



The New Club Times

January 23rd 2026

Art Club

Sally Perkins writes:



We meet fortnightly on Mondays, 10 - 12.30 for an enjoyable morning painting, drawing or crafting. Recently a few of us have been decorating scallop and oyster shells so, if you feel you're not particularly artistic there is always something different to tackle and enjoy.

Our next meeting is on Monday 2 February. For further information contact me on sallyeperkins@btinternet.com

House Notes

Marilyn Burn writes:



Chocoholics Lunch: which of course didn't happen, although 41 of us were there. But Sir Alistair Macduff, who is lecturing to us on Royal Scandals in October, very gamely agreed to step into the breach at very little notice. He told me that a) he did not have an after dinner speech up his sleeve, as I hoped he had; b) he had no time to write one; and c) I wasn't to worry my pretty little head about it (or words to that effect) and it would be fine. And it was, a lot more than fine. I have never had the volume of enthusiastic emails after any event or lecture as I did for this off-the-cuff talk. Although I warned everyone at the lunch that I am not taking bookings for his lecture, that didn't stop some of you chancing your arm. So, a triumph. And the food was excellent too. Phew!

Burns Night Supper: Wednesday January 28th 6.30 for 7 £25 Guests £30

This is always a fun evening at the club, so Carl will present the haggis to Colin Campbell, who will address it in a language it (but not I) understands, and propose a Toast to the Lassies. Annabell will respond on behalf of the lassies.

Please wear Scottish dress if you are entitled to do so (or even possibly if you're not) and pretend for an evening that we are the New Club Edinburgh instead of in Sassenach Cheltenham. **Write to me at housenewclub@gmail.com or sign up on the board.**

Culleen skink

Haggis, neeps and tatties

Cranachan

(The traditional Burns Night supper and all much better than it sounds).

The Website: I strongly advise you not to cross me on Friday. Christina Potter and I are off to Gloucester to knock 7 bells out of the website, and I am in combative mood. I hope we are on the last lap of this wretched business, and we shall come back happy bunnies. Watch this space.

Lunch in the Cotswolds: Wednesday February 4 12.30 for 1 £25 Guests £30



This is going to be a delicious lunch, and Carl is sourcing everything from local suppliers. He got me at "Bubbling Double Gloucester"

Please write to me at housenewclub@gmail.com to book it or sign up on the board.

Cheese and Ale

Bubbling double Gloucester flavoured with Tewksbury mustard and Donnington's finest beer, served over a thick slice of toast with a green salad

Pan Fried Fillet of Bibury Trout

With grilled baby leeks, vermouth butter and new potatoes

Sticky Toffee Pudding

With warm butterscotch sauce and vanilla ice cream

Alex Voysey Blues Trio: Wednesday February 11

Drinks 5.30 Music 6-7.30pm Dinner 7.45pm £60 Guests £65



Alex is a brilliant young blues player, leading an excellent trio, of whom TNMC said "*Their standing ovation was well deserved. The Alex Voysey Band delivered a performance both musically impressive and emotionally resonant. Their passion for the blues, commitment to their craft and prolific creativity was clear in every song.*"

His mother, Sue Voysey, is the CEO of the English Symphony Orchestra, and she tells me that he is classically talented as well, playing with a number of orchestras including the Hallé.

And of course, Carl has created a menu from the home of the Blues:

Tuna Tostada with avocado, lime, ginger, sesame and jalapeno

Flat Iron Chicken, Smoked Onions, Charred Sweetcorn, Skin on Fries, Mojo Verde

Chocolate and Lime Cheesecake

As you would expect, this is filling up fast, and we are strictly limited to 52 to ensure that you can all get into the hall (or the landing or the stairs) to see and hear them. **So email me on housenewclub@gmail.com to reserve your place.**

Lecture Supper: China Speaker: Stephen Cole Friday February 13th

Lecture 5.30 Drinks 6.45 Dinner 7.15 £35 Guests £40



I think in spite of strong competition, Stephen Cole's lectures were the most popular last year, although he put the fear of God into us. You all know what an outstanding speaker he is, and yet again he has hit on a subject that could hardly be more topical.

In the space of a decade, President Xi has become the most powerful and important leader in the world (although Donald Trump might query that, but where will Trump be in 10

years?). Where is that leading, and what does it mean for the West and for us?

