

JARA Annual Report 2018

JARA is an active retirement group who meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the community centre in Joydens Wood. We continue to be a thriving group with a fantastic team of organisers, a great committee and many other helpers within the group. Currently we are looking for new members, so if you’d like to see what we do and want to get involved please contact Carolyn Chapman on 01322 528400.

We have a lively monthly meeting where friends, old and new, meet; we give out notices followed by a guest speaker/entertainer. Our speakers and entertainers range from serious topics like Prosopagnosia (face blindness) to comedy with guest speaker Tony Harris who entertained us this year with his tales of Pantomime Dames and Backstage Secrets. During the meeting there is plenty of time to socialise and an opportunity for members to sign up to our many varied group outings and activities.

There is a pub lunch and also a country walk organised most months of the year. We celebrated Easter and plan to celebrate Christmas together with a meal and dancing. For those who want to be on their feet we regularly organise active activities including golf and tenpin bowling.

We have a flourishing theatre group with trips organised to London theatres and we also support our local theatre and the DOAD’s. Trips this year included Symphonic Rock at the Albert Hall and West Side Story and Top Hat at the Orchard Theatre.

Our team of organisers also organise many day trips; these include a boat trip on the Thames, an outing to Godinton Manor house, The Royal Airforce Museum at Hendon and many more. Ron also organised his ever popular mystery trip which involved taking identification… We also aim to provide a couple of holidays each year. This year holidays included 5 days in Weymouth, 4 days in Liverpool to see the Terracotta Warriors and a Turkey and Tinsel holiday in Paignton.

We run two quiz nights a year and this year we hosted a successful horse racing event featuring horses designed and built by club members. One of our members hosted a McMillan coffee afternoon and we have raised money for the British Legion and for brain injury patients.

Recently retired? Looking for something to do? Why not come and join our wonderful JARA family?