



Fugelmere Probus Club of Fleet

www.fugelmere.org.uk

Welcome to our April 2020 newsletter.

Luncheon: Tuesday 14th April 2020 CANCELLED.

Because of the corona virus situation April's lunch has been cancelled. The speaker, Colin Summerhayes, has kindly agreed to reschedule his talk on "Melting Ice, Rising Seas" to 11th January 2021.

Probus Annual General Meeting 2020

Simon Hackett has made the following statement to Members.

As your Secretary I am preparing for the AGM which should be held after the June lunch meeting. However, in the current situation this is unlikely to take place, but we can still follow the preliminary arrangements. Accordingly, I attach the minutes of the 2019 AGM.

I am also asking for nominations from the membership for committee posts, excluding President and Vice President (see constitution 5(c)). I should receive any nominations by the end of April 2020 at the latest. Accordingly, I attach the Nomination form.

With the nominations requested above the committee will deal with the election of Officers at the committee's June meeting. We will appoint next year's President, Vice President, Events Co-ordinator and Speaker's Secretary. Unless there are nominations for Secretary and Treasurer, the current holders will be re-elected. The Treasurer will supply the annual accounts to members in May. The accounts will have been reviewed and signed off by the accounts' inspectors.

Any suggested changes to subscriptions and meal costs will be notified to all members but not implemented until the membership is able to have their say at the next lunch meeting whenever that happens. Annual subscriptions will not be collected until after they have been agreed. Subscriptions will be pro-rated between when they are paid and June 2021.

Clearly, we are in uncharted waters, as ideas come in I will update you in subsequent Newsletters and possible adhoc e-mails.

The main thing is to keep everybody safe, look after yourselves.

Recent event

Wednesday 11th March 2020, Skittles at the Jolly Farmer

Organiser: Ted Payne.

All thoughts of virus gloom disappeared when 15 members and 14 guests met for our annual Skittles evening at the Jolly Farmer. As always, competition was fierce with the two Margaret's, Allaway and Berridge, scoring 20 and 19 respectively to take the honours in the Ladies event. The Men's competition saw Simon Hackett playing very strongly to win with a score of 20 narrowly beating Peter Smith with 19 (or should that be 91?). Despite having husband Peter as chief scorer, Kate Buck's score of 7 was enough to secure her the coveted wooden spoon (It is believed the couple still remain happily married!). The team event was as competitive as ever with the Men emerging victorious with a total 193 points against the Ladies 180.

The knockout competition brought the evening to an exciting conclusion with Marion Filer and Paul Wheatcroft being the only two players still standing at the finish, with Marion conjuring up some Welsh wizardry to clinch the honours.

Finally, a big thank you to all those who volunteered as 'skittles uppers' at the hot end of the alley, and particular thanks to Peter Buck, in maintaining the scoreboard and keeping things running smoothly throughout the evening.

Forthcoming Events

Because of the corona virus epidemic, the Spring Break, the Spring Walk, the visit to Mottisfont Abbey and Pétanque are unlikely to take place as scheduled. Ron Thompson is in touch with Warners over the terms for cancellation or postponement of the Spring Break and will be in touch with participants to explain the situation when it is clear. The Spring Walk will only take place if the current restrictions have been lifted by mid-May. Mottisfont Abbey is currently closed; members will be kept in touch as we get nearer the date. The Pétanque match is unlikely to take place; George Edwards has informed members.

At present we do not know when it will be possible to restart the events programme. The events listed below have been arranged and we will keep you in touch as we get nearer to their dates. Stratfield Saye has closed for the Easter holidays but hopes to reopen in August.

We have an excellent programme through to summer 2021 and hope to be able to restart it before too long. Payment dates have been slipped to May or later, while we assess what will be possible, and may well slip further.

Thursday 4th June 2020, Mottisfont Abbey and Gardens

Organiser: Kit Mitchell.

Mottisfont is a house and gallery set in riverside gardens, which are particularly famous for the National Collection of old-fashioned roses. On arrival we will have a group talk on Mottisfont Priory, then be free to explore the estate. The date has been chosen to catch the roses at their best. **Cost £14 - £22 for NT members, £28 - £36 for non-NT members. £10 deposit at the March lunch, balance in May.**

Wednesday 24th June 2020, Pétanque

Organisers: Brian Armes and George Edwards.

It is planned to hold our annual Pétanque meleé at 10 a.m. on the Crondall Pétanque Club terrain at the Cody Sports and Social Club, GU14 0LP. As in the past the meleé will be followed by lunch at the Foresters, Church Crookham. The price for Pétanque plus lunch will be £20, or £16 for those only attending the lunch. **A sign-up sheet will be available at the March lunch, with payment due in May.**

Monday 3rd August 2020, Stratfield Saye House

Organiser: Kit Mitchell.

We will have exclusive access to Stratfield Saye House, the home of the Duke of Wellington since 1818, for the day from 10.30am. Tours of the house will be led by guides from the Wellington Estate, starting from 11am. In addition, there are morning and afternoon talks on the Great Duke's funeral and which also chart his military and political life. Simple lunches from Wellington Farm Shop can be provided if ordered in advance. **We will make our own way to the Stratfield Saye House. The cost is £15 per person, lunch extra. A £5 deposit will be payable in February, with the balance due in June.**

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 23 rd September	Henley Rowing Museum and Nuffield Place
Thursday 22 October	Wind tunnel tour, Farnborough
Wednesday 25 November	Winchester College and Cathedral
Wednesday 23 December	"Top hat" at the Mill, Sonning
Thursday 25 February 2021	Thames Barrier and the Museum of London, Docklands
Tuesday 18 May 2021	Ightham Mote and Chartwell

Kind regards,

Hugh Williams,

President, Fugelmere Probus Club of Fleet