



Quarterly Newsletter

KENT ACTIVE

Autumn 2025

NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION



A report from Ian, KentARA Chair:

Things seem to be running very well with all the clubs, with more people asking to join various ARAs. Lynne and I were invited to RainARA to see how they operate with their very high number of members. They have a lovely hall, but no lift to the 2nd floor as it is a listed building. Most members do manage to reach the top.

We also attended the Short Mat Bowls Competition at Ditton Community Hall, which was Sponsored by Dunwood Travel. The trophies were presented by Mandy Hill from Dunwood.

I attended the AGTO AGM at Chatham Dockyard along with Lynne, who sits on their committee to represent KentARA. It was a great day out. If groups wish to arrange a visit it only costs £18 pp at the group rate, you can add extra tours on at an extra rate. Plus, you can organise a lunch for your group in the restaurant. It was a great day out for such a small charge via AGTO.

It is with great sadness that Tony Mulcuck has stepped down as Editor of the Kent Active News. On behalf of all the KentARA Executive Committee and all ARA Members I would like to thank Tony for his very hard work in the past of putting together the newsletters.

Lynne and I were also invited to attend the Plimbley Travel 2026 brochure launch in Weymouth. The hotel, staff and food were excellent. Plimbley have some lovely holidays planned and their staff are great fun, some of you might know them, Janine, Jenny and Amy. They were employed previously by a company that has since ceased trading (Interchoice). Plimbley have also sponsored trophies for the 10 Pin Bowling Competition.

Association of Group Travel Organisers (AGTO) hold familiarisation trips throughout the year; they are always at a very low price. Members can also take a non-member with them. AGTO members are also invited to other regional AGTO groups to see what is on offer in their areas. If you are not familiar with AGTO please contact Kentara Secretary for more information.

Ian



Short Mat Bowls Competition

The Short Mat Bowls was well attended and was a great tournament and a very long day. The very proud winners were MarshARA and the trophies were presented by Mandy Hill from Dunwood.



NK Holidays Coach Hire

Is your Active Retirement Association (ARA) looking for reliable and flexible coach hire for your next outing? NK Holidays is already the trusted choice for many ARAs, and we'd love to help yours, too! We offer comfortable and modern coaches for both holidays and day trips. Whether you need simple transport or comprehensive assistance with planning and money organisation, we can tailor our service to do as little or as much as you require. Make your next trip stress-free for your members and organisers. Call us today on 01795 899099 to discuss your needs!



Chalkwell Park Rooms

SHARA and AARA attended have both attended the Chalkwell Park Rooms at Southend. for an afternoon of great entertainment. It was a VE Day celebration, some people dressed up for the occasion. You can arrive about 11am when the doors and bar open for tea/coffee or something stronger. A two-course lunch is served at 12noon, including tea and coffee. After lunch, enjoy a couple of hours of entertainment from Annie and her friends. Annie Riley is a great entertainer; she does a lot for Veterans Charities and also many others. All of this for a super price of £22 pp plus your coach hire. AARAs coach provider was NK Holidays and our total price for meal, entertainment and coach was £44, how reasonable is that. Google Annie Riley or email:- annie@varietycollective.co.uk



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KentARA 10 pin Bowling Tournament

**Thursday 13th November 2025
Medway Valley Leisure Park. Rochester
ME2 2SS**

The cost is £9.25 per player.

Teams of 3 players
(Mens, Ladies or Mixed)

Maximum of 4 Teams per ARA, subject to demand.

The closing date for entries will be Thursday
8th September 2025

STARA are organising the event so please
Contact cazjonwhite@virginmedia.com to
register your interest

The competition will be held on Thursday
13th November at Hollywood Bowls.

Association News



Thank You

We would like to thank Tony Mulcock for all his fantastic work on compiling the Kent Active, but sadly had resigned from the position, which is a job he has done for many years. It is not an easy task by any means, but Tony always managed to get enough content to fill the Kent Active. I am sure members would like to thank Tony and wish him well for the future.



Kent Active News

Kelly who works for NK Holidays has kindly offered to compile and edit the Kent Active for us. If you could send anything you would like to have included in the Kent Active, please could you send your article to kentarasecretary@outlook.com This could be a great holiday destination or day trip that you feel other ARAs would enjoy.



Entertainment Secretary

It is with sadness that Terry Marsh is standing down as Entertainment Secretary for family reasons, I am sure everyone would like to join in with many thanks for taking up the position, although only for a short while.

Lisa Cousins will be taking over as Entertainment Secretary with immediate effect. Please let Lisa know of any good, bad or otherwise of any entertainer or speaker that you think should have a mention, or those that you would not recommend. You can contact Lisa via email - sharasecretary@gmail.com Lisa will also email the entertainment / speaker list to all ARAs, so please make sure your information is up to date.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTACT DETAILS

Position	Name	Number	Email
KentARA Chair	Ian Sharp	01233 501372	ianjsharp49@aol.com
KentAra East Vice Chair	Ian Sharp	01233 501372	ianjsharp49@aol.com
KentAra West Vice Chair	Ray Craddock		raycraddock@gmail.com
Secretary	Lynne Sharp	07930 357680	kentarasecretary@outlook.com
Membership Secretary	Chris Godden		rrgodden@btinternet.com
Entertainment Officer	Lisa Cousins		sharasecretary@gmail.com

Thank you for reading!
