



NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

John Weeden; Chairman

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

TUESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2022 @10.00

Chairman: Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and in particular greetings to Jill Martin, (ladies were welcomed as todays talk is linked to a possible visit later in the year). Also, John welcomed guest Bob Phillips.

Apologies: Colin Chave, John Slack, Gareth Williams

Minutes of last meeting: Held on 8 February 2022 previously displayed on the club website were agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising: None

Treasurer: Nothing to report

Speaker Secretary: All good, nothing to report

Pub Lunches: Peter Hines was very pleased to announce that there has been an excellent response to the Pub Lunch to be held on Tuesday 1st March at the Weston Cross PH, Weston under Penyard with 30 members and partners due to attend. He reminded the meeting that the next Pub Lunch would be on the 12th April at the Walwyn Arms, Much Marcle.

Outings: None planned at present

Theatre Trips: Andrew said that there was a possible interesting presentation at Malvern in April, but as we have a great deal on that month, he felt it would not be a viable visit. He hasn't seen anything of interest in the near future.

Webmaster: Nothing to report.

AOB: Richard Crisp asked if any members might be interested in joining the Tech Team. Due to medical commitments over the next few months, he said that John Franklin and himself might not be able to make some meetings and Ray would need some support.

Today's Speaker: Ian Caskie – SS Great Britain – launch to re-launch

Ian gave a most detailed and most interesting talk on the SS Great Britain, the great ship designed by Isambard Brunel. Ian is an official guide at the SS Great Britain Exhibition in Bristol. He gave an inspiring and professional talk detailing the ships build and its many different uses.

It was a Luxury Liner, used for the transportation of Emigrants to Australia, a Coal Carrier, between Wales and the West Coast of America and finally, its demise. It was abandoned in the Falkland Islands and left to rot for many years. It was eventually rescued and brought back to Bristol and rebuilt by volunteers into its wonderful condition of today. Ian was one of the best speakers we have had for some time.

Birthdays: None, Fraser attempted to tell a few amusing stories, but unfortunately, due to a breakdown in communications, they had already been told by Chairman John in his absence last meeting. Fraser assured the meeting he would have some new ones for the next meeting.

Covid Procedure Update:

John discussed the current Covid Procedure being carried out by the club. The Government is to withdraw all restrictions from Thursday this week. He asked the membership for their views. There was a mix of opinions and concern that the Prime Minister was now saying, that even if you have Covid, there is no need to isolate. This was deemed to be rather reckless and it was suggested that if a member has even the slight hint of a cold or otherwise, they should not attend meetings as a matter of courtesy to members. This was agreed. Andrew Graham asked that we wait a week or two after the children have gone back to school to see if there is any spike in cases. John then asked if we were to ease up on our procedures when should we do it. He asked for a show of hands for our procedures to be terminated at our next meeting on **8th March (3 were in favour)**. He then asked for a show of hands as to whether we should delay any changes until **22 March**, our last meeting before the AGM. **(19 in favour)** In view of the vote it was agreed to carry on as we are until **22 March**. We will obviously review the situation over the coming months.

Next Meeting: 8 MARCH 2022

Speaker: Charlotte Goodworth – My Life Story – How to write an Autobiography