



**BILGOLA PLATEAU PROBUS CLUB
GENERAL MEETING HELD AT NEWPORT BOWLING CLUB
10.00 AM, 6 FEBRUARY 2026**

MINUTES

1 WELCOME/SAFETY/HOUSEKEEPING/APOLOGIES/BIRTHDAYS

Mike Musgrave, President, welcomed members and visitors to the meeting. He particularly made mention of the Club's newest members: Alison Lyon, Heather Forster, Suzanna Halas and Peter Honan, as well as Patricia Nicholas who joined late in 2025. Mike asked members to make themselves known to the new members and visitors and to welcome them to the Club. Mike mentioned the emergency locations and bathroom facilities, reminded members to switch off mobile phones and to sign the attendance/early leavers sheets, if applicable.

Apologies

- *Kris Bolton, Kerryn Chad, Des Chatwin, Pat Chatwin, Jennie Dickinson, Kaye Fairall Lee, Louise Fergus, Eric Gidney, Brigitte Grover, Julie Holst, John Irving, Chloris Latham, Dawn Maloney, Barbara Poss, Diana Storey, Lee Sweet, Sue Walker, Helen Ware and Jane Whittington*

NB: Apologies for the March 2026 meeting should be emailed to Mary Wearne, Membership Officer, at mary_wearne@hotmail.com.

Attendance – Member and Visitors

As per the attendance sheets of 6 February 2026 (98 members, 19 apologies, 7 visitors).

Birthdays

February birthday greetings were extended to the following members:

- *Julie Bertoldo, Liz Irving, Maree McEvoy, Sue Patrick, Helen Ware, Sue Whisker and Jane Whittington*

2 ICE BREAKER

Presented by Mike Musgrave. The ice breaker was won by John Perrott.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the General Meeting held 2 January 2026 were moved by Rob McIntyre, seconded Graeme Bell, as a true and accurate record.

4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

5 CLUB CORRESPONDENCE

From PSPL re:

- *Donation to Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation*

- *Management Committee Updates: 50th Anniversary, Trade Travel, Membership renewal and Cluster Meeting*
- *Levande Retirement Living*
- *Coach Holidays Australia*
- *Call for nominations for the PSPL Board*
- *50th Anniversary – Club Promotion and Activities*
- *Active Retirees Digital Magazine, January 2026*
- *Wendy Wu Travel Sale*

Probus Cluster 11 re:

- *Meeting to be held 24 February*

Blue Moose

- *Name Badges*

Please refer to the website's *Correspondence* page for some of the above items.

6 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mike Musgrave reported on the following:

2026 Christmas Party

- Volunteers for a Sub-Committee were urgently required to commence organising the Club's Christmas Party. If you are able to assist, please contact Mike Musgrave.
- Mike thanked Robyn Elliott for obtaining three quotes for Christmas venues, and Cathy Leech for obtaining another quote.
- Christmas Party raffles will take a different format this year with all details being revealed closer to the date.

New Members

- Mike reminded everyone that member and new member responsibilities included volunteering for committees, such as organising the Club's Christmas and Birthday Parties.
- He added new members wanting to join the Bilgola Plateau Probus Club should be aware they could be called upon to be a member of the Management Committee, volunteer for Sub-Committees and be able to use EFT banking facilities. IT skills would also be advantageous.

Preparation for AGM

- The Club's AGM will be on 6 March 2026. It will be preceded by the General Meeting but there will be no Guest Speaker.
- Nominations for the Management Committee close 6 February 2026. (At this stage the Club will have a vacancy for a Newsletter Officer. Please consider this role and complete the Nomination Form).
- All Management Committee positions are declared vacant and an election of all positions will then occur.
- Gary Wearne will act as the Returning Officer.
- Mike Musgrave introduced John Perrott, a nominee for the position of President. John addressed the meeting and spoke of his reasons for nominating as President including his:
 - *Long term residency in the area*
 - *Career as an Industrial Chemist*
 - *Loss of friendships due to friends moving from the area*
 - *New friendships formed through an exercise group*
 - *Many more friendships formed through Probus*

John stated he was looking forward to ensuring the Club continued its wonderful social atmosphere.

Two General Meetings in March

- The April General Meeting will not be held due to Good Friday falling on 3 April. In lieu of the April meeting, a second March meeting will take place on 27 March.

50th Anniversary of Probus in Australia

- Launched by PSPL with a celebratory morning tea function hosted by Hunter's Hill Probus (the 1st Australian Probus Club) on 3 February
- The 50th Anniversary of Probus will be a theme for all PSPL communications in 2026
- Bilgola Plateau Probus will celebrate the occasion in a number of ways including:
 - *The Club's 4th Birthday Party in October (to coincide with Probus Month)*
 - *50 year logo on the Club's correspondence*
 - *50 year email logo where possible*

Member Profile

- Mike Musgrave thanked Lesley Whiteside for participating in the Member Profile article in the January Newsletter. Another member will be interviewed for the next newsletter.

General Issues

- To assist the organiser of an outing/activity, please RSVP (and pay) by the nominated date.
- Please remember to bring along your own mug or cup for morning tea. The new cartons of disposables cups are costing over \$100 per carton for 500, that's 20 cents each cup!

