



The Probus Club of Locks Heath

Volume 17: August 2022: [Not long to Christmas](#)

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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 normally 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 Southampton with Fred Olsen 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.

If network connected, you can see [the video presented at our Ladies Evening](#) stored on Dropbox outlining the Club's activities over the past twelve months. Pictures taken on the evening are available in [the Photo Gallery section of this website](#) and a review of the evening can be seen in the [Recent Events section](#) of this page along with reviews of our Probuc Picnic, our visit to Lysses Hotel, our visit to Eastbourne and the first of this year's visits to Chichester Festival Theatre. Details of [Recent Speakers](#) are also available via this link including all our speakers so far this year.

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 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](#). Our Archive contains articles previously posted on the web

Note that for easier navigation you can [link directly to all sections of our web site from here](#) including previous Newsletters

Committee Updates.

Members are reminded that they must notify the Club Secretary (or nominated deputy in his absence by the Monday preceding the meeting that they are unable to attend otherwise they will have to pay the normal £5 meeting fee as catering costs are based on the number expected to at each meeting.

The annual Ladies Dinner was held at Warsash Sailing Club in November. Details can be found in the [Recent Events](#) section of this page. Photos can be seen in the [Photo Gallery section of this website](#).

Our member, Gareth Hamilton Fletcher, has looked at various options to propose a Cruise around the British Isles. The itinerary includes ports in the Channel Is., Ireland, Scotland, Northern Ireland, France as well as England, going clockwise from and returning to Southampton. He has provisionally reserved ten cabins with balconies for 12 nights from 1st June 2023 to 13th June. **Please let Gareth know if you would like to join.**

Departure date: 01/06/2023

Duration: 12 nights

Holiday type: Cruise Only

Cruise line: Princess Cruises

Cruise ship: Regal Princess

Arrive home: 13/06/2023

A provisional date of **Thursday March 23rd** has been proposed for a visit to Avenue 141.

Speakers: Please look at the [Speaker Schedule](#) on this page for details of planned speakers, which contains recently updated information by our Speaker Coordinator covering speakers up to February 2023.

Members were given a polite reminder that they must notify the committee by the Monday before the meeting if they will not be attending otherwise they will be liable to the meeting charge.

Recent Events

Ladies Dinner 2022



On a quiet November evening the Probuc Club of Locks Heath held its 2022 Ladies Evening at the Warsash Sailing Club, a wonderful venue as demonstrated by the fact that this was our second consecutive Ladies Evening here.

As with all such events, it provided a terrific opportunity for members and wives to meet-up and exchange experiences. The general hubbub, seeing groups of people talking to others and renew old acquaintances was a site to see. Also a great opportunity for our new members and their wives to get to know everyone.

A high quality meal was accompanied by a slide show bringing back memories of events held over the past year demonstrating the range of activities and events in which members have participated in over the last.

And finally, a short recital to round off the evening.

Our thanks go to Tim and all those involved in organising the evening.

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Lunch at Lysses Hotel, Fareham



A wonderful lunch in an historic Grade II listed building in Fareham enjoyed by all who were present. That just about says it all! Photos can be seen in the [Photo Gallery section of this website](#), just click on the link to see them. To enlarge an individual photo simply click on the individual Photos that you wish to see in more detail. Read on to see more about the hotel and that particular area of Fareham's cultural heritage.

Lysses House Hotel

In the heart of Fareham, Lysses House is an elegant Georgian hotel on the High Street in Fareham.

The hotel closed its doors on the 26th October 2012 for 2 weeks to undertake a major refurbishment of the lounge, bar, main feature stairs and reception area. The bar area underwent a major change with some of the original Georgian ceiling being restored. The reception area also underwent a transformation with a smart new reception desk.

To quote the hotel, "It is time for a change and a fresh new look, whilst still keeping the original Georgian feeling of the building. It will be lovely to show off our new look to all our regulars and everyone who has booked celebrations with us."

Originally a family residence built at the height of the Georgian era, is now a small independent hotel situated in the quiet and peaceful surroundings of the old High Street in Fareham. It is easily accessible from the M27, junction 11. When the weather is warm you can also enjoy the tranquil surroundings of the garden terrace.

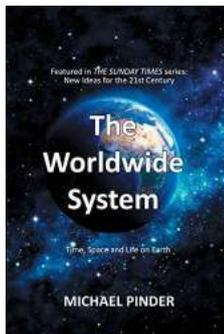
The restaurant grows its own herbs and uses fresh produce from as many local suppliers as possible. Although we do not have leisure facilities on site, all our hotel residents can visit the local LA Fitness centre, just 5 minutes walk from the hotel. We offer high standards, fine food and excellent facilities, but most of all, friendly personal service delivered by a team of great people.

