

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS REPORT
For the
Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 26th March 2024**

Following my previous practice, I produced two Newsletters during 2023, one in the spring and the other at the beginning of December. The general structure followed my normal pattern of six pages, with the front page containing my editorial plus formal notices, such as for this AGM that appeared in the December edition.

The remaining pages contained information about events in the next six months or so, followed by reports on recent past events, most of which were provided by the relevant organisers, so my thanks to them.

There was just one variation from normal. Co-incident with the production of the spring edition, we heard of the sad death of Chris House. Unfortunately, the printed copies had already been dispatched, but I was able to add a note in the copy which goes on to our web-site. Our chairman, Rob, kindly provided a fuller obituary for the December copy.

After fourteen years, I have decided to step down as editor, so I thought I would give a few comments about the twenty six editions that I have produced. They are all on our web-site, by the way, together with those of my predecessor, Philip Talmage.

My first one included reports on a Thames cruise written by our then Regional Chairman, a tour of the Inns of Court, and one of Old Palace School. It also included notice of the 2012 AGM to be held in Allders (remember them?)

In the second edition, there appeared the first report by Judy, who is also standing down today. I regret to say it contained the all-too-common fact that it was pouring with rain, as it was an outside visit! I have already thanked my contributors, but a special mention for Judy. Her reports were always very comprehensive (which sometimes meant I had to do some jiggling with the layout of the Newsletter to avoid the last two or three words spilling over to the next page!) but how she retained so much information that we were given by the guides, who conducted her visits, I do not know! Thank you Judy.

Over the years, as we have gained more and more e-mail addresses, we have been able to reduce the numbers that we have needed to print, which enabled me to provide colour copies of the Newsletters after a while. At the start we were printing about 500 copies in black-and-white. This meant an army of us was needed to envelope and attach address labels and postage stamps. The number printed is now less than 50. Unfortunately the cost of printing these has increased enormously, but the enveloping recently has been done just by Maggie, my wife and myself. So I cannot finish without thanking Maggie for all the background work she has done over the years in enabling us to issue the Newsletters, and to the Committee for spotting errors and for suggesting amendments to my draft copies.

I do hope someone will come forward to take over the editorship, if not today then very soon. The next issue would normally go out in the next month or so. I am very happy to chat with anyone who would like to take over, but whoever it is, it is yours to produce as you wish. And thank you all for being my avid readers!

Dave NEWLAND
Newsletter Editor, Croydon Aviva Fellowship
11.03.2024