



The New Club Times

April 17th 2026

New Club Ramblers

Pete Chadwick writes:



The ramblers had their first outing of the season on Tuesday last. We did the Snowhill circuit, with its fabulous views of the Vale of Evesham and the Malverns; the weather was kind to us, not too sunny, but at least the rain held off, and it was dry underfoot. There were 11 of us walking, plus a couple of dogs, as you can see from this photograph.

Our next will be on Wednesday 6th May around Northleach. Mike Dearden will be leading this. He'll contact our usual suspects directly, but if you've not rambled with us before, and would like to join us, **contact him at mike@thedeardens.co.uk**.

House Notes

Marilyn Burn writes:

An Evening of Opera: by common consent, the best of our opera evenings. The



singers, especially the soprano, were far better than we, as a relatively small club outside of London, deserve to be able to attract, so we were very lucky. Attracting them at all would not be possible without the extreme generosity, both financially and in terms of time and advice, given so freely by Eric Labrum and Maureen Chew, and we are extremely grateful to them both. Eric has supported numerous musical events, but until now has insisted on remaining anonymous, so I am particularly glad he has relented and allowed me to tell you all what a huge support he has been to the Club, and to thank him publicly, and Maureen, for all their help and

encouragement.

But there is, sadly, a dark side to the evening. Maria has written to me to tell me that when she got home, she discovered that her car, a couple of months old red Suzuki, had been badly scratched all down the passenger side. As I was writing, she has just sent me photos of the damage, which show severe scratches and several dents on both doors and the wheel arch. She has been told by the body shop that the repairs will cost between £2000-£3000, and of course she will need a car while the work is being done. She was parked on the right-hand side of the car park as you look at the front door, under the trees, about 5 cars up from the door. When she came in of course mid-afternoon the car park was empty, so it is someone who came in later. The scratches appear to have been done by a car which was grey or possibly greenish. The offending car must be damaged itself and will almost certainly have signs of red paint on it.

We cannot leave Maria to pick up the tab on this, and if she claims on her insurance her premiums will rocket. If you think it might have been you, or you saw anything, please write to me privately at housenewclub@gmail.com. ***We cannot pay for this from club funds, so, if necessary, Denis and I have agreed we will pay for it between us, but of course we are not keen, so if you know anything please help us with information.***

An Evening of Englishness with the Choir: Tuesday April 21st

Choir 6-6.45, Drinks 6.45 Dinner 7pm Choir £25 Non-Choir £35 Guests £40



With her arm high up her back, Lyn suggested that we could use the small dining room (the Founders' Room) as well as the dining room, the coffee-room, and the bar for dinner, so we can now take 84. We have 85. I know we will have cancellations, so I am confident that everyone will have both a table and food. If you would like to go on the reserve list and wait for cancellations, which I expect any time now, **please write to me at housenewclub@gmail.com** and say so. We will have overflow

parking available at Lodders opposite, but you must leave their car park by 10.30pm or be locked in for the night!

Lecture Supper: General 'Pug' Ismay, Soldier, Statesman and Diplomat by Lt General Sir John Kiszely KCB, MC, DL:

Friday April 24 Lecture 5.30pm Drinks 6.45 Dinner 7.15

This is also full, but again there will be cancellations, so please let me know if you would like to be added to the reserve list, with a near certainty of getting in.

Club Supper: Wednesday April 29 6.30 for 7pm Members £25 Guests £30

A simple club supper of old favourites

Prawn Cocktail

Shepherd's Pie with Slow Cooked shoulder of Lamb

Lemon & Raspberry Posset with Almond Tuille

Another Evening at Ronnie Scott's: Wednesday May 6th

Jazz 6-7.45ish Dinner 8pm Members £50 Guests £60



Dom Franks on sax is bringing a slightly different trio this time, with Elijah Jeffrey singing, a great cool jazz singer. As usual we will be dotting tables and chairs about in the hall and on the landing, so come in and out with drinks and just enjoy some smooth jazz with your friends.

You know it will be a great evening, because Dom Franks has played for us a number of times before, and I'm hoping to get him again for our Lobster and Champagne evening during the cricket.

And Carl has selected a terrific meal from one of Ronnie Scott's menus:

WILD MUSHROOM & TRUFFLE TART WITH PICKLED MUSTARD SEEDS

HERB CRUSTED SALMON, with Jerusalem artichoke, sea herbs

RHUBARB & CUSTARD TRIFLE

If you would like to come to this, **please write to me at housenewclub@gmail.com** or book your places at the website by clicking the link:

<https://thenewclub.co.uk/event/another-evening-at-ronnie-scotts/>

Club Prices

With great reluctance, and with the position forced on us by inexorably rising costs – wages, NI, food, fuel, business rates – we are raising our prices for club suppers **from May 1st** by about 10%. We have conducted a survey of the main restaurants in Cheltenham, and we are much more than 10% cheaper – not on our headline price, but of course that is not what you pay at a restaurant. Generally the headline price in a restaurant is for 2 courses, with all sides of vegetables, bread and pudding extra, as well as at least 12.5% service charge on top. So our £20 meals will become £22, our £25 meals will become £27.50, and our £30 meals will be £33. Lecture suppers will go up less pro rata to £37.50. All guest prices will be £8 in addition to the member price, as a number of members have made the point to me that we should not be subsidising guests.

