



Combined Probus Club of Hutt Inc.

NEWSLETTER July, 2025

President: David Gledhill

Secretary: Sally Selwood, 30 Myrtle St.
Lower Hutt 5010.

Treasurer: Nanette Lowe

Email: combinedprobusclubofhutt8@gmail.com

The President's Preamble

Greetings,

It has been a particular pluvial period but life has gone on. Everyone enjoyed an excellent mid-winter lunch at the Royal Heretaunga Golf Club and the normal programme of activities has continued. Most groups are flourishing and the Dinner for 8 is becoming increasingly popular. The committee is trying to have one day trip a month. Last month it was to Waikanae and this month we have had a very successful trip to the museum of the old Porirua Hospital. Suggestions for future trips are always welcome. Next year's trip to the Forgotten World Railway is already proving popular. I have observed how important it is to keep active, both physically and socially. We can all admire, if not emulate the regime of one of our nonagenarian members who regularly achieves their 10000 steps a day. (The Step Tracker app is available free on your phone). Unfortunately, some of our members are in hospital or incapacitated and it is especially important to remember, and phone or visit them. I hope the ROK, random act of kindness, is catching on. If you hear of a particularly good example, please inform Phil Benge.

David

Meeting, Monday 10am, 21st Jul

Membership: Keith Levy passed away last month

New members:

Kathryn Charlesworth, to be introduced by Murray

Jane Webster, to be introduced by Mary Rowse

Helen Slyfield, to be introduced by Owen Rowse

Life and Times: Gretchen Woudt

Speaker: Grant Elliott

Grant is the Partnerships Manager for Life Flight. He builds relationships with key stakeholders. He works with businesses and organisations who wish to support Life Flight. He is also a former New Zealand cricket representative.

Topic: Workings of Life Flight

Introduced by: Ian Smith

Thanked by: Graeme Wigley

The Whangamōmona trip is planned for 25th – 27th March 2026.

Two nights away and rail cart day trip. While final costs are still being worked on indicative cost is \$1000 (the rail cart part of the journey is \$480 alone)

There are a very limited number of spaces still available, so if you are interested in this trip please email Kay Lummis kay@lummis.co.nz urgently. An immediate deposit of \$250 is required.

Outstanding Annual Subscriptions

There are still some outstanding payments. Please pay to our bank account or to Nanette as soon as possible (\$65. If cash please give the correct amount in an envelope with your name on it)

Payments

We can accept cash or payments direct to our Bank Account.

Account is: COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF HUTT

Please add: Particulars: Surname
Code: Initials or first Name
Reference: "Subs" (or reason for payment).

Changes to Contact Details

To ensure that newsletters etc. reach each nominated member on time, it is essential that our membership records are always correct. Your help is vital in keeping these records up to date.

If you become aware of any changes to a member's contact details, please send the relevant details to Colin Dyer (colinpdyer@gmail.com).

Emails are the preferred method for notifying these details. However, if for any reason you are unable to send an email please phone Colin.

Membership Applications

The membership application form has recently been updated. This has been designed to speed up the way applications are processed, and hopefully allow new members to join our club as quickly as possible.

If you need an application form, please request this from the Secretary. Once the form has been completed, it should be returned to her.

Name Badges

If you require a new club name badge (which should be worn on all Probus occasions) please contact the Club Treasurer. Cost \$15, magnetic or safety pin fastening (please specify).

Club Almoner

If you know of anyone in need of support during sickness or bereavement, please contact Jaye Howey at jasmine.m.howey@gmail.com.

Club Website

Members are encouraged to use the Club website, which contains a wealth of information about the club and its activities, including the newsletters. The website can be accessed by typing 'Combined Probus Club of Hutt' on the internet. The club membership list is password protected; however, members can obtain the password from the website manager, Robin Watson (robinw@xtra.co.nz).

The website also contains recent and archived photos of events. Members who do not wish to have their photos included on the website are kindly asked to inform the photographer at the time the photos are being taken.

Probus Travel Insurance Programme

As members of Probus you are eligible to use the Probus travel insurance programme. However, the Committee urges you to do your homework and consider whether or not this is an appropriate scheme for your needs. The link is below:

https://www.probussouthpacific.org/pages/travel_insurance_landing_nz_new

Interest Group Activities and Outings

Participation in these Interest Groups is one of the most important activities available to members to keep the club thriving. We would always welcome suggestions regarding possible new Interest Groups. The Committee is available to provide whatever help you need to get a new group active.

