



PROBUS NEWSLETTER

Celebrating

PROBUS MONTH

OCT 26

Howick East Combined Probus Club

Gordy's Gossip



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Subscriptions

02 0168 0277062 00

TRIPS

02 0168 0277062 01

It was suggested that, instead of our usual Friday walk, we take the train from Panmure to Swanson to experience the new City Rail Link. Tom organised that we meet at the bus shelter by the Howick Little Theatre to catch the 9.30am bus to Panmure Station in time to catch the train to our destination. At Swanson we would have lunch at the cafe housed in the old railway station building, then on our way back to Panmure we would get off at the new stations Maungawhau.... Karanga-a-Hape....and Te Waihorotiu.... to check them out. After that we would take the next train onto Panmure to take the bus back to where we started by the Howick Little Theatre, arriving by mid-afternoon. Everything went to plan, and all thirteen of us had a fantastic day out. Thanks Tom.

Fun Facts: The CRL was planned for in 2013, construction started in 2018, the new line was opened to passengers on Sunday 13 September 2026. The train is six carriages long with a capacity for nine carriages, if and when required. I counted eight railway crossings on our trip where barrier arms stopped cars from crossing when the train came through. With these long trains of six or more carriages and only a fifteen minute gap between trains, there wouldn't be much time between the back of one train and the front of the next. Pity the motorist!!

The ride on the longest escalator in NZ at the Karang-a-Hape station was exciting, and the fact that there were two more escalators needed to get up to road level gave you some idea of how deep the 3.5 kilometre-long twin tunnels were. The cost of the CRL that was estimated at 2.5 billion NZD in 2013 ended up at 5.5 billion in 2026.

You can't help but be impressed with what has been achieved and with the planning and quality of the materials and workmanship.

.....So, if you have a couple of hours to spare, I suggest you do what we did. Don't forget to take your Hop Card. The whole trip is free.....

Gordon

***October is Probus Month and
we're celebrating by wearing
blue and yellow.***

DOOR GREETERS
Jan Foothead
Julia Forsyth
Please report
by 9.30am

NEXT PROBUS MEETING
Tuesday 20 October

**FUN
FRIENDSHIP
AND FELLOWSHIP
IN RETIREMENT

Staying connected
with PROBUS**

September Speaker Julia Banks



It isn't difficult to write today's article about "our very own"

Julia Banks as we have been friends for almost 40 years and I have seen her many talents rise and multiply over these years of wonderful friendship.

Julia is a multi talented lady with a magical way with words, a wicked sense of humour and a great propensity to see comedy in life's every day happenings. Putting all her talents together, words, music and comedy, she has produced a fun and highly entertaining one person show.

From her beginnings in Palmerston North, with song writing and performing, to script writing for radio 1ZB in Auckland. From there she joined Howick Little Theatre where, as well as performing in many shows, she put her skills to writing her version of the show "Hello Hello" and other shows.

She then joined Harlequin Theatre, once again as a performer but also as a script writer. Her fun version of "Cinderella - a Girl of Today" was a huge success and has been bought by the play bureau and performed here in NZ and overseas. This was followed by "Hercules, The Panto" and "Phantom of The Panto". All huge box office hits.

Several years ago, Julia invented a word game called "Squabbles" which was bought and manufactured by Holsom and sold world wide. So many untold talents, from portrait painting, illustrating books, writing songs and poems etc. etc. Her 'leisure' time is spent singing with Trevor in the City of Auckland Singers for 30 plus years and with the Eno Sisters trio for 20 years.

Her show today encompassed all of her many talents and we, her audience, were engrossed for a full, fun hour. Thank you Julia, you're a star !!!

..... Maureen Saunders

Visit to Planetarium

TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER

Meet Nixon Hall, Sale Street

Bus leaves 9 am Sharp

Cost: \$25 pp

Visit Eden Gardens

Enjoy a Coffee

(own expense)

Lunch at Joe's Cafe

(own expense)

Pay on line:

Trips A/c: 02 0168 0277062 01

(noting your name & Planetarium)



"It isn't a normal fitness tracker. This calculates how many glasses of wine you've earned!"

October Speaker Rob Harley



Rob Harley, author, journalist and documentary maker

is one of NZ's most experienced current affairs investigators working in war zones and trouble spots all over the world.

He has faced personal challenges as a consequence of this work and now speaks through his books and presentations about the courage and positive life-affirming attitudes of people he has met. He celebrates people who have chosen to make a difference for those who may be in challenging circumstances. These are stories of hope, determination and the resilience of the human spirit.

Rob's books will be for sale at the meeting.

.... URGENT ...

If you have put your name down for the Planetarium trip and have yet to pay, please do so ASAP.

Wow ! the 'Discover Auckland' group are sure getting to know our wonderful city !!



Our Probiants pictured at the new Karanga-A-Hape Station.



Three 'Dudes' enjoying lunch at the Swanson Station Cafe.

Armed with their hop cards, a keen group caught the 72X bus from Howick Little Theatre at 9.30am to Panmure Station. Then boarded the 9.55am train from Panmure to Swanson via the city centre and the new rail link. After a walk around Swanson they enjoyed a coffee in the great cafe at the Swanson Station. Then it was the return journey by train and bus to Howick. A good trip which was enjoyed by all.



Happy Probiants on a trip to the Titanic Exhibition



70 YEAR OLD TEXTING CODE

ATD --- At The Doctor
BFF --- Best Friend Fell
BTW --- Bring The Wheelchair
BYOT --- Bring Your Own Teeth
DWI --- Driving While Incontinent

FWIW --- Forgot Where I Was
GHA --- Got Heartburn Again
ROFLACGU --- Rolling On Floor
Laughing And Can't Get Up
OMSG --- Oh My, Sorry Gas
TTYL --- Talk To You Louder

WELFARE
Welfare/Sickness
Issues
Please inform
Maureen Saunders
Phone:
021 2598308



GENEALOGY
Alan Sheath is
available to help
you with genealogy.
Alan's phone: 0274 389100
alan.sheath@gmail.com

*"My therapist told me
the way to achieve true
inner peace is to finish
what I start. So far I've
finished two bags of
M & Ms and a chocolate
cake.
I feel better already!"*



Brian Stocking
is available for
JP duties on
Club days from
9.30 a.m.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS
or PHONE NO.**
Please inform
Rob Hargreaves
of any changes
airheadrob@gmail.com
Phone: 533 8283

**FUN
FRIENDSHIP
AND
FELLOWSHIP**

I asked my friend to spell wonton backwards he said "not now".



"A bird doesn't need willpower to fly.
A flower doesn't need willpower to bloom.
If people were meant to lose weight,
they wouldn't need willpower!"

Special Activity Groups

*Our activity groups are still
looking for new members. This
is a great way to meet new
friends.*

*If you would like to try
something new, contact the
coordinator for details.*

*Maybe you have a special
interest not currently covered
by our groups. Contact Tom
Owen, Secretary, to have a
chat.*

Wear
Blue and
Yellow!

Celebrating
PROBUS
1 - 31 October 2026
Month