

The Link



barclaycard
Retirement Club

Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Retirement Club

Christmas Newsletter 2025

www.barcpen.org.uk

*Visit our
website for
more
information*



Editors Note

Great news for the Christmas lunch we will have our very own Card Pay App to pay for raffle tickets!

It's that time again, seeing family and friends and sharing happy days. Not everyone is fortunate enough to have people around them. We know some lives may be affected by loneliness, ill health or isolation. Please don't be alone reach out to us or the Bank Workers Charity. See page 5

Have you any ideas for days out in 2026? Let us know! Are you on your own so don't like to attend an event we put on? Let me know? See my details on the last page. I would like to try to help our members to meet others in a similar situation and maybe make new friends.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year

Christine Graham - Editor

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Well as I write this, in mid-November, I have just had to scrape ice off my windscreen for the first time this Autumn! I hope that it warms up again soon or else it will be a long Winter.

Anyway, let's forget the weather and focus on our Christmas lunch which is not far away now. We are expecting over 200 again this year which will be excellent. I'm really pleased to tell you that you'll be able to pay for your raffle tickets using a credit or debit card this year. As the saying goes, 'we have the technology' which hopefully will be in perfect condition to accept your 'tap and go' contactless payment. This, of course, is in addition to cash which we are still very happy to accept. This is a one off and currently we have no plans to accept card payments for any of our other activities.

This year some of the participation in our other activities has not been at the levels we expect and, unfortunately, we have struggled to cover our costs on at least 1 occasion. We don't know why but presume that we may not be providing the appropriate type of activity and/or charging too much. I'm pretty sure the latter is not the case as our pricing is certainly ultra-competitive with other organisations who offer similar tours. These are commercial entities and if they are under cutting our tours we are doing something wrong. ***So, we need your help. At the Christmas lunch you will find questionnaires on all the tables which we would really appreciate you completing. There is a carrot! We will draw 1 questionnaire at the end of the lunch for a generous prize! Thank you in advance.***

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas lunch and would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas.

Take care and keep warm

Roger Alexander



COFFEE MORNING



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

The calendar for 2026 all a Thursday with the exeption of the March date:

March 18 th Wednesday	Alan Marchant	Bletchley Park Codebreakers
May 21 st	Roy Smart	Wallis Simpson & Royal Family crisis
July 16 th	Jonathan Pittam	Preventative Wellbeing for Longevity
Sept 17 th	Nick Cooke	Great Train Robbery 1963

LUNCHES DATES FOR 2026 all a Thursday

16th April, 18th June, 15th October and Christmas Lunch 17th December

Where has the last year gone? Time for the Christmas lunch already?

We are looking forward to catching up with our colleagues and friends, sharing lunch with over 200 members and guests. It is always a happy and friendly event, rounding off a busy year for the club committee

It will be a busy day the hotel car park can fill up quickly however there is a car park nearby.

A bumper raffle again, don't forget to buy your tickets!

We hope our members and guests have a fabulous lunch, and we wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a happy and healthy 2026

Leona and Bob

Winners of Theatre Tickets

October: Ann Penn, Dot Ellis and Dipesh Ghelani

November: Angela Collins, Beryl Garside and Marilyn Daniels

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



We are pleased to welcome new members: **John Wardell** has taken over his late wife's membership, we look forward to seeing you at one of our events soon. Also joined are **Sara (Sally) Patmore** and **Linda Murfitt** great to have you join us!

If you know anyone wishing to join see the application on our website www.barcpen.org.uk or see the back page of this newsletter.

OBITUARIES

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

Our condolences go to their family and friends



Christine Anne Richardson Died on 13.10.2025 aged 85

Lynda Middleton passed away September 11th 2025

Dorothy Brown passed on 19th September, **Phyliss Goodman** died 29th September

Pat Aboellil Hamza passed away 26th Aug, she had lived in Egypt for many years

Pearl Kirwan sadly died 24th September

Barclays Bank Retired Staff & Wendy Wu Tours - Exclusive Member Discount

Wendy Wu Tours have been working with a couple of Barclays Bank Retired Staff groups across the UK with some success. As a Club we are now excited to announce that we have also teamed up with Award-winning tour specialist Wendy Wu who wish to extend this offer to our members.

Wendy Wu Tours is the UK's Number 1 Japan & China Specialist and have been mastering the art of escorted touring for over 25 years.

The company have a range of group tours which span over 40 countries worldwide covering sensational destinations in Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe and South Africa.

To find out more visit www.wendywutours.co.uk

As an exclusive offer to the Barclaycard Retirement Club Members they are offering a 5% discount. To redeem this discount please quote at booking the code **BBRSA5**

To book call our reservations team on 0808 3046 343 or email Keith Norman at keith@wendywutours.co.uk

SEASON OF GOODWILL TO ALL



Christmas time can be a lot of things to different people. Some of us may be alone without family or friends so it may not always be a happy time for everyone. If you know of a person alone at Christmas don't forget them, maybe show you care by giving them a bit of your time. Of course we also have a very committed team at the Bank Workers Charity, pass the details on to any one you may know who needs help, all they need to qualify is to be working or have worked for a Bank. It can be that easy. Take care and look after yourself.

We are here to support you as well should you need us

Bank Workers Charity helpline number 0800 0234 834 www.bwcharity.org.uk

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES FOR TRIP and LUNCHES

PENSIONER MEMBERS

- 1 Those in receipt of a Barclays UKRF pension, which was taken either at retirement from active service with Barclays; or 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.

Willis Towers Watson – Pension Helpline – call 01737 227567 – you will need your NI number and your staff pension ID number to identify yourself before they will discuss the reason for your call.

Visit our website www.barcpen.org.uk for all the past Link newsletters, lots more information, membership info and contact details. Pass this our website details onto a friend who may want to join.

Don't forget to tell us if you move address, have a new email or phone number.

Last month, after a contact review exercise, we lost many members due to not having valid contact details on our database.

Don't let it happen to you.

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 07753 118005
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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).