



Friendship & Fellowship

Frinton & Walton District Men's Probus Club Newsletter June 2020

Welcome gentlemen to June's 'lockdown' newsletter.

I hope that you and your loved ones are well and making the most of the limited easing of restrictions that have been announced. However, please ensure that you take care and stay safe.

With very little to report on club matters, we hope that you will enjoy the contents of this latest newsletter, kindly produced and edited by Mike Woodward. Contributions from members to future monthly publications are invited and would be most welcome.

The following members are celebrating birthdays in June - Rob Humphrey, Terry Lawrence, Dave Levey, Vic Middleton and Dennis Walby - a very happy birthday to you all.

In the meantime, I hope that all of your lists of 'jobs to do' is going down, giving you more time to enjoy the sunshine.

Tony R
President



The Lottery Bonus Ball drawn last Saturday evening, 30th May, was number 45 and is held by Dennis Walby. Congratulations Dennis, your cheque will be posted to you asap.

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Lockdown Update

It is a welcome relief to see that the number of COVID related deaths is now on the downturn, but we are not out of the woods yet. There clearly remains a serious threat of contracting this deadly virus and we all still need to remain alert and follow the latest safety measures.

Our thoughts go out to those who have lost their loved ones, family or friends during this pandemic.

With the easing of the rules we can now exercise outdoors as many times as we like. We can also now travel and visit other places to enjoy our daily constitution.

As from this week we begin to see some of our retail business opening and, hopefully, some life coming back to our High Street, which is great news for the economy. With further changes expected this week we can meet with up to six people outdoors and the chance to reunite with family and friends.

So, as you venture out more please be vigilant and take care. Stay Safe!

Welcome to New Freedom

I hope some of you have been taking advantage of the relaxed rules about daily exercise. As we can now exercise as many times as we like each day and we can also travel and visit other places to enjoy our daily constitution, whilst still ensuring hygiene and social distancing rules.

I have certainly enjoyed a few trips further out and I hope you have too! We found some small cafes and take away outlets open offering a limited selection of refreshments and hot food.

The following local spots may be of interest to members: -

Harwich Old Town – Mobile Burger Van open near the pier

Brightlingsea – Winkies Fish & Chips and small café open at the harbour

West Mersea – The Victory Pub is open selling drinks and hot food.

Let us know of any places you have visited and we can include them in our next newsletter.



Probus Club

Welfare Officer's Report from - Ken Williams

We continue to be in email and telephone contact with a significant number of members who are sensibly still following the government guidelines as we enter another, and hopefully more positive phase of this epidemic.

The next easing of the current lockdown restrictions was clearly aimed at family and friends so hopefully this will improve matters for Club members.

It is still worth noting that great care is still required in our daily lives. We are still a very vulnerable age group and the age profile of our local area puts many of us in an at-risk group particularly if we have other health conditions to contend with. The current hot weather has seen more visitors to our area and so potentially more contacts.

Ron King.

Ron's new medication has seen his current condition ease and he is more mobile than he previously was and so feels more positive as he has been quite unwell. He is less breathless but is still waiting for an appointment from Clacton Hospital to have his heart monitor fitted.

Alan Eldret.

Unfortunately, Alan suffered a TIA (Transient Ischemic Attack) which caused stroke like symptoms and was admitted to Colchester for tests and observation. This lasted six days given that he had a slight temperature when he was admitted. The good news is that Alan is home and his initial speech and balance problems quickly resolved themselves and he is back to normal. He is still waiting results of his recent MRI scan.

A further problem has been a very painful left shoulder which the consultant feels is due to use as no infection or arthritic condition was indicated on the MRI scan. It might be possible to relieve the symptoms with an operation, but nothing can be done at the moment given the current virus epidemic.

John Floyd.

John has had to be admitted to hospital in Northampton for further tests and we are waiting on more information regarding his condition.

Stan Revill.

Stan would like to thank all friends and colleagues from the Club for their cards and telephone calls given the recent death of his wife Ruth. He greatly appreciates this kindness and support.

The Club will be represented by the President and Secretary at the Crematorium, on the driveway approaching the chapel, where the private service will take place. It is understood that representatives will also be present from the local Women's Probus Club, Frinton Golf Club, as well as friends.

The Club will be making a donation to Stans nominated charity, which is Great Ormond Street Hospital. This will be arranged though the Club Secretary.

We'll meet again sometime soon!

Breaking News!

As the PPE shortage continues, we have just had news that a new supply of 1 million masks and gloves has just landed at Heathrow courtesy of Trotters Independent Trading Co.



Well done Rodders we knew we could rely on you to come up Trumps – Qushdy!!

Treasurer's Report from tony Rudd

Gentlemen, firstly I can confirm that the club's finances remain in a healthy condition, the lottery winner's cheque being the only expenditure in the past month.

I'm very pleased to report that all lottery numbers have now been taken up and I would like to thank all of our investors for their support.

I will collect the money at the next meeting we are able to hold. However, if your number wins in the meantime I will deduct the £12 and send you a cheque for the balance. Many thanks.

