

1st JULY 2025

Issue No 64

It's July and we are half-way through the year already. *Tempus fugit*. I wish time would slow down, but it can't. Neither can aging. So, enjoy every day, season by season. Don't put off 'til tomorrow what you can do today and try something new. You may surprise yourself. "I never thought I could do that". Did you not realise you can still swim, or ride a bike? An eighty-year-old friend of mine is taking paddle-boarding lessons and doing exceptionally well. Now there's something I might try and leave bungy jumping for the future - when I'm old.



June Pub Lunch at The Elmer - report from Richard

The lunch at the Elmer was a great success with 17 attending, plus one "no show".

The three courses were plentiful and tasty. There was plenty of Veg. and the service was very good and friendly.

The parking has improved with further space beyond the first parking area.

This was very good value for money at £22 for three courses.

David (Tippett) did a great job.

June Speaker - Peter Fenton "The Last Village Blacksmith"

– Now living in Arundel, Peter was born in Littlehampton and gave an interesting account of his career as a blacksmith/farrier from early beginnings in Arundel, thanks to the generosity of Duke Bernard, who saw his potential, to running his own forge at Slindon. He illustrated his wide knowledge of the mechanics of a horse's movements and how the farrier can improve a horse's performance.

Peter's knowledge of horse health was also impressive and he had brought a horse's skeletal foot to illustrate his comments. Peter answered several questions and was good company at lunch where he continued to expound on his subject.

Twenty-eight people attended the meeting and twenty-five stayed for lunch.

The White Swan Lunches.

It's fifteen months since the price for our monthly lunch was set, during which time costs have increased significantly. The committee has therefore decided to offer the hotel an increase to £25 for the two-course lunch, including tea and coffee and a staff tip (£19.50 for main course only) and this has been gratefully accepted by the hotel. This 2.4% increase will take effect with the July club lunch.

What's on this month? July

July Pub Lunch, Thursday 10th July, the Spur, Slindon 12 for 12.30

The SPUR LUNCH CHOICES

MAIN COURSE

Chicken Curry

Served with Basmati rice, Poppadum, Naan & Mango Chutney

Beer Battered Fish

Served with Chips, Garden peas, Lemon wedge & Tartare sauce

Smoked Salmon Salad

Served with new potatoes & slaw

DESSERT

Crème Brulee with shortbread biscuit

Lemon Pannacotta Tart with vanilla ice cream

Trio of Ice Cream

Cheese board

£25.00 per person, inc tip

Please contact me, Bob Tanner, at bobtanner1809@gmail.com or call me at 07817 553357 with your orders.

PAYMENT BY BACS is PREFERRED, TO THE CLUBS BUSINESS ACCOUNT A/C 10642681 SORT CODE 20-20-62. MARK YOUR PAYMENT JulPub. CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO ARUNDEL PROBUS CLUB.

WHEN ADVISING, PLEASE STATE WHAT METHOD OF PAYMENT YOU WILL BE USING. PLEASE WRITE ON BACK OF CHEQUE WHAT THE PAYMENT IS FOR.

LAST ORDERS ACCEPTED on Sunday 6th July

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July Speaker – Bill Avenell will return on Thursday 24th July to give us another talk, his third.

This time, Bill's interesting title is **"Why didn't I listen more at school"**. As a retired Head Teacher and Deputy Head at Christ's Hospital school over thirty years, Bill is ideally qualified to provide an insightful and humorous response to the question. Who cannot agree with the sentiment?

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July 3rd cruise around Chichester Harbour.

It's been a long time coming, since the proposal was first mentioned in March, but now it's only two days to go and the weather is looking fair. We wish the seventeen going from our club, Bon Voyage.

What's on next month, August?

August Pub Lunch.

We are having a summer break this year so there will be no Pub Lunch in August. The September Pub Lunch will be on Thursday 11th September, possibly at The Fox, Felpham.

August 28th Monthly meeting

Sally Botwright is returning to the White Swan Hotel to give us another illustrated talk on **“London's Oddities and Curiosities – Part 2”**. Sally is a Blue Badge Guide and, if it's as good as her first talk on the subject, her second will be fascinating.

John Hollister's funeral on 18th June was attended by eight members and partners from our club. Jo Hollister is very appreciative of all the cards and messages of condolence she received. She would like to be kept in touch with club news and activities and hopes to attend events in future.

The club held a minute's silence in John's memory at its June meeting.

Well, I never.....

The first three letters of **Sweden** and **Denmark** spell out Sweden. The remaining letters spell out Denmark. Co-incidence, or what?



July 4th American Independence Day

Becoming ever more independent. Time will tell.

What does GI stand for? (See end of N/L)

How does your garden grow?

I don't have a garden as we live in an apartment, so my allotment has to do. And do it does: I am able to grow lots on it, from forced rhubarb in January to sprouts for Christmas.

