



Chichester & District Probus Club

MAY NEWSLETTER

To all Members

1 PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Dexter Williams has kindly agreed to step into my shoes as President on Thursday. There will be 55 members and guests.

My last duty will be to host the AGM in June but I will not be putting myself up for election to the Committee nor will I be continuing as President – twice is enough! I do hope that there will be a rush of enthusiasm from all of you to put your names forward for some role or other to ensure that the Club and its activities are as well supported as they were in those heady days pre-Covid.

Thank you to all those who attended the Coffee morning on Thursday - it was good to see some new faces. I hope that all of the Club's events will give you the opportunity of getting to know each other in the years to come.

2. SECRETARIAL SCRIBBLES

We currently have 42 members

Lunch will be on **FRIDAY May 10**.

We will be served at 1.20 pm. There are no inductions or reports, no raffle and the Speaker is due on around 2.00pm and we should finish as usual by about 3.00pm

The AGM will take place at CROUCHERS at 11am on Thursday, JUNE 13. Past minutes, the agenda and accounts will be sent in advance.

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE SPEAKERS 2024

JUNE 13 - Father Peter Bustin – An ART Lecture

JULY 18 THIRD THURSDAY (avoiding Festival of Speed)
David Bickerton - 'Parents at War'

AUGUST 8 Richard Campbell-Robson: SSAFA and recollections of being a caseworker.

SEPTEMBER 12 Nigel Gossop – ‘Once Upon a Time ‘

OCTOBER 10 David Thornley, Deputy Director, Outreach for Bognor & Chichester Samaritans. “Learning to Listen”

NOVEMBER 14 Ian Everest - Cinderellas of the Fields – The Women’s Land Army

3 TREASURER’S REPORT

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

Attendees at lunch will have to pay to the Probus account as specified.
Your cooperation in this regard is much appreciated.

Frank Griffiths, Treasurer

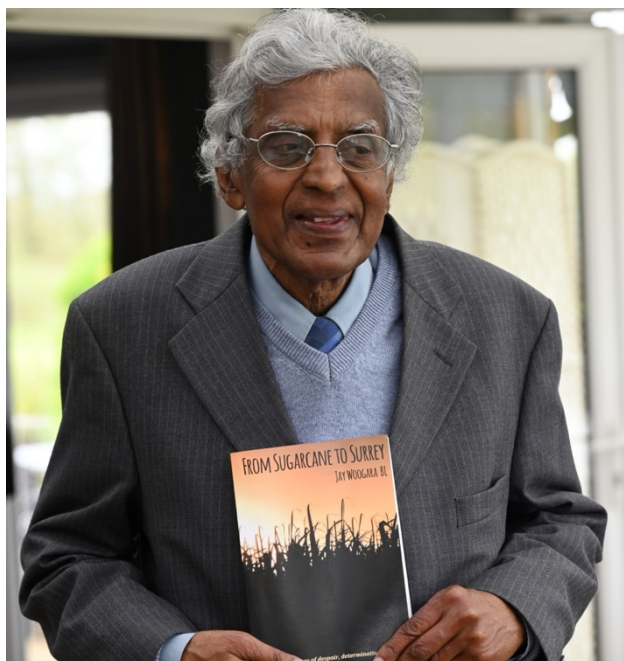
4 MEMBERS WELFARE

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 PRESS REPORT



Jay Woogara

"The Indian Diaspora" and experiences of Mauritius.

How hard-fought education took the child of a poor sugarcane cutting family in the Mauritius under Colonial rule to being a lawyer specialising in medical negligence was described to members of Chichester Proboscis Club recently.

Speaking at the April meeting at Crouchers, Dr Woogara told members slavery had been abolished in 1843 so diaspora migrated from Bihar in India to the Mauritius. There the French Colonials kept the sugar factories and the British managed the product and shipped it.

The migrants, indentured for five years, provided the labour with the promise of land at the end of the term.

Dr Woogara said his grandfather had land, but his father died when he was three so his grandmother, mother and siblings all slept on the floor of a thatched hut. Their cow was their saviour, providing milk and butter which they sold to buy food.

However school was free until 11, and he was pushed by his grandmother to go. He worked hard but secondary school was denied to him because of cost. He studied on his own at the local library and later he persuaded the headmaster to give him tuition but it had to be in secret as he was of higher caste than his tutor.

At 18, Dr Woogara managed to pass three O-levels which were the key to the dramatic change in his life. A newspaper in the library carried an advertisement for people with three O-levels to join the NHS in Britain.

His application was accepted, the British High Commission paying for him to come to England. He started as a nurse and was promoted very quickly. Having saved hard, he went to Manchester University and obtained a first in law. While there he met the girl who would become his wife, but it meant he could not go home to his family in the Mauritius as they had forbidden him to marry an English girl. He then came to London to study for the Bar and qualified. Even though he had a first-class degree, he could not find a place in Chambers so he became a solicitor specialising in medical negligence, and after a four-year research project, also obtained a doctorate.

He is now a published author as well, having written a book chronicling his life entitled "From sugarcane to Surrey" where he now lives with his wife.

Eve Fuller
Press Officer

6 SOCIAL ITEMS

6.1 Coffee Morning Thursday, 2nd May 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 Ask Italian and Rymans.

6.2 Pallant Gallery Tour and Lunch

Thanks to Brian French this visit will be held on Thursday 16th May at 12 noon followed by lunch at the restaurant at 1pm. The cost is £85 for up to 15 people, plus a discounted entrance to the gallery, normally £11pp. The cost of the tour will be more per person the fewer attendees there are.

7. HUMOUR

7.1 From David Childs Hopkins

Tax Office (ATO) actually commented on this one.

The importance of accuracy in your tax return.

The ATO has returned the Tax Return to a man in Townsville, Queensland after he apparently answered one of the questions.

In response to the question, ***“Do you have anyone dependent on you ?”***

The man wrote;

“2.1 million illegal immigrants;

1.1 million crackheads;

4.4 million unemployable scroungers;

80,000 criminals in over 85 prisons;

Plus 450 idiots in Parliament; thousands of 'retired politicians' and an entire group that call themselves 'Senators' .

The ATO gave their response as ***“Unacceptable”***.

The man's response back to the ATO was: ***“Who did I leave out?”***

7.2 After a tiring Day

After a tiring day, a young lady settled down in her local train seat and closed her eyes.

As the train rolled out of the station, the guy sitting next to her, pulled out his mobile phone and started talking in a loud voice ***”Hi Sweetheart, it’s Roger I’m on the Train”***

“Yes, I know it is six thirty and not four thirty, but I had A Long Meeting”

“No, honey, I was not with Jenny from the Accounts Office, I was with the Boss attending a meeting”

No Sweetheart, You’re the only one in My Life”

“Yes, I’m sure dear”

Fifteen minutes later, he was still talking loudly.

When the Young Woman sitting next to him had enough, she leaned over and said into the phone,

“Roger darling, hang up the phone and come back to bed!”

Now, Roger is back in hospital and doesn’t use his mobile phone in Public Any Longer.

PJH 5.05.2024