



1990

THE THAMES PROBUS CLUB

Proudly the 1140th Probus Club, registered in

Foundation Meeting: 14th August, 1990

PSPL reference number is : 59311

Regular Meetings: **Second Tuesday each month**

Venue: Richmond Villas Lounge
82 Richmond Street, Thames

Bulletin Issue number 384

President: SHIRLEY MURPHY ... 027 777 1542

Secretary: Pat Fargher ... 07 868 5663 or 021 0260 5455

Next Meeting : ... TUESDAY, 8th JULY, 2025. AT 10 AM ...

President's Thoughts:

"Winter's certainly well and truly here hope you are all managing to keep warm and healthy and your heat pumps are working well. Your committee's plans for our 35th Anniversary monthly meeting on 12 August are well underway. This meeting will begin at 10 am but the finishing time will be around 1.15 pm following some entertainment, fun, a catered lunch and plenty of time to mix & mingle with old and new friends and guests. Further details will follow during July meeting and banking details are highlighted below.

Our Club film outing to see the newly released "Four Love Letters" on Thursday 24 July should be a real treat - please join us if you can - remember there are only 25 seats in our quaint Leftbank Theatre."

Shirley

Important to note ... We will be celebrating our 35th Anniversary

... at Richmond Village on Tuesday August 12th ...

Join in at 10 am and stay for a main meal...

The cost will be \$ 35 per person

Payment is needed at our July meeting or may be paid ASAP to:

The Thames Probus Club Westpac Thames 03 0458 0163522 00

July Mini Speaker ... Jill Maw ...

July Main Speaker ... Robert Brouwer ... Department of Conservation.

Monthly luncheon ... Thai Restaurant Pollen Street ...

Membership Attendance at our June 2025 meeting was 35, 8 apologies and 2 visitors

Please note an important moment at that meeting;

President Shirley Murphy proposed a motion to adopt the revised Probus Constitution and Standing Resolutions; Seconded by Colin Hovell and approved by all 35 members in attendance.

TRIPS & TREATS: The next film outing will be Thursday 24th of July... new to be released on that day ... Four Letters of Love ... Put your name down on Margaret's Clipboard at the next meeting. Pierce Brosnan, Helena Bonham Carter & Gabrielle Byrne are the actors in a heartfelt, deeply moving novel ...

Also our club was well represented at the Hauraki Probus Luncheon celebrating their 24th Anniversary. Chris, Colin, Alex and Norm, who was a Past President of the Hauraki club, attended and enjoyed the day. Shirley, Pat, Margaret, Alex, Chris & Colin responded to a committee members' invitation to attend the Mid-Winter Luncheon of the Bonanza Club and were made most welcome.

Photos below are from the May 29th Maritime Museum visit & lunch at the Refinery in Paeroa enjoyed by 18 members and 2 family friends, thank you Margaret...



Mini Speaker: Gwen Lee ... gave an insight to her background of a healthy and busy farm life in Aria, speaking of harder times that resonated with many members. Walking a mile to catch the school bus ... leaving home at 8 am and not returning until around 5 pm... "I didn't like school!" Gwen stated emphatically, saying she always wanted to stay home with her much loved animals and she longed to have her very own horse. Having a strong determination she got on with her happy life and in the interim found a way to meet her dream by begging or borrowing horses from willing neighbours. A lively little lass she recalled being placed in a cream can for safety & of being one of six in their small home, where bedtime meant topping and tailing and how she had persuaded her Mum to allow her to leave school to work in a Boarding House, owned by relations.

Gwen moved on to Te Puke where her husband worked for the power board and enjoyed having her family of four keeping her on their toes ... but once they moved on the couple found Motorhomes became a pleasure for them and they have travelled all round NZ, settling here in Thames about 18 years ago. Thank you Gwen and we hope you enjoy meeting new friends in Thames Probus, along with sharing more time with those you already know.



June 2025 Main Speaker ... Shirley introduced Kylee Gunn whose mural paintings in Thames are much admired and appreciated by us all. Showing her interest in Thames history she has created an amazing selection all around ; Sir Keith Park at the aerodrome, Matatoki School, Donkin's Austin Car display in Walters St and so many more ...

A first awareness of her painting skills was as a 6 year old when her 'ladybird' created such a lot of attention at her small school of only 18 students and later when about 12 she remembered winning a painting competition. Then at High School she felt lucky to win a Department of Conservation painting competition.

Her father was a carpenter and a house painter and he fondly taught her the discipline of the care and cleaning of paint brushes, which she still appreciates learning. Her love of family was very

noticeable as she introduced her daughter Ember, who was on a break from her university studies. Ember recalled having been encouraged, along with her siblings to write notations on mum's canvas to blend into any painting she was working on. Now hanging on the walls at home they are incredibly pleasurable and she also mentioned modelling as a suffragette for an historic painting which is on display at the Thames Museum. Kylee mostly works in water colours but when time allows loves working in oils. Responding warmly to questions we learnt that she sometimes uses scaffolding and ladders and consequently needed to attend a few days course in Hamilton to gain a Traffic Management

Certificate. Both mother and daughter were full of smiles and circulated warmly with members while enjoying Norm's scones during morning tea.

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... and for Probus use only. Pat.*

