



Who knows where the path will lead us in 2023? Only time will tell.

Surely it cannot be as eventful a year as 2022 with the passing of HMQE2, three PMs in quick succession, a financial crisis, Covid still a threat, a war in Europe and England not winning the World Cup!

One thing is certain: membership of Arundel Probus Club is good for you, it can raise your spirits, bring a smile to your face, perhaps add a few pounds to your waisline and all without too much harm to your pocket.

At the turn of the year the club has 40 members, including 8 newcomers joining in 2022 and 7 Honorary Members. Things are looking good.

A very Happy and Healthy New Year to one and all.



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What's on this month – January

There's **no Pub Lunch** in January as it is considered "recovery time" after the events of Christmas and New Year, but it's good to have a break, even if you are not suffering from the festivities.

Club meetings resume on Thursday 26th January at the White Swan Hotel when we have a very special speaker. Have you heard of fore edge painting? Neither had I until I came across our next speaker, Martin Frost, from Worthing. Don't miss his talk at our January meeting. You will be fascinated by Martin's very rare talent so look out for the Flyer which will brief you.

We should be hungry again by then so make sure you stay for lunch. Please advise **David Tippett** regarding your choices for the January lunch. His details are dave.tippett@btinternet.com 01903 771342 and please pay by BACS into Arundel Probus Club Business Account A/C No 10642681 Sort code 20-20-62. Mark payment Janlunch. It is still only £18 and Menu choices will follow soon.

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Many Happy Returns of today to Charlie, still our youngest and most treasured member.

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And here's the Speaker programme for the next seven months.

January 26 th	Martin Frost	Fore edge Painting
February 23 rd	Tim Jowitt	Living in France
March 23 rd	Pam Goodall	Lady on a Bike
April 27 th	AGM	(No speaker)
May 25 th	Hartley Elder	Sussex Blood Bikers
June 22 nd	Brian Arthur	The Royal Navy & D-Day
July 27 th	Duncan Lavin	Antartic Adventure

Can you help? When writing about club events I am never sure what to call a collection of members and partners. So, I invite a few suggestions. There's no prize for the winning entrant other than to be immortalised for ever in club literature. (Keep it clean, please.)

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Dai Jones, a famous Welsh rugby player, dies and is welcomed warmly at the gates of heaven. "Welcome Dai, I remember that great try you scored against England which won us both the match and the championship. That was great!" said the welcoming Saint. "Thank you very much" said Dai, "but I have always felt guilty about that try because I thought my foot was over the touch line and out of play. "Oh no" said the Saint, "it was a perfectly good try and you deserved all the praise. Welcome, come in, come in". "Thank you, that's such a relief. Thank you Saint Peter", said Dai. "I am not Saint Peter" said the Saint, "He is busy today. I am Saint David". **Thank you, Michael Weaver.**

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A married couple, both aged 62, were visited by a fairy who granted them each one wish.

"I would love a cruise around the world with my darling husband", said the wife, and two first-class tickets miraculously appeared in her hand.

"My wish is to have a wife thirty years younger than I am" said the husband, who immediately became 92 years old.

Moral of story: Ungrateful and greedy b.....s should remember that all fairies are female.

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The Changing Face of Arundel. In many ways Arundel is timeless with its quaint streets, attractive old houses, antique shops and a cathedral and castle to boot, but something else has certainly changed and continues to do so.

When "air B and B" was first introduced it seemed a good idea. Home owners with a spare room or two could let them out to visitors, perhaps in town for a wedding or funeral etc. but it's gone far beyond that early concept. Arundel reportedly now has over 60 "air B and Bs" and the number continues to increase. Even the District Council is getting in on the act and has given itself Planning Permission to demolish seven much-needed garages in the town centre and to purpose-build its own large "air B and B" property! Many owners of this type of property live elsewhere and houses are being bought by people who already own several "air B and Bs". It's crazy.

A few Christmases ago I actually felt sorry for Father Christmas. Can you believe that? He was in our street one early evening with a party of carol singers and he asked me "where are the children?" He had hoped to meet many of them and to promise them lots of presents if they were good children. "There aren't any young children living locally as many family homes are now "air B and Bs" and empty at this time of year", I had to tell him. He was astonished.

Arundel is certainly not the only place to experience this phenonemom but one has to question the logic in continuing a policy which is changing communities, detrimentally.

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This is not a Scam

If you are told to ask my permission before ordering something in the January sales, please do so by e-mail. I will always approve every reasonable request, on payment of a 10% commission.

