

**Probus Club of Kincumber Inc.**  
**Minutes of General Meeting Number 305**  
**held at Avoca Bowling Club on Tuesday 25 August 2009**

President Kevin Southgate opened the meeting at 9.35 am welcoming Members, their partners and guests. He then handed over to Secretary Richard Collins to chair the final of the 2009 Probus Debating Competition.

Richard welcomed the debating teams from Central Coast Grammar School and Erina High School, their teachers, Emma Henshaw and Paul White, and the debate Adjudicator, Bronwyn Frankham. Both schools had won their heats debating the topic "That last century's challenges were more daunting than this century's". The topic for today's Final debate was "That the global financial crisis is a good thing", with Erina High School Affirmative and Central Coast Grammar School Negative. The meeting was treated to six excellent presentations with thoughtful arguments and well-reasoned rebuttals being developed by both sides. At the conclusion of the presentation, each teacher spoke for a few minutes about their school. The Adjudicator, Bronwyn Frankham, then commended both teams for the quality of their presentations and awarded the debate to the Affirmative. Lerryn Mutton, who initiated our debating competition 15 years ago, thanked all of the participants and presented the shield to the winning team, Erina High School.

The meeting then adjourned for morning tea.

Following morning tea, the meeting stood for one minute's silence in respect for former member Maurie Dunstan who had recently died.

President Kevin then inducted Bev Tysoe, Jan Costigan and Amber Byrnes into the Club and congratulated them.

Minutes of previous meeting: Secretary Richard Collins read a synopsis of the Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes were accepted as a correct record. There was no business arising from the Minutes.

Confirmation of Life Membership for Fred Leake: President Kevin announced that, following a nomination by John Orme, the Committee had decided to award Life Membership to Fred Leake. Details of Fred's contributions to the Club were presented in the News Sheet and, as Kevin said, they are truly outstanding as required in the Constitution for the award of this honour. In a secret ballot, members unanimously confirmed the Committee's decision. President Kevin congratulated Fred on this achievement.

Correspondence: News Sheets from other clubs; travel and tour brochures.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Barry Riley provided the following information about the Club's accounts with unrepresented cheques included in the figures:

Balance at 1 March 2009	\$1,757.28	
	<i>Year to date</i>	<i>July</i>
Income	\$2195.00	\$120.00
Expenses	\$1663.56	\$318.15
Balance at 31 July 2009	\$2288.72	

Barry's Report was accepted.

President's Report: President Kevin referred to his report in the News Sheet. He asked members if they were happy to participate in a "Bring a friend" meeting next February and this was positively received. He also commented on the excellent tour of Garden Island two weeks ago, and said that he was very pleased that nearly 60 would attend the Hawkesbury River Historical cruise on 8 September

Membership Report: Membership Officer John Rudd reported that 41 Members (65% of the total membership of 62) were present. There were 7 visitors and 8 apologies.

Speaker Convenor's Report: Speaker Convenor Patrick Leonard said that next month's speaker will be Karl Blim from the NRMA.

Social Convenor's Report: Social Convenor David Dennison thanked participants in the Garden Island tour on 20 August. Today he will collect money for the Hawkesbury River cruise on 8 September. On 13 October there will be a barbeque at MacMasters Beach. He also has an invitation for members to participate in Gosford Blue Water Probus club's Murray River cruise.

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

Welfare Report: Joint Welfare Officer Lorraine Southgate referred to the material in the News Sheet. Reg Davis reported that former member Murray Couttes is now out of hospital. Secretary Richard said that John Eager is in Veronica Nursing Home and would welcome visitors.

Bushwalking Report: Bushwalking organiser Richard Collins reported that last Tuesday's walk on Bombi Moor had been very successful. Next month's walk will be in South Wyrrabalong National Park near Bateau Bay – the wildflowers should be in full bloom at that time.

Golf Report: John Orme reported in Golf Leader Mike Ryan's absence. John congratulated Keith Tysoe for his return to golfing.

Bowls Report: Bowls Leader Reg Davis sought participants in an informal roll-up after 3 pm on a forthcoming Thursday.

Theatre Report: No report in Theatre Convenor David Dunbar's absence.

Profile talk: Jean Johnson gave a very interesting presentation about her early life. She was born in Gosford and has lived on the Central Coast for most of her life. Her father was English and her mother a local girl. Following her mother, she was the second of 4 generations to attend Kincumber Primary School. She subsequently attended Gosford High School. After school she initially worked on a farm, but left because she was determined that she would not marry a farmer. This was during the War, so she went to live in North Sydney and volunteered to help the war effort. She was assigned to a job sweeping floors in a cigarette factory. Shortly after starting there, she saw for the first time her future husband Ted, resplendent in white overalls, and her immediate thought was "I'm going to marry him!" Ted apparently felt the same, so they very quickly became an item and married soon afterwards. Following the loss of their first child, they returned to live on the Central Coast and Ted became a farmer! He subsequently operated a very successful business and became very highly regarded throughout the area, including being a Life member of our Probus Club and having a green named after him at the Avoca Beach Bowling Club.

General Business: President Kevin informed members of a concert at Brentwood Village on 20 September. He also reminded members of the announcement in the News Sheet of the Committee's review of matters relating to Life Membership.

The Lucky Door Prize was won by Rhonda Laybutt.

Kevin thanked Velda Robson and Janet Smith for their help with morning tea. Roy Bird and Jan Costigan volunteered to help with morning tea at the next meeting of the Club on 22 September.

Kevin then thanked Members and guests for their attendance, and closed the meeting at 11.35 am.

Signed as a correct record: Kevin Southgate, President .....