



Pro-Biz



Web site - <http://www.probus-teddington-hampton.org.uk>

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May 2019

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

After lunch on 16th April we held our 2019 Annual General Meeting conducted by the Chairman Chris Pollard. The minutes of last year's meeting were accepted, after which the various reports for this year were tabled. No points were raised and there was a unanimous approval to the luncheon price remaining at £22 and to the rule change regarding the joining procedure. As only one nomination had been received for each elected post the following were declared elected unopposed: Chairman Martin Hart, Deputy Chairman (and Chairman elect for next year) John Meredith Smith, Hon Secretary Nick Waters, Hon Treasurer Keith Willcocks, SAC Chairman Bruce Dawson-Moray, Elected members Chris Pollard, Phil McHardy and Andy Stephen. In addition the Exec Committee will include Speakers Secretary Brian Brignall, Hon. Assistant Secretary Colin Greasby and Probiz Editor Ray Lynch. Chris Pollard thanked all contributors to the working of the club which included Bill Rawcliffe and Martin Hart for their 'sound' expertise. Chris Pollard then presented Martin Hart with the accoutrements of Chairmanship and wished him well for his forthcoming period of office.



LINE-UP FOR 2019 - 2020: Chairman: Martin Hart

Deputy Chairman and Chairman Elect for 2020 – 2021: John Meredith Smith

Treasurer: Keith Willcocks **Secretary:** Nick Waters **Assistant Secretary:** Colin Greasby

Three elected Club Committee Members: Chris Pollard; Philip McHardy and Andy Stephen.

Social Activities Committee Chairman: Bruce Dawson-Moray

Speakers' Secretary: Brian Brignall (*Ex-officio Executive Committee member*)

Pub Lunch Organiser: Keith McArthur **Pro-Biz Editor:** Ray Lynch **Honorary Independent Examiner:** Eric Eustance

Emergency Transport Co-ordinator: Denzil Isaaks **Colleagues' Helplines:** David Hutson

WALK FROM THE RAMBLERS REST, CHIPSTEAD, 7th MAY

A beautiful morning was there to greet us on our trip to the Ramblers Rest at Chipstead Common, an area famous for its bluebell woods. Our meet up in the pub car park was attended by 10 walkers, including Pepper the dog. We set off on time for a change, down the Chipstead Valley, known locally as Happy Valley, not sure if this relates to its namesake in Kenya or not. We ran parallel with the road through the meadows in the bottom of the valley, until we reached the main visitor's car park, from then on its uphill all the way into bluebell woods. As you can see from the photographs there are some extraordinary sculptures produced from various tree trunks left by the local surgeons, and there is Hilary Hart, our new Chairman's wife, holding up a lamppost just before Pepper got to the bottom of it. The walk up through the bluebell woods was very informative, as we had our horticultural expert in the form of Nick Waters to tell us whether the blue bells were our own indigenous species or those foreign invaders from Spain. Once we arrived

at the top of the hill, we were then into an open area which gave great views over this part of Surrey, with the railway line in view at the bottom of the valley. Unfortunately, no nostalgic stream trains here just the standard electric ones. It was then an easy downhill run, crossing the railway with a careful ear out for the trains, and then into the pub where we met a mere 4 diners. The numbers have dropped off for the last couple of walks, but I am sure with a little encouragement they will recover.

(Keith McArthur)



PROBUS VISIT TO RAF HENDON

The Museum at Hendon commemorates the story of the RAF from its formation in 1918. Last year as part of the RAF Centenary celebrations, the Museum completed its programme of extension and modernisation. On May 9th a party of 18 of us visited the Museum and spent most of the day enjoying the collection and exhibitions. The Museum is far more than a display of historical aircraft, impressive as that is. It also presents the whole story of the RAF from several perspectives, thus we have historical, technical and audio-visual displays as well as the experiences of the servicemen and women who have served in the RAF since its inception. All this is arranged clearly in five Hangers.

Our party included a number of members who had served in the RAF, and the visit evoked many memories of their time as servicemen. These included Robert Leadbetter, who turned up dressed in his RAF blazer bearing his Squadron's crest. As a break from the exhibits we enjoyed a first-rate lunch together in the Museum restaurant.

The visit was extremely well-organized by our Chairman, Martin Hart, who oversaw the car-sharing and lunch arrangements. A visit to the Museum is thoroughly recommended.

(Hywel Thomas)



Photos: Martin Hart

FUTURE EVENTS:

Tuesday 4 June: Pub Lunch and Walk – The Royal Oak, Pirbright. Organiser Keith McArthur

Tuesday 18 June: Club Luncheon – Speaker – Professor Paul Leonard – bananas & nuclear waste

Tuesday 25 June: Barbeque at Tamesis Club, Teddington. Organiser Chris Oprey