

ARUNDEL PROBUS TIMES

1st APRIL 2022

1st April Fools' day.

3rd Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race

14th Pub lunch at Worthing Indoor Bowls Club

15th Good Friday

16th Arundel Farmers' Market

17th Easter Sunday

18th Easter Monday

28th Probus AGM and talk on "Weather Lore"



Arundel Probus Club votes to admit ladies

The Club's EGM on 24th March discussed, debated and voted with the future of the club in mind and noted the decision of the Committee to admit lady members from 1st April. All 21 members attending were invited to speak by President Chris and all did so.

Then it came to the vote and the result of a show of hands on the day, plus two absent members' decisions, relayed in advance to the Secretary, showed 21 in favour and 2 against. There were no abstentions.

Members later adjourned to the bar before an enjoyable lunch. They were joined by a new applicant, David Purdoux, who will be formally inducted at the next meeting.

The Committee has agreed to dispense with the circulation of Minutes and replace them with Notes of Meetings to be included in this APT. The Secretary will still send items of greater importance to members individually.

Notes from the 24th March Meetings:-

- The Club will welcome Ladies into membership from April
- From May the Committee will meet at 10.00 but the main meeting is still from 11.00
- Speakers will speak first, to be followed by items of Club business, then bar/lunch
- The Club will be promoting membership at the Arundel Community Fayre on 26th
- Speakers/Subjects for the next five months. All confirmed but subject to detail.

April 28th "Weather Lore" William This is also the AGM

May 26th Live Owls demonstration

June 23rd "Air Ambulance" Kent, Surrey, Sussex

July 28th "Tangmere Aviation Museum"

August 25th "Horticulture inside HMP – Ford". Steve Porter

- David Tippet's last organised Pub Lunch will be at the Worthing Indoor Bowls Club on 14th April after which PL's will be dependent on a Member willing to organise one (See below)
- The Membership Book will be reproduced soon and will contain details of all paid-up members. If you would like a new photo of yourself taken for inclusion in the card let me know please. There will also be an opportunity to update your details
- The Committee will be considering how to improve the Pub Lunch experience
- The 28th April is the AGM, for members only. There will also be a speaker.

The Pub Lunch

Not everyone regards PLs in the same way, which is understandable. One member said “.....it’s only a Pub Lunch”, missing the point, I feel, that for many the mid-day meal can be the most important meal of the day. Our Club’s monthly Pub Lunches are the high of the week, or of the month even, for some members, with or without partners, and every effort should be made to ensure they are fun, enjoyable and good value for money. They are one of the most important parts of our Club’s activities which is why attendance has regularly been higher at Pub Lunches than at regular club meetings and lunches.

Useful comments were made at the March meeting regarding Pub Lunches and these will be considered at a future Cttee meeting. Ideas included an option to choose only one course, perhaps chosen from the Pub’s menu offerings on the day.

David Feist has kindly volunteered to organise the next Pub Lunch.

...Club lunch at the Ship and Anchor on Thursday 12th May

Firstly, I would like to thank David Tippett for the excellent effort he put in, in arranging the pub lunches for the past several years. I would make clear that pub lunches will only continue if members organise them. Should anyone require assistance David and I would be pleased to assist.

Secondly, I shall start the ball rolling by arranging a pub lunch on Thursday 12th May at an old favourite, the Ship and Anchor at Ford. A menu is being prepared and will be with you all shortly. Our hosts Joy and Paul always make us welcome and provide us with a good hearty meal. I look forward to welcoming you all to this favourite venue. David Feist

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June Pub Lunch at The Squire and Horse, Bury on Thursday 9th June. I’ll do this one. Bob.
Full details in May APT.

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The 28th April club meeting is the 2022 Annual General Meeting and all officers have to stand down, prior to elections for the following positions:- President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Speaker Secretary and Welfare Officer. With the exception of Social Secretary, all officers are willing to stand again and David Feist has volunteered to take responsibility for club lunches at The White Swan. (From May, all Pub Lunches will be dependent on a member willing to organise one.)
Nominations for all these positions are also invited from the general membership.

The Committee nominates VP Barry Hopkins as the 2022 – 2023 President and David Feist as Vice President.

As stated above, we also have a Speaker on 28th April as Bill Avenell from Pulborough is returning, this time to tell us all about Weather Lore and the origins of sayings like “Red sky at night.....”
The Secretary has circulated the Flyer already.

Bill will give his illustrated talk before the AGM so don’t be late and do stay for lunch, weather permitting!



The following exchange of letters is somewhat longer than the normal inclusions in APT but I think worthy of being here. I'll leave you to judge, with apologies to you who may have seen it before.

Lt. Colonel Robert Maclaren retired from the British Army in 2001 after a long and fulfilling career. On the day that he retired he received a letter from the Personnel Department of the Ministry of Defence setting out details of his pension and, in particular, the tax-free "lump sum" award, (based upon completed years of service), that he would receive in addition to his monthly pension. The letter read,

Dear Lt. Colonel Maclaren,

We write to confirm that you retired from the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards on 1st March 2001 at the rank of Lt Colonel, having been commissioned at Edinburgh Castle as a 2nd Lieutenant on 1st February 1366. Accordingly, your lump sum payment, based on years served, has been calculated as £68,500. You will receive a cheque for this amount in due course.

Yours sincerely,
Army Paymaster

Colonel Maclaren replied;

Dear Paymaster,

Thank you for your recent letter confirming that I served as an officer in the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards between 1st February 1366 and 1st March 2001, a total period of 635 years and 1 month.

