



## **Chichester & District Probud Club**

# **JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER**

**To all Members**

### **1 PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS**

Early on in my term of office I voiced concern at our fall in membership since 2019 and the continual steady flow of retirements through ill health. I am pleased to say in the New Year there has been a welcome turnaround and I have been able to present a number of ties to new members at previous lunches as we welcome them to our fellowship. At our June lunch I will be welcoming Bruce Hermans and his partner Cherrill West to membership of our Club. They are a charming couple and I met them both on the top table at our May lunch. They had previously attended our April lunch.

We welcome additional members so please have a word with Chris Fuller if you would like to bring along a potential member as your guest to one of our lunches

**The speaker for the June lunch** is Dr Martin Radford, and his subject is rather mysterious: "*Swallows and Amazons and the Russian Revolution*". The link is Arthur Ransome who was in Russia at the time of the revolution. He supported the Reds and fell in love with Trotsky's secretary, whom he eventually married as his second wife. He decided to leave Russia for a more peaceful England. A friend gave him a sailing dinghy called *Swallow*. Ransome then decided to write an adventure story for children, '*Swallows and Amazons*' in 1928.

Your Committee has agreed that ties need not be worn at lunch up to and including the August lunch.

**The June lunch menu** will be:

**Main**

Pan fried fillet of sea bass with tomato and herb crushed new potatoes, garlic spinach and a spring onion and red pepper salsa.

**Desert**

Whipped lemon panna cotta and poached strawberries, baked meringue, and raspberry sorbet.

**Vegetarian**

Creamy blue cheese and walnut risotto with fresh peas, shaved cauliflower, and chicory salad

## **2. SECRETARIAL SCRIBBLES**

The speaker on 12 June will be Dr Martin Radford: “Swallows and Amazons and the Russian Revolution”

### **2.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The club’s AGM will be held at Crouchers Restaurant at 11:15, Thursday, August 14 prior to the lunch.

### **2.1 RAFFLE:**

John Andrews and Bill Baillieu will look after the raffle for June.

### **2.2 NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome Bruce Hermans and partner Cherrill West, living in the Westergate area of Chichester

Bruce writes:

For the last 30 years of working I was employed as a Sales Consultant , Regional Sales Manager , Sales Director and latterly a National Sales and Marketing manager in the Lift Industry working for a number of UK and European lift manufacturers.

In the last 6 years I volunteered as a guide at the Tangmere Military Aviation Museum.

I retired from them early 2024.

Cherrill writes:

Retired HR and Business Administration Manager, with over 30 year’s operational experience in professional organisations. Successful track record of HR and administrative management, process improvement and implementation of projects including resourcing, reward, development & training, premises management, and Health & Safety.

A career in both the healthcare industry and in a software design establishment for the construction industry, the latter based in the Horsham area.

Latterly a senior training administrator for a large, well known, UK grocery, clothing and homeware group.

### **2.3 PROGRAMME OF FUTURE SPEAKERS**

2025:

July 17: Peter Varnish OBE – “Artificial Intelligence – Friend or Foe?”  
(Please note THIRD THURSDAY of June)

August 14: Frank Pattison – Bewitching - a journey through the Harz Mountains

September 11: David Bickerton : “The pursuit and sinking of the BISMARCK in WW2”.

October 9; Father Peter Bustin – Art Appreciation

November 13: Brian French – Egyptology

December 11: Griffiths Christmas Gala

2026:

January 8: Ian Worley: ‘Charles Darwin’

February 12 TBA

March 12: TBA

April 9: TBA

May 14 : Judi Darley: Chichester Oyster Boats

Chris Fuller

Secretary

### **3 TREASURER’S REPORT**

There is nothing specific to report.

The Finances are in order.

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 532609.

Peter Heydenrych

Welfare Officer

### **5 SOCIAL ITEMS**

#### **5.1 Coffee Morning Thursday, 5th June 2025 at 10:30 am.**

Thursday's Coffee Morning will be held at **The Boston Tea Party in Baffins Lane**

#### **5.2 Probus Walks Report**

We still have a vacancy for a Walks Coordinator.

### **5.3 Social Visits**

A visit to Petworth House was held on Thursday 22nd May.

Proposed dates for three outings during the summer:

- a) Thursday 3rd July - Joint outing with Bognor Regis and Arundel for Chichester Harbour Cruise and lunch at Itchenor Sailing Club We have 11 people for this event.
- b) Thursday 18th September - Fishbourne Roman Palace informative group tour (discounted admission for 10+). Further details will follow.

Brian French  
Social coordinator

### **6 PRESS REPORT**

Making sense of idioms

Why do we talk about a baker's dozen or having a black sheep in the family?

This was explained by Po Madeleine Salvetti in her talk to the monthly meeting of Chichester Probus Club at Crouchers on May 8.

She said that many of the idioms we used regularly – but when examined seemed to make no sense – were based in history.

A baker's dozen, for instance, was due to a regulation that, if a batch of 12 items was under a certain weight, they would face a large fine. To ensure they were legal, a baker would make 13.

Referring to the black sheep of the family came from the wool trade. Black was hard to dye while light colours were not.

Among many other examples given was the reason behind referring to the top dog.

A sawmill term, it came from two men cutting a huge piece of timber, one man on top of it and the other below in the sawpit.

The talk ended with a more modern idiom arising from Montague Burton, the tailor who supplied the full Monty: a suit comprising jacket, trousers, and waistcoat.

The club is open to new members who have or have had a career in business or Government in their own right. More details at <https://chichesterprobus.club>

Eve Fuller  
Press Officer

PJH 03/06.2025