



Monthly Members Meeting

Canada Bay Club

4 William Street Five Dock

10.30 am Friday 4th April 2025

1. President's Introductory Comments (Bill Bryson):

The returning officer Gilda McRobert welcomed Bill Bryson as the new President for 2025/26.

Bill welcomed the new committee to the first formal meeting of the Probus year along with new members.

Bill gave a special thanks to Ingrid Kaschik for all the help she has given him with the transition.

A special 80th birthday wish went out to Helen O'Neil (Committee Welfare Officer). Nancy Sherry gave a short speech.

- Attendees: 122
- Visitors: Nil
- Apologies: 41

2. Confirmation of Minutes:

Minutes were confirmed. Proposed: Helen O'Neill; Seconded: Anne Symons

3. Correspondence:

Nil

4. Treasurer's Report (Bill Bryson): (Report submitted by Allan Thompson)

Account summary presented to meeting. Current balance includes annual subscriptions and fees for scheduled activities and events. Also included is the Capitation fee for Probus South Pacific.

Report was accepted. Proposed: Karin Canty; Seconded: Neil Price

5. Membership Report (Neil Price):

Neil advised 2 new induction sessions held during March were very successful. The committee met the new members and gave them a brief insight to what happens in our Probus. We have 249 registered members and 2 expressions of interest. A new membership directory will be issued shortly. Prior to this a note will be sent to all members for them to reply if they don't want their details published.

6. Group Facilitator Reports

6.1 Interest Groups (Anne Symons)

- Art Appreciation Convenor
Pam Floyd is the current convenor and is standing down as her role this year on the committee as vice president will need more of her time.
The role involves organising visits to art galleries, organising theatre parties and liaising with the Treasurer re payment for people attending functions.
- New walking group proposal
A convenor is needed to organise this group.
This is for a local walking group to meet and walk local areas e.g. (Breakfast Point precinct Parramatta river foreshore etc.).
Frequency to be determined by the group
- Photography (Colin Peterson)
Last photography outing was exploring the tunnels under Sydney. Colin gave an interesting power point presentation.
The next outing will be to Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens Tuesday 15th April. This is a self-drive excursion so car-pooling might be an option. Meet at the Garden's Café at 10am for morning tea followed by visit to the gardens and then lunch at the Gaden's Café.
- Travel Chat (Connie Fraser)
The next meeting will be Wednesday 9th April at 11:00am in the Admin Building.
Experienced travellers Marg & Gil Vella will give a tourists' view of Malta and then Ron Xuereb will give an insider's view of life in Malta as he lived there for two years.

6.2 Outings (Margaret Morrison):

New outings have yet to be organised. We are asking members to come up with any outings they would like to recommend.

The organised trip to St Albans Pub Wisemans Ferry and folk festival has been organised for 26th April. This event needs a couple more travellers for it to go ahead. Cost is \$50.

Probus Club of Cabarita and Breakfast Point Inc

6.3 Travel (Jane Elliot):

- India Report

Marie Edwards gave a detailed talk on the recent trip focusing on places they stayed and included a lot of information on history of same. She gave a special thankyou on behalf of the 11 travellers to Rosalie Karim for the special experiance they had.

Rosalie spoke briefly on trips for 2026 to India & Sri Lanka advising spaces were limited.

7. General Business (Bill Bryson):

Reminded all the next meet and greet will be at the BP Country Club 30th April. There is a cost of \$30 for those wanting to stay for dinner. Please register via the web.

8. Guest Speaker: Cindy Davies

Cindy was introduced by Jehangir Sidhwa. Cindy is a freelance writer who was born in the UK and emigrated to Australia in 1975. She has lived worked and travelled in Turkey.

She spoke extensively about women in Harems and her latest published book *"The Favourite of the Harem"* was set in the Topkapi Palace harem of sixteenth century Istanbul.

Meeting Closed 12.35pm.