

Sutton Park Probus Club (Founded in 1998)



Web Site: <http://suttonparkprobud.wordpress.com>

Issue 139

May 2010

The AGM.....



started very quietly and I began to wish that I had not agreed to write a report on the meeting.

We progressed through Richard's "Historic Events" to his retirement and "handover" to Selby, the assembled company clapping politely at the appropriate times. I became more optimistic as everyone woke up when we came to item 5., "Proposed amendment" – well nearly everyone. Dennis Wright obviously went to sleep with his arm in the air.. The President suggested that he lowered it as Dennis had already voted "For" and "Against" the motion and Selby was waiting to move on. The



troublemakers on the Peter Gray/Denis Perkins table were quite quiet until, in answer to the suggestion that a Past President could be useful on the Club Committee, Denis loudly proclaimed that this was "Absolute rubbish". Peter Gray did not answer that with "You speak for yourself" unless he said it unusually quietly. The proposition was lost so Richard will have to find an excuse for avoiding Committee meetings in future.

Then, after the break another proposition and this involved money and returning assets over £2000 to the members. This got them going - professional and amateur accountants appeared from everywhere and my thoughts of affording an extra portion of chips each week declined and disappeared as this motion also failed. .

The final spark arose when Selby maintained that the last two BBQs had made a loss and Peter Gray contested this assertion. Selby pointed out



that he was Treasurer at the time therefore right. I think we all made a mental note not to argue with this new President until time had worn off the sharp edges. It was a highly enjoyable meeting – we talked for ages about two propositions with lots of good humour included and at the end apart from the fact that we agreed the Treasurer's suggested Sub, nothing changed. Note – any similarity of substance between this report and Probus AGM is purely accidental. **Keith Keeley**



Sartorial Elegance from the Kitchen Rota staff !!

An important date for your diaries.

The next Probus BBQ will be held on Sunday August 8th at the home of John and Marlene Fellows. Commencing at 12noon, we will have a Pig Roast, Live Music, AND WONDERFUL WEATHER.

But just in case the elements let us down , Marquees will be erected .The theme for the day will be " The Garden Party" and all ladies and gents will be encouraged to come dressed in their finest clothes. A photo opportunity will be provided by the appearance of a vintage Rolls.. Ladies : please bring your finest (decorated) umbrellas please !!!

Further details will be provided by John Buckland..

Watch out for the events board at the May meeting as numbers will be restricted

Long Walk - Badby Northamptonshire

Yet another momentous occasion. Most of the walkers traditionally met at Roy's (to ensure good weather ?), then on to Badby Village - not a hill to be seen en route !!

Badby is a beautiful old hamlet, near the source of the River Nene, and has 29 listed houses. One of the 17 cottages was the only thatched Youth Hostel in the country.

Badby Woods with a history spanning over 700 years, famous for its bluebells which did not disappoint. We passed Fawsley Hall (now a hotel) dating back to 15th Century (gardens by Capability Brown). Geoff pointed out the church with an unusual open-arch tower to show bell-ringers performing; the onto The Nuttery (a hazelnut orchard).



With impeccable timing, Geoff found a hostelry, where we could eat our sand-



wiches in the gardens (those who had not left them in the fridge !!). As we sat the rains came we were cordially invited to eat in the comfort of the pub !! David Rooke (of sweets and chocolates fame), produced large bowls of chips !!

The nameless couple (with a dog called Daphne !!), received donations of three gallons of water, from fellow walkers to enable them to get home (car had nearly seized up because of a blown cylinder head gasket !) The inventory of items, to take on these walks has grown even longer, now includes a Mechanical Engineer !!

On behalf of the walkers, our sincere thanks to Sheila and Geoff for such a pleasant day out, with superb views, great company and great care to ensure all arrived home safely.

Richard Humphrey

Recent visit to RAF Museum, Hendon

A full coach party of members and wives plus a number of guests led by our two ex RAF men Keith Keighley and Neil Crab visited the RAF Museum at Hendon.

