

The Link



Spring Newsletter 2026

www.barcpen.org.uk

*Visit our
website for
more
information*

Editors Note

Last issue we mentioned there may be a CardPay facility for the purchase of Raffle Tickets. Unfortunately, this did not materialise, though we now plan to have this facility available for the next lunch. So look out for that should you not have any cash on you!

We would ask that you arrive for lunch in plenty of time allowing the chance to buy Raffle Tickets in the **front reception area** before you sit down for lunch at 12.30pm. We would hate you to miss out on the chance a raffle prize, so get there early! Thanks

Christine Graham

Editor

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I can't say I have enjoyed the start to 2026. The weather has been pretty awful and opportunities to get out and about for some exercise severely limited. However, it's so important to be positive and look forward as we move into February and to take some time out to plan your activities with the Club this year many of which are documented in the following pages. As always we look forward to seeing you at our various events this year.

Those of you who are on the mailing list for the Bank's Connection magazine may have noticed that this no longer provides details of Obituaries. This is a great shame as many of our members see this as useful information about ex colleagues. We decided to investigate further to see if this is a permanent move by the bank and I thought you might be interested in their response:

'We understand how important the obituary section is to members of the Barclays Bank UK Retirement Fund (UKRF), as it helps us remember colleagues and friends and pay our respects. Your feedback matters greatly to us, and we want to reassure you that every decision we make is with members' best interests in mind.

The decision to move this section from the magazine to the UKRF website was made carefully, with the aim of improving our service, not reducing it.

Moving online allows us to:

- . Provide timely updates - names can be added as soon as we have verified death notifications we receive, rather than waiting for the next magazine edition*
- . Ensure accuracy - updates and corrections can be made quickly, helping us keep the list current*
- . Maintain privacy and security - as the obituaries are available only to members with login access to the website, this ensures privacy, security and respect*
- . Offer continuity - online access means the list is available year-round, not just when the magazine is published.*

This change also supports the Trustee's broader ambition to encourage members to use our secure online services. Over time, we aim to reduce reliance on print and paper, helping to protect the environment while continuing to provide essential information in ways that suit members' needs.'

Whilst I can understand the rationale for the change, I am also aware of the issues facing some members who are not comfortable with online services. The bank is aware as well and welcomes feedback.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this year's events and, somewhat belatedly, wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful 2026.

Roger Alexander

Please return the form below together with your cheque to: Leona Johnson, 3 Well Yard, Northampton, NN2 6QX
No later than Thursday 19th March 2026

APRIL LUNCH – THURSDAY 16TH APRIL 2026

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 **£16.00 for members in categories 1-4 and £28.50 for category 5 members** (See member categories on the last page) 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

Main

Slow Roasted Shoulder of Pork, Roasted Potatoes, Glazed Carrots & Green Beans, Rosemary Sauce

Vegetarian Option

Quinoa Stuffed Peppers with Glazed Goats Cheese, Garlic & Herb Roasted New Potatoes, Carrots & Green Beans, Pesto Cream

Dessert

Chocolate Profiteroles with Chocolate Sauce

Coffee or Tea with Mints

Any special requests such as vegetarian, gluten free, allergies etc. can be catered for if ordered at the time of making the application.



Lunch – Mercure Hotel, Silver St. Northampton Thursday 16th April 2026

Name of Member (please print)

Name of Guest (please print)

Categories 1-4 - I enclose cheque for £_____ (£32 for myself/guest, £16.00 for myself only).

Category 5 - I enclose cheque for £_____ (£57 for myself/guest, £28.50 for myself only).

See member categories on the back page

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:

Any Allergies:

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT MERCURE NORTHAMPTON 2025



Christmas Lunch Update

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas lunch at the Mercure Hotel in December.

The lunch was enjoyed by 210 members and guests.

Our chairman Simon Taylor attended and gave us a brief chat, outlining the success of Barclaycard / Barclays during 2025 and looking forward to a successful 2026 and beyond.

