



Reading and District Probus Club

"Telegraph"

January 2024

Web-site Address – www.probusclub-reading.org.uk

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

The Club Committee wishes all members a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year

Our speaker this month is our own Colin Hatcher who will tell us about "Alaska".

LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS (Tuesday 9th January)

Please note that from now onward we shall be meeting at Sonning Golf Club (RG4 6GJ). The cost of lunch will be £22 per head. Please assemble in the dining area at 12:30 in time for our Business Meeting on this day. Lunch will be served at 12:45. Please remember that you will be liable for a "no show" charge of £22 if you fail to advise the Secretary that you will not be attending by 09:00hrs. on Thursday 4th January.

UPCOMING SPEAKER ARRANGEMENTS

13 February 2024 AGM - there will be no Speaker this month

13 March 2024 Steve Akehurst - "Development of the English Language"

9 April 2024 Russell King – "Marching Onward"

14 May 2024 Francis Brown - "Measuring Patient Satisfaction in Primary Care"

"4th TUESDAY CLUB" LUNCH (January 24th)

Come along and enjoy the company and chat at our next "4th Tuesday Club". These get togethers are fun and totally informal.

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Francis Crossley and Keith Dugdale celebrate their Birthday this month.

PROBUS LAPEL PIN BADGE, ANNIVERSARY ROUNDELS, TIES, CAR STICKERS etc.

If you wish to purchase any of these, please contact Russell King.

Reading & District Probus Club – Committee Members

President: Francis Brown **Vice President:** Colin Hatcher **Past President:** Siraj Vora
Secretary: David Laird **Treasurer:** Siraj Vora **Speaker Secretary:** Vacant
Almoner: Russell King **Press Secretary:** Vacant **Supplies Officer:** Russell King

THIS MONTH'S HUMOUR



IT STILL MAKES SENSE!

When I bought my Blackberry, I thought about the 30-year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a cell phone that plays music, takes videos, pictures and communicates with Facebook and Twitter. I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, my 13 grand kids and 2 great grand kids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space.

My phone was beeping every three minutes with the details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag.

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because they say I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Blue tooth [it's red] phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Noble talking to my wife and everyone within 50 yards was glaring at me. I had to take my hearing aid out to use it, and I got a little loud.

I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside that gadget was the most annoying and rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-u-lating." You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then if I made a right turn instead. Well, it was not a good relationship... When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and, while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.

To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I lose three phones all at once and have to run around digging under chair cushions, checking bathrooms, and the dirty laundry baskets when the phone rings.

The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "Paper or Plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused, but I never remember to take them with me.

Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "Paper or plastic?" I just say, "It doesn't matter to me. I am bi-sacksual." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look. I was recently asked if I tweet. I answered, No, but I do fart a lot."

We senior citizens don't need anymore gadgets. The TV remote and the garage door remote are about all we can handle.

Good friends are the rare jewels of life... Difficult to find and impossible to replace!

in memory of Peter Cornforth

CHILDREN ARE QUICK

TEACHER: Why are you late?

STUDENT: Class started before I got here.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L.'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my Mum is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog.

*David Laird
31 December 2023*