

ARUNDEL PROBUS TIMES

1st MAY 2024

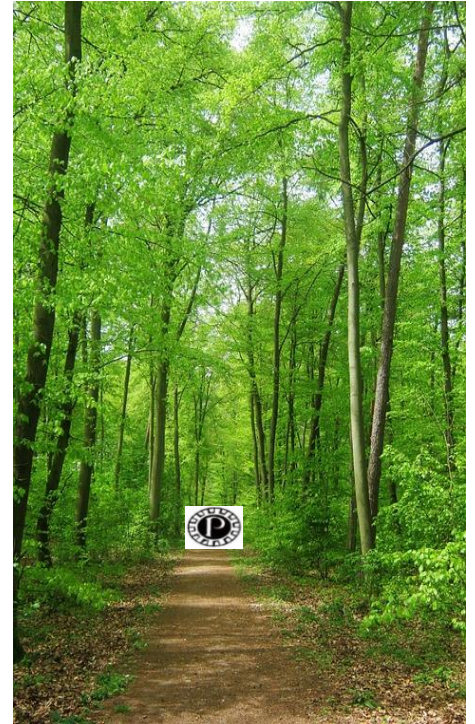
Issue No 50

It's hard to believe that this is the fiftieth edition of this light-hearted, monthly newsletter which started life as an attempt to keep members informed and cheerful during the dark days of Covid. I believe it was largely successful and helped to ease the gloom of isolation, restrictions and closures.

The jabs helped too, of course, and the majority of us came through the pandemic unscathed. Correct me if I am wrong.

For me, having had Covid twice, the symptoms didn't seem so bad. More like a bad dose of flu, but being locked in the bedroom for two weeks was the worst part. I was lucky, but I still had my booster jab last week, so get yours too. Covid is still around. Meanwhile, some of us can enjoy an exhilarating walk through the spring woodland, which is a tonic in itself. Do try and find a sunny day when it's not raining. Good luck !

Sadly, there are still dark days with us, for different reasons: the economy, climate change, wars, pot-holes etc so maybe this APT still has a role to play !



What's on this month? May

Thursday 9th Pub Lunch, The Lamb, Angmering – thanks to Les Beale. (If you haven't ordered already !)

Mains

Crispy chicken leg, haricot bean, chorizo and carrot cassoulet, spinach, red wine jus.

Pan fried fillet of hake, creamy garlic and parsley potatoes, samphire.

Fresh tagliatelle, artichoke hearts, asparagus, sun kissed tomato, spinach, olive oil, chilli and parmesan.

Desserts

Chocolate delice, pistachio and white chocolate ice cream, pistachio crumb.

Rhubarb and apple crumble, amaretti topping, clotted cream ice cream.

Sussex cheese plate.

Two course lunch including coffee or tea £24 Including tip. Arrive 12.00 for sit down at 12.30 prompt.

Send your choice of menu to Les Beale at thebeales@wanadoo.fr Telephone No.01903 885567

Payment by BACs preferred. Mark your payment Maypl. Cheques can be sent to 21 Batworth Park House, Crossbush, Arundel, BN18 9PG. Let Les know how you are going to pay to allow him to advise the Treasurer.

It would help if you can advise Les if you are unable to attend, having booked.

Thursday 23rd May Regular Meeting, The White Swan hotel

Speaker. Andrew Warren "The Wonders of Aroma".. (Explanatory Flyer will follow).

Lunch Menu choices .

Mains

Grilled seabass fillet, tomato and coriander sauce, buttered new potatoes, roasted vegetables

Spring vegetable and tomato gnocchi, pesto, garlic bread

Breaded chicken fillet stuffed with sausage, bacon and cider sauce, herby potatoes, buttered leeks

Dessert

Croissant and sultana pudding, pouring cream

Cheese and biscuits

Trio of ice cream

Orders, please to Bob Tanner, bobtanner1809@gmail.com 07817 553357 by Sunday 19th May. Please confirm method of payment. The preferred option is by on-line BACS payment to the club's Business Account A/C no 10642681 Sort Code 20-20-62. Mark payment Maylun Cost £24 inc

Cheques and cash payments may be handed to Bob at the meeting, or payments made using the Card reader, but please order meals by the preferred date.

Here's a fun idea - from a friend of the club.

I am inviting readers to e-mail (or write) telling me what information they would not want to receive. (Don't include tragic family news).

Examples are "How to cook tripe and onions" or "You have won a pot-holing/hang-gliding/free-fall parachuting course". Voice on phone. "Good-day cousin. I am Bruce from Australia, son of your late Aunt Nel. Me and the wife, Sheila, are touring the UK and will be in Arundel tomorrow. We'll be with you around 9.30. You haven't met my kids either yet. You'll love all five of them".

I'll include the best of them in a future APT. Bob

Denmans Garden - April Pub Lunch

Twenty-six members, partners and friends attended the first club lunch at Denmans for many years and were only disappointed by the weather. Sadly, one couple who had planned to attend didn't make it, but another brought their grandson along. Perhaps a future member! Adam and his team served us well.

