THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE - November 2026

Website: www.uxbridgeprobus.ca E-Mail: CONTACT US

UXFORMATION

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Kathy Clulow

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Janet Patterson

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Cheryl Bain

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Melissa Harding
Susan Hiller

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Paul Hayward

President's Message



As we move into late autumn, the days grow shorter, the leaves have fallen, and the weather is getting colder. Soon, many of us will be sitting by a warm fire, warming our feet and enjoying a hot drink. But November is also a time for reflection and remembrance.

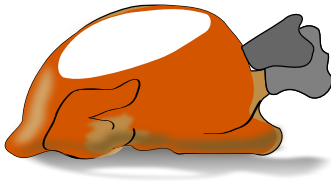
November 11th is Remembrance Day, when we pause to honour those who came before us and remember the sacrifices they made to protect the freedoms we enjoy here in Canada.



At our general meeting this month, we have a special guest speaker, **Ellin Bessner**, who will share a fascinating and important Remembrance Day presentation about the little-known story of Canadian women of Jewish faith who helped defeat Hitler during the Second World War.

For this meeting, we will be doing things a little differently. **Ellin's presentation will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.** I ask everyone to arrive a little early and be seated by **9:50 a.m.** Following her presentation and a moment of silence, we will continue with our usual club updates.

This will also be our last regular General Meeting of the year, as December 9th is the date of our Christmas Gala at Mill Run Golf Club. If you haven't already signed up, please do so soon to make sure you have a place at this special event. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy good food, friendship, and a little Christmas cheer together.



I hope you have a wonderful November. As always, I encourage you to take advantage of all our club has to offer, whether it's our General Meetings, Social Events, or Interest Groups. There are so many opportunities to connect, make new friends, and enjoy the company of others.

See you soon!

Robin Dhillon

From Your Speaker's Chair

October 14 - Norman Douglas — You Be The Judge

Last month retired criminal court judge Norm Douglas was our speaker. He helped us understand that some cases are not as cut and dried as they might seem when it comes to ruling on someone's guilt or innocence. He talked about two tricky cases with very surprising circumstances. He brought up a member of the audience to act as the judge for each one. Not as easy as it seems!

More info at: bethejudge.ca





November 11 - Ellin Bessner — She Also Served

Journalist and author Ellin Bessner will do a special Remembrance Day presentation about the unknown stories of the Canadian women of Jewish faith who helped defeat Hitler in the Second World War. Bessner is the author of "Double Threat," about the contribution of Canada's tiny wartime Jewish community to defeating the Nazis. She will take a fascinating look at the Canadian Jewish heroines, both at home and at the front, who helped Canada win WWII, but whose contributions to history have never been properly recognized. Books will be for available for purchase.

PLEASE NOTE: On Nov 11, the speaker will start **at 10 am** (not the usual 11am) **Please arrive early, get seated so the meeting can start promptly.** See House Chair note below

More info on Ellin: **https://ellinbessner.com**



We want your DIGITAL photos of family who are/were veterans for a slideshow at the November meeting. Please email your photos to Kathy Clulow at: **kclulow1@gmail.com**

DEADLINE is November 7th to be included in the slideshow.

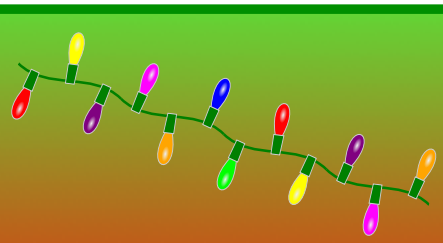




December 9 - No General Meeting but our Christmas Gala luncheon

- at Mill Run Golf Club

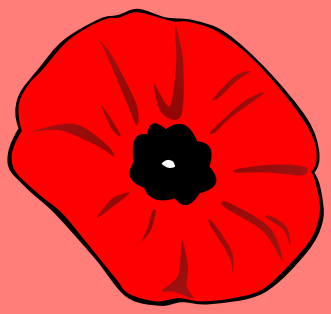
see Social Events below for more information



From Your House Chair

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 11, 2026 at 9:55 a.m.

at Uxbridge Arena and Community Centre



Hope you are all enjoying these beautiful fall days. They have been spectacular!

