

The Link



*October Newsletter
2024*

www.barcpen.org.uk

*Visit our website for
more information*

WELCOME!

Since our July newsletter we have had so many new members join us! Absolutely fantastic to have all those applications, thank you. Please keep them coming we still have room for more.

One point most commonly raised is that in this very technical age it does seem antiquated to request payment by cheque. We often hear "I don't have a cheque book!" or "why don't you let us pay online" Online payment is reliant on correct information being provided at the time of the booking, believe me this can be a problem but we really need the physical application to set up the event. Online payment is impracticable when organising attendees for multiple events and refunding if an event is cancelled would be a logistical issue too. Whilst cheques seem outdated they can be destroyed if a cancellation takes place, refunding maybe 100+ people who have paid online would be a huge time consuming task for our committee members.

Are you aware you can order a cheque book through your online banking or by speaking to your bank direct? When using a card reader to sign into Online banking with Barclays Bank for instance under "Manage Accounts" > "Order" > "Order Cheque Book" you can get a new cheque book in a week. I have just ordered one it came in less than a week. We hope to see you soon at an event of your choice.

Christine Graham
Editor

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I hope you all managed to enjoy the summer! I think our expectations are too high these days and perhaps we should revise our ideas of what to expect in summer. Hopefully, the same goes for winter when we continue to see much less snow than we experienced during our childhood. From my perspective though it seems the only constants are the grey skies and rain. Just heard on the radio that September was the wettest on record and sadly that has led to more and more floods around the country. However, when the sun does shine it's great to live in this beautiful country.

I would like to thank you all for supporting the Committee at the AGM in agreeing that we could make a change to the Constitution to try to expand our membership. We have been delighted with the response from ex colleagues who didn't meet the bank's criteria for membership but were keen to join the Club as Associates. As a result, we are seeing a change to an upwards trajectory in our membership and are now close to 1000 members. Our next target is to get more of you to sample the various events on offer throughout the year. I would welcome any thoughts you might have on other events that we could add to our various offerings which might appeal to our membership. The Committee can't think of everything!! Just send me an email or speak to one of the Committee.

Back to nature. It's October and the leaves are already falling off the trees. The clocks will soon move back to GMT with the night's drawing in and the distinct possibility of frosts. To cheer you up we have a lunch later this month with a great turn out expected and, of course, the Christmas lunch in December which, we hope, will live up to last year's event. We're working on some surprises for you and hope for a record attendance. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet with old friends and colleagues in a convivial environment and I hope to see as many of you as possible there.

Roger Alexander

IMPORTANT LUNCH BOOKING MESSAGE

If you are planning to come to the Christmas lunch, please don't leave it until the last minute to send in your application. The post these days can be unpredictable so a late posting could mean missing the cut-off date. Please note that cheques are not banked until after the closing date.

The Christmas lunch is the biggest and best so looking forward to seeing as many members and guests as possible on December 19th

See next page for the Christmas Lunch Invite

Please return the form below together with your cheque to: Leona Johnson, 3 Well Yard, Northampton, NN2 6QX **no later** than
Thursday 21st November 2024

XMAS LUNCH – THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER 2024

The lunch will be held at the Mercure Northampton, Silver Street, Northampton NN1 2TA. The bar will be open at 11.45 for lunch at 12.40pm. The cost will be **£15 for members in categories 1-3 and £25 for category 4-5 members** (see below for categories). Members may nominate ONE person or couple they wish to sit near to. It must be stressed that this cannot be guaranteed. Members' requests will be noted as far as possible and all seats will be allocated. A table seating plan will be available in the foyer before the lunch. A member can take ONE guest. **NB:** No acknowledgements will be sent out. If you are unable to attend the lunch once booked, no refund will be available.

