



Pro-Biz



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

Issue No 220 News from Teddington and Hampton Probus

May 2017

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

After lunch on 18th April we held our 2017 Annual General Meeting conducted by the retiring chairman Hywel Thomas. The minutes of last year's meeting were accepted after which the various reports for this year were tabled. No points were raised and there was a unanimous approval to the proposed increase in the luncheon price to £22. As only one nomination had been received for each elected post, the following were declared elected unopposed: Chairman Keith McArthur, Deputy Chairman (and Chairman elect for next year) Chris Pollard, Hon Secretary Nick Waters, Hon Treasurer Keith Willcocks, SAC Chairman Chris Oprey, Elected members Martin Hart, Hywel Thomas and John Meredith Smith. In addition the Exec Committee will include Speakers Secretary Peter Turner and Probiz Editor Ray Lynch. Hywel thanked all contributors to the working of the club (in particular Gordon Prince for his years of service as financial examiner. Keith McArthur thanked Hywel for his service as Chairman and finally Tony Cooke stood up and thanked the committee on behalf of members for their work in running the club. Hywel then presented Keith McArthur with the accoutrements of Chairmanship and wished him well for his forthcoming period of office. Keith in turn presented the retiring Chairman with a past Chairman's tie and lapel badge.

During the earlier stages of the luncheon the SAC Chairman asked members for their comments on the reason why the attendance at Imber Court had been much lower than previous years and, later in the meeting, Geoffrey Bowyer responded with the suggestion that dancing with music more suited to the age and tastes of members would in his view be better and went on to suggest the possibility of a barn dance.

(Keith Willcocks)



Hywel Thomas congratulates Keith McArthur on being elected Chairman

LINE-UP FOR 2017 - 2018: Chairman: Keith McArthur
Deputy Chairman and Chairman Elect for 2018 – 2019: Chris Pollard
Treasurer: Keith Willcocks **Secretary:** Nick Waters **Assistant Secretary:** Vacant
Three elected Club Committee Members: Martin Hart; Hywel Thomas and John Meredith Smith
Social Activities Committee Chairman: Chris Oprey
Speakers' Secretary: Peter Turner (*Ex-officio Executive Committee member*)
Pub Lunch Organiser: Keith McArthur
Pro-Biz Editor: Ray Lynch **Honorary Independent Examiner:** Eric Eustance
Emergency Transport Co-ordinator: Denzil Isaaks
Colleagues' Helplines: David Hutson

ROY WEBSTER 1936- 2017

The funeral of Roy, whose sudden death was reported last month, took place at Kingston Crematorium on Friday 4 May. It was very well attended by family, friends, members of his tennis club and members of Teddington and Hampton Probus Club. Roy will be sadly missed.



WALK FROM THE GRANTLEY ARMS, WONERSH, 2nd MAY

“Oh to be in England now that April’s there”, and other such poetry similar to “I wandered about a bit”, and springtime this year is particularly lovely especially on our little walk around Wonersh. Unfortunately, we had no Finn again as Eileen is away in America, but we did have our super-sub Pepper. Pepper, unlike Finn, will not drink from puddles but finds running water quite acceptable; more of that later. An apology from the walk organiser was forthcoming, as due to unforeseen circumstances he was a full half an hour late, but after our warm up chat the group of 16 walkers set off at a pace to make up lost time. Though the first part of the walk was through housing, some of it is very posh and it’s always a pleasure to nose into other people’s private properties. We were soon out into open country on our way to Great Tangley Manor, which now serves as a very expensive wedding venue. It was then on to the optional climb up to The Tower on top of Chinthurst Hill. This tower was built as a folly in the 1930s by Lord Inchcape, and is a sort of fake 12th century fortification. The views from the hilltop are spectacular, as also the clusters of bluebells all over the hill. The trip back down was, with doubt, a lot easier than the climb up, and we were soon on our way to the flat part of the walk along the old Cranleigh railway line, shut by our famous Mr. Beeching in 1965. This line also follows the route of the now defunct Wey and Arun canal, with the river Wey running alongside, and this is where Pepper spotted the nice clean water and promptly leapt in for a few mouthfuls. After extracting himself he promptly had a good shake, unfortunately spraying one of our lady walkers. We were soon through the old station of Bramley and Wonersh, and then back to The Grantley Arms where we met another 8 diners in a great pub, with plenty of room and good beer. What more can one ask for in life?

(Keith McArthur)

HAMPTON LADIES PROBUS HOLIDAY TO BARNSTAPLE

On 23rd April, 45 members, husbands and friends of the Hampton Ladies Probus Club set off on their annual short holiday, this year to Barnstaple. After a stop for coffee on the M4 we visited Knightshayes Court, a National Trust property where we had lunch and enough time to visit the house and gardens before boarding the coach for the final part of our journey to Barnstaple. We were given a warm welcome on our arrival at the Imperial Hotel, and rooms were allocated with enough time to rest before dinner. When we saw the menu we could not believe that we were to have a four course meal, with plenty of choice, and this was to be the same throughout the holiday. The first morning was left free for us to relax or explore the town at our leisure. In the afternoon we visited the beautiful villages of Lynmouth and Lynton, our journey taking us over Exmoor. Our other excursions were to Dunster Castle, a ride on the West Somerset Steam train, and a visit to Dartington Crystal followed by Rosemoor RHS gardens. Our four night stay was over far too quickly and we were sorry to have to say goodbye to the wonderful Imperial Hotel. However, the holiday was not quite over as we had a guided tour of Glastonbury Abbey en route to Hampton where we arrived at around 6.30pm, tired and fatter, but all agreeing this was the best Probus holiday we have had.

(Marlene Bocking)



David & Val Hutson at Knightshayes



Knightshayes



Our engine on the West Somerset railway



Lynton & Lynmouth Cable Railway



Resting at Knightshayes



All ears at Glastonbury Abbey

FUTURE EVENTS:

Tuesday 6 June: Pub Lunch & Walk. The Stephen Langton, Friday Street. Organiser – Keith McArthur

Tuesday 20 June: Club Luncheon – Speaker – Dr. Judy Hill MA PhD. The Victorian Pharmacy - Kill or Cure? This is a 19th century talk.

Tuesday 27 June: Barbeque at Tamesis Club, Teddington