



Friendship & Fellowship

Frinton & Walton District Men's Probus Club 2021

Welcome to our March newsletter!



Well, it's official Spring is on the way at last!

The weather is still on the cool and unsettled side at the moment, but you can certainly feel the seasonal change approaching. The clocks go forward this weekend and we can start to enjoy the longer days and some warmer weather.

I hope you enjoyed last month's edition and some of the new competition items. We do have a winner for our spot the traffic sign although the response to the competition was a little poor. Hopefully this month's spot the location will generate more response.

With the recent Government announcement of the Roadmap, we can at last start to look forward to a relaxation of the lockdown restrictions with shops reopening and the chance to meet up with family and friends and socialise again. This good news is still tinged with a note of caution though as it relies heavily on the positive case levels and death rates continuing to fall and the threat of a third wave on the horizon in Europe. But let's not dwell on this and remain optimistic that it will go to plan.

I hope you enjoy this month's update and look forward to us getting together again in the summer.

Stay safe, Mike

Presidents Message

Gentlemen, welcome to the latest edition of our Probus Newsletter.

Hopefully you are keeping fit and well and have managed to avoid becoming too bored by tackling all of those jobs that you had been putting off until tomorrow!

At last, the Prime Minister has given us an indication of the 'Roadmap' to the easing of the restrictions that we have lived with for so long. Obviously it is all dependent on the progress continuing to be made by the success of the vaccination rollout and, of course, assuming that everyone plays their part. The dates given by Boris remain 'not before' dates but at least it's encouraging to know that our July meeting may possibly take place.

Although your committee members will continue to contact you by telephone for a chat on a regular basis, we do appreciate that it's not quite the same as sitting together over a beer or glass of wine while putting the world to right.

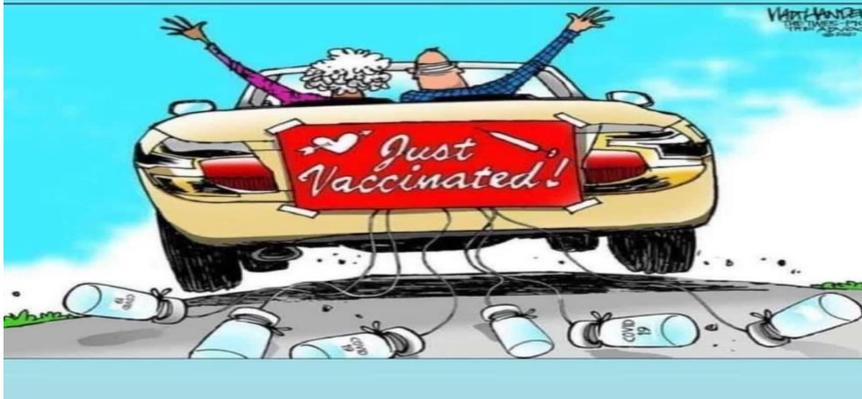
If, during this period of lockdown anyone has had any 'lightbulb' moments thinking of new or different ways that we could further increase the enjoyment we all get from the Club, then please let us know.

A huge thank you goes to our Vice President, Mike Woodward, for his work editing and producing this Newsletter during a difficult time, health-wise, for him and his family.

In the meantime, my best wishes to you and all of your loved ones, stay safe and keep well.

Tony Rudd

new bumper sticker



COVID Corner

I assume that most of you, if not all, will have by now had your first vaccination, which is great news!!

At long last there is a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel. If the Governments plans go as expected, then we will see a phased releasing of the lockdown restrictions over the next three months. Below is a summary of the relevant details of each stage that will provide a helpful reminder. Full details of the plan can be found on our Probus website.

What's already changed?

