



Dean & Chapter of Canterbury
Cathedral House, The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2EH

PRESS RELEASE

23rd October 2006

For Immediate Release

Kent Active Retirement Association 25th Anniversary Service

The organisation of Kent Active Retirement Association (KentARA) are holding its 25th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service for Retirement at Canterbury Cathedral, Thursday 26th October 2006, beginning at 11.30am. Guests of honour will be the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Kent (Mr & Mrs Dick Tapp); the High Sheriff of Kent (Mrs Amanda Cottrell); and the Lord Mayor & Lady Mayoress of Canterbury (Mr & Mrs Patrick Todd). They will be received by Canon Ed Condry, the Vice Dean of Canterbury; the KentARA President Mr Frank Fellows; the Chairman Mr Gerald Benham; the Vice-Chairman Mr Peter Nicholls and the Chairman of BIARA Mr Derek Weyman.

The Address will be given by the Reverend Don Witts of All Saints of Birchington. The first Lesson read by Mr Peter Nicholls and the second Lesson read by Mr Frank Fellows. The choir will come from St. Stephen's Church, Canterbury.

Notes to Editors

1 For further details, please contact Mr Derek Weyman (Chairman of Birchington Active Retirement Association) on 01843 835696. Photographs may be taken after the service

1 The KentARA is unique to the county of Kent, which has grown from one retirement group to 74 covering all areas in Kent with more coming on-line every year, giving us over 11,000 people who are enjoying themselves in retirement, of which 1200 celebrated this anniversary of 25 years on a cruise in the Mediterranean. KentARA will give thanks to our founder member the late Mr John Hardiman who had the forethought to start this Retirement Group, and the leadership from a dedicated executive committee as well as the dedication of all the committees of the Active Retirement Associations.

2 Mr Frank Fellows-President and Mr Gerald Benham, Chairman of KentARA, have worked closely together for many years overseeing the expansion of this Association into many corners of Kent. Both of them value the annual Thanksgiving Service that alternates yearly between Canterbury and Rochester Cathedrals.

3 Birchington Active Retirement Association Chairman Mr.Derek Weyman has been given the honour of organising this special Service this year and has distributed 993 tickets to the Active Retirement Associations of Kent. BIARA started in 1991 and has a membership of 238. We have two Sport mornings a week consisting of Table Tennis, Short Mat Bowls, Darts, two Snooker Tables, plenty of Board Games; we have Keep Fit, Craft, Drama classes; 10 Pin Bowling, Indoor and Outdoor Bowling, Quiz Evenings, Barn Dances, Days Out and Holidays and a Monthly Meeting with a Speaker.

4 BIARA wishes to thank Sericol Group Ltd who sponsored us and printed the 25th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service programme. It has also have received a donation from Mr Powell Cotton of Quex Park Estates, Birchington.