

BRIGHTON SPREAD EAGLES

Barclays Group Pensioners' Club

Chairman – David Stedman, 8, Toronto Close, Durrington, West Sussex BN13 2TD – 01903 267479 (07928 935599)

Secretary – Cyn Fleetwood, 16, Winterton Way, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 5RE – 07789 807116

Social Secretary – Don Semmons, 47 Cecil Road, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 8HP – 07989 120049

August 2026

Dear Member,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to what will hopefully soon be a cooler time.

The coffee mornings continues at Café Quench, George Street, Hove, on the first Thursday of each month (excluding December) from 10.15 am.

The three upcoming events that are detailed below include the visit to Michelem Priory, the theatre trip to see Barnum at the Congress Theatre in Eastbourne and the Christmas Lunch.

There will be visits to Cineworld arranged by Dave over the next few months and further details will be sent out as soon as the cinema issues the lists of available films.

Don Semmons
Social Secretary & Treasurer.

Wednesday 9th September

Visit to Michelem Priory including a cream tea.

Discover History and Hospitality at Michelham Priory.

Step back in time for an unforgettable day out at Michelham Priory, home to England's longest continuous water-filled moat. Nestled deep in the picturesque Sussex countryside near Upper Dicker, this stunning historic site offers eight centuries of fascinating history, beautifully preserved gardens, and a tranquil escape from the everyday rush.

On arrival and after a short comfort break, at 1.30pm, we will have a guided tour through the historic house. Step inside rooms restored across different eras, unearth secrets of the Augustinian canons who founded the priory in 1229, and hear intriguing tales of the prominent families who have lived there over the centuries.

After the tour, you can at your leisure, wander through beautifully tended kitchen gardens, vibrant flower borders, and historic features—including a 14th-century gatehouse and a restored working watermill. The gardens, ground floor of the house, barn and courtyard area are all accessible. If you wish you can even feed the ducks that reside in the moat!

At 3.30pm we will conclude our outing with a quintessential British treat at the delightful Blue Door Barns Café. Settle into the rustic ambiance and enjoy a freshly baked scone served with rich clotted cream, sweet fruity jam, and a pot of freshly brewed tea or coffee.

Whether you are a local history enthusiast, a garden admirer, or simply looking for a relaxing day trip with fantastic food, this outing promises a wonderfully memorable experience.

Coach will depart from Hove Town Hall at 12.00pm and St Helens Church, Hangleton at 12.15pm

We should be back in Hove at about 6.00pm

Cost of the is £42.50 for members and £50.00 for guests.

Thursday 22nd October

Barnum at the Congress Theatre Eastbourne followed by afternoon tea.

Step right up and enter the dazzling world of P.T. Barnum, where imagination and ambition know no bounds. Hand in hand with wife Charity, Barnum's life and career twists and turns as he schemes and dreams his way to headier heights.

Matt Rawle (Cabaret, Evita, Les Misérables) will take centre stage as the legendary 19th century showman P.T. Barnum. This spectacular production directed by Jonathan O'Boyle and choreographed by Oti Mabuse will feature an extraordinary ensemble cast of over 20 actor-musicians, acrobats and amazing circus acts.

Come follow the band with the glorious music of multi-award-winner Cy Coleman, Michael Stewart's lyrics and Mark Bramble's book. Barnum features a whole host of classic show tunes including Join the Circus, Colours of My Life, Come Follow the Band and Love Makes Such Fools of Us All.

This show includes smoke, haze, gunshots, fire, loud noises, flashing lights, moments of darkness, balloons and clowns, and contains depictions of racism, slavery and the exploitation of human and animal performers in the nineteenth century entertainment industry.

After the show, we use the lifts to get to the Orwell Rooms for our afternoon tea.

We have booked 40 seats in the stalls.

Coach will depart from Hove Town Hall at 12.45pm and St Helens Church, Hangleton at 1.00pm

We should be back in Hove at about 7.30pm

Cost of this event is £75.00 for members and £90.00 for guests.