Two people from different households can meet outside for recreation, which can include "a coffee on a bench"

From 29 March:

- People will be allowed to meet outside, either with one other household or within the "rule of six", including in private gardens
- The stay at home rule will end, but the government will urge people to stay local as much as possible
- Outdoor sport facilities will reopen, including golf courses and tennis and basketball courts, and formally organised outdoor sports can restart

Stage two (no earlier than 12 April):

- All shops allowed to open, along with close-contact services, including hairdressers and beauty salons (including in people's homes)
- Restaurants and pubs allowed to serve food and alcohol to customers sitting outdoors
- Gyms and spas can reopen, as can zoos, theme parks, libraries and community centres
- Members of the same household can take a holiday in the UK in self-contained accommodation

Stage three (no earlier than 17 May):

- People can meet in groups of up to 30 outdoors
- Six people or two households can meet indoors
- Pubs, restaurants and other hospitality venues can seat customers indoors
- Hotels, hostels and B&Bs can reopen
- Adult indoor group sports and exercise classes can restart

Stage four (no earlier than 21 June):

- All legal limits on social contact will be removed
- No legal limits on the number of people who can attend weddings, funerals and other live events

Once again, if any member is experiencing difficulties or requires assistance please do not hesitate to contact your allotted committee member and we will do all we can to help.



The winning lottery number drawn Saturday evening, 27 February, was number 20 and belongs to Colin Knights.

Congratulations Colin

Probus Club Business

There is not much business to report on this month other than to advise that your committee will be closely monitoring the latest situation and as soon as is feasible, will be liaising with the Golf Club to discuss arrangements for resuming our monthly meetings. Our Secretary will keep you posted as soon as we have any news.

In accordance with our constitution those serving on the Committee below will have to be ratified by a show of hands when we are next able to meet.

- Tony Rudd** – President and Honorary Treasurer
- Mike Woodward** – Vice President, Speaker Secretary and Recruitment Support
- Ian Whale** – Immediate Past President and Social Secretary
- Tony Comber** – Honorary Secretary and Data Protection Officer
- Alan Dunt** – Luncheon Secretary
- Len Parton** – Welfare Officer
- Ian Stansfield** – Recruitment Officer
- George Gardener** – Committee Member
- Mick Mockford** – Committee Member

- Bill Clarke** – Auditor
- Alan Eldret** – Webmaster

Highway Road Traffic Signs Competition



A bit of a disappointing response to our competition in last month's edition but we do have a winner.

This sign is positioned at the junction of upper Third Avenue and Ashlyns.

So well done to our winner and eagle eyed member Ian Stansfield. Your bottle of wine will be with you soon.



This month we feature this 100-year-old structure.

You have probably been walking past these giant ornate poles for years without knowing what they are.

The humble stink pipe, also known as stench pipes, or sewer vent pipes, have been a curious feature of our highways since the late 18th century, when our sewage systems were far from sophisticated.

Although most are disguised as brick chimneys or metal columns looking a bit like lamp posts, some are ornately decorated with gold etchings and elaborate engravings.

There is even one disguised as a lamp in the Barbican which was once lit with sewer gas.

Stink pipes were built around the same time as the capital's Victorian sewer network in the 1860s. They are essentially just tall, hollow pipes that allow potentially lethal gas to escape into the atmosphere, far above the rooftops.

The era of the stink pipe is pretty much over, primarily because modern houses have individual vent pipes positioned discretely amid the plumbing, but you can still find some of these interesting pipes dotted about the highway. I'm told that some water authorities still maintain some of the pipes in their region.

To win this month's prize of a bottle of wine why not email with details of where you think this Stench Pipe is situated in Frinton. Good luck!!



We'll meet again sometime soon!

Finance Report from Tony Rudd

Gentlemen, there is very little for me to report this month. Our finances remain healthy with the vast majority of members now having paid their annual subscriptions. However, I would be grateful if the remaining few members who have still yet to pay could let me have their cheques as soon as possible.

The winning lottery number drawn on Saturday, 27 February, was number 20 and belongs to Colin Knights, well done Colin. Colin has now received his cheque.



Birthday Celebrations

Those members celebrating birthdays during this month are George Gardner, Brian Kelly, Roger Smith and Ian Stansfield. We hope that they all have/had a very happy day.



Probuss Club



Speakers Corner

With the prospect of the lockdown restrictions being eased over the next few months there is no harm in being optimistic, is there!!

So, I am looking ahead with hope that we can resume our meetings in July, if not before, with the usual safety measures.

With that in mind work is underway on our programme of speakers in preparedness for this occasion. It is hoped that we can call on the speakers scheduled for 2020 and they will be available and willing to attend the meeting. There is the possibility of the speakers delivering their talk via zoom or other media platforms if they are uncomfortable at this stage in visiting venues.

