

Probus Club of Kincumber Inc.
Minutes of General Meeting Number 349
held at Kincumber Uniting Church on Tuesday 23 April 2013

President Thelma Leonard opened the meeting at 9.35am, welcoming Members and guests: Bill Clark, Jan Taylor, Tony and Yvonne Kelly, Jocelyn Mulcahy and Leonie Bird. She also particularly welcomed Peggy Horton who was present for the first time for some months. Thelma also requested that mobile phones be turned off.

The meeting sang the National Anthem to honour Anzac Day.

Thelma then inducted Alan and Isabelle Drew, Jenny Godfrey and Cecilia Donnelly and welcomed them to the Club. Leonie Bird volunteered to assist Hermione Dunbar and Wendy Coney with morning tea.

Minutes of previous meeting: Secretary Richard Collins read a brief synopsis of the Minutes. The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

Business arising from the Minutes: The Lerryn Mutton shield with the inscription to be attached to the back outlining Lerryn's career and contributions to the Club was handed around for Members to see.

Correspondence: News Sheets from other Probus Clubs; travel brochures.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Barry Riley reminded Members that annual fees are now due. Barry then presented the following information about the Club's accounts:

<i>Cheque account</i>			
	Balance at 1 March 2013		\$312.58
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>March</i>	
Income	\$1170.00	\$1170.00	
Expenses	\$123.95	\$123.95	
	Balance		\$1358.63
<i>Savings account</i>			
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>March</i>	
Deposits	nil	nil	
Interest	2.77	\$2.77	
Withdrawals	nil	nil	
	Balance		\$1008.91
<i>Combined net balance at 31 March 2013</i>			<i>\$2367.54</i>

Barry's report was accepted.

President's Report: President Thelma thanked Ruth Charlesworth for the excellent visit to the Alexander the Great exhibition, also attended by Heather and Michael Ryan. She thanked the following people for taking on responsibilities in the Club: Yvonne Chandler (Assistant Secretary), Helen Sutton (Joint Welfare Officer), Wendy Coney (Assistant Catering Officer) and Barbara Orme (Theatre Convenor). Thelma said that she wanted to make the focus of her Presidency friendship and fellowship within the Club.

Membership Report: Membership Officer John Rudd reported that there were 49 Members present out of a total membership of 72 (including today's inductees), and 6 visitors. There were 10 apologies: from John and Annette Pagett, Colin and Rhonda Laybutt, Mike and Heather Ryan, Marie Riley, Bev Tysoe, Pat Fordham and David Dennison.

Speaker Convenor's Report: Thelma reported that Speaker Convenor Marie Riley was in hospital having broken 3 bones in her ankle. Barry updated the meeting on her progress. Future talks will be as in the News Sheet: in May, we will have a return visit from Patricia Amphlett (Little Pattie). Graham Harrison will speak on organ donations in June, and in July Andrew Kfouray will talk about the history of the ambulance service.

Social Convenor's Report: Social Convenor Ruth Charlesworth thanked Reg Charlesworth and Lorraine Southgate for handling Social matters during her absence at the last meeting. Ruth commented on the excellent visit to the Alexander the Great exhibition. In May, we will visit the Gosford Regional Gallery where two exhibitions are being held. In June we will visit St. James Church in Sydney. The July Social event will be a sing-along at Thelma and Patrick's place on the evening of Saturday 13 July.

Editor's Report: Editor Wally Tuffs had nothing to report.

Welfare Report: Joint Welfare Officer Elizabeth Butler thanked Lorraine Southgate for her help in taking over the responsibilities of the job. She referred Members to the reports on David Lester and Lerryn Mutton in the News Sheet.

Pat Fordham has severe sciatica, and Wendy Coney will have an operation tomorrow. Elizabeth passed on our best wishes to Marie Riley.

