

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 – 01903 535587 (07989 120049)

January 2026

Dear Member,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and ready to join in with some or all the events that have been organised on your behalf by myself and other members of the Committee.

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

A full list of the events that have been arranged for you this year appears at the bottom of this newsletter. It is also available on our website.

The first event of the year will be the popular 'Shuffleboard Afternoon', that this year is being held on Thursday 26th February at Sussex County Cricket Club, Eaton Road, Hove BN3 3AN. The shuffleboard will be followed by an afternoon tea.

This year, the AGM will take place on Thursday 5th March at Brighton & Hove Golf Club, Devil's Dyke Road, Brighton BN1 8YJ, and the details are below. If you would like to attend, but have no transport, just complete the application form showing that you require a lift, and it will be arranged. A separate sheet with the Notice of the AGM is included with this newsletter. We are seriously looking for new members to join the committee, so please give this your best attention.

We are aware that these first 2 events, together with the visit to Cineworld on 2nd March are very close together, but we have decided to go ahead and hope that you will be able to support the Club with your attendance at one or more of these events.

The ever popular 'Dog Stadium' lunch is on Sunday 26th April at the Coral Stadium Hove.

See below for further information and the application forms for these events.

Graham has organised a Ramble for the 21st of May. It will be a circular walk over flat ground of around 3 miles between the lovely villages of Alciston and Berwick, following footpaths with some of the best views of the South Downs in the County. More details by email nearer the time.

Please put this in your diary now, so that we have a good gathering for our first ramble of the year.

We do intend to have more rambles this year despite the weather playing havoc with our best arrangements last year. Again, we would ask **if anyone would like to take on the role of organiser for one of these rambles, please let me know**

For those members interested in the financial aspects of the Club, the 2025 accounts are available to view on the web site and will be available at the AGM. Copies are available upon request to the Treasurer. As most of our grant is calculated by the number of members attending events, it does help us financially if you were to attend at least one event during the year. Needless to say, with our ever-reducing number of members, it is important that you try and come along to a coffee morning, cinema or ramble during the year – PLEASE!

Our decision to return to 'Deans Place' now called 'The Alfriston' was a complete success with 125 members and guests enjoying a wonderful afternoon at the newly refurbished hotel.

Dave Stedman has recently sent out details of our first visits to Cineworld this year and will be sending out the details of further Cineworld visits as soon as they are known.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET ME HAVE A NOTE OF YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO SAVE ON POSTAL COSTS.

Paper copies of last year's Social Secretary's Report are available upon request to the Social Secretary.

A full copy, including photographs appears on our web site.

Don Semmons
Social Secretary & Treasurer.

Thursday 26th February
Social afternoon tea with Shuffleboard Tournament.

This event is being held at the Sussex County Cricket Club and is simply a social meeting where we will have an afternoon tea and for those that wish to join in, a shuffleboard competition will be held during the afternoon.

We have arranged for the English Shuffleboard Company to come and set up a very informal tournament for us. Participation is entirely voluntary and as it can be played with virtually no physical effort, it should suit everyone!! Prizes will be on offer for the winners and in some cases the losers.

There is a large car park at the Cricket Club, and **the event will start at 2pm**. We would expect the event to be **finished before 6pm**.

Cost of this event is £20.00 for members and £30.00 for guests.

Thursday 5th March
Annual General Meeting followed by a Two Course Lunch at Brighton & Hove Golf Club, Dyke Road, Brighton

Coffee will be served in the bar from 10.30 a.m. followed by the AGM at 11.00 a.m. Lunch will be served at 12.00 noon, and the bar will be available for drinks before and after the AGM.

The lunch menu appears below and please make your choices and include them in your email or paper application.

The Notice to Attend, that includes the agenda, is enclosed with this newsletter. A copy of the minutes of the 2025 AGM and a copy of the 2025 Accounts are also attached. We are looking for new members to join the committee this year, so please see the Notice to Attend for more information.

There is a large car park at this venue. The event should finish at about 2.30pm

If you would like to attend the AGM and require a lift, or are willing to give others a lift, please complete the relevant section on the application form below.

Cost of lunch is £20.00 for members and £25.00 for guests.