7 TREASURER'S REPORT

Ray Pride presented the following Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance 31 December 2025		\$12,542
Income		
Members Fees	\$180	
Joining Fees - 4 New Members	\$185	
Net Proceeds from Activities	\$468	
		<u>\$833</u>
		\$13,375
Payments		
Bank Charges	\$5	
Microsoft Fee	\$159	
Morning Teas	\$127	
Name Badges - New Members	\$67	
Rent - NBC	\$175	
Guest Speaker Gift	\$26	
		<u>\$559</u>
Cash at Bank 31 January 2026		<u>\$12,816</u>

8 TOURS/ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Sub-Committees

Two new Sub-Committees have been formed to assist the Tours/Activities, ie

- **Lunch/Dinner Sub-Committee:** Rhonda Mortimer, Lesley Death and Virginia Moore
- **Away Walks Sub-Committee:** Patricia Ryan, Shelley Barwick, Sue Whisker

EOIs and Activities Update

The following EOIs which had been approved by the Management Committee were highlighted by Lyn Hope and Janeen Macfarlane – refer the website for all the details.

- **ART GALLERY OF NEW, WOMEN'S EXHIBITION & TOUR - 13 FEBRUARY**
- **WALK – SPIT JUNCTION TO BALMORAL BEACH – 19 FEBRUARY**
- **DINNER, COLLAROY BEACH CLUB, 27 FEBRUARY**
- **PRINCE HENRY NURSING AND MEDICAL MUSEUM - 3 MARCH**
- **MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW & GARDEN TOUR – 21/26 MARCH**
- **SIMON AND GARFUNKEL – 22 MARCH**
- **DAY OUT TO THE NEW SYDNEY FISH MARKETS - 10 APRIL**
- **GLEN ST MONDAY MORNING MUSIC - GOLDEN - 20 APRIL**
- **GLEN ST MONDAY MORNING MUSIC - ANGEL OF MUSIC - 11 MAY**
- **BROKEN HILL - MULTI DAY COACH TOUR – 10/17 MAY**
- **GLEN ST RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN MUSICAL - 20 MAY**
- **MUSWELLBROOK YULEFEST - 3 DAY COACH TOUR - 22/24 JULY**
- **PARRAMATTA CONVICT WOMEN'S TRAIL - 27 AUGUST**

The following approved Activities and Outings for the remainder of **February** are listed below:

Date/Time	Activity	Where/Details
Saturday, 7 February, 2 pm	Musical Theatre: 9 to 5	Glen St Theatre, Belrose
Monday, 9 February, 11 am	Book Club	Waterview Cafe, Mona Vale Golf Club
Monday, 9 February, 4 – 6 pm	Drinks and Catchup	Newport Bowling Club
Tuesday, 10 February, 10 am	Walk	Long Reef Headland Walk, Collaroy, plus coffee
Tuesday, 10 February, 11.30–4pm	Scrabble	Home of Di Cross
Tuesday, 10 February, 1.30 - 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale
Thursday, 12 February, 10 am	Coffee and Chat	Bayview Golf Club, 1825 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale
Thursday, 12 February, 1 - 4 pm	Crafty Tarts Group	Home of Di Cross
Friday, 13 February, 10 am	Public Tour \$32 Concession paid on the day	Art Gallery of NSW
Monday, 16 February, 10.30 am	Heaven's Devils Boys' Coffee	Relish, 8/1 North Avalon Road, Avalon Beach
Tuesday, 17 February, 1.30 - 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale
Wednesday, 18 February, 2 pm	Musical Theatre: Retired Laughing	Glen St Theatre, Belrose
Wednesday, 18 February, 2 - 4 pm	Crafty Yarners	Newport Bowling Club
Thursday, 19 February, 10.30 am	Monthly Walk	Spit Junction to Balmoral Walk
Thursday, 19 February, 6 pm Dinner, 7 pm Trivia	Trivia	Avalon Beach RSL Club
Friday, 20 February, Time: TBA	Movies and Coffee	Warriewood Cinema
Tuesday, 24 February, 1.30 - 4 pm	Mah-jong	Pittwater RSL Club Mona Vale
Tuesday, 24 February, 2pm-4pm	New Book Club	Contact Di Cross for venue address
Thursday, 26 February, 10.30- 4 pm	Mah-jong	Di Cross's house
Friday, 27 February, 10 am	Coffee and Chat	4 Knots, 1/326 Barrenjoey Road Newport
Friday, 27 February, 9.30 am	9 holes Social Golf	Palm Beach Golf Club, 2 Beach Rd, Palm Beach
Friday, 27 February, 5.30 pm for 6.30 pm dinner	Drinks and Dinner	Collaroy Beach Club

Members were reminded that although the details above are current and correct as at the date of the meeting, members should always check the website for any late changes.

9 GENERAL BUSINESS

Morning Tea Roster for March 2026

- Di Cross will individually contact those rostered on for 6 March.

New Book Club Vacancies

- Two vacancies currently exist in the “New” Book Club. If interested please contact Di Cross, bd.cross@outlook.com.au

Thank you from One Meal, Brookvale

- On behalf of One Meal, Brookvale, Jenny Angus thanked members for their very generous donations of pantry items to the 2025 Christmas appeal. She added the organisation had prepared over 5,000 hampers in the area stretching from Manly to Ettalong.
- Jenny mentioned the organisation would welcome donations of pantry items throughout the year. These donations could be given to Jenny at any future Probus meeting.

10 MORNING TEA

- Provided by Julie Maryska, Dawn Hurt, Judy Newman and Neal Arthur, co-ordinated by Di Cross and served by Carol Marcer and many helpers.

11 INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Brian Cross introduced Nick Cowdrey who gave insights to many stories from his life as a former barrister in New Guinea and Australia before being selected as NSW Director of Public Prosecutions.

12 VOTE OF THANKS TO GUEST SPEAKER

The vote of thanks was given by Brian Cross.

13 CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING

Mike thanked all members for attending today’s meeting. The next General Meeting (and AGM) will be held on Friday 6 March 2026.

14 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 12.05 pm.



President

Date: 6 February 2026