Christmas Lunch

How can we even think about this now but our luncheon secretary, Mick Mockford, informs us that James from the Golf Club will be providing the menu options for the Christmas lunch. He obviously expects more changes to the lockdown rules by then, so watch this space.

Speakers Corner

This month's speaker would have been Mike Wabe.



He is the Town Crier of Watton and would have been in full livery. He provides an interesting, humorous and informative presentation on the unique history of Town Criers. Hear about just how long ago that Town Criers were crying their messages (and what messages they were). Learn about such things as their livery, evolution, rationale, means of attracting attention and their connections with the law.

I am sure we can reschedule his date when we can get back to normal and gather for our meetings. In the meantime, you can check out his website for more information.

Corona Virus Stats in Essex

The Government Statistics for the virus hospital cases in Essex on 28th May was 3219 with an infection rate of 217.8 per 100k.

The figures for Tendring were, 345 virus hospital cases and a rate of 236.6 per 100k. Indeed, the rate in our area is greater than that for: -

Southend (208.3), Thurrock (193.2),
Colchester (193.2)
Chelmsford (227)

With these figures in mind we must ensure we stick to the health guidelines unlike some Government Ministers!!!

Should you be interested our Treasurer is now taking orders for the "Dominic Cummings 2020 Tour" (Yes- the ole bugger is still trying to make money out of us)

Hurry there selling fast!



Now hair's the Thing!



I guess there are many of the members who are so well organised and managed to get their haircut in time before the lockdown.

Sadly, I'm not one of them!! and as one of the less folically challenged members my hair is growing into quite a mop. Dare I say it – The Boris Cut! I shall be wearing a ponytail by the time the club meets again. The wife is going to buy me a pair of Curling Tongs for Christmas so that save the trouble of wondering what to buy as presents!!

Have you ever wondered what all these politicians and officials are doing? Their hair always looks neat and trimmed. Nichola Sturgeon is a case in question – her hair has even changed colour. Are they breaking the lockdown rules by having a Secret Haircut! The police have been alerted to this and carrying out an investigation and combing the area for evidence.



Secretary's Report – Tony Comber

Whilst I have no business matters to report I can advise that the committee have been busy giving some thought as to how the club can return when the lockdown measures are eased for clubs and restaurants.



I have been in discussion with Frinton Golf Club with regard to when they are open. They informed me that they are able to open the Club house on the 4th July 2010, however they do not know yet the possible safety restrictions that will be required.

I put forward the committee's ideas for future club meetings and they are more than happy to work with us to enable some sort of meeting of our Membership. The options discussed are as follows –

- They are happy to arrange a coffee morning or mornings for Members and wives/partners depending on restrictions on numbers at a price of £5.50 per head for tea/coffee and pastries.
- We could have 'afternoon tea' on one or two days at £13.95 per head.
- If permitted, they are happy to arrange a 'post lockdown lunch or dinner at a price of £22.00 per head. Should this not be allowed under the Government restrictions then they are happy to arrange a BBQ at the side of the 18th green instead.

Even when the restrictions are reviewed there may still be some members who do not want to return that quickly, which we understand.

We await further details in the coming weeks and will update members on any plans in our next newsletter or by email.

In the meantime, keep safe and well.

Word on the Street

It is good to see that some shops and business reopening this week, but I fear some will not survive the economic impact of this pandemic and we may sadly see some of our local businesses close.

We have already heard from Tony Comber that Looker's Ford will not be reopening. I understand that the property is still owned by Pollendines' so it will be interesting to see if another car dealership will take over the site or it will be redeveloped.

There is some positive news with M&Ms Pharmacy moving into the old Gas Showroom Building to offer a wider range of health products. I also hear that Shanti is planning to open another restaurant on the site of Bentley's bar. G&T's are still set to open their Café at the former site of Café 19 and Emma's Kitchen may become a Tapas bar.





DIY Lockdown

It is reported that many of our homes and gardens have never been in better condition as we make use of the lockdown time in catching up on those old outstanding jobs and spending more time in the garden.

I hear that Tony Comber is painting the outside of his house and already on the third coat! My own garden project has taken on a life of its own, but the hard work and time is worth it as you can see from the picture below.



Why not tell us about your projects or share some pictures of your garden as we bath in this glorious sunshine. We can include them in the next newsletter.

Please do send in any local information or suggested articles for inclusion in our next edition to me at:

mikewrm15@yahoo.co.uk

Well that's all for now. Keep safe and well and see you next month.

Here is another funny to bring a smile to your face. Have you seen this car in Frinton?

Apparently you can now visit friends...
But you must stay in the car



Your Committee Members

Tony Rudd – President - Treasurer

Tony Comber – Secretary

Mick Mockford Lunch Secretary

Mike Woodward – Speaker Secretary – Publicity

Ken Williams – Welfare Officer

Ian Whale – Social Secretary

George Gardener – Social Programme

James Ewart – Publicity – Social Programme

Len Parton – Social Programme – Photography

Ian Stansfield - Recruitment