This was not the warm, sunny spring day hoped for to enjoy a walk around the garden after lunch but an overcast, grey day with rain in the air. However, the rain did hold off and the gardens looked lovely. President David even stopped to have a word with a Yucca. Those members unable to walk on the day could delay to a later Thursday..



AGM Report + Quiz Twenty-one members attended the 2024 AGM on 25th April and there were no surprises. Brian Arthur was inducted as President for the next year (see photo), with Ian Goodall as Vice President. Long-serving Secretary Richard Brennan continues in office, as does Charlie Meggs, Treasurer, until a successor can be found. Bob Tanner will carry on as Speaker Secretary and becomes Hotel Liaison. It is up to individuals to organise pub lunches.

Traditionally a members-only event, there were no partners at the AGM so the lunch was rather depleted. However, eighteen members enjoyed a hearty lunch which augers well for the future. Perhaps we should have a good speaker, post AGM, next year to attract some partners who may not be keen on quizzes. That's one for discussion.

In his annual report, Past President David thanked fellow officers and members for another successful year and said it had been a privilege to serve as President in his twelfth year of membership. He encouraged more members to give a talk, to organise a pub lunch and to contribute to the APT. Newly-elected President Brian thanked David for his year of service and presented him with his Past-President's tie and pin. Thus, the club evolved into another illustrious year in its continuing history!

David had prepared a quiz to follow the AGM and this proved challenging but fun. As usual, some of David's questions were impossible to answer (by me).km Did you know the capitol of El Salvador? I do now and some did already. Congratulations to Brian Culverwell for winning the Quiz, and the raffle on the day.

There followed the usual rush to the bar where your reporter's favourite ale was once again unavailable. Never mind.

Christine Brocklebank. A regular presence at club events, Christine sadly passed away on Easter Sunday after a short illness. Our thoughts go out to husband Stephen and family at this very sad time, and with our sincere condolences. Christine's funeral was at the new Arun crematorium on 24th April when several Probus couples attended. Donations to St Wilfred's Hospice, Bosham, are invited.

The club stood for a minute's silence in memory of Christine at its meeting on 25th April.

Charles Smiles We welcome new member Charles Smiles into the club. Charles, an ex-Police Officer and retired Shell Executive, lives in Arundel with wife Gill and cites his classic car, reading and cooking amongst hobbies. Give them a warm welcome when you meet.

Covid booster. Yipee! It's time to get another Covid booster jab. You may already have been invited to receive your Spring Covid-19 booster. They are only available until the end of June for those over 75 by then, so don't delay. You probably know the procedure by now. Good luck.

After mine, they advised me not to drive for fifteen minutes so I didn't. It only took me ten to drive home!

Subscriptions

Annual subs are due on 1st May (today) and have not increased for another year. They are the only source of Club funds and vital in keeping the club afloat – (apart from the monthly raffle which helps provide the Christmas lunch prizes.)

Please pay your £40 annual subscription promptly. BACS payments are preferred and please do not add payment together with lunch payments. A/C no. 10642681 Sort Code 20-20-62 Mark transfer "Subs".

Cheques, made out to Probus Club of Arundel, may be handed in at the May meeting but also without other payments. This makes it easier for our Treasurer – and the bank. The card reader will also be available.

Your new Membership Book will be issued in July when it will include all paid-up members.



The British yacht "Winston" had lost its rudder in very rough weather and was drifting in the North Sea towards rocks on the Jutland peninsula.

Yachtsman Brennan sent out an urgent call for help. "Mayday, Mayday. This is Winston. I am sinking."

Kurt Munster, the young, new-recruit at the Coastguard centre near Hamburg, picked up the call and replied.

"Ello Winston. I am Kurt. Vot are you zinking about?"

Don't be envious and try to realise: next door's greener lawn may be due to their leaking drain problem.



Tragic news, or is it ?

"Young mother pushes baby in pram off the end of Brighton's Palace Pier."

Luckily, it was the landward end.

"Foreign truck driver goes the wrong way round Arundel's western roundabout during rush hour."

Luckily, he was on foot.

“Southdown bus driver travels from Littlehampton to Felpham on the wrong side of the road.”

Luckily, he was riding along the cycle path.

Free-fall, sky-diver descended from 25,000 feet but did not deploy his parachute. He landed un-injured.

He never left the plane.

