



Combined Probus Club of Hutt Inc.

NEWSLETTER September, 2025

President: David Gledhill

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

Treasurer: Nanette Lowe

Email: combinedprobusclubofhutt8@gmail.com

The President's Preamble

Spring is sprung the grass is riz
I wonder where the birdies is
They say the boyd is on the wing
But thats absurd
The wing is on the boyd.
Ogden Nash

We are now into spring. The weather is looking up and so should we be, there is much to look up to. We are fortunate we live in a beautiful country which is often seen as one of the happiest and safest in the world: it is our job to keep it that way. We know the difference between disagreement and hostility and if we do disagree our knee-jerk reaction must be to try understanding before any other approach.

Some populist leaders overseas seem to thrive on provoking opposition and creating hostility and appealing to their most extreme supporters. We must avoid this, a nation divided is not healthy. For the underdog violence is "the language of the unheard ". For those in power "violence is the last refuge of the incompetent. " *Isaac Asimov*.

Within our club try to speak with someone new every meeting, especially the most recent members, and please remember to try a ROK every day, no matter how small.

David

Meeting, Monday 10am, 15th September

Membership: Barbara Grant passed away last month

Life and Times: Sharyn Bowen

Speaker: Rosy Moar, Forensic Toxicologist based at New Zealand Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science (PHF, formerly ESR) at their Kenepuru site. She has worked for ESR since 2007, where it is her primary role to perform analysis of biological specimens for the presence of drugs and poisons, including alcohol, and reporting those results to the New Zealand Police and New Zealand Coronial system. She has been fortunate to publish papers in the area of Drugs in Driving and to present at international Toxicology conferences.

Topic: "Forensic Toxicology for Criminal and Coronial Investigation".

Introduced by: Jaye Howey

Thanked by: Shirley Payes

Photos Wanted for Pre-Meeting Slide Presentations

If you have photos from Probus activities, suitable for showing on the screen prior to our Monthly meetings, please email them to Mike Fackney on mfackney@yahoo.com (preferred method) with a brief caption. Alternatively, they can be sent by text or WhatsApp, or to his Messenger.

Thanks, Mike Fackney

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 call 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. Please remember to record your name when you borrow one.

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).

Outing – Wellington City Mission's Whakamaru: Tuesday 16th September

There are no spare places for this outing.

Contact: Mary Rowse – maryrowse@xtra.co.nz

Book Group

This group welcomes new members

When: Wednesday 17th September and 15th October, 10am -12 noon

Where: Lyn Dyer's home, 4 Trinity Ave

Contact: Please phone Lyn

Thursday 18th August and 16th October. This group is currently over-subscribed and we cannot accommodate new members at this time

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

Café Strollers

When: Tuesday, 23rd September

What: Spring Time in the Gardens

Where: Bus into Wellington, then a choice of a short or longer walk in the Botanic gardens, finishing with lunch at "Picnic" cafe.

Meet: Alicetown bus stop at 10:00am for the 83 bus.

Cost: Lunch at "Picnic" cafe. Sorry, no time for morning tea today

Bring; Name badges, Gold Cards

Contact: Lorraine and Bill Soeberg

Ladies, Let's Do Lunch

When: Wednesday 24th September, 12.30pm

Where: Tutaki Café, The Events Centre, Laings Road

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

Arts and Crafts

- When:** Friday, 26th September 1:30pm
- Where:** This will be hosted by Sue Griffiths at 1/16 Sherwood Street, Lower Hutt
Please let her know if you intend to attend
- Arts Contact:** Bernard Sang Email: laihinsang@gmail.com
- Crafts Contact:** Margaret Wilson Email: m.wilson2@xtra.co.nz

Music Group Secundo

- When:** Monday 29th September, 1:30pm – 4:00pm
- Where:** Lyn & Graeme Dyer's home, 4 Trinity Ave.
- Music:** The letter X - composer, artist, or name of the piece - or the theme *Exotic!*
Creativity is not only allowed, but also encouraged! Your choice of music (including introduction) should last max 10 minutes.
LPs, CDs, & DVDs available.
- Contact:** Please let Heather know you are coming:
Heather: email heather_salmon@xtra.co.nz.

Current Affairs and Future Issues Discussion Group

- When:** Thursday, 2nd October, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
- Topic:** "Ten Topics"
- Where:** Heather Salmon, Villa 8 Summerset, Boulcott, 1A Boulcott Street
- Cost:** Nil - but a koha appreciated.
- Bring:** Just your name badge, to make it easier for the newer members of the group
- Contact:** Please let Heather Salmon or David Gledhill know if you are coming (if you haven't signed up at the Probus meeting)
Newcomers very welcome

Pétanque Group

- When:** Friday, 3rd October, 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