The lunch was enjoyed by all, excellent food, excellent service and a lovely Christmas atmosphere. Carol organized a brilliant raffle, giving lucky ticket holders the opportunity to choose one of over 80 prizes.

We are sure the new members and associate members attending for the first time enjoyed the day and we hope to see you again not only at Christmas but at any of the other 3 lunches during the year.

We are pleased to see so many members and guests at Christmas but would be pleased to see you at any of the lunches during the year, or any of the activities the committee organize. The club is supported by Barclays, which use the number of active members to decide on the amount of the grant given to the club, so the more the merrier!

The feedback given by members agree the lunches are excellent value for money but unfortunately due to the ever-rising cost of hospitality the decision was made to increase the price of lunches in 2026 to £16.00, however we feel still very good value for money.,

There is plenty of time to apply for a lunch after the application is sent out so it is easy to forget, but please send in your lunch application as soon as possible as any applications received after the cutoff date are unable to be accepted. (*Contd next page*)

..... Last year we shared the hotel foyer with a team of very well-dressed ladies from Cynthia Spencer Hospice, using the room opposite for their Royal Ascot Ladies Day experience to raise funds for the hospice. A few of our lunch attendees showed an interest and bought raffle tickets. I am pleased to say the ladies will be there again on the same day in April and will be pleased to see any of us showing support by buying raffle tickets for a very good cause, close to the hearts of Northamptonians.

Therefore, there will be an opportunity to support our club and Cynthia Spencer by buying raffle tickets from both Carol and the ladies from Cynthia Spencer.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the lunches in 2026!

Leona and Bob

Coffee Morning at the Mercure Hotel Wednesday 18th March

Alan Marchant – Bletchley Park Codebreakers



Alan Marchant will talk to us about the work of the people, mainly young women, who worked as code breakers during world war 2. This is a very interesting talk which reminded me of the trip our club did to Bletchley Park several years ago.

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 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

Winners of Theatre Tickets

December : Pamela Pettit, Derek Vance, Angela Liversedge, Carol Bell

January : Bob Maryan, Margaret Southgate, Jane Brown

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

BARCLAYS BANK, BARCLAYCARD RETIREMENT CLUB
ELECTION OF OFFICERS – NOMINATION FORM

To reach the Secretary at the address given below by 27th March 2026

NOMINEE NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS _____

I am willing to offer myself for election to the

position of: _____

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE: _____

PROPOSER NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS: _____

SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER: _____

SECONDER NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS: _____

SIGNATURE OF SECONDER: _____

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SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE: _____

PROPOSER NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS: _____

SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER: _____

SECONDER NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS: _____

SIGNATURE OF SECONDER: _____

MRS S. K. RUSSELL, SECRETARY, BARCLAYS BANK, BARCLAYCARD RETIREMENT CLUB
7 ASHMORE, LONG BUCKBY, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 7RT.

BARCLAYS BANK, BARCLAYCARD RETIREMENT CLUB
NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of members of Barclays Bank, Barclaycard Retirement Club will be held at the Mecure Hotel, Silver Street, Northampton on the afternoon of Thursday 16th April 2026 immediately following the lunch notified separately. The time of the start of the meeting should be approximately 2.00 pm.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the forty-first Annual General Meeting of Members held on 17th April 2025. (Copies available at the meeting or by request)
2. Chairman's report
3. Adoption of the Accounts
4. To elect our President, Simon Taylor
5. To elect the following Officials

Chairman	Roger Alexander
Secretary	Sandra Russell
Treasurer	Richard Miller
Auditor	Pete Capon

And to elect the following Committee Members

Cindy Antel
Carol Bell
Aileen Breay
Christine Graham
Bob Hancox
Pauline Hodgson
Janet Holt
Leona Johnson
Carol Mayhook
Pat Smith
Derek Vance
Graham Wheeler

Nominations duly proposed and seconded, to appoint a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor and twelve Committee Members ARE REQUIRED TO REACH THE SECRETARY BY 27th March 2026 to allow for proxy voting.

