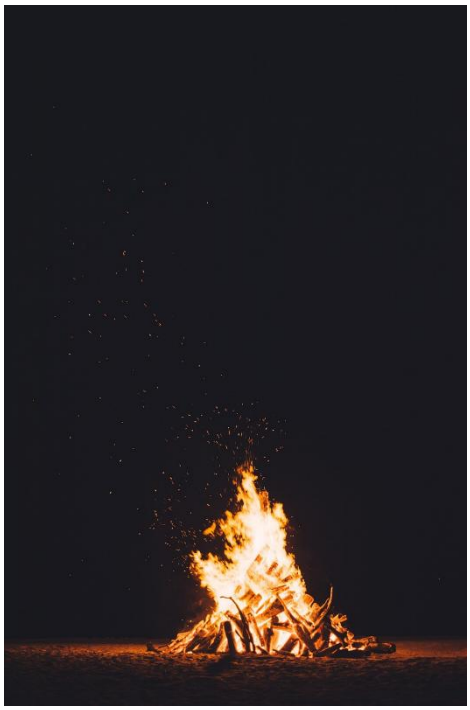
ARUNDEL PROBUS TIMES NOVEMBER 2026

No 80



Did you have fireworks when you were young? Catherine wheels, rockets, jumping jacks, Roman candles and things called Boy Scout rousers? We seemed immune to the risks then, especially when getting too close to the huge bonfires on those very cold nights when the wind blew sparks everywhere. I have never been as cold as I was on Rye flats in about 1959.

We can still buy fireworks – but they're expensive – and the idea of seeing your money going up in smoke has lost its appeal. Bonfires in gardens are now frowned upon, of course.

So, it's the telly for me, staying in the warm and watching spectacular displays from Aukland to New York, including expensive affair on the River Thames.

Pass the matches please, to light my sparkler.

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Visit to Tangmere Nurseries on 1st October

Only nine of us were able to visit this company, growing an enormous number of peppers all year round on the site of the old Tangmere aerodrome.. It was a warm day, and warmer in the huge glass- houses, growing individual pepper plants which reach four or five metres in height. They are grown in surprisingly small pots of crushed rockwool by the aquaponics system involving no soil at all. They have everything they need, being fed by water containing essential minerals etc. The ripe peppers are hand-picked and transported to packing areas on Darlek-like transporters gliding silently along metal strips in the floor.

Our guide provided an excellent running commentary which prompted few questions. Peppers are supplied to most supermarkets throughout the UK and abroad. The company is owned by two dutchmen and several Dutch trailers were spotted around the site.



Ian was very pleased to revisit the very spot on the runway where he had landed his Chipmunk after his first solo flight, 60 years ago. Luckily, all the wreckage and debris was cleared up long ago!

After the visit we retired to the nearby Anglesey Arms for an excellent lunch. Thanks to Chris for arranging this visit.

The October Pub Lunch at Worthing Indoor Bowls club was a jolly affair with the usual excellent food on the plate, served by lovely ladies who seem to call everyone darling. It's the only place we go where they put food warmers on every table so we can have more hot veggies at any time. The fact that it's not a pub doesn't seem to matter. We will surely return again. Our thanks to Charlie.

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Meeting Change There's been a change in the arrangements for the New Year when the White Swan hotel closes for three months. We are still going to The Spur in Slindon on January 28th and March 25th for our meetings and lunches, but I've been told the pub will also close in February so the landlady can have a holiday.

Therefore, new arrangements have been made to meet at The Angmering Manor for our meeting, talk and lunch on Thursday 25th February, all for the price of £25, which includes a staff gratuity. Thanks to Chris M.

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October Meeting and Talk on 22nd



I am bitterly disappointed to have missed the October meeting and Stephen Brocklebank's talk about his career in the oil and gas exploration industry.

By all accounts it was a very interesting talk as I knew it would be. Stephen had worked hard in its preparation and even included the odd joke or two. (Nothing crude, of course). There has been so much in the news of late about oil and gas, affected by war in the Middle East, it was time to shift the focus on the no-small challenge of getting them out of the ground, both on land and at sea. As a designer of the necessary, but highly complicated engineering, Stephen was the best.

My absence from the meeting was due to a short period in hospital, where I went with some urgency, to have a pacemaker fitted. I am most grateful to members for the many good wishes sent me, especially the card, signed by those at this meeting.

If you hear anyone maligning the NHS, please let me know.

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Future Talks and Pub Lunches

Talks

November 26th Chris Linford "Trans Canadian Railroad and the making of Canada".

December No meeting and therefore no talk

January 28th Sally Crathern "De-mystifying AI"

February 25th Alex New Head Gardener and Curator "Highdown Gardens"

March 25th Laura ? Water Resources Engagement Manager, Southern Water Authority

April 22nd Andrew Wadsworth "A Vicar's Life" Also the AGM

May 27th Speaker not confirmed yet "Astronomy today"

June 24th Peter Walton "Boat building on the River Arun"

July 22nd Julie ? Co-op Legal Services "Estate Planning"

August 26th Vacant

September 23rd Peter Blood, retired Barrister. Another re-enacted case from the Criminal Court.

Pub Lunches

November 12th Littlehampton Golf Course, thanks to David Feist (Reminder below)

December 10th Festive Lunch at the White Swan Hotel, with Magician David Croucher afterwards.

January 14th Fino Italian restaurant in Felpham

The Committee is anxious to encourage more members to organise Pub Lunches.

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Sunday 8th November is Remembrance Sunday



President David Pidoux will be laying a wreath on behalf of our club, just after the two minutes silence at 11.00.

Why not join him at Arundel's War Memorial for this moving service?

