



The Milford Probian

Official newsletter of Milford Combined Probos Club

Issue Number 251
February 2026

www.probusmilfordcombined.org.nz

Your 2025 / 2026 Committee			Interest Group Leaders <i>For more information about a Club activity ask:</i>		
President	David Leitch	410 2455	Theatre Lovers	Gael Bosworth	021 0455008
Vice President	Maurice Ellett	021 309886		Rita Ahlers	027 5509837
Secretary	Janine Hummel	410 6437	Outings	Randal Lockie	021 581321
Treasurer	Jim Marshall	021 040 9943	Walking	Dick & Carol Mogridge	021 802705
Membership	Gina Hull	021 2049266	Travel	Brenda Magee	021 0245 4744
Outings	Randal Lockie	021 581 321	Club Speakers	Jeanette McNeil	027 3483266
Guest Speakers	Grant Christianson	021 756 350	Tea Coordinators	Eric & Ngaire Wahlstrom	479 2703
Newsletter	Jane Garrett	027 410 6841		Coleen Carmichael	479 5543
Hospitality	Val Wadsworth	021 609 900		Gayle Lockie	021 177 8894
Welfare	Sue Beachman	021 728 355			
Website/Publicity	Carol Mogridge	027 698 5981			
Past President	Jill Hooks	021 353 861			

Diary of Events

	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026
TRAVEL Brenda Magee 478 3300	Wednesday 4 February 1.00pm	Wednesday 4 March 1.00pm	Wednesday 1 April 1.00pm
MEETINGS	Wednesday 11 February 10.00am	Wednesday 11 March 10.00am	Wednesday 8 April 10.00am
SPEAKERS Grant Christianson 021 756 350	Wednesday 11 February Professor Julian Paton Drive4Hearts	Wednesday 11 March Norman Lodge Japan gift giving culture	Wednesday 8 April Francis Walsh Stories from NZ Maritime Museum
OUTINGS Randal Lockie 021 581 321	Thursday 26 February Goat Island Marine Cntr Warkworth Museum	Wednesday 11 March Club Lunch after meeting	Wednesday 22 April Shorebirds at Miranda
THEATRE Gael Bosworth 021 0455008 Rita Ahlers 027 5509837	Friday 20 February Rose Centre - George Orwell's Animal Farm	Wednesday 18 March Centrestage, Orewa Tootsie	TBA
WALKING Dick and Carol Mogridge 021 802705 or 027 698 5981	Wednesday 25 February 9.30am	Wednesday 25 March 9.30am	Wednesday 29 April 9.30am
COFFEE MORNINGS Val Wadsworth 021 609 900	Monday 16 February 10.15am Supa Nova Café, Milford	Monday 16 March 10.15am Venue TBA	TBA

Club Bank details for making payments online: ASB Browns Bay, Account 12-3042-0377723-0

Happy New Year

The February meeting will be back in the Tawa room at Sunnynook, though the travel group will continue to use the Acacia room. Footwear in the Tawa room has style restrictions - see below.

Tawa Room Floor Rules

Any users of the Tawa Room must **NOT** drag any chairs or tables across the floor. The chair trolley must be used and if need be tables carried by two people. The whiteboards and display boards both have lockable wheels, these **MUST** be unlocked prior to moving. **NO** stiletto heels are to be worn.



If dancers wear high heels they must have the Heel Protectors on the shoe. Any equipment i.e. Drum Kits must be placed on mats provided. There is to be **NO** tap dancing or roller blading

NO tape on the floor

Tawa Room Floor Cleaning

There will be Bona spray mop available in the kitchen for use on the Tawa floor with product in it. Do not refill the bottle, the Community Centre will keep this topped up. Any spills are to be mopped up immediately. Please do not use water on the floor. If you need to sweep the floor there is an anti-static broom in the kitchen cupboard.

Do **NOT** use any type of steam mop as this will damage the floor.

Do **NOT** use a vacuum cleaner on the wooden floor.

Nominations for AGM

Members please note:
In accordance with our Constitution, the President will call for Officer Nominations at the

February meeting on Wednesday 11th.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 11 March 2026.

Please submit nominations to the secretary, Janine Hummel, by 10 February 2026.

David Leitch

Morning Tea Duties



The following members have volunteered for February;

Margaret Berryman Jane Garrett

On the day you need be at Sunnynook

Community Centre by 9.30am. Many thanks

Eric & Ngairé Wahlstrom 479 2703

Coleen Carmichael 479 5543

Gayle Lockie 0211778894



Membership

There will be no further inductions until May 2026.

At our meetings, morning tea is a perfect time to talk to new members with a blue dot sticker on their name tags. To maintain our club records could you please let me know if your address or phone number changes. Please email me on hullgina92@gmail.com with the changes. It is important to send apologies if you are unable to make it to the meeting. Please email hullgina92@gmail.com or if you do not have access to email, send a text message to 021 2049266.

