

Speakers' Secretary's Report to Verwood Probus AGM 20 May 2025

Mr. President and Members:

After 8 years as your Speakers' Secretary, this is my last report to the AGM. The year 2024/25 was, I believe, successful as we had a full program with the normal number of speakers.

Since last year's AGM, we have had Kevin Patience talking about "The Rolls-Royce and the Lady" and our own Keith Flesher on "Confession of a trolley pusher". We've heard about Ranald MacDonell, Lost Bournemouth and Air Traffic Control. Since the New Year Dave Timpson gave us some toe-tapping in "Skiffle Piffle", and we have heard about Dorset making History, the Teddy Bear and WW2 in the New Forest. After this AGM lunch, our own member, Gordon Simpkin, will speak on "Doin Drugs", so I hope that Dorset police are not in attendance!

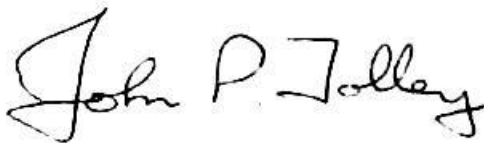
The 2025 diary is full, and the details for the remainder of this year will be as listed on the Probus website. I will be introducing these speakers for the rest of 2025, whilst my successor chooses your 2026 speakers.

As usual we will complete the year with the Christmas Lunch in December, but with no meeting or speaker that month.

To keep speakers coming next year, my successor will always be ready to receive suggestions. In the past I have been in contact with other local Probus groups, and we have exchanged names and contact details which may be useful to my successor. If you have attended or heard of good talks at other organisations in the area, please let him know.

Over the years, I have attempted to offer members speakers on a wide variety of topics, and I hope that you will agree that I have, at least partially, succeeded.

This concludes my report to this AGM.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John P. Tolley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John P. Tolley
Speakers' Secretary
20 May 2025