Vice President Charles Smiles is Verger at St Nich's church, Arundel and he will be leading the parade down the High Street to join their Graces, the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk and civic leaders, already gathered with several hundred townsfolk in the town square.

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Canadians

"Please divert your course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision"

Americans

"Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees to the North"

Canadians

"Negative. You will have to divert your course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision"

Americans

"This is the Captain of a US Navy ship, the USS Franklin D Roosevelt, the largest aircraft carrier in the world. I say again, DIVERT YOUR COURSE"

Canadians

"We are a lighthouse. Your call"

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This is just a reminder of the November Pub Lunch. I hope you ordered on time and I look forward to seeing you there.

LUNCH AT LITTLEHAMPTON GOLF CLUB

170 ROPE WALK, LITTLEHAMPTON BN17 5DL

12.15 FOR 12.45

THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2026

MAINS

CHICKEN BREAST WITH CREAMY TARRAGON SAUCE, POTATOES AND VEGETABLES

POACHED SALMON, NEW POTATOES SEASONAL VEGETABLES WITH LEMON BUTTER SAUCE.

VEGETARIAN PIE WITH NEW POTATOES AND VEGETABLES

DESSERTS

APPLE PIE WITH CREAM OR ICE CREAM OR CUSTARD

FRESH FRUIT PLATTER & ICE CREAM

CHEESE AND BISCUITS

TEA/ COFFEE

£28 INCLUDING TIP

CONTACT davidfeist.1942@gmail.com OR TELEPHONE 01903 715178 WITH YOUR CHOICES. STATE METHOD OF PAYMENT. PAYMENT BY BACS IS PREFERRED TO THE CLUBS BUSINESS ACCOUNT 10642681 SORT CODE 20-20-62 REF NOV PUB. CHEQUES CAN BE HANDED IN TO THE TREASURER STEPHEN. MAKE PAYMENT TO ARUNDEL PROBUS CLUB AND WRITE ON THE BACK OF THE CHEQUE WHAT THE PAYMENT IS FOR.

LAST ORDERS THURSDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2026

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Birthdays in November – that I know about

Chris Mayhew on 10th Send him your good wishes. chrisgmayhew@me.com

If you also have a birthday in November, Happy Birthday !

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Club Walks

On 21 October the Met Office weather forecast was horrendous with 95% chance of rain all day. It

did not look promising but Charles and Chris decided to meet at The Spur at 12.00 and make a decision as to whether lunch was a better option.

In fact, the forecast was entirely wrong and the rain had stopped, so they went on the walk over Slindon Downs which ended with the sun even cheering them up in the final stages.

They then had an enjoyable lunch at The Spur in Slindon and hope to see more members joining on their next walk which will be in the Spring.



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Invitation from our President to the December Festive Lunch

Dear Fellow Member

This year it will be my great pleasure to host the PROBUS Christmas lunch at The White Swan, Arundel, on Thursday, 10th December. This is always one of the highlights of our Probus year and one I'm very much looking forward to; I do hope that you will be able to join us. As usual, each member may bring a partner or guest and everyone will receive a very warm welcome by the staff at The White Swan and members of your PROBUS committee. Lunch will be served at 12.30 and as usual everyone may gather in the bar from 12 noon to purchase an aperitif, or wine to accompany the lunch.

The cost of a special 2-course Christmas lunch will be £40 to include a staff gratuity and tea or coffee. The menu options are as Follows:

MAINS

Hand-carved turkey breast, served with sausage, cranberry & madeira stuffing, oven-roasted potatoes, roast carrots, fresh parsnips, seasonal greens and a rich gravy

Pan-fried sea bass with King Prawn and Lobster sauce. Sea bass fillets topped with a shelled king prawn and lobster sauce, served with chargrilled Tender-stem broccoli and crushed baby potatoes

Duo of Pork. Slow-cooked pork belly and a bacon-wrapped pig cheek served with bubble and squeak mash, spiced red cabbage, Tenderstem broccoli and a rich Bramley apple gravy

Grilled Vegetable & Butternut Squash Tart. Shortcrust pastry tart filled with grilled vegetables & butternut squash, topped with candied seeds. Served with Tenderstem broccoli, roast carrots, crushed potatoes and a rich gravy

DESSERTS

Sticky Toffee Christmas Pudding, Served with a rich brandy sauce

Salted Caramel Baileys Profiteroles. Chocolate dipped profiteroles filled with Baileys cream, served with vanilla pod ice cream, Belgian chocolate and salted caramel sauce

White Chocolate and Raspberry Roulade. Rolled meringue filled with cream., white chocolate and raspberries, served with a raspberry compote

Assorted cheese and biscuits

Please e-mail me (pidouxdave@gmail.com) by Sunday 22nd November, to let me know whether you wish to attend and indicate your preferences for main course and dessert. Please also confirm that you have made your payment by BACS; the account details are given below.

Account Holder. PROBUS CLUB OF ARUNDEL Sort Code: 20 20 62 unt number: 10642681 Please put XMAS MEAL in the Reference Box (your name is not required as this is recorded in your payment details). The White Swan require PROBUS to make full payment to them by 26th November, after which date payment is non-refundable in the event of cancellation.

Our lunch will include the usual raffle and we will be entertained by a Magician who will be showing us some magic to add to the festive mood (though I doubt he'll be turning the water into wine!). I look forward to hearing from you shortly and to another very special Probus event.

David.

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Hasn't the year gone quickly? With so much happening time seems to fly by.

I hope you have all had your flu and covid booster jabs by now. They really do make a difference. If you haven't, get in touch with your surgery without delay.

See you soon.

Best wishes.

Bob