



# Wilmington Axstane Probud Club

## NEWSLETTER - September 2024

Our speaker on 26th September is our Les Robus and his subject is:

“A Training Officer’s Tale” (please see page 4)

*Lunch is Roast Salmon with asparagus with lemon hollandaise with Chef’s choice of potatoes and vegetables or Lasagne, followed by a choice of puddings.*

### Chairman’s Ramblings

I experienced my first visit to the Wilmington Fete on Bank Holiday Monday and had a very enjoyable time. (However, thinking back, my duty was to sit in a gazebo all afternoon dispensing drinks and drinking beer. That is something I've been training for all my life!)

Thanks to Jack, who “manned the fort” for me for a while, I was able to do a quick tour of the Fete, and was impressed with the range of attractions and stalls available. It certainly is a great event, and a credit to all those behind the scenes who help to make it happen.

Our “Barrow of Booze” raffle was popular, as was our new game with the washing line and clothes pegs, and I believe over £800 was raised for this year's charities. My grateful thanks to all the members who worked so hard to raise this magnificent sum – you know who you are!

I'm disappointed that we didn't see more than a handful of Probud members during the afternoon, but thanks to those who did drop by. All in all, I had a great afternoon, one of the highlights being driven home in Ed Holbrook's beautiful car. Thanks Ed look right —>

As reported elsewhere, it's all change again for the Chairman's Dinner next year. No alternative suitable venues could be found, so we are returning to Dartford Football Club on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025**. Please note this in your diaries as this is now a definite date.

Finally, I will leave you with this thought:

“When Lord Nelson died he was 5 feet tall. His statue in London's Trafalgar Square is 15 feet tall. That's Horatio of 3:1” **Keith**

### Jokes of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe

I was going to sail around the globe in the world’s smallest ship but I bottled it. M.S.

I’ve been taking salsa lessons for months but I just don’t feel like I’m progressing. It’s just one step forward ...two steps back. A.S.

Ate horse at a restaurant once— wasn’t great. Starter was all right but the mane was dreadful. A. K

The conspiracy theory about the moon being made of cheese was started by the hallouminati. O.F.

I’ve got a girlfriend who never stops whining. I wish I’d never bought her that vineyard. R.S.



Just to remind you the chairman’s charities are:



## **Social Committee Report**

### Wilmington Fete -

Our thanks to our members who came and helped and supported us. The weather was the best we can remember and our stall was busy. How on earth a young man can collect and hold 27 pegs in his left hand no one knows! The Barrow of Booze was won by one of the Scout Leaders from 1st Swanley Hextable group.

### Social Events in the Autumn: -

- a. 30 members and family/friends are going to the “Brickwall Hotel” in Seddlescombe for our Autumn Getaway and will be exploring East Sussex. Hopefully the weather will be with them.
- b. Ambassador Tickets offer special rates for Probus Clubs attending matinees and we are booked in for “Les Misérables” on Thursday, 3 October 2024. Bookings for this are now CLOSED. We will look again for the new year.
- c. Coffee Morning at the Plough on Wednesday, 6 November 2024.
- d. Quiz Night Friday, 15 November 2024 - fish & chip supper more details shortly.
- e. Christmas Lunch on Monday, 2 December 2024 at Dartford Golf Club - more information later.
- f. Sadly our planned visit to “Ceremony of the Keys” at the Tower of London has had to be postponed, more information later.

### Social Events 2025:-

- a. Our New Year Coffee morning will be on Wednesday, 8 January 2025, I hope you will all come and mull over the “festivities”
- b. We are planning a “Social Event for February, more details later
- c. A date for your diary, the Annual Dinner will now be on Saturday, 29 March 2025, more details later.

**Colin**



### **CONGRATULATIONS**

**To Bernard and Hazel Nash who are celebrating their  
Platinum (70th) Wedding Anniversary**



## **Birthdays**

**A Happy Birthday to everyone with a Special day in September  
and October**

Keith Cass, David Mason, Gary Mullins, Steve Brown,  
Alf Oakes, Peter Spurin, Eric Hookins, John Symes  
and Jimmie Winterflood



## Walks Report

September's walk was led by Bernard Nash and started off from Bartellas car park in Wrotham and wandered around some lovely paths with beautiful views. Bernard frequently gave us his memories of the area as both Hazel's and his grandparents were shepherds and cattle men in the area and Bernard has lived there all his life. We saw the cottage where a bouncing Bernard was born 93 years ago (see photos) in a ranging storm. Next door, in the little row of cottages was where Hazel lived and she became his childhood sweetheart and they will have been happily married for 70 years very soon! Nine of us walked and one more joined us for a nice lunch at the Leather Bottle Inn at Cobham. It was a very lovely day and thoroughly enjoyed by all! My thanks to Bernard and also to Peter Marsh for helping organise it.

There won't be a walk in October but Phil will be leading one on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Phil



Bernard Nash's Cottage

## The Club's Finances

The current financial position is as follows:

	£	£
Chairman's Charities		1006
General Funds		702
Pending Payment:		(100)
Contingency Fund		1711
<b>Balance held in Cash or in Bank</b>		<b>3319</b>

The Wilmington Fair contributed £840 to the Chairman's Charity increasing the fund's total to just over £1000. General funds remain healthy and funds pending payment are currently negative due to a deposit being made for this year's Christmas Lunch.

**Derek**

### **Farmer Giles and the Vicar's Sermon**

One morning at church there is only one person in the congregation, Farmer Giles. The vicar is disappointed with the turnout and has a word with the farmer to ask if he'd mind if the service was cancelled for today.

"Yes I would mind!" says Farmer Giles. "If I go out in the farmyard with my bucket of corn to feed my hens and only one of them comes running, I don't let that one hen go hungry."

"That's a good point, Farmer Giles!" says the vicar.

Inspired by the farmer's words, the vicar gets up and performs the best service he can offer.

After a forty-five minute sermon, three readings and five hymns the vicar stands at the church door and asks the Farmer if he enjoyed the service. "No I did not!" says Giles

"But," says the vicar, "you said when you go out in the farmyard with your bucket of corn and only one hen comes running, you still feed that one hen!"

"I know I did," says the farmer. But if only one hen turns up, I don't give her the whole flipping bucket!"

**SCB**

**Would members please note that Ian Armitt's address and telephone number in the Directory should be amended to:**

**"Ripponlea" not Ripponden and the Landline number is 01474 248775**

### **Speaker's Report**

Our speaker on 26th September is our Les Robus giving a presentation—"A Training Officer's Tale". Having got bored working for a marketing company, Les took a chance on a job as a Training Officer for a building company at the time of the change from Imperial to Metric. This job built up from this to management training and other projects. His light-hearted talk is all about the situations and the characters he met along the way!

Lunch will be Roast Salmon with asparagus with lemon hollandaise or Lasagne.

Our speaker on 31st October is Brian Laverick-Smith and his subject is "30 years of Bother on the Hover" **Andrew**

### **Members**

If you know any member who is unwell (including yourself) or if you have new contact details, please contact the Membership Secretary, Ed Holbrook on 01322 863130 or e-mail:

Ed.holbrook@icloud.com

Your news item or joke could have been printed here.

Please let me have something for the next Newsletter.

**Steve**