

ARUNDEL PROBUS TIMES

1st MAY 2025

Issue No 62

Please can the men all wear shorts to meetings this summer if the sun shines again and it's too hot for trousers ? We could have a nobly knees contest and our new member, Joan, could judge. I wonder who would come second



RIP Rev Michael Weaver The passing of our dear friend Michael was announced by his wife Suzanne early last month. Michael died on 2nd April. He was 85 years old and, as a good churchman, was a friend to all with a nice sense of humour. He and I used to joke about the fact that he was three weeks older than I am and he would reach 100 first. Sadly, that won't now happen. Michael was Arundel's Parish Priest and lived in the Vicarage on Maltravers Street for some time.

The club was well represented at his funeral yesterday. St Nich's, Arundel, Michael's church, was packed.

AGM report The Annual Meeting last month was very well attended with 22 staying for lunch. Ian Goodall is our new President and outgoing President Brian Arthur was thanked for his year of service, without a break. Our Vice President is David Pidoux. Other committee members re-elected for another year are Richard Brennan, Secretary; Stephen Brocklebank, Treasurer and Bob Tanner, Speaker Secretary and Hotel Liaison. Brian stays on the committee as Immediate Past President and David Feist stands down from that role after a three-year stint.

Treasurer Stephen presented the audited accounts which show the club is financially sound at the present time. The annual subscription of £40 is unchanged but may be reviewed in six months' time when final paid-up membership can be determined. Subs are due on 1st May but some members are paying already.

As ever, please continue to try to recruit friends, neighbours etc to keep the club membership "healthy". Membership subscriptions are the only source of income for the club.

The President's Prize was won by Cliff Straw, President in 2001/2002, for impeccable attendance during the year, with help from wife Doreen.



Brian Arthur hands over to Ian Goodall



Brian, Cliff, Doreen and Ian, posing before lunch

Joan Phillips from Middleton-on-Sea, (right) was welcomed into the club, having been sponsored by Geoff Holloway. Joan said a few words about her life and career, including her local government service.



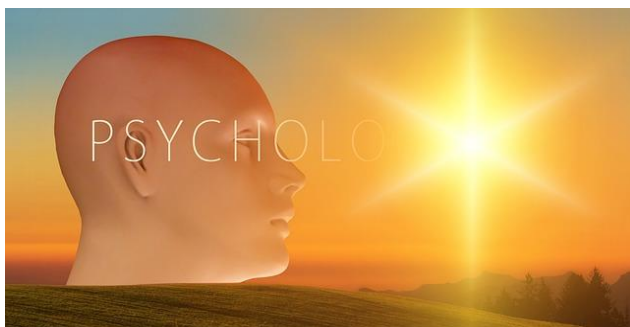
Past President Brian had prepared a very challenging quiz with 25 tough questions, evidenced by the fact that the worthy winner, Mike Gammon, got only half right. John Beckett was a close second but John had earlier won the monthly raffle for a bottle of wine so wasn't too aggrieved.

Well done Mike and John and, err, thanks Brian.

The Anglesey Arms Lunch Only sixteen members attended the April pub lunch, the number probably reduced somewhat by Easter Grandchildren duties, or being currently unwell. The pub is attractive and the food was excellent, but there were problems behind the scenes which, luckily, did not spoil the event. A less officious manageress would have helped.

If you were unwell and unable to attend, we hope you are feeling better now.

The Inglebrook, Pagham. Currently, there are ten of us who have accepted the Bognor club's invitation to join them at lunch on 8th of this month. For several of our members, living east of Arundel, travelling to the Inglebrook restaurant in Pagham involves quite a journey. The round trip from East Preston to Pagham, for example, is about 30 miles. Also possibly deterring some is the three course meal on offer at £25. Not everyone can eat three courses at lunch time, but a two-course meal is not an option. However, it will be nice to meet our neighbours again, on their patch this time, and your representatives will behave themselves. There is no separate Pub Lunch this month.



The May speaker on Thursday 22nd at the White Swan is our own Jack Wheale, a retired Psychologist. His chosen subject is "Human Errors" which congers up a number of possibilities. This promises to be fascinating. Don't miss it. You may like to prepare questions for Jack, such as "What do psychologists make of the new US President?"

The lunch menu will be sent out nearer the date, together with the Speaker FIs usual.



Our outgoing President Brian has kindly responded to my request for material for this newsletter. He has sent an excellent example of a letter which has to convey a tragedy occurring in almost amusing circumstances.

To King Gustaf Adolphus II of Sweden from The Admiralty, Stockholm. 10th August 1628

"Your Majesty,

It pains me to inform your Majesty, (especially while absent from Sweden on campaign), that this afternoon, your Majesty's new battleship, the Vasa, while crossing Stockholm Harbour, twenty minutes into its maiden voyage, capsized and sank. It lies, Sire, in such shallow water that its mast-heads may be seen at low tide protruding above the waves, and that, therefore, some of the sails may, in due course, prove recoverable.

In bright sunny weather the ship was crowded with seamen's wives and children, waving on the ship's shoreward side, although this is not thought to be the cause of this most unfortunate occurrence. Their weight on the upper decks would have been no more than the captive sailors confined there had the ship's use been a success once outside Sweden's own seas.

Our tests of your Majesty's ship's steadiness, by running the crew from one side to the other while in harbour, were abandoned on becoming alarming, although 120 tons of ballast were put below the waterline.