Full details will be available in next month's edition when there should be more information and updates on the Governments roadmap.

If any member would like to do a talk or have any suggestions for speakers, we would love to hear from you.

Laptop for Local Schools Appeal

Thank you to our members who kindly donated their unwanted devices or made a financial contribution to this campaign. I'm pleased to advise that myself and Matthew Marsh a local IT specialist have provided over 30 machines to pupils of Frinton, Wix and Tendring primary schools.

Although children have returned to school there is still a need for more devices so that pupils can access the online learning modules. If you happen to come across any devices that you no longer require or would still like to make a donation, we would still love to hear from you.

Thank you for your support

Word Search

Welcome to this month's word search. We hope you enjoyed last month's game? All words in this game are linked to the Frinton & Walton area. Happy searching

Frinton Mens Probus Word Search

A	O	C	E	L	G	N	A	I	R	T	E	H	T
S	T	M	A	R	Y	S	C	H	U	R	C	H	L
M	C	G	R	I	G	G	O	R	H	A	L	L	T
H	L	E	V	E	L	C	R	O	S	S	I	N	G
M	U	E	S	U	M	Y	A	W	L	I	A	R	G
A	L	O	C	K	A	N	D	B	A	R	R	E	L
E	R	T	A	E	H	T	R	E	M	M	U	S	L
D	R	A	W	S	N	E	E	R	G	H	E	M	E
C	T	H	E	R	O	C	K	H	O	T	E	L	L
C	A	H	C	L	O	C	K	T	O	W	E	R	L
C	R	I	C	K	E	T	C	L	U	B	R	E	K
A	E	S	N	O	A	M	E	N	I	C	U	A	B
B	E	A	C	H	H	U	T	M	E	S	E	A	R
R	S	A	A	I	A	C	T	H	E	N	A	Z	E

THE ROCK HOTEL
ST MARYS CHURCH
SUMMER THEATRE
LEVEL CROSSING
GREENSWARD
RAILWAY MUSEUM
CLOCK TOWER
CINEMA ON SEA
CRICKET CLUB
LOCK AND BARREL
THE TRIANGLE
THE NAZE
MCGRIGGOR HALL
BEACH HUT

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2162269/>

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We'll meet again sometime soon!

Jokers Corner

Thank you to everyone for sending in the jokes and entertaining videos. It all helps to bring a smile to our lockdown existence and lighten up our day. Credit should also go to our Secretary, Tony Comber, for his hard work in circulating the material to the membership.



Legend says the husband was waiting in the car for his wife to get ready



Social Secretary's Report by Ian Whale



Sadly, there have been no social events, but with the likelihood of substantial unlocking in June, we can now look forward to resuming our Probus activities, probably from Tuesday, 6th July.

As a starter I am considering organising a welcome-back Afternoon Tea event at the Golf Club towards the end of June. Details to follow.

