



Chichester & District Probud Club

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

To all Members

1 PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

At our recent trip to St Mary's in September sunshine (a far cry from a fairly pathetic July and August) I was amazed to learn how many birthdays there were amongst our group since our last meeting. Clearly Probud has a large proportion of summer babies. I hope that our trips will continue and that they will be well supported by all members.

The menu today is Baked fillet of cod with cheese and herb crust etc
and
Vanilla Cheesecake with Summer fruit compote
and
for the vegetarian option Mushroom Risotto

Clive Thorp

2. SECRETARIAL SCRIBBLES (with Speakers' Corner!)

The next Lunch is on September 14 and the speaker (on Steve Biko) is Lt Col (Ret'd) Jeremy Prescott.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WISH TO CHOOSE THE VEG OPTION

ABSENCES: I have apologies from John ANDREWS, Peter BOULTON, Bill BOWYER, Peter BUNYAN, Ian CAMPBELL, Brian DEAN, Michael GILES, John HARGREAVES, Peter HEYDENRYCH, John HUMPHREY, John LUFFINGHAM, Martin REYNOLDS, Richard ROBERTS, Donald ROBINSON, Ann SILVESTER, Eric SILVESTERT and Ron WILLIAMS

Please let me know asap if you are not attending 07855 580609

PLEASE SIGN IN ON ARRIVAL AND INDICATE YOUR CHEESE OPTION AND/OR FUTURE ABSENCE

RAFFLE: Many thanks to Messrs Brady and Fairfull for agreeing to offer a 2021 Vigna Corvino Montepulciano, a prime Papatruda Pinot Grigio and a Chassaux et fils ATLANTIQUE Rose

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE SPEAKERS

OCTOBER 12 Detective Inspector (retired) Hamish Brown – Stalking

NOVEMBER 9 The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

3 TREASURER'S REPORT

There is nothing specific to report.
The Finances are in order.

Frank Griffiths

4 MEMBERS WELFARE

Please keep me informed of any health issues and other help you may feel the club can offer you personally. This also applies to any needs of fellow club members you may be aware of.

Please call me on 01243 376170.

David Childs Hopkins

5 SOCIAL ITEMS

5.1 St Mary's House

Trip to St Mary's House and Gardens, Bramber, West Sussex 6 September 2023.

19 of us, making our way by our own transport were split into two groups for a guided tour of this extraordinary 1470 mediaeval monastic hostelry on a trip ably organised by Brian French.

Originally a stopping point for pilgrims, sleeping in dormitories accessed by steps leading from main courtyard and thereafter completely altered over the centuries to become a home, the house was visited by Queen Elizabeth I and thereafter by Charles II who escaped from a secret passage from the King's room. Amongst other notable features the house boasts a Painted Room decorated with unique 16th century trompe d'oeil murals especially painted for the visit of Queen Elizabeth I.

The Monks Parlour, notable for its massive dragon beam and fine 17th-century inglenook, the Octagonal Gothic Dining Room designed by Roger Linton, the current resident along with Peter Thorogood, both of whom were awarded the MBE for services to conservation and the arts and the Library are all extraordinary examples of its very fine interior.

After refreshments we enjoyed the Topiary, Terrace and Secret Gardens along with the Jubilee Rose Garden, the Poetry Garden and the Landscape Water Garden, all in brilliant September sunshine.

Thereafter a good number of us had a long lunch at the Castle inn. Many thanks to Brian for his organisation.



5.2 Walking Group [Motto: mens and womens sana in corpore sono]

August Walk – Return to Slindon (113)

Our August walk on Tuesday 29th August was from The Spur at Slindon. Only five regular walkers signed up to walk at the August lunch and your walk leader was encouraged that they all remembered to turn up on the day.

Last year some members thought the walk around Slindon Park along Park Pale too long so this year a different route of just under three miles was followed.

The A29 road was crossed soon after leaving the pub and a path followed west to Slindon village. Mill Lane was then followed north until its junction with Burt Lane which in turn was followed south west back to the village. A stop was made at Downe's Barn to look over open country to the west where we could see The Folly and just make out Halnaker Mill on the horizon in the far distance. Downe's Barn had been restored as an educational centre before the pandemic but it never appears to have been used for this purpose and now appears uncared for. Once back in the village the road was followed past Slindon School, the Catholic and Anglican churches (the Anglican was visited) and a pond to the Forge Cafe where we all stopped for a coffee break. We then crossed the road and returned to The Spur through a small wood, a grassy field and past some houses and a pond complete with occupied duck house.

