

Probus Club of Kapiti Coast, Inc.

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



Newsletter—October 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.
November Guest Speaker:	Sir Hugh Rennie KNZM CBE KC.
10 Minute Speaker:	Ken Milne
Email:	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

President's Message: Pat Humphries



To those of you who were unable to join us for the meeting last Thursday, we missed you. To those of you who were unwell, we send greetings and hope you feel better soon. We had a celebratory meeting to mark Probus month and it was noisy and busy with lots of conversations going on.

I trust you have come through the blustery spring weather we've all experienced over the last few weeks unscathed. Being forced to stay home for days gave me a new appreciation for those who face this challenge on a regular basis. I feel fortunate that where I live, I can look out the window and see a road where traffic is reasonably constant, people walk past and I can hear and get a glimpse of trains running into Paraparaumu station. Makes me feel connected.

We had a cheery meeting which saw us acquire two new members, Eileen Taylor and Craig Burleigh who were introduced by their sponsors, Jackie North and Peter Wilson respectively. It is encouraging to have new people join our club.

Also, four of our members were awarded Certificates of Appreciation for services to the club, a fitting way to celebrate Probus month. The recipients were John and Carole Hutchings, Richard Chilton and Kathleen Clayton. It was a surprise to all of them which was fun. Unfortunately, John and Carole were unable to attend because Carole is very unwell, but I was able to deliver the certificates to them at home after the meeting. It is really important to acknowledge the cheerful and essential assistance provided by such members as a club like ours only flourishes when we all take a hand in keeping it afloat. Thanks to these special members. I hope you got as much pleasure getting them as we did in managing to surprise you with them.

We also had not one, but two special cakes (carrot with cream cheese icing and apple sprinkled with icing sugar) for morning tea to add to the celebrations, baked by Linda Hall. Thank you, Linda. I was able to get some of the apple cake to take and share with Carole and John so they didn't miss out.

I regret I did not have a single thought on how to Reinvent my Retirement, the suggested topic for Probus month from Probus South Pacific Limited. I asked for suggestions from members too, but no response thus far. I must confess I do cherish the freedom which retirement offers me in terms of how I spend my days, without the imposed discipline of having to be somewhere at a specific time each work day which my work life required. I am grateful for that. I wonder how many of you share my feelings?

The Christmas lunch menu has been finalised and can be seen later in this newsletter. Thank you, Chris Harwood, for taking care of the liaison with the caterers and to John Gillespie for organising the raffle prizes. All members attending will receive a raffle ticket courtesy of the club, and there will be prizes. A note to advise that we will not be doing the usual small gift exchange as some members were apparently already preparing to regift the one they got last year to pass on to someone else! Instead, it was decided that if we each brought a contribution for the food bank, we might all enjoy that better than receiving unwanted things unlikely to be appreciated.

I do hope you will all enter into the spirit of Christmas and enjoy sharing our good fortune with others less fortunate. We will have a box there to receive your gift for the foodbank. Just a thought, maybe a little something festive might raise someone's spirits?

Also please note that there will be a spot prize for the best Christmas decorated hat worn to the lunch, sponsored by Chris H and Pat. It doesn't have to be beautiful, but it would be good to see some sparkle.

Do remember to pay for the lunch to secure your place. Only \$25 each for members! – Pat Humphries

Attendance: **Attended: 64** **Apologies: 34** **Silent: 21** **Visitors: 4**

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

New Members

We were delighted to welcome two new members to the club. Eileen Taylor was introduced by Jackie North and Craig Burleigh was introduced by Peter Wilson. Welcome to you both!



10-Minute Speaker – Update of the Club’s Constitution and Standing Resolutions



Our ten-minute speaker was Chris Harwood who brought us up to date with the changes to our Constitution and Standard Regulations, which have been revised in accordance with guidance from Probus South Pacific Ltd. (PSPL) so that our club will be compliant with new legislation.

