



PROBUS CLUB OF JAMBEROO INC  
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING  
Wednesday 28 January 2026

Number of attendees: **48**

Visitors: (Guest Speaker: Lynne Strong)

**Apologies:**

Susan Alexander, Jim Ballentine, Margo Ballentine, Barbara Barnes, David Barnes, Vic Bernasconi, Jennie Breeze, Cathy Faulks, Ross Faulks, Lynn Franzeskow, Sue Gaddin, Trish Gilbert, John Hansen, Sandra Hansen, Harry Hoogendoorn, Helen Hoogendoorn, Peter Jeffries, Gerard Kenny, Maiya Kenny, Jenny Lee, Louise Manning, Michael Manning, Wendy Markham-Lee, Julie Milne, Kel Milne, John Norton, Sharon Norton, Ali Relf, Graeme Relf, Lorraine Tibbitts, Fiona Turner, Richard Turner, Linda Webb.

**Rob Lee** opened the meeting at 3.00 pm.

**Minutes of November Meeting were accepted.**

Moved: John Pearce

Seconded: David Hall

Motion declared carried.

**President's Report January 2026**

One minute we are talking about Christmas and before you know it, January 2026 is over. We are entering into exciting times this year. Our Events Committee members have worked hard to endeavour to have nearly all activities, tours and outings finalised right through to December 26.

This will make the transition of new committee members a lot easier when they take over these roles in March 26. Please be aware that these roles will hopefully not stand alone as quite a few people have shown interest to assist.

Please note that all currently held positions will be vacated prior to the AGM.

We have nominations so far for: President, Treasurer, Member Speaker Officer, Guest Speaker Officer, Welfare Officer, and Liaison Officer.

We are looking for nominations for: Vice Presidents X 2, Secretary, Events Officer, Membership Officer, Newsletter Officer, and Events sub committee members X 2 at least. We are also looking for assistants in the above roles.

Please note that if we do not have a Secretary, we do not have a club!

I again urge all members to give serious consideration to filling these positions to enable our club to continue successfully.



## Guest Speaker

Introduced by David Hall, our guest speaker was local storyteller Lynne Strong, who spoke about why everyday stories matter, and why this community holds stories found nowhere else. Lynne spoke about how lived history can stay alive long after the last person who remembers it, and why recording these stories now makes a difference.

The presentation explored how seemingly ordinary experiences carry extraordinary decisions inside them. In Jamberoo, those decisions travelled far beyond the valley. One example came from the 1970s, during Australia's butter and margarine wars. Faced with a changing market, innovators at the Jamberoo factory drew on a long local tradition of cooperation and problem solving. Working from the belief that if you can't beat them, join them, Geoff Boxsell and Kevin Richardson created a butter that spread straight from the fridge. At the time, the law made it illegal to call it spreadable butter, so what began as a workaround became a breakthrough, an idea born in Jamberoo that went on to change how people around the world use a staple product every day.

This story sits within a much longer tradition. Jamberoo is recognised as the birthplace of the cooperative movement, where farmers chose collaboration over competition. That movement was given momentum by the local newspaper editor, who became a catalyst for change by writing under a nom de plume and arguing publicly for cooperation at a time when it was far from assured.

Another story came from local artist Jack Waugh, whose illustrations appeared in magazines across Australia and on the much-loved Arnott's Christmas biscuit tins. His work reached kitchens and lounge rooms nationwide, while its origins remained local. These stories invite pride. They create connection. They offer education, curiosity, and belonging.

The message was simple. Stories like these survive only when someone takes the time to record them. Once they are gone, they are gone for good.

Judging by the conversations afterwards, many members left thinking about the stories they know, and the ones they would hate to see lost.

### Key takeaways

- Ordinary communities carry stories with national impact; Jamberoo is one of them
- History is shaped by everyday decisions, many of those stories are still sitting in people's heads
- Recording those stories is easier than ever, and you do not need to be famous to leave something worth keeping

***People may forget what you said or what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel.*** Maya Angelou

### Next Guest Speaker:

David Hall reported that he is working on February's Guest Speaker.



## **Afternoon Tea Break**

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

## **Member Speaker**

Introduced by Kevin Gilbert, our Member Speaker was **Grahame Ramsay**.

Grahame, who was one of six children and born in Lithgow, showed us a cute AI version of his family. Apparently he considered himself the “black sheep” of his family but his siblings all vied for that title too!!

His father had been a school teacher, but suffering PTSD from his time in the Navy, could no longer work. Grahame’s mother was forced to work. This included furthering her education and acquiring a scholarship to do post doctorate work in North Wales. Grahame had a great time travelling by ship first class to Wales, not having to learn Welsh and living on a farm.

Back in Australia, Grahame graduated from high school and enrolled in a university communication and media degree.