Please ensure you are on time for the meetings. Latecomers disrupt the speaker at the time.

A number of members have had their name tags for a number of years and they could do with a refresh. If you would like me to print you a new membership card, please email me and I will then send it to you. Unfortunately the Club is not in a position to replace the plastic pockets the name tags are held in.

Birthdays for February 2026

Jan Chappell

Patsy Stringer

Norah Turnwald

David Woodward

Cheryl Bartley

Margaret Berryman

Roger Duncan

Mike Fox

Peter Garrett

Gill MacDonald

Jeanette McNeil

Paul Mueller

Happy Birthday to you all, and apologies if we have missed anyone.

Gina Hull



Travel Group



Happy New Year. The first meeting of the Travel Interest Group for the year is on Wednesday 4 February at 1pm at the Sunnynook Community Centre. The Travel Group has been offered the permanent use of the Acacia Room, the room we used in November. The only down side is the lack of a screen but the blank wall works just as well. The upside is that the chairs will be set up for us and the rent is cheaper. If we continue in the Tawa Room we will have to set up the chairs ourselves and move out in the school holidays. **So, from 4 February our new home is the Acacia Room.** Several of you have asked if we could get a speaker from the insurance industry to talk to us about travel insurance. I have had no luck in arranging this but thanks to Peter Garrett we have David Wallace from Allianz coming to our 4 February meeting. Please think up any questions you may have for David, or if you have any particular matters you would like him to address let me know and I will forward them to him. The second speakers are Peter & Jane Garrett who will be talking about their travels in Greenland, Iceland and Faroe Islands. Please remember your name tags and \$3 to cover room hire and afternoon tea, Ian and I look forward to seeing you in the Acacia Room and extend a warm welcome to our newer members.
Brenda Magee, Convener

2026 WORLD Sale

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Speaker's Corner



The February Club speaker is David Leitch and the title of his talk is "Boom, Bust and Boom?"
Jeanette McNeil, Convener

Guest Speaker's Corner



Our February Guest Speaker is Professor Julian Paton. He is a leading, internationally recognised heart researcher and Director of the University of Auckland Heart Research Centre, as well as Co-Director of Putahi Manawa, Healthy Hearts for Aotearoa New Zealand – Centre of Research Excellence.

In his spare time, Professor Paton restores and drives vintage Land Rovers, including the oldest Land Rover in the country - a 1948 Series I. His presentation will be the "Drive4Hearts" experience, which was an 1,800 km charity road trip in the Land Rover in 2025, described as: 'an epic journey from Dunedin to Auckland, traversing some of New Zealand's most beautiful countryside whilst making a tangible difference to children's lives through funding heart research.'
Grant Christianson



Walkers and Talkers

Our first walk for the year will be on Wednesday 25 February at the usual meeting time of 9.30am for 9.45am set off. We will be heading out west and walking around Herald Island. This is a flat, easy, picturesque walk with views of the Waitemata Harbour.

Meet at the Domain, (entrance opposite the fire station), 44a Ferry Parade, Herald Island. Coffee and chat afterwards will be at The Parkhouse, 1 Ripeka Lane, Whenuapai.

Directions from the North Shore: Take State Highway 18 West, towards Waitakere. Take Exit 9 for Brigham Creek Road. At the three roundabouts – take the 2nd exit on the first two and the 1st exit on the third, remaining on Brigham Creek Road. Turn right onto Kauri Road, then right onto Kingsway Road (you are now on the causeway across to Herald Is). At the end of the causeway, take the right fork onto Ferry Road. After 600m turn left into the Domain carpark (opposite the fire station). You may also park on the road. Look forward to seeing you there.

Dick and Carol Mogridge
021 802705 or 027 6985981.

Outings



A big 2026 welcome to everyone.

Our first outing for this year will be on **Thursday 26 February**. We have a full 36 seater coach and a waiting list, so in line with my previous comments in the December Probian, **hopefully everyone will have paid the \$55.00 per person trip cost by the end of January**. If you have overlooked to do so please make the payment right-away and if possible let me know you have done so by txt or email so I can check you off my list before I need to make contact. If you are for any reason now unable to make this outing, please let me know directly so I can contact people on the waiting list. This is very important.

As you will be aware we are going North to the **Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre in Leigh**. We will start our visit in a very civilised manner, with morning tea or coffee after our arrival at the centre. After this interlude we will have a conducted tour of this exciting and important facility. The Marine Discovery Centre have asked us to allow one and a half hours for the morning tea and conducted tour, so that will no doubt fire up our lunch appetites.

