



# HiARA news

Higham Active Retirement Association

Annual subscription is £7 (£3-50 January to March) All meetings are at Higham Memorial Hall, School Lane, Higham. unless stated otherwise

www.higham-kent-pc.gov.uk/hiara

## Monthly Meetings

General meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday of each month from 2 till 4 p.m.  
(Doors open at 1-30pm.) 50p entry to members - £1-50 for guests. (including refreshments)

### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February

**Patchwork**  
*The history and patterns*

Mrs Anita Jones

### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

**An Introduction to Middle Eastern Dance**

Mrs Ann Hall

## Activity Sessions

Entry 50p for members, £1-50 for guests. (including refreshments). Plus tuition fees if applicable.

### February

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February (1-30 - 4-00)

Art Group  
Craft  
Film show  
Cards, puzzles tea & chat

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February (1-30 - 4-00)

Short Mat Bowls with SouthARA  
Cards, puzzles tea & chat

*Note: no Kurling today*

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February (10-00 - 12-30)

Kurling

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February (1-30 - 4-00)

Kurling  
Short Mat Bowls  
Craft

### March

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March (1-30 - 4-00)

Art Group  
Film show  
Cards, puzzles tea & chat

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March (1-30 - 4-00)

Short Mat Bowls  
Kurling  
Craft

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March (10-00 - 12-30)

Kurling

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March (1-30 - 4-00)

Short Mat Bowls  
Kurling  
Craft

## Rambles

**An apology: My apologies for the error in the date of the March ramble given in the January issue. The little grey cells were obviously suffering from the cold. I have done my penance in the naughty chair and will be more careful in future!**  
*Editor* ☺

Unfortunately our ramble for January fell victim to the weather. It was decided that we did not want to risk any broken limbs, and called it off. Janet will have to confirm this when she returns, but we think this is a first cancellation for the rambles.

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

This ramble will be at Cuxton. Car parking is opposite the Cuxton Refuse Centre, meeting at our usual time of 11 a.m. We will have a circular walk, returning to the car park and going on to the Rose and Crown at Shorne for lunch. There is one steep hill and a couple of stiles. As Janet will still be away, if there are any queries, please contact Bill or Percy.

### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April

This month we will do the ramble cancelled in January. Meet in the car park at **Mote Park**, Maidstone, at 11 a.m. for a walk through the park and alongside the river, mainly over tarmac paths. The walk is around three and a half miles and there are no stiles or hills. Lunch will be at 'The Orchard' in Spot Lane at the half-way point around 12.30.

*Non walkers are very welcome to meet up with walkers for the pub lunch.*

*Please note that all rambles walk at their own risk and non-members are reminded that they are not covered by the clubs' third party insurance*

## Notes & Dates for your diary

### The Luncheon club will resume in March.

Thank you so much for all your support in this venture. Keren Wilson will be running future Luncheon events.

### PJ's Party weekend 19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Pick up times and venues TBA

### Fjord cruise in May

Make sure you don't miss the date to pay your **BALANCE** to Fred Olsen **NOT** Brockmans but **please speak to Diana before paying.**

Pick up times and venues TBA

### Ladies day Royal Ascot/ Silver Ring Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Cost £26 pp

Travel, of course, will be extra but a very good company with 16 seater coaches is available. Names to Diana as soon as possible because bookings are going fast.

## HiARA Holidays and Outings

Cheques for outings and holidays should be made payable to **HiARA** Travel. Places for outings and holidays will be reserved only on payment of a non-refundable deposit for each person. Your attention is drawn to the 'Booking Conditions' for holidays and outings displayed on the events table. We must stress that members and guests must be responsible for their own insurance cover.