Grahame married Dorothea (a Teacher) in 1977 with Dot’s father officiating in a “Dutch” Presbyterian Church, followed by a honeymoon in a tent at Avoca Beach!! Together Grahame and Dot had four children, enjoying travel as a family.

Grahame enjoyed a career in radio, working with Jenny Brockie and Caroline Jones, and moved into production, directing and writing for the ABC. He later worked at the University of Western Sydney lecturing in Media Studies. He went on to become National Education Manager at the National Trust... Grahame later also pursued other jobs which we may hear about another time.

Grahame talked about the importance of Christianity in his life ..starting in the Presbyterian Church, which became the Uniting Church, and later moving to the Anglican Church.

Grahame and Dot are now enjoying being grandparents and boasting about the youngsters’ amazing talents...as we all do.... Being able to gaze upon them rather than having to nurture them!!



## Financial Report: Bruce Johnston

### Treasurer's Report - January 26 2026

#### Financial Year 10 January 2025 - 31 December 2025

1. End of Year Accounts have been prepared and sent to Auditor for Review on Feb 8th and will be presented in full at AGM on March 25th.
2. However, just as an indicator, Admin Income for the year was \$4,360.20, up \$174.87 on 2024.
3. After all Expenses overall Administration Surplus was \$24.78, down by \$296.63 from 2024. The \$270 drop was mainly due to increase in Capitation Fees from PSPL, increase in Software Licence Fee, Lodgement Fee for New Constitution and greater subsidy contribution towards Christmas Dinner event.
4. Events Income was \$67,513.00 for the Year and \$67,495.53 in costs, giving us a small Surplus of \$17.47 for the year.
5. After Xmas Subsidy from Admin Account, this ends up as a Surplus of \$317.47 in 2025 against a loss of \$807.58 in 2024. Events P&L will fluctuate Year on Year depending on how much pre-payment for events is collected in the end of the year and outgoings not appearing until the following year.
6. Combined Admin and Events Retained Earnings for the club was then \$342.25.
7. Members Accounts Receivable balance is \$-981.00 being credit balances for some members.
8. IMB Balance at Dec 31st was \$7,190.47.

#### Financial Year 01 January 2026 – 26 January 2026

1. Admin Income for Year of \$0 as only 3 weeks. Income usually does not start coming in until March. However, this year, due to a new PSPL requirement, we will be invoicing members for Annual Dues at the end of February so that all Annual Dues should be paid by March 31st.
2. Admin Expense for the Year of \$0 also so we have “broken even” so far in January.
3. So, our “Open” events are currently showing a Surplus of \$\$3,783 because we haven’t had any costs yet, but that will change as soon as I start paying Invoices to venues.
4. IMB Bank Balance as of 27 January was \$8,577.47 of which \$3,903.09 is Admin Funds and \$4,647.38 Events Funds and Member Credits. Cash Tin \$114, Lucky Door Pool, \$162.15.
5. Accounts Receivable sits at -\$943.00, being members credits held.
6. No Accounts Payable.
7. We have 19 booked for Premier’s Concert so one seat on bus is available. 15 for Shoalhaven Cruise, 16 for Human Nature, 15 for Some Enchanted Evening and 3 for Retford Park.



## **Budget and Annual Dues**

The Management Committee has approved the Budget for next year and, as a result of increased costs and Capitation Fees, the Annual Membership Dues have been proposed to increase to \$45. The Standing Resolution to effect these changes will be put to the February Meeting for approval and, subject to Approval, will be invoiced at the end of February with payment due by March 31st.

## **Events Officer's Report: John Pearce**

### **February 2026**

**Thursday 12 February 2026 10.30 am**

**Picnic in Minnamurra Rainforest Park in Jamberoo**

BYO Picnic and walk one of two walks, or just picnic.

Since parking is limited and costs \$12.00 per vehicle, it is recommended that members carpool.

### **March 2026**

**4 March. 2026, 10.30 am. Approximately 2 hours**

**Shoalhaven River Fish and Chips Cruise**

Pickup is at Greenwell Point and cruise includes the Crookhaven River, Berry's Canal and the Shoalhaven River.

Cost is \$63 per person, including lunch.

If we have 40 participants, we will have the boat to ourselves.

### **Thursday 12 March 2026**

**Premier's Gala Seniors' Concert, International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour.**

Concert is at no cost but a bus is to be arranged at a cost of \$20.00 per person, leaving Jamberoo at 8.00am.

### **Friday 27 March 2026 8.00pm:**

Human Nature Concert. Part 2 of their Concert tour celebrating 20 years since making it into the Aria Hall of Fame.

Cost is \$95.00 (Payment by 31 January 2026.)

