



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 1-35pm.) Entry:- members 50p, waiting list £1, guests £1-50 (including refreshments)

Friday 26th March

An Introduction to
Middle Eastern Dance

Mrs Ann Hall

Friday 23rd April

AGM

Followed by

Social afternoon

Rambles

Our February ramble was a local walk to the Stone Horse and back. The weather was kind to us and the numbers were good in spite of the unfortunate clash with the Anniversary Lunch at the Knowle. Many of the regular rambles also enjoyed a break at Sherborne during February which was great fun and we hope will be repeated next year.

Wednesday 7th April

This will be the **Mote Park** ramble (deferred from January because of the bad weather). Meet in the car park at 11 a.m. for a walk through the park and alongside the river, mainly over tarmac paths. The walk is around 3.5 miles and there are no stiles or hills. Lunch will be at The Orchard in Spot Lane, the half-way point, at around 12.30

Wednesday 5th May

This will be a 'ramble with a difference', recommended by Percy. Timings to be confirmed but the idea is to meet in the car park of Morrison's Store, Gravesend, at around 10.00 and take the bus to **Sevenoaks** to walk in **Knowle Park**. Bus passes will, of course, be needed (pity the poor driver!!). We have had permission from the store manager to use the car park. Watch this space for further details of the walk and timing. If people would rather take their own cars to Sevenoaks (missing the bus ride) they would, of course, be most welcome.

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

Activity Sessions

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

March

Friday 5th March (1-30 - 4-00)

Art Group

Friday 12th March (1-30 - 4-00)

Short Mat Bowls

Kurling

Craft – Easter theme (CD)

Film show

Wednesday 17th March (10-00 - 12-30)

Kurling

Friday 19th March (1-30 - 4-00)

Short Mat Bowls

Kurling

Craft – Shirts for men

Cards, darts, puzzles, tea & chat available at all sessions

April

Friday 2nd April

Good Friday – no Activities

Friday 9th April (1-30 - 4-00)

Short Mat Bowls

Kurling

Craft - Invertaga + Crosses etc

Friday 16th April (1-30 - 4-00)

Kurling

Short Mat Bowls

Craft - Terracota Pots

Wednesday 21st April (10-00 - 12-30)

Kurling

Friday 30th April (1-30 - 4-00)

Quiz

Cards, darts, puzzles, tea & chat available at all sessions (except quiz)

Notes & Dates for your diary

The Luncheon club

10th March at the Railway Tavern – Sole Street

£11 incl. tea/coffee and gratuities – please see Keren

PJ's Party weekend

19th – 22nd March

Pick up times: 10-00 am The Gardeners Arms

10-20 am Overcliffe

Please let Diana know where you are picking up the coach

Fjord cruise in May

Hope you have paid your balance, or just about to!

Pick up times and venues TBA

Ladies day Royal Ascot/ Silver Ring

Thursday 17th June

Cancelled due to lack of support

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*

Day at Newmarket		Depart 07-00
Thursday 15th April	New Cost	£51 pp
Reduced	Deposit (£10)	Now
	Balance due	March
<i>Guided Tour/Museum/Lunch/Racing included</i>		
Race Night (Horses)		Doors Open 6.30pm
Saturday 24th April	Cost - single	£6.50 pp
	table for 8	£52
<i>Including Fish & Chip supper</i>		
Cabinet war rooms + museum		Depart 08-00
Tuesday 25th May	Cost	£29.50 pp
	Deposit (£5)	Now
	Balance	April
Capel Manor Gardens		Depart 08-30
Wednesday 9th June	Cost	£34pp
	Deposit £5	Now
	Balance due	May
Kentish Lady Cruise with buffet		Depart TBA
Saturday 10th July	Cost	£23 pp
	Deposit (£5)	Now
	Balance	May
Summer Break – Warners Gunton Hall		Depart TBA
19th July – 5 days	Cost:	£270 pp
	Deposit (£50)	February
	Balance due	May
Lee Valley River cruise		Depart TBA
Tuesday 17th August	Cost	£36 pp
	Deposit (£5)	Now
	Balance	June
Buckingham Palace/Clarence House		Depart 08-30
Wed. 1st September	Cost	£41 pp
	Deposit (£5)	April
	Balance	July
Mystery tour with lunch		Depart TBA
Sunday 24th October	Cost	£27 pp
	Deposit (£5)	May
	Balance	August
Wicksteed Show+Lunch+Tea		Depart TBA
Thursday 18th November	Cost	£38 pp
	Deposit (£5)	May
	Balance	September
Turkey & Tinsel – IOW		Depart TBA
6th December 5 days	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

I do believe we can begin to look forward to Spring, what with the daffodils beginning to show and the clocks leaping forward at the end of the month, HOORAY for lighter evenings!

Members who attended the anniversary lunch (although lower numbers), had a very nice time but in future, remember to bring a doggie bag!

The hall was buzzing with activities on the 5th February with every bit used for one activity or another. We had Percy teaching us how to play cards, also puzzles, crafts and a film show which members enjoyed and asked for pop-corn next time they come! (any volunteers for usherettes?). Again on the 12th the hall was at it's capacity with SouthARA visiting to play us at bowls, alas we lost but it's good PR work meeting new clubs. Other members and visitors were engrossed once again with all the other activities including darts this time.

I hope you will be pleased to hear we have re-scheduled the cancelled Christmas party – instead of the strawberry tea we have decided to hold a hall/garden party. There will be a hat competition, to be judged by our entertainer (who was booked for Christmas) and Tricia will be supplying the catering so you won't be disappointed with your eats but bring your own wine or beer. Regrettably we are going to have to ask members for a contribution (£5) towards this event having paid out for the food etc at Christmas which, as you know, was put to good use. Come the end of the year of course we will still be having our usual Christmas party.

PJ's party weekend is almost here so we hope you will all have a fabulous time, I do know that some are already getting the drinks in.

Please don't forget 'finds washing' is now almost every Thursday. Andrew only wants about 6/8 at a time so please let me know if you want to come so that I can tell him in plenty of time to order the food.

We wish our quiz team well in the KentARA annual event at the end of the month, so let's see if we can win again!

Our speaker last month brought along many samples of patchwork. She gave us some interesting facts on the history and countries of origin of patchwork and it's various patterns. Afterwards members took a closer look at her work and asked questions.

After the tea break Rose Edwards presented our cheque for £130 to the Eleanor Lions Hospice representative who thanked us saying that it was donations from groups like ours that enabled them to keep taking patients into the hospice.

Diana

We had a record number of applications for the waiting list this year and due to the length of time some people had been waiting to become members, it was necessary to close the waiting list in January.

Future communications in the event of Cancellations

If members are in doubt, they are asked to contact Diana Wheatley, Edna Smith or Eileen Rice. If the committee cancel an event, we will endeavour to let you know.

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
The committee normally meets on the 1st Thursday each month