Our next meeting is scheduled on Remembrance Day - November 11th. We will be starting promptly **at 9:55** with O Canada, then our speaker at 10:00. Make sure to be here a few minutes early to get a seat. Coffee time will commence after the minute of silence at 11:00.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Can you recommend someone who can assist our setup team to set up and take down chairs and tables before and after our meetings? This is a paid position. Please speak to myself or Robin Dhillon with your suggestions. It would really help make this job lighter for our House Volunteers.

ALSO, our House Committee is looking for an individual to support Susan Hillar and myself with overseeing all the important prep work that the House committee does at each General Meeting. This would really help us keep this running smoothly, especially if one of us was away! If you already volunteer on house or if you have been thinking of helping out, please consider this important role! Please contact either myself, Cheryl Bain, or Susan Hillar.

Our House Team for November is:

Set Up: Barry Scarlett, Steve Fryzuk, Robin and Bruce Drake, Anne Wicks and Albert Fintelman

Kitchen: Gail Crawford, Gwen Ringling, Gerry Martin, Sandra Will, Judy Prince and Sandra Clark

Greeters: Marie McEachnie

**REMINDER: LUG A MUG!

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Cheryl Bain House Chair

The red poppy is a symbol of remembrance for soldiers who died in war. During World War 1, heavy shellfire churned up the soil in France and Belgium. Wild red poppies were among the first plants to bloom across the barren, torn-up graves and battlefields. In 1915, Canadian military doctor Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae wrote the famous poem ***"In Flanders Fields"*** after watching poppies bloom around the graves of fallen comrades. The flower was officially adopted as a symbol of remembrance in Canada in 1921 by the Great War Veterans' Association (a precursor to the Royal Canadian Legion).

Your Eco-Tip of the Month

It's that time of year again, when all through the house, it seems, everything is stirring :). Do any of the following "reducing your environmental impact" gift ideas for this holiday season, "Resonate with you"? Choose:

Experience gifts: Website links https://epicexperiences.ca/

Source Locally: Buy from nearby merchants for real food, and to lower any shipping/transport emissions.
Buy local artisan goods, tickets to a local live show, cooking classes, or even museum tours.

Keep your carbon footprint low: Skip mass-produced plastic items and excessive packaging

Handmade Canning: Bake cookies, fruit cake, mix custom spice blends, or jar homemade jam.

Upcycled Wrapping: Wrap gifts in reuseable gift bags, comic strips, old maps, or fabric using the Japanese *furoshiki* method.

To personalize gift giving, using eco-friendly glue, glue buttons, bells, pasta, leaves, twigs or wild flowers

Charitable Donations: Donate to wildlife, food banks, or forest restoration projects.

From Your Membership Chair

JUST IN CASE - Emergencies can happen!
Like insurance, we have it but we hope we never need to use it. So, here's an insurance offer for you and it's free. Provide us with your emergency contact info - name and phone number and we can attach it to the back of your name tag. No one will see it unless it is needed.

To give us your emergency contact info, you can either:

1) email it to membership.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

OR

2) there will be a sign-up sheet provided at the check-in desk during the monthly meeting for you to provide the information

NOT WEARING YOUR NAME TAG BECAUSE OF THE MAGNETIC STRIP?
If you are unable to to wear your name tag because of the magnetic strip, we can change that for you at no cost. Bring your name tag to the sign-in table and we will make it so that you can wear you Probus name tag without worry.

Janet Patterson Membership Chair

From Your Social Committee

Are We There Yet? A fun adventure driving carefully around town while looking for the answers to a lot of clues! The costumes that participants wore just added to the excitement and fun. A big **THANK YOU** to John Willcock for organizing the route and to the Social committee for the gathering afterwards.



















Upcoming Social Events

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS:

You must be a member in good standing (or guest of a member) to attend.

First, to indicate your interest, you must sign up by one of two ways:

1. In person at the Social Events Table during General Meetings, or
2. By clicking this link: Uxbridge Probus Website which will take you to the specific flyer with a Google Form to complete with your information.

