



The Milford Probian

Official newsletter of Milford Combined Probos Club

Issue Number 252
March 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	Coleen Carmichael	4795543
Newsletter	Jane Garrett	027 410 6841		Gayle Lockie	021 177 8894
Hospitality	Val Wadsworth	021 609 900			
Welfare	Sue Beachman	021 728 355			
Website/Publicity	Carol Mogridge	027 698 5981			
Past President	Jill Hooks	021 353 861			

Diary of Events

	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026
TRAVEL Brenda Magee 478 3300	Wednesday 4 March 1.00pm	Wednesday 1 April 1.00pm	Wednesday 6 May 1.00pm
MEETINGS	Wednesday 11 March 10.00am AGM	Wednesday 8 April 10.00am	Wednesday 13 May 10.00am
SPEAKERS Grant Christianson 021 756 350	Wednesday 11 March Norman Lodge Japan gift giving culture	Wednesday 8 April Francis Walsh Stories from NZ Maritime Museum	Wednesday 13 May Dave Veart Archaeologist, Historian, Author
OUTINGS Randal Lockie 021 581 321	Wednesday 11 March Club Lunch after meeting at Milford Motel	Wednesday 22 April Shorebirds at Miranda	Wednesday 13 May Club Lunch after meeting
THEATRE Gael Bosworth 021 0455008 Rita Ahlers 027 5509837	Wednesday 18 March Centrestage, Orewa Tootsie	TBA	TBA
WALKING Dick and Carol Mogridge 021 802705 or 027 698 5981	Wednesday 25 March 9.30am	Wednesday 29 April 9.30am	Wednesday 27 May 9.30am
COFFEE MORNINGS Val Wadsworth 021 609 900	Monday 16 March 10.15am Supa Nova Café, Milford	TBA	TBA

Club Bank details for making payments online: ASB Browns Bay, Account 12-3042-0377723-000

Club President for 2026-27 and beyond

During last year President David Leitch made several impassioned pleas for a volunteer to take over his role for the coming year. Unfortunately, no one came forward to indicate their willingness to become the Club's helmsman.

However, all is not lost! The Committee made the decision to seek volunteers from among our Past President ranks to carry out the duties of President during the 2026-27 year. We are very grateful that those approached are happy to do this. Peter Garrett has kindly offered to be President for the first six months. He will be officially appointed as President at the AGM.

During the latter stages of the year, other Past Presidents will step in to run the meeting each month, but apart from that the Club will continue to operate as usual.

The other good news is that Maurice Ellett has agreed to take on the Vice President's role for this year and will become President in 2027-28.

Many thanks to all our latest volunteers.

MCPC Committee

Morning Tea Duties



The following members have volunteered for March;

Ngaral Hogan Elaine Rushton

One more volunteer is required please.

On the day volunteers need to be at the Sunnynook Community Centre by 9.30am.

The Roster sheets for future meetings are located on the kitchen serving counter and are available for members to put their names down to assist. Please do not be backward in coming forward!

Military military
Coleen Carmichael 479 5543
Gayle Lockie 0211778894

Drive4Hearts Fundraiser

The Guest Speaker at our February meeting was Professor Julian Paton, a leading heart researcher and director of the University of Auckland Heart Research Centre. He spoke about his work on the development of a ground-breaking living heart valve for children with Rheumatic Heart Disease. Combining his passion for Land Rovers with the need to raise funding for this research, he drove a 1948 Land Rover 1800km from Dunedin to

Auckland to raise \$300,000, a goal which has not yet been reached.

Browns Bay Rotary is holding a Trivia Quiz Night on Saturday 28 March to support the Drive4Hearts funding. If you would like to attend, please contact Tony Hooks, 021 378 225.

DRIVE 4 HEARTS FUNDRAISER
HELP SAVE 'KIWI KIDS' FROM
RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE

TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT

7 PM SATURDAY 28 MARCH 2026
OUTRAM HALL 478 BEACH ROAD MURRAYS BAY

Form your team of eight and
choose a country theme for your
table \$10 per person

Wine & Beer on sale
Bring your own snacks
Sausage Sizzle BBQ
5pm till 6.30 pm

Book a table
021 378 225 tony.hooks@xtra.co.nz

ROTARY BROWN BAY SUPPORTING
PROFESSOR JULIAN PATON'S HEART
RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND



Membership

The next induction ceremony will be held at the April meeting.

