

# Probus Club of Kapiti Coast, Inc.

The First Probus Club Established in the Southern Hemisphere (1974)



## Newsletter—August 2025

**Meeting Location:** Ocean Road Community Centre, Paraparaumu at 10.00 a.m.  
**Next Meeting:** Last Thursday of the month at 10.00 a.m.  
**September Guest Speaker:** Graeme Jupp who will share the 100th anniversary of the Titanic sinking events he attended  
**10 Minute Speaker:** To be confirmed  
**Email:** [kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com](mailto:kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com)  
**Website:** <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/kapiticoast>  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61561221205777>

**If you cannot attend a meeting or to change your contact details, please advise  
Lionel Wilson 022 025 8540 or Eileen South 021 183 0481 [kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com](mailto:kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com)**

### President's Message: Pat Humphries



We had a really cheery meeting on Thursday morning 28 August, quite at odds with the really cold temperature outdoors. Our members seemed in good heart and glad to be out and about.

Apparently, a number of our members were unable to attend due to illness, not surprising at this time of year. They have my sympathy if they have Covid because I had a couple of miserable weeks with that myself and appreciate how debilitating that is. I do hope those of you in that position are taking good care of yourselves and will be able to join us next month. Your absence is noticed and you will be welcomed back.

At this point I would also like to offer a special thanks to John and Carole Hutchins who have been our raffle managers for over six years and are leaving the role because of Carole's health. Thank you both for your warm and cheerful presence each month and we thank you sincerely for your contribution to our fun and fellowship. We hope Carole enjoys better health

and look forward to your continued attendance at our meetings. Thanks also to John and Lesley Miller who have stepped in to assist with this.

NOTE OUR MONTHLY WOMEN'S COFFEE MORNING IS THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT TRUFFLES, MILNE DRIVE AT 10.30 AM. Next one is Wednesday 10 September. See you there.

Great to see our bus trip to Woodville and Mangatainoka is going ahead on 11 September. Thanks to everyone who responded and to John and Lesley Miller for organising.



The Christmas lunch has been booked at the Paraparaumu Bowling Club for Thursday 4 December 2025. Cost will probably be \$25 per member with the club subsidising by \$20 per member (total cost is \$45).

We have sought a change in the menu offered, seeking to have salads added, and the vegetables to be served without sauce, but with sauce on the side for adding for those who prefer that. We will confirm whether this changes the price. 30 people have already indicated they would like to attend. The usual rule will apply, pay the money and your place is secure at a date prior to early November. When we know final menu and cost, you will be advised.

We had a member make a suggestion for an outing in October to the Opera House in Wellington to see the show "Coal Miner's Daughter" at the Opera House, which would need a bus so that members would not have to drive into town in the evening. Linda will provide the details later in the newsletter in the "What's On" area. We need to know numbers by 5 September.

We are in need of your assistance to continue running the club, so do please give consideration to volunteering to undertake a role in the committee. If you have some accounting knowledge, we would greatly appreciate you undertaking the treasurer role, and the Secretary keeps track of meetings and minutes. We have need of three new Committee members. The committee meets every six weeks, so 7 or 8 times a year so we're talking a maximum of 10 hours a year for those meetings. We have experienced former members happy to provide support and advice for the undertaking. We would be thrilled to have nominations at our next meeting.



If I may paraphrase John F Kennedy, ask not what Probus can do for you, but rather, what can you do for Probus?

Stay warm, stay well and keep on enjoying life people and thanks for your support.

Pat Humphries, President.

**Attendance:**                      **Attended: 66**                      **Apologies: 24**                      **Silent: 17**                      **Visitors: 3**

Names of members and visitors attending the meeting are noted on the membership list.

## 10-Minute Speaker – John Redward

Our cameo speaker was John Redward who shared his experience as an Honorary Matai to a particular village in Samoa. This honour was bestowed on him because his son married a Samoan lady who was a Princess of her village, and her husband must have a suitable level of importance according to their culture. Since John as his father is still alive, the title will reside with John until he dies, at which point it will be inherited by his son.

