



# HiARA news

Higham Active Retirement Association

[www.higham-kent-pc.gov.uk/hiara](http://www.higham-kent-pc.gov.uk/hiara)

Annual subscription is £10 (£4 January to March) All meetings are at Higham Memorial Hall School Lane Higham, unless stated otherwise



*Warmest wishes to you all for a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. From us all on your Committee.*

## Monthly Meetings

General meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday each month from 2pm to 4pm.

**Doors open at 1.35pm**

**Entry (including refreshments):**

**Members free, waiting list £1.50, guests £2**

**Friday 25th January**

**Fraud Awareness**

**By Kim Randall**

**Friday 22nd February**

**How to do Everything and be Happy**

**By Peter Jones**

**There will also be a bring and buy sale**

## Activity Sessions

Entry (including refreshments) Members £1, waiting list £1.50, Guests £2

**Sessions are held Fridays between 1.30 to 4.00pm**

**On dates below:**

**January**

**Fridays 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>**

Art Group/Kurling/Craft/Short Matt Bowls

**February**

**Fridays 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**

Art Group/Kurling/Craft/Short Matt Bowls

In case of inclement weather, please contact a committee member.

## Rambles

Now winter is upon us, if the weather is bad, i.e. heavy rain or snow, on the day of a ramble, please call Janet or Percy to check whether the walk will go ahead or be cancelled. Also rambblers are reminded to let Percy know if they are likely to want lunch after his rambles.

Here are our plans for the next couple of months.

**Wednesday 19 December – Local Walk – Rose and Crown, Shorne**

Meet at the top of Villa Road at 11am for a walk, probably on roads to The Rose and Crown. Lunch at around 12.30pm.

**Sunday 30 December – Percy's Detox Ramble – Camer Park**

Walk off all that festive food by joining Percy at Camer Park at 10.30am for a circular walk followed by lunch at The Railway Tavern, Sole Street, at around 12.30pm.

**Wednesday 9 January – Leybourne Lakes**

(By popular request) Meet in the Leybourne Lakes car park at 11am for a circular walk around the lake. Lunch afterwards at The White Hart, Cuxton at around 12.30pm.

**Wednesday 23 January – Local Walk – The Stone Horse**

Meet at the top of Villa Road at 11am for a walk to The Stone Horse. Lunch at around 12.15

**Sunday 27 January – Percy's Ramble**

Meet at St Helens Church, Cliffe for a walk around Cliffe Pools. Back to cars and on to The Red Dog at High Halstow for lunch.

**Wednesday 6 February – St Mary's Island**

Meet at Docks Shopping Centre at the entrance near Clarkes at 11am for a circular walk around St Mary's Island. Back to cars and on to the Tudor Rose, Upnor for lunch at around 12.45

*Non-walkers are very welcome to meet up with walkers for the pub lunch and prior notice would be appreciated. Please note that all rambblers walk at their own risk and non-members are reminded they are not covered by HiARA's third party insurance. If you have any queries about the walks please do not hesitate to give Janet a call on 01474 824221 or 0784988456.*

## HiARA Committee Members

Chairperson	Liz Jeffery	01474 747090
Treasurer	Ian Robinson	01634 718460
Secretary	Joyce Evans	01634 305705
Membership	Jenny Mount	01474 356785
Activities	Rod Stockford	01634 221956
Publicity	Pat Oakshott	01474 822771
Events	Iris Buss	01474 491912
Events	Jan Morriss	01474 822775
Newsletter	George Tharby	01634 221579
Speakers	Sonja Greenwood	07882 896487

If you have any comments, please contact the relevant committee member.

## Outings and Holidays

A good day was enjoyed by those on the Bury St Edmunds Christmas market excursion.

Although it was raining and grim in Higham when we got to Essex and Suffolk the sun came out and we had a lovely bright day.

There were plenty of free samples to be had and a great many festive stalls spread out all over the town.

Stages were set up with brilliant bands and artists performing including carols in the cathedral. Although crowded it was very well managed and everyone of us had a most enjoyable day out, leaving as it just began to spit with rain.

All in all a good day out!

We have planned some good events for next year including a Race Night with fish and chips in March as well as an afternoon tea at the college.

**April** there is an outing to Eltham Palace and Greenwich.

**May** there is a horse drawn boat trip and cream tea with the morning spent in Guildford or Godalming.

**June** there is an outing to Herne Bay and Whitstable with fish and chips.

Please try and support these events to ensure the continued success of the club.

We would be grateful if you could pay when you put your name down as we only have limited time to pay the coach company for each event.

## November Meeting

Guy Bartlett paid a welcome return visit to tell us all things that we didn't know about the aircraft, Concorde. England and France collaborated to build a supersonic jet. Bristol Lindley built the engines and that had a very powerful thrust, the noise was deafening! During this time, Soviet Russia was also developing a similar plane and was four months ahead of Concorde. In 1969, the first test flight took place and orders were taken from all over the world. The blast from the flight passing overhead was considerable and windows all over Southern England were shattered. In a speed race, France flew the plane to Senegal and a British Airways 747 to the Bahamas and return, Concorde won by 11 minutes. The plane has flown more supersonic flights, more than the rest of the world put together. In 2003, Concorde burst into flames, and 113 people on board were killed in the accident. It is interesting that the Soviet plane also caught fire later. Guy has done enormous amounts of research into the crash and does not accept the formal report. His findings have revealed that there were several tons of baggage and 1.5 tons of extra fuel on board, which apparently, the Captain was unaware of, this caused the plane to veer off the runway and catch fire. A very sad ending to a wonderful airplane.

**Pat Oakeshott HiARA Publicity**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the winning team of the quiz held on 30<sup>th</sup> November. The team included Barbara Burns, Brenda Woollett, Sheila Williams, Rod and Trisha Stockford who are now enjoying their prize advent calendars.



The ramblers donned their festive headgear to take a walk in the vicinity of Trottiscliffe early in December. Later they were joined by a number of non-walkers for an excellent Christmas lunch at The George pub.