Sincerely

Bill Payment

"Mr. Murphy, "I have reviewed this case very carefully" the divorce court judge said, "And I have decided to give your wife £775 a week."
"That's very fair your honor" the husband said, "And every now and then I will try to send her a few quid myself"



The White Swan hotel is planning to hire a new waiter to help bring customers' food to the tables. This could be a big success or a crashing mistake. You have been warned.

Recalling Trooping the Colour, Horseguards Parade, London

I was on Guard of Honour, waiting for the King of Saudi Arabia.

Right flank; Scots Guards (100 guardsmen) a gap, HM Queen, mounted in uniform, and the CO, Colonel Gerald, a gap, then, left flank, the Queen's Company Grenadier Guards (100 guardsmen).

We're stood at ease, waiting.

Colonel Gerald's charger erupted with horse farts, full volume for two minutes.

Colonel Gerald says, "Sorry about that your Majesty!"

She replies, in a wonderful voice, "That's alright Gerald, . . . I thought it was your horse!"

200 guardsmen silently cried with laughter and tapped their rifle butts on the gravel.

From that moment, every man there adored her!

Did you know?

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue.

A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.

A goldfish has a memory span of 3 seconds.

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for 3 years.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without knee-caps: they don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years

Butterflies taste with their feet.

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds. Dogs only have about 10.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

You know now.

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I have just read a report about the dangers of drinking alcohol, and it has really worried me so I am going to change my ways. I am giving up reading in 2023.

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Friendship is when someone knows all about you but still likes you anyway.
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Paddy stumbles across a mass baptism at a river.

He walks into the river and stands next to the preacher

“Are you ready to find Jesus my son?”

Paddy says “I am Sir”

Preacher puts him under the water and asks “Have you found Jesus?”

“No Sir”. The preacher puts him under for longer and asks the same question.

“No Sir”. So the preacher puts him under for at least two minutes.

“Have you found Jesus?”

Paddy says “Are you sure this is where he fell in?”
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Wi-fi went down for five minutes, so I had to talk to my family. They seem like nice people.

Duke of Wellington's Letter
From Spain to Whitehall
August 1812

Gentlemen

Whilst marching from Portugal to a position which commands the approach to Madrid and the French forces, my officers have been diligently complying with your requests, which have been sent by HM ship from London to Lisbon and thence by dispatch rider to our Headquarters.

We have enumerated our saddles, bridles, tents and tent poles and all manner of sundry items for which His Majesty's Government holds me accountable. I have dispatched reports on the character, wit and spleen of every Officer. Each item and every farthing has been accounted for, with two regrettable exceptions for which I beg your indulgence.

Unfortunately the sum of one shilling and nine-pence remains unaccounted for in one infantry battalions petty cash and there has been hideous confusion as to the number of jars of raspberry jam issued to one cavalry regiment during a sandstorm in Western Spain. This reprehensible carelessness may be related to the pressure of circumstances, since we are at war with France, a fact which may come as a bit of a surprise to you gentlemen in Whitehall.

This brings me to my present purpose, which is to request elucidation of my instructions from His Majesty's Government so that I may better understand why I am dragging an army over these barren plains. I construe that perforce it must be one of two alternative duties, as given below. I shall pursue either one with my best ability, but I cannot do both.

- 1 To train an army of uniformed British Clerks in Spain for the benefit of the accountants and copy-boys in London or perchance
- 2 To see to it that the forces of Napoleon are driven out of Spain.

Your most obedient servant.

Wellington

Arundel Community Orchard Group.....

Invites everyone on Saturday 14th January to their **Sunset Wassail** at Herrington's Field, Fitzalan Road, Arundel at 3.15, for about an hour..

Join the Green Man and Sompting Morris Dancers in celebrating this ancient tradition which involves anointing the apple trees with mulled wine to encourage a bumper harvest in 2023. There will be mulled wine to drink and bring your drums, whistles, pots and pans to awaken the trees from their winter slumber.



What's on next month? February 2023

At the time of writing this newsletter there is no volunteer willing to organise a Pub Lunch on 9th February. Come on chaps: we can't let this happen. Will someone please organise a pub lunch for your hungry and thirsty mates and partners?

Thursday 23rd Monthly club meeting at the White Swan hotel. The speaker is our own **Tim Jowitt** who will tell us all about **Living in France**. Maximum support encouraged, s-il vous plait.

*A very happy and healthy New Year to all Arundel
Probus Club's friends and families. Bob*

p.s.

Let me know when you hear the first cuckoo.



