

Probus Club of Kincumber Inc.
Minutes of General Meeting Number 365
held at Kincumber Uniting Church on Tuesday 26 August 2014

President John Sutton opened the meeting at 9.30am, welcoming members and visitors –Marion Shine and Gary Brown, with a special welcome to the debating teams from Erina High School and Central Coast Grammar who were finalists in the debate for the Lerryn Mutton Shield. John introduced Debating Convenor Richard Collins to MC the debate.

Debate: Richard introduced the members of the two teams, thanked staff members who were present and thanked Sue McNeill for acting as adjudicator once again. The topic for the debate was 'That professionalism is ruining sport.'

Adjudicator Sue McNeill called it an excellent debate with both sides exhibiting high skill levels. Rebuttals were a good feature. Sue chose the winning team on the basis of the argument that was the most convincing. Erina High School was selected and President John Sutton presented the Lerryn Mutton Shield.

Teachers from both schools told of the value they place on the chance for their debaters to present to an audience – a rare opportunity.

Richard Collins commented: 'The students really blow us away with their intelligence, presentation skills and bubbling personalities. We thank them for sharing their youthful enthusiasm with us. They give us confidence that the future is in good hands!'

All schools have committed to take part again next year.

President John Sutton congratulated both teams, thanked Richard Collins for his role and presented the shield to Erina High School. He invited all to have morning tea together.

Morning tea was enjoyed by all.

Minutes of previous meeting: Secretary Yvonne Chandler presented the Minutes of the General Meeting held on the 22 July 2014. The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

Business arising from the Minutes: Nil

Correspondence: News Sheets from other Probus Clubs; travel brochures, and a letter asking for support for fundraising for the North Rocks Blind Children's Service were mentioned. Wally Tuffs and Hermione Dunbar were interested in this activity on a private basis.

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>July</i>	
Income	\$1891.25	\$120.00	
Expenses	\$1795.63	\$75.94	
	Balance	\$446.07	
<i>Savings account</i>			
	Balance at 1 March 2014	\$1042.76	
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>June</i>	
Deposits	\$1210.00	Nil	
Interest	\$17.50	\$4.76	
Fees	Nil	Nil	
Withdrawals	Nil	Nil	
	Balance	\$2267.26	
<i>Combined net balance at July 13 2014</i>		\$2713.33	

President's Report: President John Sutton wished those who had birthdays in August a Happy Birthday. He thanked Lorraine Southgate for suggesting that gifts of canned food be donated to Coast Shelter. John thanked all who had contributed and Kevin and Lorraine Southgate for delivering the goods to Coast Shelter. He told of changes to the sound system and checked with members whether they had any problems. Everyone agreed it was an improvement.

Induction of new members: Barry and Petty Pickersgill were inducted as members by President John Sutton and received their badges and a copy of the Constitution. We are all pleased to welcome them as members.

Membership Report: Membership Convenor John Rudd reported that there were 57 Ordinary Members and 2 Life Member present. There were 8 apologies: Ralph Brown, Ruth Mills, Jill and Henry Rogers, Denise Lawrence, John and Anne Mulford and Cecilia Donnelly. He told the meeting that members who could not attend a meeting who had email would receive the Newsletter by email. This would reduce the cost of mailing. Those without email facility will still receive a hard copy in the mail.

Speaker Convenor's Report: Speaker Convenor Marie Riley told us that a speaker from the Cochlear Implant program will come to our September meeting. In October Brian Walters will speak from his particular interest on Australians in the Boer war. Peter Cane will be our speaker in November, and The Legends of Christmas will be the topic.

Social Convenor's Report: Social Convenor Gloria Reid reported on the visit to Norah Head Lighthouse which was well attended despite the questionable weather. We coped with the 96 steps very well, enjoyed the 360 degree view, and relaxed over a delightful lunch.

On 9 September we will be having lunch at the Empire Bay Tavern – details available at this meeting.

14 October is the date set for our trip to the Chinese Gardens at Darling Harbour.

The combined Bushwalk/Social activity for 18 November is our traditional picnic at MacMasters Beach.

Editor's Report: Editor Pat Fordham told the story of how Barry Riley discovered an error during proof reading of the Newsletter and thought she may use deliberate errors to test proof reading accuracy!

Welfare Report: Joint Welfare Officer Elizabeth Butler has wished Jill Rogers well after her fall and subsequent stay in hospital.

Bushwalking Report: Richard Collins reminded us that the walk around the lake at Avoca Beach had to be cancelled because it was 'rained out'. Fred Leake will lead the walk on September 16 to Blackall Mountain – a walk first undertaken in 1993. Details are in the Newsletter.

Golf report: Convenor John Rudd reported that there have been new members join the golfing group and asked those attending to help keep Diane at bay in the competition stakes. The Annual report is in the news sheet. A special trophy presentation of two golf balls was made to John Orme for his support.

Theatre Report: Convenor Barbara Orme mentioned that this was the last day to book to attend Phantom of the Opera on 2 November at 2.00pm at the Laycock Theatre. Payment of \$48 per person will be collected today.

Bookshare: Convenor Jenny Baker encouraged the men to take advantage of the number of 'thrillers' available on the book table. A selection of 'Active Retirees magazines is available under the shared usage program.

Inter Club Liaison: Convenor Thelma Leonard told us that the Inter Club News Sheet would be placed in our Newsletter. 32 out of the 34 Clubs on the Coast have become interested in the interaction program. There are a number of events and trips which may interest our members. Avoca Beach Probus is keen to be involved with some combined activities. Diane Rudd will begin organising the casual dining program for Fridays. These will begin in the warmer weather and will take the form of either early evening or lunch meals.

Profile talk: Ineka Esveld spoke of experiences when she and her family emigrated from the Netherlands. It was very different from today's style of immigration and her family needed to make many adjustments. With great enthusiasm and social involvement the move became a happy one, despite missing some family experiences with folk in the Netherlands. Ineka enjoys living on the Central Coast and opportunities to travel.

News Spot: We were told of a member who needed to return from holiday due to an unexpected death in the family. Condolences were expressed.

The Lucky Door Prize was drawn by Ineka Esveld

President John Sutton thanked those who had help with setting up the hall, and preparing morning tea, then closed the meeting at 11.30am, inviting all to lunch at the Kincumber Pub.

Signed as a correct record: John Sutton, President