

**Probus Club of Kincumber Inc.**  
**Minutes of General Meeting Number 361**  
**held at Kincumber Uniting Church on Tuesday 22 April 2014**

President John Sutton opened the meeting at 9.30am, welcoming Members and visitors Heather Muffett and Joan and Jeff Bradshaw.

Anzac Commemoration was observed with John Sutton describing a personal memory of War Service, the observance of one minute's silence and the singing of the Australian National Anthem.

Minutes of previous meeting: Secretary Yvonne Chandler presented the Minutes of the AGM and of the General Meeting held on the 25 March 2014. The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

Business arising from the Minutes: None

Correspondence: News Sheets from other Probus Clubs; travel brochures. A letter from Probus South Pacific Limited was received confirming acceptance of our amended Constitution for an incorporated Probus club in NSW. This conformed to the accreditation requirements of PSPL and necessary alterations have been made to their records and filed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Barry Riley presented the following report on the current state of the Club's finances:

<i>Cheque account</i>			
	Balance at 1 March 2014	\$350.45	
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>March</i>	
Income	\$1044.00	\$1044.00	
Expenses	\$149.75	\$149.76	
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$1244.70</b>	
<i>Savings account</i>			
	Balance at 1 March 2014	\$1042.76	
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>February</i>	
Deposits	Nil	nil	
Interest	\$2.21	\$2.21	
Withdrawals	Nil	nil	
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$1044.97</b>	
<b><i>Combined net balance at 31 March 2014</i></b>		<b><i>\$2289.67</i></b>	

Barry's report was accepted. Barry said that he would be happy to receive next year's membership fees.

President's Report: President John Sutton expressed his gratitude at being entrusted with the office of President by members of the Club for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. He acknowledged the contribution of Fred, Jean, and Anne who spoke of the Club's 30 year history at the last meeting. The colourful memories reminded us of the many benefits we receive from Kincumber Probus. Many thanks went to Past President Thelma Leonard and her Committee for a great job last year with special thanks to Richard Collins for his many years as dedicated Secretary. He welcomed the new Committee and thanked those joining this year – Yvonne, Gloria, Pat and Arthur.

Induction of new member: Elizabeth Long was welcomed by John Sutton and presented with her badge and copy of the Constitution. Elizabeth expressed her pleasure at being able to join in the activities of the club.

Membership Report: Membership Officer John Rudd reported that there were 49 Ordinary Members and 1 Life Member present out of a total membership of 76. There were 11 apologies: Ann Madin, David Dennison, Sue Schmid, Keith Tysoe, Nanette Steanes, Rhoda and Stan Roberts, John and Barbara Orme and Jan and George Costigan. John added that while he is on extended leave Assistant Membership Officer Col Laybutt will be handling membership matters.

Speaker Convenor's Report: Speaker Convenor Marie Riley advised that in May we will have a talk from David Rosenberg on Pine Gap. David's experiences will be very interesting for all. Assistant Speaker Convenor Hermione Dunbar is preparing to contribute to the program in the near future with her recommended Speaker.

Social Convenor's Report: Social Convenor Gloria Reid reported on the trip to Newcastle which everyone enjoyed very much. In May we will visit an exhibition on Afghanistan's ancient culture at the Art Gallery. Information on travel details is available today. Upcoming events are a trip by ferry from Ettalong to Palm Beach for lunch at the RSL in June, and a tour of the Jewish Museum in July.

Profile talk: To link into the trip to the Hidden Treasures from Afghanistan exhibition our member John Mulford talked about his association with this project. As a member of the Sydney University's Far East Archaeological

Foundation since his student days John has personal experience of the work being done in partnership with other universities from around the world to restore the fabulous collection of antiquities which has been devastated by the destruction of around 70,000 items by the Taliban. An estimated 70% of the original collection was either broken or stolen since 2001. Since then dedicated museum staff and many agencies around the world have worked tirelessly to recover artifacts stolen and sold by the Taliban. Many smashed items are being restored. Sydney University has four archaeologists working at the museum in Kabul. British customs have seized 1000 artifacts sold to UK collectors.

Some of the museum's most prized pieces are on display at the Sydney Art Gallery. We look forward with greater anticipation to visiting the exhibition with a better understanding of its value.

Editor's Report: Editor Pat Fordham advised that May 16 is the latest date for the submission of items for the Newsletter, although earlier arrivals will be welcome.

Welfare Report: Joint Welfare Officer Elizabeth Butler said that Ken and Velda Robson still deal with health issues, but now that Ken is home they hope for more improvement.

Bushwalking Report: Convenor Ruth Charlesworth told of the pleasant walk led by Ruth and Reg which took place at Rumbalara Reserve. The rain held off and we all were impressed with the expansive views. In May our walk will be to Katandra reserve which is in a beautiful piece of rainforest. Ruth and Reg asked for volunteers to lead some of the walks.

Golf Report: Golf Organiser John Rudd reported that various ailments had reduced attendance at golf recently, but those who are well are enjoying the good weather and a golf course in good condition. During his absence in the next few months John Orme and George Costigan will look after golfing.

Bookshare: Jenny Baker told of the books available and was pleased to say that borrowing of books was going well.

Inter Club Liaison: Convenor Thelma Leonard introduced us to activities in this new position, She is developing a Contact List with those clubs interested in the program and has already had a suggestion from the Avoca Club that we have a bi-monthly lunch together at the Empire Bay Tavern. The idea of exchanging newsletters by email is being developed and the members from the Berkeley Vale Club are attending John's Bellingen visit later in the year. These are exciting new opportunities for interaction.

News Spot: Richard Collins advised of a performance by Big Band Therapy on Saturday May 10 from 2.00pm – 5.00pm. Brochures were available with full details.

General Business: John Sutton was pleased that numbers booking now confirmed the 6 day trip to Bellingen area. Members from Berkeley Vale Probus are joining in this activity. Anyone wishing to go can still book.

The meeting then adjourned for morning tea prepared by Wendy Coney and Isabelle Drew.

The meeting resumed at 10.30am.

Social Convenor Marie Riley introduced our guests for the day - the Singing Hands Choir – a unique volunteer musical group from the Central Coast which presents a variety of music using key word signing, led by Director Wendy Salik.

It was appropriate, so close to Anzac Day, that their performance started with the Australian National Anthem.

Wendy gave us some information about their group which consists of 27 members in total, represented today by 4 ladies. They enjoy music and performing, giving about 100 performances each year through the 3 groups with specific purposes – the Christian group, and the sign and shine disability group. Keyword signing means that one word in each sentence has a graceful hand gesture, emphasized by the white satin gloves worn. The aim is for each audience to have fun, sing along, share the signing and be entertained. The range of music included many well known 'oldies' like Annie's Song, You are my Sunshine, and Song Sung Blue with a more thoughtful contribution from The Lord's Prayer and Amazing Grace. The audience involvement for How Much is That Doggie in the Window was fun and the hour passed all too quickly to the final item We'll Meet Again (another reminder of war time).

Ineka Esveld thanked the choir for such an enjoyable performance and presented them with their thank you cheque to cover costs.

The Lucky Door Prize, drawn by Wendy Salik, was won by Elizabeth Long.

President John Sutton thanked all who had helped with setting up and preparing morning tea, closed the meeting and invited all to lunch at the Kincumber Pub.

Signed as a correct record: John Sutton, President .....

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