



Combined Probud Club of Blackburn South Inc.

Reg. No A0029946T

MINUTES of Monthly General Meeting 5th November 2025

HELD: Whitehorse Horticultural Centre, 82 Jolimont Road. Forrest Hill.

PRESIDENT: Sandra Knight OAM.

Opened the meeting at 10.00 am by welcoming members and visitors whilst reminding everyone to turn their mobile phones to 'silent'.

APOLOGIES: Eric Sutherland, Trish Clifton, Mick Both, Sandra Both, Vin White, Mike Bampffield, Elaine Kendler, Gillian Horlock, Keith Wickins, Joyce Wickins, Lorraine Hally, John Hally, Mary Rasmussen. Rachel McAlavey, Mike Mc Gorlick, Shirley Mc Gorlick, Colin Sando, Liz Henwood, Denis Hawthorn, Kath Hawthorn, Denis Birt, Lois Cheevers, Dot Farr, Colin Farr, Ian Rose, Sibylle Ahrens.

Present: 44 members, 26 apologies, 1 absent, 4 Visitors

VISITORS:

Sandra welcomed all visitors and said she hoped they would enjoy our meeting. Sandra invited visitors to join Members at the after-meeting lunch at Café Oggi, Lakeside Dr, Burwood East

BIRTHDAYS: Sandra wished members celebrating birthdays in November a Very Happy Birthday and Lorelle kindly handed out birthday chocolates, -

November Birthdays: Jaya Shah 9th, Woty Fanoy 12th, Lois Cheevers 13th, Eric Sutherland 24th, Rolf Arnoldi 29th,

Chocolates were then handed out to the members whose birthdays fell in the months we do not have a meeting:

December birthdays – Christina Hunter 3rd, Ree Dowling 8th, Cushla Appleby 11th, Ian Rose 13th, Col Sando 22nd, Dorothy Thompson 22nd, Sheilah Blanchfield 24th.

January birthdays – Catherine Pratt 9th, Mick Both 15th, Gillian Horlock 16th, Ron Henderson

CORRESPONDENCE:

IN: Various PSPL bulletins and ATO returns

OUT: Letter to MP re Christmas hamper

Letter to Mayor on behalf of John Hally Re BBQ

Letter to ATO re return

MINUTES: October General Meeting

Secretary moved the minutes previously circulated for the 1st of October General Meeting, be accepted as a true and accurate record of the October meeting

Moved – Gillian George **Seconded:** Cath Pratt **Carried.**

Business Arising Previous Minutes: No business arising

REPORTS:

Vice President – Lindsay

Lindsay spoke to the meeting suggesting the committee and members would be best served if Sandra did another year as Club President to maintain the continuity and complete the tasks the committee is currently looking at i.e. Standing Orders and club health check. Lindsay said the constitution allows for the extension of the President role and can be activated in Exceptional Situations. Lindsay asked that members to please think about this as a motion to ratify it will be raised at an AGM. Lindsay is happy to continue as Vice President but felt a younger member of the club would be better suited to fulfill this role moving forward. Lindsay is happy to take on the role as treasurer.

President: Sandra Knight OAM

- Sandra thanked all those attending the last meeting of the year and she welcomed everyone to attend the Christmas Lunch.
- Sandra also thanked everyone for their help this year.
- Sandra spoke on the electronic honour board that is the TV screen scrolling through the club Presidents and Life members. She thanked Ken George for his assistance with this.
- Sandra also asked members to think about taking a role on the committee in 2026.
- Sandra then drew the cup day raffle, the wine had very kindly been donated by Dan Murphy Liquor at Brentford Square, and the club greatly appreciates this, Prize 1 won by Sheilah Blanchfield and Prize 2 by Ree Dowling.
- Sandra unveiled the cup and wooden spoon for the Mini Golf Day and advised members they are very welcome to attend.

SECRETARY REPORT – Gillian

- Secretary welcomed the 4 visitors and hoped they enjoy the meeting.
- Secretary asked if anyone knew of Gwenyth Ayton who has recently passed away; her son was trying to locate which Probus Club she belonged to.
- Secretary thanked everyone who gave her bags for "Share the Dignity". And thanked those that have given bags filled with items for this charity. Currently we have 12 bags to give to "Share the Dignity".
- Secretary also thanked Kath Thompson for providing cupcakes for morning tea, this is greatly appreciated by all members.
- Secretary advised those going to Castlemaine to please complete an emergency contact form available at the front desk. She advised that these need to be filled out before attending the trip.

