



**Probud Club of Glen Osmond
General Meeting 491 Minutes
Monday 6th October 2025**

Opening 10.00am. President Mary Dawes opened the meeting and welcomed members and visitors Ally Lynch, Jack Batty MP and media adviser Jack.

Vale: Dr John Skipper AM, died 4th October aged 103; and Gordon Reginald Hunt, died 14th September aged 92.

Brian Webber offered a eulogy for John and Andrew McEwin a eulogy for Gordon, after which a minutes silence and reflection was observed.

John Skipper

John was a generous self-effacing gentle man admired by all. He joined the Glen Osmond Probud Club in 2009 and on his 100th Birthday in 2021 made an Honorary Member. He died just 9 days short of his 104th birthday.

He completed a medical degree at the University of Adelaide in 1944 and served as an RMO at the RAH in 1943; in 1945 he joined the Australian Army Medical Corp as a Captain. In 1946 he married Betsy Holden and was posted to Japan.

He resumed his civilian career in 1947 as Registrar of obstetrics and gynaecology at the QVMH and RAH, and in 1955 the family travelled to the UK and the USA, where John specialised in gynaecological oncology later introducing the Pap-Smear into Adelaide.

His long and distinguished career extended to 1996 and in 2016 he was honoured with an AM (Member of the Order of Australia). Unfortunately his beloved wife Betsy died in 2017.

John was a keen golfer and artist celebrating his 100th birthday with a round of golf, buying a new car, a new suit and a new set of golf clubs. He was a superb sportsman winning many trophies in golf, lawn bowls and billiards.

Gordon Hunt

Gordon was born 1933 in Cambridgeshire UK and was an English Bobby before migrating to Australia in the mid 1960's. Unfortunately he was deemed too old to join the South Australian Police Force at that time. He was introduced to the Glen Osmond Probud Club in April 2017 by Nigel Monteith and resigned in 2024.

A long-time friend of Helen Lindner, Gordon sadly died in Adelaide on the 14th September 2025 at the age of 92 years. He was the husband of Margaret (deceased), and father and father in law of Andrew and Dana, grandfather of Todd and Adam with partners Emmalee and Amanda.

Apologies: Joan Babidge, Liz Brown, David Davidson, Jan Riggs.

Birthdays

7 birthdays – Peggy Barker, Andrew Brown, Beverley Brown, Jane Brummitt, Helen Lindner, Kathleen Smith, Margaret Young

Minutes of last meeting Monday 2nd September 2025

The minutes of the meeting Monday 2nd September 2025 were approved by a show of hands and signed by the President.

Treasurer – Andrew McEwin

Andrew McEwin advised that the current balance is \$2559 with no payment outstanding.

Activities – Kaye Leaker

Picnic in Hazelwood Park is set for 12noon Wednesday 22nd October, and Christmas Lunch at the Caledonian Hotel for Monday 15th December.

A trip to a KESAB Recycling Plant is being actively explored. Christine Lincoln will attend a Burnside Council meeting re support for Probus Clubs.

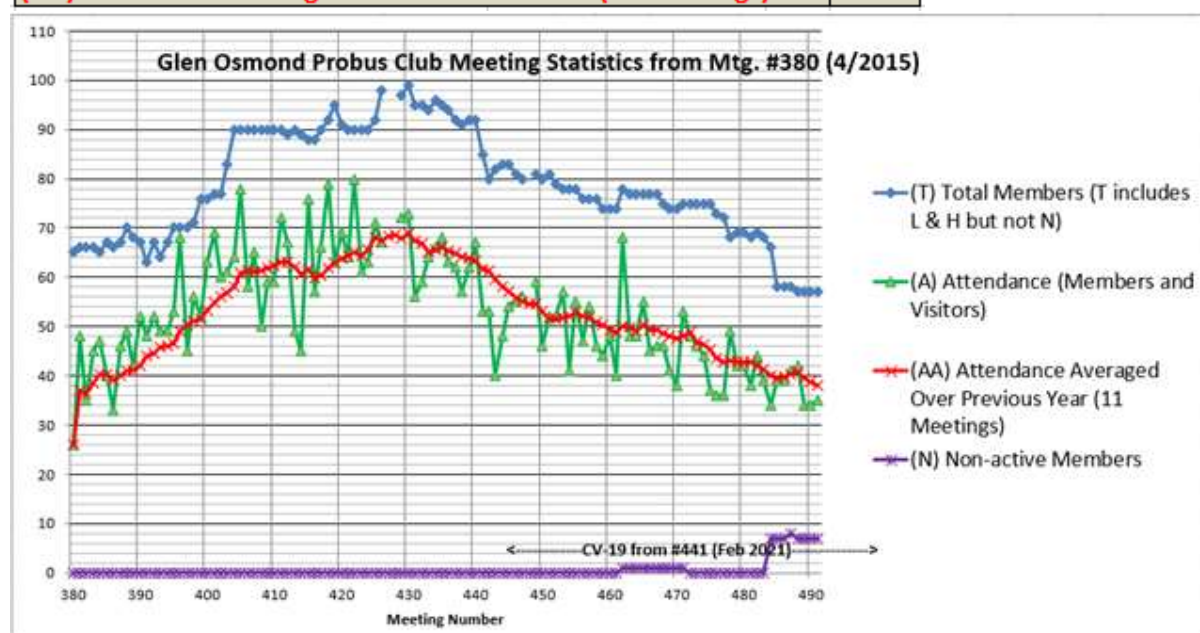
Unfortunately “Talkies” and ‘Tea” at the Regent Theatre is cancelled this month as the date clashes with the Picnic. However this will return in November as an activity approved by the Committee.

