



PROBUS CLUB OF JAMBEROO INC
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 24 September 2025

Number of attendees: **46**

Visitors: David Butcher (Guest Speaker)

Apologies:

Susan Alexander, Jennie Breeze, Nuffy Brooke-Smith, Winton Brooke-Smith, Brian Cassel, Colin Cavenagh, Chrissie Cieplucha, Julieanne Douglas, Mike Douglas, Anne Edwards, Denise Emmett, Cathy Faulks, Ross Faulks, Peter Franzeskow, Steve Gaddin, Sue Gaddin, Marea Gardner, Susan Good, Val Gregory, John Hansen, Sandra Hansen, Harry Hoogendoorn, Helen Hoogendoorn, Helen Keys, Mike Keys, Jenny Lee, Marj Micallef, Sandra Moores, John Norton, Sharon Norton, Dot Ramsay, Grahame Ramsay, Linda Webb.

Rob Lee opened the meeting at 3.10 pm.

Minutes of August Meeting

President Rob advised that the Minutes of the August meeting had been circulated and asked if anyone had any concerns about or matters arising from the Minutes. No concerns or matters were raised, so Rob called for a Motion to accept the Minutes.

Moved: John Pearce
Seconded: Trish Gilbert
Motion declared carried.

Guest Speaker

David Hall introduced David Butcher, now retired and living in Jamberoo. A veterinarian for 60 years, David has made some interesting observations about the interaction between people and animals, some of which are quite hilarious.

Born in New Zealand, David began his studies in Medicine but changed to Vet Science. David joked about his name, which he had never considered odd until he met a Professor of Botany at Victoria University in New Zealand, who agreed it was just as well that he was contemplating changing from Medicine to Vet Science when his title as a Medical Graduate would be Dr Butcher!! Even as a Vet Science Graduate, his name was unforgettable.

David feels he has had one of the most incredible careers.

Early in his career David helped set up a comparative pathology registry to look at the pathology across diseases of humans and all kinds of animals and do a comparison. There was only one other similar laboratory anywhere in the world which was in the United States Army.



David's adventures started immediately upon graduating from Vet Science. He needed practical experience so got a job on a property in NSW where he was the "victim" of many practical jokes.

Returning to New Zealand, David's first experiences as a qualified Veterinarian were sink or swim in the calving season in the dairy industry.

After New Zealand, David decided to go to the UK, looking to do research in parasitic diseases. He ended up in North Yorkshire where he had more adventures, including meeting up with the Vet and Author, James Wight, pen name James Herriot, who wrote about Veterinary practice, and is famous for the content of the long running series All Creatures Great and Small. Here he had his first experience of winter housing of cattle which he found appalling and the extreme experience of having to examine the zebra of Lord Londonderry at Wynyard Hall (complete with a butler!).

Coming back to Australia, David ran a successful practice at Roseville on the North Shore in Sydney. He was asked by one of the vets at Taronga Zoo to do a locum there. He obliged, having to get a replacement for himself, but was in the right place at the right time to hear about the new Zoo to be built in Dubbo. At Taronga Zoo, he was able to solve a few problems with elephants and monkeys due to his experience with the Pathology Laboratory, so, with his reputation preceding him he was offered the job of setting up the Taronga Western Plains Zoo.

With 30 people and \$30 million and a year to build the zoo, David set about this challenge. David recalls how practical the regional workmen were in solving problems in their engineering of the grounds. He also came in well under budget and was able to build an on site vet clinic which had not been factored into the original plans. When they discovered the money left over would be taken back they found many other practical ways to use it up. An unusually wet Spring saw them modify some of the impractical aspects of the official Public Works Engineering plans. Some dams, lakes and roads just ended up in more workable locations. The aim was to create as natural and safe an environment for the animals as possible.

The team had to work through the logistics of getting some of the animals to the Zoo. Transporting the elephants and giraffes to the zoo was particularly challenging. With the elephants, the truck broke down and the weather was particularly hot so a road works water truck was commandeered to keep the elephants watered down until the necessary repairs were done to continue the trip to Dubbo. The obliging drivers got life passes to the Zoo!! Even though they got young giraffes which still had some growing to do, it took some clever engineering to transport them under some of the bridges.