All of the material has been provided by email, and we must vote on their adoption next month at a special general meeting which will be part of our November meeting so that we can meet the deadline required. Do please take part in this important process.

Guest Speaker: Richard Chapman, Education Officer at Government House

Our speaker was Richard Chapman, an educator at Government House. He chose to talk about the evolving role of the Governor General over the history of New Zealand. There have apparently been 38 since 1840 with the title being Governor until the early 1900s.

The first New Zealand born Governor General was Porritt, and apparently his daughter Joanne was renowned for being very attractive. She disappointed many of the locals by marrying one of the Aides de Camp at Government House.

It was interesting to learn of the different characters, like Lord Grey, who actually served two terms, which is no longer permitted. He was apparently largely responsible for the formulation of our constitutional arrangements and processes which set up governance in New Zealand, though neither popular nor a pleasing personality. There were time extensions for those Governors General who served during the First and Second World Wars.

The first appointee to be seen as a man of the people was Lieutenant General Bernard Freyberg, 1st Baron Freyberg, VC, GCMG, KCB, KBE, DSO and three bars, KStJ, who was British born but had in fact commanded New Zealand troops in WWII. He had an outstanding military career and served with distinction as Governor General. He was in office from 1946 until 1952.

Richard strongly encouraged a visit to Government House in Wellington, but also told of the glorious gardens at Government House in Auckland which he recommended for a visit. It was interesting to follow the progression of office holders moving from being appointees and aristocrats from the United Kingdom to being New Zealanders appointed by New Zealand Parliamentarians of the government and opposition, and of course the appointment of women to the role. But that's probably a whole different story – 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.

October Birthdays: Margaret Hawkes, Pam Jenner, Garry Gould and Maureen Clay. Happy Birthday to you all and we hope you had a cracker day.

October Winner: The winner of the October birthday bottle of wine was Maureen Clay



We celebrated Probuss month with a cake and presenting Certificates of Appreciation to 4 members for their contributions to the club.

John and Carole Hutchinson, Kathleen Clayton and Richard Chilton have been involved in Probuss for many years. John and Richard have both been President, with Richard steering us through our 50th Anniversary celebrations last year. Kathleen did a stint as Secretary. Carole has managed the raffle for a long time and all have been involved in running clubs and activities.

Sadly, John and Carole could not be with us to receive their certificates as Carole was not well, but as you can see from the photo, she was delighted to receive it. Richard presented Kathleen with her certificate and then received his own.



Richard and Kathleen (below)



In Memoriam

It is with great sadness we acknowledge the passing of Carole Hutchings, who passed away just days after receiving her Certificate of Appreciation from the Club.

She was a friend to many of our members and we will miss her smiling face at the raffle table.

Our deepest sympathy goes to her husband John and family. She will be greatly missed.

A service to farewell Carole will be held at

Our Lady of Kapiti, Presentation Way, Paraparaumu

Friday 7 November at 11.00 am.

50th Anniversary Publication

You may be interested in reading the book published to celebrate the 50th Anniversary last year. It can be read here [History Book - MP 0825](#)

Tiptoe Through the Tulips

We had a lovely day out, taking a route through the Botanic Gardens on the Puketea Bush Trail which was unfamiliar to us all. A fairly dense forest canopy shaded us from the sun, bird calls added to the atmosphere and we felt we were miles from the city. As expected, the tulips were not the magnificent display seen in previous years, but there were significant clumps of red, pink, yellow and white ones in full bloom. It was very summery sitting outdoors at Picnic Cafe enjoying lunch, before catching the train home.



Committee Members

It is that time of the year when we are seeking people to help run our club. In February we will appoint a new committee at the AGM. Following excellent service some committee members will be stepping down from their roles so we are seeking nominations for the following:

- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 2 Committee members

The prior officeholders are very happy to give support and advice as required – if you are interested in helping, please talk to Pat Humphries or any of our committee members.

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

What's On?

