

EVENTS SECRETARY REPORT – VERWOOD PROBUS 2025 AGM

This past year has not been the easiest for arranging events with the decline in support from members.

30 members and partners attended a tour and lunch at the RLNI on 3rd July. We had the private harbour view restaurant with its magnificent views over Poole harbour. After a somewhat difficult start for tour group 2, when our guide berated Verwood Probus for not providing him with lunch when he came to speak, the day turned out to be a great success.

On the 4th September a group of 26 visited Southwick House map room and museum. As the response from Probus members was poor, I opened it up to members of the U3a Photography group which added a further 8 and enabled me to arrange a coach to transport us. Lunch was arranged in the Red Lion in Southwick, with a reserved eating area. The day was a great success, with the talk by the museum curator the highlight.

With Christmas activities and the Presidents dinner taking place and the seemingly lack of interest, no further events were arranged.

For the future, we have the lunch at the RLNI on 11th June, taking place here due to the Escoffier restaurant being closed for a further year. The response has again been disappointing with only 24 members and partners signing up, although some 30 put their names down originally. The minimum for the private room is 25, as yet I have to find out what the RLNI response will be and if we will have to pay for 25 anyway.

I shall be very interested to see the responses from our secretary's questionnaire, which may determine the future of events.

Ken Lyndon

Events Secretary