

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2018 No 345

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

Tel: 01234 350681

March Walk - Bruce Price, Wednesday 14 March 2018

Twelve walkers met at the Crown Inn located in Little Staughton on a cold, windy but sunny day. After the usual formalities of ordering food, the group set off along a bridleway in a southerly direction to head for Wickey Farm, passing West End Farm to our right. It quickly became apparent that we were in for a very muddy walk. Passing Wickey Farm we picked up another bridleway to head for a collection of farms before crossing a road that led to Keysoe Row. The group headed in a northwesterly direction using a church spire as a beacon. Going under foot was hard work, due to the fact that the field was planted with an arable crop. Passing Temple Farm we headed northeast to a copse situated on top of a hill. After passing the copse the group headed downhill to cross a small stream using a bridge made up a single plank of wood, avoiding being snared by thick brambles. The group then headed back to Little Staughton for lunch. The walk was measured at 4.9 miles.

See: www.krose.plus.com/ARA_walks/ for details of this route and earlier walks

April Walk - Trevor Turvey - 11 April 2018

This walk will be at Ridgmont, Bedfordshire. Please meet at the Rose & Crown 89 High Street, Ridgmont MK43 0TY at the usual time of 10:15 for a 10:30 start..

Retirement Club AGM - 6 March 2018

The 2018 AGM was held at the Horse and Groom public house in Clapham. The future of the ARC was discussed and voted on. The full minutes of the meeting are appended to this newsletter.

RAES Meeting

Wednesday 11 April, 18:30, ARA Social Club

Bedford Branch AGM & Lecture on Mathematical Modelling the Search for MH370 presented by Dr Nira C. Chamberlain C.Math FIMA CSci

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 11 April, 10:15

March walk - Ridgmont

Wednesday 11 April, 18:30

RAES Meeting

Please send any copy for publication to me by the 15th of the month, Keith Rose
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**MINUTES OF THE 28th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ARA
RETIREMENT CLUB HELD AT THE HORSE & GROOM, CLAPHAM
TUESDAY 6th MARCH 2018 7.30pm**

Members Present: Bruce Price, Ebb Smith, Trevor and Christine Tumber, Marylyn and Ray Wood, Gerry Pauley, Christine Lock, Tony Dickason, George Paterson, John Scott, Dick Smith, Andy Gronkowski, Ollie Tyson.

In the chair Bruce Price

Apologies for Absence

Keith Rose, Emrys Batchelor, Mike Lock.

Approval of the Minutes of the 26th AGM,

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

During 2017 the Committee organised the following events:

- Ten monthly walks to take during the course of the year.
- A visit to Bedford School Planetarium in February.
- The Annual Lunch/ AGM in April.
- A visit to the Military Intelligence Museum in May.
- Marylyn and Ray Wood Garden Party event in July.
- A visit to the Panacea Society in September.

As the year progressed, it became apparent that the number of ARA pensioners attending each event was reducing in number, such that there were more 'guests' than ARC members. The Annual Lunch/AGM was attended by only one member who was not on the Committee. In view of this the Committee will not be organising any events for 2018 and the continuation of the ARC has been called into question. The future of the ARC will be decided at this AGM.

Treasurer's Report

AIRCRAFT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION RETIREMENT CLUB (ARC) – ACCOUNTS 2017 – 2018

	DATE	DEP/REC	BANK	CASH	TOTAL	COMMENTS
BALANCE B/F			413.51	28.48	441.99	
ARC LUNCH 2017	20/04/17	171.50	547.01	66.48	613.49	
ARC LUNCH 2017	20/04/17	(172.50)	412.51	28.48	440.99	
ARA CONTRIBUTION	20/04/17	100.00	512.51	28.48	540.99	
INTEREST	30/06/17	0.22	512.73	28.48	541.21	
INTEREST	30/12/17	0.26	512.99	28.48	541.47	
R WOOD (NEWSLETTER)	15/01/18	(93.06)	435.15	13.26	448.41	
ARC AGM FOOD	26/01/18	(90.00)	345.15	13.26	358.41	
BALANCE C/F			345.15	13.26	358.41	

The History of the ARC

Gerry Pauley gave an interesting talk on the history of the ARC, explaining how it began and the activities that took place in earlier years. These included regular games evenings, snooker matches and monthly meetings held at the ARA Sports and Social Club. For a number of reasons, support and interest in the ARC has waned over the years. Compounded by the lack of access to information on new pensioners (as a result of BAe taking over the ARA pension fund), the future of the Club is now in doubt.

The Future of the ARC

Bruce Price stated that due to the declining numbers attending ARC events and the general lack of interest, the Club should be disbanded. He explained that members had been contacted prior to the AGM to advise them of the proposal to wind up the ARC. Only 2 people had contacted the committee to express their interest in the Club continuing.

Marylyn Wood provided further insight into the difficulties the Club will encounter in the future in its lack of ability to access information on new ARA retirees or to receive notifications of deceased ARC members. She suggested that if it is agreed to close the Club a final newsletter should be sent to all current ARC members in the Autumn. The newsletter would explain that whilst the walks and informal Seniors meetings (organised by Tony Dickason) would continue, the ARC would be disbanded.

Information on the Christmas Buffet will be provided in the BAe Pension Booklet.

Vote to Disband

The motion to disband the ARC was proposed by Marylyn Wood and seconded by George Patterson. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

The current committee members present agreed to stay in post until the affairs of the ARC are finalised. These are Bruce Price, Chairman and Walks Coordinator, Ray Wood, Treasurer, Ebb Smith, Secretary, Marylyn Wood, Trevor Tumber and Gerry Pauley. It is hoped that Keith Rose, the monthly Newsletter Editor, will also remain in post until the Autumn.

2 more meetings are likely to take place prior to issue of the final newsletter.

Remaining Funds

The costs of the producing and posting the final newsletter are the only likely expenditure. Any remaining Club funds could be returned to ARA or spent on a final get together for ARC members. This will be discussed and agreed by the committee at the next meeting.

Any Other Business

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8.30pm.