Next, to confirm your spot, you must pay either:

1. By e-transfer to **treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com**
2. By cheque payable to "Probus Club of Uxbridge" at a meeting or by mail to:

Uxbridge PROBUS c/o Don Osborne, 50 Donna Lee Trail, Stouffville, ON, L4A 1K3

NO CASH PLEASE - Cheques & E-Transfers Only!

2026 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

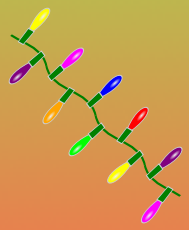
The most popular event of the year!

WED. DEC. 9 - 11:00 Doors Open, 12:30 Lunch served

MILL RUN Golf Club, 269 Durham Rd 8, Siloam



Fantastic Raffle, Door Prizes, Entertainment, Cash Bar,
Wine Survivor Final Drawing



COST: Members $75 - Guests $80

Sign-up directions in Gold Box above.
For further information, click on this link: Social Event Flyers

How does Wine Survivor Work??

You receive one ballot for each 750 ml bottle of red or white wine that you contribute.
All wine must be delivered by November 21 and elimination draws begin November 28.
The final 4 names will be drawn at the Christmas Lunch and all wine is distributed there.
Drop off bottles to Aileen Moxley, 11 Adams Court on these two days:
November 17 from 2 pm to 7 pm OR November 21 from 10 am to 2 pm.

DO NOT BRING BOTTLES TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING!

Pickering Nuclear Information Centre Visit

Thursday January 14, 2027 at 1:00 pm

An Informative presentation at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre, including an OPG-101 presentation and demonstration of Spot, the Robot Dog.

This is a FREE self-drive event.
1675 Montgomery Park Road, Pickering

Sign-up directions in Gold Box above.
For further information, click on this link: Social Event Flyers

Indoor Mini Golf at Glowtown Putt 'n Play

Tuesday January 19, 2027 (Snow-day re-schedule to January 26)
Cost is $17 for members and $20 for guests

Arrive by 1:45 for 2:00 pm start at 5892 Main Street, Stouffville
You can join a group earlier for lunch at one of these restaurants: Chuck's Roadhouse, Stacked Pancake House, or Wendy's

OR … meet directly at Glowtown at 1:45.

Snacks and beverages will be provided after golf.

Sign-up directions in Gold Box above.
For further information, click on this link: Social Event Flyers



Canadian Tank Museum Visit

Saturday, February 6 at 11:00 am

Explore history. See the tanks. Enjoy all the military displays. Kids and grandkids are welcome.

This is a self-drive event. 1000 Stevenson Road North, Oshawa

Pay the entry fee as you arrive: Seniors $14.69, Children $6.78

Sign-up directions in Gold Box above. For more information, click this link: Social Event Flyers

Winston Churchill and other military officers created a secret group in 1915 to build armoured vehicles that could cross trenches and crush barbed wire. Workers at the William Foster & Co. factory in England called the prototype a "water tank" to hide its true military purpose during transport. That's how tanks got their name!

source: Royal Canadian Legion

Current Interest Groups

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL INTEREST GROUPS:

1. Visit us in person at the **Interest Groups Table** during General Meetings

-or-

2. Email by clicking on this link: **Interest Group Chair**

Typically, there is no charge to join an Interest Group (although some groups may have a minimal fee to pay for the use of the venue).

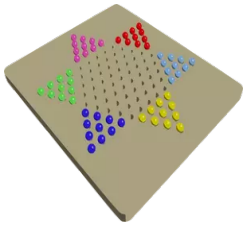
You must be a member in good standing of Uxbridge PROBUS to join an Interest Group.

If you have an idea for a new group or want to join one of the existing groups, please contact us!

AGE GETS BETTER WITH WINE: Coordinator Anne Gauvreau

On November 11, we will meet at the home of Susan and Robin Dhillon. The theme of the evening is: "Christmas in November!" It would be fun if we all dressed in RED, and/or in some Christmas garb… perhaps a Santa or Elf hat, a Christmas sweater, etc. We are all bringing a small appetizer and wine. Remember…the hosts ONLY provide an appetizer… NOT WINE! It should be a MERRY evening! This group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.

