

NEWSLETTER

September 2025



Probus Club Of Nelson City

Venue: Nelson Golf Club, 38 Bolt Rd, Tahunanui

Club Email: nznelsoncitygroup@gmail.com

Club Website: <http://probussouthpacific.org/microsites/nelsoncity>

President: Ross Newman Ph 547 3554

Secretary: Chris Tuffnell Ph 027 262 6106

Treasurer: Bess Osborne Ph 027 688 5868

Committee: Shona King 547 35

Ian MacGregor 021 436 224

Stephen Wynne-Jones 022 066 0159

John Crocker 0274 980 151

Glenys Della Bosca 021 176 0495

Newsletter Contributions:

Please email to delabos1@yahoo.co.nz

Highlights Next Meeting

9th October:

Speaker: Heather Robertson

Topic: Learning on the Road

Guest Speaker: Darryn Guard

Topic: Guard Family History

They tell me that winter is over, and spring has begun. The temperatures reflect that, although the regular rain belies that fact. But what better excuse do we need to curl up with a good book. Members of the Book Challenge Group would agree, I'm sure.

Although not a regular reader, when I start a book which is engrossing, it is hard to put down. For me that is a book which gets right into the action of the story rather than scene setting. I like the action to tell me about the scene – but that's just me. What kind of books intrigue, interest, entertain or inform you?

As you read on, you'll see that the cycling group have got right back into action with their first rides of spring under their belts. Not only do they explore the locale with routes not recently ridden, but they also enjoy the occasional cup of coffee and treat too, I hear...

All-in-all, Probus has much to offer in indoors and outdoors activity – something to engage everyone. So, keep an eye on what all the groups are doing – you may miss out otherwise!

*Glenys Della Bosca,
Editor*

Welcome to New Members: Paula and Kevin Holder

September Meeting Guest Speaker: Bill Johnston

Club member, Bill Johnson, spoke of he and his son's adventures in Nepal in 2023, a privately organised trip utilising New Zealand Rotary contacts and projects.

They and their Nepalese guide, Dhana, undertook several weeks trekking through the Phakoling Valley, visiting and staying in the many small villages. The roads have many large boulders and cattle are the main means of portering supplies along with the amazing loads carried by local Nepalese porters (including Bill and Paul's whisky for their night-caps.)

Bill explained that Nepal, a land locked nation, has 30 million people, 80% of whom are Hindu.

It is a relatively poor country and many Nepalese work abroad to earn incomes to support their families.

On the way to Everest and Lhotse peaks, they visited the market town of Namche Bazaar and Khumjung village, at 4000 metres, where there is the Sir Edmund Hilary school and hospital and a stunning memorial to Sherpa Tenzing Norgay.

They also visited their guide Dhana's village – Jubing, at 2000 metres, where Dhana is the headmaster of the school. The village houses had stone walls, all constructed manually.

Most cooking was done on a wood fire. Villagers grew millet, bananas, grapes, and tamarillos

on the vast terraced hillsides. Rotary clubs had helped pay for a reliable water supply for the village, and more recently, a toilet block (3 toilets) for the village, costing NZ \$15,000.

Thanks to Bill for such an interesting talk and the great photos and videos he used to illustrate his talk.





11 Men with Heavy Loads



3 New Toilets

Guest Speaker: Joy Oakly, “Cawthron 100 Years and Joy’s Journey”

Guest speaker, Joy Oakly, spoke about her long association and employment with the Cawthron Institute in Nelson which celebrated 100 years in 2021.

The founder, Thomas Cawthron, came to New Zealand in 1849, aged 15. By the age of 30 he was a highly successful businessman who turned his wealth into philanthropic investments such as

Rocks Road chains, Cathedral steps, the organ at the Nelson School of Music, and pursuing his vision that science could contribute to the growth of a young New Zealand. To this end the Cawthron Institute Board was set up in 1916 followed by the Thomas Cawthron Trust Act in 1924. Pre 1970 most research related to horticulture eg. Soil improvement, fruit crops such as apples, pears and apricots, and prevention and treatment of fungal and insect damage.

Other major areas of focus have been microbiology – raw milk, water, and food testing; chemistry – wood chips for export, and more recently study of microalgae (phytoplankton) and their critical role in marine environments.

Joy explained that the Cawthron Institute has been an international leader in developing a marine biotoxin monitoring programme moving to technology rather than the previous mice bioassay methods of monitoring.