Menu

Winter Vegetable Soup with crunchy garlic and herb croutons

Traditional Roast Breast of Turkey, Sage and onion stuffing, pigs in blanket, roast potatoes, sprouts, carrots, parsnips and pan gravy

Vegetarian Option

Portobello Mushroom, Beetroot & Chick Pea Wellington Marmite Roasted Potatoes, Maple Glazed Carrots & Parsnips, Brussel Sprouts, Red Wine & Rosemary Sauce

Traditional Christmas pudding accompanied by brandy Sauce or Fresh Fruit Salad

Coffee or Tea with Mints

Any special requests such as vegetarian, gluten free etc. can be catered for if ordered at the time of making the application. Contact: Leona Johnson Tel 01604 718181 or Bob Hancox 07850763983

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

PENSIONER MEMBERS

1. Those in receipt of a Barclays UKRF pension, which was taken either at retirement from active service with Barclays; on Flexible Retirement; or on the grounds of ill health.
2. Former Barclays staff aged 50 or over, with a minimum of 15 years' service, who are in receipt of a Barclays UKRF deferred pension.
3. Those in receipt of a widow's, widower's or partner's pension from the UKRF in respect of a pensioner who qualified for Club membership under 1 or 2 above.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

4. A spouse or partner of a Pensioner Member.
5. Former Barclays colleagues and their spouses or partners, who are not Pensioner Members.

Lunch – Northampton Town Centre Hotel, Thursday 19th December 2024

Name of Member (please print) _____ Name of Guest (please print) _____

Categories 1-3 - I enclose cheque for £ _____ (£30 for myself/guest, £15 for myself only).

Category 4-5 - I enclose cheque for £ _____ (£50 for myself/guest, £25 for myself only).

Please make cheques payable to Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners Club. NB Cheques will be presented at least 3 weeks before the lunch

If this is your first attendance at a club function, please tick _____

I wish to be seated next to: _____

Any Dietary Requirements: _____

COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee Mornings at the Mercure Hotel



Wednesday Nov 20th Dave Askew

Dave worked for Barclays for 25 years from 1977 to 2022 and builds it into his talk. He started in Horncastle, Lincs, then went to London and has been in Northampton ever since 1981. He runs Northamptonshire Walks and organises walks for people of all ages and abilities.

The room we use is the Hertford Suite 1 which is open to us from 9.45 with tea, coffee and biscuits. Please help yourselves to refills. The talk will commence at 10.30 followed by the raffle.

There is no charge, and members are welcome to bring a guest with them. If you come by car, please remember to key in your car registration number to avoid receiving a fine.

I look forward to seeing you.

Pat Smith

Future coffee mornings - calendar for 2025

March 20 th	Jean Ridley	Guide Dogs
May 15 th	Rob Kendall	Rennie Mackintosh & 78 Derngate
July 17 th	Alaric Neville	Phipps Brewery
Sept 11 th	Doug Goddard	Northampton Through Time
Nov 20 th	To be advised	

TRIP INVITE: LONDON (Coach only)

Wednesday 27th November 2024

£10.00 for Members in categories 1 – 3 and £12.00 for category 4-5 Associate Members

A day in London for shopping, sightseeing, leisurely lunch, the choice is yours. Drop off in Hanover Square, near to Carnaby Street, Oxford Circus, Liberty's and Hamleys. We hope to leave a bit later so that we can have a tour of the Christmas lights, subject to traffic conditions and the driver's agreement.

The coach will leave Christchurch Road (Abington Park end) at 8.30am and Sixfields (road in front of Bella Italia car park) at 8.50am
Please be prompt. Please be aware of parking restrictions at Sixfields Return - leaving London at 6pm.
Please indicate at which pick up point you will be waiting.

