



Sutton Park Probus Club

(Founded in 1998)

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

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Some Aspects of Espionage and Skulduggery in WW2

As Shakespeare wrote, 'once more into the breach, dear friends' and our friend and member Derek Smith certainly stepped up and produced a most interesting September presentation for us all on this little known aspect of the second world war. He took us, together with some quite interesting photos, on a journey of



deception and double dealing from straightforward camouflage via dummy plywood lorries, planes and boats to inflatable tanks. The ultimate deception was the enemy agent or spy but why Germany sent spies to Britain who could not speak or read English must remain one of the unsolved mysteries of WW2. Derek then went on to explain the role of the double agent and how useful they could be to the Allies. Derek's favourite double agent was in fact a neutral; a Spaniard, code name 'Garbo'. The Germans thought he was their spy in Britain but he was in fact living in Lisbon, working for British Intelligence, and sending very selective 'secret' information to the Germans.

Double agents like 'Garbo' had a big influence on the outcome of British military action culminating in the D-Day landings of 1944 when Hitler was fed information that led the Germans to think that the main landings would be in the Calais area and that the Normandy landing were merely a decoy, thus affecting their whole defence plans to the benefit of the Allies.

Derek's talk concluded with discussions about the V1 Doodle Bug and the V2 rockets, the effects of both being reduced by deceptive information provided and fed to the enemy. I now know how a doodle bug came to land in my street in 1944!!

A great talk, Derek, step into the breach anytime. **Peter Prime**

LONG WALK – NEW NATIONAL FOREST

We gathered under blue skies and warm sunshine at Branston Water Park just south of Burton on Trent. Created when gravel extraction ceased in the early 1950's, it now forms an attractive addition to the New National Forest which comprises 80,000 trees, mainly Oak, Cherry, Firs and Birch.

Walking parallel to the Trent and Mersey Canal we proceeded to Tatenhill Lock, designed and built by James Brindley in 1777, before moving through reed beds and farmland to the village outskirts. Then up Battlestead Hill where Angles and Danes waged a bloody battle years ago. The Burton Ridge provided a welcome bench and panoramic view of the Trent Valley. East Hill, Millennium and Sinai Woods



are now between three and ten years old but it will be our children in their late age who will witness the mature forest.

One high stile was particularly challenging and described as "one small step for mankind, one giant leap for Yvonne". We dropped down into Shobnall to the smell of malt from Marston's Brewery and duly fortified climbed Oaks Wood before crossing the A38 and returning to base via the Canal and Shobnall Marina. **David Rooke**

Ladies Bowling Day

On Tuesday 28 September, 31 intrepid bowlers set out to be "Bowler of the Day" at Sutton Coldfield Conservative Club. a mixed match of ladies and gentlemen.

The skies were overcast and a heavy dew on the green and you could smell the tension in the air "High Noon" had nothing on this, but this didn't daunt these eager bowlers with polished bowls and towels hanging at their sides to mop up surplus dew. Some bowlers practiced on the green to hone their skills (as it happened to no avail !) while the ladies sipped coffee on the terrace with plenty of chatter going on. Lots were drawn to establish who played with whom and who they played against. 2 sets of 7 ends. Who will be the victor ?

The anticipation was electric with a general buzz around the ground as the first players set off to their task.

Much coffee was drunk at the mid point of the match to calm shattered nerves.

At the end of the match all scores recorded and totted up for the victor to be established.

Pat Buckland (1st) for the Ladies and **Peter Gray** (2nd) for the Men. Congratulations to the ladies, commiserations to the men. Dry your eyes chaps, there will be another day.

This dramatic event was followed by a superb buffet with plenty of chatter going on, plenty of hard luck stories and talk about the bowls that got away. A good fun day all round.

Many thanks to Geoff and Mike for their superb organisation. **Terry Booth**



Trip of a Life Time

Ken and his wife Edna went to the air show every year, And every year Ken would say, 'Edna, I'd like to ride in that helicopter'

Edna always replied, 'I know Ken, but that helicopter ride is one hundred pounds , And one hundred pounds is one hundred pounds'

One year Ken and Edna went to the fair, and Ken said, 'Edna, I'm 75 years old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance'

To this, Edna replied, "Ken that helicopter ride is one hundred pounds, and one hundred pounds is one hundred pounds"

The pilot, of the helicopter, overheard the couple and said, 'Folks I'll make you a deal. I'll take the both of you for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and don't say a word I won't charge you a penny!

But if you say one word it's one hundred pounds.'

Ken and Edna agreed and up they went.

The pilot did all kinds of fancy manoeuvres, but not a word was heard.

He did his daredevil tricks over and over again,

But still not a word...

When they landed, the pilot turned to Ken and said,

Gosh, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!'

Ken replied, 'Well, to tell you the truth, I almost said something when Edna fell out, But you know, "One hundred pounds is one hundred pounds!"

