



Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

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Minutes of Meeting held on: 18th September 2024 at Linlithgow Rose Club

WELCOME: President Neil Edwards welcomed all the members and visitor David Robertson.

APOLOGIES:

Alan Bennie; Anne Duncan; Bill Duncan; Alan Halley; Alan Hannan; Andrew Jones; Murdoch Kennedy; Julie Laurie; Donald Macdonald; Dale McPherson; Janice Tidswell; Pete Tidswell; Di Wild;

ALMONERS REPORT

Garry and a number of members had attended Eric Moffat's funeral.

Ross reported that Dale McPherson who had seemed quite 'up' when he reported at the last meeting was having a bad day when he saw him last. Members wished him all the best

Bert had shaken off another bout of Covid and like so many others reported that it seemed to be worse this time around.

MATTERS ARISING

Bruce reported that this year's Christmas Tree event at St Michael's that we had previously agreed we would support, would be on the theme of Movies. He suggested we should go for 'The good, the bad and the ugly' but this may have been tongue in cheek!

AOCB

The Christmas lunch is in the calendar as 11th December and we know that the Rose Club is unable to accommodate us that day as there is another booking. Members were asked to suggest various options which would then be voted on by email to the Secretary within the next week. The Events Committee were tasked with making a decision. The options were

A Linlithgow Golf Club

B Rose Club on a different day

C Richmond Hotel

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

David Elliot then introduced the speaker for the day, Jo Woolf, Writer in Residence at the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. Jo gave us a brief background profile of the Society, then proceeded to talk about Isobel Wylie Hutchison. A local lass (from Kirkliston) she had a happy childhood until her father and both brothers died in rapid succession. Jo talked about how this must have affected her and driven her to make

remarkable journeys by herself. She walked up the Outer Hebrides and looked out Northwards from the Butt of Lewis and realised that Iceland lay 600 miles away. There was no passenger service between Scotland and Iceland so she had to go via Copenhagen and then she became the first woman to walk across the North of Iceland. Fired up with this, she then progressed to Greenland and spent the summer of 1927 and subsequently overwintered between 1928 and 29. As a proud Scot she introduced the locals to haggis and sword dancing. She collected plants that photos showed seemed to grow profusely in certain parts of the island. Her next great trip was to Alaska and Arctic Canada where the timings meant that she struggled round the Northern tip of Alaska as the winter freeze was beginning to take effect.

VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was given by Stuart Smith who expressed the members astonishment that such a remarkable lady was so little known and supported by the members in the usual manner.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday October 2nd when Keith Hewitt will be talking about Whisky Galore. It is not known if any samples will be supplied

Chris Collen
Secretary
18/09/2024