[The house is a Grade II listed building](#), click on the link to see more details and is one of a number of listed buildings in that area. You can see details of all listed buildings in [this area and further afield via this interactive link](#)

Our thanks to Mike Cresswell for organising this event.

Recent Speakers

The Worldwide System by Mike Pinder



A talk by our resident Magician, Hovercraft Pioneer, Dr Who actor and Writer with his latest book soon to be published, this talk would reveal another story to be covered in his soon to be published book.

As those of you who have read [my article on Mike and his involvement with Hovercraft](#) will realise, he is a man of many talents, an inventor and a pragmatist who can make things work, not to mention his on screen role in Dr Who all of which can be seen in the Probus article referred to above.

In the meantime, here is a brief summary of Mike's latest book which has been featured in The Times and can be seen here:

[Michael Pinder: The Worldwide System](#)

Extracting the first paragraph to give you a brief overview: This comprehensive measurement, management, government system could help to solve many employment, environment, nourishment, enlightenment entertainment experiment development movement,

encouragement, punishment, achievement, retirement predicaments.

With a clean sheet of paper or hard disc we could restart our human race. All we need to do is to scrap our old systems then start again at square zero. There are now some forty different ages, dates and times around the globe. We must scrap all our chronologies, calendars and clocks and replace them with one global-digital-decimal system based on Earth's age, orbit and spin. There are now three different linear measurements in use around the globe. We must break all of our rulers and replace them all with one new rule, based upon the global-digital-decimal system and the girth of planet Earth.

HM Yacht Britannia by Dave Russell



A fascinating presentation at a vey poignant time in light of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's recent passing. As I was not at the meeting the following information is provided by Wikipedia.

Her Majesty's Yacht *Britannia*, also known as the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, is the former royal yacht of the British monarchy. She was in service from 1954 until 1997. She was the 83rd such vessel since King Charles II acceded to the throne in 1660, and is the second royal yacht to bear the name, the first being the racing cutter built for the Prince of Wales in 1893. During her 43-year career, the yacht travelled more than a million nautical miles around the world.



HM Y *Britannia* was built at the shipyard of John Brown & Co. Ltd in Clydebank, Dunbartonshire. She was launched by Queen Elizabeth II on 16 April 1953, and commissioned on 11 January 1954. The ship was designed with three masts: a 133-foot (41 m) foremast, a 139-foot (42 m) mainmast, and a 118-foot (36 m) mizzenmast.

The top aerial on the foremast and the top 20 feet (6.1 m) of the mainmast were hinged to allow the ship to pass under bridges.



Britannia was designed to be converted into a hospital ship in time of war, although this capability was never used. In the event of nuclear war, it was intended for the Queen and the Duke of

[Edinburgh](#) to take refuge aboard *Britannia* off the north-west coast of Scotland.

Now retired from royal service, *Britannia* is permanently berthed at [Ocean Terminal, Leith](#) in [Edinburgh](#), Scotland. It is a popular visitor attraction with over 300,000 visits each year.

P is for Prostate by Alan Jones



Trying to be “correct”, Alan said his talk was to those with a prostate. This prompted for one member to say he no longer had one !

He described, with the aid of 3D models (in the picture), the plumbing set up between the kidneys to outlet from the body, and how the prostate managed everything like it was Clapham Junction.

Rubber gloves, fingers, and our own President all helped get the message across!

The talk was very well received and prompted many questions at the end.

If you want further information on Prostate Cancer, you may find the following links useful:

- [Management of Prostate Cancer](#)
- [NHS Living with Prostate Cancer](#)
- [Prostate Cancer UK](#)

New Members

Brian Gray



I was born in Southampton in 1940! brought up in Hamble and have lived in Locks Heath since 1966.

I attended at a private school in Southampton and left (no qualifications) to start an engineering apprenticeship at Air Service Training (AST) in Hamble. AST became Petters Ltd and I joined the Refrigeration Service Department, originally as a service engineer, left after 21 years as the Service Superintendent.

I then joined another Refrigeration Service company as Service Director, finally forming my own Refrigeration Service Company in 1989 and retiring in 2007.

Married to Sue since 1996, We have five adult children (Sue 3, Me 2) and a total of nine Grandchildren

Hobby's include Travel, DIY projects, Art, a little golf, general household and gardening duties, and of course Grandchildren!

I am a Member of St Johns Church Locks Heath, Warsash Art Group, and various other interests including Freemasonry

I presented a talk in December 2021 to PROBUS in Titled “Untold Stories of Small Boats at War’



For Your Diary

Our planned talks for the next three months

December	Cooking for the rich and famous, running Faulty Towers	Susan Howe
2023		
January	Iron Age Events	Matt Russell
February	tbc	Gareth Hamilton-Fletcher

Please send your input for future Newsletters (which will be now be produced approximately quarterly) via the website or send a message to probuslocksheath@gmail.com