



PROBUS CLUB OF JOHANNESBURG

NEWSLETTER for SEPTEMBER 2009

President: Renaldo Naudé 073 811 8674

Secretary: Melt van der Spuy 011 463 1652

Treasurer & Vice-President: Vic Bumberry 011 704 3961

Lunches: Renaldo Naude` 073 811 8674

Forthcoming Birthdays

For September we wish the following members and wives many happy returns: Melt van der Spuy on the 10th, Tony Hallier on the 22nd, Geraldine van der Spuy and Rodney Espley-Jones on the 28th and David Duncan on the 30th.

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Resignation

It is noted with regret that Bill Avery who was a founder member, John Williams a member of long standing and Theo Rood have resigned from the Club.

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Past Events

Luncheon

The luncheon on the 25th August was attended by thirty members including a guest from Cape Town Probus and the speaker, Howard Pell who was introduced by James Gardner. Howard was in the Royal Navy from 1944 and spoke of the "Battles of the Atlantic" in both the World Wars. The introduction of submarines during the first World War changed the naval wars and nullified The Haig Convention which had set down the rules for naval warfare. Submarines had changed all this in 1915 in the waters around Britain and in 1916 the U-boats started unrestricted attacks on all other shipping as well as naval vessels. Up to that point the use of convoys were not used but were then introduced in April 1917. They proved successful in protecting merchant shipping. The use of ASDIC to identify and chase U-boats also helped to turn the tide.

During WW2 the anti-submarine warfare was fought mostly in the Western Approaches and Corvettes were the convoy main escorts supported by Frigates. Initially the U-boat Wolf-Packs had

been successful with night surface attacks. When radar was introduced it was able to identify U-boats on the surface and then the ENIGMA system was broken. This helped with the defence and success of the convoy system from late in 1943 and thereafter. Howard was thanked by Tom Henderson for a comprehensive and interesting presentation.

Future Events

Luncheon

The next luncheon will take place on Tuesday 29th September at 12h00 for 12h30 at the Bryanston Country Club. The speaker will be Colleen Hill whose talk will be "The Sinking of the Lusitania." She unfortunately could not make the lunch this month

Luncheon bookings: Luncheon bookings or apologies are to be communicated to **Renaldo Naudé at 073 811 8674 by Thursday 24th September.**

REMINDER: The lunch cost is now R85

Ladies Luncheon

Please diarise the Wednesday 28th October where Patricia Glynn will talk on Mount Everest. The cost for the lunch will be advised at the next meeting.

Stuart Tough
Tel 011 465 3349