

THE THAMES PROBUS CLUB NO 1140

Inaugural meeting was 26th July 1990

FOUNDATION MEETING: 14TH AUGUST 1990

Accredited and Registered with PCSF on the 9th October, 1990



Regular Meetings: Second Tuesday each month

Venue: Richmond Villas Lounge
82 Richmond Street,

Thames Bulletin Issue number 381

PRESIDENT: ... SHIRLEY MURPHY ... 027 7771542

Secretary: Pat Fargher ... 868 5663 or 021 02605455

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 8th April, 2025. at ... 10am...

Annual Subscriptions are now due ASAP!

Full Membership is \$30...Joining Fee \$10...Non Active \$15... payment to:

The Thames Probud Club Westpac Thames 03 0458 0163522 00

Do add your name and just what the payment is for or bring cash to our April meeting.

Thoughts from our President:

Thank you for your heartfelt confidence in electing me as your 2025 Club president. I will endeavour to continue on the fine Probian traditions and goals of this club in spite of my shaky start with a broken wrist. My committee welcomes your ongoing feedback and support as the year unfolds. Be kind to yourself and each other.

*Sincerest best wishes always
Shirley*

*At the 2025 AGM Barbara passed on the Probud Chain of Office to Shirley Murphy
Now it is pleasing to announce the team for the 2025 to 2026 year:*



President: Shirley Murphy

Immediate Past President: Barbara Shaw

Treasurer: Alex Shirley

Secretary and Editor: Pat Fargher.

All members will share the responsibility of arranging our Speakers:

Chris and Colin Hovell will organise Morning Tea & Luncheons.

Trips & Film Outings: Margaret Nankivell, with support. **Almoner:** Thelma Chantrey

All will go together with special help from Frank Thornton, Glenice Hull and Judy Vedder-Price as well as Gordon & Norm who stepped down from committee but will both continue being helpful as the reliable Probians they are.

We have appreciated June and Joan who for a number of years shared Greeting us nicely on arrival, but now June Baigent will step down and Joan Flynn will continue. Though, Joan will happily step aside when someone wants to volunteer for the task.

Mini Speaker : Alex Shirley

MAIN SPEAKER: Peter Coatsworth 'Walking one end of the North Island to the other'

Monthly luncheon : Taste Bud Café ...by Aero View Nursery where parking is spacious

Membership: We are looking forward to welcoming two new members to our Club
Gwen Lee, introduced by Chris Hovell
and Jill Maw, introduced by Judy Newmarch.

Sadly Marie Hayhurst is now in the hospital care side of Tararu District home

Monday, 14th April Rotary Pot Luck Dinner/Meeting at the Bridge Club in Brown Street, a very relaxed affair. Bring a plate & any alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverage you wish to consume.

Arrival time is 5.45pm with a start time of between 6-6.15pm. **There are 14 registered to go now.**



TRIPS & TREATS: Mark your calendar NOW for Tuesday 22nd as our April film outing is a new release! 'The Penguin Lessons' at 10 am. Margaret will have her clipboard to collect names as numbers attending matters \$15 & \$3 for coffee...Correct money or Eftpos

Always remember a thoughtful donation for the driver when carpooling ... as it is appreciated.

March 26th we had a perfect Thames Coast drive to be together for lunch at the Royal Hotel at Tapu

MARGARET

Looked after us
so very well !



March 2025 Main Speaker: Peter Forde ... Speaking on the commissioning of Power stations on the Waikato River as an electrical engineer ...

Peter introduced himself with a shy smile in recalling advice from his daughter when he mentioned to her he was to be speaking at Probus...

"Don't be too graphic, keep it simple... or you will bore them to tears. Being born in London during the war years his family life was disrupted when they were evacuated ... he and his siblings were placed in different hostels for 5 years ... then Peter spent time in a Doctor Barnardo House for a while before eventually being able to join his three Aunties at their large Estate... Meanwhile his Mother had been manpowered to work on spitfire radio equipment ... their street had been severely bombed and sadly they were not allowed to return there. His father's influence on Peter, by reading

Sherlock Homes and poetry to him, led to a lot of grammar school years being spent at the library... an interest in Math's developed and he became an engineering cadet ... watching turbines ... Boats interested him ... had 4 years at sea where he helped a New Zealander with his razor problem who in appreciation suggested New Zealand needed Peter! Through that contact Peter did indeed find his way to Wellington and eventually to his work at the Arapuni Power Station; a Government built hydroelectric station on the Waikato River, fairly close to Hamilton. It plays an important part in the voltage supply to the city and Peter helped increase that supply from 75% to 90% ? ... as he delved into detail his daughter had jokingly steered him away from ...

Then he left talking of work and shared his musical skill with a presentation of two soft love songs... 'Dance Me to the End of Love' and 'Autumn Leaves'...

Peter then responded well to a good number of questions from the floor and President Shirley thanked him with a gift for sharing his interesting life with an appreciative Probus audience.

As Shirley closed the March General meeting, which had followed the AGM ... Colin amused us with this story of growing strawberries in the village's annual competition ... "People claimed they put fertiliser on their strawberriess ... it sure surprised us ... as we always put cream on ours"

The contents of this bulletin are private and confidential ... and for Probus use only. Pat.