NB: No acknowledgements will be sent out. Once booked, if you are unable to make the trip, no refund will be given.
If you are interested, please complete the attached response slip and return it to me by **Monday 18th November**, together with your cheque, made payable to: **Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners' Club**

Janet Holt
01604 756093
Mobile (for use on the day) 07762 701 985
Janet Holt, 3 Hall Close, Duston, Northampton, NN5 6EU

LONDON (Coach only) – Wednesday 27th November 2024

Please reserveplaces as listed below: £..... or £.....**dependant on the category of each person attending.**
Please make cheques payable to **Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners' Club**

PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITALS NAME OF MEMBER OR GUEST
Cat 1-3 £10 PENSIONER MEMBER NAME:
£10 GUEST NAME:
Cat 4-5 £12 ASSOCIATE MEMBER NAME:
£12 GUEST NAME:

MOBILE TELEPHONE NUMBER: (in case contact needed on the day)

PICK UP POINT: (Please tick) **Christchurch Road**.....**Sixfields**.....

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

PENSIONER MEMBERS

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3. Those in receipt of a widow's, widower's or partner's pension from the UKRF in respect of a pensioner who qualified for Club membership under 1 or 2 above.

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Invitation

Barclays Carol Service

Monday, 09 December 2024

Southwark Cathedral

London Bridge

London, SE1 9DA

You are invited to join the Barclays Carol Service at London's Southwark Cathedral on Monday, 09 December at 12:00. Southwark Cathedral is a five-minute walk from London Bridge station.

This Christmas service will feature a selection of carols and performances from Barclaybrass, the Barclays Reach Choir and Southwark Cathedral Choir. Light refreshments will be available at the end of the service.

Agenda

11:45 - Guest arrivals

12:00 - Service

13:00 - Light refreshments

14:00 - Close

All current and retired Barclays employees are welcome. You don't need to register but for any questions, please reach out to Lauren Thomas using the details below.

For further information, please contact:

Lauren Thomas

Events & Hospitality

lauren.thomas@barclays.com

+44 (0) 7385 535 351

Trip invite Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market 6th December 2024

£10.00 for Members in Categories 1 -3 and £12.00 for Category 4-5 Associate Members

The City of Winchester Christmas Market is set in the grounds of the famous Cathedral, with 100 wooden chalet style stalls and a food court.

The Cathedral will be open to visit from 1.30 as there is a service in the morning. There is an entrance fee to the Cathedral of £12.00, payable on the day at the Cathedral, should you want to go inside.

The coach will leave at 8.30am Christchurch Road. (Abington Park) 8.45 at Sixfields (road in front of Bella Italia car park).

Please be aware of Parking Restrictions at Sixfields.

Return 4.00 pm.

Please indicate at which point you will be waiting

NB: no acknowledgments will be sent out, once booked, if unable to make the trip no refund will be given, if you are interested, please complete the response slip and return by Monday 25th November. Together with your cheque made Payable to Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners Club

Cindy Antell

Mobile 07759909823, 95 Yelvertoft Rd, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, NN2 7TQ

WINCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET DECEMEBER 6TH

Please reserveplaces as listed below: **£10 or £12 dependent on the category of each person attending.**

Please make cheques payable to **Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners' Club**

PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITALS NAME OF MEMBER OR GUEST
Cat 1-3 £10 PENSIONER MEMBER NAME:
£10 GUEST NAME:
Cat 4-5 £12 ASSOCIATE MEMBER NAME:
£12 GUEST NAME:

MOBILE TELEPHONE NUMBER: (in case contact needed on the day).....

PICK UP POINT: (Please tick) **Christchurch Road**..... **Sixfields**.....

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

PENSIONER MEMBERS

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BARCLAYS CAMPUS (BARCLAYCARD) BRACKMILLS

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Our contacts on the Campus have invited us to more up and coming events at Barclaycard. See below for the schedule and dates.

PLEASE NOTE ALL EVENTS HELD IN THE BUILDING ARE FOR RETIRED STAFF ONLY. UNFORTUNATELY, GUESTS CANNOT ATTEND UNLESS THE EVENT IS BEING HELD OUTSIDE

23rd October 2024: Northamptonshire Day 10am-3.00pm

Details of this event now confirmed so come and celebrate with local food & drink traders, representatives from the Saints, Cobblers and The Royal & Derngate Theatre. (Remember only card payments on site)

7th November 2024; Remembrance Service at 11am - Guests arrive at 10.30

Remembrance service to be held on the patio, seating provided for those not able to stand.(So let me know when you register please) For this occasion, members can bring a guest as the ceremony will be held outside. The Service of Remembrance will include all the members of the armed forces. The Last Post and Reveille will be sounded. Choir members of local schools and cadets from the Northampton International Academy (Royal Navy) will also be part of the Service.

