



Warlingham and District Probus Club

THE "Better Late than Never" NEWSLETTER July 2023

Dear Fellow Members,

It's been a while since the last newsletter.

Firstly, and most importantly you will find attached a schedule of our lunch dates, menus and speakers for the rest of this year. A wide variety of both menus and speaker subjects.

Our roving reporters Sandra Carpenter and Cindy Steer have kindly written articles about the Robin's Rovers (incorporating Tony's Tours) outings to Ham House and Kew Gardens. Robin and Tony would welcome your suggestions for future outings so please let them know your thoughts.



Wendy Berry has provided another general knowledge quiz and anagram puzzle which you will find at the end of this Newsletter. There are no prizes but if you would like me to score your answers then please let me have them at the next lunch or email them to me.

Our nominated charity for this year, as voted for at the AGM is Alzheimers Research UK, the UK's leading dementia research charity working to revolutionise the way we diagnose, treat and prevent dementia. You can find out more about them on their website: alzheimersresearchuk.org. Our charity box will continue to be circulated at

our monthly lunches or alternatively if you prefer you can donate by cheque payable to "Warlingham Probus" and marked "Charity2023" on the back or by BACS through the Club account using reference "Charity2023" Our BACS details are:

WARLINGHAM PROBUS

SANTANDER

09 01 51

A/C 69486702

Whilst talking finance please can I remind you that I will be stepping down as Treasurer at the end of this year and if you are interested in helping run our Club by taking on this role then please let me know sooner rather than later.

As you all know, we do need to tell the Golf Club the number of diners each month about a week in advance so please respond as quickly as possible once you receive the monthly reminder from your Lunch Cascade Team Leader, Tony, Sandi, Angus or I. If you subsequently have to cancel we will do our best to notify the Golf Club as soon as possible but we are charged for late cancellations so we may not be able to reimburse you

Club Outings

The two outings to Ham House in May and Kew Gardens this month were well attended and you will find overleaf reports and photographs of these events. Thank you Cindy and Sandra for the reporting and also to Rita who provided additional photographic evidence.

For fellowship amongst retired and semi-retired professionals and business people since 1988.

Chairman: Robyn Wright.

Editor: Bob Bailey

www.probuswarlingham.co.uk

Another great trip arranged by the dynamic duo. - HAM HOUSE 10MAY2023.

This is the house in all its glory. Splendid don't



you think?



I'm sure you may recognise one or two

Probably more so in this one!



First stop, comfort breaks and then a visit the café on site.



Now, a little bit about this grand Stuart house. Originally built in 1610 on the banks of that well know river, the Thames, the building holds wonderful, though some strange, paintings, furniture & textiles – in one room we found leather wall paper or was it a hanging? Talking of rooms the place to have a conversation was to take your guest(s) to your bedroom, anyone was welcome!!

Did I tell you William, who was the “whipping boy” for the young King Charles I. Both were educated together & remained good friends throughout adulthood and the house was leased to William and his tenacious daughter, Elizabeth, the Duchess of Lauderdale, a “bit of a girl” we hear, & “born before her time”. Married twice, and a civil war to boot, by maintaining good relations with Cromwell during his rule, Elizabeth was able to keep Ham House. After the Restoration, Elizabeth was granted a pension of £800 per annum by Charles II (around £160,000 today) and was confirmed as Countess of Dysart in her own right, suggesting she may have secretly helped the king while he was in exile. Enough of the heavy stuff now. Get yourselves down and have your own little visit to this little jewel.

Needless to say we finished off at The IVY restaurant with food and drink, as usual, a bit disappointed as we were spread on separate tables in different areas around the restaurant.



Many thanks again to Robin, Tony and Rita the photographer. A good day all in all. I will probably make a return visit if only to see the gardens in bloom. Sandra

Kew Gardens Outing

Not having been to Kew Gardens before, I was really looking forward to the Probus outing there on Wednesday 12th July, and it didn't disappoint!

We met at 8.30 am for our coach trip, arriving at the gardens just before opening time at 10 am after a pleasant and traffic free journey

Kew Gardens is a [botanic garden](#) that houses the world's largest fauna collection. First opened to the public in 1840, the gardens, set out over 9 acres, were founded in 1759 and celebrated their 250th anniversary in 2009 with a visit from the Queen and Prince Philip.

world teeming with birds and insects, lichen and fungi.



We had three hours to wander at leisure and drink in all the marvels; my favourite parts were the Chinese pagoda, built by William Chambers in 1762 and The Shirley Sherwood Gallery of botanical art.



Everywhere you look are wonderful flowers, trees, art and architecture, along with a beautiful lake. Magnificent glass houses contain specimens of exotic and rare plants and trees and, for those brave enough there is the treetop walkway. At 18 metres high you can take a walk through the treetop canopy and observe the complex ecosystem of the trees' uppermost branches, a

After leaving the gardens we drove a short distance to Ma Cuisine, a small French bistro in Kew where we all had the most wonderful meal with lovely wines and cocktails and were looked after well by all the staff.



Feeling happy and full, we walked slowly back to the coach for our smooth journey home. All in all, a very pleasant day with good company, beautiful food and wine and lovely memories of the spectacular Kew Gardens.

Many thanks to Robin and Tony for organising. I look forward to the next trip.
Cindy

Please don't hesitate to let me have your anecdotes, stories, jokes and photos for inclusion in future editions, and indeed any comments you may wish to make about these Newsletters.

Bob B

Club Committee Members

Chairman: Robyn Wright

Vice Chairman: Maggie Sheridan

Secretary: Angus Bransby

Treasurer and Newsletter Editor: Bob Bailey

Speaker Secretary: Angus Bransby & Alain Frankel

Luncheon Secretary: Sandra Carpenter and Sandi Spall

Outings: Robin Bloore and Tony Wright

Ordinary Members and Website Advisor: Richard Bransby

Turn the page for Wendy's brain teaser exercises – have fun!

CAN YOU UNSCRAMBLE THE FOLLOWING ANAGRAMS?

Gemstones

1 set my hat

2 don maid

3 rag ten

4 diet pro

5 red male

Mountain Ranges

6 say hi alma

7 as den

8 obscene carbon

9 a salt

10 seen prey

Full English Breakfast Items

11 brash shown

12 deans kebab

13 ms crab legged

14 paddling buck

15 gaseous parks

Types of meat

16 oh mr beg

17 trek leaders

18 tabard room

19 more orbs

20 red oaf

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

No Googling allowed!

1 In which year did the USA adopt the stars & stripes as its national flag?

2 Which type of shop can be identified by 3 gold balls/

3 Which England football manager began his playing career at Crystal Palace?

4 Which of Japan's holy mountains is the highest?

5 Which drug is derived from poppies?

6 Which battle took place on 18th June 1815?

7 Which English town has an exclamation mark in its name?

8 The rocket is the nickname of which snooker player?

9 Of which country is the baht the monetary unit?

10 Which is the longest bone in the human body?

11 In which year was The National Trust founded?

12 Which is the oldest university in the USA?

13 Eldrick Tont is the real name of which famous golfer?

14 What was the first number at the first National Lottery Draw?

15 What is a baby badger called?

16 What is a farthingale?

17 In what year was bubble wrap introduced?

18 The Venus Rosewater Dish is awarded to the winner of which sporting event?

19 Which country in South America comes last alphabetically?

20 How many letters are there in the modern Greek alphabet?