

## HiARA May report

This month's newsletter begins with the news that another long serving member, Eileen Ware passed away following a short illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Bill and their family at this sad time. Eileen was a keen crafter, made beautiful cards and loved to crochet. Donations if you wish, to Demelza House. We send all our other members who have been unwell or been into hospital recently our good wishes for a speedy recovery.

We are planning to hold a committee meeting in late June to organise the reopening of the club. I have contacted ShorneARA and Maureen there has said that their club is hoping to open up again in Mid-July, subject to government guidelines at the time and it was reassuring to know that our plans and theirs were on the same lines.

Several members of the club are still performing their marshalling duties at Vaccination Centres. The NHS Staff are very grateful for their help and assistance, which in turn makes their jobs run more smoothly. Another member helped out at the recent elections.

The Rambling group numbers have been good. Keeping the walks local and with the benefit of a refreshments in Higham Village Club's garden upon their return.

If you have any suggestions as to what you would like happen when we start up, please let a committee member know and we will try and accommodate your ideas. Remember it is your club and your ideas will bring enjoyment to others.

Don't forget we will have committee nomination papers available at the first few meetings, so please consider putting names forward. It is difficult to run the club without a full committee. No specific skills necessary, access to emails would be an advantage but not essential. We hold 8 or possibly 9 short meetings usually at the Memorial Hall when past meetings are reviewed, next meetings arranged and any issues or ideas discussed. You never know you may enjoy being on the team, we do and you may find you find yourself taking on a role which may suit you. We look forward to seeing who is nominated.

To end on a hopefully brighter note, I understand the Tilbury Cruise Terminal is going to open up again to cruise ships. A new company has been formed by the Ex CEO of Cruise and Maritime Voyages, which sadly went into administration during the pandemic. The new company is called Ambassador Cruises and will cater for the over 50's market, similar to the ones CMV used to do. But this time the new ships will have all the environmental improvements necessary for the future and the passengers will be able to travel with confidence, their words not mine. The new schedule is out this June and I shall be taking a look to see what they offer. The announcement also said Disney Cruises would be based there as well, but no further details on that as yet.