John showed us the lei he was given, a wreath made from seeds of the pandanus tree which is indigenous to that area, and painted a glossy red, an orator's stick, an imposing and heavily carved long walking-type stick which affords him the right to speak at meetings, and a swishy horse's tail affair which he wields with amazing aplomb, he thinks it is keep off predatory females. It has given him real insight into the very different culture of the islands and he really loved the singing at the services he attended during his installation. I would shout out a special thanks to John for coming to do his talk because he had a family health emergency in Auckland and was going there as soon as he had finished with the meeting.



## Guest Speaker: Linda Niccol writer and Director of the Film “Poppy”

Our main speaker today was Linda Niccol, a Kapiti local who was the writer and director of the film Poppy, about a young woman with Down's Syndrome who was seeking to lead a full life. It was fascinating to hear how long the whole process took. Linda is a writer and has written and published books and collections of short stories, and in fact the basis of the film Poppy was one of her short stories published 10 years earlier and which won an award overseas.



The film was with funding from the New Zealand Film Commission, by way of a very competitive bid process. I was surprised to learn that the money is in fact a loan which must be repaid if and when the movie makes any money. They also had a generous private donation from the mother of a child with Down's Syndrome, which enabled them to proceed on the basis of a total of \$1.7 million. This enabled the movie to get off the ground. It sounds like a lot of money until you realise the specialist skills involved in the production of a movie and the cost of hiring the necessary skills, getting venues, services, transport etc. Linda said that a lot of the people were generous in providing sites for filming, and

mentioned the former bowling alley up here at Lindale. She sourced all the music from New Zealand bands and was able to secure use of music at reasonable cost. One of the actors in

the film wrote all the songs he sang and the score was done by four local composers. She mentioned the special skill in scheduling of John from Paekākāriki who ensured they came in under budget, a major feat. Their last week of filming was closed down due to the first Covid shut down and was delayed for some months. Challenging.

The young star, Libby, was apparently really amazing and a natural dancer who made it unnecessary to have a choreographer. She was chosen from 22 applicants and was very confident, with some drama and dance experience. She had to have a coach with her to ensure she was at ease and peak energy to perform. She had weeks of tutoring in a garage to make her familiar with cars and repairs and handling things to be convincing as an apprentice mechanic. Libby turned 18 during the course of the filming.



In answer to questions, Linda advised that she earned the equivalent of an annual salary for directing, around \$ 60 or 70,000 and a fee for the writing. This was for the period of producing the movie and the almost a year to do post production. So, this is not the road to riches, unless you're directing Superman or the Marvel franchises which have budgets of many millions of dollars. There are no residual fees and all the awards the film has won produce trophies, not money, and you pay your own way to get to them. This is obviously a passion and a labour of love. The movie is available to see free on TVNZ+ if you'd like to have a look.

Linda provided a really interesting glimpse into a world that is foreign to most of us. Her movie has won awards at overseas film festivals in the US (New York and Palm Springs), Ireland, France and even made it to Finland. – Pat Humphries.

## Happy Birthday!

If you have had a birthday in the past month, please put your name on the list by the raffle table and we will wish you a Happy Birthday and have a draw to see who is the winner of a small gift.

**August Birthdays:** John Hutchins, David Smith, John Miller, Rhondda Harris, John Schrama, Bruce Bamford, and Jacinta Janes. Happy birthday to you all and we hope you had a cracker day.

**August Winner:** The winner of the August birthday bottle of wine was Rhondda Harris

## Bus Trip to Woodville

Date: **Thursday 11 September**

Bus leaves from Ocean Road Community Centre

Time the bus leaves: 9.00 a.m. (note change from original time)

Please park your car at the southern end as another group is using the building.





## Almoner: Naomi Peters 021 239 4107

Naomi Peters is our Probus Club Almoner. If you need some support or know of anyone who is not feeling well or needs a friend to talk to please let Naomi know.