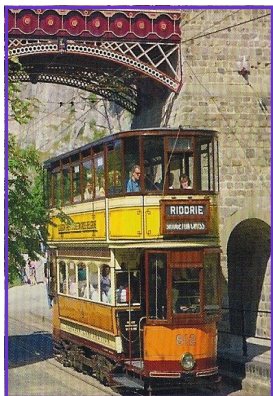
The Museum is described as one of the greatest and biggest aviation museums in the world. Established on the site of a former RAF aerodrome the museum has been gradually extended over the past few years with several new exhibition halls, but also contains some of the historic hangers.

Planes on show start from a replica of Bleriot's monoplane and we are then taken through World War 1 Planes, such as the Vickers Vimy bomber, Sopwith Camel, following on to World War 2 fighter and bomber planes, including the Spitfire, Hurricane, Beaufighter, Wellington and Lancaster bombers. German planes were not forgotten and included a Messerschmitt fighter. Several jet planes were also on show. The whole exhibition is so large that you really need more than one visit to fully appreciate the planes on display.



The Battle of Britain Hall is well worth a visit and was very nostalgic for some of us 'old timers' and the whole day was well organised by Keith and Neil.

John Booth



Another Great Day Out with Probus

Why not join us on Thursday 15th July on a coach outing through the Derbyshire Dales, to the Tramway Museum at Crich. There are several shops and plenty of activity plus many and various types of Trams - some running for us to travel on. They will bring back many memories ??

We are leaving Streetly Leisure Centre at 09.30 am, spend a couple of hours at Crich and then on to Carsington Water where we can get lunch or bring our own picnics. After this we stroll around the Water and back, by coach, for 6.00 pm.

The cost of the coach, and Museum, is £20 per head. There are **NOT** many places left.

Please phone John Cheal if you wish to be included.

Date	Event	Speaker\Coordinator	Vote Of Thanks	Newsletter Report
Thur 27 May	A Picture of Afghanistan	Dr Javed Hashemi	Paul Beaumont	Mike Lock
Thur 3rd June	Long Walk — Bridgenorth	Graham Jones	Meet at Roy's 09.30 am	
June 6-13th	Majorca — 7 days	Brian Mallett		
Wed 16th June	Bowls day Windmill Pub Gentleshaw (£15)	Mike Lock	10.00 am 'til 5.00 pm	
Fri 18th June	Pub Amble Clent (£10.95)	Brian Spencer	10.15 am Start	
Mon 21st June	Computer Club	Tony Ferneyhough	Start at 2.00 pm	
Thur 24th Jun	Work of a Coroner	Reg Browning	Brian Harbourne	Roy Galloway
Wed 30th Jun	Inter-Probus Golf - Stonebridge Golf Club	Brian Mallett		
Thur 1st July	President's Annual Dinner. Packington Farm	John Cheal	7.30 pm for 8.00 pm start	
Thurs 8th July	Pub Amble — Sutton Park	Derek Smith	10.30 Start	
Mon 12th July	Long Walk — Clent	Dennis Rose	Meet at Roy's 09.30 am	
Thur 15th July	Crich Tramway Village (£20)	John Cheal	Meet at Foley Rd East 09.15 am	
Thu 22nd July	Life as Lord Mayor of Birmingham	Jim Worwood	John Buckland	Brian Nicholas

Kitchen Rota Thur 24th June

Tim Daly
John Longmore
Mike Terry
Roy Willson
Ivor Wesley
Rod Crowley-Venue Secretary

At the next Computer Club meeting we will discuss the resources of the Internet.

There will be a break in July and August, hoping to recommence in September.