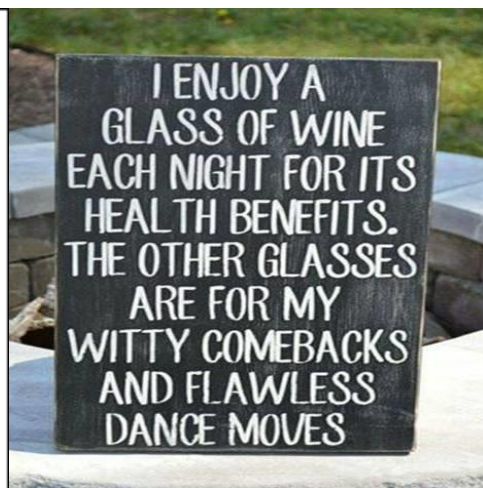
Marley Packer, the captain of the England Women's Rugby Union team, who trained as a plumber, first played the game when she was eleven. At her club, the Boys' under 12 team was short of a player and Marley was asked to play. As she ran on to the pitch a boy in the opposing team shouted “ eh look, they got a girl playing for them. ” Marley stopped, looked him in the eyes and said, “ I'll remember you “. Half-way through the first half she tackled the boy, and flattened him. When he eventually got up he was crying . His mother ran on to the pitch and complained loudly that such a tackle should not be allowed and took her son out of the game. Marley went on to play for her country and is now England's captain. Her team is currently undefeated ! England's Women won the Six Nations again by beating France 42 – 21 last Saturday, in France. “I'm glad I gave up playing rugby for the Under 80s !” MW



This is not Marley Packer !

Is May your favourite month? It ranks highly with me. There's the summer to come. Winter and a very wet spring are fast becoming distant memories. The sun is high (sometimes), and up early, and one can stay outside in daylight 'til late if you want/can. Yet it's not even warm yet. In fact, it's flippin' cold. The garden should be at its best – if you have one - and there's so much happening in and around Arundel. What's not to like? There are thirty-one days of May to enjoy, if you can, so do your best. (That's 2,678,400 seconds)

My doctor has given me three days to give up drinking. I've picked the 5th of June, July 17th and October 9th!!



What's on next month, June?

Thursday 13th June Pub Lunch, jointly with Bognor Probus club, at The Holly Tree pub in the village of Walberton. A contingent of about fifteen members and partners from Bognor is likely to join us at a pub we have not visited before. Do hope you can be there. It's not posh but the food is good, the plates are full and there's a large car park. You can also park on the street. Full address is The Holly Tree, The Street, Walberton, BN18 0PH



This pub was built in 1867 and had a major makeover a few years ago. Have a look at its website www.thehollytreewalberton.com

Main Course **Steak, Mushroom & Dark Ale, Double Crust Pie, Mash, Roasted Carrots, Summer Greens, Gravy**
Chicken Kiev. Breaded Chicken Breast stuffed with Tarragon & Confit Garlic Butter Served with Bacon, Green Beans & Peas, New Potatoes
Roasted Cauliflower & Hazelnut Risotto (Gf, V,Va,N). Roasted Cauliflower, Truffle Oil, Parmesan & Hazelnut Crisp
Battered Plaice Fillet- (Gf, DF) Chunky Chips, Pea mayonnaise, Tartar salad, Fresh Lemon

Desserts **Sticky Toffee Pudding. Salted Caramel Sauce, Toffee Crunch Ice Cream (Gf) Coffee Crème Brulee (GFA) with Chocolate Brownie, Vanilla Ice Cream Apple and Berry Crumble, Vanilla Custard**

Tea or Coffee to Finish

£24 inc tip

Lunch orders please to Bob Tanner, bobtanner1809@gmail.com 07817 553357 by Friday 7th June. Please confirm method of payment. The preferred payment option is by on-line BACS to the club's Business Account A/C no 10642681 Sort Code 20-20-62 Mark payment Junpl

Cheques and cash payments may be handed to Bob at the May meeting. There will be a card reader too.

Thursday 20th June Regular club meeting, White Swan. Speaker Les Maple. "Audio Description in the Theatre"

I am fascinated by stories from around the world so here are a few, just in case you are too.



Australia has more than 10,000 beaches. If you were to visit a new one everyday, It would take you more than 29 years.



Public toilets in Japan are filled with smart glass. The glass remains transparent until the doors are locked and then they turn opaque.



Turkish garbage collectors opened a library with all of the books people throw out in their trash.



The widest motorway in the world is located in Ontario, Canada. At its widest point, this highway has 22 lanes.



75% of the Earth's population has no postal address.



In Finland, New born babies are sent home with a box containing 60 essential items, including clothes, blankets, toys, a book and bedding. The box itself can be used as the baby's first crib.

Best wishes to those members and partners of Arundel Probus Club who cannot make it to meetings or lunches. We miss you and hope you continue to enjoy reading this newsletter. As we start a new club year there are seven or eight of you out there and we would love to hear from you so please drop me a line if you can, or ask someone else to do so for you. There's room here for all your responses. Lions clubs have a lovely expression for non-attending members. They call it "being at large". Perhaps we should borrow it.

Birthdays in May

10th May Tony Pagett-Fynn pagett-fynn@btconnect.com

21st May Les Maple (has no e-mail address) 01903 883368

Stay as positive and as cheerful as you can. Summer's coming. It must get warmer soon, surely. Best wishes, and thanks to all contributors. Bob