Pub Amble 18th Nov

Date: Thursday 18th November
Times: Walk - 10.30. Lunch - 12.30
Pub: Fox Inn - Walmley (Post Code - B76 1NP)
Location: Walmley Village
Directions: Walmley Road - Parking at rear of pub
Walk: Easy walk (approx 2.5 miles) along Plants
brook Valley. There are no stiles with some
made up paths.
Meal Cost: £3.59 (this price is correct !!!)
Organiser: Roy Willson

Advance Notices

Trip to Jaguar

Spaces only for Mon 8th Nov
(Limited to a maximum of 20 per trip)

Visit to BBC Studios (Mailbox)

Thur 17th Feb 2011
Full details at November Meeting

President's Supper

The Terrace Rest 'rant Fri 8th July 2011

Date	Event	Speaker\ Coordinator	Vote Of Thanks	Newsletter Report
Thur 28th Oct	A Trip to Cambodia	Gifford Foote	Ray Clark	Barry Parsonage
Sat 30th Oct	Fine Dining - Sutton Golf Club (£24)	Brian Mallett	Meet at 7.15 pm for 7.45 pm	
Mon 1st Nov	Trip to Jaguar Car Factory + Meal (£15)	John Cheal	This date is now full.	
Thur 4th Nov	Long Walk - Coalbrookdale	Mike Lock	Meet at Roy's for 9.30 departure	
Mon 8th Nov	2nd Trip to Jaguar (£15)	John Cheal		
Mon 8th Nov	Computer Club	Tony Ferneyhough	Meeting starts at 2.00 pm	
Thur 18th Nov	Pub Amble - Fox Walmley (£3.59)	Roy Willson		
Thur 25th Nov	Jersey Occupation Remembered	Don Watson	Don Cooper	Neil Crabb
Thur 2nd Dec	Long Walk - TBA			
Mon 13th Dec	Computer Club	Tony Ferneyhough	Meeting starts at 2.00 pm	
Fri 9th Dec	Christmas Lunch at Moor Hall (£29)	David Rooke John Purnell	Meet at 1200 for 1230 start	
No General Meeting in December			Next Meeting Thur 27th Jan 2011	

Kitchen Rota Thur 25th Nov

Don Cooper
Tim Daly
David Roy
Brian Senior
John Wallis
Rod Crowley-Venue Secretary

Christmas Cards

Last year we introduced a system where members chose between donating to a preferred charity and/or giving their Probus friends Christmas cards. I need written notification if you wish your name(s) to be included in the December Newsletter.

Kitchen Rota Thur 28th Oct

John Booth
Terry Booth
John Buckland
Roger Phillips
Charles Sitch
Rod Crowley-Venue Secretary

Long Walk – Thursday 4th November 2010

The Walk: A 5 mile circular walk of much variety and interest in the wooded hills and valleys near Coalbrookdale where the Industrial Revolution began. There are 2 hills but only 2 stiles, many steps and a boardwalk & wilderness section. Stunning views await you! Toilets at start and half-way into walk.

Meet up: To car share at Roy's at 0930 for Walk at 1045/1100.

Directions: The start is at Dale End Riverside Park long-stay car park (map ref SJ664037). Leave M54 J4, take A464 south for 1 mile, then A442/A4169 for 4½ miles, LT at roundabout (SP Coalbrookdale Museums) to T junction, RT and immediately LT into car park.

Mobile on day: 0777 974 7027

Boogie Nights

Our recent visit to Sutton Town Hall was very well supported - we more than ably assisted in completely filling the auditorium. Before the music started up the 'Head Door Assistant' from the show reminded us in no uncertain terms about the intrusion of mobile phones (and what might happen !!). Then the lights dimmed and we settled back to watch the evening unfold before us.

Most musicals do not rely heavily on plot - I'm sure it would get in the way of the beautifully sung songs and the excellent choreography we have grown to expect from this very accomplished Company.

The underlying story was centred on life in the 70's and the attitudes that young folk had at that time. Quite a social statement was made about the expectations and values held then.

It was good to hear so many songs of an era that we all relate to but the under-utilised vocal re-enforcement marred a well-voiced production. Overall a well executed show and - judging by the foot-tapping and clapping by the audience - thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Tony Ferneyhough

The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious - Albert Einstein

So, Where is Huddlesford ??

A bright sunny morning started the day well to greet the 18 walkers who met at The Plough at Huddlesford.

The walk began along the canalside and then continued across muddy ploughed fields. After a short while we came across the first style which was negotiable because the hedges had been thoughtfully pruned to allow our access. (Many thanks to Roy).



The weather 'Guru' and his 'advisor'.

The walk then continued for a short while along a road where apparently some lucky Probus members were invited to coffee by a charming young lady in a car who unfortunately did not leave her address.

The regular call at the next five styles seemed to be

'Can I get my leg over' and unusually this call was made by the ladies in the group.

Having arrived at the village of Whittington we continued our walk along the canal path to the Plough where we joined by 14 non walkers who joined the walking party for lunch.



Our thanks must go to Mary and Roy for a delightful walk and for arranging such wonderful weather.

Ron Ryman

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.