

ARUNDEL PROBUS TIMES

1st APRIL 2023

If you have grandchildren visiting on Easter Sunday, 9th April, you may be planning to hide Easter eggs in the garden for them to find. Failing that, perhaps without a garden, you will hide them around your home. The squeals of excitement will be just as loud when they find the goodies. (For others of my age, substitute great grandchildren for grandchildren).

If you haven't got either, hide the eggs anyway a few days before Easter then look for them yourself. Who knows, you may even find some left hidden from last year. (I may have told you this before !)



What's on in April?

Thursday 13th - Pub Lunch at the Squire and Horse, Bury kindly organised by Richard

Unless you've done so already, please advise Richard of your attendance and menu choices by e-mail to rbrennan118@btinternet.com or phone 01903 718639 and please pay by BACS into Arundel Probus Club - Business Account A/C No 1064268 Sort code 20-20-62. **Mark payment AprPublunch.** £23 per head, inc.tip.

Menu choices are:-

Mains

Roast Turkey with Yorkshire pudding

Steak & Kidney pudding encased in suet pastry

Haddock Fillet with a herb crust on creamy mash with a white wine cream sauce

Desserts

Pavlova with fresh berries and passion fruit coulis

Vanilla cream Brulee served with a compote.

Millionaire chocolate tart served with caramel ice-cream

2 scoops of home-made ice-cream

Thursday 27th April is the date of our Annual General Meeting, starting at 11.00 am at The White Swan Hotel.

It's time to elect our officers and committee members for the new Probus year but, before that, the outgoing officers may want to report on the year ending.

The committee has been considering the possible new team and propose the following:-

David Feist, current VP and pictured right, will become President for 2023-2024, continuing the policy of natural progression;

Brian Arthur to be the new Vice President;

Richard Brennan to continue as Secretary;

Charlie Meggs to continue as Treasurer and

Bob Tanner to lumber on as Speaker Secretary and Editor of this APT

Barry Hopkins will remain on the committee as Immediate Past President and become Welfare Secretary.



Other nominations have been invited and should be sent to the Secretary at least one week in advance of the AGM. In the absence of other nominations, the above-named members will be proposed together.

A general discussion will follow the elections and the induction of the new President..

How was the last Probus year for you? How was your attendance record? How could you be encouraged to attend more often, if not a regular attendee? Did you stay for lunch? If not, what changes would persuade you to stay in future? Do we pay enough for lunch at the hotel to receive a reasonable meal? What were the best aspects of your previous club that you would like to see adopted by the Arundel club, assuming you came from another club? What about the speakers? Were they interesting, informative, useful and perhaps amusing? Did any keep you away? What topics would you like covered in the coming year that aren't already booked? What part can you play in the running of the club next year?

These are typical of the topics we can discuss after the elections. The new committee will be guided by your comments so we do hope you will be able to attend and give the new President a good start to his year of office.

Pub Lunch at Worthing Indoor Bowls Club

Not exactly a pub but we had our March Pub Lunch at Worthing's Indoor Bowls Club nevertheless, and very enjoyable it was too. They never let us down at the WIBC and the lamb was as delicious as ever. So were the other choices available and nothing was left uneaten. The bar prices were very attractive indeed.

Twenty nine of us went happily out into the rain at the end. Sincere thanks to Charlie for organising this one. I'm sure we will go back again.

First Lady Member

I know it's April 1st but it's actually true. We have our first Lady member.

Please continue to give a warm welcome to Pam Benstead of Arundel.

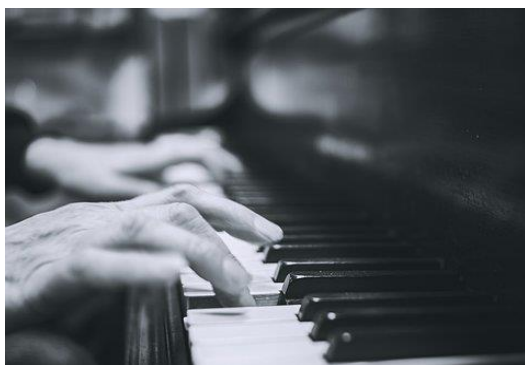
Proposed by Tim Jowitt and seconded by me, Pam's interests include gardening, walking, keeping fit and eating out.

We hope you enjoy your membership, Pam.

Thank you so much for joining us.



All that Jazz Some friends and I have been going to the monthly West Chilt Jazz Club in West Chiltington, not a place I had associated with this style of music, but it really has been very enjoyable. You may know it too. Hearing the best of Ellington, Basie, Goodman and the rest played live by brilliant musicians is good for the soul and provides some welcome respite in these troubled times.



The band playing in March was made up of seven instrumentalists each of whom was, in my opinion, a virtuoso of his instrument. Some played more than one: the clarinetist also played saxophone; the trombonist was amazing with his harmonica and the guitarist played a mean banjo. The pianist, drummer and bass player were all exceptional and three of the band had solid, jazzy voices.

Like many downland villages, West Chiltington has a spacious village hall which easily accomodates over a hundred jazz enthusiasts, seated at tables and enjoying the evening with a glass of something from the bar.

Last month we drove home as the snow started to fall with broad smiles on our faces and our feet still tapping the beat. This happy music can do no harm. But who was it who said "I love jazz; I just don't like the sound it makes". What a heathen!



Years ago, an English couple were checking in to an hotel in Texas when the desk clerk asked if they had any discount cards. Sadly, they had none and the man showed the doubting clerk his wallet . The clerk spotted a B and Q card. "That's fine" he said, "your Bush and Quayle loyalty card will do".

A Word of Advice Never go to a doctor with dying plants in the waiting room.

