

PROBUS CLUB OF HUNTERS HILL AND DISTRICT

Beginnings

FORMATION of the CLUB

Purpose (Original Club formation, resolution taken at the first meeting, held on 3rd February, 1976):

To provide a regular meeting point for retired men who appreciate and value, in their retirement, increased social contacts and opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances; also, to hold discussions and short lectures on interesting topics at intervals as agreed by the members.

Note: The Probus Club of Hunters Hill (as it was then known) was the first to be established in Australia. In *Probus People 2016* long-time club member, Gil Wahlquist, wrote in part, in his Introduction to the book:-

“ On 6th November, 1975 a small group of men assembled at the (Senior Citizens’) Centre. Clem O’Donnell volunteered to take minutes. John Pinnock (president), Don Farrant, Peter Germann and Gordon Herford represented Rotary. Interested retired men present were Roy Stuckey, OBE, Geoff O’Donnell and his brother, Clem.

Don Farrant, chairman of the Community Services committee of the Rotary club took the chair and introduced Peter Germann. Peter spoke on the success of Probus in the United Kingdom. Copies of a constitution were circulated.

They met a couple of weeks later on 18 November. It was decided to wait until January to launch the club, and during the next two months there was a publicity campaign in the district. On 3rd February, 1976 the meeting was held. Twenty-one potential members attended the Senior Citizen’s Hall. Roy Stuckey, OBE chaired the meeting

The following resolutions were passed:-

- That the Probus Club of Hunters Hill be formed.
- That the suggested constitution be adopted (it was based on the one from the Helensburgh, UK, club) with the addition of a sub-clause that involvement in community services be another of the aims.
- That the membership fee be \$1 payable annually.
- That the club meet on the first Tuesday of every month.”

The number of men joining the club, at its inception, totalled sixteen.

