



# Reading and District Probus Club

## "Telegraph"

November 2019

Web-site Address – [www.probusclub-reading.org.uk](http://www.probusclub-reading.org.uk)

Our guest speaker this month is Sue Hourigan who will tell us about "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly". We hope that Sue has parked her horse safely and left her six-shooter with security in the office. We also hope that she will enjoy her time with us.

### LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November

The menu of the day will be **Cream of Tomato Soup** followed by **Hunter's Chicken with salad and chips** at a cost of £16 per head. Please remember that you will be liable for a "no show" charge of £8.00 if you fail to advise the **Secretary** that you will not be attending by **09:00hrs. on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November**. *Note: You do not have to advise the Treasurer of your non-attendance.*

**A collection will be taken during the meal for a gratuity to be given to the restaurant staff at next month's lunch in appreciation of their excellent service throughout the year.**

### SPEAKER ARRANGEMENTS for the next six months

9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 Ladies' Lunch Tony King "If Dickens had a Camera"	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 TBA
13 <sup>th</sup> January 2020 Nick Brazil "Journey through Brazil"	13 <sup>th</sup> April 2020 TBA
10 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 AGM – No Speaker	11 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 TBA

### "4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY CLUB" LUNCH (November 26<sup>th</sup>)

Come along and enjoy the company and chat at our next "4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Club" this month. These get togethers are fun and totally informal – you do not have to tell us you are coming and even if you don't, you will not have to pay a "no-show" fine. Note that the December "4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Club" will meet on 17<sup>th</sup> December. If you wish to attend, please advise the bar staff ASAP.

### REGALIA & CLUB SALES

If any member wishes to purchase a tie, lapel pin badge, or any other item, please contact Alf Chadwick.

#### **Reading & District Probus Club – Committee Members**

**President:** Patrick Moren **Vice President:** David Laird **Immediate Past President:** Alan Bradbury  
**Secretary:** David Laird **Treasurer:** Siraj Vora **Speaker Secretary:** Vacant  
**Almoner:** John Swift **Press Secretary:** Alan Bradbury **Regalia & Club Sales:** Alf Chadwick

## THIS MONTH'S HUMOUR



*It looks like a few are missing*

### The “Green Thing”

Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the much older lady that she should bring her own grocery bags, because plastic bags are not good for the environment.

The woman apologized to the young girl and explained, "We didn't have this “green thing” back in my early days."

The young assistant responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

The older lady said that she was right our generation didn't have the “green thing” in its day. The older lady went on to explain: Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles and beer bottles to the shop. The shop sent them back to the depot to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But we didn't have the “green thing” back in our day.

Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for numerous things. Most memorable besides household rubbish bags was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our school books. This was to ensure that public property (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribbles. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags.

But, too bad we didn't do the “green thing” back then. We walked up stairs because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go

two streets away. But she was right. We didn't have the “green thing” in our day.

Back then we washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the throw away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 240 volts. Wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days.

Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that young lady is right; we didn't have the “green thing” back in our day.

Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the county of Yorkshire .

In the kitchen we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us.

When we packaged a fragile item to send in the post, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't start up an engine and use petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power.

We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; we didn't have the “green thing” back then.

We drank from the tap when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blade in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the “green thing” back then.

Back then, people took the bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mums into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's £45,000 SUV or van, which cost what a whole house did before the “green thing. We had one electrical socket in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old people were just because we didn't have the “green thing” back then?

Please pass this on to another selfish old person who needs a lesson in conservation from a smart ass young person. We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to piss us off... Especially from an over tattooed, multiple pierced, vape addict smartass who can't workout how much change without the cash register telling them !!

## JOINT OUTINGS ARRANGED BY READING EAST

**If interested, please contact the R&D Secretary for more details**

### **Wednesday 6th Nov. 2019**

#### **Visit by coach to the RAF Museum at Hendon**

The coach will leave the Sonning Golf Club at 09:00 prompt returning at approximately 18:30. The cost is £24 pp.

Mike Capers is the organiser,

### **Tuesday 12th Nov. 2019**

#### **Morning Coffee plus Lunch No. 89 at The Ferryboat, Whitchurch-on-Thames, RG8 7DB**

The event starts at 11:00 with morning coffee and continues into a two course lunch at 12:30.

The cost of the event is £17.50 pp. and includes the welcome coffee and lunch;

Barry Neville is the organiser

### **Wednesday 4th Mar. 2020**

#### **Visit to the Mill at Sonning to dine and see 'Relatively Speaking' a comedy by Alan Ayckbourn**

The cost is £46.50 pp. a 25% reduction on the normal ticket price of £61.50. This is a 'four for three' offer from the Mill for tickets purchased before the 27th November 2019.

Mike Capers is the organiser

### **Monday 5th Oct. 2020 to Friday 9th Oct. 2020**

#### **A Four Night Walking/Sightseeing visit to Warner Leisure - Nidd Hall Hotel, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.**

Nidd Hall is set in 45 acres with award winning gardens.

The cost is £285 pp. for four nights based on a couple sharing a standard room, dinner, bed and breakfast; conditions apply.

**There is an option to extend your stay to 7 nights at £505 pp.**

Paul Townson is the organiser