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Dear Member,

I hope you and your family are all well and coping with the restrictions this coronavirus emergency is placing on our everyday lives.

This month's Newsletter deals with:

- The important business which, in the absence of an Annual General Meeting, we will have to deal with by email correspondence or post.
- The re-scheduled Annual Dinner.
- The appointment in March of two new members, one a Personal Membership, the other Corporate.

Barry Parnell, Hon Secretary

### **The Annual General Meeting and Committee Elections.**

As advised in last month's Newsletter, whilst we cannot hold a meeting to conduct the mandatory A.G.M. business, it is necessary for continuity that we should try to complete it, enable you to have your say and ensure a committee is in place beyond 13<sup>th</sup> May when the tenure of every one of the committee members will cease.

The plan is to issue as soon as they are all to hand, hopefully by 1<sup>st</sup> May:

- draft minutes of the 2018-19 A.G.M.
- Hon. Treasurer's Report and the Annual Accounts.
- President's Annual Report.

In relation to the draft minutes and the Hon. Treasurers Report with Annual Accounts, please consider the content of these and advise Barry Parnell, Hon. Secretary within 7 days of receipt (by email, or if necessary, post) of any questions you may have or reason(s) for not accepting the documents. We will answer any questions you have within a further 7 days and if we do not hear from you to the contrary, we will take it that you are happy to accept the Minutes and Hon. Treasurers Report with Annual Accounts as they stand.

The 2020/21 Committee. We are not able to hold the normal election process, nor can we develop manageable and safe on-line or postal voting systems in reasonable time. The Committee has considered enacting a bye-law to enable the members of the current committee to automatically continue in post for a further year. This has now been agreed and the following byelaw enacted was immediate effect -

In accordance with the power invested in the Committee under Rule 7 to from time to time make, vary and revoke Bye-laws the tenure of all the 2019/20 committee members, who agreed to stand for re-election at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, will be extended for one year only. In addition, each of the standing Officers will remain in their current role until the May 2021 Elections.

As all bar, Maurice Morson and Janice Howells, decided to stand for re-election your 2020-21 seasons will consist of:

- |                                  |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Nick Barrett – President       | • Pio Altarelli                      |
| • Joe Howard – Vice President    | • Donna Howlett – Keeper of the Book |
| • David Baxter – Hon. Treasurer  | • Ken Lister                         |
| • Barry Parnell – Hon. Secretary | • Vaughan Rowley – Haberdasher       |
|                                  | • Roy West.                          |

Whilst Maurice and Janice are standing down as Committee Members they are still remaining as Club members. I am sure you will join with us and thank them for their dedication and input as Committee Members during the last seven or more years, Maurice as President in 2013; 2016 and 2017.

As the ideal committee would comprise the Officers plus a further seven members there will initially be two vacancies. We will be looking to fill these as soon as possible by co-option for the 2020-21 season and hope a number of you will put your names forward.

### **Officer Contact Numbers**

The President — Nick Barrett Tel: 07766903230

Hon. Treasurer – David Baxter Tel: 07770 343359

Club Chaplain – Revd. David Smith Tel: 01953 717386

Vice President — Joe Howard: 01603 727693

Hon Secretary - Barry Parnell Tel: 07789 103154

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## 2020 Annual Dinner -

Unfortunately, after being forced to cancel the March event, the 14<sup>th</sup> August was the only alternative date the Hotel could accommodate a replacement Dinner this calendar year. We also need to consider it would only be financially viable if we attracted an attendance level similar to that which was booked in March.

Whilst the date of 14<sup>th</sup> August has been booked with the Mercure Hotel, we are still no nearer to knowing whether or not we will be able to hold it. Until the Government's intentions regarding the timeframe and methodology for relaxing lockdown and social distancing is published the holding of this type of event and even our normal monthly meeting is in doubt. The next Government review is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Nevertheless, some degree of planning needs to go on so that, as soon as the situation is clarified, we can even at short notice decide to go ahead or cancel. To that end we have: -

- Established that the original guest speaker, Ager Brown would not be available on the 14<sup>th</sup> August but instead provisionally booked an alternative after-dinner speaker/comedian, Ian Irving.
- Registered the new date with the City Council's Civic Office. However, they are unable to confirm the availability of the Lord Mayor or Sherriff as both are not committing to any appointments at this time

The Committee will review the situation again in the last week of May, based on the latest Government advice and regulations. To assist our discussions, it would be especially useful to have an idea of what the likely attendance at a 14<sup>th</sup> August Annual Dinner would be. To that end we need all members, both those who had booked to attend the March event and any who would have liked to have been able to have done so, to let Barry Parnell know a.s.a.p.:

1. Your wish to attend an Annual Dinner on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August if we can hold it?
2. If you previously booked to attend the March event but would not be available to attend in August.
3. If you previously invited guests, would you do so again and are they still available and would want to come? We realise you may have some difficulty with contacting them all at this time but would appreciate knowing the intentions of as many as possible.

The greater the completeness of the information, the easier it will be for us to make definitive decisions.

## New Members –

At the March Committee Meeting we were pleased to accept two membership applications.

As a Personal Member – Mr Terry Carson, Workshop Manager at Norse Eastern Ltd. Some members may well remember Terry who is a returning member having left us quite some years ago.

For Corporate Membership – MA & HV Medler (Haulage) Ltd. The primary membership representative is Mrs Sarah Alston, Company Secretary. The Additional Representatives, who may also attend meetings are - Phillip Daniels, Depot Manager; Darron Plowman-Read, Transport Manager; Simon Pegg, Operations Manager.

We look forward to seeing them all and welcoming them properly as soon as we can resume our meetings.

The Committee, from personal experiences are aware how difficult things are at this time particularly for those in business, furloughed or working from home and are conscious of placing any additional burden on members. We want to do our best to keep the Club going and get back to something near normal as soon as possible. Your help in doing this would be extremely appreciated. For those of you who find it difficult to attend the Annual General Meetings, this year provides an opportunity for you to play some part.

Barry as usual will be happy to hear from you at any time by email, text and phone call. Not only in relation to the above but also how you are coping with all the restrictions and any views you may have on the running of the Club, our events and its likely future.

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