

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Probus Club of Kincumber Inc. held at the home of David and Cheryl Dennison on Tuesday 4th April 2006.

President David opened the meeting at 9.30 am and welcomed the Committee. Those present were President David Dunbar, Senior Vice-President Ron Coleman, Junior Vice-President Peter Moore, Secretary Don Wiseman, Membership Officer John Orme, Editor Barry Riley, and Social Convenor David Dennison. Immediate Past President Richard Collins was present by invitation. An apology was received from Treasurer George Costigan.

The Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting on 7th February 2006 had previously been circulated, and were taken as read and accepted on a motion from President David and seconded by Barry Riley.

Matters Arising: Richard had omitted to tell members about Lionel Hughes' death, and suggested that President David might do this at the next meeting. An analysis of the attendance figures indicated that the attendances of members are consistently higher at the ladies meetings. It was agreed that the Christmas lunch will be at the Avoca Beach Bowling Club. David Dennison will reserve the date.

Correspondence: There had been no correspondence since the last General meeting.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Treasurer George, there was no report on the General account. However, David Dennison informed the Committee that the opening balance of the Social account was \$1044.77, and the closing balance \$744.77.

President's Report: President David said that he intended that the Committee meetings should be as brief as possible, and that he looked forward to the Committee working as a group.

David discussed the present state of the web site, and showed the committee what he had done. There was general agreement that the News Sheet as a whole should not be placed on the web site, but that extracts from it would be most appropriate.

Editor Barry tabled an emergency contact list with email contacts used to the maximum extent possible.

David also read a letter from the Auditor, Gordon Maxwell, outlining procedures that should be followed in keeping the books.

Membership: Membership Officer John reported that the Club currently has 64 active members. He again noted that attendance at meetings is in decline. There was general discussion on the need to attract more members, particularly younger ones. There was a diversity of views on the Committee on whether making the club mixed was a good thing to do. Barry is to draft a paper for discussion by the Committee on the benefits and problems associated with inviting ladies to all meetings and, in the fullness of time, making the Club mixed.

Speaker Convenor Stan Roberts, advised the Committee that future speakers will be Carl Bliim (Road safety, NRMA) on 2 May, Don George on nuclear power) on 23 May, Dylis Renham (Symbolism in Art) on 27 June, and Ian Meek (Kakadu) on 25 July. The Schools debate will be held in August. It was also suggested that Norm Baker could give an interesting talk.

Social Convenor David Dennison reported that he had received 17 responses to his questionnaire. There was a clear preference for local functions such as picnics, barbeques and meals at clubs. There was also moderate support for lunch events with travel by coach, and for trips with one or two nights away. Events requiring travel to Sydney by coach or train were not popular. John Orme stated that he believed the annual holiday should be abandoned because of lack of support.

Editor Barry Riley drew attention to the fact that there had been a fourth volunteer to assist with morning tea at meetings, but nobody could recall who this was. President David will ask at the next meeting.

Bushwalking: Richard advised that the April bushwalk will be at Mount Elliott, and that he is hoping to go to the Strickland State Forest in May, and Cheltenham in June.

Theatre Convenor: No report was presented.

General Business: The Committee agreed that Minutes of General Meetings would not be circulated electronically prior to each meeting. The main reason is that, of the few members who are interested in receiving the Minutes, about half do not have email. It would be inequitable for some members who wish to see the minutes to be discriminated against, and the Committee believes that it is inappropriate to introduce a mailing system.

Vice-President Ron will manage the wine for presentations over the next year.

The next Committee meeting will be held at David Dunbar's home at 9.30 am on Tuesday, 6th June 2006.

President David thanked David Dennison for hosting the meeting, and for his hospitality.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.05 am.

Confirmed by President Date.....