

ARCO (Association of Retired Council Officers) Newsletter

Autumn 2024

www.arco-kingston.org.uk email secretary@arco-kingston.org.uk



Our Forthcoming Events

Monday, 11 November 2024	Coffee Morning, Guildhall – <i>see form included</i>
Thursday 5 December 2024	Christmas Lunch, North Star – <i>see menu & form included</i>
Wednesday, 8 January 2025	Informal Gathering at the Kings Tun.

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to report that 19 of us attended a very enjoyable celebratory meal at The Berrylands on Thursday 25 April. This marked the 100th birthday of our member and regular attender, Margaret Silverside. Of course, Margaret and her daughter, Vanessa, were our Guests of Honour. Margaret proudly showed us her birthday card from King Charles III.

The following month we tried a new idea by holding a lunch at the North Star in Chessington but this was not so popular, with 11 members present. Events at the Guildhall continue to attract the biggest attendance and we welcomed 23 to our Summer Get Together in July. September saw an informal gathering at the Kings Tun when 12 came along.

You will find more information about our forthcoming activities, which are listed above, on the next page and I am hoping to meet more of you at them.

The AGM requested your Committee to investigate joining RAKAT (Richmond and Kingston Accessible Transport) with a view to using one of their minibuses for an outing. We have now joined RAKAT. We felt we should arrange a short trip for our first use and decided that Windsor would be a suitable destination. We are looking for expressions of interest at the moment for a trip in the early spring next year. Please see overleaf and reply by 30 November. I would like to thank June and Bob for investigating the use of RAKAT minibuses, as this has not been straightforward.

Finally, may I be the first to wish you a Happy Christmas and good health in 2025.

Best Wishes

Chris

Chris Coke, Chairman

ARCO Secretary: Martin Longhurst, Mayfield, Hoe Lane, Abinger Hammer, DORKING, RH5 6RS

secretary@arco-kingston.org.uk

More about our forthcoming events

Coffee Morning at The Guildhall on Monday, 11 November 2024

10.45 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Note that we will observe two minute's silence at 11.00 am to mark Armistice Day

Charge for coffee and biscuits £2

Please see the Booking Form enclosed.

Christmas Lunch at The North Star on Thursday, 5 December 2024

Arrive between 12.00 pm and 12.30 pm

The pub is at 271 Hook Rd, Chessington. KT9 1EQ, half a mile south of the Ace of Spades. There is a car park on site. Buses 71, K4 and 465 stop outside, while the K2 stops nearby, round the corner in Rosemary Gardens.

Please see the Menu and Booking Form enclosed.

Informal Gathering at The Kings Tun on Wednesday, 8 January 2025

Arrive between 12.00 pm and 1.30 pm

Another of our popular gatherings at the Kings Tun, 153-157 Clarence Street, Kingston, KT1 1QT, between Eden Street and the Railway Station. We meet in the upstairs bar – there is a lift.

Wetherspoons have an extensive menu of hot and cold food and free refills of hot drinks! Just come along – no booking required.

Proposed Minibus Outing to Windsor

Early spring 2025

This is likely to take place in March or April, subject to sufficient support. To help us plan, please let us know if you are interested, mentioning the number of seats wanted and your preferred and/or unavailable days of the week, by 30 November. You can contact Martin by emailing secretary@arco-kingston.org.uk, by phoning 01306 730321, or by writing to Mayfield, Hoe Lane, Abinger Hammer, DORKING, RH5 6RS.

Windsor has numerous attractions including the Castle, Windsor Great Park, the River Thames, breweries, restaurants, pubs and shops.

Future Activities

Please contact Martin if you have any suggestions for new venues or destinations.



Invitation to a Coffee Morning

Monday, 11 November 2024 10.45 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Note that we will observe two minute's silence at 11.00 am to mark Armistice Day

Queen Anne Suite, Guildhall, Kingston upon Thames

Charge for coffee and biscuits £2

As we have to order the coffees a week in advance, please reply by email,
email or phone to Jenny Longhurst by **30 OCTOBER 2024**

Write: Mayfield, Hoe Lane, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6RS

Telephone: 01306 730321

Email: jenny.longhurst@btinternet.com

Payment may be made by cheque with this form OR by Bank Transfer to

Sort Code 09-01-55 Account 60178603

*Name "Association of Retired Council Officers (Kingston)"
and send an email to confirm.*

Retain top portion as a reminder and send off bottom portion

There is no need to return this form if emailing

**I would like One/Two (delete as appropriate) places for the Coffee Morning
on 11 November 2024**

and enclose a cheque for £ (payable to ARCO) for £2.00 per head

Name(s) required on Badge(s) (Capital Letters)

1. _____ 2. _____

Telephone No. _____

Email: _____

You can download this form [here](#)

ARCO CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

Thursday 5 December 2024 – 12 noon for 12.30 p.m.