Intrepid Hikers

- When:** Monday, 6th October
- What:** Whareroa Farm hill loop track followed by McKays Crossing Wildlife Reserve wetland loop track.
Coffee afterwards in Paekakariki
- Meet:** 9:15am at the Duckpond for carpooling to McKays Crossing or
9:50am for 10am start at Tramway Museum Carpark, Cnr State Highway and Whareroa Rd
- Bring:** Walking gear, warm clothes, raincoat/windbreaker, lunch, water and your Gold Card. Wear your Probus badge.
- Contact:** Jos van Herk

e-Tech Group

When: Tuesday, 7th October, 2:00 – 4:00pm
Where: Mary Rowse's home: 89 Wai-iti Cres
Topics: Ripping CDs
Contact: Please let Mary know if you are coming: email maryrowse@xtra.co.nz

Ladies Lunch

When: Wednesday, 8th October, 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, 8th October, 12 noon
Where: The Chopsticks Table, 182 Jackson Street, Petone
Meet: At the cafe.
Cost: \$10 - 30.
Contact: David Gledhill

Travel Group

When: Wednesday, 8th October, 2.30 – 4.30pm
Where: Heather Salmon's home at Villa 8, 1A Boulcott Street, Lower Hutt.
Topic: Recommended Tour Operators.
Contact: Mike and Jenny Keehan, mike.keehan@xtra.co.nz
Please let us know if you are attending.

Dinner for Eight on the Eighth

When: Wednesday 8th October, 6:00pm.
Where: Members choose a restaurant of their choice.
Contact: Ian Smith: ianelizabeth2@outlook.com.

Lighthouse Cinema Group

When: Thursday, 9th October 10:30am for 11:00am showing.
What: “**Andy Warhol - American Dream**”: Viewers are drawn into Warhol's world through intimate interviews and authoritative material from his roots in Slovakia to his transformative years in New York City.
Cost: \$13.50 which includes free hot drink.
Contact: Liz Palmer, liz@thepalmers.co.nz

Bookies Two

When: Monday, 13th October, 1:30 - 3:30pm
Where: Owen and Mary Rowse's home, 89 Wai-iti Cres
Contact: Mary Rowse, maryrowse@xtra.co.nz
It's helpful to let Mary and Owen know if you will be attending

Stitch and Sew

When: Tuesday, 14th October 9:30am
Host: To be advised.
Contact: Jocelyn White: email jocelyndwhite50@gmail.com

Ramblers Group

When: Tuesday 14th October
What: Downhill from Maungaraki to the Korokoro Dam and the stream to the Hutt Road.
Meet: 10:30am at western side of Centennial Museum, Petone Esplanade
Bring: Appropriate footwear and lunch.
Contact: Mike Keehan or David Gledhill

Garden Group

When: Friday 17th October
Where: Gillies Garden, Silverstream
What: Garden House and Art Tour, then afternoon tea
Meet: 1:30pm at Avalon duckpond for carpooling.
Cost: \$25 for the Garden plus \$5 for Art. \$10 for afternoon tea.
For those attending could you please deposit \$40 into Colleen's account by the 15th then she will pay it to the garden owner the day before.
Please send her a text to say you have paid.
Contact: Colleen Baker

Outing – Tour of Fraser Engineering: Wednesday 22nd October

Fraser Engineering are the leading manufacturer and supplier of Fire and Rescue Appliances and Products in New Zealand

Martin Simpson talked to our April meeting about his business, Fraser Engineering. Martin has kindly agreed to a conducted tour of their factory to see first-hand the development and production of their Fire Engines

They are at 18 Peterkin Street, Wingate, Lower Hutt

Be there at 9:45am for 10.00am start

Group numbers are limited to 20. This may be popular so the first 20 members signed up on the list at the September meeting will be able to go. If you are one of those but can't make it, please let Selwyn know so he can offer it to the next person on the list.

Contact: Selwyn Lowe: nanselnz@gmail.com

Speaker Summary, August

Our speaker was **Robin Lye of the Hutt Valley Hearing Trust**. Robin has been profoundly deaf since her late teens. She explained her 50 year journey from being diagnosed, through the early challenges and irritations, to today when she is a frequent public speaker and works with the Trust to help people adapt to new hearing aids. She said that people becoming deaf must first admit their disability and then get tested. Her message was that modern aids are incredibly useful, but the user must allow time to get used to them, and to return to the audiologist with any problems, most of which can be dealt with. The talk about such a serious subject was peppered with amusing anecdotes.

The H.V. Hearing Trust is based at Unit 19/55 Percy Cameron Street, Avalon. Information can be found via www.hvhearing.co.nz

PR

Last thought...

Have you ever wondered what went on inside a modern microchip?

"A modern microchip is an electronic lasagne. A leading-edge processor can pack over one billion transistors, contain more than seventy layers and have more than one hundred kilometres of wiring, all in one piece of silicon around one and a half times the size of a standard postage stamp." The Economist, 15 March 25 p. 70, describing the most advanced chips made by ASML, a company in The Netherlands.

I just thought you might like to know that. David

Next Meeting: Monday, 20th October