BOARD GAMES: Coordinator Wayne Louie



Board Games will meet at 2 pm, at the "Game Juice Cafe", the top floor of the old Chances Are location, which is walking distance from the Uxbridge Library.

This group usually meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 2 pm.

BOOK BUDDIES: Coordinator Gerri Martin



On November 27 at 1:30, Book Buddies will meet to discuss One Child Out by Gilly MacMillan. Best friends from different cultures face consequences from circumstances they encounter and how they are treated in society. It will provide interesting discussion, no doubt. This group meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1:30.

COURT JESTERS (PICKLEBALL): Coordinators Alan James & Bill McMahon



Court Jesters' feature player this month is Bert Dawson. Maybe it's a Newfoundlander custom that it's only fitting to start a game with a coffee in a proper china mug. Bert's playing in the back court can be as graceful as Fred Astaire, or transition to Jumpin' Jack Flash at the net. Whether it's trick shots behind his back, conspiring with his partner, or sharing a "Bertism", playing pickleball with Twinkle Toes Bert is always entertaining.

CREATIVE WRITING & MEMOIRS: Coordinator Kathy Clulow



The Creative Writing and Memoir enthusiasts meet monthly. We gather, we listen to a prompt, we write until the timer goes, and the brave ones read what they wrote. We all note positive bits that stick with us from their writing. We laugh, some might shed a tear, then we pick up our pens and happily do it again. Come join us on November 10 at 2 pm. No experience needed.
This group meets on the second Tuesday at 2 pm.

NEW EXPLORERS GROUP: Coordinators Elaine Stevenson and Marg Langlands

We will plan outings to some interesting and often hidden gems in our surrounding communities. Join us on Tuesday, November 17 at 1 pm to visit a local architectural story at HOP HILL Stables, then on to Goodwood Mercantile for a little Christmas shopping and Annina's for coffee.

GENIAL GENEALOGISTS: Coordinator Bernie Beales

Our October meeting was well attended but we still have room for a couple more people! This time we explored updates to some genealogy websites and got a list of 100 free sites to extend our research. The next meeting will be Thursday November 19.
This group usually meets on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30.

GRAPE MINDS THINK ALIKE: Coordinators Melissa Harding & Caren Narvet



In October, our lively group gathered to discuss and sample a variety of Australian wines, while enjoying a delicious selection of Halloween themed treats. As always, much laughter and story telling ensued.
This group meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month.

HAND AND FOOT - CANASTA - GAMES & LESSONS: Coordinator Amber D'Aguiar

Hand and Foot is a type of Canasta played with four people. The date and time of lessons/games **has been moved to the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm.** This month, we will be meeting on Thursday Nov 19th. If you haven't played before, or need a refresher, lessons are always available. Come join us and check out what the fuss is about.
This group meets on the third Thursday of each month.



KITCHEN BRIDGE: Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

Welcomes both men and women. This group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 1pm.

KNIT OR NOT HANDICRAFTERS: Coordinators Irene Hoekstra and Judy Armstrong

Join us on the third Friday of the month from 1-3 pm. Bring your current project and enjoy snacks and great conversation. A few members made wine tags in October for the upcoming gift giving season and in November we'll create a Christmas card.
This group meets from 1-3 on the third Friday of the month. **(new day and time)**

LADIES' BRIDGE CLUB: Coordinators: Margaret Langlands & Caren Narvet

WAIT LIST This group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 1 pm.

LET'S EAT OUT: Coordinators Gail & Chuck Heroux

Tuesday night last month we went to the Coach House pub in Ballantrae. A number of friends had recommended it, so we gave it a try. We ere delighted with both the food and the evening. We had 22 people out for a great event. This group meets on the third Tuesday or Thursday of the month.

LIGHTS, SNACKS, ACTION!: Coordinators Melissa Harding & Irene Hoekstra





In October, our group of movie lovers attended the Roxy Short Film Festival to experience a wide variety of short films, one of which was an Oscar nominee. Overall, our reviews of the movies were mixed, but we thoroughly enjoyed each others' company, the delicious appetizers, and the Q&A discussions with the filmmakers and actors. November's movie outing will be to The Roxy to see the film **"Wicker"**, a satirical romantic fantasy.

