



Pro-Biz



Web site - <http://www.probus-teddington-hampton.org.uk>

Issue No 216 News from Teddington and Hampton Probus

January 2017

Happy New Year!

PROBUS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Members gathered as usual to enjoy a pre-lunch drink and chat with colleagues. However, being the Christmas meeting, there was much scurrying and hurrying as members exchanged cards left right and centre. Again being Christmas, members enjoyed a three course seasonal lunch at the normal cost, the additional expense being met by Club funds.

We did not have a guest speaker for this lunch, but the time was amply filled by members - this time - regaling the company with memories and happenings whilst in the Services, mainly doing National Service. In addition, the Chairman presented Christmas gratuities to the catering and bar staff and thanked them for looking after us throughout the past year. We were then very professionally entertained by our Caterer, Sarah Burley, who sang a number of standards plus Christmas Carols, to the delight of the assembled members.



(Sarah Burley)

The Chairman finished by wishing all members a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

JOHN FARNDON 1927- 2016

In last month's issue, we reported the sad and sudden death of John. His Funeral took place at Hanworth Crematorium on Friday 23rd December, and was well attended by family, friends and members of Probus and other organisations with which John was connected.

After the Funeral a number of mourners attended a reception at Hampton Hill Theatre.

John will be sorely missed at the Club luncheons and on outings.



WALK AROUND OXSHOTT WOODS, LUNCH AT THE BEAR, ESHER, 3 JANUARY.

Oh, calamity! The report this time is going to be rather lacking in copy as Finn, the dog, was not with us, as his mistress Eileen was in the USA and therefore Finn was most probably lounging in front of the fire instead of being with his Probus friends taking a very frosty stroll around Esher and Oxshott Common. Due to the thick frost a large party of walkers was not expected, as the best place would be to stay under the duvet for the day, but as it turned out 14 hardy souls decided to risk it. The start point for the walk was one of the dog friendly car parks on Esher Common, which tends to get rather full with the dog owning fraternity of Esher, Claygate, and all surrounding areas, which keeps this car park pretty busy for most of the day. We were lucky in so much as there was a brief window in dog walkers which allowed our Probus cars to sneak in and snaffle the last few spots. There were some professional teams in the car park, with one van disgorging up to nine dogs from cages secured in the van – a nice little business. Once our group had cleared the racket of the main road it was time for a short lecture on the history of the Commons, which was undertaken in the gap where the pylons cut through. Alice Fordham luckily had some history on the pylon route, as her husband Reg had been instrumental in its design many years ago. It was then off on our trek across the footbridge spanning the A3 and into Oxshott Woods proper and up to the Sandpit after crossing Sandy Lane. The pit and its associated puddles were well frozen and covered in frost, making a very pretty winter scene. We then progressed to the view point overlooking Oxshott up by the war memorial, which I am sure a lot of you are familiar with. It was then downhill all the way towards the railway line, and then a quick right-hander to take us back along the south side of Oxshott Woods, back over the A3 by another footbridge, and along the ridge to the car park. It can be noted that not too many dog walkers venture too far from their car, so for most of the walk we were on our own. It was then off to The Bear in Esher for lunch, where we met another 11 companions for a very pleasant lunch in what can only be described as a baronial hall, well worth a look if you are over that way.

(Keith and Margaret McArthur)



Dinner at Imber Court – 31 March 2017

Flyers are out today for the Dinner on Friday 31 March with speaker Brian Greenan - Past President of the Society of Toastmasters. The evening promises to be very entertaining, as Brian has for several years been a guest speaker on many cruise liners as well as officiating at many distinguished and celebrity events.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Tue 7 Feb: Pub Lunch/Walk - The Kingfisher, Chertsey. Organiser Keith McArthur

Tue 21 Feb: Club Luncheon - Speaker - Mr Keith McArthur, 'First oil ashore'