



## Combined Probis Club Castle Hill Inc General Meeting: 19 September 2023 MINUTES OF MEETING

**Meeting opened: 10:00am**

- President Peter Wolnizer opened the meeting and welcomed all members and guests
- **Housekeeping rules outlined by the President**
  - Keep phone off or on silent.
  - If building is to be evacuated, emergency assembly point is adjacent to this building.
  - Toilets are near the ramp on your left as you exit the hall.
  - If you need to leave the meeting early, 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.
- **Medical Cards** – all members advised to carry their personal medical card when attending Probis events. If you need one today, see our Alternate secretary, Aldo Cantori.
- **President's Message**
  1. It is a great pleasure to welcome our Immediate Past President and his wife home after their extended holiday overseas. Please join me in giving Aldo and Karon a very warm welcome back to Probis! And a special 'thank you' for Aldo for serving as our Acting Secretary today in Bev Rooney's absence.
  2. You will have recently received a brief questionnaire by email inviting you to provide helpful feedback, ideas and suggestions on the form and content of our General Meetings and on our extensive activities, events and tour offerings. While your participation is entirely voluntary, your Committee would warmly welcome your input as we review and seek to enhance your enjoyment of our Club and its attractiveness to potential members. For those members who find completing an online survey a little challenging, we have printed copies available for distribution today. If you wish, you can complete the questionnaire anonymously – disclosing your name is entirely optional. The more members who complete the questionnaire, the better informed the Committee will be. As you know we are also going to have informal small group discussions about how we might further improve our Club during our October General Meeting. Of course, unlike our entertaining Online Trivia Quiz, there are no 'correct answers' to our questionnaire – all feedback and ideas are

welcome! And we look forward to receiving yours – preferably before or at our October meeting!

3. I hope all who are joining our September tours – to Adelaide and Peninsulas and Gloucester and Barrington Tops have a safe and thoroughly enjoyable time away. I express our sincerest thanks to Colin Yates and Fran Orr respectively for organising these tours. I would also like to say ‘thank you’ to Elizabeth Lessells who has arranged fabulous recent day trips to the National Maritime Museum and to Rookwood Cemetery – though not for a funeral, I’m delighted to say! You will see from our Newsletter that there are many more tours and trips – along with an attractive array of other activities that have been arranged for our future enjoyment.
  4. The Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook has written to our Club regarding their annual Garage Sale, Markets and Car Boot Sale to be held at the Cherrybrook Uniting Church, 134 New Line Road, Cherrybrook from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday 30 September AND to support their ‘Tree of Joy’ Campaign complimented by the Pamper Packs for the elderly or carers of needy children. This will be conducted from Monday 6 November to Sunday 10 December at the Cherrybrook Village Shopping Centre and Westleigh Village. There are several participating charities. Details for these events are posted on the notice board for all interested members to view during morning tea. As our Club was sponsored by Rotary, we thought it appropriate to promote these events.
  5. Yesterday, our Club received an invitation from the Combined Probus Club of Pennant Hills to join with them and other Probus Clubs in our area in a ‘get to know you’ event at Heritage Park in Castle Hill on Friday 27 October starting at 10:00 to celebrate Probus month. I think this is a great opportunity for us to meet members of other Probus Clubs. Details are also on the Notice Board.
  6. Yesterday, I also received an invitation from Probus South Pacific for our Club to join in a tour of the new world class Allianz Stadium to celebrate Probus month. We’ll get details out to members, but the event will be held on Monday 16 October starting at 5:45 pm. Following the tour, Probus members will be welcomed by the Hon Jodie Harrison MP, NSW Minister for Seniors, and enjoy the lighting of the Allianz Stadium and Sydney Cricket Ground in Probus colours.
  7. Reminded member that in line with past custom, the December general meeting will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  8. Advised members that there will be a clean-out of our book trays. Old books will be removed (members were encouraged to take what they like). A new stock of books will then be collected.
  9. Finally, I have a special ‘ask’ of all members! Our wonderful Membership Officer and her team would be grateful if we could all put our name tags on prior to arriving at the registration/welcoming desk. This would help Helen and her team to welcome you by name and to make completion of the attendance list much easier! Of course, name tags also enhance ‘meet and greet’ conversations at morning tea.
- **Lunch** – at West Pennant Hills Sports Club. All who attend have a most enjoyable time together – and we’d love to have more of our members join us!
  - **September birthdays** – the President extended birthday wishes to all members who celebrate a birthday in September.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT – Aldo Cantori for Bev Rooney**

Today’s meeting: present 118; apologies 16; leaves of absence 10; Visitors 1

Aldo welcomed our visitor, Val Billington.

