

Member of the Month

Name: Roger Pearce

Why did you move to Hampshire Lakes?

Wanting to downsize from our 4-bedroom house in Essex and thanks to reading Richard Osman's "Thursday Murder Club" book, I researched "Retirement Villages", which immediately produced the first result as "Hampshire Lakes". I showed this to my wife Pauline, who said "Who do we know in Hampshire?" Pointing out the location, she spotted that our daughter's home in Bracknell was only down the road! The rest, as they say, is history and we moved into our lovely apartment in Pine Bank just over 4 years ago.

Wellness & Fitness

I had not entered a gym for well over 30 years, since leaving the Met Police, where, as a senior officer in my mid-40s, I was expected to maintain contact in public order situations with shield serial officers half my age! I now swim regularly, have "one to one" gym sessions with Kirsty and play an hour's water volleyball on Wednesdays. Recently I have attended a Mindfulness class and may soon be taking up Pilates with Annemarie.

Personal achievements:

Happily married to Pauline for over 58 years, with two very supportive daughters and four grandchildren. Survived 30 years in the Met Police. With Pauline, led a successful Church Youth Group for 10 years. Served as a School Governor. In retirement (after the Met), became a Councillor on both Town and District councils, alongside volunteering at the Samaritans. Held posts of both Secretary and Treasurer at our local Stamp Club and Chaired our u3a.

Favourite activities and why?

Alongside Stamp Collecting and Family History, I thoroughly enjoy my sessions in our Wellness Centre. As Secretary to the HLRA for the past 2½ years, I have learned so much about the "inside stories" of Hampshire Lakes, which, together with my role as Safeguarding Officer for our Volunteer Drivers Scheme, has made us so many new friends. I also enjoy the various social events, as well as the very real feeling of community here in the Village.

Words of wisdom:

Always Look on the Bright Side of Life".

