

London Members' Centre

supporting



Chairman's Newsletter

October 2021

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www.nts-lmc.scot

Dear Members

We thought we were back in business, but it seems as though we were a bit optimistic. The proposed theatre visit to see *Les Miserables* attracted only three people. That might be because the visit was not for a matinee or maybe you don't really want to travel into Central London. We could only get a group booking discount with two dozen, so the outing has been cancelled. Only eleven people came to see the fully refurbished Theatre Royal Drury Lane, but we'd had to buy 20 tickets to get the tour. So, instead of a surplus to pass to the NTS, we made a loss. But, the Walk in Kensington was over subscribed, but with people dropping out, everybody is going.

The implication is that walks, being outdoors, are a 'good thing'. We will try and arrange some more; a slight problem is that Connie Sangster, our Walks Co-ordinator, is still at home in Amsterdam, but there will be ways round this.

The next "test" is our **Christmas Lunch & Lecture** which is planned for Crown Court Church Hall on 24th November. The Visit Sheet is enclosed with this Newsletter, but there is a short deadline for booking. Everybody who wishes to attend **must** let us know by 28th October. If we don't get enough people to make a surplus, then we will have to cancel our booking of the hall and abandon the lunch. The lecture will still go ahead, but on Zoom. Sadly, the building doesn't have wifi so we can't combine the two.

We are in a quandary! What do our members actually want? In the early part of the year we organised some Zoom talks but very few members joined in. For one, we only had 9 attendees. Was it the topics or the timing or were you Zoomed out? Do you not want to meet socially or is going into London totally off putting or was it something else? Enclosed with this Newsletter is a questionnaire so we can try to find out what our members really want (we can't get rid of Covid), so that we can plan future events. Please return it to me, address on the form.



Looking further ahead we will have our Spring Tour in June. Margaret Cund, our indefatigable tour co-ordinator has sent this: *(see over)*

SPRING TOUR 2022: Suffolk



Next year's Spring Tour will be based on the delightful Suffolk town of Bury St Edmunds from Thursday 23rd – Monday 27th June. Our starting and finishing points will be Stowmarket Station, which has a direct train service to London Liverpool Street Station.

Suffolk has a large number of National Trust properties, including stately homes and gardens, the last surviving Regency playhouse in Britain, and the archaeological site at Sutton Hoo. It is intended to include all of these, and much more, in our varied programme.



Both photographs taken from The Nation Trust website

Travel Editions is currently setting up arrangements for our visits. Members are invited to register an interest now, so that - in due course - they can be sent the full details of our programme, together with the cost of the Tour. Please contact them as follows:

Email: groups@traveleditions.co.uk

Telephone: 020 7251 0045

Post: Travel Editions Group Limited, 3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB



Best wishes

Charles Hope
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PS The website will carry the Newsletter and the Questionnaire