## Emergency Contact Details

Please put your emergency contact details on the back of your Probus badge so that, should anything happen to you at a Probus Meeting or any Special Interest Group Meeting where you wear your badge, we will be able to contact them for you.

## First Aid Certificate



Do you hold a current First Aid Certificate? Would you be willing to put your name on a list of available First Aiders to be called on at meetings if required? If you can help please let Club Secretary, Eileen South, know at [kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com](mailto:kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com)

## What's On?

**Last Night of the Proms.** 9 September 11 a.m. Southward Car Museum.

**World of Wearable Art Show – Rise.** 18 September – 5 October. TSB Arena, Wellington.

**KCDC Meet the candidates events:** September & October - Dates and locations vary, check the website for details: <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/council/about-council/local-elections/local-elections-2025/meet-the-candidates/>

**Coalminers Daughter:** Thursday 23 October, at 7.30 p.m. Opera House Wellington.

Tribute act for Loretta Lynn, Patsy Cline and Conway Twitty.

If you are interested in joining a group to go to this show, please contact Chris Harwood [chrisharwood1957@gmail.com](mailto:chrisharwood1957@gmail.com).

Ticket cost estimated for a group booking is \$62 per person in the stalls, plus the cost of transport.

Once we have an idea of probable numbers, we'll explore transport options and let you know the cost.

**Please respond by 12 September so that you can book your ticket and we can book the transport.**



**Plimmerton Rotary Garden Tour** 1-5 November. Tickets will be available from 10 September 2025 on the website [www.plimmertorotary.org.nz](http://www.plimmertorotary.org.nz).

**The Vicar of Dibley:** 6 – 15 November at the Playhouse, 7 Ruahine Street, Paraparaumu. 7.30 p.m. and a matinee on the Sunday.

A stage adaptation by Ian Gower and Paul Carpenter based on the original TV series written by Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer.  
Tickets will be available at Trybooking.

Let Linda know on [lindahallnz1@gmail.com](mailto:lindahallnz1@gmail.com) if you have things you want to tell our members about.

It could be concerts, plays, sporting events, festivals, fashion shows, etc.  
The editor reserves the right to include or exclude items with input from the committee.

## Setting up the Chairs



**We are looking for some volunteers** to help set out the chairs for our meetings. Please can you let us know if you are able to come half an hour early to help set up the hall?

We would love to set up a roster so it does not always fall on the same people each time. [kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com](mailto:kapiticoastprobus@gmail.com)



## Probus Club of Kapiti Coast's Mystery Automobile Adventure 2025

**Save the date: 13 November at 10.00 am**  
for fun and adventure with an element of competition!

Following last year's very successful Mystery Automobile Adventure, the winners are planning another event to be held on 13 November at 10.00 am. The planners will make sure we start at Ocean Road and finish somewhere convivial for coffee and lunch.

The planning team will take names of people wishing to take part at our next meeting in September.

They would like teams of 4 in each car and will help to arrange this if you do not wish to drive.

## Meeting Times

Here is an overview of all our meetings and when they occur in the month. See the end of the newsletter for a full list of Committee Members and Special Interest Group Convenors.

Weekly Meetings		
Thursday	Bridge Group	9.00 a.m.
Tuesday	Mah Jong	1.00 p.m.
Monthly meetings		
Variable day	Movie Group	Variable time
First Tuesday	Wine No. 1 Group	7.30 p.m.
First Tuesday	Wine No. 2 Group	4.00 p.m.
First Wednesday	Book Group No. 1	2.30 p.m.
First Wednesday	Book Group No. 2	2.00 p.m.
Second Wednesday	Ladies' Coffee Group	10.30 a.m.
Second Wednesday	Lunch Group 1	12.30 p.m.
Second Wednesday	Lunch Group 4	12.30 p.m.
Second Thursday	Lunch Group 2	12.30 p.m.
Second Thursday	Lunch Group 3	12.30 p.m.
Second Friday	Mini Walking Group	10.30 a.m.
Third Tuesday	Men's Coffee Morning	10.00 a.m.
Third Wednesday	Book Group 3	2.30 p.m.
Third Thursday	Twilight Dining Group	6.00 p.m.
Third Friday	Midi Walking Group	10.00 a.m.
Fourth Friday	Mini Walking Group	10.30 a.m.
<b>Last Thursday</b>	<b>Probus Meeting</b>	<b>10.00 a.m.</b>
Last Thursday	Travel Group	2.30 p.m.