LIT HAPPENS: Coordinator Jen Thorson

It was just one of those months when several of us didn't finish Abraham Verghese's epic



Cutting for Stone (655 pages), but this amazing, detailed book resonated with everyone, and we all learned so much from the author's quite personal story. As always, discussing a book in a group brings out many observations we perhaps don't consider on our own. November will see us discovering The Secret Life of Bees.
This group usually meets at 1 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month.

MAHJONG: Coordinator Amber D'Aguiar



Mahjong is a fun four-player game of strategy and luck where you build tile combinations. This month, we will be meeting on Tuesday November 3rd at 1:30 pm. If you haven't played before, or need a refresher, lessons are always available.
This group usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm.

MONDAY LUNCH BUNCH: Coordinators the Bignells and the Cordingleys

In October the group enjoyed lunch and conversation at Haugen's in Port Perry. With new owners, the restaurant has been renovated and has new items added to the menu. The group will meet next on November 30.







REDUCING MY FOOTPRINT: Coordinator Brian Keeling

Join us for always lively and informed conversation on how WE can make a difference to the health of our planet. We cover a huge range of topics, and never leave a meeting without having learned something new.
This group meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 10 am.

ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out): Coordinator John Willcock

The ROMEO interest group celebrated its first year in September and new members are always welcome. We meet on the fourth Thursday of the month for 12 pm lunch at Wooden Sticks. We chat about all and anything of interest and a good time is had by all.

SMALL TOWN THEATRE: Coordinators Steve Fryzuk & Peggy Kennedy

Based on the enthusiasm and vibrant chatter at the One Eyed Jack's restaurant before shifting to the well appointed modern Oshawa Little Theatre, one might have wondered "Could the afternoon get better?" A moot point as we travelled around the corner to be entertained by a very competent and well-cast musical troupe performing the musical LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. As a retired dentist I was relieved when gruesome dental operatory scenes were omitted from this production.

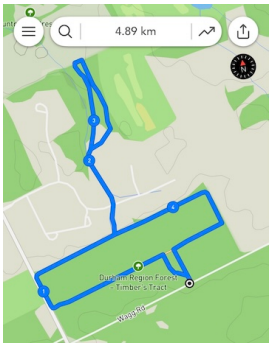


The growth of the voracious plant Audrey 2 to its chilling killing maturity was a prop marvel….. and perhaps had us all returning home to check our gardens, along with the neighbours', and others in the area - plus any sheds - for protective herbicides to eliminate any threats. Yet again? Another triumphant excursion by Probus Uxbridge.

(report by Jim Davis - thanks Jim!)

In November, we will be seeing OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS at Theatre Aurora. We will gather for lunch at State and Main restaurant before the performance. Small Town Theatre members attend matinee performance on weekends in the Durham and York Regions. We gather for lunch together before the performance.

TAKE A HIKE: Coordinator Nancy Melcher



HIKES - "Under new management", we will meet at 9:30 every second and fourth Friday morning to get some exercise, spending about an hour on our local trails covering 4 to 5 km. Snacks afterwards are always a welcome opportunity for fellowship.

TOO PAR GONE (GOLF): Coordinator Albert Fintelman

Too Par Gone Golf group has played every Monday morning in October. On October 5th we had our Finale Scramble at Spring Creek GC. 28 golfers participated and had a great time. The winning team shot a +3! We also golfed at Spring Creek GC on October 19th, and at Golfer's Dream GC on October 12th and 26th.



We're planning to play golf in November - there's going to be scheduled outings until November 16th. We've had a great season and look forward to resuming in the spring!



TWO RIGHT FEET (LATIN DANCING): Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

Two Right Feet is held each Monday. Partners are not necessary. **There is a $15.00 fee per class.**

This group is held each Monday from 3 to 4 pm.

