**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Outline of the document**

In September 2017, the Club Committee decided to update *A* *History of Sunbury Probus Club 1969-2001* for the occasion of our 50th Anniversary on 28th January, 2019. A writing team was convened to undertake the task: Robert Gant (Editor), Norman Dixon (HLM), Mike Hesford (HLM), Don Shimmield (HLM) and David Leitch (Chairman 2018-2019). Gordon Hopkins (Photographer) and Richard Greaves (Webmaster) added significant technical expertise to the project.

The objective was to build on the firm foundations laid by the authors of the previous history and demonstrate how the Club had developed in the period between the AGMs in March 2001 and March 2019. We aimed to answer the hypothetical question that might be posed at the centenary in 2069**:** *”How was Sunbury Probus Club organised in the early decades of this century, what did members do, and how successful was its administration in meeting the interests of members?”*

To ensure continuity with the past, this volume starts with an overview of landmark events in the development of the Club prior to the AGM in 2001. The focus then shifts towards the present. It includes a summary of how we have conducted our business affairs, adapted the Club Constitution to meet changing needs, secured our financial base, and integrated the ladies of former members into club life.

An overview follows of the activity programmes from six key areas: Day-trips; 5-day holidays; Theatre visits; Lunch-time speakers; Pub lunches and Ladies’ Nights. In each case, a short statement connects these activities with the past and highlights recent developments in provision.

The focus of the document *then* shifts to the 50th Anniversary celebration. To inform a future membership, the calendar of celebratory events is re-produced and a profile of membership summarised. Our three distinguished Honorary Life Members, Norman Dixon, Mike Hesford and Don Shimmield offer their personal accounts of engagement with Sunbury Probus and the true meaning of ‘good fellowship’. This theme of commitment is again addressed in the account by Charles Adams, the senior club member, who was enrolled in April 1983.

Wherever possible, photographs from the Club archives, items from the national *Probus Magazine* and local press, and personal collections have been included to illuminate the spirit and purpose of the Sunbury Probus Club.