

Ash u3a Thursday Lunchers

Newsletter N° 15 – April 2024

Twentyone members enjoyed lunch at the Ball and Wicket at Holt Pound on 18th April. This is our third visit within the last two years and whilst the food may not always be exciting we do think it is good value for money. Most members thought that the food was good but a few were not happy with the quality compared to previous visits. The area allocated to us was disappointingly cramped and four of our members were seated away from the main group. Parking and access is always good and this is a big consideration as more of us get older and less mobile. We were sorry that Christina Dowsett was unwell and unable to join us and we send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery and a happy birthday on 21st April. Brian was able to join us and as always did a sterling job chauffeuring some of our members.

We welcome John Pask a very well-known Ash u3a member to the Thursday Lunchers Group. This brings our current membership to 36. All new members are joining us on the understanding that if a venue that puts a restriction on number is oversubscribed, priority will be given to long-standing Thursday Lunchers and then on a first-come basis. We haven't had to turn anyone down yet but with such a large group membership we have to be prepared.

The matter of overcharging at the Curzon during March has been very satisfactorily resolved. This was a problem never previously experienced. Whoever is organising the lunch meeting always stays until the last member has paid so in the unlikely event that any member has an issue with their bill please raise it at the time.

It was the second time that we have asked members to consider not having a starter. This certainly helped in reducing the time that members not wanting a starter had to wait for their meal. We will certainly be continuing this approach for a while but as always both Ali and I welcome your comments and suggestions.

I have booked the Cricketers on the Green at Pirbright for Thursday 16th May. Please let me know if you would like to attend so that I can confirm numbers and seating arrangements with the venue. I will send out details of the menus a bit nearer the time as we will have to pre-order.

Ali and I always welcome suggestions from members and as a result we are changing the venue for lunch in July. The Farm House Cafe at Rockers near Merrist Wood College has reopened after refurbishment. We thought that we would give it a try in the summer as they can accommodate up to 26 for lunch in a pleasant environment with a sunny outlook over the old golf course. The menu looks good and reasonable priced.

Our revised programme for the rest of the year is:

- 16th May The Cricketers on the Green at Pirbright – Rod to organise
- 20th June The Crown and Cushion – Ali to organise
- 18th July Rockers Farm House Café – Rod to organise

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