



NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Andrew Graham: Chairman

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

TUESDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2023

Chairman: Andrew welcomed everyone to the meeting, with an excellent attendance of 18 members and 2 guests, Richard Holyhead and Nigel Jones. This was Nigel's second meeting and he confirmed that he will be joining us as a member. Andrew updated everyone of the very sad death of Jane Crisp only 10 days after Richard's funeral. Her funeral will take place on the 24th February at 3.30 pm at the Forest of Dean Crematorium. It was also confirmed that Fred Passant had recently had a fall which resulted in a broken arm. Andrew also thanked our speaker Paul Barnett for standing in at such short notice due to the illness of Peter Petrie our scheduled speaker.

Apologies: Apologies were received from David Clowes, Fraser Gunn, Graham Baum and Fred Passant.

Minutes of last meeting: 24th January 2023 minutes previously displayed on the club website were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

Matters Arising: None

Treasurer: Mike confirmed that the club's finances were in a good state. He confirmed that the cost of the skittles evening was £15 per head and requested that when making a bank transfer that the payment should be referenced as 'Skittles'.

Speaker Secretary: Nothing to report

Pub Lunches: Andrew confirmed that the last lunch at the Weston Cross had been well attended and everyone appeared to have had a good time and been happy with the food and the organisation by the staff. Mike thanked everyone for paying for all their meals and drinks as the pub had not reported any payment shortages.

The next lunch is at the Trumpet on Tuesday 7th March, and Andrew confirmed that he will be sending out a reminder email shortly.

Outings: Chris Johnson confirmed that the skittles evening was all arranged for Thursday 23rd February at the King Arms with 15 players booked to date. He reminded everyone that all food orders needed to be with him by 15th February.

Theatre Trips: Nothing to report.

Webmaster: Nothing to report.

AOB: Andrew confirmed that the answers to ‘Guess Where’ in February’s Newsletter were a) in the park at Newent next to the lake, and b) a model of Stonehenge made from hinges.

Today’s Speaker: Paul Barnett – “Plane Sailing” The story of undercover RAF SAUL

Paul gave a fascinating talk about the RAF base at Saul Junction which was set up between 1943 & 1944. Very little was known about this base before Paul started his research and he explained about the part it played in maintaining and storing boats used to rescue aircrew that ditched into the sea and its part in the preparations for the D Day landings. More detail on this presentation will be included in the March Newsletter.

Birthdays: Members wished Chris Lathan birthday wishes for the 23rd and congratulations for winning the raffle. Kelvin stood in for Fraser as secretary for the meeting and told one of Fraser’s jokes which he had kindly provided for him.

Next Meeting: 28th FEBRUARY 2023

Speaker: Chris Witts – The Might Severn Bore