



# COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF EPSOM

6 Chandler Ave, Royal Oak

AUCKLAND 1023

Bulletin – December 2025



<b>President</b>	Noel Burchell	620-8216	<b>Past President</b>	Lyn Burchell	021620333
<b>Vice President</b>	Richard Warham	02102467800	<b>Outings (1)</b>	Pat Butcher	629-3945
<b>Secretary</b>	Mary Thomson	444-3496 021 537 846	<b>Outings (2)</b>	Sheila Bennett	625-8468
<b>Treasurer</b>	Richard Warham	02102467800	<b>Bulletin</b>	Peggy Lowe	0212948299
<b>Speakers</b>	Lyn Burchell	021620333	<b>Membership</b>	Noelene Johnson	634-0609
<b>Attendance</b>	Margaret Nicholson	376-0914	<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Ida D'Silva	02102251139
<b>Technical Officer</b>	Jeffery Lowe	630-0213			

*All correspondence to Mary Thomson - email: [d.thomson1@xtra.co.nz](mailto:d.thomson1@xtra.co.nz) 021 537 846*

***Website:** <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/epsomcombined>*

Greetings to our Members,

Just amazing how quickly this year is coming to an end. Our last meeting for the year will be held on Monday the 1st December where we will again be entertained by the musical talents of the Royal Oak Primary School. After the concert we then proceed back to our St Johns Hall for an extended morning tea and a chance to say farewell to fellow members as we head off for the Christmas holiday.

Last year we celebrated 50 years of Probus in New Zealand and in October this year we celebrated the **40th year of the Auckland Probus Association (PAA) with a lunch at Waipuna Lodge**. A cutting of a celebratory cake was made.



Our speaker in November was **Dr Helena Popovic** who gave a lively, entertaining and educational session on how to boost your brain. She had the group standing on their feet doing exercises on how to improve your wellbeing and mind strength. Many commented on the relevance of this advice for people in our age group. We were very lucky to get someone of her calibre. The session could have gone on much longer as people sought answers from this medical doctor and author. She sold many books and for those who missed the session, you can go to her website at [www.helenapopovic.com](http://www.helenapopovic.com)

Unfortunately, we lost three members of our club this year. Valerie Teixeira, Lyn Kimpton and most recently Flo Schubert. Flo was a life member of the Club and we are grateful for her contribution to the Club, especially coordinating the morning teas. We also lost Brian Matthews, a past member. Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Valerie, Lyn, Flo and Brian.

At the general meeting in November, we adopted the standard Probus Constitution, and Standing Resolutions that is applicable to Epsom Probus. These will apply as from 1st January 2026. Our Subs will remain at \$40 and payable from 1st January, and to be paid by 31st March 2026. The end of the year brings up for some their intention to continue as members of the Club in 2026. While we want people to be active members, if you think you might not renew your membership, please contact myself or Noelene Johnson to discuss your situation for next year.

The survey of club members showed up some interesting statistics with 31% of club members belonging to the club for less than two years. Many had come from clubs that had closed due to the inability to form a committee. 48% of our members have belonged for five or more years. In terms of member age groups, 11% were under 75 years and 56% were 80 years or older. This situation poses some real challenges as while there is a clear need for clubs like ours, an issue arises in the ability to form a committee. Clubs are only successful if they can form strong committees. This challenge also applies to many other clubs with an ageing demographic. Subject to vacancies, we will be encouraging more recently retired people to join to better ensure its continuity.

**Being on the Committee is rewarding and a good social group.** There is **strong support from many sources** both within the Club and the Probus organisation. If you would like to consider such a role, please have a chat with myself or other members of the Committee.

Once again, we had a very successful and enjoyable **Christmas Lunch at the Howick Club** and many thanks to Pat Butcher and Sheila Bennett for their hard work in organising this event. Look forward to seeing you all at **our last meeting on the 1st December**. Wishing you all a great Christmas and New Year and then seeing you again at our first meeting on Monday the 2nd of February 2026

*Noel Burchell – President*

### Speakers

1 Dec: Royal Oak School Music Groups performance

*Lyn*

**For internet banking, our Bank account**  
**Combined Probus Club of Epsom: 12-3025-0276779-00**  
Please include: Name – Reference: Trip and /or Subs

*Richard Warham – Treasurer - [nzkiwiclown@gmail.com](mailto:nzkiwiclown@gmail.com)*

### Outings

**December -Thursday 1st** We will meet at the Club room as usual at 10:00am and then go to the **Royal Oak School for their Christmas Choir entertainment**. After which we will return to our meeting venue for a **club funded Special Christmas Morning tea and general socializing**. **If you haven't already let us know if you are coming to our December 1st meeting, please contact us by November 24th - needed for our catering numbers.**

We look forward to seeing you all.