The North Star, 271 Hook Road, Hook, Chessington, KT9 1EQ

500 yards south of The Ace roundabout - Buses 71, 465 & K4 stop outside and K2 nearby

2 COURSES £18.99 or 3 COURSES £21.99

STARTERS

Salt and Pepper Chicken Wings

Tossed in salt & pepper seasoning with red chillis and served with sweet chilli sauce

King Prawn Cocktail

Succulent prawns in Marie Rose sauce, served on crisp lettuce with seeded farmhouse bread

Spiced Parsnip & Sweet Potato Soup (V)

Served with seeded farmhouse bread & butter (Vegan option available)

Beer-Battered Mushrooms* (V)

Crispy coated button mushrooms, served with garlic mayonnaise

Halloumi Fries (V)

Served with Roquito hot honey

MAIN COURSES

Hand Carved Turkey*

Served with braised red cabbage, sprouts, mixed greens, carrots, pig in blanket, stuffing wrapped in bacon, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes and a rich gravy.

Festive Hunter's Chicken Schnitzel

Breaded chicken breast topped with cranberry sauce, back bacon, Cheddar cheese and garlic sauce. Served with beef-dripping sauce and fries.

Grilled Sea Bass Fillets

Served on a sweet potato & chickpea curry with Tenderstem® broccoli

Spinach & Mushroom Wellington* (VE)

Served with braised red cabbage, mixed greens, carrots and roast potatoes

Our Festive Burger

*Chargrilled beef burger topped with cranberry sauce, Cheddar & garlic sauce, topped with onion fries and served with a pig in blanket and fries. **Add an extra beef burger for £2.00.***

Turkey & Pancetta Pie*

Served with mashed potato, braised red cabbage, mixed greens, carrots and a jug of gravy

Blade of Beef (£3.00 extra)

Served with mashed potato, carrots and mixed greens, topped with onion fries and gravy.

SIDES: Pigs in blankets £3.79 - Stuffing wrapped in bacon £2.79 Yorkshire puddings (V) £2.79

DESSERTS

Christmas Pudding* (V)

Served with brandy sauce

Apple & Blackberry Crumble (V)

Served with custard (Vegan option available)

Salted Caramel Profiteroles (V)

Served with fluffy cream, toffee and chocolate sauces

Belgian Chocolate Brownie (V)

A warm chocolate brownie, topped with vanilla pod ice cream and Belgian chocolate sauce.

Lemon Meringue Sundae (V)

Pieces of lemon meringue with fluffy cream, vanilla ice cream and strawberry sauce.

(V) = vegetarian ingredients (VE) = Vegan ingredients * Contains alcohol

Please use order form enclosed

All drinks to be paid for on the day direct to the bar staff

ARCO CHRISTMAS LUNCH 5 DECEMBER 2024 ORDER FORM

2 COURSES £18.99 or 3 COURSES £21.99 – plus optional upgrades

Please complete the form below and return it with your cheque payable to ARCO to:
Jenny Longhurst, Mayfield, Hoe Lane, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6RS
by 14 November 2024 at the latest. *Please tell us about any food allergies*

Enter your name(s) here -----> and tick in the boxes to make your choices.			
Starters	Salt & Pepper Chicken Wings		
	King Prawn Cocktail		
	Spiced Parsnip & Sweet Potato Soup		
	Beer-Battered Mushrooms		
	Halloumi Fries		
Mains	Hand Carved Turkey		
	Festive Hunter's Chicken Schnitzel		
	Grilled Sea Bass Fillets		
	Spinach & Mushroom Wellington		
	Our Festive Burger	DOUBLE UP FOR £2.00?	
	Turkey & Pancetta Pie		
	Blade of Beef (£3.00 extra)		
Sides	Pigs in blankets (£3.79)		
	Stuffing wrapped in bacon (£2.79)		
	Yorkshire puddings (£2.79)		
Desserts	Christmas Pudding		
	Apple & Blackberry Crumble		
	Salted Caramel Profiteroles		
	Belgian Chocolate Brownie		
	Lemon Meringue Sundae		

I enclose a cheque payable to ARCO for £_____.

From_____.

Phone:_____ Email:_____.

Or email your choices to secretary@arco-kingston.org.uk and pay by bank transfer to
Sort Code 09-01-55 Account 60178603 Name "Association of Retired Council Officers (Kingston)"

Click [here](#) to download this form