Bushwalking Report: Richard Collins reported that last Tuesday's planned walk along Bullimah Spur had been cancelled due to rain. John Sutton spoke about next month's walk along the Brisbane Water shoreline at West Gosford. He encouraged all members, particularly new ones, to participate in the bushwalks – they are an excellent way of getting to know your fellow members.

Golf Report: Golf Organiser John Rudd asked members to consider participating in the golfing activities.

Theatre: Theatre Convenor Barbara Orme spoke about the series of plays at Woy Woy Little Theatre that several members currently attend. She would welcome suggestions for other theatre activities.

General Business: Thelma reported that several people had come to dinners on Friday evening at Mac's clubhouse. She hopes that these dinners will continue. The next one will be at Davistown RSL Club on 3 May.

In response to Thelma's invitation to share news, Jan Costigan spoke about her 12 year old granddaughter's success in being chosen to attend the Summer School of the Royal Ballet in London. Louise Hooworth said that her family in Boston fortunately did not proceed with their plan to be near the finish line of the Boston Marathon where the bombing occurred. Rhoda Roberts proudly told us that she has become a great grandmother.

Thelma discussed possibilities for future trips, including to Lord Howe Island (a provisional booking has been made from 8 to 15 March 2014 at the Somerset Apartments), and to the Probus Rendezvous. Peggy Horton said that she and John had attended several of the Rendezvous and enjoyed them greatly. Diane Rudd also discussed coach trip possibilities.

Profile talk: Arthur Adeney summarised his life by saying he feels that half of his heart is in England, half of his heart is in Africa, and half of his heart is in Australia. Arthur was born in Burundi in central Africa. His parents were missionary doctors, and his ambition from a very early age was also to be one. At age 5, he and his twin brother went to boarding school in Uganda. His secondary education was in England. Subsequently he trained as a doctor in London, where he met his Australian wife. In his late 20s, they went to a missionary hospital in Tanzania where they spent 7 years – he was often the only doctor there, managing all aspects of medical care. He subsequently moved to a much larger hospital – the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre – where he specialised as an anaesthetist. Arthur spoke about the nurse anaesthetist training program that they developed, which reduced the death rate during sole-doctor operations from about 20% to less than 1%. Arthur and his family subsequently moved to Australia where he worked for 25 years at Muswellbrook, doing anaesthetics, obstetrics and general practice. He and his wife are delighted that they chose the Central Coast for their retirement. Arthur concluded by saying that his inspiration to do all these things had been to serve God.

The meeting then adjourned for morning tea.

Speaker: After morning tea, Diane Rudd talked about the amazing trip that she and John recently made to South Africa. In the company of friends, they flew to Johannesburg over the Antarctic ice cap. From there, they travelled through Kenya, Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. They went on several extended safaris that took them into numerous national parks and to most of the major cities in these countries. During their trip they experienced close encounters with a huge range of wildlife, including hippos, elephants, crocodiles, wildebeest, giraffe, lions, leopards, cheetahs, eland, impala, baboons, zebra, and an enormous diversity of birdlife. They also experienced the diverse and unique cultures of several native groups, including the Masai, the Botswana Bushmen, and the Himba. In addition to unforgettable natural wonders like Kenya's Great Rift Valley, Victoria Falls, the Okavango Delta, and the wildebeest migration in the Masai Mara National Park, Di and John saw some of the tragedy of the poverty and the AIDS epidemic that affects much of the continent. With John's assistance, Di illustrated her talk with a stunning series of photos that she had taken. They gave us a taste for what they had experienced – it was almost like being there. In thanking Di and John, Arthur Adeney said that we were indeed fortunate that they had agreed to share their trip with us.

The Lucky Door Prize, drawn by Di Rudd, was won by visitor Jocelyn Mulcahy.

Thelma thanked all who had helped with morning tea and setting up the venue for the meeting.

Thelma reminded members about next month's meeting, thanked all for their attendance, and closed the meeting at 11.45am.

Signed as a correct record: Thelma Leonard, President