W.A.L.K.S. (WE ALL LIKE KINETIC STROLLING): Coordinator Nancy Melcher

WALKS members are enjoying the cooler temperatures that autumn brings, and we have enjoyed getting back on the local trails. More of those to follow now that the mosquitoes are busy looking for their parkas!

This group usually meets every Monday morning at 9:30.









What happens when?

When I took over the newsletter, and became responsible for updating the interest groups every month, I found it very confusing to keep everything in my mind. I created a calendar to help me remember what happens when. My great thanks to Amber D' Aguiar for making it look much clearer and more professional! After three attempts to send it out to you (did I mention that technology is not my best friend?) I decided to include it in this month's newsletter. Please save this newsletter, or better still print out the calendar for your own use. I will send out an updated version with any new interest groups or time changes.

by Nancy Melcher

Uxbridge Probus Monthly Overview

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK ONE	9:30am W.A.L.K.S.	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)		1pm Kitchen Bridge	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)
	10am Too Par Gone (Golf: Apr - Oct)	1:30pm-4pm Mahjong			
	3pm Two Left Feet (Latin Dancing)				
WEEK TWO	9:30am W.A.L.K.S.	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)	10am-12pm Probus Mtg		10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)
	10am Too Par Gone (Golf: Apr - Oct)	1pm Ladies Bridge	7pm Age Gets Better with WIne (wine club)		9:30am Take a Hike
	3pm Two Left Feet (Latin Dancing)	2pm Memoir Writing			
WEEK THREE	9:30am W.A.L.K.S.	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)	10am Reducing My Footprint	1:30-3:30pm Geneology	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)
	10am Too Par Gone (Golf: Apr - Oct)	12pm Let's Eat Out	7pm Grape Minds Think Alike (wine club)	1-2pm Hand & Foot/Canasta Lessons	1-3pm Handicrafts
	3pm Two Left Feet (Latin Dancing)			2-4pm Hand & Foot/Canasta Games	
WEEK FOUR	9:30am W.A.L.K.S.	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)	2pm Board Games	10am-12pm Lit Happens	10am-12pm Court Jesters (Pickleball: Apr-Oct)
	10am Too Par Gone (Golf: Apr - Oct)			12pm ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)	9:30am Take a Hike
	12pm Monday Lunch Bunch (last Monday of the month)			1:30pm Book Buddies	
	3pm Two Left Feet (Latin Dancing)				

NOTES:

Small Town Theatre *enjoys weekend matinees with lunch*
Lights, Snacks, Action! *(the movie group) meets at various dates and times*

Addition - please add the new **Explorers Group** at the bottom. They will meet occasionally when an interesting outing is planned.

Everyone enjoys a good joke. How about ….

What did one wall say to the other wall?
I'll meet you at the corner.

Why did the Math book look sad?
Because it had too many problems.

I used to have a great job at a calendar factory.
They fired me just because I took a couple of days off!

I told my doctor I was having trouble getting to sleep. He told me to try sleeping on a bed of rice.
I was out as soon as my head hit the pilau!

Why does it take pirates such a long time to learn the alphabet?
They spend years at C.

So, after arguing for over an hour with a man who said I was in his seat, he finally said, "OK, fine, then YOU fly the plane!"

What do you call a snowman with a six-pack?
An Abdominal Snowman!

Orthodontists are set to go on strike next week.
Brace yourselves!

I used to be a baker, but I couldn't make enough dough.

It's the Annual Parasite Convention this weekend, and it's my turn to host …

I wondered why the basketball kept getting bigger and bigger.
And then it hit me!

Why did the scarecrow win an award last fall?
Because he was outstanding in his field.

Why don't scientists trust any atoms?
Because they make up everything.

What do you call a fake noodle?
It's an impasta!

Did you hear about the new restaurant on the moon?
There's great food, but no atmosphere!

What did the grape say when it got stepped on?
Nothing - it just let out a little wine.

Why don't skeletons fight?
They don't have the guts for it.

I only know 25 letters of the alphabet.
I don't know y.

Why couldn't the pirate crew play cards?
Because their Captain was standing on the deck.

My good friend's middle name is David. Sadly, he had all of his ID stolen, so now he is just Dav.