Fact is stranger than fiction

This a true story which illustrates the absurdity of many decisions in US courts.



Courtesy Winnebago

Mrs.Merv Grazinski of Oklahoma City purchased a new Winnebago camper van.

On her first trip alone, she drove onto the motorway and set the cruise control at 70 mph. She then left the driver's seat and went to the back of the Winnebago to make herself a sandwich.

Not surprisingly, the vehicle left the motorway before crashing and overturning. Also unsurprisingly, Mrs Grazinski, who was not seriously injured, later sued Winnebago for not mentioning in the owner's manual that she could not leave the driver's seat while the cruise control was set and the vehicle was in motion.

The Oklahoma jury awarded her \$1,750,000 plus a new motor home. Winnebago actually changed their owners' manual as a result of this case.

Arundel Probus Speaker Programme 2023

- April 27th AGM (No speaker)
- May 25th Duncan Levin - Antarctic Odyssey
- June 22 Brian Arthur - D-day and The Royal Navy
- July 27 Hartley Elder - Sussex Blood Bikers
- August 24 Angela McCasall (HSBC) - Fraud
- September 28 Ian Goodall "Glorious Gannets of the Bass Rock"
- October 26th Dave Pidoux - "Taxi !"

When I lost two fingers on my right hand in a freak accident I asked the surgeon if I would still be able to write as I am right-handed. He said "Probably, but don't count on it".

My brother started walking five miles a day when he turned 75. Now he is 80 and we have no idea where he is.

It's never too late to start cross-country skiing but take my advice and begin with a small country.

My wife asked what I was doing today so I said "nothing". She said that's what you did all day yesterday. I said "Yes, but I haven't finished yet."

Did you know that dolphins are very intelligent ? Within a few weeks of captivity they can train people to stand on the edge of their pool and throw fish at them.

I once dated a girl who told me she had a twin. I asked her how I could tell them apart. She said she always paints her fingernails blue and her twin has a beard.

Five refugee ants broke into a house where five other ants were already living. Now they're tenants.

Why are so many British people against eating horse meat?

For those of you who haven't, I can assure you it tastes pretty good with far less fat than beef and is therefore better for you. Alas, it's not easy to find, even if you were tempted to try it in the UK, but elsewhere it is far more available and pactly every butcher in France will sell you some.

I think the aversion to eating horse meat is to do with the very idea of eating this lovely, intelligent animal. The animal that grand-daughter Chloe rides every week; the one that brother Martin bets on every day. (Not exactly the same animal, you understand) or the one that Grandma used to feed a carrot as it brought her morning milk. Sentimental stuff but understandable.

We have no such aversion to eating fluffy bunnies, delightful sping lambs, sweet little piglets or Bambi. Why not? What's the difference?

The story broke last month that Tesco's burgers may have contained the odd gee gee or two and all hell broke loose, whether true or not. You would have thought they had been found to contain plutonium or human remains. Inevitably, the story spawned some wittycisms in the media and here are a few :-

Anyone want some burgers from Tesco? Yay or neigh? Not sure how Tesco are going to get over this hurdle.

I had a tesco burger last night..... still have a bit between my teeth. The burgers in my fridge are OFF!

The person admitted to hospital after eating horse meat is in a stable condition.

Tesco are testing their vegan burgers for the presence of unicorn.

(Did you notice the horse box behind the White Swan hotel as we arrived for the last meeting/lunch? Bon Appetit.) – Not true really.

Lady on a bike report

What an interesting talk Pam Goodall from Horsham gave us at the March meeting. She will be forever known as “the Lady on a Bike” having cycled 10,000 miles around the world alone and in her sixties.

Pam had her bike tailor-made in England and painted red before setting out on her marathon journey. Cycling through Kent to the channel port, she quickly realised that sixty miles using only peddle power takes a lot longer than in a car. Having crossed the channel she travelled through France, Germany and Hungary, following the Danube “because it has a flat cycle path for most of its one thousand miles length”.

Almost overwhelmed by the kindness of strangers who offered help, food, accomodation etc - sometimes for several days – she proceeded through India and Pakistan where everyone travels by bike. In China, those who had practically nothing were the kindest and most generous of all.

Crossing over to the Americas, Pam cycled through Mexico before having to face a third-degree grilling at the US border until her interrogater stated “I guess I should let you go then”. She cycled on through Florida to Texas and met a far cooler reception than elsewhere. It was sometimes even hostile. For many americans the world is that part of the earth between the east and west coast of America. An audience she spoke to in the Mid-west were unimpressed that she had already cycled throughout Europe and Asia but were incredulous and became animated on hearing she had cycled all he way from Texas!

This tough lady impressed all of us who heard her talk with her bravery, courage, strength of character and fortitude but were surprised that she always needed a man to repair a puncture!

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Nearly forty people attended the March meeting, including several guests, to hear Pam Goodall’s talk. All were warmly welcomed by President Barry and thirty seven stayed to enjoy a very tasty lunch.. It was good to see all four tables full.

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What’s on next month? May

11th May Pub Lunch The Spur, Slindon, kindly organised by Hilary.

25th May Regular club Meeting, White Swan Hotel. Speaker: Duncan Levin “Antarctic Odyssey”

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Wait, wait... you're telling me...



If I pee in the yard, I get a TREAT?



I HAD A BAD DREAM, CAN I SLEEP WITH YOU GUYS?

We British are well known for our sense of humour. It doesn't have to be cruel, vulgar, rude or insulting to be amusing or funny, sometimes in a clever way. Plays-on-words are popular and one can even trade on them.



Best wishes. Don't eat too many Easter Eggs.
I can help with any surplus. Bob