In 1995 the Aquaculture Park was built at Glenduan, particularly focusing on mussels, flat oysters, paua, and salmon and more recently on high value natural products from microalgae.

At the centenary Joy was the longest standing employee- at 55 years. Initially she worked in chemistry research on plants, but in more recent years, in quality assurance

and laboratory accreditation to international standards. Joy continues to work part time two days per week and to undertake laboratory consultancy work in the Pacific. She shared with us some of her experiences working in Kiribati, Fiji, Samoa, and the Solomon Islands.

Joy was also the recipient of a QSM in 2024 for her services via Soroptimists International of Nelson in regard to education and employment of women and girls.

All in all, a very informative and interesting talk!

“Mother’s Wit” extracted from compilation by Alison Vale & Alison Rattle

“Anyone who thinks the art of conversation is dead ought to tell a child to go to bed”

“The simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent” – Sam Levenson

“A mother never realises that her children are no longer children” – Holbrook Jackson

“The hardest people to convince they are at retirement age are children at bedtime” – Shannon Fife

Cycling Group

We had a great turn out for our first, 'lumbering up', ride of the summer 2025-26 season. Thirteen riders took part, including new or nearly new members, Sue, Sharon, Paula and Kev. A fourteenth, long-standing, member, Tom, joined us for coffee at Alioke Cafe in Berryfields.

Bridge-repairs at the junction of Lower Queen Street and H Lane prevented us completing a 'loop' ride as planned, but in the event, some riders chose to roam further afield after morning tea, given the brevity of the existing ride.

In a fortnight's time, 17th September, weather permitting, we plan a ride which will put extra 'miles on the clock', beginning at Mapua Village.

We hope this ride's strong turnout will continue! To join the cycling group email bob.gidlow@gmail.com

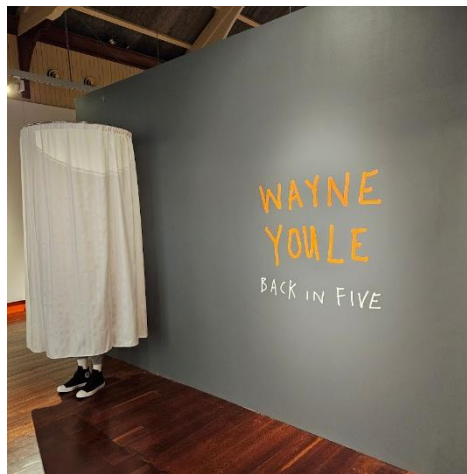


Outings Group Organised by John Crocker

The following activities are in the pipeline over the next few months:

August: Suter Gallery: - Tuesday 19th August saw nine members of our Club enjoying a conducted visit to the Suter Gallery. The Gallery is one of Nelson's prime assets and we were fortunate to be given a detailed tour by the Gallery Curator and collections manager, Kyla McKenzie.

Kyla began with an explanation of her role at the Gallery, and an introduction of how the various elements come together. We then entered the current exhibition by NZ artist Wayne Youle. His works are wide ranging in subject and Kyla's explanation of the various pieces was enlightening.



The smaller number of our group, unfortunately reduced by some late withdrawals, then turned out to be an advantage as we were few enough in number to be taken into the Gallery storage area. This proved to be the highlight of our visit.

Discussion turned to storage (in a fully airconditioned room) and on to the purchase and sale of works, the challenges of works being loaned to the gallery, and several other topics.

All of this was followed by a very pleasant and social lunch in the Gallery Café.

In summary, a challenging and enlightening tour which seemed to be enjoyed by all.

John Crocker.

September: To Be Advised

October: 18th Founders Park and a preview of a major stamp exhibition being curated by President Ross. The park is open 9.00am to 4.00pm. Group visit details to be advised.

November: Gardens visit to Appleby

February: Try your hand at croquet.

March: Club picnic

These options may be subject to change as other opportunities present themselves
Convenor John Crocker

Chess Group Meetings

Here are the Wednesday dates for our remaining Meetings in 2025: -

- September 10 and 2
- October 8 and 22
- November 12 and 26



Interested members welcomed.

Convenor Michael will be away visiting family in Australia and unavailable for the 22nd October. Would someone like to host that Meeting?

If so, please let Michael know. If not, then that Meeting will be cancelled.

The group usually takes a break over the Christmas period, December and January; let him know your thoughts.



