



Probud Club of Locks Heath

Volume 1: March 2020 "Welcome"

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Welcome

Our club (official title "Probud Club of Locks Heath") was formed in 1981 and has developed over the years. We now have a membership of fifty which is the maximum we can accommodate at our venue. As such, we do have a short waiting list, but encourage those on it to attend meetings periodically when space permits!

We meet at 12.00pm. on the first Thursday of every month at [Sarisbury Green Community Centre](#) when we have a short business meeting and a Ploughman's Lunch followed by a Speaker and finish around 2.00pm. A pay bar is available.

We arrange group holidays, recent examples include a cruise to the Norwegian Fjords from and back to Southampton with Fred Ölsen Cruises, a visit to Lake Como in Italy and two river cruises in Europe, one travelling part way by Eurostar, as well as a cruise around Britain.

We organise outings, for example a visit to Greenwich and visits to the Chichester Festival Theatre as well as local events such as an annual Summer Event (Hog Roast, Garden Party, etc..) for members, wives and guests. A *Ladies Day* formal dinner is held in November. Photos from recent events and holidays can be seen in our [Photo Gallery](#).

Latest News

Arrangements have been made to visit the Solent Sky Museum on April 22nd. Anyone interested in this visit should contact Graham Adams directly, g.g.adams@hotmail.co.uk

Our next meeting on March 5th will feature David Allport MB presenting "What did you do during the war Mum?"

February's talk was on Walking the Camino. Details of this and other talks can be found in the [Recent Speakers](#) section of this website. For Ron Harrop's own account of his tandem journey (January meeting), click [>here<](#)

Our next visit to Avenue 141 will be on March 6th, details of the menu can be found [>here<](#) Please let Mike Cresswell know if you intend to come along to this lunch.

John Robertson has proposed a Probud Cruise to the Baltic on July 28th 2020: details of the proposed cruise can be found [>here<](#) Please contact John directly if you are interested in participating.

Derek has reviewed Website access information for the last three months, numbers are very promising and, as a result, Derek will be making changes to some pages

Gill and Graham are happy to host a third Summer Event at their house in 2020 (date now confirmed as July 25th 2020). More details including how to register for the event will be added when available.

This year's Ladies Dinner will be held at Warsash Sailing Club on Friday November 6th. A deposit of twenty pounds per person will be required.

Geoff Smith advised that all club members are affiliates of the [Sarisbury Green Community Centre](#) and, as such, are entitled to discounts should they be attending any event there

We have recently become aware of the [Probud Global](#) website which provides a range of information including details of [Probud Clubs](#) around the World and access to worldwide Special Interest Groups, including [Photography](#) and [Travel](#). You can find the latest Probud Global newsletter [>here<](#)

The Ladies Dinner was held on Saturday 16th November at Graham and Gill's house. See the [Recent Events](#) Section of this website for further information. Photos are also available in the [Photo Gallery](#) section of this website.

Mike Cresswell organised another visit to Avenue 141 on October 25th. As with the Ladies Dinner, see the [Recent Events](#) section of this website for further information. Photos from this event are also available in the [Photo Gallery](#) section of our website.

For a review of this year's Summer Lunch and trips to the Chichester Festival Theatre including the backstage tour, please see the [Recent Events](#) section of this page. Details of the individual Chichester productions attended can be seen in the [Chichester Festival](#) page of our website

Forthcoming Events

Our next visit to Avenue 141 will be on March 6th, details of the menu can be found [>here<](#) Please let Mike Cresswell know if you intend to come along to this lunch.

Probud Cruise to the Baltic July 28th 2020: details of the proposed cruise can be found [>here<](#)

Lionel is creating a questionnaire to elicit feedback on members views about preferred future visits.

Recent Speakers

Valerie Archibald presented “A 1,200 mile stroll to Santiago de Compostela” at the February meeting



Hosted by Derek Treagus (who along with Jim Dodd, their wives and fourteen other pilgrims walked the last 115km of the Camino in May 2019), Valerie gave a fascinating account of the walk she did from her home all the way through to Santiago de Compostela – a distance of over 1,200 miles!