An additional and very special evening: May 8th. As I told you at the AGM, the club is now widely regarded as the social centre of Cheltenham life, and we have been thinking about the club in the context of Cheltenham and its life. We have therefore decided to partner with a charity, and we have chosen one for the next three years which is central to many of the lives of club members. It is the Big Space Cancer Appeal, the charity for cancer care at Cheltenham and Gloucester Hospitals.



The **Big Space Cancer Appeal** aims to transform cancer care at Cheltenham General Hospital by creating a **modern, spacious, patient-centred cancer centre**. The new facility will offer larger, light-filled consulting rooms, private spaces for difficult conversations, calm areas for families, better waiting and recovery spaces, and dedicated zones for research and innovation. This major redevelopment replaces facilities that are now over 25 years old and no longer meet the needs of today's cancer patients and staff.

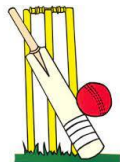
So far, the appeal has raised **£9.7 million**, thanks to community support and major donations—including a £2 million gift from The Summerfield Charitable Trust—bringing the campaign more than halfway to its £17.5 million target. Construction of the first phase is expected to begin within the next year, as planning permission has now been granted. So, we are having an introduction by **Richard Smith**, who is a director of the charity, updating us on where it has got to now and what they anticipate will be in the immediate future. He will then introduce the main speaker, **Sam Guglani**, who will be interviewed or talk for half an hour or so followed by a Q&A. Then, as usual, drinks and dinner and no doubt you can nobble them for more information. Sam sounds fascinating:

“Sam Guglani trained in medicine at University College London, qualifying in 1995. He is a consultant clinical oncologist at Gloucestershire Cancer Centre in Cheltenham where he specialises in the management of lung and brain cancers, acute oncology, and malignancy of unknown origin, and where he also chairs the hospital’s Law & Ethics group. He holds Masters degrees in Ethics (Keele University), and Creative Writing (University of Oxford). He’s a writer, publishing poetry, essays for The Lancet, and a novel, Histories. He curates Medicine Unboxed, a project he established in 2009, which engages health professionals and the public in their thinking around illness, medicine, social justice, and mortality, all illuminated by the arts. He runs long distances, slowly and persistently”.

This is a charity which will affect all of us, either directly or through friends or family. **I will put more up on the website this weekend, but in the meantime, you can rest assured that Carl will devise a delicious menu for this evening.**

The talk will start at 6pm, drinks 7pm, dinner 7.30, £27 for members and £35 for guests. If you would like to book your places now, and I'm sure this will be very popular as members will want to learn about and support such a good cause, ***please write to me at housenewclub@gmail.com***

CRICKET! Denis has at last succeeded in wringing some sense out of Gloucestershire Cricket Club, and we have signed a contract with them, so we are having our own marquee again. I will send out an email this weekend with all the information, but the ***relevant dates are Sunday August 9, Tuesday August 11 and Thursday August 20th-23rd.***



SAVE THE DATE: We will be having a **Gin, Jazz and Canapes** evening instead of a club supper on Wednesday May 27th, hopefully in the garden. Gin In a Tin, a Cotswold company, are bringing 7 gins and a non-alcoholic gin to try, the Utrillo Jazz Trio are going to play for us, and Carl is making some of his superb canapes. For those who get really stuck in and need more food, we will be offering a pasta special later on. More later.....

Music Group

Ian McPherson writes:



The Music Group met on Thursday April 9th to hear, "My three favourite tracks". There was a wide spread of styles and not a little discussion on the fact that favourites change weekly, even daily. Please email me if you would like the playlist and the links to YouTube.

The next meeting is on May 14th at 10am in the library when there will be a screening of the Cohen Brothers film *Oh Brother Where Art Thou?* All Club members are welcome, especially new members.

You can contact me on ianmcperson@fastmail.com

The May Quiz

Ian McPherson writes:



Apologies, a couple of gremlins have crept into my running of the quiz, in particular the sign-up sheets. A rogue sign-up sheet for May's quiz appeared recently and a few of you have entered your details. I have replaced that sheet with the proper one so if you put your name/s down on the rogue sheet you will need to sign up again.

I have no idea from where the unofficial sheet came and am sorry for the inconvenience. If there is someone out there who would like to take over the running of the quiz, I am happy to step aside.