It's been a pretty good year so far. The strawberries have been large and plentiful and the first flush of roses was simply beautiful. But the long dry spell produced countless insects which are good for the birds, and for pollination, but not so good for some crops, or me. My broad beans were lost to black-fly and mosquitoes are a daily challenge. There was even a hornet in my shed.

It's good to see more young people taking on plots, however amateurish they are to begin with. Oldens are there to help because it's not as easy as Monty and his invisible workforce make it seem.



A greedy blackbird's-eye view of my redcurrants, as they ripen. It will wait until they are fully ripe, then steal them.

John Munro "My Story" – Part 2

Halfway through my life I bought my first property. A cottage in Arundel for £10,500, in 1976 – the same year as a new Vicar arrived at St Nicholas, the parish church.

After settling in I joined the Priory players, acting in 'Blithe Spirit,' 'Whose Life is it Anyway?' and many others. Next I joined the Arundel Choral Society – I had come from the Crawley Concordia choir, so felt at home.

I also began going to church, where the Reverend Michael Weaver had the gift of helping people become involved! House groups, Lent groups, healing ministry, etc – and I edited the parish magazine for 10 years, until it transformed into the Bell, being distributed free to all the homes and businesses in the town. It's still going after 30 years.

I retired at 60, and a friend took me to the Probus Club – a club founded by Robert Cook and Dr Keith Stenson in 1980.

Later I set up my own publishing firm, Astra books. Soon after, friends John and Jeanne Faber came to live in Arundel. We worked together for seven years: the book "Fear or Faith – you can choose" helped me face

the deep resentment that still stalked me against the foster parent Mrs P. I resolved it with the aid of a Taiwanese family therapist.

Another development came after a friend did some sleuthing on ancestry.com. So, on my 80th birthday, a Saturday, in came an email with a photo of my father, long dead, and the address of a nephew in Paris. As I stood up in church the next morning, I experienced a wonderful closing of my two families and felt a whole man for the first time.

Recently I celebrated my 95th birthday with 28 cards and two large birthday cakes. But the best present was my friend Patrick accompanying me to Paris for three days to see the new Notre Dame rejuvenated.

I also had dinner there with my nephew Andrew, who drove in from Chantilly. He is my nearest relative.

John Munro

June 2025



I asked my clever dog what's two, minus two? He said nothing.

What do you call a factory that makes OK products? A satisfactory.

Recruitment

We could do with a few more neighbours, relatives to come like it. No, I'll re-phrase that: members have arrived by another club; others heard two responded to our regular the website is being

There's another help recruitment: Next medic, tell them to membership whenever overcome loneliness, nostalgia for the Perhaps the best



members, folks, so please invite your friends, along and see what we are up to. They may they will love it and decide to join. Existing different routes: some transferred from about us from an existing member and one or advertising or saw our website. Incidentally, updated so watch that screen.

possible, but indirect, way to time you visit your GP or other recommend Probus appropriate. It can help to mild depression or simple camaraderie of working life. medicine available.



I've just had a medical checkup at the surgery after which the Doctor said "Don't eat anything fatty". I replied, "you mean like bacon, sausages and burgers?"

He then said "No, Fatty, don't eat anything!"

If you are planning to make your own crackers this Christmas, here are some more witticisms to go inside them, thanks to Geoff.

What did the sea say to the beach? Nothing, it just waved.

How does the man in the moon cut his hair? Eclipse it.

Why do seagulls fly over the open sea? If they flew over the bay they would be called bagels.

Good news from our Treasurer, Stephen. All continuing members have now paid their subs for the year so “thank you” for that. It means that the club can continue to operate as normal without the need for a supplement from members, but there will be a review in October.

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Email addresses

This is just a polite reminder regarding email addresses. Would you please check to ensure you are still using your email address as shown in the Members’ Handbook? This is the one Secretary Richard uses and if not correct you will not be receiving the information sent out. Thank you.

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Here are a few more witticisms that may make you smile.

Nothing spoils a good story more than the arrival of an eyewitness. (Mark Twain)

I love bacon. Sometimes I eat it twice a day. It takes my mind off the terrible chest pains I keep getting.

Apparently, applying to a wedding invitation with "Maybe next time" isn't the correct response.

You may be forgiven for eating a grape or a cherry as you wonder around the food section of your supermarket but just one bite out of the chicken cooling in the rotisserie will get you thrown out immediately, never to return..

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No, **GI** does not stand for “generally ignorant”. It stands for **Government Issue**, amongst others.

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Looking forward to seeing you again soon, meanwhile take care, stay safe, keep cool and keep drinking plenty of water, tea, juice, wine, beer, lager, Pimms, whisky, gin, Lucozade or whatever takes your fancy.

Bob