

Denbigh and District Probus Club – precis of meeting – 3/7/23

Remarks by John Barr, President

Having welcomed all, I remarked that it was three months, to the day, since I last stood before the meeting, and I expressed my gratitude to Graham for standing in at the two meetings I missed. I understand he did an excellent job and so deserved a round of *applause*.

At this meeting we had 26 Members present out of 39, and no members' guests – but we did have one prospective member as a Club guest.

There were two members who have joined us since I was last here So, to them, I added my welcome into this august group.

We had apologies from 11 Members ... plus one who is apparently in hospital today – we don't know why.

We gave an “offering of thanks” ...

*For the meal we are about to eat,
for those that made it possible,
and for those with whom we are about to share it,
we are thankful.*

Then sat down to lunch and conversation.

After which we gave a toast to the King, and showed our appreciation to the hotel staff.

We gave Special thanks too to Steve for all the organising. This has been a particularly busy spell for Steve and so the time he devotes to the Club is even more appreciated than ever.

We then moved on to this month's birthdays and gave a Happy Birthday toast to four Members – of whom only one was actually present.

Then it was Club Business.

- Firstly, I introduced our Prospective Member who has visited us before and this time, to introduce himself, he gave us a short, informative rundown of his life and career which was well received by members.
- I have been reviewing my list of back-up contacts and there are nearly half of members for whom I don't have a back-up contact. These details are not published and are only intended for use when we are unable to contact a member by normal means and are, I feel, an important part of enabling Fellowship which is an Objective of our Club. So, if anyone who hasn't done so already, would like to pass on a contact, let me know by phone or by email.

- I gave the Club's thank to those who each month are squeezing the cash from you – and who will do the same again next month.
- I reminded everyone of the visit the following day to the Woodland Skill Centre. Members will recall that Rod Waterfield gave us an excellent talk in January about how he founded this organisation and the superb work he does there.

(Post meeting note: About 16 Members attended the visit. After a hair raising drive up the lane from the Bodfari road we were calmed down by a welcome cuppa and introduction from Rod. We then toured the site with its many and varied projects, plots and livestock which Rod told us about as we went round. We ended up in the workshop where many traditional skills are taught and various items such as bat boxes, hedgehog houses and picnic benches are made for sale and for donation to charities. The Club's Members present donated £80 to the Centre and thanked Rod for the visit, his time and the work that he does.)

- I also reminded Members of the talk we had from Zara Fleming as she is hosting a Tibetan Afternoon at her home on Sunday 9th July – see flyer below.
- Lastly, I brought up the fact that time moves on and we will soon be looking for new Committee members for next year – particularly for Finance Officer. If anyone is thinking that this is their time to contribute to the Club in this way, then please contact myself, or any other Committee Member.

We then had a 10 minute break after which we had the surprise addition to our Speaker programme – a talk from Probus Member, Michael Corfe entitled 'Creation of a Garden'.

Michael reminded us how important it is to do what we can in the face of Climate Change and live more sustainably.

He gave us an excellent illustrated presentation of how he and Fay had converted a piece of semi-derelict land they acquired adjacent to their bungalow in West Kirby into a wonderful garden full of flowers and fruit and vegetables. They used the many sandstone blocks they found within the site to form raised beds and obtained crushed stone, a greenhouse, and various other items by barter ending up with a delightful and very productive addition to the property.

One of the most remarkable aspects of this transformation was the short space of time in which it was undertaken – Michael clearly has much brawn as well as brains and Fay's green fingers worked a magic of their own.

After Michael fielded some questions, we had a fine Vote of Thanks and Members gave Michael enthusiastic applause.

Finally, a reminder that our next meeting is on 7th of August and is an Invitational to which all Members are encouraged to invite guests. Being August, we don't have a speaker lined up, but we will be holding a raffle to raise funds for a new Presidential medallion and ribbon.

We then closed with the Toast To The Club.

See you in August!!!

{Note: All names have been removed except for those of prominent Committee Members and Speakers.}



TASHI LHUNPO MONKS
འཕགས་ལྷན་སྐྱེས་ལྷན་པོ།

**Tibetan Monks
from Tashi
Lhunpo
Monastery**

Masked dance and sacred chant
from a Tibetan Monastery.

*"A psychedelic whirl of chanting,
dancing, drums, cymbals and processions"*
THE TIMES

*"A window of time onto a magical universe
of reincarnation and release"*
THE INDEPENDENT

"majestic and atmospheric"
SONGLINES
MAGAZINE

SUNDAY 9TH JULY
2.00 – 6.00 pm

EYARTH HOUSE, LLANFAIR D.C. RUTHIN LL15 2EG
SACRED DANCE, MUSIC & SAND MANDALA PERFORMED
BY TIBETAN MONKS

TEAS / STALLS / WORKSHOPS / ACTIVITIES
Follow signs from Llanfair D.C (on A525 2m South of Ruthin)
Info: zf@eyarth.co.uk 01824 705429
ADMISSION £8 (sorry Cash only Entry & Teas)
Supporting Tashi Lhunpo Charitable Trust and Other Tibetan Charities

Regd. Charity 1100175 www.tashi-lhunpo.org.uk Tashi Lhunpo Monastery UK Trust