

LenARA

LEN VALLEY ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – February 2024

ISSUE 161

CHAIRMAN: - John Edwards 01622 858439 Email - edwardsjohn19@sky.com

VICE-CHAIRMAN: - Mike Compson 01622 851763

SECRETARY: Sue Compson 01622 851763 Email - sue_compson@yahoo.co.uk

EMAILS TO: - info@lenara.org.uk

WEBSITE: Mike Compson 01622 851763 Email: - mike.compson@btinternet.com

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone

Well January soon came and went, now into February it's nice to see a little life in the garden, especially seeing the daffodils coming out. It should start warming up now and I'm sure we all have plenty of jobs around the garden needing attention.

PAST EVENTS

Last month we had lunch at the 'Who'd A Thought It' which was enjoyed by many members. I think a lot of us were surprised with the welcome, very good service and good food. It was certainly a good choice of venue and I am sure we will go back there again.

FUTURE EVENTS

The pub lunch this month will be at The Dering Arms, Pluckley TN27 0RR.

The Dering Arms & Pluckley

The Dering Arms was originally an old hunting lodge, built in the 1840's, for the Dering family around the same time as the railway line from London to the Kent coast. Sir Edward Dering, 1st Baronet (1598–1644) was an English antiquary and politician and a supporter of Charles I. As well as politics, Sir Edward had a passion for theatre and held one of the earliest published collections of Shakespeare's dramas. Dering represented Kent in The Long Parliament and was MP for Hythe. He fought, briefly, for Charles I during the civil war and his son Edward, is the 10x great grandfather of Queen Camilla.

References to Pluckley can be found in the Domesday Book, at which time it was a more significant settlement than the now much larger town of Ashford nearby. The village is approximately 5 miles from the M20 motorway and lies on the long distance walking route, the Greensand Way and is close to the Stour Valley Walk. Pluckley's claim to fame is that it was the filming location for the ITV drama series, The Darling Buds of May, with the cast regularly coming to dine and dance at The Dering Arms after wrapping!

Pluckley is also known for its haunted status and has featured in the Guinness World Records Book as the most haunted village in Britain, with many of the ghosts thought to be members of the Dering family! The Dering Arms itself holds mystery and intrigue as some say they have witnessed ghostly figures in the bar, including an old lady dressed in 19th century clothes.

Wednesday 21st February 2024

The Dering Arms

Pluckley TN27 0RR

3 course @ £25 - 2 course @ £20

Coffee - if required @ £2.50

Starters

Spiced red pepper and tomato soup (v)

Dish of shell-on prawns with mayonnaise

Sussex smokie - smoked mackerel in a creamy cheese sauce

Chicken livers, mushroom & bacon cream sauce

Main Course

Fillet of Cod, smoked bacon & garlic pea broth

Pork sage & apple pie

Chicken & red wine casserole

Garlic mushroom gratin (v)

A selection of vegetables & potatoes

Sweets

Vanilla ice cream with hot espresso coffee

Prune & orange compote with Greek yoghurt

Apple, sultana & Calvados shortbread with vanilla ice cream

Isle of Mull Cheddar, grapes, celery, chutney & biscuits.

Lenara Quiz Night

Saturday, 24th February - don't forget our quiz night. There are a few tables left so have a chat with other members, friends and family to make tables of four. This is a good evening for only £2 a person. Bring your own nibbles and drinks and have fun.

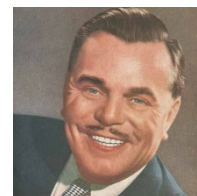
Tina Turner



Thursday, 29th February is the Tina Turner show in London. It seems a long time coming but it is upon us now. Unfortunately we cannot give pick up times yet as we are waiting to hear from Carrs Coaches. We will certainly let you know well before the day so don't worry.

Member's meeting.- Wednesday 28th February

Our speaker for this month's meeting is Katherine Ferry giving us a talk on Billy Butlin, which should be very interesting.



We are at present looking at day trips and holidays and once we confirm dates we will certainly let you all know. As you can appreciate everything has got so much more expensive so we have to take into account the costings and we will do our best for you.

BACK TO SCHOOL AGAIN

As you know we have been involved with Lenham Primary School for some time now. We were asked if any of our members could go along and listen to the children read. Phil Gooda has managed to get eighteen members to volunteer which is most amazing and welcomed by the school. The times for this are the afternoons from 1 pm on school days which will fit in with members' free time. The school will be in touch to let us know when this will commence. So a big thank you to Phil for organising it.

Our weekly events –

Short Mat Bowls	Tuesday	2.00pm to 4.00pm	£3 per session	Phil Gooda 01622 851217
Zumba	Wednesday	9.30am to 10.30am	£6 per session	Chris Godden 01622 858658
Line Dancing	Wednesday	7.30pm to 9.00pm	£4.50 per session	Ann Rolfe 01622 859725
**Petanque (weather permitting)	Thursday	10.00am to 12.00pm	£3.00 per session	John Edwards 01622 858439

**Hopefully we will be getting back to Petanque soon – watch this space!

Our monthly events –

FEBRUARY

Ten Pin Bowling in Ashford	Wednesday 14 th February 2024	11.00am	£7 for two games	Pat Highsted 01622 743658
Quiz Night	Saturday 24 th February 2024	7.15pm	£2 per person – teams of 4.	Keith Varney 01622 850228
Members meeting:-Billy Butlin – Kathryn Ferry	Wednesday 28 th February 2024	2.00pm	Lenham Community Centre	

MARCH

Ten Pin Bowling in Ashford	Wednesday 13 th March 2024	11.00am	£7 for two games	Pat Highsted 01622 743658
Members meeting:-Tax, Care and Toy Boys! – Lisa Lumsden	Wednesday 27 th March 2024	2.00pm	Lenham Community Centre	

APRIL

Ten Pin Bowling in Ashford	Wednesday 10 th April 2024	11.00am	£7 for two games	Pat Highsted 01622 743658
Members meeting: Bygone Kent – Christine Rayner	Wednesday 24 th April 2024	2.00pm	Lenham Community Centre	

Regards John