## Special Interest Groups

If you are interested in joining one of the interest groups, please contact the person who runs it. Everyone is welcome to participate. If there are no current vacancies in the group that interests you it may be possible to add you to a waiting list, or start another group!

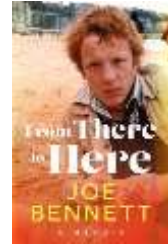
### Book and Jigsaw Puzzle Swap: Chris Gane

Have a look at the book swap table and see if there is something you want to read.

## Book Group 1: Ruth Miners— 04 298 8886

[ruthminers@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ruthminers@xtra.co.nz)

We read Joe Bennett's memoir "From There to Here" which we will discuss at our next meeting at Marjory Gillespie's home on Wednesday 3 September at 2.30pm. Please let her know if you can't make it.



There are no vacancies in the group.

## Book Group 2: Rhondda Harris— 04 904 4168



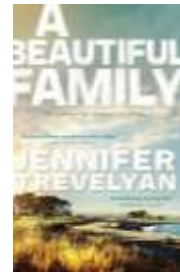
Book Club 2 meets on Wednesday 3rd September at Jean Livesey's home and we will discuss the August book "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn " author Betty Smith.

There are no vacancies in the group.

## Book Group 3: Chris Harwood 022 100 7118 [ch.ja@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ch.ja@xtra.co.nz)

The group shared the books they had read written by a New Zealand author or set in New Zealand. The books sparked a rich discussion about changes we've seen in society and about what gets discussed now that wasn't discussed in years past.

Books read: A beautiful family by J Trevelyan, All Day at the Movies by Fiona Kidman, King Rich by Joe Bennett, Union Belle by Jock Phillips, Lioness by Emily Perkins



On 24 September, the group will meet at Monica Martin's home at 2.30 pm. The theme for this month's books is New Zealand disasters. This theme should spark some actual memories of disasters we've been involved in and may also take us back to school days when famous NZ disasters were topics to be studied.

**We are looking for a few more members to join us to for fun and friendship, and of course to discuss books.** We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 2.30 pm. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Chris Harwood

## Combined Probus Bridge Club: Kevin Thompson – 021 250 7052



Meet every Thursday at 9.00 a.m. in the Village Card Room of Kapiti Village. We play until noon.

We do not teach Bridge so a basic understanding of Bridge is required. Our motto is Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

Contact Kevin Thompson to join this group.



**Ladies Coffee & Conversation Morning: Chris Harwood 022 100 7113**  
[ch.ja@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ch.ja@xtra.co.nz)

My thanks to Jean Livesey who stepped in at the last minute to convene the coffee group. It was great to hear that the coffee group was enjoyed by the participants.

See you next month on Wednesday, 10 September at 10.30 am.

Truffle Cafe, 9 Milne Drive.

We hope to see you there. **Just come along and all are welcome!**

**Lunch Group 1: Fiona Berthold, 021 300 292**  
[fiona.berthold@gmail.com](mailto:fiona.berthold@gmail.com)

Wednesday 10 September at 12.30 pm at the Red Shed, Otaki.

Apologies to Ruth Miners 027 598 8886 if you can't attend.

**We have two vacancies in the group.**

**Lunch Group 2 (Midday Gourmets): Christine Jamieson—021 056 3614**

The Lunch group went to the Himalayan Kitchen this month. The food and service were very good, and a convivial time was had by all. We noted that our usual day for the lunch next month coincides with the bus trip, so we decided to meet the first Thursday of the month at the Fisherman's Table, Paekākāriki.

