



# NTC News

Oct 2018

Keeping Members informed

[www.norwichtrafficclub.co.uk](http://www.norwichtrafficclub.co.uk)

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The 10<sup>th</sup> October meeting, our first in this season, was well attended with a total of 23 members and guests sitting down to an excellent meal. The evening's speaker, Michael Sparkes from the Norfolk Wherry Trust provided an interesting, fully illustrated talk covering the history of the wherry starting with it's evolution from the Norfolk Keel boats, its use as a major freight carrier between Great Yarmouth and Norwich, through to transition following the advent of the railways to use as a pleasure craft. The talk was well received and prompted many questions from the members. We were pleased to welcome two of the new members appointed in the last month, Gary Lee, from Indigo Waste Services and Simon Howard from Self Drive Hire. Two other guests were welcomed, Frank James, an ex-police officer and Kevin Nixon from AKS Skip Hire who respectively attended as guests of Maurice Morson and Nick Barrett.

## **Next Month's Meeting: Wednesday 14th November 2018 -**

**Guest Speaker:** As 2018 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WW1 armistice, Mike Mizen, an Associate Member of the Guild of Battlefield Guilds' talk will be "1918 and Beyond" covering the last few months of the war and the immediate aftermath both on the home front and parts of Europe..

**Venue-** The Chairman's Suite Mercure Norwich Hotel, 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm as usual.

**Menu** - Roast pork, apple sauce and crackling Roast potatoes, carrots and green beans followed by Baked vanilla New York cheesecake, apple and blackberry compote, Tea/coffee & mints

**Cost** - 17.50 per person payable on the night. 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 by no later than Wednesday 7th Nov. 2018**, at the very latest, to the Hon. Secretary at [thenorwichtrafficclub@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## **Reminder - The Christmas Dinner Meeting – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

As per last month, a copy of the booking form for this year's event is attached. This is always a very popular event not only members to bring business guests but also friends and family. As last year this will be a charity event. We will hold a game of "Gloss or Horse", similar to "Heads or Tails", to collect funds for the East Coast Truckers.

The Charity has a very dedicated team of non-paid members and apart from their well-known Children's convoy, organise day trips for disabled and underprivileged children within East Anglia. The charity provides equipment for special schools, hospitals and children not funded by the NHS. They also provide free holidays for the families of the children on their database in their two holiday homes on the North Norfolk coast. This alone cost about £12,000 per year to fund.

Places are limited to 120. Please book early, by 15<sup>th</sup> November ideally, so as not to miss out and give us plenty of time to finalise arrangements and, if necessary, make any contractual changes with the Hotel should numbers dictate the need. *If you are unable to supply all your guest's names by that date please submit your form and payment without them all and advise the names by no later than 30<sup>th</sup> November.*

### **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

Email [thenorwichtrafficclub@gmail.com](mailto:thenorwichtrafficclub@gmail.com)

Club Chaplain – Revd. David Smith Tel: 01953 717386

**Affording the Annual Dinner.** – As each year passes it is becoming more and more difficult to find good after-dinner speakers/entertainers we can afford. We were fortunate Hugh J Boswell offered to sponsor the speaker at last March's event otherwise, instead of just breaking even, we would have run it at a loss as has been the case in recent years. We want to keep the ticket price affordable whilst continuing to make the Dinners an event which members and their guests really enjoy. In addition, we would like to be able to put on a special Dinner in 2023 to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Club's foundation. To help meet the cost of each year's event, and to start building a fund for 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. In respect of next March's Dinner, we have luckily been able to engage again the services of Ian Richards, the Comedian/After-dinner speaker who went down a storm with all who were present at the 2017 event.

**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?

This was discussed at the last Committee meeting. We ask new members when attending their first meeting to say a few words about themselves and their businesses and introduce any guests. But many of us, particularly the newer members, know little about many of the others present in the room. Typically, we tend to sit with the same people at each meeting. There may well be someone present who has similar interests, or you would like to consider doing business with of which you are unaware.

To overcome just basic lack of knowledge about some of the fellow members we would like one or two, volunteers at each meeting to stand up, introduce themselves and speak briefly about their business, any interests they have and their time with the Club. Each talk should be no more than 1 or 2 minutes and would take place during coffee.

To that end, and to get this off the ground, we hope that a couple of the members planning to attend the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November will volunteer. Please, if planning to attend the November meeting, consider being the first to take part in this initiative and let Barry Parnell know when making your booking.

You might also consider, changing the table you sit on each month as a way to introducing yourself to members you have not yet met.

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