

Fugelmere Probus Club of Fleet

September 2021 newsletter



www.fugelmere.org.uk

Welcome to the September Newsletter from your committee.

Our recent August lunch at The Lismoyne was very well attended particularly since it was the first after the lifting of the Covid Lockdowns. The lunch was followed by an informative and interesting presentation about the Air Accident Investigation Branch given by Rob Carter.

Events are still being affected by Covid concerns, but we now have an agreed programme for the remainder of this year.

Please note the Ladies lunch has been moved to our December meeting.

Monthly Meeting and Lunch – Monday September 13th – to be held at the Lismoyne hotel.

Lunch will be at 12.30pm for 1pm at a cost of £20. Any new dietary requirements should be notified to Ted Payne.

The menu is:

- Starter: Red Onion Tart, Rocket and Feta Crumble.
- Main: Braised Lamb Shank, Cut Roast Potato and Seasonal Greens.
- Dessert: Eton Mess.

The speaker for the day is Jonathon Jones talking about the Pickwick Papers.

Apologies for Absence

Any apologies for this lunch meeting must be given by Thursday September 9th, to Ted Payne or if Ted is unavailable, or you do not receive an acknowledgement from him, to Simon Hackett. Ted and Simon's contact details are in the Club Handbook.

For telephone calls please ensure you get a verbal acknowledgement, especially if leaving a message on answer phone or voice-mail. For e-mail, please ask for a reply from the addressee.

If you do not receive a reply, either by phone or e-mail, you will be assumed to be attending and the club will be charged for your lunch, which will be at your cost. Please note that this also applies to late apologies received after the deadline and for just forgetting to turn up!

Charity Raffle

We are pleased to report the special post Covid lockdown raffle organised by Chris Farmer raised £231 and along with previous charity and speaker donations we are donating a total of £300 to Phyllis Tuckwell.

Upcoming Activities

Farnborough Wind Tunnel –Thursday September 30th

Organiser: Kit Mitchell

It was hoped to visit the Farnborough Wind Tunnel on the September 2nd but unbeknown to Kit Mitchell's contact the site had been booked out as a film set for much of the month! Fortunately a later date in the month has now been agreed.

To accommodate the interest in this visit Kit has successfully organised two separate visiting groups on the September 30th, one in the morning the other in the afternoon. An optional lunch is being organised to either top or tail your visit. Our normal lunch venue, The Swan, is not open that day (a hangover from the lockdowns) but an alternative, The Gloster pub has been organised. The final details will be included in the Information Sheet for these visits.

Now we have two separate visits there are still spaces available.



The following notes from Kit should be of interest to potential visitors:

A Wind Tunnel is used to study the effects of air flowing past solid objects, usually aircraft. In the middle of the former Royal Aircraft Establishment site there are three historically and architecturally important listed buildings not open to the General Public. These contain five wind tunnels.

Our visit includes the **24-foot open tunnel**, large enough for a small aircraft or motor vehicle, and in which we can walk round the whole circuit, and at least one other.

Curry Night in Fleet

Organiser: Chris Farmer

There was quite some interest in holding such an event and Chris will shortly be contacting all those that have signed up with a proposed venue together with a suggested date and time.

Winkworth Arboretum –Thursday October 14th

Organisers: Michael Butcher and Graham Bowyer

The number limit on this visit has been increased and places are still available.

Winkworth is the National Trust's only arboretum. This beautiful collection of trees and plants across 130 acres is the result of one man's vision and passion - Dr Wilfrid Fox, who bought the wooded valley, hillside and its lakes in 1937 to use as a canvas for planting trees to "paint a picture".

This will be a morning visit with a guided tour of approximately 1.5 hours. Please bear in mind that the tour will use paths that are not suitable for those with accessibility needs – but feel free to come along and enjoy the gentler parts of the terrain.

After the visit, lunch may either be taken at the on-site NT café (rather small), or we have also booked some tables at a local eating place outside (1.5 miles) which is a highly recommended 'gastro pub', The White Horse at Hascombe.

Payment for this visit will be collected at our September Lunch; £10.30 a head for non members of the National Trust and/ or £5 for the conducted tour.

Winchester College, Cathedral and Christmas Market – Thursday November 25th

Organiser: Leslie Holt

This is an opportunity to visit this historic city without the headache of parking!

The plan is to meet at the Holy Trinity Church and travel to Winchester by coach in time for a conducted tour of the prestigious public school Winchester College starting at 10.30.

Time will then be available for a visit to the Christmas Market with the option of lunch in the market itself or in the Cathedral refectory.

The conducted tour of the Cathedral will then start at 2.00pm followed by the return trip to Fleet.

Dependant on the number going on this trip the cost should be in the range £30 to £37 and a sign up sheet will be available at our September lunch.

If you are not attending the lunch but interested in this visit please contact Leslie Holt by email or phone.

Winter Quiz on Zoom

Organiser: Paul Allen

Details will be published nearer the date.

Sonning Mill Wednesday, December 22nd matinée, "Top Hat"

Organiser: Terry Berridge

This 2011 musical based on the 1935 film of the same name, tells the story of Broadway sensation Jerry Travers who dances his way across Europe to win the heart of society girl Dale Tremont.

The total cost is around £75 per person with the deposit of £35 per person due to be taken at our last lunch on 9th August 2021, the balance then being payable at our 11th October 2021 lunch.

This popular event is already fully booked but a reserve list is available.

Spring Break

As previously reported Ron Thompson is now standing down from the role of organiser and we would be pleased to hear from any member who would be interested in helping to organise a break next spring.

A personal note

It was wonderful that we had such a good turnout for our August lunch and with such a good speaker too. I'm sure that we all found it extremely interesting to learn more about the process and skills deployed in air crash investigations - even though this may cause some of us to pause before booking flights!

It's thanks to Tony and Peter that we have speakers booked until May next year. After that we risk running out of speakers for our lunches. Which, lacking all subtlety, leads me to remind everyone that we'd really appreciate a volunteer (or volunteers) to take our speaker programme forward.

Similarly, we still need someone (or some) to take over organising the Spring Break from Ron who has admirably done this for us during the past few years.

The sharp eyed among you will have noticed that the committee had decided to postpone our Ladies Lunch from October to December. This has been done out of an abundance of caution regarding large indoor gatherings and the potential vulnerability of members and guests to Covid.

But, most important of all, WELCOME BACK everyone.

Kind regards,

Paul Allen,
President, Fugelmere Probus Club of Fleet