**Lunch Group 3 (Golden Diners)—Marjory Gillespie 027 471 5863.**

Our August lunch was held at Two Fat Chefs. The food was excellent and the service was very friendly and helpful. Thoroughly recommend this cafe for lunch. We missed Lionel and Pam who were on their way home from their European holiday.



Next lunch is on 11 September at 12 noon at Club Vista.

**Lunch Group 4 (Serendipity - finding valuable and agreeable things, especially food!) Richard Chilton [chilton1942@gmail.com](mailto:chilton1942@gmail.com)**  
**04 905 7514**

The next meeting of the No. 4 lunch group will be at 12.30 pm on Wednesday 10 September. The venue is the Relish Cafe, Elizabeth Street, Waikanae.

## **Mah Jong: Dale Schrama 04 904 8659**

The group meets every Tuesday at 1.00 p.m. till 4.00 p.m. at the Paraparaumu Bowling Club.

\$3.00 joining fee \$2.00 per session. New members are welcome and lessons can be given on Wednesdays, at 11 Wharemauku Rd, Raumati Beach.

Come and learn a new skill or hone your ability in this fun game!



## **Men's Social Discussion Group: Keith Williamson—04 299-2343** **[tofox83@gmail.com](mailto:tofox83@gmail.com)**

**This group has some vacancies!**



The group meets at a local coffee bar at 10.00 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.

Due to ongoing natural attrition over time, people shifting, etc. we would welcome more members to our group.

Contact Keith if you want to join this group

## **Midi Walkers: Fiona Berthold, 021 300 292 [fiona.berthold@gmail.com](mailto:fiona.berthold@gmail.com)** **Elizabeth Henry — 021 151 9474, 04 299 2090 [lizum.henry@gmail.com](mailto:lizum.henry@gmail.com)**

Friday 19 September. Catch the 09.46 a.m. train from Paraparaumu Station to Pukerua Bay. Walk to Plimmerton (about 5 km on flat tracks). Lunch at Palmers Café. New walkers welcome.

**All welcome - just turn up.** Contact on the day: Fiona Berthold 021 300 292.

## **Mini Walking Group: Christine Jamieson 021 056 3614**

The first mini walk in August at the Kōtuku Lagoons was cancelled because of the rain, but the group gathered together at Truffles for morning tea.

Our second walk this month was along the stream at Mazengarb Reserve, admiring the eels at the bridge, and some beautiful flowering magnolias. It was good to see Richard at our morning tea at Palms.

**All welcome – just turn up**

**Movie Group: Fiona Berthold 04 297 3201 [fiona.berthold@gmail.com](mailto:fiona.berthold@gmail.com)**



We saw "Mr Burton", a biopic about the early life of Richard Burton (nee Jenkins) and his mentor Philip Burton. Very interesting and well-acted, especially Toby Jones as Philip, his school teacher then coach and guardian.

Contact Fiona at [fiona.berthold@gmail.com](mailto:fiona.berthold@gmail.com) if you would like to be notified about the next movie.

**Travel Group: Kathleen Clayton 04 296 1713**

An episode of Tony Robinson's TV programme Around the world by Train was shown at the last Travel Group meeting. The episode contained footage of Seattle, the Rocky Mountaineer train to Jasper and a glacier in Alaska.

There are no vacancies in this group.



**Twilight Dining: Kathy Bamford 04 299 0938 [kathybamford@gmail.com](mailto:kathybamford@gmail.com)**

The Twilight Group meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 6 pm, excluding December/January. We dine at various restaurants in the Kapiti Coast area and attend when available. We are a very friendly, happy bunch and we welcome new members.

**Wine Appreciation Group 1: Roger Griffiths 021 463 153**

The August meeting, which was scheduled to be held at Richard Chilton's home, was cancelled.

September's meeting is being held at Richard Chilton's home on Tuesday 2 September. Contact Roger for details of this group.

