

Pro-Biz



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Issue No 269 News from Teddington and Hampton Probus June 2023

WALK FROM THE PRINCE OF WALES< ESHER - 6th JUNE 2023



Twelve "PROBUS Plodders" assembled at The Prince of Wales public house at West End, Esher, for the June pub lunch and walk. On arrival at the pub, walkers had the chance to look over a number of classic cars as the local classic car club were meeting at the same venue.

A special welcome was extended to Keith McArthur's wife Margaret – it was lovely to see her back with us again. Margaret had been a huge support to Keith throughout the years in which they had planned and led the monthly walks.

It was also good to see Roger Bullon back walking again.

Departing at 10 a.m. we passed the Prince of Wales Pond onto West End Green and into the wooded area of Esher Common, next to Half Penny Pond, one of a number of ponds we would encounter on this walk. A climb up to a viewing point gave a view over the Mole Valley and then a steep descent down to the River Mole where we followed its course for about a mile before making the ascent up on a well-marked set of steps and eventually returning back to the pub for 12 noon where we were joined by six other diners for a well-deserved lunch.

LUNCH TALK ON "PANORAMA OF THE THAMES" by Mr. John Inglis and Mrs. Jill Sanders



The talk at the meeting on the 18th May was given by husband-and-wife team John Inglis and Jill Sanders on their "Panorama of the Thames" project. This was much more than a talk and included four short films on this project and associated topics.

The project had its origins in discussions with the planning department of LBRUT and planning decisions regarding riverside properties. From this the project, taken up by the speakers, developed into one to photographically record the riverside panoramas from Hampton to Tower Bridge, on both riverbanks (26 miles on each side and a total of 52 miles). In this task John Inglis's background in films and special effects was vital in a technically very challenging task to create very long seamless panoramas.

Another very important aspect of the task was to create a published version of an 1829 printed panorama by Samuel Leigh of the Thames from Richmond to London. This was another very challenging task as only a very few copies of the original folding 60 feet long concertina coloured print survive, and most are damaged. A composite digitally cleaned up version was eventually produced to enable a magnificent book of the historic view of the riversides to be produced. The book is entitled "Panorama of the Thames – a riverside view of Georgian London" (ISBN 978-0-500-51815-1). N.B. The book is almost out of print so obtain a copy soon if you want to get one.

The films shown to us continued with three shorter ones on Thames Boats, another showing a comparison of Richmond reach between the 1829 and 2014 views and one on the natural environment on Hurst Meadows (a functional flood plain on the Molesey riverbank, opposite Hampton, with abundant and beautifully photographed fauna and flora).

This fascinating topic, accompanied by such attractively produced films and images were warmly applauded in the usual manner.

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Tuesday 27th June: **BBQ**, Tamesis Club, TW11 9QY

FUTURE EVENTS

Tuesday 4th July: Walk/Pub Lunch, The Abinger Hatch, Abinger RH5 6HZ

Organiser: Mike Spraggs

Tuesday 25th July: Club Luncheon, Speaker: Robin Jowit "Supporting Schools in Ukraine"