



WELLINGTON EASTERN SUBURBS PROBUS CLUB

18th November 2025

NEWSLETTER 280

PRESIDENT

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Brian Cattermole

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June Inkpen

Deryk McNamara

Guest Speakers

Val Norrish

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Marie Pearce

Immediate Past
President

Simon Reynolds

Jean Glen

Almoner

Report on meeting held on 12th November 2025

Membership	58	Attendance	40
Apologies	9	Visitors	2

President Annette chaired the meeting and welcomed members and visitors.

Jean spoke of a recent experience when flying to Auckland regarding the requirement to carry lithium battery packs in carry on luggage and not in check in luggage.

Profile Speaker

In the absence of a profile speaker June entertained the meeting with videos of her time in England appearing in amateur shows raising money for charities.

Christmas

We look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas party on 10th December.

For those who will not be attending we wish you a Merry Xmas and happy New Year.

Bank Account

Wellington Eastern Suburbs Probus Club
02-0520-0153465-00

Club Micro Website:

<http://probussouthpacific.org/microsites/wellingtoneasternsuburbs>



Click the above to access the website.

Club Email Address: wellingtoneasternsuburbsm@probusclubs.com.au



THE CLUB MEETS

**2nd WEDNESDAY OF
EACH MONTH
10:00AM**

**SEATOUN BOWLING
CLUB**

**DUNDAS ST
SEATOUN**

Guests Welcome

Annual fees \$40

**Monthly morning
tea fee \$5**

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Walking Group

Lunch Group

Cinema Group

Apple & iPad Group

Coffee Group

Guest Speaker

Guest speaker **Charles Finny** is a consultant with Saunders Unsworth and Chairperson of NZ Trade & Enterprise. A former diplomat and trade negotiator he helped to achieve trade agreements with Singapore, China and Taiwan. World trade meetings now take place in Doha because of protesters' disruptions in other parts of the World. He attributes the backlash to mistakes in the 1990's when agreements were held 'behind closed doors', with no 'social license' and conspiracy theories spread on the internet. USA have always been reluctant to be part of the free trade movement for political reasons. Three states Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin totalling about 100,000 population is vital to winning the Whitehouse and these states are protectionists. President Obama negotiated a free trade agreement, but it was never signed, and President Trump tore it up. We have since seen the rise of the far right in politics throughout the World and an increasingly nationalist China.

The tariffs imposed by the USA are having a big effect on countries such as China (exports to US down 25%), Japan (exports to US down 15%). These countries will be seeking to find other markets for their exports which can affect NZ exports. NZ companies exporting to USA are experiencing difficulties at the border with different ports imposing differing tariffs. Charles gave the example of wine exports to USA where producers are having difficulty remaining competitive. Other industries are less affected such as aluminium from Tiwai Point which is very high quality and used in aircraft and for military use. Because of the political voting system in the US, he believes that after the Trump administration is gone the situation regarding free trade with USA will change little. Charles expressed the opinion that the current World conditions are like the 1920's which was the cause of the 1930's depression, the rise of extreme right-wing Governments and WW2. The next couple of years are likely to be very tough for NZ with commodity prices easing and tourism, which has not yet fully recovered from the Covid shut down, likely to be affected by lower incomes World-wide. However, he believes that with our food production, NZ is in a better position than many other countries.

Walking Group



The walking group meet each Monday at 10:30am weather permitting. The walk is approximately 1 hour (about 4km) followed by coffee and a chat at a convenient café. Starting venue advised by email on Saturday evening prior to the Monday walk.

Contact Simon Reynolds 0278136950 simonofporirua@yahoo.co.nz

Apple Computer & iPad Group



Meet after monthly Probus meetings second Wednesday of each month at Deryk's place. **Contact Deryk McNamara 388 8805**

The group started as an iPad group but has evolved into an iPhone and technology group.



NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

Xmas party Wednesday evening 10th December at 6pm at the Pines

Legal Stuff

This newsletter is for the Probus Club members only and is not to be used for any other purpose



Cinema Group

The cinema group meet every 1st Tuesday in the month. The November film was Pike River at the Lighthouse Cinema. The next film is Tuesday 4th December.

Contact: **Anne Morris**

anneimelda.morris@gmail.com

0272213901



Lunch Group

The lunch group meet every month. The last lunch of the year will be held at the Chocolate Fish, 100 Shelley Bay Road, Shelly Bay, Wednesday 26th November at 12 noon. This, of course will be our last visit to this iconic café before it closes early next year.



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Bookings essential

Please contact: **Chrissy Gall 388 6786** chrissyolgagall@gmail.com

Coffee Group

The coffee group meet every Friday and Sunday at 2:30pm at The Park Kitchen, Park Road, Miramar. All members are welcome – just turn up.

Birthday Wishes

Happy birthday in December to:

Kathy Gatfield	15 th	Elizabeth Gillon	16 th
Les Maiden	16 th	John Christie	22 nd
Noeline Moon	30 th		



Happy birthday in January 2026 to:

Malcolm Woods	14 th
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Almoner

If you are aware of any members who are suffering ill-health, please contact our almoner. **Jean Glen 934 8107** johnjean4425@gmail.com

Next Meeting

This was the final meeting of the year. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th February 2026 at Seatoun Bowling Club, Dundas St, Seatoun.

Guest Speaker

Thanks to Deryk and his helpers, we have enjoyed a variety of guest speakers throughout this year, and we have another interesting list ready for 2026.

Thought for November

Light travels faster than sound. Is that why some people look bright until they speak?

