

Fugelmere Probus Club of Fleet



May 2021 newsletter

www.fugelmere.org.uk

At last... we can meet in person again! So, we celebrated the arrival of spring and the partial lifting of lockdown with our first walk of the season, around Finchampstead.

We have had a number responses concerning the future style of Fugelmere Probus but we would like to hear the views of as many members as possible. Views vary but so far, no-one is in favour of a dress code of ripped jeans! The committee is not about to rush into any sweeping changes but does feel that the club needs to recognise that times change and we might need to adjust if we are to attract fresh blood. We will continue to take soundings and keep you informed.

Recent Activities

Our talk by Julia Morpeth really demonstrated the necessity of thinking on your feet. This is an essential skill for a "location manager" working in the TV or Film industry. Julia had some excellent anecdotes to illustrate what her role had involved.

Our final Zoom quiz hosted by Hugh finished off the season in excellent style, this time with George Edwards coming out on top, closely followed by Ted and Bridget, and then Graham and Pauline

We undertook the first of our resumed walks-in-groups-of-six around Finchampstead Ridges. The bluebells were at their best and the weather was kind enough to let have a good view from the top towards Caesar's Camp 10 miles in the distance.

Forthcoming Activities

We are now firing up a more conventional events programme. Bookings have already started for our first walk in a single large group (10 signed up so far) and for a visit to Savill Gardens (17 places booked out of a maximum of 30). And we are opening up the bookings for a traditional Fugelmere event – the Cream Tea and Quiz – more information below.

Until we can all meet in person at the Lismoyne lunch, you can sign up for any of these events by emailing or telephoning Leslie Holt whose details are in the Club handbook.

Cream Tea and Quiz, Tuesday 27th July, 2:30 – 5:00pm

Organiser: Peter Buck

This ever popular event at Crondall Village Hall is back on the calendar together with Peter Buck as your quiz master. Many enjoyed our Zoom quizzes over lockdown, but now you have the opportunity for the real McCoy! There will be tables for teams of six to eight depending on numbers attending. We hope to be outside overlooking the village cricket ground and if the weather is unkind, Covid rules allow us to retreat

inside the hall. As regular attendees know, Peter and Kate Buck with their team of helpers serve up delicious refreshments of drinks, sandwiches, scones and cakes – plus cream of course!

In view of the unprecedented Covid situation this year we are asking you to PLEASE BOOK EARLY (via Leslie Holt as above) so that we can get a feel for numbers. Cost will be £10-12 depending on numbers.

Wednesday 19th May, Greywell Moors

Organiser: Michael Butcher

We will start at 10:30 and walk around the Greywell area. Our gentle 3½ mile route will pass St.Mary Greywell church which has features going back to the 13th century, Greywell Moor nature reserve, Greywell water mill and Odiham Castle.



Our starting point is the Fox and Goose car park. Afterwards people may be able to have lunch in the pub garden. Unfortunately, they are not taking bookings for large groups yet, but groups of six will be able to lunch at an outside table (waitress service) subject to availability.

In the event of bad weather, we will defer a week to Wednesday 26th May. We are limiting the group to 30 maximum so signup by emailing or telephoning Leslie Holt whose details are in the Club handbook.

Tuesday 22nd June – Savill Gardens, Virginia water

Organiser: Michael Butcher

The Savill Garden is a hidden gem in the heart of Windsor Great Park, about thirty minutes' drive from Fleet. Commissioned by George V, the Garden was created in 1932 by Sir Eric Savill and, under the careful guidance of the Keeper of the Gardens and team of horticulturists, it is as majestic today as it was then.



Our guided tour starts at 11am prompt so please arrive in plenty of time. We will split into small groups, each with their own tour guide who will introduce us to the delights of the gardens.

Having finished the tour, you will be free to continue admiring the gardens, browse the garden shop or eat in the cafeteria.

Cost £14 per person to be collected early June. We are limited to a maximum group of 30 so book early by emailing or telephoning Leslie Holt whose details are in the Club handbook.

Stratfield Saye - Postponed

We had hoped to go to Stratfield Saye later this year on a postponed visit. Unfortunately, they have now decided not to do any visits this year either, but they would love to welcome us in 2022. So, we have arranged to refund deposits.

Secretary's notes

Birthdays this month: Ivan Harrington 2nd, Leslie Holt 9th, Terry Berridge 14th, Peter Buck 18th, Brian Armes 24th, Howard Filer 31st. Congratulations to all of the above but especially to Ivan who is 90 and has accepted the offer of lifetime membership.

AGM minutes for 2020 are included with the email that came with this newsletter. And a reminder that we are still looking for volunteers for several posts:

- Speaker secretary
- Another committee member to support the events team
- An organiser for the next spring break

Next Monthly Meeting – Monday 10th May

This month, Andy Thomas will enlighten us about something you may see on one of our walks – crop circles.

As usual, we will first cover Probus matters and reports from the officers. These will start at 2:30 pm but you can join the session any time from 2pm onwards. Details for connecting to this Zoom session are the same as previous months:

Michael Butcher is happy to offer one-on-one support to anyone who is having difficulty with Zoom.

Kind regards,

Chris Farmer
President Fugelmere Probus Club of Fleet