Kitchen Rota Thur 27 May

John Cheal
Roy Galloway
Roger Phillips
Brian Senior
John Wallis
Rod Crowley-Venue Secretary

Inter Club Probus Golf – Stonebridge Golf Club – 30th June 2010

The annual golf day is open to all Probus members. Each club is represented by a minimum of three members to compete for the inter-club trophy. It is a very sociable occasion consisting of 18 holes followed by a meal. It normally finishes around 4.00pm. As we are defending the trophy this year, we need as many players as possible.

Brian Mallett

Treasure Hunt

Thursday 6th May 2010



A small but select band gathered at a lay-by at Kings Bromley in un-Proboscis like weather to test our detective skills. The route took us through some surprisingly delightful highways, by-ways and villages in this part of South Staffordshire.

We were given 34 clues, some obscure and very cryptic, and a set of very clear directions to enable us to hunt for the treasure. There was much head-scratching and the retracing of our steps to try and unravel some of the rather fiendish attempts by our organisers to baffle the participants. It turned out that they were successful in that only two points separated the first and last and that only a 66% pass rate was achieved.



Despite the trauma of the chase we all arrived at our goal, The Boars Head Hotel at Sudbury, safely and in good time to join other members and ladies for an enjoyable and convivial lunch.

We must thank John Cheal and Jim Bailey for all the time and hard work that they put in to organise the event, and to Brenda Pound for the deciphering and marking of our efforts. It was a most enjoyable morning, let us hope that another event can be arranged next year when more of us are able to take part. Dennis Rose

May Pub Ramble

On beautiful warm and sunny day a small but very select group—20 ramblers and one dog—met at the car park at Curborough Craft and Garden Centre. The ramble was over fairly flat terrain with about five obstacles (stiles and gates) along the way. We came across fishing pools with many anglers hard at work (!). Passing them by we entered a field where two beautiful - but skittish - horses insisted on walking the length of the field with us. The next field was straight out of the musical Oklahoma, except this was not grass but rape seed in full bloom and was well about head height !! (Unfortunately we had left our machete's at home !! I hoped that non of our members suffer with hay fever. The walk finished a little earlier than usual giving some of us time to browse around the antique shop and visit some of the other outlets selling their wares. It's a very pleasant stop off point and well worth the visit.



We left Curborough for lunch for lunch which entailed a short drive to the Hedgehog arriving as scheduled at 1215 where we were joined by 12 - 14 non walking members. Unfortunately it took two and half hours to serve a two course lunch. I understand that we were partly to blame for this as some members had not booked with Roy or Brian prior to the event helping only to throw the overloaded kitchen staff into even more turmoil. Thank goodness we had the usual good company whilst waiting to be served.

Our sincere thanks to Brian, Roy and Mary for organising yet another satisfying ramble.

Paul Sadler

July 26th Long Walk: Ashton under Hill Near Tewkesbury

Meet: Roy Willson's 9.15. Leave at 9.30

Directions: Go via M5 to J 9 at Tewkesbury. Take A46/ A438 towards Evesham.

Bear left Teddington Hands Island turn left at sign post Ashton under Hill after 4 miles or so. About 8 miles from Tewkesbury Meet in main street near The Star Pub

Walk: about 6 miles or so. Quite hilly, views fantastic [Brian Spencer](#)

BLADON and BLENHEIM PALACE.

On Thursday 20th May, a full coach of members and wives left Streetly for what again proved to be an outstanding Probus day out.

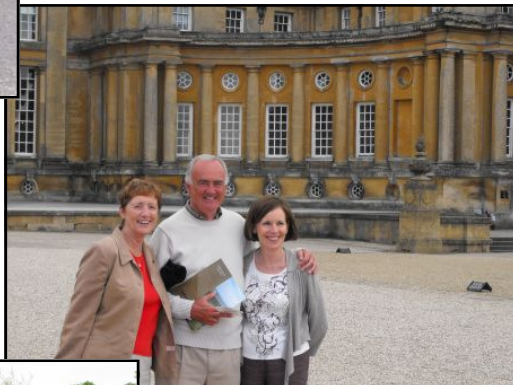


En-route we called at the White House, a traditional English Pub (since 1661) in Bladon for coffee/tea and biscuits. We then had time to visit Bladon Church (1801 and rebuilt in 1894) where amongst others we saw the grave of Sir Winston Churchill, at the head of the grave of his Mother with that of his Father alongside.