Welfare – Jill Casperson

Joan Babidge is having treatment for skin cancers and Susie McEwin treatment to alleviate serious back pain.

Membership – Brian Rice

Membership Report for Meeting	Oct-2025	# 492
(L) Life Members		0
(H) Honorary Members		1
(T) Total Members (T includes L & H but not N)		57
(N) Non-active Members		7
(G) GOPC Membership (G = T + N)		64
(A) Attendance (Members and Visitors)		35
(PA) Percentage Attendance (Members Only)		67%
(AA) Attendance Averaged Over Previous Year (11 Meetings)		38.1



Attendance – Bev Webber

- Present 40
- Apologies 5
- AWOL 12
- Total 57 (Plus 7 Non Active)

Business arising –

- **Adjustment to Standing Orders.** On advice from the CEO of PSPL it is recommended Standing Resolution 15, approved by members at the last meeting, be adjusted to read “The Committee will ensure that the Club’s annual financial statements will be certified.” The words reviewed or audited are removed. This motion will be put to the members at the November General Meeting.
- Management Committee positions become vacant at the next AGM in March 2026. Calls are hereby made for members to make nominations for these positions.

Profile Speaker - Jill Casperson (edited version)

From when I was about 12 years old I played basketball and tennis, and I joined the St. John Ambulance cadets which I really enjoyed but, when I later started evening classes, I had to leave because of a conflict of times.

My years at Goodwood Primary School were enjoyable but after grade 7 I was sent to a girls' school where the main focus was on learning housewifely skills. I wasn't particularly enthusiastic about that, so I left school at the end of the year in which I'd turned 14. I was fortunate enough to get a job with prominent law firm and, on the advice of my aunt, I enrolled in evening classes for shorthand and typing.

In the early 1960s I married and started a family. After a few years of being a full-time mum I re-entered the work force part-time. For a long time I wished I'd had more education and had become a nurse. When my son and daughter were in university they told me it was not too late for me to study and they encouraged me to sit the mature age entrance exam. Much to my genuine shock, I was offered a place at Sturt College and began studying for the Diploma of Applied Science (Nursing).

My graduate year at the RAH was quite a culture shock but it was a great place for learning. One person who was always available to give me advice was our lovely Dawn Yeatman who was the Co-ordinator of the Graduate Nurse Program. The years from when I started at Sturt College until retirement were often challenging but they were wonderfully fulfilling. I will be forever grateful to my son and daughter for encouraging me to follow my dreams.

At the end of my graduate year I met a man who became a very good friend. Four years later, in 1992, I married Keith. He was a Zoologist who had come to Australia from Canada and worked with the CSIRO before coming to Adelaide as a Research Wildlife Biologist with our State Government. We'd done some travelling, other than for Keith's work, before we retired but after we retired travelling was our passion. As well as travelling in Australia, we visited many countries, some being beautiful first world countries and many were very poor places, where we learned much about other cultures and where we met some of the world's most generous spirited beautiful people. Sadly, two years ago, I lost my husband who had been my very best friend.

I'm glad I now have the members of our Probus Club in my life, a book club, a sewing group, and a few other friends.

10.30am Morning Tea and Probus Month Celebration

President Mary Dawes warmly welcomed Jack Batty local MP for Bragg and invited him to cut a Birthday Cake to recognise 49 years of Probus and 43 years of the Glen Osmond Probus Club. Jack then mingled with the members over morning tea.

11.00am Guest Speaker

Michael Ward a magistrate for 34 years in SA, NT and ACT chose to reflect on imprisonment over the years with British Justice, based on his book.

He pointed out that imprisonment for crime has only been in place over the last 200 years. Before that imprisonment was without trial for such issues as being in debt or not paying fines. There were essentially 3 categories of crime; treason, serious crime such as stealing, or misdemeanours such as indecency or selling underweight goods. Stocks and Pillories and being strapped, dragged and flogged were common punishments.

In the Tudor years there were a great number imprisoned as vagrants, many of whom became troops for the Army or Navy rather than being locked up. Some were sent as slaves to serve developing industries in North America, and some from 1778 transported to Australia.

Michael also reflected on gross treatments of prisoners in later penitentiaries.

Ken Watson thanked Michael for his talk and offered a token of appreciation.

The meeting closed at 12noon

Signed as a true and accurate record

President

Date