There were several strong gusts of wind this afternoon, the second of which seemed to cause the vessel to lean such that the sea was seen to enter the lower gunports, open so as to display the 56 new bronze cannon the ship carried, though, in the event, never fired.

The vessel was carrying all its sails aloft and laden with many flags and much bunting in your Majesty's honour, which may have contributed to the afore-mentioned leaning.

Although the shipwright Henrick died two years ago, your Majesty will be gratified to learn that enquiry by a seventeen-man Council of State is being made as to the cause of this unhappy event.

I beg to remain ever your Majesty's obedient servant, Admiral Karl Gyllenhielm."



With all due respect to the relatively few who, unfortunately, lost their lives in this tragedy and sympathy for those that missed them. Brian

This is not the “Vasa”, above, but you get the idea. (They didn’t have beach umbrellas in those days.) It looked more like the one below, until it rolled over ! Ed.



*Two visitors to England were walking through town when they saw, advertised in a shop window :-
Suits £10, Jackets £7.50 and Trousers £5. They thought this was great so went into the shop to buy ten suits, eight jackets and and twenty pairs of trousers to take home to family and friends, across the water.
It took some time for them to understand they were in a dry cleaners.*

Whats on next month, June?

Pub Lunch June 12th The Elmer, 89, Elmer Road, Elmer, Middleton-on-Sea, P0226HD

Next month we are returning to The Elmer, that lovely pub near the beach at Elmer Sands, thanks to David Tippett.

12.00 for 12.30 £22 pp, tip included, for a three-course lunch. (Yes, that's right. £22 only)

STARTERS:

- Chef's Freshly Made Butternut Squash & Sweet Potato soup, Crusty Bread.
- Farmhouse Pate, Toast, Red Onion Chutney
- Classic Prawn Cocktail in their Own Seafood Sauce

MAINS;

- Chef's Roast of the Day, either Roast Loin of Pork or Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables
- Fresh Cod and Parsley Fishcake, Salad, Chips or New Potatoes, Home-made Tartare
- Rich Chicken, Mushroom, Ham & Leek Casserole, Yorkshire Pudding, Herb Mash
- Baked Jacket Potato, Salad Garnish & Choice of Fillings --- 4 x Cheese & Baked Beans, OR Chilli Con Carne OR Tuna Mayonnaise OR BBQ Pulled Pork

DESSERTS:

- Seasonal Fruit Crumble, Vanilla Custard
- Banoffee Roulade
- Mango Panna Cotta
- Tiramisu
- Ginger Cheesecake
- 2 Vanilla Scoops of New Forest Ice Cream
- **PAYMENT BY BACS is PREFERRED, TO THE CLUBS BUSINESS ACCOUNT A/C 10642681 SORT CODE 20-20-62. MARK YOUR PAYMENT JunepubLunch.**
- **CHEQUES SENT TO David Tippett, Broad Acres, 12, East Drive, Ham Manor, Angmering, BN16 4JH OR Phone 01903 Email dave.tippett@btinternet.com**
- **WHEN ADVISING, PLEASE STATE WHAT METHOD OF PAYMENT YOU WILL BE USING. PLEASE WRITE ON BACK OF CHEQUE WHAT THE PAYMENT IS FOR.**
- **LAST ORDERS ACCEPTED on Thursday 22nd May, our regular monthly meeting**

I could wake up to find I'd won the lottery or

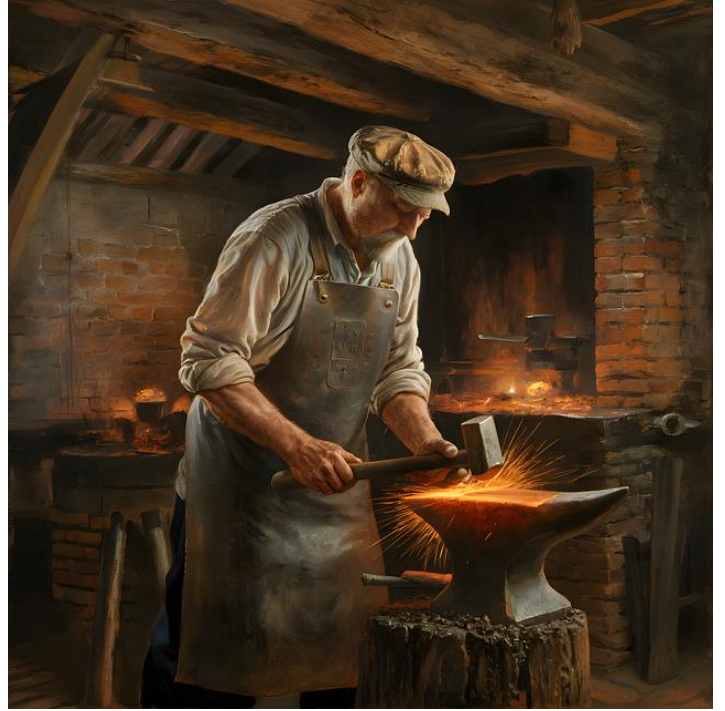
I could wake up to find I'd won the London Marathon

The odds are about the same

Do you know the difference between a Farrier and a Blacksmith?

I am sure you do, but do come to the **June meeting on 26th at the White Swan** to hear Peter Fenton , the last Slindon Blacksmith/Farrier, tell us about his fascinating career. If you have a horse that needs new shoes, bring it with you.

Menu choices will be available later with the month's Flyer. See you there. Clip clop.



This is not being disrespectful, but realistic.

Enjoy the sunshine but cover up well.

Bob