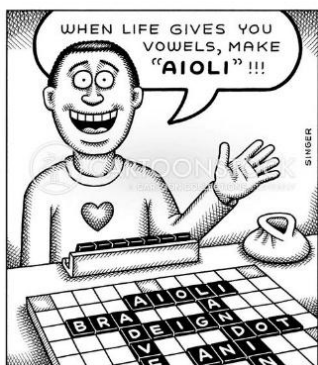
Book Challenge Group A reminder that the Book Challenge Group meets at the Honest Lawyer at 10am on the first Thursday of the month.

Enquiries to Convenor Jane Evans email:

jane.evatech@gmail.com

The last Book Challenge Meeting was on Thursday 4 September

Other Artists who were the subject of books found by the Group included Carl Sim, painting forger and van Gogh.



Scrabble Group

Challenge yourself with our keen Scrabble players who meet at 10am on the Third Tuesday of the month at 8 Chamberlain St, Tahunanui. Convenor Rose Biss can be reached on Ph 021 0797 868. This month's meeting is on 16th September.

Mainly Ukes

This group is taking a 5 week break while leader Jan Gillanders is cycling trails in Queensland. This gives members the time to brush-up on chords ready for their next performance later in the year.

The group was delighted to welcome new players to their meetings following the successful sing-along evening last month. Contact Jan Gillanders Ph 027 292 4662 for information about future evenings after her return from Australia. Or contact Chris Tuffnell or Glenys Della Bosca for more information. (Contact details on Page 1.)

Invitation to Join Probus West Coast Tour Departing 6th November

There are about 6 spare seats and Accommodation on the West Coast Coach Tour available to our membership. If you wish to join, please call George McKenzie, on his cell phone number listed below. If you are joining the tour George will tell you the Coach pickup/drop off points.

Leaving Richmond on or about 8am Thursday 6th November 2025 the group will travel to Greymouth via Westport taking in many wonderful scenic spots

Friday morning 7th November we will be off down to Hokitika and South Westland visiting one of New Zealand's 'best kept scenic will be then down to the historic township of Ross where we will have a buffet luncheon, after which we will visit the spectacular Treetop Walk (optional). Following a stop in Hokitika it's then back to Greymouth.

Its homeward bound on Friday be via the northern bank of the Grey River, stopping off at

the Miners' Memorial, Taylorville, before heading into Blackball for morning tea at the historic hotel). If time permits there will be a brief stopover at the Pike River Memorial. Lunch will be in Reefton. After lunch we will travel, arriving back in Richmond at approximately 5pm.

COST: At \$660.00 double and \$450.00 single (Pays for the Coach & Accommodation)

Please contact George below before making any payment to book your Coach seat. Bookings are first in, first served.

Payment to the Probus Club of Richmond bank account 03 0751 0211327 00 before Wednesday, October 1 would be appreciated.

Enter 'West Coast Trip' and your name when making your payment.

For further information me a call.

George McKenzie

Convenor (Ph. 027 320 7440).

Gordon Curnow

Probus Ambassador



***Wear **Probus** **Colours** to the October Meeting –
Yellow and **Blue*****

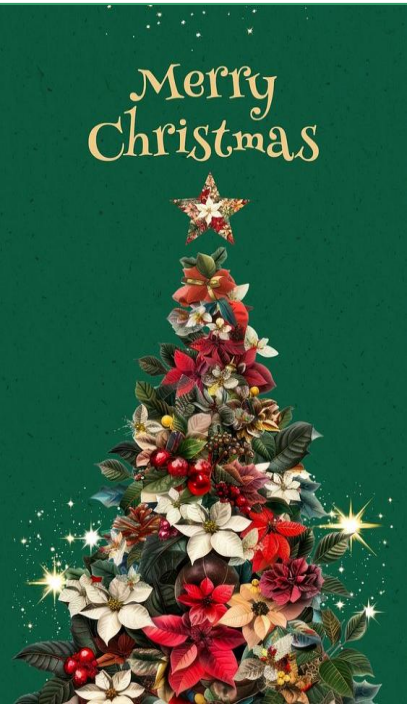
Probus
Christmas Luncheon

12.30pm, 14th December

**The Tides Restaurant,
66 Trafalgar St, Nelson**

Bookings at October Meeting

\$49.00



The Coffee Morning Group

Meets Thursday 18th September

At River Kitchen Café

Millers Acre Car Park at 10am

Ph Zelda Anderson 021 031 7541

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 9th October