



Wilmington Axstane Probus Club

NEWSLETTER - August 2023

Our Speaker on 31st August will be Melania Gibson-Barton and her subject is:
"The Life and Times of Edith Cavell".

Lunch is Sea Bass with chef's choice of potatoes and vegetables or Vegetable Lasagna followed by a choice of puddings.

Chairman's Welcome

At the luncheon on the 27th July we were given a thoroughly interesting talk on the MGM musicals, which I'm sure we all found fascinating.

I am delighted to report that we have welcomed two new members, Kevin Pronger and Ben Garrard. We were also honoured to have Phil Elliman, Gary Mullins, Alf Oakes, Maurice Tilley and Ron Armstrong as our guests and look forward to seeing them again in the future.

We have had some good news regarding the dining arrangements at the Bowls club. Following the departure of the existing caterers our good friend Les Robus has managed to secure the return of Leon of Lemon and Thyme. So, with this great news we are happy to return to the club and our Social Committee are busy reinstating our future events.

Those of us who went on the spring break in May recently attended a wonderful buffet reunion at The Malt Shovel, Eynsford. This event was well organised by Eddie and Iris, there was so much food that several of us went home with a 'doggy bag'.

My two charities are doing well, and an exciting update on the Lively Lady yacht is that following a 4 day (160-nautical mile) journey she has now arrived in Kent and is moored at the Historic Dockyard at Chatham.

Jack

One liners from 2008 Probud Newsletter

Most of us seem to be taller than our parents, so it follows that we are living-**longer**.

By the time you have saved for your nest egg, inflation turns it into chicken feed.

Empty vessels make the most noise - usual on their mobiles.

I have three children at university –does this mean I am getting poorer by degrees?

The Chairman's Charities are:



Social Committee Report

Sanity has returned to Whiteoak; Leon de Bruyn has been re-instated as caterer and we are now replanning Social events to use this excellent facility.

Spring Break 2024

We are going to Great Yarmouth, staying at "The Imperial Hotel" which is on the sea front opposite the "Venetian Waterways" I have sent out more information and if you would like to join us, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Autumn Break 2023

The Brickwall at Seddlescombe, I have two double rooms available, but I will return them to the Hotel at the end of the month. If you would like to go PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Outings

The Hop Festival visit has been cancelled due to lack of support.

Chairman's Dinner and Dance:

Princes Park has been booked for Friday, 20 October 2023. A flyer with the menu choices has been sent to you all. Please let either PHIL or STEVE know if you would like to come.

Christmas Lunch:

Planned for Monday, 4 December 2023, more information later.

Social Events:

Coffee Morning at "The Plough" on Wednesday, 6 September 2023, please let PHIL know if you are coming.

Trip to the Greyhounds "Saturday Brunch" on Saturday 4th November.

Quiz Night - Friday, 17 November 2023,

Wilmington Fair:

We are running our usual stall at the "WILMINGTON FAIR" on "WILMINGTON COMMON" on Monday, 28 August 2023. PLEASE COME AND SEE US and enjoy our "Hospitality Tent" and of course the rest of the Fete.

Colin

Birthdays

A Happy Birthday to everyone with a Birthday in
August and September

**Clive Freeland, Keith Cass, David Mason,
Gary Mullins and Jimmie Winterflood**



Walks Information from Roy

The walk on 9 August found Peter Marsh leading eight other walkers from the Chequers Inn, Darent at 10.15 am. The walk was a very pleasant level one with one or two very gentle rises of about 2.5 miles long through fields, woods, beside the angling lakes and along the river Darent. Being beside the river was particularly pleasant as it was a fairly warm, clear day. The only spoiler was a short stretch of narrow path with nettles and brambles which had not been cleared well. On return before 12.00 midday, a further eight joined for a very enjoyable sociable lunch.

Steve Brown leads on the 13th September to circumnavigate Footh Cray Meadows starting from the White Cross pub on North Cray Rd. Bexley (MR488724, what3words, mostly.jeeps.shout). There is parking but the pub doesn't open until 11.00am so you will need to make other arrangements for coffee.

The walk will start at 10.30am and is 2.7 miles long. It is mainly flat but there are one or two gentle slopes up and down with glorious views of the River Cray. Steve has arranged for a stop at the Information Centre on the Meadows to take in a little of the history of the area. We'll return to the pub around 12.15 pm for lunch. **Would everyone who plans to join us for lunch only and/or the walk are asked to let Steve know by 6.00pm on Monday 11th September please.**

Footh Cray Meadows are very enjoyable and provide an easy walk and an excellent one for those who don't normally join the walks and want to "test the water", enjoy some fresh air and conversation. We need more walkers to show appreciation to the leaders who make all the arrangements for each walk. Please come.

DIRECTIONS Leave Wilmington via Leyton Cross to join the A2018 adjacent to the Old Bexley lane junction with the A2. Turn left on the A2018 and follow the road for one mile to reach a junction with the A223 in Old Bexley. Turn left and follow the A223 (North Cray Rd.) for 1.5 miles. Pass the pub on the right but continue as this is a dual carriageway and the pub is not accessible at this point. After 0.5 miles reach an exit on the right signed to Loring Hall. Turn right and return on the other carriageway of the A223 to reach the pub. The entrance to the car park is just before the pub.

Roy

Funny Stories from the Probus November 2006 Newsletter

Morris, an 82 year old man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later, the doctor saw him walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, "You're really doing great aren't you?"

Morris replied, "Just doing what you said Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'"

The doctor said, "I didn't say that. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur, be careful.'"

Three old guys out walking. First one says, "Windy, isn't it?" Second one says, "No it's Thursday!"

Third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a beer"

The Club's Finances

The current financial position is as follows:

	£	£
Chairman's Charities		828
General Funds		132
Pending Payment:		126
Contingency Fund		1791
Balance held in Cash or in Bank		2877

The Chairman's Charities total includes the pledges that have been made for the 'Barrow of Booze' raffle prize less the cost of purchases made as well as the initial sale of raffle tickets to members. The final fundraising result of this will be announced at this month's Lunch Meeting. Funds pending payment include amounts for the October Dinner and Dance (£336) and the second visit to Crayford Dogs (£140) and after deducting £350 for deposits in relation to the 2023 Autumn Get Away and the 2024 Spring Break. .

Derek

Friday 20th October is the date for the Autumn Dinner and Dance

Invitations have been circulated but if you've not received yours please give me a call. Tickets are £42 each and include a three course dinner and entertainment from Cover2Cover, a greatest hits revival band. We held a similar event last year with the sixties band Edison Lighthouse and we had 84 people dancing the evening away. We have booked the smaller venue this year so it should be cosier.

To date we have 30 people booked in and we have room for plenty more. Don't forget the event is open to Probus members and as many guests as you like. We still have to hear from 30 members so it should be a good evening. Look forward to hearing from you after all it is for the Chairman's Charities.

Steve B

Members

If you know any member who is unwell (including yourself) or if you have new contact details, please contact the temporary Membership Secretary, Ed Holbrook on 01322 863130 or e-mail: Ed.holbrook@icloud.com

Speaker's Corner

Our speaker on 31st August is Melania Gibson-Barton and her subject is "The life & Times of Edith Cavell".

Our speaker on 28th September is our Ian Armitt and his subject is "A Taxing Time".

Please join us for both lunches. **Andrew**