

The Royal Society of St. George



GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

PATRON: Mr. Edward Gillespie, O.B.E., His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire President: Councillor Pam Tracey, M.B.E. Chairman: Mrs. Pat Ayres, M.B.E.

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July 2023

Dear Members,

Summer lunch at Egypt Mill

Please come to lunch <u>on Sunday, 6 August - 12.30 for 1pm</u> at Egypt Mill, Stroud Rd, Nailsworth, Stroud GL6 0AE. Bring your family, friends and neighbours - even slight acquaintances! Let's have a happy couple of hours and forget all the doom and gloom around us at the moment.

We have opted for a slightly different Sunday lunch menu at a cost of £24 per head. Coffee and tea will be available as an optional extra after lunch at £3.50, payable on the day. The booking form is enclosed. Egypt Mill requires the food order by 26 July, so please return the form before then.

Egypt Mill is in a beautiful spot and we will have the lounge, bar and garden room to ourselves, so I hope to see you there.

Branch Annual General Meeting - a brief report

Pat Ayres presented her Chairman's Report with a moment's reflection in memory of Lady Carolyn Elwes and Roger Western. Pat mentioned the committee's efforts to increase membership, producing the poster that was circulated to all with the May newsletter and putting articles in several community and parish magazines. She also mentioned that Gloucester Day will take place on Saturday, 2 September, and we hope some members will join our Branch Standard in the parade.

Terry Adams presented the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022, which were circulated to all members with the AGM papers. These were approved unanimously with thanks to Terry for his usual meticulous accounting and to Roy Lewis for once again carrying out the audit. Terry also presented the accounts for this year's St. George's Day Service, which produced a deficit of £222 compared to a deficit of £379 in 2022. We were grateful for all donations towards the costs of the Service and Reception. We will be holding a full review of this year's Service at our next committee meeting, including ways to increase the congregation.

All the existing committee members were re-elected:

Pam Tracey, President
Pat Ayres, Chairman
Terry Adams, Treasurer
Margaret Fuller, Secretary
Brian Ayres

Keith Boreland
Jacqui Connell
Jane Jennings
Charles Tippet
Maureen Tomlinson

Keith Bawden

We held a short committee meeting after the AGM and Dee Langley was co-opted to fill the remaining vacancy. Dee has been a member for four years and attended several Branch events before then.

Nairac Awards

At the AGM Terry pointed out that the amount in the Nairac Awards Fund is diminishing. For several years we were very grateful for annual donations from the Cadbury Trust due to the kindness of Anne Cadbury. Those donations effectively covered each year's awards but ceased after Anne sadly died in January 2020. Other donations since then have helped the Fund but the committee will be looking at ways to raise money to support the Awards in future. Although the Awards are currently organised by the Branch committee, the Fund is completely separate from Branch finances so that if for any reason we can no longer organise them, they will continue in other hands.

The committee feels the Nairac Awards are very important to recognise youngsters who otherwise might be 'unsung heroes' and publicly promote their good deeds. It is never too early to nominate worthy young people under the age of 21 and living in Gloucestershire. If there is someone you know or hear about whom you feel is worthy of such recognition, please let me (Margaret) have their details and your reasons.

'Tale of Two Cities'

Branch member John Lee has kindly offered to give a talk on the history of Ypres and a date has now been arranged - Friday, 6 October at 2.30pm at The Farmers' Club, Gloucester, where there is plenty of on-site parking. The afternoon will finish with tea. Further details will follow in the next newsletter.

This is a shorter communication from me than usual (do I hear sighs of relief?) in order to send out the information for the lunch on 6 August as quickly as possible. Hopefully we will have a fine day, have almost forgotten the Australians taking the Ashes (surely), will have seen a strong showing by the British tennis players at Wimbledon (triumph of optimism over experience), have had the copious rain (which nearly always arrives during Wimbledon) that we've been wanting for our gardens and we will enjoy lovely company and good food.

Best wishes to you all,

Margaret

(Branch Secretary)