One anecdote David shared with us was about an alpha male monkey who took it upon himself to discipline 3 out of control human boys, to the delight of all witnessing the event.

After this project, David ran WWF Australia for 10 years. His story goes on and we could have listened but were appeased by the possibility of his coming back to entertain us another time.



Afternoon Tea Break

During the break a slide show of upcoming events was shown for members' information.

The **Photo Showcase** "Pets" was shown after the afternoon break, and there was much to smile about.

Financial Report: Bruce Johnston

Financial Year 01 January 2025 – 21 September 2025

1. Admin Income for Year of \$4,290.60 of which \$4,260.00 is for Membership Dues and Joining Fees. Bank Interest of \$0.60. After Capitation Fees and Name Badges total of \$2,225, leaves us a Net Income of \$2,065.60.
2. Admin Expense for the Year of \$1,539.46 leaves us showing a Surplus of \$538.14 YTD. The Lucky Door Draw shows a deficit (i.e Club Subsidy) of \$96.32 as at September 21st.
3. Events Income of \$59,708.00 for the Year and \$36,742.51 in costs to date. YTD Events Income has dropped by \$1,902 due to 2 members late cancellation out of Central West Trip. That creates an unfair burden on organisers to try to find late participants so that Tour Costs can be covered without adding costs to all remaining participants. We now show a Surplus YTD of \$22,965.49. Tulip Top Gardens has been fully paid as has our Accommodation in Orange for Central West Trip. There is \$1,753 still to come in from members for Central West Trip before Thursday, September 25th.
4. Total members Accounts Receivable balance is \$1,002.00 which is the Central West payments due less \$751 in credit balances for some members from cancelled events.
5. We have Accounts Payable of \$6,540 which is related to Central West trip, less a credit of \$60 owing from Shell Cove Proboscidea for 2 members who had to drop out of re-scheduled Croquet Day.
6. IMB Balance \$35,007.45 as at September 21st of which \$4,352.05 is Admin Funds and Retained Earnings and \$30,655.40 is Events Funds and Member Balances from Events. There is \$69.00 in the Cash Tin and \$108.55 in the Lucky Door Draw Float.
7. We have 100 Financial Members, and no Un-financial Members.
8. We have 21 booked and paid Tulip Top Tour, 38 for Central West Tour, 6 for Combined Proboscidea Lunch, 9 for Vons Vintage lunch, 5 for the Bus for the Low Tea at Vons, 10 for Christmas Dinner and 5 for the JD Smith Christmas Concert.
9. If anyone would like a copy of any Financial Reports, please email me jambereooprobus treasurer@gmail.com.



Events Officer's Report: John Pearce

jamberooprobosoutings@gmail.com

Visit to Thirlmere Railway Museum and lunch, Wednesday 10 September 2025

A terrible weather day prevented a few Members participating. Several Members were unwell and withdrew from the event. Nevertheless about 18 Members enjoyed a great experience in a magnificently presented and well-funded exhibition space displaying locomotives and rolling stock from the beginnings of steam rail in Australia through to the next-but-latest diesels. Nostalgia for everyone and particularly memories for a few Members previously employed in the railways.

Event: Visit to Tulip Top Gardens (near Canberra)
Date: Saturday 27 September
Time : 8.30am departure from Jamberoo Club
Refreshment: Café on site or bring your own picnic
Cost: Bus + group entry \$51 payment by 12 September

Fully booked

October:

Monday 13 October 2025 10.00 am Minnamurra Coast Walk and Coffee Shop.

Meet at the carpark at the end of Eureka Avenue for the walk to the Minnamurra Cafe for refreshments. (At own cost)

October 27 - 31 2025

Tour to Central NSW including, Cowra, Orange and Parkes. Cost includes travel, accommodation, breakfasts, 2 lunches, all dinners, Japanese Garden entry and Parkes Telescope entry. The changes for the Thursday were tabled...no wine tasting in the afternoon, instead free time to shop. Some members were now unable to go on the trip, but other members have been able to take their places, so numbers are still the same.