Thursday 3rd December

Christmas Lunch at The Alfriston Hotel

We return to our favourite venue for this year's Christmas Lunch. A reminder that this is situated at Alfriston Road, Seaford, BN26 5TW, and you are all invited to attend this popular function, arriving at **midday for 1 p.m.** As usual the menu will be varied with a choice of starters, main course, and desserts. (The menus are not yet available, so these will be sent out to the successful applicants in October) A wine service will be available at your own expense.

Dress code is smart casual.

I will also send out with the menus your requests for seating arrangements with your colleagues.

As usual, the price has been subsidised for members and, together with the now much anticipated FREE raffle and other games, this event is very well worth attending and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

We have organised a **FREE** coach for members and their guests. This will start at Lancing Grinstead Lane at 10.30 a.m. and will make its way along the coast road (A259) through Shoreham, Southwick, Portslade Station, Hove Town Hall, St Helens Church Hangleton and Withdean Stadium before arriving in Alfriston by about 12.15 p.m.

Lancing - Grinstead Lane	10.10 am
Shoreham - High Street (Co-op)	10.20 am
Southwick – Coast Road by Guild Care	10.30 am
Portslade – New Church Road (Boundary Road end.)	10.35 am
Hove Town Hall	10.45 am
St Helen’s Church Hangleton	11.00 am
Brighton - Withdean Stadium	11.30 am
Saltdean – Chichester Drive East	11.55 am
(All times are approximate, so please be at your pick-up point in good time)	

For the return journey, the coach will leave Alfriston at approximately **4.30 p.m.**

**THIS IS THE MOST POPULAR EVENT OF THE YEAR.
WE ARE RESTRICTED TO 120 PEOPLE,
SO PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.**

Cost of this Lunch is £35.00 for members and £45.00 for guests.

(Reminder that the menus will be sent out in October when you can make your choices)

Below are the application forms for the next three events, with a reminder that if you wish to apply to go on any of them, you can **EITHER**:

Complete the attached application form and post it to Don, enclosing a cheque.

OR

Send an e-mail to don@brightonspreadeagles.co.uk giving the name of the trip and the number of places required, and then making payment by either internet banking transfer or by Bank Giro Credit to - Sort Code: 201275; Account Number: 20002038; Account Name: ‘Barclays Group Pensioners Club’,

If you chose to apply by e-mail, Don would acknowledge your application, and the money can be transferred at any time up to 3 weeks prior to the event.

A reminder that no refunds will be issued after you have booked an event unless no funds have been paid out in advance by the Club. In any event no refunds will be issued if cancellation occurs within two weeks of the event.

**ALL Application forms to be sent to:
Don Semmons, 47 Cecil Road, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 8HP (07989 120049)
Separate Cheques, payable to Barclays Group Pensioners Club, for each event please.**

✂ _____

Wednesday 9th September
Visit to Michelem Priory including a cream tea.

I/We _____ would like to attend @ £42.50 each = £ _____
with _____ guests (Names please) @ £50.00 each = £ _____
Total = £ _____

Telephone Number _____

I/We would like to get on the coach at.....
(Hove Town Hall – St Helens Church, Hangleton)

✂ _____

Thursday 22nd October
Barnum at the Congress Theatre Eastbourne followed by afternoon tea.

I/We _____ would like to attend @ £75.00 each = £ _____
with _____ guests @ £90.00 each = £ _____
Total: = £ _____

Telephone Number _____

I/We would like to get on the coach at.....
(Hove Town Hall – St Helens Church, Hangleton)

✂ _____

Thursday 3rd December
Christmas Lunch at The Alfriston Hotel

I/We _____
_____ would like to attend @ £35.00 each = £ _____
with _____ guests (Names please) @ £45.00 each = £ _____
Telephone Number _____ Total: = £ _____

I/We would like to get on the coach at.....
(Lancing - Grinstead Lane, Shoreham - High Street , Southwick – Coast Road by Guild Care, Portslade –
New Church Road (Boundary Road end), Hove Town Hall, St Helen's Church Hangleton, Brighton -
Withdean Stadium, Saltdean Lido)