



Here are the minutes for the Soul Fly Buddies meeting on 27th January 2023



Soul Fly Buddies met on Zoom.



The people that came to the meeting were: Stavros, Lachlan, Audrey, Nalyn, Alex & Chelsea.

Joni and Karen could not make it. Jack joined us for a little bit.



First, we each shared some good news from our lives!



Next, we talked about bank accounts and if it is accessible for people with a learning disability to set one up and use one.



Gig Buddies staff found that some of our buddies are not sure how to set up a bank account. They also are not sure where to get information about privacy of their information.



Alex, Audrey and Nalyn all get help from their parents with their banking and spending.



Alex thinks it is a good idea to get help from a parent or advocate as they help you understand what to do.



Audrey thinks that going into a bank branch to talk to staff face-to-face is best. She also had an idea that banks could get staff to come to you to talk about the information and help you set things up.



Stavros thinks it is important for people to have proper anti-virus software on their computer if they do internet banking.

He also said it is important to set up security settings in your bank account.

	When caring for yourself and making decisions is hard to do
	You may need support from the Irish Government
	This support is called becoming a Ward of Court. If you are a Ward of Court, it means you are a person that the court protects. In Ireland around 3,000 people are Wards of Court
	The law says that parents have a right and a responsibility to care for their child. But the law says that no one has a right to be a decision maker for another adult.
	If you are 18 years old or older your family or other people you know and trust can help or support you make a decision but the law says they cannot make decisions for you or be your guardian.
	Only the courts can make decisions or be guardian for an adult who cannot make decisions for themselves. The court becomes involved when

All present SFB members said that they think having easy read documents on the below information would be helpful:

- setting up a bank account
- using internet banking,
- security and privacy
- Using your card



Chelsea will take this back to the Gig Buddies staff and talk about it further.



Next, we talked about getting a Western Sydney buddy to represent the area in Soul Fly Buddies.

None of our current SFB members live in the Gig Buddies Western Sydney catchment area.



SFB are happy for the Gig Buddies team to put a call out in our blog. We will then let them know who has applied.



During the next meeting, we will invite the applicants and ask them to share their reasons for wanting to join SFB.

SFB can then ask questions and get to know them, before deciding if they can join.



Next, we talked about ideas for the Gig Buddies blog and e-newsletter in 2023.



Nalyn said get more buddies to share what they have been up to with their volunteer.

She said buddies and volunteers could also share their ideas for things pairs could do together.



Audrey said promote events that buddies are involved in. For example, Audrey has a play coming up that she would love people to see.

We could put a call out for buddies and volunteers to share things that they are involved in too.



Stavros said sharing a 'What's On' list of future gigs or events happening around Sydney and the Central Coast could be helpful. This makes sure both buddies and volunteers see it.



The team will chat about these ideas and see what we can do.



In the last part of the meeting, we talked about any other business.

First, we talked about Alex's idea 'Back-Up Buddies'.



Alex's idea is that staff could be 'back-up volunteers' for paired-up buddies if their own volunteer is unavailable to go to a gig.



He said he has missed out on a lot of music gigs in the past because his volunteer or friends are not able to go.

Nalyn and Audrey both said that this has happened to them in the past too.



Chelsea said that the Gig Buddies staff don't have extra time or ability to offer something like this at the moment.

This is because we already balance the daily running of the Gig Buddies, organising and running the monthly social events and our personal lives.



Chelsea said she will talk to the team again about this again and see if there is something else we can do.



Finally, Stavros said he would like to do another Gig Buddies social that is at a metal gig.

We will make a note of this and see what is coming up.



Finally, here is a schedule of the Soul Fly Band blog articles:

- January - Karen
- February - Joni
- March - Nalyn
- April - Stavros
- May - Lachlan



Next Soul Fly Meeting

When: Friday 24th February 2023
Where: Zoom

Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Thanks for reading!