

HiARA March report.

Welcome to this latest newsletter. We have some very good news this month.

Higham Memorial Hall committee have confirmed the hall is now planning to reopen at the end of June, subject to Government restrictions at that time.

We have confirmed to them that we would like **our meetings to recommence on Friday July 2nd**. Please make a note of this in your diaries. However, plans may change and some members may not have heard about the reopening. **In the week preceding July 2nd, you will receive a telephone call from a member of the Committee who will provide you with the latest reopening information.**

The meeting on Friday July 2nd will be a “chat” afternoon as we are sure you will have lots to catch up with one another. Tea/coffee will be available. Then the following Friday will be activities. However, this will be subject to confirmation nearer the time.

Those of you who “volunteered” to be on the sanitising team, will also be contacted nearer the date for the promised training session. It is now 12 months since we were able to hold our club meetings, so we are expecting a good response when we can start up again.

Ninety-nine paper copies of the February newsletter were sent out to members who were not on the emailing list. The replies received have been positive, appreciative and more email addresses added to our circulation list. All information, past and present can be found on the HiARA website: www.Hiara.org.uk The KentARA/Fred Olsen cruise is now scheduled for 2022 Details follow.

We have noticed that sadly our membership list is declining, due to a variety of reasons. In order for the club to remain an “active” club and to look to the future, we must recruit some new members. So, we appeal to you, tell your friends, neighbours, relations all about what the club can offer. Remember the first four visits are free, which enables people 50+ retired or semi-retired to attend, come along see what’s on offer and if it suits you before committing to a full membership. An application form is on our website and will be available from Jenny at the meetings. When things return to some sort of “normality” we will be doing our day trips, rambles, socials and visits from guest speakers. The Higham Memorial Hall committee will be looking for our support as it reopens to keep up the community spirit in the village. If you are new to the village, you may not be aware of the Club so why not take up this opportunity to join and engage with others from the village and local area. Please think about this and encourage as many as you can. If you have a useful skill or talent which will enhance the club, we would like to know all about that too. If you would like to come “on board” the committee, please let me know.

Some of you may be aware that: Gravesham Borough Council closed the Market Street car park on March 15th and Horn Yard car park closes on March 29th. This is because the new development called “The Charter” will commence building works. Other car parks remain unaffected at present. If you have any news or maybe a favourite recipe you would like to share to members, let me know and we will put in the newsletter. Please note my home phone number cannot accept texted messages.

