

Ledbury Probus Speakers for October – December 2023



denotes Probus Member, Names in brackets thus [] denotes the member giving the Vote of Thanks

For General Distribution					
Date	Speaker	Subject	Summary	Notes	A/V
2 nd October	*Gerald Brooke	The history of Ukraine		[Trevor Campbell]	TBA
9 th October	Ian Raven	Vale of Berkeley Railway: How To Create a New Heritage Railway	A story of a railway lines creation through to its closure and demise and the work being done by a team of enthusiasts to create a new heritage railway that will become a tourist cornerstone in the Vale of Gloucester.	[David Good]	USB Stick
16 th October	David Elder	He went about doing good': the story of Dr Edward Thomas Wilson (1832-1918)	Wilson is a very familiar name in Cheltenham, because of Edward, father and son. The son, the Antarctic explorer who perished with Scott, is better known, but the father, after whom the modern art gallery is named, had a much greater effect on the Victorian town, as medical pioneer, cultural polymath and general philanthropist. His story has never been told, until now. David Elder, well known local author, has written Wilson's biography	[Kevin Whittal]	USB Stick
23 rd October	*David Tatham	The Battle of the Falkland Islands - 1914	The Battle of the Falkland Islands was a First World War naval action between the Royal Navy and Imperial German Navy. The British, after their defeat at the Battle of Coronel, sent a large force to track down and destroy the German cruiser squadron. The battle is commemorated every year on 8 December in the Falkland Islands as a public holiday.	[David Wall]	USB Stick
30 th October	Peter Gill	Talbot House	Run by the cleric Tubby Clayton, Talbot House in Poperinge, Belgium, became the 'haven in hell' for many British servicemen during the Great War and ultimately the inspiration behind the Toc H Movement. This illustrated talk introduces us to the house which allowed men of all ranks and religion to find some home comforts and to escape from the sounds, sights and odours of war for just a little while.	[John Lee]	Own Equipment
6 th November	Mike Aggleton	836 Squadron & MAC ships – Part 3	The Trials & Tribulations of the largest FAA squadron on Merchant Aircraft Carriers	[Nigel Mott]	USB Stick
13 th November	Barney Bruce	The Cotswold Canals	Restoration of the canal link between the River Severn and the River Thames	[Eric Watson]	USB Stick

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20 th November	*David Tombs	Some Flying Experiences	It is quite extraordinary that the date falls within a few days of my being demobbed from the RAF. My talk will cover comment on aircraft in which I have flown, and some experiences I have had, together with my subsequent private flying days.	[Paul Knott]	USB Stick
27 th November	Chris O'Grady	Fakes & Fortunes, Art & Antiques, Forgers & Dealers	A light-hearted journey through the pleasures and pitfalls of collecting art and antiques. The challenges we all face when tempted to buy art and antiques; why we collect, where one might buy and how to avoid those rascals and forgers.	[Geoff Loveridge]	
4 th December	Ray Sturdy	The Rise and Fall of Witley Court	A Royal Palace was created by the Earls of Dudley before its untimely demise. The grounds, gardens, baroque church and the working Perseus and Andromeda fountains can be visited.	[Robert Street]	
11 th December	Social Secretary	Christmas Crackers!	Details to be announced		
18 th December	Max Keen	The English Civil War in Bewdley, Kidderminster, Stourbridge and Worcester. There could be a mention of Ledbury, too!	Max will deliver a lively and animated talk - dressed as a Civil War officer of the Royalist persuasion! How did the Civil War between King and Parliament affect these three places? Which royal figures appeared with armies of 5000 or more? And what happened in Ledbury?	[Ted Willmott] *GUESTS ARE INVITED TO THIS TALK*	