Correspondence received:

- email from David Malone, Director of PSPL introducing himself and reminding us of Probus Day.
- card from Myra Stack thanking everyone for the support shown by members with visits, lovely cards, flowers, phone calls and words of Sympathy.
- email from Pennant Hills Combined Probus Club advising that are planning to hold a joint picnic at Heritage Park in Castle Hill on Friday October

Aldo reminded members to use the suggestion box for any comments and ideas for the committee to consider. Requested that any survey forms completed today be handed to Aldo.

**TREASURER’S REPORT - Anne Lockwood** - financial statements are on display on the notice board for the members’ perusal. August was a big month with about \$153,000 passing through our books. We currently have about \$23,000 in the bank.

**INDUCTIONS** – no new member induction today

**ACTIVITY REPORTS**

Activity	Coordinator
International tours	Rodica Benton-outlined the details of two options for a River Cruises by Travel Marvel, either from <u>Budapest to Amsterdam</u> (14 days from 22 Oct 2024 price from \$7,995 twin share) or <u>Paris to Prague</u> (21 days from 24 Oct 2024). Outlined details of a 15-day trip to Japan commencing 15 Oct 2024 price \$10,965. Members were requested to indicate their interest in any of these trips.
Week away tours	The President issued an apology for Colin Yates who is absent due to illness. Reminded members that the SA trip departs from Castle Pines at 7am on 24 September 2023. On Course will contact all participants regarding the meal choices. President presented Fran’s report in her absence. On Course have requested all travellers to wear their name tags as our tours will include a number of non-Probus members – this will make it easier for people to get to know each other. There are 2 additional rooms available for the <u>High Country Tour</u> . There are 20 people registered for the <u>Canberra Trip</u> in March – if we can get 5 more people the price will reduce from \$800 to \$735. Non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due by the end of November. Berry Celtic Festival (late May 2024) - 10 responses received to date.

	Please register now on Floktu. We will travel via southern highlands stopping at Fitzroy Falls/Kangaroo Valley and will stay at the upmarket Sebel Kiama, spending the day in Berry at the festival then exploring Kiama and nearby Minnamurra Falls among other places on the trip home.
Day Tours	Elizabeth Lessells- <u>Melbourne Cup at the Fiddler</u> -Tuesday 7 November at a cost of \$75. Elizabeth needs 6 more people for this event. Friday 3 November a visit <u>Red Cow Farm and Green Briar Gardens at Bowral</u> - cost reduced to \$75 with people to organise their own lunch. December and January have no activities, but the Seafood BBQ is on 13 Feb 2024. Elizabeth will explore afternoon travel options.
Special events	John Michell-advised that we so far have 50 registered for the <u>Christmas Party at Allegro</u> 28 November 2024. We need to have 70 minimum. It encompasses 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 by the club. <u>Breakfast in the Park</u> will be on 9 January 2024 at \$10 per head.
Activity groups	Chris Savage advised that this Friday's walk will be at Knightsbridge and the weather is expected to be a lot cooler by then. The gardening group will meet at the home of Phil Davis on 27 September. The next Wine and Cheese will be at the Lockwood's residence on 6 October. Next TLC outing will be at Enzo's Cucina on 12 October. The \$2.50 club will be travelling to Watson's Bay on 26 October

## ADJOURNED FOR MORNING TEA AND RECONVENE AT 11:00am

GUEST SPEAKER – Norm and Sandra Webb - Beekeepers.

## CLOSING COMMENTS

- President thanked everyone for attending.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS ON TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023**

Peter Wolnizer  
President

Aldo Cantori  
Secretary