Combined Probus Club of Hutt Inc.

NEWSLETTER October, 2026

President: Sally Selwood

Secretary: Marion Swales, 4 Smallfield Lane Upper Hutt 5018.
Treasurer: Nanette Lowe

Email: combinedprobusclubofhutt8@gmail.com

A Few Words from our President

October is Probus birthday month, and many clubs are celebrating with membership drives. Our club is a little different! We're very fortunate to have so many people attending our meetings, and welcoming new members helps keep our club interesting, lively and dynamic.

However, there is such a thing as being a victim of our own success! The Committee has decided that we have reached capacity in our great venue, so from now on, anyone wishing to join will need to go on a waiting list. Once our new members are inducted today, and one further member next month, we'll have to wait for a vacancy to arise through a resignation or a member changing from active to non-active status before we can induct a new member. However, we encourage you to still put in an application form as this will determine your position on the waiting list. Visitors are still welcome so do come and check us out!

I know some members enjoy receiving the newsletter and keeping up with what's happening in the club, even if they don't regularly attend meetings. Changing to non-active status is one way to do this, and the added bonus is that you no longer have to pay subscriptions! So, if you're finding it difficult to get along to meetings but would still like to keep in touch, it might be worth considering.

Sally

Meeting, Monday 10am, 19th October

Membership:	**Ann Barnett** – to be introduced by Mary Anne Mills **Lynnely Mathews** - to be introduced by Janice Wano **Campbell and Pam Sutherland** - to be introduced by James Wheeler **Pamela Banks** to be introduced by Mary Rowse **Bill Draper** has died
Life and Times:	**Des Schollum**
Speaker:	**Libby Clark** Libby grew up in Wellington. Her main career was in education but since retiring she has spent most of her time as a volunteer in Zealandia, (the fully-fenced sanctuary, home in Karori to many of New Zealand's rarest wildlife).
Topic:	**"From Cot Case to Show Case: Zealandia and its Impact"**
Introduced by:	**Jenny Thompson**
Thanked by:	**Alastair White**

Christmas Lunch – Monday 23 November

The end of the year is fast approaching, and our meeting on 16 November will be our last for 2026. But before we wind down for the year, we have our annual Christmas lunch to look forward to! We'll be gathering at *The Pines in Houghton Bay on Monday 23rd November (11.30 for 12 noon start)* for what is always a great occasion.

The Pines provides an amazing meal for the very reasonable price of *$46 per person*, and there's also a bar available if you fancy a drink (at your own expense, of course!).

Let's make this a great turnout and enjoy a lovely lunch together to round off the year.

Please put your name on the sign-up sheet and indicate whether you can offer a lift to others, and how many people you can take. If you need a ride, please make that clear too, so we can make sure everyone has a way of getting there.

Payment can be made into the *Probus bank account (details below), with a note that it's for the Christmas lunch*. We'll confirm final numbers at our meeting on 16th November, so please make sure you're signed up by then.

I look forward to seeing lots of you there!
Sally

Badges..

A plea to **wear our name badges**. We have a number of new members and it is very helpful if we could all make an effort to wear name badges at meetings and interest groups.
And their dots:

- Orange dots mean that person is a co-ordinator of an interest group
- Blue indicates the person is a member of the Committee
- Green indicates someone is a new member

Photos Wanted for Pre-Meeting Slide Presentations

If you have photos from Probus activities, suitable for showing on the screen prior to our Monthly meetings, please email them to Mike Fackney on mfackney@yahoo.com (preferred method) with a brief caption. Alternatively, they can be sent by text, WhatsApp or to his Messenger.

Payments

We can accept cash or payments direct to our Bank Account.

Account is: COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF HUTT

Please add: Particulars: Surname
Code: Initials or first Name
Reference: "Subs" (or reason for payment).

Changes to Contact Details

To ensure that newsletters etc. reach each nominated member on time, it is essential that our membership records are always correct. Your help is vital in keeping these records up to date.

If you become aware of any changes to a member's contact details, please send the relevant details to Colin Dyer (colinpdyer@gmail.com).

Emails are the preferred method for notifying these details. However, if for any reason you are unable to send an email, please call Colin.

Membership Applications

If you need an application form for a potential new member, please request this from the Secretary. Once the form has been completed, it should be returned to her.

Note: we are now at capacity so new applications may have to go on a waiting list.

New Name Badges

If you require a new club name badge (which should be worn on all Probus occasions) please contact the Club Treasurer. Cost $15, magnetic or safety pin fastening (please specify).

Club Almoner

Liz Palmer is now our Club Almoner. If you know of anyone in need of support during sickness or bereavement, please contact Liz at liz@thepalmers.co.nz

Club Website

Members are encouraged to use the Club website, which contains a wealth of information about the club and its activities, including the newsletters. The website can be accessed by typing 'Combined Probus Club of Hutt' on the internet. The club membership list is password protected; however, members can obtain the password from your committee.

