

28 June 2021

Dear Member

The new Secretary of State, Sajid Javid, has said *"I am incredibly honoured to take up the post of Health and Social Care Secretary, particularly during such an important moment in our recovery from Covid-19. This position comes with a huge responsibility and I will do everything I can to deliver for the people of this great country. Thanks to the fantastic efforts of our NHS and Social care staff who work tirelessly every day, and our phenomenal vaccination programme, we have made enormous progress in the battle against this dreadful disease. I want our country to get out of this pandemic and that will be my most immediate priority"*

The new Health Secretary is expected to use his first commons address today to confirm that restrictions in England will not be eased next week but that they should go ahead on 19 July. The other countries in the UK have dates pencilled in.

Assuming the restrictions are lifted meetings could take place in the summer and get back to some form of near normality. As we come out of lockdown there may be other areas of interest that you might like to pursue.

Firstly, every NHS Foundation Trust advertises for members and encourages the local population to join - this gives you regular information about what's going on in your local NHS organisation and you may feel that this would be of interest to you.

Once you have joined, you may even consider submitting your name as a potential Governor of the Foundation Trust. Governors are elected within local constituencies. The Council of Governors plays a key role in taking the Trust forward and ensuring it is meeting the needs of its communities. Governors gather the views of members to give them a voice at the highest level of the organisation and work closely with the Trust Board to influence decision making and ensuring all services are improving.

Our National Council is set up along the same lines, as the principal advisory body to the Board of Trustees.

I know that some of our members are already Governors and if you are, perhaps you would like to write to me and let me know how you became involved, why you became involved and it may be possible to use some of this information to encourage others to follow suit.

I know that a number of our members have actually joined the Patients Association and you may remember the Chief Executive, Rachel Power, speaking at one of our annual conferences. Membership is free and you will receive a regular weekly newsletter giving a wealth of current news and information. You will also have the opportunity of participating in surveys or events.

As we move towards holding our meetings again, it's time to think about increasing our membership figures. I make no apology for referring to this again, but clearly history demonstrates that the most successful way of recruiting new members is by word of mouth. So, when your branch meetings re-start why don't you take a friend to the meetings? If you get enjoyment and satisfaction out of the Fellowship why wouldn't they?

The Mirthy talks continue to be popular with over 700 members registering for each event, the next ones are:-

13 July 10.45am The King and his 14 Wives  
27 July 10.45am A Passion for Fashion

I know that some of you will be celebrating the 73rd birthday of the NHS on Monday July 5th with an afternoon tea. If you are, don't hesitate in putting pictures on our Facebook page or writing to me. This is an ideal opportunity to fundraise for the NHS through NHS Charities Together and their Big Tea. You will be aware that this Charity supports local NHS charities and has risen to prominence in the last 15 months or so with millions of pounds raised to support its work mainly through the efforts of Captain Sir Tom Moore. You can find out more about them here <https://www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk/nhs-big-tea/>

We continue to plan to hold our conference in Manchester in October and details were sent out by Isle of Wight Tours to branch secretaries. We very much hope that members will attend. Initial response has been slow so if you are considering attending I would be grateful if you would contact Isle of Wight Tours to book your place. I have enclosed the information with this letter.

I hope you enjoyed the summer edition of the Fellowship Newsletter and you read the piece about the Fellowship collaborating with the newly founded College of General Dentistry. Discussions are going well and the College has asked me to find a number of volunteers (probably no more than 5) who can help to formulate patient involvement processes with the College. This is an ideal opportunity to shape the future of the colleges engagement with patients and public. If you are interested, please write to me and I will be happy to discuss it further with you.

I hope you also read the item about Hammersmith member Shermane Peters and her book. You will be aware that a number of our members have written books and I am happy to give publicity to them in my regular letter. Colin Denby who is the husband of one of our members has written a book called The Price of Freedom which is his first book and recounts his experiences as a National Serviceman from the age of 21 in 1960 and is fictionalised to protect the innocent but the events are all based on facts. Colin kindly sent me a copy of his book a while ago I have read it and it is well worth reading. The website [www.colindenby.co.uk](http://www.colindenby.co.uk) will give you details and his email and mobile phone number.

With kind regards



John Rostill OBE



# Conference & AGM 2021

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021**

*staying at the 4-Star Mercure Piccadilly Hotel in Manchester*

**YOUR CONFERENCE PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- 2 nights Half Board en-suite Hotel Accommodation
- Party Night Thursday - 60s DJ Phil with Special Guest
- AGM & Conference with Conference Lunch & Chef's Treats
- Bucks Fizz Reception, Gala Dinner with Wine
- 60s Disco with the fantastic 5-Piece Party Band The New Casuals
- Saturday Coach Trip – Manchester Heritage & Quarry Bank Cotton Mill*

**£249.00 per person**

|  |                       |                                |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Friday Night, Conference & Gala Dinner       | £185pp                | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Conference/AGM & Gala Dinner                 | £99pp                 | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Conference/AGM Only                          | £49pp                 | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Special Offer for Saturday Night with Dinner | £79pp                 | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| <b>Room Upgrade (per room)</b>               |                       |                                |
| <i>City View Room</i>                        | £10pn                 | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| <i>Suite</i> £50pn <input type="checkbox"/>  | <i>Privilege Room</i> | £25pn <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Double (Sole Occupancy) Supplement           | £29pn                 | <input type="checkbox"/>       |

**Station Transfers**

Station Transfers are not needed this year as Manchester Metrolink Tram Stop (Piccadilly Gardens) is directly outside the hotel and is just 1 stop from Manchester Piccadilly Station and 3 stops from Manchester Victoria Station (Line 4 Bury – Piccadilly Line)

|  |        |                          |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| Walking Tour of Historic Manchester Thurs & Fri at 2pm | £8.50  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Coach Trip – Guided Tour & visit to Dunham Massey      | £31.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Your Details:**

Name .....

Address .....

Post Code ..... Phone Number.....

Email .....

Gala Dinner Seating .....

**Please fill in the booking details on the reverse of this form**

All prices are inclusive of VAT. Book Now to avoid disappointment, places are limited.

Cheques to be made payable to **Mount Pleasant (IOW) Ltd - IOW TOURS.**

**[iowtours.com](http://iowtours.com) • 01983 405116**



**DEPOSIT**

A non-refundable **BOOKING FEE** of **£20.00** per person is required by **31 July 2021** with this booking form.

**PAYMENT**

Full payment is due by **1 September 2021**

**CANCELLATION**

The following cancellation charges will apply:

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 14 day or less      | 100%             |
| 15 – 27 days        | 50%              |
| 28 – 42 days        | 30%              |
| More than 42 days – | Booking Fee Only |

All Booking Fees are non-refundable & not transferable.

**PICADILLY HOTEL**  
CAR PARK Sat Nav  
**M1 4BD**

**TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We recommend that you take out Travel Insurance. IOW Tours can arrange this for you.

Phone **01983 405116** for details.