N.B. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND BEFORE 25TH OCTOBER

FOR ANY OF THESE EVENTS PLEASE LET ME HAVE YOUR DETAILS STATING:

- EVENT
- NAMES AND NUMBERS OF PEOPLE ATTENDING
- TIME OF ARRIVAL
- CAR REGISTRATION IF YOU REQUIRE PARKING

(All you need to do once registered is just turn up on the day and remember to bring some form of picture ID. i.e. Passport, Driving Licence or Bus Pass (**Sorry no ID no entrance.**))

Enjoy and see you there.

Contact me - Pauline Hodgson either by e-mail brackmills.activities@barcpen.org.uk

or Text on 07854 531592

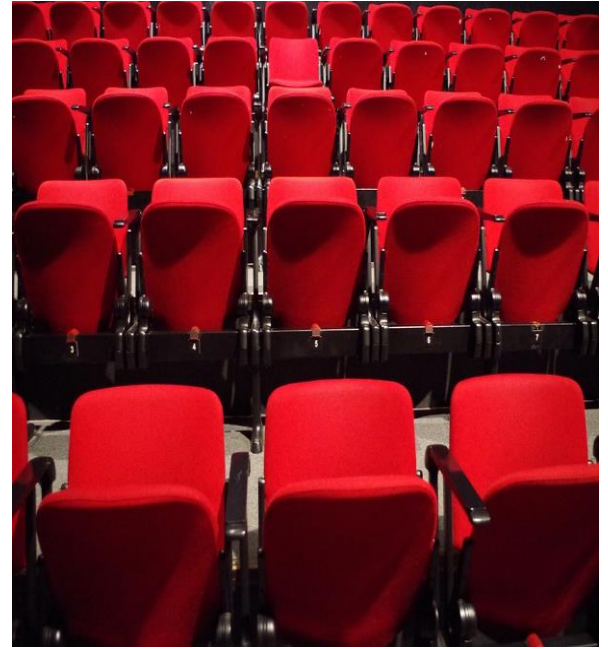
Winners of Theatre Tickets

July - Carol Mayhook and Pat Leahy

August - Adrienne Nixon and Trevor Martin

September - Jean Salem and Patricia Sizer

Each month names are drawn for a voucher worth £50
to use towards tickets for the Royal and Derngate.



TRIP TO SANDRINGHAM



We all had a lovely day out in July at the Sandringham Flower Festival, the weather was glorious! With so many beautiful flowers and stalls to see plus a wander around the gardens, having lunch in the cafes or taking a tour around the Castle it was a great day out and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

NEW MEMBERS



Due to recent membership rule changes we had received an overwhelming response which is wonderful! We are so excited to welcome these new members to our club and look forward to meeting you all very soon!

Linda Ashton, Val Aldridge, Russell J Knibbs, Bill Wilson-Slight, Susan Smith, Liane and David Reynolds, Sandy Scotney, Anne Jones, Michael and Tanya Lambert, Hansaben Panchal, Julie Dickenson, Yvonne Keller, Roger Knowles, Paula Birrell, Rosemary Kerrou, Claire Janet Riome, Jill Goodman, Fiona Lomasney, Deanne Mott, Diane Carter, Valerie Green, Dawn Everson-Watts, Robert and Sue Page, Sue Dowson, Anne Matthews, and Elizabeth Smith.

If you know someone who would like to join our retirement club please contact our Secretary Sandra Russell (secy@barcpn.org.uk) or anyone of the committee!

See last page for the application form.



