



MEPARA NEWSLETTER

April 2024
Year 28
Issue No 01

April Speaker - Colin Harvey - "Kent Remembered"
May Speaker - Fran Sandham - "A Solo Walk Across Africa"

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April's Meeting starts with our AGM.

This is the time for us to review what's happened to MepARA during the last year and to elect our Management Committee for the next year.

Attached to your emailed Newsletter you will find your Management Committee's Report for 2023/24, and some hard copies will be available at the Meeting.

Please read through the report and note down any questions that you would like to raise at the Meeting. It will be helpful if you let me have these on a slip of paper before we start the Meeting.

Subsequently, we will consider nominations of Members to join the Management Committee for 2024/25, and elect appropriately.

Frank Hart

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Reminder: The Annual Subscription of £15 per person is due at the **April** Meeting. Please pay the Membership Secretary

Derek Wager.



Cheese and Music Evening at the Village Hall on the 12th April. - The meal was delicious, then Miss Vintage entertained, and the finale was provided by Club Members taking to the dance floor.



Mepara (Meopham Active Retirement Association)
Meetings 3rd Thursday in month **Next meeting Thursday 16th May 2024**
Village Hall, Wrotham Road, Meopham at 2 pm. Doors Open 1.45 pm
Visitors welcome contact Membership Officer Derek Wager,
Website: www.mepara.weebly.com

MAY BUFFET LUNCH

RADJANI INDIAN RESTAURANT 17-20 London Road West Kingsdown TN15 6DP
Wednesday, 22nd May 2024

12.30 sit down **BUT** PLEASE DO NOT TAKE A SEAT UNTIL NAMES ARE ALLOCATED
BUFFET - Poppadoms : Chicken Korma : Lamb Masala : Chicken Balti and sides
Ice Cream
£20 per head Tea/Coffee Extra

Please add your name to the list. Payment on the day.

Organiser: Carole Wyld

Reminder: APRIL LUNCH - BLUE ANCHOR IN PLATT , Grange Road, TN15 8ND

Friday, 26 April, 12.30 sit down

Organiser: Kathy Harding

MEPARA ANNUAL DINNER MID KENT GOLF CLUB

15 June 2024 -7pm to 11 pm

Please add your name to the list if you are interested.

Menu on Notice Board

Cost confirmed £39 pp

Payment can be made **April BUT latest May** meeting

Organiser: Pam Smith

CRAYFORD DOGS NIGHT

Crayford Greyhound Stadium, Stadium Way, Crayford DA1 4HR

Tuesday 21 May 2024.

£25.95pp inc 3 course meal: Doors open 5.30pm: CASH ONLY at racecourse

First race 6.15pm Last race 9.20pm Own transport - Ask if you need a lift

Organiser: Pam Smith

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

BOOK CLUB: 1st Thursday of month at 2.00 pm. The group meets in members' homes.

Contact Marion Asplin

BRIDGE: Mondays 1.30 for 1.45 pm start. St John's Centre, Meopham

Contact Terry Asplin

KEEP FIT: Thursdays at 10.00 am at Meopham Village Hall. New participants welcome.

Contact Joyce Nidd

SCRABBLE: 1st Monday of the month at 2.00 pm, excluding Bank Holidays. Small Hall (Village Hall site) run by ARAMAD (the other ARA in Meopham). £3 including tea and cake.

Contact Trixie of Aramad

SHORT MAT BOWLS: Wednesdays 12.30 at Meopham Leisure Centre. £3.30 per session.

Contact Alan Donaldson

SHORT TENNIS: Tuesdays 9.30-10.30 Culverstone Village Hall.

Contact Terry Asplin

TABLE TENNIS: Tuesdays 10.30 am Culverstone Village Hall

Contact Terry Asplin

KENTISH LADY LUNCH CRUISE

Thursday, 27 June, 2024

12 noon to 3 pm (including fish and chips)

Make your own way to the departure point at the main mooring located at the rear of the Archbishops Palace in Maidstone town centre (across the road from the High Street). Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to departure.

Cost is £36 per person payable at the **April** meeting please. Please note that as there is a waiting list for this trip, anyone who doesn't pay then will forfeit their place to someone on the waiting list. Many thanks.

Organiser: Lynne Baxter

SUMMER QUIZ NIGHT

at Meopham Village Hall

Saturday 13 July 2024 - 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Teams of up to 8, we'll help to make up teams if short! Family and friends welcome. **Entry £10** including fish and chip supper (Payment due by **June** meeting). Bring your own cutlery, drinks and glasses. Quiz Master - Alan Donaldson.

Sign up/see Jill Hart

Organiser: Jill Hart

Places still available

AFTERNOON TEA WITH DOLLY PARTON

Wednesday 31st July £69.00

*Another visit to the **Tereza Joanne**, and **Carrie- Anne's** tribute to **Dolly's** country music will be great. You will arrive at 11.30am and served with Canapes and a three tier afternoon tea. There is an open bar throughout your time on the **Joanne**. We will leave for Meopham at 3.30pm I will take a deposit of £30.00 in May and the balance of £39.00 in June. Again I require a minimum of 30 so members and friends all are very welcome. List is on table near stage.*

Organiser Iris Thomas

Places still available

JEWELS TOURS/WARNER LEISURE - NIDD HALL - N.YORKS

A MID WEEK BREAK with Coach Travel and Two Outings

4 Nights/5Days Half Board - Monday 21st to Friday 25th October 2024

£50 pp deposit Final payment by **August** meeting

Standard Double/Twin Room £470pp (reduced by Jewels based on numbers)

Upgrades subject to availability e.g. +£120 single occupation, +£30 Signature room

Members' friends welcome

Sign up/see Jill or Frank Hart

Organisers: Jill and Frank Hart

DIARY DATES

2024		01 Jul	Potters Five Lakes Resort, Maldon
26 April	Pub Lunch, Blue Anchor in Platt		
21 May	Crayford Dogs Night	13 Jul	Summer Quiz Night
22 May	Buffet Lunch, Radjani Restaurant	31 Jul	Afternoon Tea with Dolly Parton
	West Kingsdown	21 Oct	Warners Nidd Hall. N. Yorks
15 Jun	Annual Dinner	24 Oct	Kentara Service at Canterbury
27 Jun	Kentish Lady Cruise		Cathedral

For your information:

- All payments over £5 preferably to be made by cheque please
- Please notify change of address, phone no., email address, next of kin details to the Membership Secretary
- **Cancellation policy: Details are displayed on the Notice Board at Club Meetings and on the website www.mepara.weebly.com**
- **Outings pick up points vary - It is IMPORTANT that you check with the Organiser for time and location and you inform them of your intentions**, eg if there is an option where you will be joining the outing. If you have a last minute change of plan please make sure you **speak** to the organizer - an answerphone message may not be picked up in time.
- Riviera Travel offers 10% back to any member that books a holiday through them. **You need to ask for 'Affinity Commission for Mepara' and you must do this at time of booking.**
- **Please remember to bring your cheque book and diary** to meetings to enable payment for outings, holidays and events and to ensure you do not double book.
- **Leaving early? Please SIGN OUT**



**TEA ROTA: Don't forget to take a turn on the Tea Rota.
Contact Vivien Pinder and let her know your availability.**

ORGANISER CONTACT NOS. FOR OUTINGS

Linda Barton
Lynne Baxter
Kathy Harding
Jill/ Frank Hart

Heather Powell
Pam Smith
Iris Thomas
Derek Wager
Carole Wyld

To find out more about Mepara and its events contact the Secretary via the Website or for membership details use the Membership Officer contact form on the Website: www.mepara.weebly.com