

## ARUNDEL PROBUS TIMES

No 71 1st FEBRUARY 2026

Snowdrops are popping up everywhere to cheer us as we face almost continuous rain and high winds this winter, very different from the balmy days of last January. But, once again, we, in this favoured part of the country are far better off than those “oop norf”, or in the west, for whom we feel sorry. (Well, just a tad). We did have a little snow and freezing temperatures so I hope you didn't go B over A on the black ice. The Highways authority did its best to keep the roads safe but usually forget the pavements.



Our reservoirs and acquifers are full to overflowing and there's more rain forecast this month. Remember that when they impose hosepipe bans in the not too distant future. Now, where's me wellies?

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Twenty diners enjoyed **lunch at Fino**, the Italian restaurant in Felpham, on 15<sup>th</sup> January. This is a nice place at all times of the year but particularly in the New Year after so much traditional Christmas fayre. Several diners had ordered Cozze which is mussels done in the Italian way. What they had was very tasty but, disappointingly, one plate had no less that seven unopened mussels on it. The restaurant was made aware.

**Our January Speaker, Phil Cornwell, was from the Sussex Audiology Centre** and had attracted twenty two members. Phil gave us a detailed lecture about the loss of hearing in old age and compared the hearing aid services provided by the private sector with those from the NHS. He seemed, at first, reluctant to answer the basic questions about cost but eventually revealed it would cost between £2,000 and £5,000 to have one's hearing improved privately. He stressed, however, that important aftercare from the private sector was included in that price, unlike the NHS where follow up care was not as good, he claimed, if provided at all. Phil also stressed the need to seek help as soon as hearing deteriorates rather than wait until hearing worsens. To contact Phil Cornwell [phil@sussexaudiologycentre.co.uk](mailto:phil@sussexaudiologycentre.co.uk) [sussexaudiologycentre.co.uk](http://sussexaudiologycentre.co.uk)

It was David Tippett who missed the meeting and lunch, having been rushed to hospital earlier with suspected pneumonia following a fall on the golf course and cracking ribs. I have since spoken to David who returned home after three nights in Worthing hospital. He is improving, but slowly, and we wish him well.

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**An elderly man, thinking his wife was losing her hearing, stood about twenty feet behind her and asked “can you hear me sweetheart? No reply, so he moved to ten feet behind her and asked the same question. Still no reply. He then moved only a few inches behind her and asked “can you hear me now Honey?” His wife said “For the third time, yes”**

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**The club lost its dear friend Tony Pagett-Fynn on Christmas Eve after a long and brave battle. Many will remember his inspiring talk to the club about his career as a businessman and entrepreneur. He owned the Avis Park Hotel during its best years, and also a speedboat ! He was a regular member at meetings and lunches until it became impossible for him. The club stood for a minute's silence in memory of Tony at the January meeting. RIP Tony**

2025 was a sad year for the club as we lost three serving members, John Hollister, Michael Weaver and Tony. We also learnt of the passing of three ex-members, John Penny, Bruce Henderson and Reggie Stafford-Smith – there may have been more. We've just learnt that Frank Reynolds died two days ago. RIP all of them.

**February Pub Lunch, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February, at The Fox Public House, Felpham.**

President Ian has arranged another joint lunch with the Bognor Probus club at this attractive old pub in Felpham village. The lunch choices are set out below.

**MAINS**

Chicken and Leek pie, mash, gravy and peas  
Fish and Chips, Tartare, mushy peas  
Walnut chilli, Braised rice, Guacamole, tortilla chips

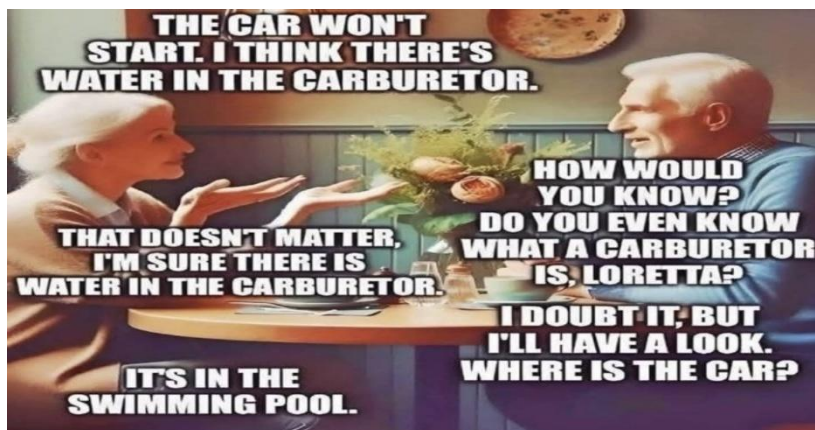
**DESSERTS**

Sticky toffee pudding, salted caramel ice cream  
Chocolate Brownie, brownie ice cream  
Cheese and Biscuits (£5 supplement)

Please inform Ian your menu choices, either by email or on the phone [ig@goodall.net](mailto:ig@goodall.net) 0786 223322 The cost of this two-course lunch is £25, or £30 if ordering cheese and biscuits. Staff tip included

**Last date for ordering is 1<sup>st</sup> February. That's today, so you had better be quick if not ordered already.**

**I have a pet tree, it's like having a pet dog but its bark is silent.**



**Her to him, on their first date "I can imagine walking down the isle with you".  
Him to her. "I doubt it. I do all my shopping on line"**

**I bought the biography of the man who invented Cellotape, but I can't find the beginning.**

**Our Speaker at the club meeting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, Hannah Dow,** is from the WSCC Community Safety and Wellbeing Department. Her subject is Digital Safety and Fraud Prevention and we should receive valuable guidance and advice on avoiding all the increasing scams to which older people are so vulnerable.