The website also contains recent and archived photos of events. Members who do not wish to have their photos included on the website are kindly asked to inform the photographer at the time the photos are being taken.

Probus Travel Insurance Programme

As members of Probus you are eligible to use the Probus travel insurance programme. However, the Committee urges you to do your homework and consider whether or not this is an appropriate scheme for your needs. The link is below:
https://www.probussouthpacific.org/pages/travel_insurance_landing_nz_new

Also at the Meeting

Jigsaw Joys

Jigsaws will be available as usual.
Contact: Owen Rowse, rowse@xtra.co.nz

Book, Books, Books.

Many of us have books which we have enjoyed, are not likely to read again, but do not wish to consign to the rubbish bin.

If you wish, bring some (maximum 5 on any one meeting) on Monday and place them on the table provided. They are then available for anyone who wishes to take one or more. No money involved, just preferable to throwing away.

Any left after the meeting will be taken for the Rotary Book sales and any left after that will be donated to the Heretaunga Book Fair, a charitable trust. (David Gledhill).

Interest Group Activities and Outings

Participation in these Interest Groups is one of the most important activities available to members to keep the club thriving. We would always welcome suggestions regarding possible new Interest Groups. The Committee is available to provide whatever help you need to get a new group active.

Notes:
If you wish to participate in an activity, *please* write your name and contact number on the list on the Activities Table before the end of the meeting. *If later you find you cannot participate or have not put your name on the list, **please** let the organiser know as soon as possible.*

The purpose of providing phone numbers on the Activity lists at the meeting is for extraordinary changes for the coordinator. If your name is on the list the coordinator will not generally ring you to remind you of the event you have signed up for.

Music Group Secundo

When: Monday 26th October, 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Where: Colin Dyer's home, 2 Laurel Grove, Maungaraki

Music: The theme: *Remembering Vinyl*
Creativity is not only allowed, but also encouraged!
Be prepared to introduce your chosen track(s) to add interest to our listening.
Your choice of music (including introduction) should last max 10 minutes.
Vinyl, YouTube and CDs available

Contact: Please let Colin know you are coming: colinpdyer@gmail.com or sign the list at our monthly meeting.
Newcomers welcome

Fairly Interesting Places

When: Tuesday 27th October

What: Orr House, 132 King's Crescent, Lower Hutt, 11.00 a.m. small cost per head

Lunch: Twist Cafe, cnr Boulcott Street and High Street

Meet: Park on King's Crescent.

Contact: David Gledhill

Ladies, Let's Do Lunch

When: Wednesday 28rd October, 12:30pm

Where: Silverstream Bakery, 2 Whiteman's Road, Silverstream

Contact: Heather Salmon to say you are coming: heather_salmon@xtra.co.nz, or sign on the list at our monthly meeting.
All ladies welcome

Wine Tasters Too!!

When: Wednesday 28th October, 4:30pm

Where: Richard and Chris Perry's home at 60 Kings Crescent
We ask for $10 contribution to the host's costs of wine and snack provision.
Enquiries to Richard Perry

Contact: Richard Perry richbloss@outlook.com

Mah Jong Group

At present this group is up to capacity but we will keep you in touch if spaces become available.

When: Wednesday 28th October, 1:30pm

Where: Kay and Brian Lummis' home, 67A Penrose St

Contact: Kay Lummis, kay@lummis.co.nz

Arts and Crafts

When: Friday, 30th October 1:30pm

Where: This month's Arts and Crafts group will be held at Sandy Fackney's home, 40 Park Road, Belmont. Please let her know if you intend to come.

Arts Contact: Bernard Sang Email: laihinsang@gmail.com

Crafts Contact: Margaret Wilson, Email: m.wilson2@xtra.co.nz

Intrepid Hikers

When: Monday, 2nd November

What: Whareroa Farm hill loop track. Moderate hike approximately 2.5 hrs. If time allows there will a brief visit to neighbouring US Marines Corps Memorial, Camp Russell. Coffee afterwards in Paekākāriki

Meet: Meet at the Whareroa Farm visitor's centre carpark at 9:50am for 10:00am start. Or Duckpond in Avalon at 9:15am for carpooling to Mackay's Crossing.

Bring: Walking gear, warm clothes, wind breaker – Bring for water and food. Wear your Probus badge.

Contact: Please confirm attendance via Whatsapp.
Any questions ring Jos van Herk

e-Tech Group

Huge thanks to Mary Rowse for hosting our monthly meeting. Unfortunately, our numbers often exceed capacity as the group has become very popular. We have therefore reluctantly decided to limit numbers to 20 per meeting.

