

KYRLE PROBUS 15 OCT. Top award for D-Day hero

Kyrle Probus Club is sending a message of warm congratulations to former member Keith Martin who has been awarded the Legion de l'honneur, the top award for gallantry in France.

Keith, now 95, but still active and driving his car, was a rear gunner on a Halifax bomber aircraft during the Second World War.

The French accolade is being awarded to those in the Allied forces who took part in the D-Day landings which launched the liberation of France on June 6th, 1944.

Club webmaster Arthur Durrant then entertained members with a video and slide show illustrating three holiday tours with his late wife Mary to the spectacular national parks in the USA, Canada and Alaska with a focus on the variety of bears which are free to roam.

Titled 'Ursus Arctus' – after the Latin and Greek words for bear – the talk described their increasing fascination with the antics and behaviour of the Grizzlies, Black and Brown bears which share the magnificent wilderness, mountains, lakes and glaciers, soaring eagles and pink salmon with park visitors – albeit at a safe distance for everyone's safety.

Arthur and Mary were accommodated at a range of luxurious log cabins and transported by 4-seater flying boats to an area so isolated that food supplies had to be flown in and waste rubbish flown out.

The club also welcomed new member Mervyn Fellows who was proposed by Mike Eastwood. The club meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at Ross Conservative Club, when members hear talks, sometimes from fellow members, sometimes from guest speakers.

To find out more about the club, visit www.kyrleprobus-ross.org.uk