Cost: \$1051 Shared

\$1493 Single

Final Payment to Treasurer by 3 October 2025

November:

Tuesday 11 November 2025 11.30 am "Low Tea" at Vons Vintage Cafe at Pyree (719 Greenwell Point Road)

Plan is to meet at 10.30 am and have an explore around Greenwell Point, then meet in the Memorial Park at 11am to observe Remembrance Day. After this Low Tea at Vons Vintage Cafe

Cost: \$20.00 for Low Tea, and \$20 for bus (Or car/car pool at own cost)



December:

Tuesday 2 December 2025 10.00 am for morning tea JD Smith (ex TenTenors)
Christmas Celebration Concert at Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre \$25 (group of 8 or more) Own transport.

\$35 for a Christmas lunch at the Entertainment Centre if you wish to join us, to be paid to Treasurer Bruce by 31 October 2025.

Friday 12 December 2025 End of Year Celebration

Venue: Bella Char Restaurant, Mercure Hotel, Gerringong. From 5.00 pm for Happy Hour at own cost.

3 course buffet dinner, live music, drinks at own cost. If we have 65 members participating we have the whole restaurant to ourselves

Cost: \$60.00

The menu has changed so will be sent out to participating members when it is received.

Norfolk Island Trip

It was reported that 15 Members so far had signed up for the Norfolk Island Trip from 8 May to 16 May 2026, so the event will be going ahead.

Facebook

All members are invited to join our Facebook Group. "Jamberoo Probus Club". Information regarding Events is posted to the page, as well as photos from our various outings.

Please do not invite people to join the Facebook group who are not members of our Club.

Jamberoo Probus - Upcoming Events Calendar Snapshot

When is It?	What is It?	Where is It?	What does it Cost?
Monday 13 October 10.00 am	Minnamurra Headland Walk	Minnamurra Headland, then Minnamurra Cafe	Own cost at cafe
Tuesday 21 October 2025 11.30 for Noon	Combined Probus Lunch	Kiama Leagues Club	\$40 payable by 31 August
27-31 October 2025	Tour	Cowra, Orange and Parkes	\$1051.00 Shared \$1493.00 Single
Tuesday 11 November 10.00 am	"Low Tea"	Vons Vintage Cafe, Pyree	\$20.00 for Low Tea payable by 31 October \$20.00 for bus TBC
Tuesday 2 December 10.00 for 11.00 am	JD Smith's Christmas Concert	Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre	\$25.00 payable by 31 October 2025 Optional lunch \$35.00 Payable by 31 October 2025
Friday 12 December 5.00 pm	Christmas Dinner	Bella Char Restaurant Mercure Hotel, Gerringong	\$60.00 payable by 30 November



Guest Speaker Officer: David Hall

Next Guest Speaker is to be Michael Giles from Hansen and Cole.

Liaison Officer: Marj Micallef

There was no report today but Marj will send a reminder to those members attending the Combined Probosc Luncheon on 21 October 2025.

Member Speaker Officer Kevin Gilbert

Member Speaker for October is to be advised.

The next Photo Showcase will be **Water** and will be shown at the November Meeting.

Please submit your Photos in jpeg format to Ali and Graeme jamberooprobosinfo@gmail.com by 15 November 2025

Welfare Officer's Report: Maiya Kenny

Julianne Douglas finally had surgery on her shoulder last week. It was the result of a fall she had while she and Mike were overseas. Now she can get on with the healing process.

Helen Waterhouse is also nursing a shoulder injury but seems to be soldiering on.

Kerry Brennan is unable to come to the meetings as she can't access the stairs. I'm sure she would love a visit or a phone call from you.

Anne Edwards has been ill and is now starting to feel better

Brian Cassell is having a tough time with some breathing difficulties. Hopefully he gets some answers from the doctors next week

The change of seasons has hit a few people hard, myself included and I have had hay-fever for the first time in a few years.

If you, or someone you know has had an operation, a fall or is feeling under the weather, please let me know. Because sometimes having a chat can make a difference to how you feel.

The Meeting ended at 5.00 pm with a lucky door prize draw. Many thanks to those who donated prizes, adding a little fun.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 22 October, 2025 in the Gala Room at Club Jamberoo