OBITUARIES

We are very sorry to report the deaths of the following members

Our condolences go to their family and friends

Tina Avil wife to David Avil passed away on the 26th August after a short illness, she is greatly missed by their daughters Vicki and Leanne and sister Sarah. Tina worked at Northampton Barclaycard for 26yrs, where she met David. Many will remember her from Auth and Lost and Stolen. A celebration of Tina's life will be held as a special memorial tribute on Friday 25th October at Great Houghton Village hall, if anyone wishes to attend please let the family know on the email address tinasccelebration@yahoo.com to allow catering numbers.

Christina Maure-Gautry passed away 26th June.

Audrey O'Connor sadly passed away July 11th.



A Bank Workers Charity representative Samantha Wright is attending the October Lunch. She will make herself available to speak to anyone who feels they need to seek support or advice on any matters arising from financial or personal issues.

If you were not at the lunch but feel you need help or advice you can contact the BWC at any time, they will do their utmost to help you.

The charity is funded by all Banks including Barclays.

Helpline – 0800 0234 834

Website www.bwcharity.org.uk

CONTACT INFORMATION

Roger K Alexander <i>Chairman</i> chair@barcpen.org.uk	Sandra Russell <i>Secretary</i> Phone 01327-843295 secy@barcpen.org.uk	Christine Graham <i>Editor of 'The Link'</i> thelink@barcpen.org.uk 07753118005
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Important information regarding joining the Club re our application form

The Retirement Club is funded by The Bank. The Club can only apply for funding per member and per member attendance at any event for those members in category 1-3.

All applicants need to be aged 50 and over. A Barclays Pension is part of the Barclays Bank Retirement Fund (UKRF).

"Pensioner (Full) Member": Categories 1-3: You need to be in receipt of Barclays Pension, OR your pension is deferred and you worked for the Bank for at least 15yrs OR you are the widow or widower of a pension member and in receipt of a partners UKRF pension.

"Associate Member" You have transferred your pension out OR a partner to a member OR didn't complete the qualifying length of service, you can apply under category 4-5.

Barclays Bank do not fund the Club for these members. For these reasons we have introduced a two tier charging for events.

Any questions please contact Christine Graham - details above

BARCLAYCARD RETIREMENT CLUB APPLICATION

Mrs. S. Russell, Secretary
7 Ashmore, Long Buckby, Northampton, NN6 7RT
Tel. 01327 843295. E mail: s.russell338@btinternet.com

NAME:

Mr/Mrs/Miss (Please Print) _____

Full Post address (Please print) _____

_____ Post Code _____

E Mail Address _____ Home Tel. No. _____

Mobile Tel. No. _____

As required under the Data Protection Act, I hereby consent to the Club holding personal information for the express purpose of furthering the social and welfare aims of the Club.

An **eligible** member – **please tick one of the following**

1. Those in receipt of a Barclays UKRF pension, which was taken either at retirement from active service with the Bank, on flexible retirement or on the grounds of ill health OR
2. Former staff of the Bank aged fifty (50) or over, with a minimum of fifteen (15) years' service, who are in receipt of a Barclays UKRF deferred pension OR
3. Those in receipt of a widow's, widower's or partner's pension from the UKRF in respect of a pensioner who qualified for Club Membership under either of the above criteria
4. **Associate Member** can be the spouse or partner of an existing Pensioner Member or
5. **Associate Member** - Former Bank Colleagues, aged fifty (50) or over, and their spouses or partners who do not qualify for membership under the above criteria. (Associate Members are not entitled to any subsidies for some Club events).

If there is any doubt as to the eligibility for membership of any individual or group of individuals the Committee's decision in the matter shall be final.

Signature _____

Please return this form to the address at the top of the letter with your cheque for your Membership Fee of £10.00. payable to Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners' Club **OR** alternatively you can pay £10. by bank transfer, the details are: Barclays Bank, sort code 20-61-51, a/c no. 00076414 (please insert your name in the reference field).

SEE NOTE ON PREVIOUS PAGE FOR EXPLANATION OF ABOVE CATERGORIES