

# London Members' Centre

In aid of



## Chairman's Newsletter

July 2024

(a Recognised Scottish Charity No. SC 027207)

Dear Members

My appeal in my last Newsletter for more members to attend the Annual General Meeting seemed to work, we more than doubled the number to give our speaker a reasonable sized audience. Who knew that "Brogue" is the Gaelic for 'shoe'?

Will this issue's appeal have a similar effect? Subscription renewal notices were sent out with last mail and quite number of you have not renewed. If we don't receive your renewal by the end of September, then we will have to say "goodbye" and you won't get any further information from us. This will, in any case the last of the "printed to all" issue. Posting the Newsletter and associated Visits notices costs quite a significant amount and we know that a great many of you now receive material via email. However, we also know that even if you have given us an email address it might not be a good way to get our material for various reasons. Please let Jennifer (in her Membership Secretary rôle), or myself, know if you would like to continue to receive our quarterly communication by post.

Another casualty of this cost cutting exercise is our stopping of posting a Membership Card. In years gone by, this card listed all events planned for the future year, but now it just lists the contact details of the committee; you are never asked to show your Membership Card at events, in any case. We are supplying a printed list of the committee and their details with this posting, so please keep it safe! We need to thank Janet for producing this, in addition to her work for us finding speakers for our meetings.

Events planned to this quarter are:

A Walk on The History of Tea on 30<sup>th</sup> August - run by Connie Sangster

A Visit to West Horsley Place on 5<sup>th</sup> September - run by myself

Also detailed: the Christmas Lecture on 21<sup>st</sup> November. Please put this in your diaries.

Information on all these events is enclosed separately with this mailing.

Only two visits in the quarter is a reflection on the shortage of Visits Organisers/Leaders. Please, some people are needed to join the 3 we have at the moment. Do contact Jennifer Schoon for details of what is involved.

Earlier this year a group of members attended the Brick Lane Music Hall Pantomime and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A return trip is planned for next January (the 23<sup>rd</sup> to be precise) so we'd like to know about likely attendees so that we can buy the right number of tickets - this time the show title is "Pinocchio and his Wooden Whopper". (The theatre does provide an excellent tea in the interval.)

I also need to tell you that the Spring Tour to the Cotswolds was a great success and enjoyed by all those attending. A short "write-up" is enclosed with this posting although, unlike last year, the photographs are only in shades of grey. The website version - already there, in contrast, has them in glorious colour. Just as a "teaser"; next year's tour will be to Aberdeenshire - where the NTS have a great many properties. Hopefully, full details will be published in October. Margaret Cund, who is organising the tour, is already visiting the area to look out suitable places to visit.

You might be interested in the St Andrews Book Festival - 25 November to 1 December. Details are carried on the Scots in London website: [www.scotsinlondon.org](http://www.scotsinlondon.org).

I hope to see 20 of you at West Horsley Place in September.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'C' followed by a loop and a tail, representing the name Charles Hope.

Charles Hope