Kapiti Coast Art Trail - 1-2 and 8-9 November. See Tim Allsop's woodwork and the work of other local artists and craftspeople. Check website for details <https://www.kapiticoastarttrail.co.nz/>

Hutt Valley Porcelain Art Exhibition - Tuesday 4 to Sunday 16 November (10 am to 4 pm)
"A kaleidoscope of butterflies". At Huia Gallery, Hutt Art Centre – corner of Myrtle & Huia Streets, Hutt City.



Kapiti Strawberry Festival: 15 November 2025 (9.30 am to 3.00 pm).

Entry: Gold Coin contribution for **Mary Potter Hospice**.

[Kāpiti Strawberry Festival](#)



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 available at [Trybooking](#)

Let Linda know on 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.



Probus Club of Kapiti Coast's Mystery Automobile Adventure 2025

Thursday 13 November at 10.00 am
for fun and adventure with an element of competition!

Chris and James have been testing this year's Mystery Automobile Adventure which will be held on 13 November, starting at 10 am from the Ocean Road Community Centre and will finish somewhere convivial for coffee / lunch around 12 noon.

Let James know if you have room in your car for someone to join you.

Please email James at ch.ja@extra.co.nz or Tim at tim.allsop@gmail.com if you would like to register yourself or a team.

There will be a small cost of \$2.50 per person to help towards prizes.



Christmas Lunch

Thursday 4 December 2025

12.30 p.m.

Paraparaumu Bowling Club

Members \$25.00 each Non-Members \$45.00 each

Payment to the Treasurer by Wednesday 19 November 2025

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
Lunch in the details

Menu

Ham and mustard Sauce
 Turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce
 Pigs in blankets
 Mixed roast vegetables
 Carrots with garlic and sage butter
 Peas and Leeks
 Cauliflower and Broccoli
 Potatoes in parsley butter
 Cheese sauce
 Gravy
 Egg Salad
 Lettuce Salad

Dessert

Pavlova Roll and Berry Couli
 Christmas Pudding and Brandy sauce
 Fresh Cream

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.
Last Thursday	Probus Meeting	10.00 a.m.
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

We read *The Woman With A Purple Heart* by Diane Hanks about the Chief Nurse at Hickam Field Army Hospital when Pearl Harbour and Hickam were bombed in December 1941.

Next meeting: Wednesday 5 November at 2.30pm at Marsha Stevens' home (027 338 8403)

There are no vacancies in the group.



Book Group 2: Rhondda Harris— 04 904 4168

There was no meeting in October.

Next meeting will be at the Trattoria 12.30pm Wednesday 5th November.

There are no vacancies in the group.

Book Group 3: Chris Harwood 022 100 7118 ch.ja@xtra.co.nz

If you would like to join the group please contact Chris.

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

Second Wednesday of the month 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

We had an enjoyable lunch at Banana Leaf, Raumati. The food and service were excellent; the adjacent noisy tables of rugby supporters spoiled our conversation, however.

Next lunch - Wednesday 12 November at 12.30 pm at Rangoli Indian Restaurant, 127 Kapiti Rd.

Organiser: Liz Smith 021 0255 2535

We have two vacancies in the group.

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

Our lunch group met at Randolph in Kapiti Road this month. We were a slightly smaller group due to a previous appointment, and ill health. The food was very good as was the service, and everyone enjoyed the event.

We are going to the Banana Leaf in Raumati for our last lunch for the year in November.

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



The Golden diners lunch group met at Mediterranean foods Restaurant on 9 October. A selection of pasta dishes and pizza were enjoyed by all.

The November lunch has been changed from 12 November to 6 November to avoid clashing with the mystery car rally. The venue will be at the Waikanae club at 12 noon.

Lunch Group 4 (Serendipity - finding valuable and agreeable things, especially food!)

Richard Chilton chilton1942@gmail.com 04 905 7514

Next lunch will be at 12.30 pm on Wednesday 12 November. The venue will be the Curry Lounge at Alexander Road, Raumati.