After our arrival back the pub became quite busy but in spite of limited staff our food arrived promptly and a convivial lunch was enjoyed where the small number present allowed everyone to join in proper conversation, which is not always possible with a larger group.

Walkers 5

Dogs 0

Lunchers 5

Cancelled 2

Late 0

Weather Warm and dry with occasional blue skies

September Walk - Jim's Last Walk at Stansted (114)

Our next walk on Wednesday 27th September is around the Stansted Park Estate and is in memory of our former leader Jim Oliver whose last walk this was in September 2022. The flat walk of just less than three miles is along estate roads, paths and through fields. There are no stiles.

Please meet in the Stansted Garden Centre car park PO9 6DU Map Ref SU 759100 ready to move off at 1030.

Lunch afterwards is in the Potting Shed area of the Pavilion Restaurant at 12.00. To find the Potting Shed turn right after entering the Pavilion. The Potting Shed is the area behind the brick arches.

Due to staff difficulties we have been asked to pre-order and pay in advance. Our treasurer Frank Griffiths has kindly agreed to organise this and will send out menu options and payment instructions nearer the time to those members who sign up.

To join us please put your name on the list at the September lunch or contact Jim Cockburn direct cockburn@whyke.plus.com Tel 01243 783387.

Members are responsible for their own safety.

Emergency phone (on day only) 07955 940521

Future Walk Dates

Although the walk dates are listed for the whole Probus year in the emailed annual booklet your walk leader wonders if having a reminder of the dates would make it easier for members to keep these dates free and therefore come by putting them in their diaries earlier. The remaining dates for 2023/2024 are: In 2023 Wed 27 Sep, Thur 26 Oct, Fri 24 Nov, Tue 19 Dec (Xmas Walls Walk), In 2024 Mon 29 Jan, Tue 26 Feb, Wed 27 Mar, Thur 25 Apr, Fri 24 May, Mon 24 Jun.

Jim Cockburn

5.2 Coffee Morning Thursday, 7th September at 10:30 am.

Thursday's Coffee Morning will again be held at **The Boston Tea Party in Baffins Lane** at the bottom on the left hand side.

Baffins Lane is off East St opposite to Ask Italian and Rymans.

The nearest car park is the East Pallant Pay and Display (where you find the Chichester District Council offices.)

Would the first to arrive just tell the staff that you are the first of an indeterminate number so as you grow can they please add a table or two as necessary!

6. HUMOUR

6.1 From David Childs Hopkins

A woman was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. Unexpectedly, the plane was diverted to Sacramento along the way. The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft the plane would re-board in 50 minutes. Everybody got off the plane except one lady who was blind.

A man had noticed her as he walked by and could tell the lady was blind because her Seeing Eye Dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of her throughout the entire flight. He could also tell she had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached her, and calling her by name, said, 'Kathy, we are in Sacramento for almost an hour. Would you like to get off and stretch your legs?' The blind lady replied, 'No thanks, ... but maybe Buddy would like to stretch his legs.' All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a Seeing Eye Dog! The pilot was even wearing sunglasses. People scattered. Some not only tried to change planes, but they were also trying to change airlines!

6.2 The two priests

Two priests decided to go to Hawaii on vacation.

They were determined to make this a real vacation by not wearing anything that would identify them as clergy

As soon as the plane landed, they headed for a store and bought shorts, shirts, sandals, sunglasses, etc.

The next morning, they went to the beach dressed in their “tourist” garb.

They were sitting on beach chairs enjoying a drink, the sunshine and the scenery.

Then a “drop dead gorgeous” topless blonde in a thong bikini came walking straight towards them.

They couldn’t help but stare.

As the blonde passed them, she smiled and said “good morning Father, good morning Father” nodding and addressing each of them individually, then passed by.

They were both stunned. How in the world did she know they were priests?

So the next day they went back to the store and bought even more outrageous outfits.

These were so loud you could hear them before you even saw them.

Once again the two priests settled on the beach in their chairs to enjoy the sunshine.

After a while the same gorgeous topless blonde, wearing a string, taking her sweet time, came walking towards them.

Again she nodded at each of them, said “good morning Father” and started to walk away.

One of the priests couldn’t stand it any longer and said “just a minute young lady”

“We are priests and proud of it, but I have to know, how in the world did you know we are priests dressed as we are”

The blonde turned around and replied, “Father, it’s me, Sister Angela”

PJH 07.09.2023