



# Probus Club of Locks Heath

Volume 2: March 2020 "Special Edition"

Email: [probuslocksheath@gmail.com](mailto:probuslocksheath@gmail.com)

## Welcome

Our club (official title "Probus 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 Ølsen 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](#).

## A message from our new President



On behalf of all the members of the Probus Club Of Locks Heath, I would like to take this opportunity to say a very sincere thank you to Graham for the wonderful way he has conducted the business of the Club over the past year.

It was unfortunate we were unable to hold our AGM as planned. I was therefore unable to stand up at club and thank Graham personally for all the help given me over the past year and all the work he has done for the Club.

Graham has been a first class president, pro active and has great enthusiasm in everything he does. He has supported every function the club has put on over the past year, he has opened his home on two occasions for club functions and has offered his home once again for our Summer Garden Party in 2020. Surely this is beyond the call of duty. Thank you Graham for a wonderful year.

The other person I would like to thank on your behalf is our secretary Colin. He has done an incredible amount of work over the

past year and particularly in the past month. What would we do without him. Colin thank you for all you do for the club it is much appreciated.

It could be a number of months before we will be able to meet again as a Club. I am sure the next weeks and months will be very difficult and trying for us all. Unfortunately most of our members are in the wrong age group which puts us at risk more than most. I will try and keep in touch with as many members as possible but if you do find yourself with a problem and need help please give me a ring and I will do whatever I can to help.

Finally, our [Website](#) is a useful source of information and will be updated regularly. It can also be used to share any items or news that you feel is relevant to other members. If you have items or news that may be of interest, please send them directly to [probuslocksheath@gmail.com](mailto:probuslocksheath@gmail.com)

Please look after yourselves and take care.

## Latest News

Our President, Lionel, and committee have cancelled our meeting on the 2nd April which would have included our AGM, as a result of the government response to the C-virus crisis. Please note the following important announcements:

There have been a number of queries about payment of the annual subscription for 2020-2021. This will be delayed until we are able to meet again as a group.

Very sadly we have to let you know that Mike Oxenham passed away on Saturday 21st March. He had undergone a course of Radiotherapy for cancerous changes on his vocal cords which he had completed successfully. However it left him weakened and with difficulties swallowing and breathing. He had to be admitted to hospital for two days and then readmitted when he again worsened. His family, to whom we offer our sincerest commiserations, were called in urgently to the General Hospital and were with him when he passed away. (*Mike had been tested for the C-virus before and after he died and both tests were negative*). You can find a copy of Mike's introductory comments [>here<](#) and funeral details provided by his family [>here<](#)

Changes to the Chichester Festival programme have been sent to all members attending. Any queries should be sent to [marianellerton@outlook.com](mailto:marianellerton@outlook.com).

The Sky Museum trip is cancelled (Graham has emailed all those who booked

Given current Government advice, the May and possibly June meetings are also likely to be cancelled. Details will be sent to members when available.

We will try to keep the website updated with other information of interest added when available. We would request all members keep the committee informed of their own wellbeing and how they are coping with current situation. Other anecdotal stories of past adventures etc., could be shared this way. We hope you can all contribute, (*not having time is not now an excuse*). Hand writing, email, and other forms of communication are acceptable.

May we also take this opportunity to wish you all well. We appreciate like ourselves that many of you will be dealing with vulnerable friends and family and hope you all navigate your way through this unusual period.

Lionel, Graham, Colin and committee.

## Other News

See our new Online pages [Memories](#) and [Our Members](#). If you have items to add to either section, please contact [probuslocksheath@gmail.com](mailto:probuslocksheath@gmail.com)

Gill and Graham are happy to host a third Summer Event at their house in 2020 (date now confirmed as July 25th 2020).

This year's Ladies Dinner will be held at Warsash Sailing Club on Friday November 6th.

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

See the [Recent Events](#) Section of our website for further information on our recent activities. Photos are also available in the [Photo Gallery](#) section of our website.

## Forthcoming Events

*Note: This event has been postponed due to the Coronavirus.* 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](mailto:g.g.adams@hotmail.co.uk). This trip is now full, any further requests a will be added to a waiting list in case of cancellations.

Peter Ellerton has selected three productions from the Chichester Festival Theatre Summer / Autumn programme. Details of individual performances can be found on the [TCFT website](#). Booking for this event is now closed and actual attendance will again depend on the current situation at the time of the performance.

Probus Cruise to the Baltic July 28th 2020: details of the proposed cruise can be found [here](#), however as with other activities this is likely to be cancelled due to the current situation.

Our Summer Party 2020 will be held on Saturday 25th July subject

## Probus Newsletter – April 2020

to review by the committee closer to the date.

- The event will follow the same format as last year. Full Details will be available nearer the event. We are limited to seventy attendees so it has to be First come First served.
- You may reserve your seat by paying £15.00 per person in advance. Cheques (which are the only method to pay) should be made out to Graham Adams. No cheques will be paid in before 1st July.
- **Please note Geoff Smith's** initial postcode was incorrect. Cheques should be sent to Geoff Smith, 15 Frog Lane, Titchfield, **PO14 4DU**.

It is intended that this year's Ladies Dinner will be held at Warsash Sailing Club on Friday November 6th. A deposit of 20 pounds per person is required, cheques only, should be made payable to Probus Club of Locks Heath and passed to Chris Collier who is collecting. Cheques will not be cashed until later in the year.

## Recent Speakers

**David Allport MBE presented "What did you do during the war Mum?" at the March meeting**



A comprehensive talk of the role played by women in both the First and Second World Wars, this was a fascinating presentation by an excellent speaker. We learnt about the many roles that women took on during World War One ranging from acting as window cleaners and chimney sweeps to window cleaners, from munitions workers to working the land, they served at home and abroad and managed to balance their traditional home duties with war work. They ran the postal service, joined the police force and even became firefighters. There is very little that they didn't do!

At the time of World War Two they took on an even broader range of roles although they were no longer allowed to be front line firefighters! There were even a group of Lumbergirls working the UK's forests to deliver much needed timber, not to mention those involved in building and flying aircraft from factories to RAF bases.

There is so much more that was covered but can't be included here. If you are interested in this subject, more information can be found using the following links including the UK Official National. Further information on the role of women during the World Wars can be found in the National Archive as well as in Government Records

If you have any comments on this Newsletter, please contact [probuslocksheath@gmail.com](mailto:probuslocksheath@gmail.com)