



PROBUS CLUB OF CABARITA AND BREAKFAST POINT INC
MEMBER MEETING
Friday 4 April 2025
Canada Bay Club, 8 William St, Five Dock

The Club opens at 10:00 am; the meeting begins at 10:30 am

AGENDA

1. Induction of 2025-26 President—Gilda McRobert, Returning Officer (carry over from AGM)

2. President's Introductory Comments—Bill Bryson

Housekeeping:

Attendees:

Visitors:

Apologies:

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

3. Correspondence—

4. Treasurer's Report—Allan Thompson

Monthly Financial Report

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

5. Membership Report—Neil Price

Induction Morning Tea: two sessions held Friday 28 March and Monday 31 March

6. Group Facilitator Reports

Interest Groups—Anne Symons

Art Appreciation Convenor

New Walking Group Proposal

Travel Chat—Connie Fraser

Photography—Colin Peterson

Outings—Margaret Morrison

St Alban's (Wisemans Ferry) 26 April—Lorraine McAuliffe

Announcement with details of Invitation from Probus Club of Breakfast Point to join three planned events

7. Travel—Jane Elliot

India Trip report

8. General Business—Bill Bryson

Meet and Greet followed by \$30 meal Country Club 30 April

There will be a short break followed by our Guest Speaker presentation.

9. Introduction of Guest Speaker—Jehangir Sidhwa

Cindy Davies: *Life in the Imperial Turkish Harems*



Cindy's illustrated talk, using PowerPoint and video, unravels some of the myths and mysteries of the harem.

The Turkish harem was operated for five centuries by women and eunuchs. It became a political power base of the Turkish Ottoman Empire. Throughout the centuries, this hotbed of intrigue and danger fascinated European visitors to Turkey.

Born in the UK, Cindy has lived, worked and travelled in Turkey and speaks some Turkish. She emigrated to Australia with her family in 1975 and is a graduate of Sydney University. She's been a teacher, freelance writer and tour guide in Sydney and Turkey. Cindy also visited Iran while writing her first two novels, set in Iran, the USA and Australia. She's won several awards for her books and short stories. In 2023 during a writer's residency in the UK, she revisited Turkey and the former sultan's palace to fine-tune her research for her third novel *The Favourite of the Harem*. Set in the Topkapı Palace harem of sixteenth-century Istanbul, it was published in November 2023. She is currently working on a fourth novel.



12. Closing Comments—Bill Bryson

The next Member Meeting is scheduled for Friday 2 May
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