer, John Perry, has been contacted by the Venue Management Team at the Hornsby Shire Council expressing concern 'that the Ironbark Hall is not being cleaned properly prior

to vacating the premises, with food being left on the main hall floors and the pilot light on the gas cooker being left on. This is housekeeping reminder to all hirers of the Cherrybrook Community Centre to please note the below requirements highlighted in our Terms and Conditions of Hire, as per clauses 36, 38 and 39.' John ensures that we leave the hall in immaculate condition before he locks up.

4. Peter mentioned that as we have several trips coming up in the next few months, he would like to remind members that Probus Insurance does not include personal travel insurance for members. Accordingly, members are advised to purchase their own individual travel insurance when appropriate. 'In Australia the National Insurance Program provides cover for Public Liability, Personal Injury, Association Liability (protection for Club Officers) and Club Money Cover for approved Probus Club and Association activities.' It is for this reason that we ask all members to sign an attendance record for meetings and activities.
 5. Peter finally commended our monthly Newsletter to all members. The Newsletter – painstakingly prepared by Annette Watson - provides comprehensive information about all aspects of our Club – news, activities, events and tours – and contact information for all members of your Committee.
 6. **Lunch** – Peter reminded the meeting that lunch would be held at the West Pennant Hills Sports Club; for those who haven't been for a while, the decor of the Club has been significantly improved and the noise levels are reduced 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. Peter asked attendees to advise him during morning tea as Lyn Wilkes was not present. There have been record numbers attending over the last few months.
- **August birthdays** – Peter extended birthday wishes to all members who celebrate a birthday in August and invited applause for these members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Bev Rooney

Today's meeting: Present 120; Apologies 23; Leave of Absence 8; No contact 15; Inactive 2; Visitors 2
Bev welcomed visitors: Jenny Tozer and Janet King.

Correspondence received: A beautiful thank you card was received from Carl Denison for support, a beautiful card and flowers sent, and for those that were able to attend Beverly's funeral.

A lovely Thank you poem from Jan Jones on behalf of her family for the support at Paul's passing.

Suggestion Box: Nil

Travellers: As you all know; we have 2 trips coming up in September; one to Adelaide and one to Gloucester as well as some time away with our Cabin and Caravan Club in November at Gerroa. Some of you have medical cards provided by your doctors indicating any conditions, allergies and vaccinations applicable to you. These probably show emergency contact details also. But, for those that don't, we advise that you take a medical card. Bev demonstrated her card, and why she considers it important, particularly for trips away.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Anne Lockwood – Anne referred to the financial statements displayed on the notice board for the members' perusal. At the end of last month there was \$48,000 in the bank. As of today, there is \$93,000 in the bank and I have just taken more funds down at the back of the hall. Due to upcoming trips, \$75,000 must go to OnCourse, and other trips also. We are going well so never fear.

INDUCTIONS -

Peter stated that it has been a great pleasure to welcome six new members to our Club over the last couple of months and, this morning, we are delighted to welcome another three new members to our Club.

Today I have the pleasure to induct three new members. I ask the following people to please make their way onto the stage – Margaret Whetton, Victor and Theresa Zarb.

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome our new members.

Peter advised that Julie Savage has agreed to be the convenor of the 250 Club, as well as continuing as the convenor for the Wine and Cheese Nights.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Committee reports	Coordinator
International tours	Rodica Benton- Sri Lanka change of date to June 11 th - deposit is to be paid by end of August. Forms to be completed and returned to Rodica.
Week away tours	<p>Frances Orr- <u>Gloucester</u>-I do have 8.15am pickup time at the BHSC. Remember our get to know you gathering at the BHSC on Sat Sept 2nd-2.30 pm. Thanks to those who did RSVP- if others could email me yes or no. If new members would like to join this tour and can commit and pay today or tomorrow there is some space still. See me.</p> <p><u>Canberra</u>-We have 15 starters already - I need at least five more, preferably 10 before the trip will proceed; Deposit required on confirmation of numbers - three days inclusive for \$800 and staying in pleasant villas. Less, if we get 25. I have a sample itinerary at the desk. This only changes a little depending on exhibitions.</p> <p><u>Berry Celtic Festival</u>-cost \$960 with a \$210 single supplement. May 2024. Our accommodation is at the luxury Sebel Kiama and it is all inclusive. A flyer is available at the desk and a detailed itinerary will be available later in the month. Especially for us by OnCourse at the request of many of our members so we want 30 please. Please register on Floktu at berrycelticfestival.floktu.com Today. \$100 deposit not needed until October.</p> <p><u>Tasmania</u> trip later in 2024. We have a couple of options but most likely November 12th to 24 - 13 days with OnCourse. Price and details probably \$6500 plus.</p> <p>Colin Yates-Adelaide and Peninsulas trip-20 going and all paid. The bus pickup at Castle Pines is 7am. Terry Dunn will be hosting the trip. Questions to Colin during morning tea.</p>
Day Tours	<p>Elizabeth Lessells-<u>Maritime Museum trip</u> at \$16.00 concession on Tuesday 22nd.</p> <p>Friday 1st September – <u>A bus tour of Rookwood with Judith Dunne</u> followed by a light lunch.</p> <p>Friday Nov 3 a visit to <u>Red Cow Farm and Green Briar Park in the Southern Highlands.</u></p> <p>Tuesday 7th November – <u>Melbourne Cup</u> at the Fiddler.</p> <p>Next year Elizabeth has booked the Seafood BBQ, Vivid and the Bowral Tulip Tour with OnCourse.</p>
Special events	<p>John Michell-13th September, <u>Crazy Whist</u> in the Red Gum Room at a cost of \$10 per head.</p> <p>28th November, <u>Christmas Party at Allegro</u>. It entails a drink on arrival, 3 bottles of wine on each table, 3 appetisers, a 2-course meal, tea and coffee available. The price is \$65.00, which has been heavily subsidised</p>

	by the club. 70 people are required to attend. <u>Breakfast in the Park</u> – Tuesday 9 th January at \$5.00.
Activity groups	Chris Savage-Friday is the walk- Crestwood around the park. 250 Club with Julie Savage-26/10-Trip to Brooklyn & out to Dangar Island.

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

GUEST SPEAKERS – Barry introduced Preet Chouhan and Rosalyn Lee, Customer Specialists, Services NSW. Services NSW is a State Government NSW Service. Preet and Rosalyn had arrived at the beginning of the meeting, setting up an information table with pamphlets displaying a range of services provided by Service NSW. They also took members names and phone numbers to set up a range of individual appointments for members.

Among topics discussed were:

- Savings finder – how it applies to individuals and how to access savings on the website. Since 2018 over 75,000 have been assisted, e.g., energy plans, fuel, etcetera. Specific services are automatically available for pensioners, but self-funded retirees with the Commonwealth Health Care cards can also apply for savings.
- Medical and Disability Savings.
- Low interest Loans
- Private Rental Assistance
- Barry presented Preet and Rosalyn with a card in appreciation for their talk.

CLOSING COMMENTS

- Peter thanked everyone for attending and commended the Newsletter and lunch at WPH Sports Club.
- The meeting closed at 12pm.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS ON TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

Peter Wolnizer

President

Bev Rooney

Secretary