A short journey then took us to Blenheim Palace the birthplace of Sir Winston where the majority enjoyed a picnic in the beautiful grounds bathed in bright sunlight. Oth-

ers departed to the Restaurant where one table almost proved there is such a thing as a free lunch. A quiet word regarding the quality and quantity of the food produced an instant refund in full with offers of almost everything 'on the house,' including Champagne! which were declined.

After lunch we had almost four hours to



enjoy the myriad of attractions such as the State Apartments the Formal Rose and Secret gardens, the Churchill Exhibition etc. Of particular interest was 'The Untold Story' 300 years of enticing tales brought to life by moving figures and talking pictures, which was a very clever and well produced exhibit.

We have become accustomed to a few jokes from our resident

comedian John on our outings and this time he had competition as Fred endeavoured to entertain us, but possibly 9.45am was a bit early for some who had not yet recovered from an early start to the day.

If you want to save money on lunch on our next outing see Maureen W. By the number of distinctive Gold and White bags carried back to the Coach by our Ladies this might be advisable.

This was a well planned day which went without a hitch in glorious weather, and our thanks are due to Brian Mallett for all his hard work in making the day such a success. [Brian Senior](#)

Date of Pub Amble: Friday 18th June 2010

Time: **10.15 walk start time**

Venue: Clent, Worcestershire. Meet at the bottom of Clattergate Lane for the start of the walk. There is very limited parking space for walkers cars, so please fill your car. Overflow: park near church 250 yards away.

Directions: Go on M5 to Junction 3. Take A 456 towards Halesowen. Keep on dual carriageway to the third island (a small one) TL up the hill, past the National Trust Car Park to T junction. TR go along this road for about a mile to junction of this road with Clattergate Lane on the LHS. Park here, or go on a further 250 yards and park near to church at cross roads.

Walk: This is a strenuous walk, about 3.5 miles, the first 2.75 miles is uphill all the way, and can be muddy after rain. Please, only come if you are happy to deal with these conditions.

Please wear adequate footwear.

On a fine day, views are superb. Worcestershire at its best! There are a couple of stiles and a lot of kissing gates.

After the walk, go to crossroads by church, and TR. After about half mile, TR into Adams Hill at the Fountain Pub. Up the hill for 500 yards to top, park on open area. We are having ;lunch at the Hill Tavern.

Menu: Soup of the day
Melon

Scampi and Chips
Steak and Ale Pie
Meat Lasagne

Chocolate fudge pudding
Ice Cream

£10.95 for two course meal, including tea or coffee

It is important to double up on cars as parking is very limited at start of walk.

Lunch 12.30

Please only come along to the lunch venue if you have booked a meal in advance. Folk turning up without pre-ordering, causes no end of hassle on the day, and results in long delays of serving of food for everyone. If you have ordered food and do not attend, you can expect to have to pay for it, once an order has been placed.

Loss: The day he moved out was terrible—that evening she went through hell.
His absence wasn't a problem—but the corkscrew had gone as well !!

Editor's Notes

Every effort will be made to include all articles - and photos - given \sent to me. News items will only be included for the current month if they reach me **no later than the Saturday before** publication at the Thursday General Meeting. Whilst it is understood that not all members have computers the preferred method of receiving articles\photos is by email. The number of pages in the Newsletter may vary and will be based on information supplied.

It would be appreciated if articles be restricted to **a maximum of 250 words**. Articles will be edited, major changes by agreement with the member\author concerned.

Any opinions expressed within the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Committee.

The Publicity Officer (**Brian Harbourne**) will submit extracts of articles and photos to the local press.