

**Probus Club of Kincumber Inc.**  
**Minutes of General Meeting Number 370**  
**held at Kincumber Uniting Church on Tuesday 24 February 2015**

President John Sutton opened the meeting at 9.30am, welcoming members and visitors Peter Park, Bob and Kay Cochrane.

Minutes of previous meeting: Secretary Yvonne Chandler presented the Minutes of the General Meeting held on the 27 January 2015. The Minutes were accepted and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

Business arising from the Minutes: Nil

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

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>January</i>
Income	\$2911.80	\$332.55
Expenses	\$3031.16	\$604.26
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$231.16</b>
<i>Savings account</i>		
	Balance at 1 March 2014	\$1042.76
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>January</i>
Deposits	\$1210.00	Nil
Interest	\$40.48	\$3.02
Transfers	\$591.20	Nil
Fees	\$3.00	Nil
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$1699.04</b>
<b><i>Combined net balance at January 31 2015</i></b>		<b><i>\$1930.20</i></b>

Barry told members that following his review of financial details and with the help of improved expenditure position for printing of the Newsletter fees will be maintained at \$40 for the 2015/2016 period.

President's Report: President John Sutton thanked Barry and Pat for their work which allowed the annual fees to remain the same. He mentioned the fact that there would be a motion at the AGM to increase allowable membership to 90. There will be a chance to discuss this, giving opinions for or against before a vote. We still do not have someone to accept the role of Junior Vice President, so members were encouraged to consider their availability for this position. Current Junior Vice President Arthur Adeney explained the role of JVP and VP in an appealing way to seek a response to this need.

Induction of new members: Elizabeth Gilbert was inducted and welcomed by President John. She was given her name badges and a copy of the Constitution.

Membership Report: Convenor John Rudd reported that there were 55 ordinary members and 2 life members present. Apologies were accepted from Irene Dunlop, Michael and Heather Ryan, Jenny Baker, Joan Vella, Geoff Bradshaw, Rhoda Roberts, Alan and Isabelle Drew and Sue Schmid. Certificates for 20 years membership were presented to Nev Owen and Ken Robson.

Speaker Convenor's Report: Convenor Marie Riley received a thank you letter for the gift to legacy of \$232.55 from our collection. She mentioned that a future talk by Lt Col Peter Sweeney (Rtd) about the campaign in Fromelle or another theatre of war, was being considered. Members were enthusiastic about the presentation on the Gallipoli campaign. Marie said that she would be handing over to Hermione Dunbar at the AGM, and had enjoyed her role in recent years. Information she had on potential speakers was being handed on to Hermione. Marie thanked the Committee for their support and President John thanked her for the great job she has done.

Social Convenor's Report: Convenor Gloria Reid reported that 14 members had taken the Riverboat Postman Cruise on the Hawkesbury River on 10 February. It was enjoyed by all with the very good lunch and interesting commentary being highlights. On the 10<sup>th</sup> March a trip is planned to the Sydney Theatre Company for a backstage tour, which

costs \$10 per person. Travel details are available. On the 14 April we will take the trip to the Chinese Gardens which was cancelled last year.

Welfare Report: Convenor Elizabeth Butler told of the illness of David Kenny. Joyce Kenny tells us that the prognosis is not good, but he is doing as well as possible.

Bushwalking Report: Richard Collins announced the first walk for 2015 and it is a walk around Avoca Lake (cancelled due to rain last year). Richard knows the area well and talk about interesting points along the way.

Golf report: Convenor John Rudd will welcome any new members to the weekly golf day. Four players are needed to continue so all interested members are welcome.

Theatre Report: First production for the Woy Woy theatre is on the 8th March, and the Pirates of Penzance theatre party is on the 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Bookshare: Betty Pickersgill displayed available books while Jenny Baker was away.

Profile talk: Barry and Betty Pickersgill spoke of their life in England, especially of experiences hosting a B & B. Their many visitors provided interesting experiences and a busy life. The photos they placed for us to see showed what a unique and beautiful residence it was. They visited Australia a couple of times before eventually moving here and travelling widely. On joining Kincumber Probus Barry and Betty enjoy having long time friend Jenny Baker as a co-member. Jenny had lived in the same district as them in England. Now they can enjoy that friendship and others in their new home.

Inter Clubs Liaison: Vice President Diane Rudd noted that the planned inter club function for May has been cancelled due to organisational difficulties. We are invited to attend a BBQ held by Avoca Beach Probus on Monday 3 March at the Lions Park at Woy Woy. Please confirm attendance and pay your \$5 today.

The meeting then adjourned for morning tea.

The meeting resumed at 10.30am.

Speaker Convenor: Marie Riley introduced **Geoffrey Potter**, the local historian at Gosford Library, who spoke about the wreck of the SS Maitland using information as recorded in his book “Wreck of the SS Maitland – a scene to make the angels weep.” Prior to the publication of this book the full story from the human perspective had not been told. We were taken through the building of the ship in Glasgow to its journey to Australia and consequent role travelling from Sydney Harbour to the Hunter region. It was a small vessel – as large as a Sydney Harbour Ferry – and logically a paddle steamer. The human side of this disaster is an emotional story and there are many anecdotes to bring this story to life in Geoffrey’s book. To learn about the many aspects of this tragedy you would do well to purchase the book from Gosford Library (proceeds benefit the Library) and acquaint yourself with the excellent detail it contains.

Jean Johnson thanked Geoffrey for his talk which reminded us of such a tragic story.

The Lucky Door Prize was drawn by Geoff and won by Ineka Esveld.

President John Sutton thanked those who had helped with setting up the hall, and preparing morning tea, then closed the meeting at 11.35am, inviting all to lunch at the Kincumber Pub.

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