***Pat Butcher 629 3945 / 021 537 763 and Sheila Bennett 625 8468 / 027 274 5414***

**Plans for Next Year-2026!!!** It is coming along very fast.

**February - Thursday 19th:** we are looking to have a post- holiday season get-together. By popular demand it will be at the **Alex Bar & Eatery, Alexandra Park Greenlane Rd. Meeting at 11:30**. There is counter food and a varied Board menu. It is at own expense and drinks are available. Good parking and buses on Manukau and Greenlane Rds. Once again, we will need to know numbers to ensure we reserve enough space.

***Pat Butcher 629 3945 / 021 537 763 and Sheila Bennett 625 8468 / 027 274 5414***

• **A reminder:** *As it is necessary to confirm numbers for our outings, when members agree to attend and either do not turn up or cancel late, there is still an obligation to pay.*

**Next Club Days - 1 December.** 2026 – 2 February, 2 March, 6 April, 4 May, 1 June, 6 July, 3 August, 7 September, 5 October 2 November, 7 December

### December 2025 Birthdays

Noel Burchell, Charles Douglas, Lyn Hood, Joan Hooper Anne Carpenter, David Thomson, Allan Atkinson, June Foulkes, Bryn Smith

### January 2026 Birthdays

Lyn Burchell, Pat Butcher, Ken Hooper, Jeff Lowe, Mary Thomson, Richard Warham, Robbert van der Zouwe, Glenn Gribble, Moyna Tubman

### Welfare Officer

If you know of anyone who is not well or undergoing medical treatment, please **send a text to Ida D'Silva** or contact any committee member so that Ida can send a card or give them a call.

***Ida D'Silva - 021 0225 1139***

## New Members

We always welcome visitors/prospective members to our monthly meeting. However, we do have a waiting list for those who may wish to join.

## Operatunity Concerts

**Christmas concert** is on **Monday 8th December 11:00 am** at **C3 Church, 20 Cawley St, Ellerslie**

Go early as parking is difficult.

I will purchase the tickets on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov to distribute at Probus meeting on 1st December. Any changes to needs please let me know ASAP. Payments - Acc **03 02190192553 00**

## 2026

The first concert is **Rodgers and Hammerstein and Friends**

**Ellerslie concert is on Monday 2nd February; Botany on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.** However, *the Ellerslie date clashes with our first club meeting in February 2026.* Unfortunately, I will not be available to organise tickets.

If you are interested, I suggest you get the programme book. Or phone 0508266237

**Eileen Petrie – 027 277 8041 or 622 3290** [repet@xtra.co.nz](mailto:repet@xtra.co.nz).

## Cards 500 Group

*NO cards group for the remainder of 2025 – we will resume the group again in 2026*

**Ken Hooper - 626 5757 or 021 611 245**

**Badge Wearing Protocol** - If you are not wearing your Probus name badge to our monthly meetings or outings, you are expected to donate a gold coin in the money box. The proceeds will be donated in December to the Mercy Hospice.



**Dee Brennan** - 16 years' experience helping people to buy or sell their property in Epsom and the surrounding suburbs.  
For a friendly chat call Dee on 021 581 007 or email [d.brennan@barfoot.co.nz](mailto:d.brennan@barfoot.co.nz).  
Branch office: Barfoot & Thompson  
280 Manukau Rd Epsom  
Ph 09 520-6221



**BARFOOT & THOMPSON**

**Lyn Burchell** is a collection point for **'Give A Kid a Blanket'** – please contact her if you have donations to drop off or to be collected. You can also bring items to the meeting. **021 620 333**



Lucky Draw recipients of  
\$20 vouchers towards  
Outings in 2026





Christmas Lunch at Howick Club