**Late Afternoon Wine Group (LAWG): Margaret Hawkes 022 637 6402 [marg\\_and\\_tony@msn.com](mailto:marg_and_tony@msn.com)**

The August meeting of the LAWG group was hosted by John and Kathleen Clayton.

The meeting began by comparing two Gewurztraminer wines - Villa Maria from the East Coast and Lawson's Dry Hills Marlborough. We felt that there was very little difference between the two.



Next was a Giesen's rose from Marlborough. No one enjoyed this wine - maybe because it had zero alcohol - although the group wasn't told this until after they had sampled the wine.

Two wines made from the grenache grape followed. The first was Take it to the Grave from South Australia, the second a grenache Gran ROJO from Spain. Both wines were enjoyed and the Spanish was declared the favourite.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 2 September at Margaret and Tony Hawkes home. Vickie Chandler from Constellation Brands will be the guest presenter. The next meeting of the LAWG will be at 4pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Please let Margaret know on 022 537 6402 if you are unable to attend

### General Information

**Name Badges:** Please wear your name badges to all meetings

**Emergency Contact Details:** Add these to the back of your name badge.

**Payments:** Please make payments directly to the Club's Bank Account:

Bank: Westpac Bank

Account Name: Probus Club of Kapiti Coast, Inc.

Account Number: 03-0732-0138005-000

Cash payments should be in an envelope noting your name and the reason for the payment

**Photographs:** We take photographs at many of our events. These photos are used in Probus newsletters, website and social media. If you do not want your photograph taken please let the photographer know at the time. Silence is taken as consent.

**Newsletter:** Information for the newsletter can be sent to: [lindahallnz1@gmail.com](mailto:lindahallnz1@gmail.com)

Committee					
President & Guest Speakers	Pat Humphries	021 140 2680	Vice President	Chris Harwood	022 100 7118
Immediate Past President	Richard Chilton	04 905 7514	Treasurer	John Gillespie	027 621 2478
Secretary	Eileen South	021 183 0481	Committee Member	Christine Jamieson	021 056 3614
Membership	Lionel Wilson	022 025 8540	Newsletters Morning Tea	Linda Hall	021 0290 3635
Committee Member	Christine Gane	021 216 7002	Morning Tea	Margaret Swain	021 146 6066
Committee Member	Vacant				

Roles Outside of Committee					
Probus District Chair Wellington North	Liz Smith	04 298 3654	Audio Visual	Fiona Berthold Peter Wilson Tim Allsop	04 297 3201 027 216 6455 04 905 5503
Almoner	Naomi Peters	021 239 4107	Raffles		
			10-Minute Speakers	James Abernethy	027 348 7139
Special Interest Group Convenors					
Book Table	Chris Gane	021 216 7002	Mah Jong	Dale Schrama	04 904 8659
Book Group 1	Ruth Miners	04 298 8886	Men's Coffee Group	Keith Williamson	04 299-2343
Book Group 2	Rhondda Harris	04 904 4168	Midi Walking Group	Fiona Berthold Elizabeth Henry	04 297 3201 04 299 2090
Book Group 3	Chris Harwood	022 100 7118	Mini Walking Group	Christine Jamieson	021 056 3614
Bridge Group	Kevin Thompson	021 0250 7052	Movie Group	Fiona Berthold	04 297 3201
Ladies Coffee Group	Chris Harwood	022 100 7118	Travel Group	Kathleen Clayton	04 296 1713
Lunch Group 1	Fiona Berthold	021 300 292	Trips	Vacant	
Lunch Group 2	Christine Jamieson	021 056 3614	Twilight Dining	Kathy Bamford	04 299 0938
Lunch Group 3	Marjory Gillespie	027 471 5863	Wine Group 1	Roger Griffiths	021 463 153
Lunch Group 4	Richard Chilton	04 905 7514	Wine Group 2 (LAWG)	Margaret Hawkes	022 637 6402

This newsletter forms part of the records of the proceedings of the Probus Club of Kapiti Coast, Inc. approved by the Club President.