**Please note: The departure times shown are from the Gardeners Arms unless otherwise stated.**

### Events

*Full details are displayed on the Events table  
All singles are subject to availability*

<b>Day at Newmarket</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Cost	£56 pp
	Deposit (£10)	Now
	Balance due	March
<i>Guided Tour/Museum/Lunch/Racing included</i>		
<b>Race Night (Horses)</b>		<b>Doors Open 6.30pm</b>
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Cost - single	£6.50 pp
	table for 8	£52
<i>Including Fish &amp; Chip supper</i>		
<b>Cabinet war rooms + museum</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Cost	£29.50 pp
	Deposit (£5)	Now
	Balance	April
<b>Kentish Lady Cruise with buffet</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Cost	£23 pp
	Deposit (£5)	Now
	Balance	May
<b>Summer Break – Warners Gunton Hall</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July – 5 days</b>	Cost:	£270 pp
	Deposit (£50)	February
	Balance due	May
<b>Lee Valley River cruise</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Cost	£36 pp
	Deposit (£5)	Now
	Balance	June
<b>Buckingham Palace/Clarence House</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Wed. 1st September</b>	Cost	£41 pp
	Deposit (£5)	April
	Balance	July
<b>Mystery tour with lunch</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Cost	£27 pp
	Deposit (£5)	May
	Balance	August
<b>Wicksteed Show+Lunch+Tea</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Cost	£38 pp
	Deposit (£5)	May
	Balance	September
<b>Turkey &amp; Tinsel – IOW</b>		<b>Depart TBA</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> December 5 days</b>	Cost	£239 pp
	Deposit (£50)	March
	Balance due	October

#### Insurance:

Members are advised to insure themselves against personal accident and injury and their property against loss or damage incurred whilst engaged in any activity organised by this Association. The Active Retirement Association HiARA accepts no liability.

## Roundup

### **A note from the Chair**

Where does the time go, January over already, is it because we are getting older?

After cancelling so many HiARA sessions in January due to the weather and also the car park at the hall was like a skating rink, hopefully we are now back to normality.

It was nice to hear that so many members helped one another during the horrendous weather, perhaps before this happens again it might be possible to get a ring round system going so if people need help they can just pick up the phone and ask for it. Of course, this wouldn't just relate to bad weather it could be for anything else!! (will be discussed in committee)

We have had our first film show and it went down well with the people who attended, so do come and give it a try, we have such a good selection of films for you to choose from.

It was so nice to see you all raring to go at our first main meeting of the year, it was a great success with 130 people attending. Nicki and her team from Marks and Spencer's did very well and so did we - what with all the sampling that went on and the free coffee vouchers given out as well as the three for two food vouchers.

The bring and buy sale tables were packed with items and once again our two Roses took charge. They did very well to raise £130. We hope at our February meeting, we can get someone from the Lion's Hospice down so that a cheque can be presented by the same two Ladies.

You will notice in our Activity Sessions we have given you all more time to come and try other things, so please, if you want a couple of hours out of the house just come on down we would love to see you.

If you can't make it on foot anytime, give me a ring and I will endeavour to arrange transport for you.

The Ice Show was enjoyed by all who went, it was cold in Brighton but we all took advantage of the coffee shops and restaurants until it was time for the show to start.

Don't forget our next event is your Anniversary lunch, so I hope all who go will enjoy the food and ambiance.

The cancelled Short mat bowls with SouthARA will be taking place on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February so, on this date, there will be no other activity in the large hall but of course we can use the small hall, so if you want to come along for tea and a chat etc., we will be available.

A great deal of chat and work took place at our last 'finds washing' morning, Andrew, who took over from Lynn, is very knowledgeable and with James as his back up things are really moving again at the Shorne Archaeological site, the members who are attending are getting a real insight into to what is happening there. Members will be needed at a later date when the digging starts again (so watch Notes for your Diary). From time to time I receive an e-mail from Andrew letting me know things of interest that are happening and when we can attend so I will also be adding these.

Friday's quiz was again well attended and there was a close contest between the top tables. For those members who have put their names down for the KentARA quiz, make sure you have Wednesday March 31<sup>st</sup> reserved in your diary.

*Diana*

Our usual thanks to all our helpers, your efforts are most appreciated and we depend on your continued support.

### **Please direct comments to:**

Diana Wheatley	Chair
Christine Watts	Secretary
Edward Hance	Treasurer
Eileen Rice	Membership
John Wheatley	Events – Vice chair
Edna Smith	Activities
Mary Martin	Publicity
Christine Cavender	Committee Member

Or email us at [higham.hiara@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:higham.hiara@yahoo.co.uk)  
The committee normally meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month