

WELLINGTON EASTERN SUBURBS PROBUS CLUB

18th August 2026

Newsletter 288

Committee

Marie Pearce

President

Shirley Blackie

Vice President

Val Norrish

Secretary

Peter Chik

Finance

Brian Cattermole

Newsletter Editor

Annette Barnes

Guest Speakers

Gillian Chitty

Committee

Chrissy Gall

Committee

June Inkpen

Committee

Ann Morris

Committee

Hilda Steadman

Committee

Simon Reynolds

Committee

Jean Glen

Almoner

Report on meeting held on 12th August 2026

Club Membership	55	Attendance	34
Apologies	7		

President Marie welcomed members to the meeting.

Peter showed videos of the walking group on their recent walk. He then demonstrated how he had photographed a map of the 1960's pubs of Wellington hanging on the club wall and applied AI technology to provide an update on which pubs had closed, and a history of those still operating. AI can produce the information in seconds. He then discussed the controversy that AI data centres with their high usage of electricity and water are causing all around the World.

Financial A reminder to members who have not paid their subs of \$40 that they are now due. Please pay by cash or internet banking. Morning tea \$5 – paid at the door.

CLUB BANK ACCOUNT:

Wellington Eastern Suburbs: 02-0520-0153465-00

CLUB MICRO WEBSITE:

[HTTP://PROBUSSOUTHPACIFIC.ORG/MICROSITES/WELLINGTONEASTERNSUBURBS](http://PROBUSSOUTHPACIFIC.ORG/MICROSITES/WELLINGTONEASTERNSUBURBS)

Just click on the above link to access the website.

CLUB EMAIL ADDRESS:

wellingtoneasternsuburbsm@probusclubs.com.au

End of Year Party

A booking has been made for the end of year party to be held at The Pines at 6pm on 9th December. The problem being that we have no-one willing to organize the event. A discussion regarding the possibility of having a lunch at the Pines or perhaps a catered event at the Bowling Club ended with no decision as whichever alternative is decided upon we still need an organizer. The main problem for an event at the Pines is the organization of transport to and from the event. Whilst ideas are welcomed the best scenario is a volunteer to organize the party, or the transport to and from the Pines.

Guest Speaker

Guest speaker **Jane van der Wilt**, co-owner of Taskmasters, began her talk by explaining that there are three phases in life: wanting things, accumulating things, and eventually letting things go. When the time comes to downsize or declutter, she suggested starting early and seeking help from family, friends, neighbours, community groups, charities, schools, and other organisations. Jane advised beginning by deciding what is most important to keep, then focusing on the remaining items. She recommended the “15-minute rule”: choose one small area and spend just 15 minutes sorting it. Have plenty of plastic bags, cartons, boxes, and marking pens ready, and sort unwanted items according to where they will go, such as family, charity shops, auction houses, or recycling. She also encouraged members to take stock as they go by asking: How did I acquire this? Why did I buy it? What does it mean to me? Do I still want to keep it? An objective helper can be useful when deciding what should stay and what can go.

Jane suggested breaking items into categories such as kitchenware, books, clothes, paperwork, furniture, and photographs. She noted that 85% of clothes in people’s wardrobes have not been worn in the past three years, and that on average only about 5% are worn regularly. She also discussed the traditional china cabinet, observing that tastes have changed and younger generations often do not place the same value on items treasured in the past. Areas that can easily be forgotten during a clean-out include the garage, garden shed, and loft. Jane also pointed out that while goods can be placed in paid storage, this can be expensive.

Taskmasters can assist with decluttering, or manage the whole process, including helping people move to a new home.



Birthday Wishes

Happy birthday in September to:

John Jenner	9 th	Jan McNamara	16 th
Jenny Raven	21 st	Simon Reynolds	22 nd

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Walking Group



The walking group meet each Monday at 10:30am weather permitting. The walk is approximately 1 hour (about 4km) followed by coffee and a chat at a convenient café. Starting venue advised by email on Saturday evening prior to the Monday walk.

Contact: Simon Reynolds 0278136950 simonofporirua@yahoo.com

Apple Computer & iPad Group

Meet after the monthly Probus meeting, second Wednesday of each month. The group started as an iPad group but has evolved into an iPhone and technology group.



Contact: Peter Chik **0211870672** peter.chik@gmail.com

Cinema Group



The cinema group meet every 1st Tuesday in the month. The next film will be on Tuesday 1st September. The August movie was 'Colours of Time' at Lighthouse Cuba.

Contact: Anne Morris **0272213901**
anneimelda.morris@gmail.com

Lunch Group

The lunch group meet every month. The next lunch is on Wednesday 26th August at 12 noon at Hotel Cataline, 28 Stewart Duff Drive, Rongotai (the site of the old Spruce Goose)

Bookings essential. **Contact: Chrissy Gall 388 6786**



Almoner

If you are aware of any members who are suffering ill-health, please contact our almoner:

Jean Glen 934 8107 johnjean4425@gmail.com

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th September at Seatoun Bowling club, Dundas St, Seatoun at 10am.

Guest Speaker

The guest speaker for September is Dr Aine McCoy from Peninsular Medical Centre. Her talk is entitled "Preserving the Past: A glimpse into the oral Archives of the NZ Medical Women's Association".

Thought for August

Life is like a camera – focus on the good times – develop from the negatives.