



Wilmington Axstane Probus Club

NEWSLETTER - October 2023

Our Speaker on 26th October will be Roy Freeman and his subject is:
"Doings during lockdown".

Lunch is Liver and bacon with Onion Gravy with Chef's choice of potatoes
and vegetables or Fish and Chips.

Chairman's Welcome

Our own Ian Armitt gave us a thoroughly interesting and amusing talk outlining the highs and lows following his career working for the Inland Revenue at our September meeting. None of us realised that checking tax returns could lead you into so many interesting situations.

I also had the pleasure of welcoming Phil Elliman and Maurice Tilley as two new members, they were introduced by Joe Irwin. We were also able to welcome four guests.

From 5th to the 9th of October, 20 of us ventured to the Brickwall Hotel in Sedlescombe. It was a superb family run Hotel and the staff were all so attentive and could not do enough for us. We were able to visit Hastings, Battle and various gardens, museums and antique shops, the nearby village of Brede had an open day demonstrating enormous beam engine's pumping steam or water and all beautiful restored and working. One or two of us also managed a trip on the Kent and East Sussex heritage railway for a few hours. The weather was so very kind the whole time we were there.

Our latest event was our October Dinner and Dance held at Dartford Football Stadium. Sixty-two of us enjoyed a beautifully cooked meal followed by a band playing 60's and 70's music. In all the years I have been attending these events I have never seen so many people at once on the dance floor.

Jack

Awkward British Problems

"You'll have to excuse the mess"
- translation: I've spent hours tidying up for your visit.

Watching with quiet sorrow as you receive a different haircut to the one you requested.

Looking away so violently as someone nearby enters their PIN that you accidentally dislocate your neck.

"I'm off to bed" - Translation: "I am off to stare at my phone in another part of the house."

The Chairman's Charities are:



Social Committee Report

Autumn Break 2023

The Brickwall at Seddlescombe, we all enjoyed it very much, the hotel and staff were excellent. Many places were visited, Sheffield Park, Great Dixter, Kent & East Sussex Railway, Brede Steam Giants (see below) and many local towns.

Spring Break 2024

33 of us so far are going to Great Yarmouth, staying at "The Imperial Hotel" which is on the sea front opposite the "Venetian Waterways" I have sent out more information and if you would like to join us, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Chairman's Social Dance

Numbers look promising about 60, I am sure that we all will have a great time.

Christmas Lunch

Planned for Monday, 4 December 2023, more information later.

Social Events

Trip to the Greyhounds "Saturday Brunch" on Saturday 4th November. Only 3 places left, **Please contact Ian Armitt if you would like to go.**

Quiz Night - Friday, 17 November 2023, book now!!

Cockney Night - on Saturday, 30 March 2024. Here at Whiteoak more details later

Colin



Birthdays

A Happy Birthday to everyone with a Birthday in

October and November

Steve Brown, Eric Hookins, John Longstaff,
Peter Marsh, Derek Putman, Peter Spurin, John Symes,
Maurice Tilley and Clive West



Walks Information from Roy

Led by Phil Burt, on the 11th October the walk started at Otford. Very disappointingly, only 5 walked including Phil but it was a very enjoyable walk along the banks of the River Darenth across fields towards Shoreham. A section beside the golf club and through some woods brought us to a track where we turned left towards Home Farm, very picturesque with water streams and falls. We continued to Filston Lane and turning left again walked a short distance on the road to take a path to Filston Farm. Across fields to Twitton Brook with good views all around brought us back to the edge of Otford to finish this 2.5 mile good walk at 12.10. The Bull Inn, opposite the car park provided the venue for an excellent lunch where the 5 were joined by another 8.

The next walk on 8 November, the last before Christmas (where does the time go?) will be led by Andrew Dunk from the Ship Inn, 14 The Street, Cobham, DA12 3BN (///fries.goat.trick.). Car parking is at the Inn and he will then lead us into Jeskyns Community Woodland to the café where we will stop for coffee. Return will be via Hengist Lake, Jeskyns Orchards, Sole St and through the orchards back to Cobham Church. It is a fairly flat walk with good surface paths and just a couple of gentle rises of about 2.6 miles in length. **Please note that the walk starts at 10.00 am to allow for the coffee stop.**

Andrew has booked at the Inn for 12.30 **but pre-orders are required. Please visit the Inn's website (www.greeneking.co.uk) for the current menu to select your meal.** **Andrew will also have a copy of the menu at the October lunch meeting.**

PLEASE LET ANDREW KNOW BY 6.00PM ON SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER IF YOU ARE COMING AND WHETHER WALKING, LUNCHING AND YOUR CHOICE OF MEAL. He has to advise the Inn by Monday noon of the meals required.

Please, please may we have more walkers? I am sure that the slow pace and terrain would suit many so why not try it for a bit of exercise and fresh air?

Roy

DIRECTIONS Take the A2 coastwise past Gravesend East to reach the turn off for Shorne and Cobham. At the top of the slip road, turn left and continue back over the A2 to reach a roundabout, Turn left and continue to the edge of Cobham to reach another roundabout. Turn right and the pub is approx. 150yards on the right

You're Joking..

When NASA first started sending up astronauts they quickly discovered that a ballpoint pen would not work in zero gravity. To combat this problem NASA scientists spent a decade and \$12 billion developing a pen that writes in zero gravity, upside down, underwater, on any surface including glass and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300 degrees C.

The Russians used a Pencil!

The Club's Finances

The current financial position is as follows:

	£	£
Chairman's Charities		2186
General Funds		239
Pending Payment:		234
Contingency Fund		1791
Balance held in Cash or in Bank		4450

The recent Dinner & Dance raised a further £510 for the Chairman's Charities to reach £2186, which is very creditable at this time in the year.

Funds pending payment include amounts for the second visit to Crayford Dogs (£201), the November quiz (£333) and after deducting £300 for the 2024 Spring Break deposit already made. General funds are now at a sustainable level.

Derek



Here is one picture from the Dinner and Dance. See the extra sheet for more from Phil

Members

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

Speaker's Corner

Our speaker on 26th October is our Roy Freeman and his subject is "Doings during lockdown".

Our speaker on 30th November is our Phil Burt and his subject is "On the Buses".

I hope you can join us for both luncheons. **AD**