### **April 2026**

**16 April 2026 10.00 am**

Autumn Colours at Retford Park, Bowral. There will be a guided tour of Retford House at 10.30 am followed by time to explore the gardens before Lunch at the Scottish Arms Hotel (own selection, own cost)

Cost is \$25.00 per person for guided tour and access to the gardens.



## **Proposed Events June to December**

### **June 2026**

Visit to Australian Motorlife Museum at Kembla Grange plus lunch at a venue to be decided.

### **July 2026**

Christmas in July at a venue and time to be determined.

### **August 2026**

Visit to the Sydney Seafood Market — bus travel to be investigated.

Club's Birthday — venue/activity to be investigated.

### **September 2026**

Feathered Friends Sanctuary Bargo \$70.00 per tour. Own transport.

### **November 2026**

Hunter Valley Gardens Christmas Lights Spectacular 2026.

### **December 2026**

Christmas Dinner, venue still being investigated.

Expressions of interest are being sought for several events planned for the new year, with the opportunity to register your interest through sign-up sheets at our meeting.

Please note that registering interest does not constitute a booking and until you send your money through, no place is allocated to you.

### **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?
<b>Thursday 12 February 2026 10.30 am</b>	Picnic in the park in Minnamurra Rainforest	Minnamurra Rainforest Jamberoo	No cost. BYO picnic 2 walks available, or just picnic.
<b>Wednesday 4 March 2026 10.30 am</b>	Shoalhaven River Fish and Chip Cruise	Greenwell Point Jetty Departure 10.45am	\$63 per person
<b>Thursday 12 March 2026 11.00 am to 12.30 pm</b>	Premier's Gala Seniors Concert	International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour.	\$20.00 for bus to venue One seat still available.
<b>Saturday 14 March 2026 2.00 pm</b>	Some Enchanted Evening	IPAC Theatre Wollongong	\$55 per person BOOKING NOW CLOSED
<b>Friday 27 March 2026 8.00 pm</b>	Human Nature Motown Tour	Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre	\$95.00 per person BOOKING NOW CLOSED
<b>Thursday 16 April 2026 10.00 am</b>	Autumn Colours, tour and lunch	Retford Park, Bowral. Lunch Scottish Arms Hotel, Bowral.	\$25.00 for Tour
<b>8-15 May 2026</b>	Norfolk Island Experience	Norfolk Island	\$3,848 per person, twin share \$785 single supplement Still places available

### Member Speaker Officer: Kevin Gilbert

It is proposed that Richard Turner will speak at the February Meeting.

### Liaison Officer: Marj Micallef

#### Annual Liaison Group Croquet Day. Are you ready to volunteer?

##### Annual Liaison Group Croquet Day

Our Club is tasked with running the Liaison Group Probus Croquet Day which will probably be in September 2026. (Friday 4 September or Friday 11 September are currently available)

Our job is:

- Choose a date
- Choose a committee
- Send out invitations to Liaison Group Clubs
- Provide morning tea
- Keep record of the scores
- The Croquet Club provides lunch talk to the Club Members involved



- Determine the cost. Last year it was \$20 for players and \$10 for spectators
  - Get the draw template from Russell Fredericks at Kiama Seaside Club
  - Get some croquet practice ourselves
  - We will need to advise the Liaison Meeting and the venue of the dates we prefer
- Next liaison meeting is 6<sup>th</sup> February at 10 am. If anyone else from the club wishes to attend the Liaison meeting, they are welcome.

## **So are you in?**

### **Newsletter Officer's Report**

Shirley thanked those regular contributors to the Newsletter but asked Members not to be complacent that someone else is helping out when in fact very few are. So please make suggestions when you can, particularly when it comes to telling us about something you have read or watched, something you have created or baked or somewhere that you have been that may be of interest to other members in the Club (to be included in the **What Have Members Been Up To** section of our Newsletter.)

Remember, our Newsletter is read by many other Clubs in our area.

Shirley reported that she has been producing the Newsletter since 2022 which amounts to almost 4 years. It is timely that another Member (or other Members) of the Club takes/ take over as Editor or as a Part of a Newsletter Team.

**The current Photo Showcase is:** Our current theme for the Photo Showcase is **BEACHES**. This will be presented at the February meeting as it fits better into the Probus calendar. We keep the March meeting clear for the AGM.

Please send your photos to [jamberooprobusinfo@gmail.com](mailto:jamberooprobusinfo@gmail.com)

As always – all photos accepted and included. Please send in Jpeg format. By 18 February 2026.

Ali asks that you only submit photos **that you have taken**, and please to submit **only 3**.

### **Welfare Officer's Report: Maiya Kenny**

Take care and please let me know if you or someone you know is not feeling well.

Maiya  
0407 536 702

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

The Meeting ended at 5.00 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 28 January, 2025 in the Gala Room at Club Jamberoo