TREASURER – Harish Shah

Financial Report

Bank Balance 4th November

\$3,459.00 Net Club Balance.

Advised members the Tyro is available for any payment today. (card payment system)

GUEST SPEAKERS – Dot Thompson

November Dave Cox from "Guitars for Veterans".

BULLETIN - Nelsa Counsell
Advised all good with bulletin.

WELFARE – Ree Dowling

Ree spoke on how Eric Sutherland is after his accident and, on behalf of Bev, informed the members of his progress.

OUTINGS – Ree Dowling

- Ree spoke on the trip that the club had to Pentridge prison and informed the members that it was very successful, and we learnt a lot of history re: the jail.
- Ree also spoke on those members who attended the Cup Day at the Vermont South club and said it was a very enjoyable day. She also noted that when the Probus club went on the MCG tour, they were able to hold the Melbourne Cup.

Upcoming events:

- “The Travellers” movie on Wednesday 12th November. Lorelle will be in carpark to give out parking vouchers and Catherine Pratt will take the money inside for the tickets.
- Mini Golf on 19th November costs \$11.50 please pay in advance, as the golf club wanted numbers. Come along and cheer if you do not want to play. Lunch to follow at the golf club
- Christmas Lunch Wednesday December 3rd \$45 please pay treasurer or direct deposit into bank, please place name on list on counter for numbers.
- Ree informed members that the movie “The Choral” will be booked for early Feb.
- Ree also asked for a show of interest in:” The Sound of Music” to be held in March at the Round. She needs to know numbers by 7th November to book concession tickets. Please see Ree if interested.

TOURS – Sandra

- Castlemaine is all booked and paid for, and this is a Ride Share, advised those going with someone to check on times. Everyone has an itinerary, if not, there are some available on the front desk. Sandra advised she will give the train tickets and advise arrangements for the Train at tea on Thursday night. She wished everyone safe travels.
- Bright itinerary is also available for those wanting to attend next year 13th – 17th April. All are welcome to attend. Notice on counter please put your names down if interested.
- King Island Trip notice on counter for names, unable to let the members know the full pricing as yet as still waiting on the Tour Company to release their 2026 pricing for this tour which will probably be in November 2026.

Roll Back the Clock - Sandra Knight

A fun time and good exercise.

Each Friday

11.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Vermont South Club.

Sandra invited Members to attend and meet others.

Guest Services- Kath Thompson.

Morning Tea will be cupcakes, and all going well and thanked the helpers.

Discussion Group – Gillian George

Advised date of next meeting is 17th November and invited everyone who is interested to attend.

Mike does a great job organizing this group and attendance is around 12-17 members, Discussion is followed by afternoon tea and biscuits. Many varied topics are discussed.

Meets 3rd Monday of the month at Vermont South Club.

Web Master Report - Doug Westcott

All good.

After Meeting Lunch – Café Oggi Lakeside Drive Burwood East, approximately 20 members indicated they would like to attend.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Sandra presented Rolf Arnoldi with his 10-year membership certificate.
- Sandra also reminded the members that the positions of Bulletin Editor and Guest Services need to be filled and asked members to think about if they would be able to take on role.

President Sandra closed the meeting for morning tea: Time: 10.40am.

GUEST SPEAKER

Dot Thomson introduced Guest Speaker: Dave Cox from Guitars for Veterans, a non-profit organization that provides free guitar lessons and instruments to veterans helping them heal from PTSD and other emotional challenges through the power of music. Dave did an excellent talk and sang a couple of songs for us.

The G4V program starts with a 10-week instruction period. During this time Veterans are given one-on-one individualized lessons. They promote teaching the music that appeals to the student and works at the students' pace. After completing the lessons, the graduation process involves receiving a free acoustic guitar and guitar accessory kit. The next step is to continue practicing and learning. Each month there are group sessions organized by one of the 110 chapters and growing. The group sessions develop a community of fellow Veterans and guitarists. To date, GV4 has provided over 4,000 guitars to Veterans.

Dave then answered a few questions from the club members.

Dot thanked Dave for his presentation and presented him with a small gift.

Sandra thanked everyone for attending and said she hoped that she would see everyone at the Christmas Lunch.

Meeting Closed at 11.50 am.

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President February 2026