



NTC News

Keeping Members informed

Nov 2018

www.norwichtrafficclub.co.uk

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The 14th November meeting.

It was pleasing to see 21 members plus 5 guests sit down for a very tasty pork dinner at our last meeting. The speaker on the night was Mike Mizen an Associate Member of the Guild of Battlefield Guides. Under the title of "1918 and Beyond" he gave an interesting insight into the battle lines on the western front in the last few days of the first world war and the decisions and developments which resulted in the signing of the armistice. His talk also included the effect of what was happening in Russia and impact on society at home.

In welcoming Mike Mizen and the other guests, the President Nick Barrett advised those present that the Committee had accepted a Personal Membership application from Keven Nixon, Director of AKS Skip Hire.

The Christmas Charity Meeting:

As you are aware the next meeting will be on **Friday** 14th December 2018 and not the second Wednesday of the month. Places are still available. If you have not yet sent in your booking and wish to attend, with or without guests the 'Book-by Date' has been extended to 30th November. Barry, the Hon. Secretary would appreciate knowing your intention and number of places required ahead of the 30th. If you cannot give your guest(s) names at the same time they can be sent later, with your payment or invoice request, but no later than the 30th please.

Guest Speaker: Ian Mackie, Chairman and Trustee of the Eastcoast Truckers Charity.

Venue- The Presidential Suite Mercure Norwich Hotel, 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm as usual.

Menu – Roast turkey, sausage wrapped in bacon, stuffing, roast potatoes, a selection of vegetables and gravy. Traditional Christmas pudding and brandy sauce. Tea/coffee & mince pies.

Cost - 17.50 per person payable when booking. Five portions of cheese and biscuit are available on "first come first served basis at time of booking" as an alternative to the desert at no extra charge. Any additional Cheese and biscuit options over the five will be charged at £2.50 each.

Bookings – including full names of any guests by no later than **Wednesday 30th Nov. 2018**, at the very latest, to the Hon. Secretary at thenorwichtrafficclub@gmail.com or text **07789103154**. Please advise if you require a vegetarian meal; have any other dietary requirement or would like to have cheese and biscuits instead of the dessert. B&B rooms are still available in the Hotel at £85.

Summer Outing 2019.

We still need to hear from many members as to:

either their preference from the three venue options of:

- A guided tour of RAF Marham, a talk and viewing time in the Heritage Centre followed by a meal at a local hostelry.
- Visit to the Palace House Horseracing Museum, Newmarket including a buffet lunch.
- Tour of the St George's English Whisky Distillery, East Harling including a whisky tasting and meal.

or that they would not want to/could not visit any of them.

As previously advised, if we do not want to miss the opportunity, we need to make an early decision. Two of the venues are already accepting bookings well into next year. RAF Marham tours are booked up into April 2019. If you have not let Barry have your vote please email or text him with "RAF" or "Horse" or "Whisky" or "None" by the end of November.

A copy of the document setting out the three Outing details is enclosed

continued

Officer Contact Numbers

The President -- Nick Barrett Tel: 07766903230

Vice President -- Joe Howard

Hon. Treasurer – David Baxter Tel: 07770 343359

Hon Secretary - Barry Parnell Tel: 07789 103154

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Club Chaplain – Revd. David Smith Tel: 01953 717386

79th Annual Dinner. – Enclosed is the Reservation form the 2019 Annual Dinner which will be held on Friday 15th February 2019. March may seem a long way off but, as many of you know, arranging for guests takes time as does the detailed planning of the event. The 'Book-by date' is 31st January 2019. The ticket price has had to be increased by £1.00 to £46.00 per head to take account of the £1.00 inflation increase being charged by the Hotel. This year we have managed to once again hired Ian Richards, the comedian who went down such a storm at the 2017 evening, as the after-dinner speaker. In addition, Sean Goodman a close-up magician will be performing at the tables.

This event works best when we fill the room to capacity. Please try to come and bring as many guests as you can. As in the last few years, if you know of a non-member company or organisation who you think might like to have a table and invite their customers/suppliers we would be happy to accommodate them. Just let Barry Parnell know or get them to contact him.

In last month's Newsletter the matter of affording the Annual Dinners and need for attracting sponsorship was raised. Anniversary of the Club's foundation. To help meet the cost of each year's event, and to start building a fund for a 90th Anniversary Dinner in 2023, the following Sponsorship Plan has been proposed: For each event we are seeking:

- A Main Sponsor £500 - in recognition we will acknowledge this and include their name (and logo where appropriate) in all documentation, advertising and press reports etc for the event, together with the chance to dress the room for the event.
- An After-dinner/Entertainment Sponsor £250 – whose name (and logo where appropriate) will appear alongside all mention of the speaker/entertainer in all documentation, advertising and reports on the event.
- A Meal Sponsor £100 – whose name (and logo where appropriate) will be included on the menu page of the Programme/Menu cards.
- Table Sponsorships of £30 – enabling table hosts not only the chance to dress their table(s) but to have their company logo included in the acknowledgements section of the Programme/Menu cards.