As well as providing information on the history of the route, some memorable pictures taken during her walk and a real insight into what it takes to complete such a journey (no more than two sets of clothing, alternating them everyday and washing/drying them overnight), we were given a real insight to the amount of planning and preparation required for such a journey including a self defence course which, fortunately, Valerie did not need to use!

Parts of the route were impassable due to flooding, parts very repetitive with “tree after tree” but Valerie pushed through with the help of a short visit from her daughter who joined her en route for two weeks.

With stories of Water Bottles, Dormitories, being attacked by rampant dogs, her experience at Mont san Michelle and blisters, there is too much to add in this short text. Suffice to say Valerie managed to complete her journey and receive her Certificate of Completion. Her books of stamps which you collect on your journey are now safely mounted and proudly displayed in her house.

As fellow travellers say en route, this was certainly a “Bon Camino” in the end and with Valerie’s love of walking having seen her complete many other major walks too, perhaps a future presentation is called for?

And if you are interested, completed by Derek Treagus, Jim Dodd and fourteen other Pilgrims, you can find details of their rather simpler Camino de Santiago walk in 2019 >[here](#)<

Ron Harrop presented “A trip down the Danube on a Tandem” at the January meeting



Ron recalled how he travelled around with his Tandem alongside the Danube and other locations including the US.

His uniquely designed tandem bicycle (which he had brought to show club members a few years ago) was an ingeniously constructed mainframe so it could be split in two and the two halves bagged so as the two bags could then be taken as hold baggage on air flights. He took the tandem around Europe and the USA.

We were not told how many miles he travelled on the tandem bike

but he always seemed to be having fun. On his travels he could never book accommodation ahead as he could never predict his likely arrival time or even where he would be by the late afternoon. Punctures, bad weather, etc. were always a challenge.

Some of his photos and videos showed him and his (long suffering) wife meeting up with local cycling groups in the places he went to. They all looked fascinated by the tandem. (Eileen always looked to be smiling)

Ron’s own account of the trip and more photos can be found using the following [link](#)

Bob Marshall presented Bursledon Brickworks at the December meeting



Bursledon Brickworks Industrial Museum, often shortened to Bursledon Brickworks, is a volunteer-run brickworks museum based in the village of Swanwick, Hampshire, England. It is thought to be the last Victorian steam-driven brickworks left in the UK.

Bob gave us a fascinating talk about the history of bricks and where they have been used over the ages, particularly from the Romans to the Victorians.

Bursledon Brickworks started out in 1897 as *Hooper & Ashby*, a local builders’ merchants, who also made bricks. The company was co-founded by the Ashbys and the Hoopers, two separate [Quaker](#) families, both from Surrey. In 1903, *Hooper & Ashby* changed its name to *The Bursledon Brick Co. Limited (B.B.C. Ltd.)*. This coincided with the extension of the southern complex with the addition of the northern complex. This was further extended in 1935.

With the extra capacity, the brickworks was producing in excess of 20 million bricks a year. They were one of the main producers of bricks in the region. Most of the original machinery was moved to the Swanwick site from Chandler’s Ford. Edward Hooper, who moved to Southampton at the age of 26, was a civil engineer and architect. In the 1851 census records, Edward is described as being both an engineer and a brick maker.

The brickworks finally closed in 1974, and the site was later saved from demolition by the *Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust*. The south section of Bursledon Brickworks which houses the brick kiln, chimney, drying sheds, boiler and engine house are [Grade II*](#) listed.

After Bob’s talk that was well illustrated with photos he answered a number of questions by our members, many of whom had visited the site and seen brick making being demonstrated

You can find more details about the brickworks themselves [here](#) including information on [future events](#).

Note the Brickworks is now closed until April 2019.

If you have any comments on this Newsletter, please contact probuslocksheath@gmail.com