I note however that you have calculated my lump sum to be £68,500, which seems to be considerably less than it should be, bearing in mind my length of service since I received my commission from King Edward III.

By my calculation, allowing for interest payments and currency fluctuations, my lump sum should actually be £6,427,586,619.47p.

I look forward to receiving a cheque for this amount in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Maclaren (Lt Col Retd)

A month passed by until in early April, a stout manila envelope dropped through Col. Maclaren's letterbox.

Dear Lt Colonel Maclaren,

We have reviewed the circumstances of your case as outlined in your recent letter to us dated 8th March inst. We do indeed confirm that you were commissioned into the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards by King Edward III at Edinburgh Castle on 1st February 1366, and that you served continuously for the following 635 years and 1 month.

We have re-calculated your pension and have pleasure in confirming that the lump sum payment due to you is indeed £6,427,586,619.47p.

However, we also note that according to our records you are the only surviving officer who had command responsibility during the following campaigns and battles;

The Wars of the Roses 1455-1485 (Including the battles of Bosworth Field, Barnet and Towton) The Civil War 1642-1651 (Including the battles of Edge Hill, Naseby and the conquest of Ireland)

The Napoleonic War 1803-1815 (including the Peninsular War and the battle of Waterloo), The Crimean War (1853-1856) (including the battle of Sebastopol and the Charge of the Light Brigade)

The Boer War (1899-1902), WW1 and WW2 (including the battles of the Somme, El Alamein and Normandy).

We therefore wish to know what happened to the following, which do not appear to have been returned to Stores by you on completion of operations :- 9,765 Cannon, 26,785 Swords, 12,889 Pikes, 127,345 Rifles (with bayonets), 28,987 horses (fully kitted). Plus, three complete marching bands with instruments and banners.

We have calculated the total cost of these items and they amount to £6,427,518,119.47p. We have therefore subtracted this from your lump sum, leaving a residual amount of £68,500, for which you will receive a cheque in due course.

Yours sincerely, Army Paymaster

Two elderly ladies, Dolly and Ruby, were talking about their grandchildren. Dolly said, "Every year I send each of my grandchildren a card with a generous cheque inside. I never hear back from them. I never receive even a thank you message."

Ruby replies, "I also send my grandchildren a very generous cheque and I hear from them within a week after they receive it. In fact, they each pay me a personal visit."

"Wow! How come? What's the secret?" asked Dolly.

"I have a very simple solution... I don't sign the cheques!"

Before last Christmas I ordered a book on-line entitled "How to Avoid On-line Scams".

It still hasn't arrived.



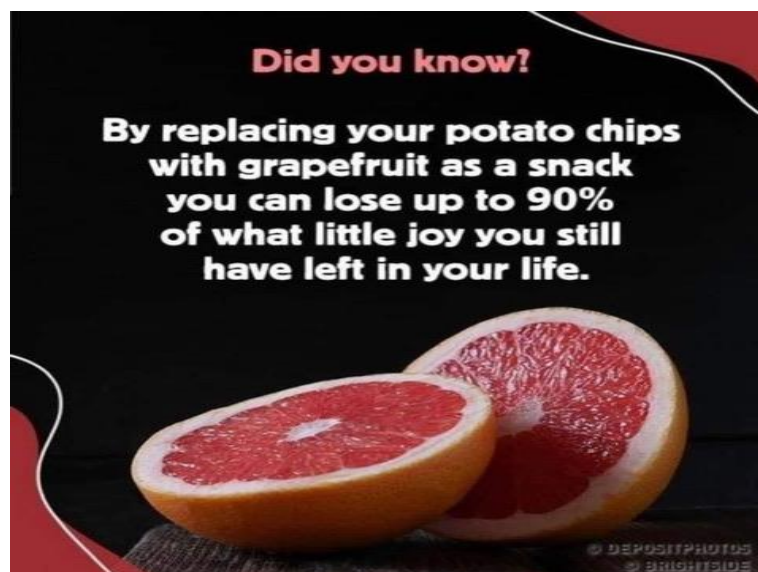
For those of you still learning to speak proper English, like what I does, try reading these out loud, and quickly.

If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper, where's the peck of pickled pepper Peter Piper picked?

She sells seashells on the seashore.

How much chuck would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Two chaps are sitting at a bar having a beer. One is reading a National Geographic when he turns to the other and says, "Did you know that lions have sex up to ten times a day?" The other chap stares into his beer and replies, " I wish I had known that earlier. I've just joined Rotary."



A friend rang Barry Cryer, not long before he died, and asked him how he was. He answered "Oh, alright, but I'm not buying any green bananas".

Man who leaps off cliff jumps to conclusion.

Man who runs in front of car gets tired, but man who runs behind car gets exhausted. Man who drives like hell is bound to get there.

When I was young, I was poor. But after years of hard work, I am no longer young.

MOTHER IN LAW
CAME FOR DINNER
AND SAID "WHY DOES
YOUR DOG KEEP
LOOKING AT ME"

I SAID "IT'S BECAUSE
YOU'RE USING HIS
PLATE"

SO YOU'RE TELLING ME

YOU DRIVE A MILE TO THE GYM
TO WALK A MILE ON A TREADMILL?

Found an extra pair of boots at the worksite so I decided to give my boss a heart attack



The annual Membership subscription is the usual £40 for the new Club year and it can now be paid to Charlie, our Treasurer, please.

As we come to the end of another Club year this is a good opportunity to send the Club's very warmest good wishes to those loyal members who have not been able to attend many, if any, meetings in 2021/2022 for one reason or another. I am not going to name you as you know who you are but thank you, sincerely.

Happy Easter!

Bob