

NOTES FROM A MEETING OF THE CROMWELL PROBUS (LUNCHEON) CLUB SG
AT SLEPE HALL ON 13 DEC 2022

1. The meeting was opened by Chris Leah at 2.30pm with SG members Lorna Baker, Ros Townsend & Gordon Steptoe and Dave Mack with Ted Barlow attending as the Club's RaffleMaster to advise and agree on the process of the Club's cashless Christmas Lunch Raffle.
2. Christmas Lunch – 43 had registered for this but it was likely the final numbers attending could be 41.
3. Christmas Lunch Raffle - Prizes & Tickets. It was agreed that the SG Members would bring the prizes at a unit cost of not more than £10/item. Ros or Lorna would issue a SINGLE raffle ticket to everyone and give the Stubs to Ted to fold and put in the 'drum'. It was agreed that should more than the SG prizes be contributed by diners , then Ted would use his judgement to combine/group some prizes into a reasonable number (max 12 say).
Dave would ask Maria to have a Raffle Prize table positioned in front of the DJ Plinth so on entry Raffle prizes can be deposited (for Ted to sort out) on Diners' way past Ros/Lorna to collect Meal choice tabs and Raffle ticket.
Post meeting Lorna agreed to issue the Raffle Tickets & work with Ted on the raffle to take load off Ros/Sandra.
4. Christmas Jumper Prize. Also, Ted, in liaison with Chris, would select and keep to one side the Christmas Jumper/Dress/ Garb Prize that would be won by the diner (male or female) judged by Maria (Slepe Hall GM) & Staff as the best.
5. Annual Survey. The SG took comfort from the fact that only 6 returns out of 45 possible were returned as the SG assumed that those who did not complete a return felt there was nothing to say except 'keep doing what you are doing'. However, some very pertinent, constructive, pragmatic and useful points were fed back. Consequently, the SG has agreed to action these points whilst agreeing 100% that the status quo remains for others, like dress where 'smart casual' = Jacket & Tie for gents (please) with Chair's discretion for summer lunches.
Note: A copy of the Survey and Results with SG comments will be available at the Christmas Lunch (1 per table).
6. Club Speakers. From the survey all agreed that the 5min talks by members were to be retained. Members of the SG were asked to enlist diners for these chats and let Admin know so they can be scheduled. So far we have Gordon Steptoe for Jan & Chris Leah for Feb but if 1st-timers come forward they may be accommodated instead.
7. External Speakers. So far we have Terry Norwood for March (Red Arrows photographer) and hopefully The Director of the Norris Museum for April. The cost of the lunch being defrayed by the diner who invited them.
8. Speaker Volumes. Admin to ask if the Rotary PA system can be used by Club. Lorna has an amplifier purchased by Peter that may be of some use. Admin to check it out.
9. Who are you and what did you do before you retired. Admin suggested spending 5 mins or so on opening where those who were dining as retired business-people, either seated or stood up, introduce themselves to avoid us becoming a Club of groups or anonymous diners rather than a social gathering of kindred spirits. After strong opposition from one member of the SG (that has to agree unanimously), the Chair decided that was not a good idea as it would embarrass anyone not wishing to speak up. Chair advised that instead diners should approach people they do not know to find out who they are and what business background they came from with SG members setting that example at the tables they are on.
Post meeting Lorna suggested labels on tables with pens so people (without name tags) could stick their names on themselves to avoid the embarrassment being caused by not knowing - and worse – totally forgetting people's names having been introduced. Admin will try to organise for 15th as a trial.
10. AOB – None