Unsurprisingly, this is already almost full, so if you would like to come please write to me soonest at housenewclub@gmail.com.

Our supper, in advance of next week's Chinese New Year, is a Hong Kong supper, as the clouds close in on Hong Kong's freedom

YUM CHA

Dim Sum

JIAOZI

Minced meat & vegetable dumplings from Northern China, translated as "midnight", they symbolize wealth

CHAR SIU BAO

Fluffy BBQ pork buns from southern China, Cantonese cuisine, and very popular in Hong Kong

HAR GOW

Also known as crystal shrimp dumplings & associated with laughter, they are a popular New Year dish

WOK CHI SPECIAL WITH XO SAUCE

Stir fried chicken, char sui pork, beef & prawns with oriental vegetables & Lucky Boat noodles

TONG SUI

Meaning "sugar water" this dish from the Lingnan region includes, red beans, Asian pear, lychee, goji berries, snow fungus & pandan leaves.

(Associated with health, beauty & longevity, so I'm giving it a whirl)

Techie Help: Please note

Georgia's slots for February 3rd are all taken, but there is plenty of availability for the rest of the month. We are offering 30-minute slots at £25 per slot, and if you find you need more time you can arrange for her to visit you. Her rates for coming to your house for a few hours are £30 hr, but obviously she won't come to your house for 30 minutes. The club has to pay her whether people come or not, so I think you'll find it's better to book a slot and see what she can do for you in the time and then arrange for her to visit you if you need lots of help.

She can help you on all sorts of IT issues, including using your phone, online banking, email problems and photography, as well as, of course, booking online.

This is experimental, so let's see how it goes.

If you would like to book a slot on any Tuesday in February except February 3rd, please email me on housenewclub@gmail.com

Cotswold Collective: A Perk.



Cotswold Collective is a newish company, which was formed to support local businesses at a time when they, like us, are facing acute difficulties with soaring business rates, increased NI costs and higher minimum wages, and unlike us, they also face tough competition from online retailers. This is a cause which I am sure you support – nobody wants to see our shops boarded up – and so we have been in negotiation on your behalf with the Cotswold Collective.

The company has negotiated discounts and freebies with shops, restaurants, hotels and other businesses right across the Cotswolds. They are actively working in Cheltenham to sign up more businesses, and you can see the list, which is growing all the time, on their website. How it works is that members of the public, who are not New Club members, and who pay £30 pa for a digital discount card on their mobile, can use it in any of the businesses with which they have a deal. For example, 10% off everything at Ellenborough Park; 10% off tickets at the Barn Theatre; freebies and discounts in the restaurant upstairs at the Cheeseworks; a free glass of fizz at Brasserie Blanc.

We have negotiated a deal for us whereby all Club members will have membership of the Cotswold Collective **included** within our Club membership. This will be rolled out in the next few weeks, so soon you will be able to use it on your phones. Watch this space!

4 Clubs Lunch 4th June

Stephen Hodge writes:



It's our turn to host The Four Clubs lunch on **Tuesday 4th of June** and I can confirm that the guest speaker will be Cornelius Lysaght. Cornelius is an Old Etonian who was the BBC's horse racing correspondent from 2001 until 2020. He is a broadcaster, journalist, writer, voiceover artist, and event host; one of his notable claims to fame is that he gave Claire Balding her first media job.

Cornelius will speak to members on "*My life and characters on The Turf*"

Dress code - county casual.

Members & guests - £45.00 to include Aperitifs and wine on the table.

Reciprocal Clubs

Stephen Hodge writes:

I have investigated New Club members use of reciprocal clubs and there are four significant findings:

- Members are using London clubs extensively, both for meetings and daytime hospitality
- The New Club Edinburgh is very popular with accommodation being competitively priced
- South Africa holds interest with 4 members in Cape Town this month
- Australia has had few visits and those who went were generated by Test Match Cricket
- Apart from one club in Lisbon, we are not well represented in Europe

So I am asking members: would you like more choice in Europe?

Paris, Rome, Venice, Madrid, Berlin, Munich, Vienna et al?



What about the French Alps? Should we investigate a club in Annecy where in 1956 we developed a protocol of twin towns? Annecy lies on the northern tip of **Lake Annecy**, 35 kilometres (22 miles) south of **Geneva**, Switzerland. Nicknamed the "Pearl of the French Alps" with its location



between the lake and the mountains, an Annecy connection could be beneficial and generate local publicity in Cheltenham.

