

**MINUTES OF MARCH 2026 CLUB MEETING**  
**PROBUS CLUB OF TEMPLESTOWE VALLEY Inc.**  
Held at Ajani Centre, 284 Thompsons Road Templestowe Lower 3107  
**On Monday 09/03/2026**

1 President, Graham Mitchell declared the meeting open at 10.11am

All members were welcomed.

**Visitors:** Deana Murphy, Geoff Douglas, Heather Goodwin.

2 **Confirmation of Minutes**

**That the minutes of the Club Meeting held on the 09/02/2026 as circulated be confirmed.**

**Moved:** Graham Mitchell                      **Seconded:** Rhonda Sinclair                      **Carried**

The confirmed minutes were signed by the President.

3. **President's Report** **Graham Mitchell**

Graham grew up in Crystal Brook in South Australia. Between ages 16-19 he was sent to an Agricultural College - a wonderful experience being both practical and theoretical. This was followed by Vet School at the Sydney University - the best 5 years of his life, where he loved every subject, graduated with 1<sup>st</sup> class honours and won the University medal.

He then went on to research at the Walter and Eliza Institute. Here he discovered the connection between T cells, produced by the Thymus and B cells. He gained post doctoral experience in California, London and Switzerland before returning to Melbourne where he was involved in the immunology of parasitism.

1990 he became director of the Melbourne Zoo. In 1993 he went to CSL as Director of Research. In 1996 he set up the research and advisory consultancy Foursight. At 80yrs he retired and we are now lucky enough to have him as our President.

**Motion: That the President's Report be received**

**Moved:** Graham Mitchell                      **Seconded:** Rita Webb                      **Carried**

4. **Secretary's Correspondence Report:** **Jenny Mirams**

**February/March 2026**

**INWARDS**

Trade Travel with Tour options for 2026

MEPG Minutes and nomination form

PAV Information days

CAV re fee reduction

PSPL with Management Committee update and trade Tours info.

Manningham Council re annual grant programme

From Samantha Dickason re the passing of her mother, Jill Dickason, on 20<sup>th</sup> February

A thank you from Kirsten, a grateful recipient of a breast cancer pillow.



**9. Membership Report: Bernadette Mithen for Lyverne Newson**

Since our last meeting we have seen the resignation of three members from the club. Laurel and Wayne Bishop who were long standing members having joined in 2003 and 2011 respectively and Beverley Wignall who has been a member since November 2003 have all resigned. Distance and health issues have brought about these resignations. We thank them for their many years of service and participation in the club.

Two members are currently taking up non-active membership.

Yearly Membership fees of \$40 are now due and payable at the March meeting. You can pay directly into the club account (with your name clearly attached) or there will be a table set up at the March meeting for those who wish to pay in cash/cheque.

A reminder of the usual protocols for a meeting –

- Register at the table on arrival
- Let us know if you are leaving early
- Send an apology via a friend or an email/text/phone call to me prior to the meeting
- Remember to seek out the newer members at the fellowship break and have a chat.

Table helpers for March Lyverne Newson Beverley Bartholomew

**Motion: That the Attendance, Welfare and Membership Reports be received**

**Moved: Graham Mitchell Seconded : Lesley Empy Carried**

**10. Activity Report - March 2026 Irene Baird**

Day activities-special outings & theatre please - check out our newsletter.  
Don't forget Grumpy Lads first & third Tuesday  
BBQ is on the to 4th Thursday night Ruffey Lake Park  
Needles & stitches Wednesday 11 March is at Val Reid's 1.30  
Entertainers is on the day after the meeting everyone is welcome to join. It is a lot of fun.

TRIPS & OUTINGS Lorraine Cooper

F O G O tour & Boathouse walk and lunch. Check out the newsletter:  
Lorraine Copper advised that the:- Parliament House Tour was confirmed as 2.00pm - 28 May. The 50 minute tour was free. There was an option of having lunch at the Strangers Corridor Restaurant beforehand. If wanting to attend the tour and restaurant please put your names on the two separate lists provided at the back of the hall.  
Irene reminded members to notify leaders if they had to cancel out of an activity they had already booked.

THEATRE: Anne Rossi advised that:-

Spirit of Anzacs at The Round was 11am not 2pm as advised.  
42<sup>nd</sup> St - 06 June. Bernadette Robinson - they sang at Carnegie Hall - 2pm Wed 10<sup>th</sup> June followed by afternoon tea. Both shows must be finalised by the May meeting.  
Hamer Hall show - Orchestra Victoria with Caroline O'Connor - 20<sup>th</sup> July at 11am. Cost \$26. Must be finalised by June. Expressions of interest for show and lunch needed ASAP.  
Promises Promises - songs of Burt Bacharach and Hal David - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August - further details April meeting.  
The shows above are all approved : See newsletter for more detail.

GARDEN

All are Approved.

Jeni Moodie advised that:-

Wilson Park at Berwick is on the 26/3/26. The walking tour costs \$5.00, the bus tour \$8.00. There is a restaurant just down the road for lunch. More participants were needed for the bus to go ahead.

See newsletter for details re these approved outings  
Thursday, 26 March 2026  
Sunday 19 April 2026  
Pat Hicks our new First Aid Officer was introduced.

### **Motion**

**That the Activities Report for March 2026 be received**

**Moved:** Irene Baird **Seconded:** Anne Doull **Carried**

### **11. Attendance Report**

**Member attendance: 94 Visitors: 3 Apologies: 31 Total present: 97**

### **Motion:**

**That the Attendance, Welfare and Membership reports be received**

**Moved:** Graham Mitchell **Seconded:** Lesley Empy **Carried**

### **12 General Business**

#### **12.1 Phil Mithen**

Ellen Boyd spoke of the sad passing of Phil Mithen and the recognition she wanted given to him for his many years of service as our Newsletter Editor. This recognition was universally agreed with by our membership.

### **Fellowship Break**

#### **13 Introduction of Speaker:- Jeni Moodie for Maureen Mitchell**

George Turner over many years has been interested in nature, taking photos and videos on trips and in his garden. The purchase of a movie camera in about 1960 and, then later a digital video camera spurred his interest in nature photography. During COVID, he decided to make a video of insects in his garden. An earlier version of that was shown to Probus members in April 2023. This latest version has some of the original video but it has been updated and several 'new' insects have ventured into his garden photography.

### **Anne Lukeman**

How lucky are we at Templestowe Valley Probus Club. Not only do we have an eminent scientist as our President but an equally eminent naturalist as a member. Is it significant that they are neighbours?

George Turner generously shared with us his knowledge of the many "critters" that share his backyard. This was accompanied by superb photography that showed the intricate life cycle of wasps, bees, sawflies, spiders, praying-mantises, ants, aphids, hoverflies and moths.

I know that many of us would have been out in our back yards hoping to see some of the insects and arachnids that he does.

### **Vote of thanks given by Julie Marshall**

Meeting closed at 11.59am

Next meeting is Monday April 13<sup>th</sup> in the Ajani Centre starting at 9.45 a.m.