Sunday 26th April

Lunch at the Coral Greyhound Stadium

We are returning to the Coral Stadium in Hove to watch live greyhound racing whilst at the same time enjoying an excellent 2 course lunch served at your table. You select your choice of menu on the day. The Skyline restaurant gives you a clear view of the track. **Drinks are included in the cost of your ticket.**

The first race will start at 2.23pm, so please aim to be there at about 1.30pm. The final race will be around 5.45pm. However, if you are not interested in the racing and would like to come just for the meal, that is fine. Parking is free in the large car park in front of the stadium.

As an additional and voluntary item, for those of you who know little or nothing about betting on dog racing, Don is willing to make the bets on your behalf and share any winnings with you at the end of the event. You may, of course join in with this arrangement even if you are a betting expert! A contribution of £10 would allow a bet to be placed on the first 10 races, so that you would have an interest in the results throughout the afternoon.

Please be aware there is no cash machine at the dog stadium, so for your betting, you will need cash!!

**Cost of this event is £25.00 for members and £35.00 for guests.
Optional betting £10 per person.**

The remaining events for 2026:

First Thursday each month (ex-Mar & Dec)	Coffee Mornings at Café Quench George Street Hove
Monday 26th January	Cineworld Brighton Marina - Song Sung Blue
Thursday 26th February	Shuffleboard Afternoon at Sussex County Cricket Club, followed by tea.
Monday 2nd March	Cineworld Brighton Marina - Wuthering Heights
Thursday 5th March	AGM and Lunch at Brighton & Hove Golf Club
Monday 30th March	Cineworld Brighton Marina – How to make a Killing
Tuesday 21st April	Spring Golf Meeting at Royal Eastbourne Golf Club
Sunday 26th April	Meal at the Greyhound Stadium Hove with optional betting.
Thursday 21 st May	Ramble organised by Graham Clark
Wednesday 10 th June	Afternoon Tea at Riverside South Downs Café, Houghton Bridge, with optional boat hire,
June	Cineworld Brighton Marina
July	Possible visit to Chichester Festival Theatre
Thursday 23rd July	Lunch at Sussex County Cricket Club, followed by Don's 'House of Games' Quiz TBC
Wednesday 9th September	Visit to Michelem Priory with guided house tour and Cream Tea
September	Autumn Golf Meeting
Thursday 22nd October	Barnum at the Congress Theatre Eastbourne followed by tea.
November	Cineworld Brighton Marina
Thursday 3rd December	Xmas Lunch at the Alfriston Hotel

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.

AGM Lunch Menu.

Please make your choices and mark the application form accordingly.

Main:

(A) Pot Roasted Chicken Supreme

With roasted new potatoes with a mushroom, mustard and tarragon cream sauce grilled tender stem broccoli

(B) Pan Seared Salmon

Served on a pea and tarragon risotto with roasted cherry tomato and grilled tender stem broccoli and fresh pesto

(C) Pea and Tarragon Risotto

Served with roasted cherry tomato and grilled tender stem broccoli and fresh pesto

Dessert:

(A) Lemon Meringue Pie

With fresh raspberry and Chantilly cream

(B) Banoffee Mess

With fresh banana, whipped cream, toffee, biscuit and chocolate

(C) A Selection of Cheese & Biscuits

With chutney, celery & grapes

**ALL Application forms to be sent to:
Don Semmons, 47 Cecil Road, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 8HP (01903 535587)
Separate Cheques, payable to Barclays Group Pensioners Club, for each event please.**

✂ _____

Thursday 26th February
Social afternoon tea with Shuffleboard Tournament at Sussex County Cricket Club

I/We _____ would like to attend @ £20.00 each = £ _____
with _____ guests (Names please) @ £30.00 each = £ _____
Total = £ _____

Telephone Number _____

✂ _____

Thursday 5th March
Annual General Meeting followed by Lunch at Brighton & Hove Golf Club

I/We _____ would like to attend @ £20.00 each = £ _____
with _____ guests @ £25.00 each = £ _____
Total: = £ _____

Menu Choices:

For.....Mains..... Dessert.....

For.....Mains..... Dessert.....

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS/ALLEGIES.....

Please delete as appropriate:

I/We would like to have for a lift to this event.

I/We are happy to offer a lift to other members to this event.

Telephone Number _____

✂ _____

Sunday 26th April
Lunch at the Coral Greyhound Stadium

I/We _____ would like to attend @ £25.00 each = £ _____
with _____ guests (Names please) @ £35.00 each = £ _____
Optional Betting @ £10.00 each = £ _____
Total = £ _____

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS/ALLEGIES.....

Telephone Number _____