Sandra Russell
Honorary Secretary

PROXY VOTING FORM

I being a member of the Barclays Bank, Barclaycard Retirement Club, hereby appoint the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting of the Club held on Thursday 16th April 2026, and at any adjournment thereof, as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf in the respect of the Resolutions referred to in the Notice of Meeting. I wish my proxy to vote as indicated.

RESOLUTION

Please tick as appropriate:-

For Against

1. To receive the Minutes of the 2025 AGM, Chairman's report
and adopt the Accounts _____

2. To elect the President _____

3. To elect the following Officials: For Against

Mr. Roger Alexander	-	Chairman	_____
Mrs. Sandra Russell	-	Secretary	_____
Mr. Richard Miller	-	Treasurer	_____
Mr. Pete Capon	-	Auditor	_____

4. To elect up to 16 Committee Members

	For	Against		For	Against
Cindy Antel	_____		Leona Johnson	_____	
Carol Bell	_____		Carol Mayhook	_____	
Aileen Breay	_____		Pat Smith	_____	
Christine Graham	_____		Derek Vance	_____	
Bob Hancox	_____		Graham Wheeler	_____	
Pauline Hodgson	_____				
Janet Holt	_____				

THIS FORM MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE SECRETARY BY 27TH MARCH 2026

Members are reminded that the Constitution as it stands at present requires a quorum of 25 members at the AGM and 10% of the members are required to vote either in person or by proxy on any resolution. Please attend if you possibly can, but if you cannot, PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO MRS. S.K. RUSSELL, SECRETARY, BARCLAYS BANK, BARCLAYCARD RETIREMENT CLUB, 7 ASHMORE LONG BUCKBY, NN6 7RT. Signature
.....Membership Number: _____ (QUOTED ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD).

PLEASE DO NOT SEND BACK THIS FORM IF YOU ARE GOING TO THE AGM.

CHAIRMANS AGM REPORT

2026 marks the 60th Anniversary of Barclaycard. To those of you who were involved from Day 1, my congratulations. What an incredibly successful business and still going strong as a global brand.

I think it's appropriate to say that 2025 was another excellent year for the Retirement Club. We have expanded the Committee, following agreement at last year's AGM to change the constitution, and it's good to see some new younger retirees at the committee table.

We had a full calendar of events last year. Our Coffee Mornings continue to be well supported and are an excellent way of meeting friends and colleagues. We had 5 events during 2025 covering a diverse number of interesting local topics. The talk about Queen Eleanor was particularly interesting as there are only three remaining medieval crosses still standing the country. These mark the funeral procession route for Queen Eleanor of Castile (Edward 1's wife) in 1290. We were also privileged to receive an excellent presentation from the local Fire and Safety Officer. Since the talk, many of our members have benefitted from having a home visit, from the Fire Brigade, to fit smoke alarms. I should also mention further local input from Derngate Renee Mackintosh and Phipps Brewery, both fascinating talks and relevant to our town.

We have undertaken a review of our membership data base to ensure that it is up to date. As a result, we have removed a number of members where we have lost communications and, as a result, our membership has been reduced to just over 900. As last year, our key objective is to increase the number of active members. We provide an extensive range of events that we hope appeal to you all but last year only 249 members (slightly higher than 2024) were 'active' ie attended one or more of the events. We are only too aware that there are many valid reasons why some of you can't join us for the various events. However, we would be delighted to see you if you are able to participate. Additionally, and importantly, if you have any thoughts on events of any type that would appeal to the membership, please let one of the committee know.

Finally, and importantly, please join me in thanking the Committee who once again this year have worked extremely hard and diligently to provide you with an extensive programme of events. They are all volunteers and give a lot of time to ensure you can avail yourselves of one (or more) of the events available throughout the year.