Lunch will be what I call a "free-range" affair. The coach will take us to the Warkworth township where there is a good number of cafes, restaurants and even a stunning hotel and it will just be a question of walking around and finding something to eat that takes your fancy - please remember lunch is at your own cost! We will have an hour 15 mins for lunch.

After lunch we will board the coach again and head to **Warkworth Museum and Parry Kauri Park** (the same location for both). The kauri boardwalk takes about 20 mins to complete and there are some steps. The Warkworth Museum is steeped in history and offers something for everyone through wonderful collections and exhibits.

Timings for this outing are as follows:

The coach will depart from the usual spot in the Windsor Park carpark at 9.15am sharp....and will not wait for anyone! Arrival back at the Windsor Park carpark is scheduled for around 4.45pm.

Please ensure you wear your name lanyards and ensure that for all trip bookings I am contacted personally via Text, Email or phone.

As mentioned at the top of this report please make payment into the Club Bank account asap if

you have not paid prior to 31 January. Remember to put your name and Goat Island as details on the payment.

Now after heading North, for the second trip of the year we will head South. We will be going to **Shorebirds in Miranda on Wednesday 22 April** for a real fun day. I am still finalising the details and cost (The cost should be pretty much in line with most of our trips). The plan is to have morning tea on arrival at Shorebirds followed by a 40 minute talk on birds (naturally!) After this talk the coach will take us to Kaiaua for a legendary fish and chips lunch. After lunch we will head back to Shorebirds in Miranda, this time to the hides to view the bird activity first-hand after which we will head home.

I am happy to receive expressions of interest from any club member who would be interested in this outing. As a point of interest our club last visited Shorebirds in November 2015.

Randal Lockie
021 581 321

Getting to Know You Coffee Mornings



The first "gathering" for the year will be at a new cafe in Milford that we will try out this month. For the quieter surroundings, as opposed to the variety of cabinet food. Let's hope the coffee is great.

Monday 16 February - 10.15am
SupaNova Cafe, 116 Kitchener Road, Milford.

It is on the opposite side of the road to Crop, and a short distance along from Dear Friends (I checked out that cafe, but it was too noisy).

Looking forward to seeing some new and old members for the usual chin wag and putting the world to rights. Please let me know if you are intending to come, so I can advise the cafe of the numbers for seating arrangements.

The following month in March, we will meet on Monday 16 March at the same time, the venue to be discussed.

This coffee group is informal and open to all, and therefore open to all suggestions. I only chose Milford when the group was started last July, as it is relatively central and there is good and ample parking available at the nearby mall.

Val Wadsworth
021609900



Theatre

With a whole new year stretching ahead, Rita and I are already in planning mode to choose a variety of theatre outings for members to enjoy! We have made a booking to **George Orwell's Animal Farm at the Rose Centre for Friday 20 February at 7.30pm at \$23 per ticket.** Payment for tickets is due Wednesday 11 February. This version of the classic story is a Tinderbox production and promises to be a theatrical ride of cunning, chaos and unforgettable characters! You are invited to step on to Manor Farm for an evening of intrigue, rebellion and high emotion! **If you wish to secure seats, please pay \$23 into the Milford Combined Probus bank account (ASB Browns Bay 12-3042-0377723-00) as soon as possible.**

For March we will go to the musical, **Tootsie, to be held at Centrestage, Orewa, on Wednesday 18 March.** Tootsie is a hilarious crowd-pleaser that enjoys poking fun at Broadway musical theatre and was nominated for 11 Tony Awards! Further details will be available at our February meeting and in February's Probian.

Looking ahead, we have already made a preliminary booking to Roger Hall's Glidetime at The Pumphouse in September. We expect this show will be heavily booked so watch this space for further details

Gael Bosworth

021 0455008

Rita Ahlers

027 5509837



For our Bookworms

The library is back in action. Members who looked after books during November/December can return them. We will be storing books at Sunnynook in the same way as before. As usual good clean books for club readers are always welcome

David Leitch



Humour

Laughing at your own mistakes
lengthens your life.
Laughing at your wife's mistakes
shortens it.

It's almost
Valentine's Day
and I don't know
what to get myself
yet.





Defibrillator

All members please note a Defibrillator is kept on the premises in the kitchen should it be required.

Internet Banking

IMPORTANT: Club Bank details for making payments online: **Milford Combined Probus Club, Account 12-3042-0377723-00.** Enter your **SURNAME** in the **Particulars** field and what the payment is for in the **Code** field, ie Subs, or Trip name, or Play name.

The preferred method of payment for Outings, Theatre Group etc. is via internet banking to the Milford Combined Probus Club's bank account.

Jim Marshall

Treasurer

Milford Combined Probus Club website: Remember that you can also view the Club's newsletter on our website, along with details of what's coming up each month:

[www. probusmilfordcombined.org.nz](http://www.probusmilfordcombined.org.nz)