

London Members' Centre

supporting



Chairman's Newsletter

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www.nts-lmc.scot

Dear Members

Some of you, I know, are following up the various NTS on-line talks, so to expand on these your committee has so far had two "home brewed" ones. The take-up has been somewhat disappointing. Perhaps the time we picked is not good? It was chosen to allow those still working to turn on after work. Would you prefer an afternoon - or morning talk? Tell us. Anyhow, our next talk about the work being carried out at **The House of Dun** is at 12 noon on May 12th - immediately preceding our Annual General Meeting. I know when we've been meeting at Crown Court we have had the lecture first, then lunch and then a talk; the lunch break can be as long as we need. However, that order won't work with an on-line event; those who want the talk wouldn't know when to join us.

As well as the usual formal business, a couple of Constitution amendments are proposed. The first is to create a class of "Associate Members". This is to help the recruitment drive we plan to have once the Covid crisis is over. Associate Members would pay a higher subscription than 'real' members and their time as Associates would be limited. Hopefully, they would join the NTS in the fullness of time so that they could become our full members. The second amendment is simply to make our Constitution conform with the law as it stands.

The AGM papers (Chairman's Report, Accounts and Treasurer's Report) will be posted on the website when available, The notice calling the meeting and the agenda are enclosed with this Newsletter for those receiving it by post. It forms part of the email for the others. Those members may get a copy of the papers on the website if they contact me - my phone number is in the membership card you received last autumn.

I am very pleased to note that Norman Gill, who was our Hon Treasurer from 2012 to 2019 has agreed to become our Vice President; the AGM will be asked to confirm his appointment. Another appointment is that of Ian Caldwell to be our Vice Chairman. Ian has a good working knowledge of social media which will be extremely useful when we start our recruitment drive.

In June, we hope to hold our delayed Spring Tour. Margaret Cund (Tour organiser) writes:

NTS-LMC Spring Tour: Dundee and Angus

It was unfortunate - but unavoidable - that last year's Spring Tour to Dundee and Angus had to be cancelled. Little did we imagine then that, twelve months on, we should still be coming slowly out of lockdown. But Travel Editions and I are cautiously optimistic that, this year, the Tour will be able to go ahead in June, with a programme very similar, if not identical, to that announced last year. Certainly, hotels and tourist venues in Scotland, including NTS properties, are preparing to re-open from the end of April or during May.

We propose to gather in Edinburgh for one night on Wednesday 9th June before going on to Angus to spend four nights in Montrose, returning to Edinburgh late afternoon on Monday 14th June. Our programme ranges from the regenerated city of Dundee to the magnificent scenery of the Cairngorms, from the modest cottage that was the birthplace of J M Barrie to the grandeur of Glamis Castle, the childhood home of the late Queen Mother, and much more besides. A highlight is expected to be the recent developments at House of Dun, following the largest project being undertaken by the NTS this year. Of special interest will be the courtyard which is now to display the Angus Folk Museum collection, not seen by the public for some years.

Over 20 NTS-LMC members have already indicated that they wish to join this year's Tour if, as we hope, it can go ahead. If others would like to express an interest in joining us, they should contact Travel Editions Group Limited, 3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB, preferably by telephone (020 7553 6944) or email (groups@traveleditions.co.uk). The balance of payment will be sought only once the Tour can be confirmed in early May. It is worth noting that payment includes a donation to NTS funds – needed now more than ever.



I'm sorry to report the death, in February, of John Hollingsworth who was our Hon Secretary from 2001 to 2004. John and his wife Pat, to whom we send our condolences, had been members of LMC for over 30 years and regularly organised teas and raffles for our Pont Street meetings.

Once things start returning to normal, venues that we would like to visit will start taking bookings and we are hopeful that September will see our visits programme coming gently back to life, but I doubt if we will see 2 visits per month immediately. We certainly hope to be able to resume our meetings at Crown Court Church in November.

To keep us going until then, we have two more talks in the pipeline - on June 23rd and on a July date to be confirmed. Our June speaker is **Sally Lawton**.



Sally was a Nurse Educator in Scotland for over 30 years. She trained as a Nurse in Edinburgh, but spent nearly all her career in Aberdeen and spent many years working in Higher Education where she qualified as a Nurse teacher, then studied for and achieved a degree in History and English, a PhD and later on, an LL.M (in medical law). She returned to the National Health Service in 2004 to run the education unit at the Specialist Palliative Care Unit in Aberdeen until her retirement in 2015, though she returned to work within the NHS in 2020 and now works there part-time. .

Sally has always been fascinated by nursing in the First World War and has used her research in her book *'The Nurse Who Found Herself in 1916'*. Her talk will describe nursing challenges and achievements in caring for badly injured soldiers the First World War and make comparisons with nursing today, including the challenges of coronavirus.

I'll let you know details of our July talk in my emailed newsheets and in the July newsletter. Those of you for whom we don't have valid email addresses might be missing out. If you have a family member or a neighbour who could help you connect to the internet, then you should be able to benefit, not only from our talks, but also ones organised for Members' Centres by the NTS.

Keep safe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AL'.