

READING EAST PROBUS CLUB

The Buddy Charter 2023

- 1) The purpose of the Buddy Scheme is to provide continued friendship and fellowship between members, especially during difficult periods when it may not be possible for members to attend club activities as they would wish.**
- 2) The Buddy Scheme pairs members to 'look out 'for each other by keeping 'in touch' and requires buddies to contact the Club Almoner if contact becomes increasingly difficult or cannot be made, or when a member is in difficulty.**
- 3) The pairing of Buddies takes note of their geographic location (although this is not always as close as convenient) to make it possible for Buddies to 'look in or call around' if initial contact by telephone cannot be made.**
- 4) All Buddies are on the 'active membership list' and are expected to greet each other at club activities, encourage club participation, and to 'catch up' on each other activities.**
- 5) Buddies are not to be 'intrusive' or 'questioning' about a member's personal circumstances but should be friendly and courteous. They should be willing to listen and understand when a member is in difficulty, and willing to contact the Almoner when concerns are to be shared.**
- 6) There is no requirement for the recording of information about a Buddy's activities or attendances and no obligation on members to be responsible to report to the Almoner or other Committee member on a member's difficulties. However, it is a matter of personal judgment, left to each member to decide, when and if further club support would be helpful to their paired Buddy in difficulty.**
- 7) Information shared between Buddies should be taken as being 'private between friends' and not for further dissemination without consent. However, the Almoner wishes to hear from Buddies whose partners are becoming more isolated due to illness or infirmity to provide further continued Club support to the member in difficulty.**
- 8) Contact information about a Buddy's best alternative contact can be obtained from the membership secretary or the Almoner when they have failed to contact their Buddy via the standard telephone numbers provided between Buddies.**