The Editor is Away

I am away in York supporting family from 10th to 28th April. There will therefore be no NCT next week. ***Next edition Friday 1st May.***

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/Link
Monday 20th April	10.15am	Art Group	Sally Perkins sallyeperkins@btinternet.com
Tuesday 21 st April	Choir 6pm-6.45pm Drinks 6.45pm Dinner 7.15pm	St George's Day Supper An Evening of Englishness Choir £25 Non-choir £35 (Guests £40)	https://thenewclub.co.uk/event/st-georges-day-a...n-of-englishness/ or housenewclub@gmail.com
Wednesday 22 nd April	11am	Art Appreciation	Mike Phillips mikep3143@icloud.com
Thursday 23 rd April	3.30pm	Chess Group	Mario Malt mario@malts.co.uk
Friday 24 th April	5.30pm	Lecture Supper <i>General "Pug" Ismay, Soldier, Statesman and Diplomat</i> Lecturer: Lt General Sir John Kiszey, KCB, MC, DL £35 (Guests £40)	https://thenewclub.co.uk/event/lecture-supper-g...szeley-kcb-mc-dl/ or housenewclub@gmail.com
Monday 27 th April	10am	Art Group	Sally Perkins sallyeperkins@btinternet.com
Wednesday 29 th April	6.30pm for 7pm	Club Supper Menu of old favourites £25 (Guests £30)	https://thenewclub.co.uk/event/club-supper/ or housenewclub@gmail.com
Friday 1 st May	5pm	Quiz Night £12.50 includes Bar meal	Ian McPherson ianmcperson@fastmail.com
Wednesday 6 th May	10am	**New Club Ramble Northleach	Mike Dearden mike@thedeadens.co.uk
Wednesday 6 th May	Jazz 6pm -7.45pm Dinner 8pm	An Evening at Ronnie Scott's Members £50 (Guests £60)	https://thenewclub.co.uk/event/another-evening-at-ronnie-scotts/ or housenewclub@gmail.com
Friday 8 th May	Talk 6pm Drinks 7pm Dinner 7.30pm	**Big Space Cancer Appeal Dinner Talk by Oncology Consultant Sam Guglani £27 (Guests £35)	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com

Date	Time	Event	Organiser/Contact/Link
Monday 11 th May	10am – 5.30pm	Visit to Chevanage House and Tetbury £60 (includes coach)	Jane Moyle jane@janemoyle.co.uk
Monday 11 th May	11am	Book Group <i>Elizabeth is Missing</i> by Emma Healey	Tom Potter gtpotter@btinternet.com
Tuesday 12 th May	6pm	Club Italiano Conversation Meet in the Bar then go to Library	Paulette Faulkner clubitaliano24@gmail.com
Thursday 14 th May	10am	**Music Group Film – <i>Oh Brother Where Art Thou?</i>	Ian McPherson ianmcperson@fastmail.com
Wednesday 20 th May	10.15am	Memoir Group	Mario Malt mario@malts.co.uk
Friday 22 nd May	5.30pm	Lecture Supper <i>Elgar: The Life of a Divided Personality</i> by Christopher Morley £37.50 (Guests £45.50)	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Wednesday 27 th May	TBC	**Gin & Canapes in the Club Garden Gin tasting with <i>Gin in a Tin</i> a new Cotswold Gin company £TBC	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Thursday 28 th May	3.30pm	Chess Group	Mario Malt mario@malts.co.uk
Monday 1 st June	11am	**Book Group <i>The Summer Book</i> by Tove Janson	Tom Potter gtpotter@btinternet.com
Tuesday 2 nd 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 5 th June	5pm	Quiz Night £12.50 includes Bar meal	Ian McPherson ianmcperson@fastmail.com
Wednesday 10 th June	TBC	Angie Kirkpatrick on Wine Followed by Dinner £TBC	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com
Thursday 11 th June	10am	Music Group	Ian McPherson ianmcperson@fastmail.com

Friday 12 th June	2.30pm	Ladies Afternoon Tea with Julie Kent, MBE	Felicity Davies felicityjdavies@icloud.com
Wednesday 17 th June	5pm – 7pm	**Secret Garden Party with jazz, fizz and canapés! £30	Jane Moyle jane@janemoyle.co.uk
Tuesday 30 th June	6pm	Club Italiano Conversation Meet in the Bar then go to Library	Paulette Faulkner clubitaliano24@gmail.com
Tuesday 14 th July	6pm	Club Italiano Conversation Meet in the Bar then go to Library	Paulette Faulkner clubitaliano24@gmail.com
Friday 17 th July	TBC	Golf Competition Sherdons Golf Course	Mario Malt mario@malts.co.uk
Tuesday 15 th September	12.30pm for 1pm	Four Clubs Lunch Cardiff and County Club Bus available for transport	Stephen Hodge reciprocalclubs@thenewclub.co.uk
Friday 30 th October	TBC	Founders' Dinner	Marilyn Burn housenewclub@gmail.com