When: Tuesday, 3rd November, 2:00 - 4:00pm

Where: Mary Rowse's home: 89 Wai-iti Cres

Koha: A koha towards afternoon tea is appreciated

Topics: Editing Photos and Podcasts

Contact: Our numbers will be limited to the first 20 registered. Please sign the sheet at our meeting, or let Mary know you're coming: maryrowse@xtra.co.nz
We will confirm your attendance

Current Affairs and Future Issues Discussion Group

When: Thursday 5th November, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Where: Sally Selwood's home, 30 Myrtle Street

Topic: Table Topics: 20 minute discussions of a range of current issues

Cost: Nil - but a koha toward afternoon tea can be made.

Bring: Just your name badge

Contact: Please let Sally know you are coming: sally_selwood@xtra.co.nz (if you haven't signed up at the Probus meeting)
Newcomers very welcome

Pétanque Group

When: Friday, 6th November, 1:30pm

Where: Avalon Park Piste (near the pavilion)
New players most welcome (very casual!) No previous playing experience needed

Contact: Mike Keehan, mike.keehan@xtra.co.nz

Dinner for Eight on the Eighth

When: Sunday 8th November, 6:00pm.
This is the last dining evening for us for this year. It will resume in March

Where: Different members choose the restaurants.

Contact: Ian Smith, Email: ianelizabeth2@outlook.com.

Ramblers Group

When: Monday 9th November

Where: River trail alongside Hutt River and Royal Wellington Golf Course. Further details re transport, parking, and name of café for lunch afterwards to be advised.

Bring: Water and money for lunch; gold card.

Contact: Mike Keehan, mike.keehan@xtra.co.nz.

Bookies Two

When: Monday, 9th November, 2:00 – 4:00pm

Where: Mary Anne Mills' home, 21 Marina Grove, Lower Hutt

Contact: Mary Rowse, maryrowse@xtra.co.nz
It's helpful to let Mary Anne know if you will be attending or not: maryannemills@gmail.com

Stitch and Sew

When: Tuesday, 10th November, 9:30am

Host: Marilyn Lawrence's home, 63b Hautana Street, Woburn.

Contact: Marilyn Lawrence, marilynlawrencenz@gmail.com

Ladies' Lunch

When: Wednesday, 11th November, 11:30am

Where: Chocolate Dayz in Days Bay

Cost: Cabinet food and menu.

Contact: Liz Palmer, liz@thepalmers.co.nz

Men's Lunch

When: Wednesday, 11th November, 12 noon

What: Café lunch

Where: Judgeford Golf Club, Pauatahanui

Meet: At the café

Cost: $10 - 30

Contact: RSVP to David Gledhill

Travel Group

When: Wednesday, 11th November, 2.30 – 4.30pm

Where: Heather Salmon's home at Villa 8, Summerset Boulcott, 1A Boulcott St.

Topic: Tell us about a musical event / extravaganza and its heart-warming and memorable impact.

Contact: Mike and Jenny Keehan, mike.keehan@xtra.co.nz.
Please let us know via the Sign Up page or email if you will be attending.

Lighthouse Cinema Group

When: Thursday, 12th November 10:30am for 11:00am showing.

What: **Black Sheeps** - a NZ comedy horror - a young scientist investigates a dangerous new pathogen liked to the events of the first film where killer sheep emerged from a sheep station.

Cost: $13.50 for Light Club members and includes a free hot drink.

Contact: Liz Palmer, liz@thepalmers.co.nz

Local Rides

When: Thursday 12th November, 1:30pm.

What: Two hour rides in Probus members' cars for anyone who likes being driven.

Where: Drive round Whiteman's Valley, approx 2 hours

Meet: By arrangement

Contact: David Gledhill

e-Bike Group

When: Thursday, 19th November

What: We will cycle into Wellington morning tea in Thorndon and continue on to Oriental Bay and beyond depending on the day.
Lunch at an appropriate place before heading home.
"Don't buy upgrades ride up grades"

Meet: At the Petone Coffee Cart "Flying Bean" for a 10:00 am departure

Contact: Graham Wigley

Wine Tasters

This group is over-subscribed and we cannot accommodate new members at this time.

When: Thursday, 19th November, 4:30pm

Contact: Mary Rowse, maryrowse@xtra.co.nz

Garden Group

When: Friday 20th November

What: 13 Chilton Grove, home of Jenny and Graham Wigley
There will be a quiz so bring a pen and paper

Meet: 1:30pm. Note: most of the street is school parking so will need to park in Mahoe St. There are some parks down their drive for those who need to be closer.

Cost: $3 towards afternoon tea.

Contact: Colleen Baker

Book Group

This group is currently full

When: Wednesday 21st October 10am -12 noon

Where: Lyn Dyer's home, 4 Trinity Ave

Contact: Lyn Dyer

Next Meeting: Monday, 16th November, 2026 (last for this year)