I hope you will stay for lunch after the talk. Here are the menu choices to tempt you. £25 pp etc as usual

**MAIN**

Lamb and pea short pastry pie, mint and red wine gravy, roast potatoes, broccoli  
Beef and Guinness sausages, mash, onion gravy, roast carrots and parsnips  
Squid and mussel stew, crab and sweetcorn cakes, crusty bread

**PUDDING**

Chocolate and cherry brownie, chocolate sauce, ice cream  
Cheese and biscuits  
Trio of ice cream, chocolate sauce, wafer

Contact [bobtanner1809@gmail.com](mailto:bobtanner1809@gmail.com) or 01903 882127 with choices. State method of payment. Payment by BACS is preferred to the Club's Business A/C 10642681 Sort Code 20-20-62 Ref: Feblunch Cheques can be handed in on the day. To help Treasurer Stephen, write on back of cheque what it's for.

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### **March Pub Lunch on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> at The Beefeater, Crossbush**

Something different next month: Geoff has reserved a large area of the restaurant for us. All we have to do is arrive around 12.00, order our food from the extensive menu, eat it and pay for it. There is no pre-ordering or pre-paying. There is a large car park but you have to write your car's registration in a book on entering the restaurant. This prevents people parking there all day for free rather than in the Station car park nearby.

I will include parts of the restaurant menu in the March APT so you can decide what you would like on 12<sup>th</sup>

**It's a little known fact that Anne Boleyn had a brother called Tenpin.**



### **NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS**

England is a cup of tea

Brazil is football on the sand

France, a wheel of ripened brie

Argentina, Maradona's hand

Greece, a short, squat, olive tree

Germany, an oompah band

America is a gun

America is a gun

Holland is a wooden shoe

Japan is a thermal spring

Hungary, a goulash stew

Scotland's a highland fling

Australia, a Kangaroo

Oh, better to be anything

America is a gun

than America as a gun

**Pub Lunches** February The Fox, Felpham  
March The Beefeater, Crossbush, Arundel TBC  
April Six Bells, Lyminster TBC

**Speakers** February WSCC Frauds and Scams  
March Sandra Simmonds "Life in Iran as an Englishwoman, married to a Muslem"  
April Sally Botwright "London Oddities and Curiosities Part 2", and AGM

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**Probus invitation**

We are invited by Bognor Regis Men`s Probus Club to join a Woods Coach Trip to Warners Sinah Warren, Hayling Island on Sunday 2 August 2026

2 course Carvery Lunch with coffee/tea Followed by 2 hours of Musical Entertainment

Total Cost £50pp For further details, and to reserve your seat, please contact Bill Page  
email: [billandflopage@hotmail.com](mailto:billandflopage@hotmail.com) Tel: 07971 828 025

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My wife is sick in bed and asked for plane toast. Hope she enjoys it. 😊

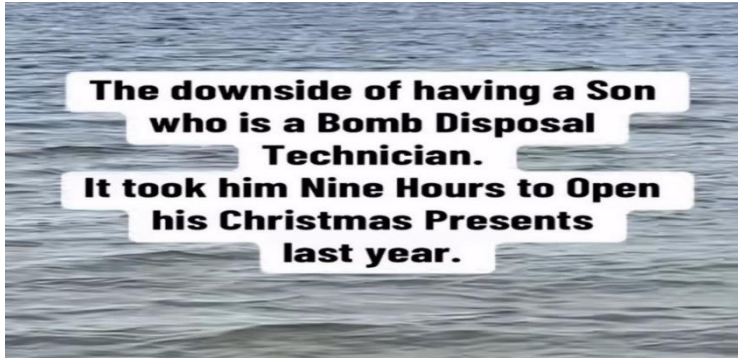


**The hardest football pitch I ever played on was made of crushed brick rubble and concrete, we won 3 2 on aggregate**

**Canal Cruise**

There are eleven from our club who are on my provisional list so far:-

Ian and Sheila	David and Val
Brian and Jackie	John and Shirley
Stephen	Bob and Sian



**The downside of having a Son who is a Bomb Disposal Technician. It took him Nine Hours to Open his Christmas Presents last year.**

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*This second APT of the year is smaller than the bumper edition in January but I think it contains all the information and news you would wish to see, plus a few funnies to make you smile. If not, let me know.*

*Have a lovely February, don't forget St Valentine's Day, and I'll see you again soon. Best..... Bob*