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

This group has some vacancies!



The group meets 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 Elizabeth Henry — 021 151 9474, 04 299 2090 lizum.henry@gmail.com



On a beautiful Spring day, we had a lovely but shorter than usual, walk through the Kaitawa Reserve and up Valley Rd to an area unfamiliar to most of us, followed by coffee at Palms.

Next walk - Friday 21 November. Catch the 9.26 train from Paraparaumu Station. Depending on the wind direction on the day, we will either walk from Porirua to Paremata by the Adrenalin Forest and Aotea Lagoon, or vice versa.

Organiser: Fiona Berthold 021 300 292

All welcome - just turn up.

Mini Walking Group: Christine Jamieson 021 056 3614

The first mini walk for October was cancelled because of the weather. Really, Spring weather can be wild. We had planned to go the Greendale Reserve. Didn't stop us meeting for coffee at the Palms!

However, the second mini walk around the lagoons/lakes at Awatea Ave and Waterstone went ahead with a nice day, and a good turnout. This is an easy walk, with paved paths. However care needs to be taken near the swans with their cygnets, the adult swans can be quite aggressive. We enjoyed our Morning tea/ coffee at Truffles.



We will try to do the Greendale Reserve for the next walk on Friday 7 November. (Cancelled)

All welcome – just turn up

Movie Group: Fiona Berthold 04 297 3201 fiona.berthold@gmail.com



Despite a few poor reviews, we really enjoyed *Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere* - maybe we were fans already, but I think it would appeal to a wider audience. It told of a period in Bruce Springsteen's life when he was at a low ebb and wrote the (fairly dismal) songs that went into the album *Nebraska*.

If you would like to be informed about movie outings, please email fiona.berthold@gmail.com

Travel Group: Kathleen Clayton 04 296 1713

An episode of the TV programme Susan Calman's Grand Day Out was shown at the last meeting of the Travel Group. In this episode Susan, with her camper van named Helen Mirren, travelled in Northern Ireland. She enjoyed seeing the beech trees on Kings Road which was the location of the Dark Hedges in the Game of Thrones programme and also visiting the Giant's Causeway.

There are no vacancies in this group.



Twilight Dining: Kathy Bamford 04 299 0938 kathybamford@gmail.com

The Twilight Group meet on the 3rd 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 wine group met on 7 October at Tim & Gill Allsop's home. Tim provided us with a good range of wines, being a Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Rose, Syrah and an incredible Cabernet Merlot 1996.



Wonderful foresight by Tim who bought it way back in the 90s especially for us (I think)!

The group are obvious wine connoisseurs as they all picked the Cabernet Merlot as the pick of the bunch! As usual a lovely social evening amongst friends

Next meeting is at Roger & Chris Griffiths' home on Thursday 9th December.

Late Afternoon Wine Group (LAWG): Margaret Hawkes 022 637 6402
[marg and tony@msn.com](mailto:marg_and_tony@msn.com)

The Late Afternoon Wine Group met at Sharon & Craig Burleigh's home on 7 October with the theme – "wines we might not have tasted before". Following excellent advice from the supplier, we tasted 5 interesting wines. 3 white wines - Fiano from Puglia Italy; Chenin Blanc from Gisborne, Gruner Veltliner from Marlborough; and 2 red wines - Valpolicella Ripasso from Verona Italy and a Carignan from France. As most of us had never tasted these wines before, there was lively debate on taste, aroma, texture and favourites and all of the wines ranked favourably. We all had a different "wine of the night" with the Fiano and Chenin Blanc in competition for the whites and the two reds ranking very close.

A very enjoyable afternoon tasting something quite different. As Ernest Hemingway said "wine and friends are a great blend"!

The next meeting of the LAWG will be held on Tuesday 11 November at 4 pm.
Host: Elizabeth Henry

If unable to attend please let Elizabeth know on 04 299 2090

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

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	John & Lesley Miller	021 0221 6599
			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.