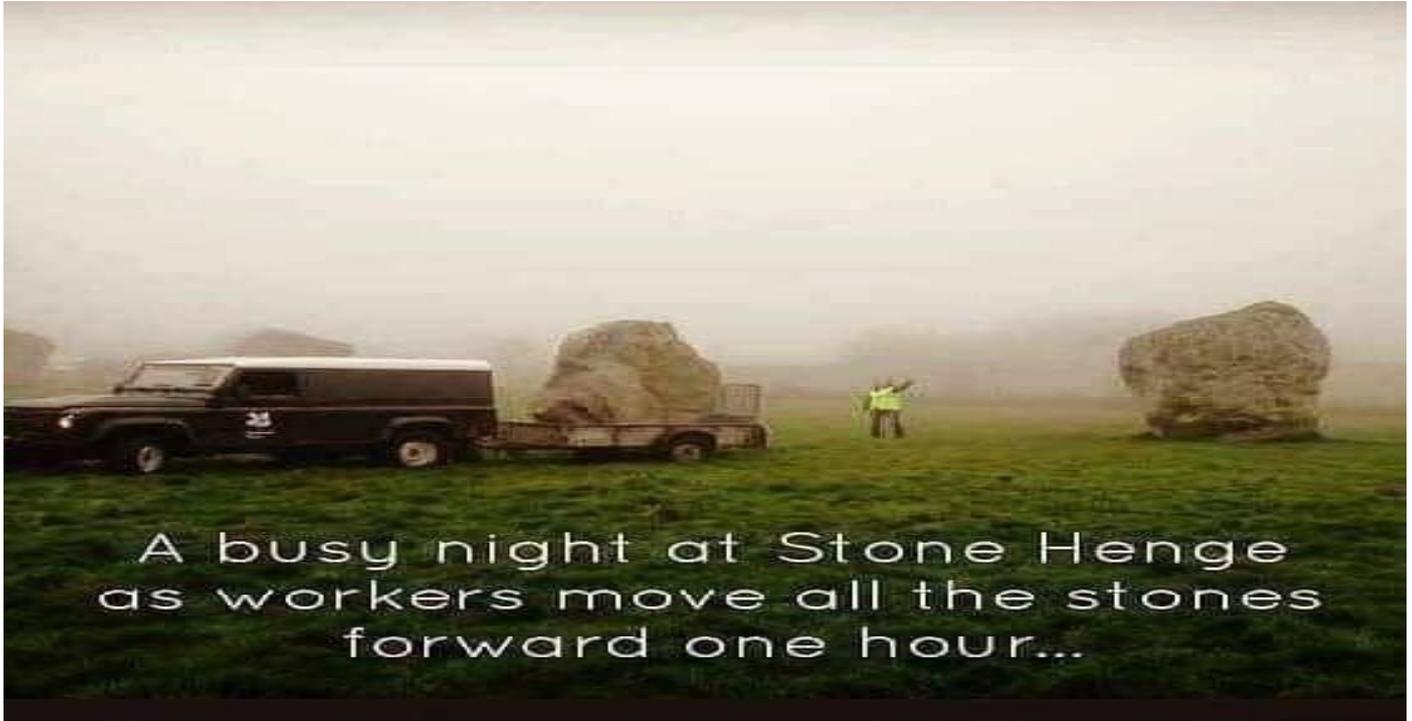
I have been in touch with Warner's Hotels regarding a Group Holiday. They have availability at Thoresby Hall during the 2nd or 3rd week in October.

I have a preliminary quote, based on a four-night stay, Monday/Thursday inclusive, returning Friday, which is not significantly different from the prices we were quoted at this time last year.

I understand that their COVID Guarantee will remain in force until the end of 2021. Coaching costs will be additional and will be dependent on the numbers travelling. I will arrange to circulate this information to members via our Hon. Secretary within the next week or so, together with some more information, and an application form. Numbers will be limited, and so "First come-first served!"

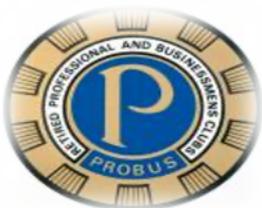
With regard to other possible activities, this will have to be discussed in committee, but I am hoping to organise a summer trip on the "Orwell Lady" passenger boat from Ipswich to Felixstowe, Harwich, Stour Estuary, and return. The trips will be running on most Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays; departing 2pm and returning about 5.30pm. Depending on availability, a suitable time may possibly be mid/late August or early September.

Don't forget to put the clocks forward
this weekend



A busy night at Stone Henge
as workers move all the stones
forward one hour...

**Don't forget to email your answers to where the
Stink Pole is to my email address below and win
yourself a lovely bottle of wine!**



Probus Club

Some More Mindful Moments



This picture was taken outside a lovely pub in the Waldringfield Heath that sits on the river Deben in Suffolk.



Came across this resting sheep while on a walk in Dedham. It didn't seem to mind me getting close to take the picture.

Why not share some pictures you may have snapped on your iPhone or camera. 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

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

Therapist: Your wife says you never buy her flowers is that true?

Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.



Your Committee Members

Tony Rudd – President & Treasurer

Mike Woodward – Vice President, Speaker Secretary & Publicity

Tony Comber – Secretary

Mick Mockford – Committee Member

Len Parton – Welfare Officer, Social Programme & Photography

Ian Whale – Social Secretary

George Gardener – Committee member & Social Programme

Alan Dunt – Assistant Treasurer & Luncheon Secretary

Ian Stansfield – Publicity & Recruitment

