

Dear Member

26 February 2021

Good news!

I am sure you are really looking forward to being able to meet with your friends in the Fellowship. Now that there is a clear plan as to how restrictions can be eased during this year there is reason for optimism. Branches should be able to meet after 21<sup>st</sup> June indeed the Barking, Havering and Brentwood Branch have already announced that their first meeting will be on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Before that from 17<sup>th</sup> May branches could organize outdoor activities for up to 30 people and indoor meetings of up to six can commence again. The Walsall Branch has now called an outdoor meeting for 20<sup>th</sup> May.

Like you I am looking forward to enjoying freedoms from the “new normal” in the summer.

Following the Prime Minister’s announcement the Trustees have agreed that we should continue to plan for our Conference/AGM in Manchester, 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October. My initial soundings confirm that regular conference attendees cannot wait to meet up with their friends from all over the country. We will let you know the details as soon as they are available.

At its recent meeting the Trustees thanked Audrey Harris who will be standing down as a trustee from 31<sup>st</sup> March. Audrey, as many of you will know has been a long serving and active member of the Fellowship. She joined the Basildon & Thurrock Branch in 2001 and almost immediately became their social secretary and since then has held many national roles including Chairman 2015-2017 and most recently as Chairman of the Benevolent Fund.

This means we now have two vacancies for trustees who are members of the Fellowship. The main duties of trustees are to run the charity and manage the charity resources responsibly. If you would like to consider becoming a trustee please contact central office so that I can explain more fully what the role entails. The trustees meet three times a year but there is also the opportunity for members to become part of a sub committee but the duties are not too onerous or time consuming.

You will have received your February 2021 Fellowship Newsletter and Fellowship Extra with my last letter by following the links below.

However you do need to enter a username and password which is printed on your membership card. To remind you they are to be typed in exactly as shown here

Username: member    Password: nhsrf-2019 (*the password is the word member not your name or number*).

Fellowship Newsletter February 2021

<http://nhsrf.org.uk/resources/a1-newsletter-february-2021/>

Fellowship Extra February 2021

<http://nhsrf.org.uk/resources/fellowship-extra-february-2021/>

The Fellowship's Book Club is a growing success and if you would like to join or find out more please contact central office.

I know you will be as delighted as I was that following an appeal to branches the Fellowship delivered over 100 birthday cards to Joan Dew on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and she was overwhelmed by the cards and messages.

Inevitably over the last year our membership numbers have reduced and as the restrictions ease you might like to encourage your friends and former colleagues to join the Fellowship.

I cannot wait to start visiting branches again and I look forward to meeting many of you again.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely



John Rostill OBE  
Chief Executive