Jigsaw Joys

Jigsaws will be available at the meeting as usual.

Contact: Owen Rowse, rowse@xtra.co.nz

Book, Books, Books.

Many of us have books which we have enjoyed, are not likely to read again, but do not wish to consign to the rubbish bin. If you wish, bring some (maximum 5 on any one meeting) on Monday and place them on the table provided. They are then available for anyone who wishes to take one or more. No money involved, just preferable to throwing away. Any left after the meeting will be taken for the Rotary Book sales and any left after that will be donated to the Heretaunga Book Fair, a charitable trust. (David Gledhill).

Garden Group

There is no meeting in August

Colleen Baker has kindly agreed to become to convenor of the Gardening Group.

Ladies, Let's Do Lunch

When: Wednesday 23rd July, 12.30pm

Where: Dough Bakery, Whirinaki Whare Taonga (formerly Expressions) 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt
Carpooling will be available

Contact: Heather Salmon to say you are coming: heather_salmon@xtra.co.nz
All Ladies, welcome!

Arts and Crafts

When: Friday, 25th July 1:30pm

Where: Lorraine and Bill Soeberg's home (Villa 85, 20 Racecourse Road, Upper Hutt)

Arts Contact: Bernard Sang Email: laihinsang@gmail.com

Crafts Contact: Margaret Wilson Email: m.wilson2@xtra.co.nz

Music Group Secundo

When: Monday 28th July, 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Where: Christine Taylor's home, 83A Pretoria Street..

Music: The letter V - composer, artist, or name of the piece - or the theme *Vocal*
Creativity is not only allowed, but also encouraged! Your choice of music (including introduction) should last max 10 minutes.
Only CD's please.

Contact: Please let Heather or Christine know you are coming:
Christine Taylor: email taylorbj@xtra.co.nz
Heather: email heather_salmon@xtra.co.nz.

Café Strollers

- When:** Tuesday, 29nd July
- What:** A winter walk around Boulcott area
- Where:** Meet at Boulcott Golf Club car park to walk the short distance to Twist cafe for morning tea. Then a circuit walk ending back at the golf course for lunch
- Meet:** Golf course car park at grass assembly point opposite the steps at 10:00 am
- Cost:** Your choice of morning tea and lunch at the cafes.
- Bring;** Name badges.
- Contact:** Lorraine and Bill Soeberg

Pétanque Group

- When:** Friday, 1st August, 1:30pm
- Where:** Avalon Park Piste (near the pavilion)
New players most welcome (very casual!) No previous playing experience needed.
- Contact:** Mike Keehan, mike.keehan@xtra.co.nz

Medium Walk –now called “Intrepid Hikers”

The “Medium Walk” group have decided that they would like to change the name of the group to “Intrepid Hikers” as that more clearly indicates the nature of the group.

- When:** Monday, 4th August
- What:** “City to Sea”
- The walk:** City to Sea Walkway, from Wellington Railway Station to Island Bay. Return by bus. Up to 14km but can easily be shortened. Coffee at the finish.
- Meet:** Meet outside Wellington Railway Station at 9:50am for a 10am start.
- Bring:** Walking gear, wind breaker – bring water, lunch and your gold card. Wear your Probus badge.
- Contact:** Jos van Herk

e-Tech Group

- When:** Tuesday, 5th August, 2:00 – 4:00pm
- Where:** Mary Rowse’s home: 89 Wai-iti Cres
- Topics:** What to consider when choosing a new laptop or mobile phone.
- Contact:** Please let Mary know if you are coming: email maryrowse@xtra.co.nz

Current Affairs and Future Issues Discussion Group

When: Thursday, 7th August, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Topic: Community expectations of providing for public good, Part 2, led by Lyn Morris
Where: Sally Selwood's home, at 30 Myrtle St
Cost: Nil - but a koha toward afternoon tea can be made.
Bring: Just your name badge, to make it easier for the newer members of the group
Contact: Please let Sally know if you are coming: sally_selwood@xtra.co.nz,
or Lyn Morris, rhyslyn2051@gmail.com (if you haven't signed up at the Probus meeting)
Newcomers very welcome

Dinner for Eight on the Eighth

When: Friday 8th August, 6:00pm.
Where: Members choose a restaurant of their choice (Last month they had a record number of 38).
Contact: Ian Smith: Email: ianelizabeth2@outlook.com.