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 March 2026

Lin Robinson	Gillian Bogan
Jocelyn Somerville	Sheryl Coyle
Vivienne Woodward	Sheila Franks
Nichola Hagon	Margaret Hanna
Warren Hart	Martin Koppenhagen



Ian Magee Carol Mogridge
Dick Mogridge
Happy Birthday to you all, and apologies if we have missed anyone.

Gina Hull

Travel Group



On Wednesday 4 March 2026 at 1pm at Sunnynook Community Centre we will have John McGough from Leisure Time Travel to give us a presentation on their fully escorted group tours for seniors. Leisure Time Travel will pick us up from the door and drop us home on any of their tours you book. They have an excellent selection of tours within New Zealand and selected overseas destinations. John will present a fun and informative presentation.

Our club speakers are Ian and I who will talk about the Wendy Wu tour we did to China last May. We had a great turn out to our February meeting and Ian and I look forward to seeing you all back in March. Please remember your name tags and \$3 to cover the cost of rent and afternoon tea.

Brenda Magee, Convener

2026 WORLD Sale

SAVE UP TO
\$1,000pp OFF
GROUP TOURS

OR

FLY SINGAPORE
AIRLINES AND GET
A FREE STOPOVER



See full offer with Ts&Cs at
wendywutours.co.nz/2026-world-sale

Quote
PROBUS
when booking
for an extra
\$100pp
discount

Wendy Wu Tours

0800 936 3998 wendywutours.co.nz
or contact your local travel agent

Speaker's Corner



There is no March Club speaker.
Jeanette McNeil, Convener

Guest Speaker's Corner



Norman Lodge visited us in November 2024 with his informative and entertaining address "In appreciation of the wine label". He now returns with "The Gift Giving Culture of Japan"

During the 1980's and 1990's NZ was forced to actively expand its markets beyond the UK. As Head of the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Norman made very frequent visits to Japan, building linkages at a high level in commerce and government relative to cooperation in the field of science of food.

It was then that he became aware of an unusual use of extremely expensive food items that were used as gifts, particularly between heads of major Japanese companies.

To understand this phenomenon, it is necessary to go back into the origins of Japanese society and look into the culture that developed over 300 years ago. Norman covers this in his illustrated address which is a revelation to those who are not aware of this situation.

Grant Christianson



Walkers and Talkers

The walk on Wednesday 25 March is in the Milford area. Meet at 9.30am in the plaza outside Milford New World, for a 9.45am start. We will walk to Sylvan Park and Lake Pupuke - there are some steps but mostly flat. Plenty of parking in the Milford Mall carpark. Coffee will be at Milford Café, 7 Milford Road. This walk will be led by Peter and Jane Garrett 0274737529.

Dick and Carol Mogridge
021 802705 or 027 6985981.



Outings

If you are reading this Probian before **Thursday 26 February**, we now have 2 seats available on the coach for our **trip to the Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre**. If you would like to be "on the bus" please let me know immediately. All members need to be at the Windsor Park Carpark

in Mairangi Bay (our usual coach pickup and drop off area) by 9am for a coach departure of 9.15am. Please remember the coach will not wait for you if you are late. Please remember to wear your probus lanyard or name badge.

Moving on, we have arranged a **Club lunch after our next meeting on Wednesday 11 March. This lunch will be held at the Milford Motel, 1A Shakespeare Road, Milford.** Not a lot of parking, but not far from the parking underneath the mall. As usual there is no need to book for this lunch, just a matter of turning up and joining other club members. We usually have 25 to 30 regulars who support the lunch outing so will look forward to seeing you all plus any other members who would like to join us. The motel have a \$20 "Club Lunch" which is either a 200gm Rump Steak, jus, chimichurri and Fries, or MM house salad, goddess dressing, capsicum, mixed greens, grana padano, black olive, or Chicken Burger, gochujang sauce, pickled cucumber, slaw, cheddar and fries. I don't know about you but I am already salivating! You are also free to order from the normal lunch menu if nothing above appeals. I must tell you I was unable to get a reduction on the cost of the pizzas despite my best efforts!