We hope you want to help make the Annual Dinners a continuing success, the highlight of the Club year and a marketplace for your Company. Please consider becoming a sponsor for the March 2019 Annual Dinner and discuss the opportunity with Nick Barrett, President or the Hon. Secretary, Barry Parnell

Member Networking – Networking is the major purpose of our Club but what do you know about all the fellow members who are at each meeting?

In the October Newsletter we asked for a couple of members when booking to volunteer to give a brief talk about themselves, their careers, interests etc. At the November meeting, Trevor Eady and Mike Artherton gave such talks which were well received by all present.

We are not asking for anyone to follow in Trevor and Mike's footsteps for the December meeting. However, we will continue with similar member 'this is me' talks at each meeting, other than the Annual Dinner, starting again in January. When booking your attendance at any meeting let Barry know that you are willing to stand up and tell the gathered assembly something about you, your career, interests and anything else you feel may interest them. No more than 5 to 8 minutes would be ideal.

Improving our Public Presence – Some of you may have seen the article entitled "Carrow Road legend had a hand in creating unusual Norwich Club" in the Weekend Supplement of the Saturday 17th November EDP. The article gave information on the Club's formation; history. The involvement of Charles and Geoffrey Watling and our recent involvement in modern transportation matters. The intention of commissioning the article from Derek James, ex EDP and Evening News journalist, was to hopefully generate public and institutional interest in what we are and do.

We can report early success. We have been recognised by the Transportation Team of Norwich City Council as a Consultative Group and added to the list of organisations for be included in future consultations. This Team work with County Council colleagues to implement the Transport for Norwich Strategy Schemes.

This is just the start of what needs to be an ongoing process. Earlier in November we had a letter published in the EDP dealing with the glib response from Greater Anglia to complaints about the high level of cancellations and constant late arrival times on the Norwich – Cambridge line. We need your help and input. We will consult you when the Council approaches us for comment on any proposed schemes, but we also need to be proactive. We need you to let the Committee know about any transportation issue, road; rail; air, that you have concern or interest in. This can then be discussed at member meetings and decisions made on how we take such matters forward with appropriate authorities.



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2018-2019 Season - Club Outings Survey

Last season, for various reasons we were unable to organise a Summer Outing. Consequently, to give more time to seek member views, negotiate and make the arrangements, we have started the research and decision process earlier.

Your Committee looked at nine potential venue options and at the October Members meeting those present were asked to select their preferences from these options. The outing would take place in late May or in June 2019.

In no particular order the top three selected in that initial member survey were:

- RAF Marham
- Palace House Horseracing Museum, Newmarket
- St George's English Whisky Company, East Harling.

The Committee now needs input from all members, including those who took part in the initial survey, as to which of the three options you would prefer. We can then speak in more detail with the venue which the majority would most like to visit. Detailed information on each option is given below. Please take the costs as indicative of what charges may be as they are this year's figures and may be slightly different for next year. Negotiations on the chosen venue may also allow for some discount. As usual for our outings, your guests, whether business, family or friends are very welcome, and, in most cases, we can get the best deal from larger attendance numbers.

Once you have decided on your preference please advise Barry Parnell which one it is by, either emailing to the [norwichtrafficclub.co.uk](http://www.norwichtrafficclub.co.uk) or by texting to 07789103154, one of the following words:

- **"RAF"** (if the RAF Marham is your choice) **or**
- **"Horse"** (if you would prefer the Palace House Horse Museum), **or**
- **"Whisky"** (for the English Whisky Co) **or**
- **"None"** if you would not be likely to attend any of the three options.

If texting please include your full name so that we can contact you once the final option has been decided.

