

# Pro-Biz



Web site - www.probus-teddington-hampton.org.uk

Issue No 264 News from Teddington and Hampton Probus January 2023

WALK FROM THE ANGLERS, TEDDINGTON – 3rd JANUARY 2023



A wet morning did not deter twelve hardy Probus walkers from meeting at Teddington Foot Bridge for a walk to Ham House. The river was running fast but we did not encounter any flooding.

We stopped at the Thames Young Mariners Base which was formerly a gravel pit but now a lake joined to the Thames by a lock gate since 1922/3. All the riverside land was owned by Lord Dysart of Ham House who used the Ham River Grit Co. to extract gravel and sand, creating some enormous pits, which were later filled in with bomb damage rubble from London. The lake was used in World War II to construct pontoons for the Mulberry Harbours used to support the D-Day beachheads.

We then arrived at Ham House and stopped for coffee. Some walkers also patronised the shop. We then proceeded along Melancholy Walk, not venturing into Cut-Throat Alley, into Sandy Lane and through Ham Village towards the riverside, back to Teddington Bridge and finally into The Anglers where we were joined by five other diners. A good lunch was served washed down with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON2022**



Our members gleefully gobbled up the turkey at our well-attended lunch on 17<sup>th</sup> December. As usual, there was no speaker at this special event, but ad-hoc contributions from the floor provided a jolly festive finale. Beware the aged Hampton mobility scooter rider who keeps seeking a push home to save electricity!

The seasonal views from TMYC's fantasy windows (including Santa's sleigh and reindeer in full flight, as seen here flashing past just above Brian Brignall's head) wasn't too far out of keeping with the freezing weather that we experienced in December.



# 2023 – IT'S OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

This extract from June 2003's edition of Pro-Biz reports on the Club's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon held at Fulwell Golf Club. Our May 2023 luncheon is on Tuesday 16 May. Save that date in your diary now so that you can say: *I was there!* 

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June 2003

# ANOTHER MILESTONE ACHIEVED!

Chairman Tony Cooke told members and guests that he felt great pride and pleasure at presiding over the Club's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (360<sup>th</sup>) Luncheon held at Fulwell Golf Club on May 20<sup>th</sup>. He recalled that the Club's first meeting, with 15 members attending, was at the Clarence House Hotel on May 21<sup>st</sup> 1973. New members badges and place cards, plus a handsome souvenir menu, all designed by John Robson marked the occasion. He went on to welcome the eagerly-anticipated return visit of our guest speaker, Louis Atkinson chronicling life in the Hampshire village of Pentone Musey, populated by 235 souls, an increase of only 3 since 1830! He went on to trace some of the village history, with affectionate reference to some of its notable 'characters'.

A polished raconteur with impeccable comedic timing, Mr.



A polished raconteur with impeccable comedic timing, Mr. Atkinson took members on a laugh-a-minute roller-coaster ride, his string of anecdotes distinguished by wickedly accurate observation and spiced with earthy humour, painting an unforgettably vivid picture of village life. Ray Lynch recovered from the hilarity sufficiently to propose a vote of thanks that was applauded to the rafters.

(Friends re-united: past and present Club Chairmen captured on camera prior to the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary luncheon)

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

Tuesday 17 January: Club Guest Luncheon

Thursday 26 January: Tour of RFU Twickenham Stadium. Organiser: Hywel Thomas

Tuesday 7 February: Walk/Pub Lunch, Battersea Power Station. Organiser: Keith McArthur

Wednesday 1st March: Lunch at The View, Twickenham. Organiser: Hywel Thomas