Bookies Two

When: Monday, 11th August, 1:30 - 3:30pm
Where: Barbara Morrison's home, 15 Brees St, Lower Hutt
Contact: Mary Rowse, maryrowse@xtra.co.nz
It's helpful to let Barbara know if you will be attending, bardymorrison@gmail.com
New members welcome.

Stitch and Sew

When: Tuesday, 12th August 9:30am
Meet: Lynne Ross, 58 Viewmont Drive
Contact: Jocelyn White: 569 6549 or email jocelyndwhite50@gmail.com

Ramblers Group

When: Tuesday 12th August
What: Downhill trip through interesting parts of Wellington, from the top of the Cable Car to Lambton Quay..
Meet: Before 10:10am at Alicetown shops to catch the No 83 bus.
Bring: Appropriate gear and money for lunch.
Contact: Mike Keehan or David Gledhill

Ladies Lunch

When: Wednesday, 13th August, 11:30am
Where: Benedict's cafe, Dowse Drive shopping Centre, Maungaraki.
Cost: Cabinet food and menu
Contact: Liz Palmer, liz@thepalmers.co.nz

Mens Lunch

When: Wednesday, 13th August, 12 noon
Where: Bellbird Cafe at the Dowse.
Meet: At the cafe.
Cost: Good menu, reasonable prices, licensed.
Contact: David Gledhill

Travel Group

When: Wednesday, 13th August, 2.30 – 4.30pm
Where: Keith and Robyn Lassey's home at 4 Witako Street, Lower Hutt
Topic: A concerning event that occurred on holiday.
Contact: Mike and Jenny Keehan, mike.keehan@extra.co.nz
Please let us know if you are attending.

Lighthouse Cinema Group

When: Thursday, 14th August 10:30am for 11:00am showing.
What: “Mr Burton” True story of a working-class boy destined to be the great Actor Richard Burton.
Cost: \$13.50 which includes free hot drink.
Contact: Liz Palmer, liz@thepalmers.co.nz

Outing – Life Flight Base Tour – Friday 15th August at 10.30am

Details: A visit to Life Flight base, 17 George Bolt Street, Rongotai, has been arranged for Friday 15th August at 10:30am.
Lunch to follow at Spruce Goose, 30 Cochrane Street, Rongotai.
Meet: We will meet at 9:45am for car sharing at the western side of Centennial Museum Petone.
Cost: No charge but a Koha would be appreciated.
Contact: Marion Good, marrus@goodlifenz.co.nz

Book Group

This group welcomes new members

When: Wednesday 20th August, 10am -12 noon
Where: Lyn Dyer's home, 4 Trinity Ave
Contact: Please phone Lyn

Wine Tasting

Thursday 21st August. This group is currently over-subscribed and we cannot accommodate new members at this time

Contact: Mary Rowse, maryrowse@extra.co.nz

Speaker Summary, June

Gavin Wallace came to New Zealand as a child from war-torn London. He grew up in Taranaki but he is extremely proud of his Scottish heritage. He provided many amusing anecdotes of the transition to life in New Zealand. His parents moved from Scotland to London just prior to WW2 and his father was a fireman during the war and a keen bandsman. Gavin continued the firefighting tradition by serving for 50 years in the Wainuiomata bushfire force but his cornet-playing days are over. His working career was spent as an applied nuclear physicist at the Institute of Nuclear Sciences (DSIR, then GNS). Examples were given of his work in radiocarbon dating, environmental tracing of waste, and wear and erosion of industrial equipment. Time did not allow any detail of his time as a firefighter or local historian.

PR

Last thought...

Two doctors were patiently waiting their turn at the Pearly Gates when an impressive figure strode past them, said "Hi Pete, all ok?" and went through. "Who was that?" asked the doctors. "Oh, that was God," said St Peter, "he often likes go down and pretend to be a surgeon"

Next Meeting: Monday, 18th August