Furthermore, there are easyJet flights from Bristol to Geneva from £24 to £50 each way in February / March!!!

I would also like to remind members of our reciprocal clubs in the UK where we have many to choose from:

In England: Bath, Birmingham, Bradford, Bridgewater, Bristol, Brighton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Eastbourne, Guernsey and Jersey, Harrogate, Henley on Thames, Ipswich, Liverpool, six London clubs, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, and Weymouth.

In Scotland: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Perth

I would appreciate your thoughts. Write to me at reciprocalclubs@thenewclub.co.uk

Scroll down for the Events Calendar

Events Calendar

Note: For all events, please sign up in The Club or ring/email the organiser
 (** denotes newly added events)

Date	Time	Event	Organiser/Contact
Wednesday 28 th January	6.30pm for 7pm	Burns Night Supper £25 (Guests £30)	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Monday 2 nd February	11am	Book Group <i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i> by Mary Ann Shaffer & Anne Barrows	Tom Potter gtpotter@btinternet.com
Monday 2 nd February	10am	**Art Club	Sally Perkins sallyeperkins@btinternet.com
Tuesday 3 rd February	2-4pm	Techie Help Slots <i>Fully Booked</i> £25 for 30 mins	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Tuesday 3 rd February	6pm	Club Italiano Conversation Meet in the Bar then go to Library	Paulette Faulkner clubitaliano24@gmail.com
Wednesday 4 th February	12.30pm for 1pm	Lunch in the Cotswolds £25 (Guests £30)	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Friday 6 th February	11.30am	Introductory Snooker Session	Rob Wright rob.wright47@hotmail.co.uk
Friday 6 th February	5pm	Quiz Night £10 includes Bar meal	Ian McPherson ianmcperson@fastmail.com
Tuesday 10 th February	2-4pm	Techie Help Slots Booking Required £25 for 30 mins	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Wednesday 11 th February	Drinks 5.30 Music 6 - 7.30pm Dinner 7.45pm	Alex Voysey Blues Trio £60 (Guests £65)	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Thursday 12 th February	10am	Music Group Theme: <i>Relations</i>	Ian McPherson ianmcperson@fastmail.com
Friday 13 th February	5.30pm	Lecture Supper <i>China</i> Stephen Cole £35 (Guests £40)	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Tuesday 17 th February	Bus 11 am Lunch 12.30 for 1pm	Four Clubs Lunch Bath <i>Renovating Georgian Bath</i> Michael Rowe	Stephen Hodge reciprocalclubs@thenewclub.co.uk
Tuesday 17 th February	2-4pm	Techie Help Slots Booking Required £25 for 30 mins	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com

Date	Time	Event	Organiser/Contact
Wednesday 18 th February	10.15am	Memoir Group	Mario Malt mario@malts.co.uk
Tuesday 24 th February	2-4pm	Techie Help Slots Booking Required £25 for 30 mins	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Thursday 26 th February	3.30pm	Chess Group	Mario Malt mario@malts.co.uk
Friday 27 th February	2.30pm	Snooker Competition	Rob Wright rob.wright47@hotmail.co.uk
Monday 2 nd March	11am	**Book Group <i>Cider with Rosie</i> by Laurie Lee	Tom Potter gtpotter@btinternet.com
Tuesday 10 th – Friday 13 th March	All Day	Racing at Cheltenham Festival	Stephen Hodge stephenghodge@hotmail.com
Friday 20 th March	12.30pm for 1pm	Ladies' Lunch	Felicity Davies felicityjdavies@icloud.com
Wednesday 15 th – Thursday 16 th April	All Day	The April Meeting	Stephen Hodge stephenghodge@hotmail.com
Wednesday 22 nd April	11am	**Art Appreciation	Mike Phillips mikep3143@icloud.com
Friday 1 st May	5pm onwards	Race Night Featuring Hunter Chase Racing	Stephen Hodge stephenghodge@hotmail.com
Tuesday 4 th June	12.30pm for 1pm	**Hosting 4 Clubs Lunch Speaker: Cornelius Lysaght: "My life and Characters on The Turf" £45 (to include aperitifs and wine on table)	Stephen Hodge reciprocalclubs@thenewclub.co.uk
Friday 30 th October	TBC	Founders' Dinner	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com