Take care, stay safe, and thank you

Roger

CRICKET TICKET APPLICATION 2026

This year there is a change to the tickets we can offer you. In 2025, out of 31 requests from our members for tickets, only 5 members (initially it was just 2 before we re-advertised) showed an interest in the County Cricket 4 day matches. Therefore, we have decided to offer tickets to the Vitality Blast T20 matches only as these are the most popular. We are still looking forward to some exciting cricket and have purchased 8 tickets for each of the T20 matches again this year.

If you would like a chance to receive one of these tickets then place a tick against the matches you are interested in, if you have a preference for a particular game then please indicate 1st choice, 2nd choice etc. and I will try to accommodate people wherever possible.

I can only allocate ONE ticket in order to spread the allocation to as many members as possible. If any match is oversubscribed or there are any spare tickets, I will hold a draw to allocate these. (Aileen Breay)

Tickets are open to all members however full members will be given priority. Associate members will be charged £15 per ticket for any tickets allocated to them.

Allocations will be announced in the April edition of “The Link” with tickets being sent out to members in time for the first T20 match in May.

ALL completed forms must be returned to me by the 20th March 2026

NAME (Block Capitals)..... Tel No.

ADDRESS:

.....

Return to: Aileen Breay, 88 Station Road, Cogenhoe, NN7 1LU

Northampton Vitality Blast T20 Mens Fixtures 2026

Date	Visitors	
22 nd May	Glamorgan	
29 th May	Gloucestershire	
9 th June	Worcestershire	
26 th June	Essex	
5 th July	Somerset	
12 th July	Warwickshire Bears	

TRIP INVITE: TRENTHAM

DATE: THURS 10TH MARCH 2026

£20 for Members in categories 1 – 3

£23 for categories 4 - 5 Associate Members.

Driver's tip included.

Please see the following page for the membership categories.

Details of trip: TRENTHAM SHOPPING VILLAGE, HISTORIC HOUSE AND GARDENS: A memorable shopping destination featuring over 80 picturesque timber lodges, home to a vibrant mix of well know High Street names. Together with beautifully maintained gardens and house. The price of admission is included in the price. (Please note that there will be a comfort break en-route)

The coach will leave Christchurch Road (Abington Park end) at **8.30 am** and Sixfields (road in front of Bella Italia car park) at **9.00am** **Please indicate at which pick up point you will be waiting.** Return : 4pm.
(For parking at Sixfields please visit www.yourparkingspace.co.uk)

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 response slip below and return it to me by 28th February, together with your cheque made payable to: **Barclays Bank (Barclaycard) Pensioners' Club.**

Cindy Antell

Mobile: 07759 909823 (for use on the day)

Adress: 95 Yelvertoft Road, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 7 TQ

PLEASE KEEP THIS PART FOR YOUR REFERENCE

CUT.....CUT

TRENTHAM:

Please reserveplace(s) as listed below:

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

PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITALS NAME OF MEMBER OR GUEST

Cat 1-3 £20 PENSIONER MEMBER NAME:

£20 GUEST NAME:

Cat 4-5 £23 ASSOCIATE MEMBER NAME:

£23 GUEST NAME:

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

.....

PICK UP POINT: (Please tick)

Christchurch

Road.....Sixfields.....

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES FOR TRIPS 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.



We are pleased to welcome new members:
Tracey Thompson, Karen Chapman and Bernadette Nicholls
it's so great to have you join us!

On our website is the Membership application if you know anyone else who wants to join: www.barcpen.org.uk



OBITUARIES

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

Our condolences go to their family and friends

Maureen Druce passed away on the 27th November 2025, aged 83. Many remember Maureen with great fondness when she worked with them in the fraud department in Northampton. Maureen's funeral took place at Ravensthorpe Church just before Christmas.

Doreen May Palmer, aged 92 who died on 26th December 2025

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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