Alternatively, you can phone your decision to Barry on 07789103154. If you need further information before making your decision, Barry is happy to take your call. **It would be greatly appreciated if you could register your vote as soon as possible by Saturday 1st December 2018, even if it is "None".**

RAF Marham – Tour of the Base and visit to the Heritage Centre Museum

The visit would have to take place on either a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon. **Numbers are limited to a maximum of 20.**

Starting with tea and coffee whilst receiving a briefing from the Media and Community Officer. We would then visit the Heritage Centre. We will receive a talk on, 100 years history of RAF Marham and aviation in East Anglia, from its beginnings as a Royal Flying Corps Home Defence Airfield in 1916 through to the Second World War, the Cold War, today's modern operations, the Tornado GR4, and the F35 Lightning with No. 617 Squadron 'The Dambusters'. After looking at the exhibits in the museum, we will be taken on a one hour guided coach tour of the base. This will finish by stopping off to look at a Victor aircraft, a Tornado Aircraft and the opportunity to take photos. For more information on the Heritage Centre go to www.marhamhub.co.uk/heritage-centre.

Travel – By midi coach from Norwich to RAF Marham.

Cost - RAF Marham make no charge for the tour and Heritage Centre visit (donations appreciated). The coach will cost a total of circa £350. i.e. £17.50 per person if the full quota of 20 for the event is carried.

Food & Drink – Other than tea/coffee provided at the Base we will look, subject to member interest, to have further refreshments or a meal in the area or back in Norwich, after the visit.

Continued

Palace House Horseracing Museum, Newmarket.

This National Heritage Centre is a five-acre site in the heart of Newmarket. It comprises three complementary attractions; National Horseracing Museum in the Trainer's House and King's Yard Galleries, Packard Galleries of British Sporting Art in Palace House, and a chance to meet former racehorses in the flagship home of Retraining of Racehorses. There is a restaurant, bakery and shop onsite, plus a meeting room for group visit use. For more information go to www.palacehousenewmarket.co.uk. Likely visit time 3 to 4 hours.

Open – 7 days per week, 10.00 to 17.00. Group visits take place during normal opening hours. The visit would start with a briefing in the "Tack Room" about the Museum and its heritage and services to horseracing after which the attendees are free to visit all the attractions and events. Lunch, in the form of a buffet can be arranged and taken as a group in the "Tack Room". Alternatively, attendees could individually book a full lunch in the restaurant.

Costs: Admission for a group of 15 or more between £10.00 to £11.00 per person dependant on actual number. Children under 18yrs £6.00. Groups of less than 15 = £12.00

<u>Tack Room Food and Drink:</u> - Tea/Coffee etc	£2.00 to £ 4.00 per serving
Wines -	£5 to £5.50 per glass. £19 to £22.00 per bottle.
Finger Buffer** – sandwiches, sausage rolls etc	£11.00 per person or
Continental Buffet**-	£13.00 per person.

Assuming a group of over 15, taking tea/coffee and one of the buffets the cost per adult would be around £26 to £29.

***As an alternative to taking lunch at the museum we could arrange a meal after the visit at a local restaurant or possible the Bedford Hotel just north of the town centre.*

Travel -By coach from Norwich. The coach would cost £400. Max capacity 49 persons. Cost per person would be pro-rata depending on number – e.g. -20 = £20 per person; 30 = £13.33; 40 = £10.etc.

The English Whisky Company, St George's Distillery, East Harling

We could choose from one of two tours:

1. World of Whisky Tour – A two-hour tour including tasting between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Group size from 14 to 24 persons. Price £45 per person. Minimum age 18.

Normally run Saturday or Sunday, once per month but a weekday tour could be arranged.

Starting tea/coffee whilst waiting for the tour to begin we would then take a guided tour, with the chief whisky maker, of the distilling floor and the No 1 warehouse to see the whisky casks. Following the tour there will be a one hour tasting session whiskies from around the world. Minimum age 18.

2. Distiller's Tour - A two-hour tour including tasting between 10.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday and from 3.00 on a Sunday. Group size from 14 to 24 persons. Price £45 per person.

This is similar to the World of Whisky Tour but has a more in-depth look at the distillery and barrel store followed by an hour in a private room tasting the various whiskies produced at the St George's Distillery.

Both tours can be linked with a 2 course, fixed menu, meal in the Kitchen Restaurant at an additional £14 per person. Alternatively, we could arrange something separately at another local or Norwich restaurant.

Travel – Given the alcohol tasting involved in this option we would arrange a mini coach from Norwich to East Harling. Total cost for the coach £325. Cost per person pro-rata to number of passengers. Minimum £13.55, maximum £23.25.

We hope one of these three options will meet the approval of most of you. Please bear in mind that the costs are current for 2018 and may well be slightly higher next year. As previously mentioned. please let Barry know your preference, even if it is none of them, as soon as possible and no later than Saturday 1st December. This applies even if you attended the October meeting and voted in the initial survey. Both the RAF Marham Tour and St Georges Distillery are already taking bookings in to April 2019, so we will have to make early decisions if one of those is chosen as the favourite.

Barry Parnell, Hon Secretary