



Chichester & District Probus Club

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

To all Members

1 PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Firstly, Happy New Year to you all.

As I write this the weather outside is wet and gloomy but by the time of our lunch it promises to be colder but bright and sunny - a promising auger for the New Year.

Our membership is currently 42.

Just before Christmas Ben Brittain, who so ably organised our trip to Wisley, relocated with Barbara to Bristol and has reluctantly tendered his resignation.

We are joined at our January lunch by two new members, John Spence and William Baillieu and by two prospective members – Tony Dignum and Chris Linford.

The menu is Baked Haddock Mornay followed by Spiced Red Wine Poached Pear. The Vegetarian option is Blue Cheese Risotto.

The Committee is meeting immediately before lunch and no doubt any relevant decisions made can be given in the usual reports before we hear from our speaker, Jeremy Prescott on Britain's Secret War -Dhofar - Oman

Clive Thorp

2. SECRETARIAL SCRIBBLES (with Speakers' Corner!)

**PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WISH TO CHOOSE THE VEG OPTION
AND/OR CHEESE REPLACEMENT**

ABSENCES: I have apologies from Peter BOULTON, Peter BUNYAN, Michael GILES, John HUMPHREY, John LUFFINGHAM, John MAYES,
Please let me know asap if you are not attending 07855 580609

PLEASE SIGN IN ON ARRIVAL

RAFFLE: Many thanks to The Two Tipplers Greta Byers and Ian Campbell who will offer Three Tipples!!

WALKS:

Jim Cockburn is retiring from his position of Walks Leader. (partly through age - and I could not believe his age!!) He has been selfless in the sterling service he has given in creating, testing and leading walks with great care and genial bonhomie.

You will be delighted to know that I am NOT taking over his role, BUT I wondered whether anyone would like a GUIDED walk on Monday January 29 10-12 at Pagham RSPB CENTRE. Rob and Roy there - I kid you not! - are happy to arrange same at £5 a head. The max distance would be two miles but it will probably be less and we would be at rest for some times too, twitching in hides at geese galore et al
Afterwards we might like to repair to The Anchor at Sidlesham . The food is good there.

I NEED TO KNOW BY FRIDAY JAN 12.

Finally, there are two broader issues:

a) we need a walks organiser

b) do you as members wish to continue walks? Can you please let me know with a Y or N or a Y with stipulations / suggestions.

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE SPEAKERS 2024

JANUARY 11 Jeremy Prescott Britain's Secret War: Dhofar, Oman

FEBRUARY 8 Frank Pattison - The Many Faces of Berlin

MARCH 14 Bill Avenell – Weather

APRIL 11 Jay Woogara "From Sugarcane to Surrey"- The Indian Diaspora

John Hargreaves

3 TREASURER'S REPORT

As you are all aware the cost of lunch at Crouchers is quite a bit more than we were used to paying at the Park Hotel.

For the last two meetings I have used club funds to subsidise our lunches.

Clearly this cannot continue so from January onward attendees at lunch will have to pay a supplement of £10. Payments will be collected on the day by card. I have obtained a card reader for this purpose.

These arrangements will continue until further notice. I must ask everyone to give their apologies if unable to attend as Crouchers are not as flexible as the Park Hotel used to be and charge us for the numbers ordered irrespective of the number of members who actually turn up.

Your cooperation in this regard is much appreciated.

Frank Griffiths
Treasurer

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 The CFT trip



5.2 Coffee Morning Thursday, 4th January at 10:30 am.

Thursday's Coffee Morning was again 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.)



5.3 The Christmas Walk

The Christmas Walk round the Chichester Walls was followed by lunch at Cote Brasserie.





5.4 Roy Fairfull profile

I went to Peebles High School in the Scottish Borders.

My career was in process and development engineering. It began as an apprenticeship with Exacta Circuits, a printed circuits company in Selkirk. I also studied mechanical engineering at Galashiels College.

I moved south in 1983 joining Dowty Circuits in Chichester, a flex circuits manufacturer, to set up a factory in Quarry Lane. A few years later I moved to IBM in Havant within their flex circuits division. IBM became Xyratex in 1993 and later I moved into HDD test systems. I remained with Xyratex in various leadership roles retiring in 2012.

I was married then divorced and I have two daughters and four grandchildren.

I enjoyed various competitive sports such as karting and golf etc. My main interest is classic cars in particular Triumph and BL. I've restored many over the years and I like to modify and improve them. I currently have four which I enjoy immensely as they always need fixing.

6. HUMOUR

6.1 From my friend in Jo'burg

A man suffered a serious heart attack while shopping in a store.

The store clerk called 999 when they saw him collapse to the floor.

The paramedics rushed the man to the nearest hospital where he had emergency open heart bypass surgery.

He awakened from the surgery to find himself in the care of nuns at the Catholic Hospital.

A nun was seated next to his bed holding a clipboard loaded with several forms, and a pen.

She asked him how he was going to pay for his treatment. "Do you have health insurance?" she asked.

He replied in a raspy voice, "No health insurance."

The nun asked, "Do you have money in the bank?"

He replied, "No money in the bank."

Do you have a relative who could help you with the payments?" asked the irritated nun.

He said, "I only have a spinster sister, and she is a nun."

The nun became agitated and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters!

Nuns are married to God."

The patient replied, "Perfect. Send the bill to my brother-in-law."

PJH 04.01.2024