Combined Probus Club of Hutt Inc.

NEWSLETTER September, 2026

President: Sally Selwood

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

Email: combinedprobusclubofhutt8@gmail.com

The President's Preamble

Thank you, David, for taking this month's meeting. I am in Christchurch attending my sister-in-law's funeral.

Our annual Christmas lunch will be held at The Pines in Houghton Bay on Monday 23rd November at 12 noon. If you haven't been to The Pines in recent years, we can thoroughly recommend it. They provide an excellent smorgasbord at a very reasonable price, and it is a great venue for our Christmas get-together. The cost this year is $46 each. I know it seems incredibly early to be thinking about Christmas, but we want to get the date into your calendar now so you can keep the day free.

Sally

Meeting, Monday 10am, 21st September

Membership:	**Julia Johnson** to be introduced by Kathryn and Murray Charlesworth **Anne Pearce** to be introduced by Mary Rowse **Erica Speden** has died. **Norma Cropp** has died
Life and Times:	**Sally Davis**
Speaker:	**Asher Emanuel** Asher Emanuel is a writer and lawyer based in Wellington. He began work on The Valley in 2018, alongside a career in law.
Topic:	**"The Valley – Crime and Punishment in a New Zealand City"** The culmination of over two years of field research and hundreds of hours of interviews, Asher Emanuel has written a recently published book that follows three Hutt Valley men through courtrooms, prison, hospital, rehab, boarding houses and welfare offices. He will have copies of the book at the meeting available to buy.
Introduced by:	**Mary Anne Mills**
Thanked by:	**Phil Benge**

Dots on Badges

Ever wondered why some people have coloured dots on their name tags?

- 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 or 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, give Colin a call.

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.

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.

From time to time there's a need to find members to pop in to visit a sick or lonely member, or maybe give someone a lift. Liz would appreciate anyone willing to help in this way to put their name on the sheet on the booking table - she doesn't anticipate this to be at all onerous, but obviously the more who offer the less often you will be needed, and it gives Liz greater scope to choose a visitor.

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.

Wine Tasters Too!!

When: Wednesday 23rd September, 4:00pm

Where: James and Robyn Wheeler's home at 639 High Street
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 23rd September, 1:30pm

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

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

Ladies, Let's Do Lunch

When: Wednesday 23rd September, 12:30pm

Where: Revive Café, 2 Lochy Street, Petone

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

Arts and Crafts

When: Friday, 25th September 1:30pm

Where: The September gathering will be hosted by Lyn Dyer at 4 Trinity Ave
Please let her know if you are attending.

Arts Contact: Bernard Sang Email: laihinsang@gmail.com4.

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

Music Group Secundo

When: Monday 28th September, 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Where: Heather Carew's home, 131 Richmond St, Petone

Music: The theme: *A Bit of Brass!*
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.
YouTube and CDs available

Contact: Please let Heather Carew know you are coming: hcarew@gmail.com, or sign the list at our monthly meeting
Newcomers welcome

Fairly Interesting Places

When: Tuesday 29th September

What: The recently refurbished art gallery, Waikanae (2nd attempt!). Car transport could be available for the short walk from the Waikanae station

Lunch: Joe and Jay Eatery, Mahara Place

Meet: At Alicetown for 9:55ish 83 bus to Wellington then train.

Contact: David Gledhill

Current Affairs and Future Issues Discussion Group

When: Thursday 1st October, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Where: Sally Selwood's home, 30 Myrtle Street

Topic: Table Topics related to the NZ Economy

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, 2nd October, 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

Intrepid Hikers

When: Monday, 5th October

What: Moderate loop walk to Canon's Head in Takapu Recreation Reserve. 2.5 -3 hrs. Visit to Canons Creek viaduct. Coffee afterwards.

Meet: 9:50am for 10:00am start at the car-park at the end of Takapu Rd, Tawa (near the substation).
Or 9:15am at the Duckpond, Avalon for carpooling

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, 6th October, 2:00 - 4:00pm

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

Koha: A koha towards afternoon tea is appreciated

Topics: Taking Better Photos with your Camera

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

Lighthouse Cinema Group

When: Thursday, 8h October 10:30am for 11:00am showing.

What: **"A dash of love"** (Comedy) Julia Piatin (Colours of Time) is a gifted lawyer facing a terminal illness. Deciding it's time to live life on her own terms, she convinces her old school friend to accompany her on a road trip to Spain.

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

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

Dinner for Eight on the Eighth

When: Thursday 8th October, 6:00pm.
September saw a record 51 people dine at 7 restaurants.

Where: Different members choose the restaurants.

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

Ramblers Group

When: Monday 12th October

Where: Harcourt Park vicinity. Further details and name of a café for lunch afterwards to follow.

Bring: Warm clothes and money for lunch

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

Bookies Two

When: Monday, 12th October, 2:00pm

Where: Jaye Howey's home, Apartment A45, Bob Scott Village, 25 Graham St, Petone

Contact: Mary Rowse, maryrowse@xtra.co.nz
It's helpful to let Jaye know if you will be attending: jasmine.m.howey@gmail.com

Stitch and Sew

This group is currently at capacity.

When: Tuesday, 13th October, 9:30am

Host: Jenny Wigley's home, 13 Chilton Grove.

Contact: Marilyn Lawrence, marilynlawrencenz@gmail.com

Ladies' Lunch

When: Wednesday, 141h October, 11:30am

Where: Benedict's Café, Dowse Drive shops, Maungaraki

Cost: Cabinet food and menu.

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

Men's Lunch

When: Wednesday, 14th October, 12 noon

What: Café lunch

Where: Caffiend 233-235 Jackson Street,

Meet: At the cafe

Contact: RSVP to David Gledhill

Travel Group

When: Wednesday, 14th October, 2.30 – 4.30pm

Where: Robyn and Keith Lassey's home at 4 Witako Street

Topic: Somewhere you didn't think you'd enjoy, but it absolutely wowed you (NZ or overseas)

Contact: Mike and Jenny Keehan, mike.keehan@xtra.co.nz.
Please let them know if you will be attending

e-Bike Group

When: Thursday, 15th October

What: The ride for October has yet to be organised but if you would like to join this group, please contact Graham.

Contact: Graham Wigley

Local Rides

When: Thursday 15th October, 1:30pm.

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

Meet: By arrangement

Contact: David Gledhill

Wine Tasters

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

When: Thursday, 15th October, 4:30pm

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

Garden Group

When: Friday 16th October

What: Hamilton Gardens documentary movie

Meet: 12:30pm at the Lighthouse Cinema

Cost: $14.00, includes a hot drink.

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

Speaker Summary for August

Dr Susette Goldsmith, a writer and editor of non-fiction, also conducts research exploring new ways of perceiving, interpreting and safeguarding natural heritage, especially trees. She took us on a virtual walking tour of the Capital's Trees. Her first example compared the trees surrounding the 19th century High Court with those by the 2011 Supreme Court. The former were English oak, the latter a pohutukawa species that was a hybrid of the indigenous Northern rata and the common, non-native pohutukawa. She invited us to think about what that said about changing cultures. She continued with other examples of the historical background of specific Wellington and Hutt Valley trees. Further information can be found in her books Capital Trees (Te Papa Press) and Tree Sense (Massey University Press).
Peter R.

Next Meeting: Monday, 19th October, 2026