



Pro-Biz



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

Issue No 240 News from Teddington and Hampton Probus

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Today heralds a departure from our normal monthly Lunch when we have with us today our Ladies! Welcome to you all and we hope you enjoy THE OCCASION

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. Being Christmas, members enjoyed a three course seasonal lunch at the normal cost, the additional expense being met by Club funds. As we did not have a guest speaker for this lunch, the time was amply filled by members - this time - with contributions from Chairman Chris Pollard, Tony Cooke and Phil Shepherd. 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 Christmas Carols, together with a couple of others which required participation by the assembled membership.

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

WALK AROUND BUSHY & HOME PARKS TO THE WHITE HART, KINGSTON BRIDGE – 2 JANUARY.

Nine survivors from the festive season and the New Year's celebrations met up at the car park on Bell Hill. We were graced with the presence of Colin and Hazel Greasby, this being their first attempt at a Probus walk. They arrived in style on their bicycles, which were firmly secured to the council supplied bicycle hoops. We set off along Hampton Court Road, accessing Bushy Park at the Stock Yard gate. You don't really appreciate how noisy the main road is until you enter the relative tranquillity of the park. From the gate it was an easy stroll all the way to the Lion Gate, where we crossed the main road and into the Hampton Court maze area. Although it has been a mild winter so far, there was no sign of the daffodils poking up through the ground and we avoided the temptation of getting lost in the maze. Yet again, the facilities at Hampton Court were welcomed by some of our walkers, and we then carried on passing the Palace and on to the Thames towpath. Not far along we ducked back into Home Park where we picked up the gravel terrace which gives you a fine view over the Thames. Unfortunately, the terrace has no exit at the far end, so the walk co-ordinator had to consume a fair amount of humble pie and we retraced our steps back to the gate where we entered the main part of Home Park by the golf course. Avoiding the fairways and the golfers we edged round the fence line of Home Park, pausing for a few minutes to observe some of the model yachts on one of the ponds. This is an area of the park that seems to be rarely visited, and some of our members, although having lived in the Hampton area for many years, had never explored this part of town. There is a very ancient looking wooden shed close to the pond, which serves as a clubhouse for the model yacht club, and although quite tatty on the outside was very plush internally with posh trophy cabinets and storage areas for their many model yachts. Leaving the club behind we were soon at Hampton Court Ice house, which sits very close to the exit gate at Hampton Wick. We were then straight through the gate and into The White Hart where we met with 7 diners, and we also were graced with our very own SAC Chairman, Chris Oprey, and his wife Pauline. After lunch it was off to the bus stop for the walkers, where TFL supplied us with a 216 and a 111 to get us back to Hampton.



(Keith McArthur)

NEW MEMBERS

Since the publication of the Membership in May we are pleased to welcome another two members to the Club.

They are:

Keith Burnett, retired IT Consultant, who lives in Teddington, and Peter Bide, a Geologist and Environmental Scientist who also lives in Teddington.

Welcome to the Club. We hope you both enjoy your membership of Teddington and Hampton Probus.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Tuesday 5 February: Pub Lunch and Walk –The Hare & Hounds, Osterley – Organiser - Keith McArthur

Tuesday 19 February: Club Luncheon –Speaker – Mr Peter Thompson , ‘You the Jury’

Wed 20 February: Richmond Theatre Visit – Trial by Laughter - Organiser - Keith McArthur