Our 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. The plan is to have morning tea on arrival at Shorebirds followed by an interesting 40 minute talk on birds (naturally!) After this talk we will visit the hides to view bird activity - please feel free to bring your binoculars if you have a set.

After viewing the birds we will reboard the coach and travel 8km up the coast to the Kaiaua Fisheries for a legendary fish and chips lunch at 1.30pm - the lunch is your own personal cost. After lunch we will head home with an expected arrival back at Windsor Park at around 4.30pm.

I have to tell you we have a 36 seater coach and already have 31 seats booked so please be in quick for the **final 5 seats** if you would like to join us on this adventure.

(As a point of interest our club last visited Shorebirds in November 2015.)

Timings for this outing are as follows:

Please be at the Windsor Park carpark by 8.45am The coach will depart at 9.00 sharp....and will not wait for anyone!

Arrival back at the Windsor Park carpark is scheduled for around 4.30pm

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

The trip cost is \$40.00 per person, please make payment into the Club Bank account by 10 March. Remember to put your name and Shorebirds as reference detail on the payment.

Lots to look forward to, so that's all from me for now!

Randal Lockie
021 581 321

Getting to Know You Coffee Mornings



We had a good turnout for our first meeting of the year, with 13 of us attending, both new and old members, along with our regulars. The venue we were trying out actually had a very good food selection - I can vouch for the cheese scones - and the service was excellent.

So in saying that our next meeting will be at the same place on Monday 16 March - 10.15am Supernova Cafe, 116 Kitchener Road, Milford The last cafe on the right hand side of Kitchener Road heading towards Takapuna.

The noise levels were confirmed as an improvement on previous cafes we have tried, and we are also flexible as to any suggestions you may have for future meetings. Ample parking to be the main consideration, along with the usual good coffee/food/service.

Please let me know on my mobile below if you would like to come so I can advise the cafe of the numbers for seating arrangements. Remember to wear your name badges as it is so much easier for everyone with our aging brains these days.

Val Wadsworth
021609900

Theatre



Theatre reports have been emailed to members separately.

Gael Bosworth
021 0455008
Rita Ahlers
027 5509837



For our Bookworms

The library is back in action. As usual good clean books for club readers are always welcome
David Leitch



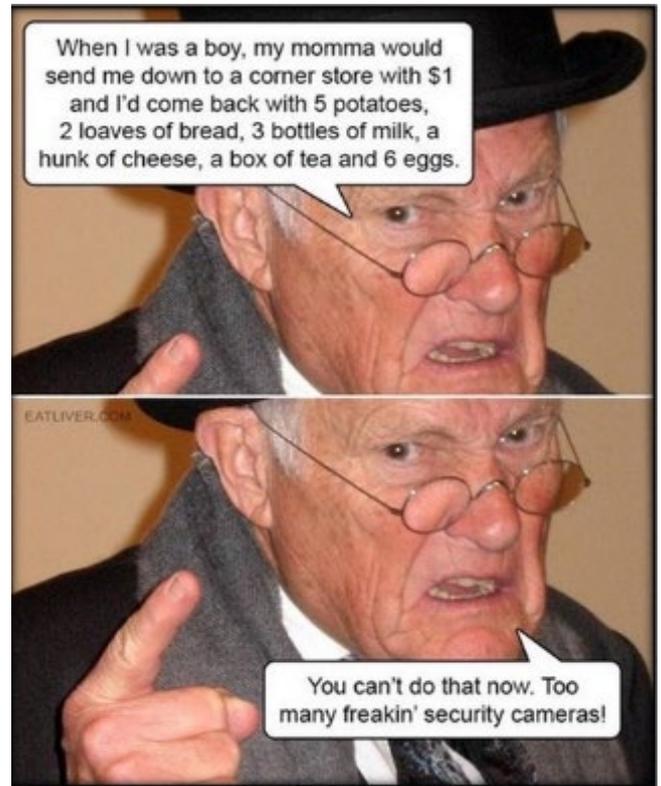
Humour



It must have been a rough divorce



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)



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 12-3042-0377723-000.** 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