

# FRIENDS OF DISS MUSEUM

2016 Committee: Chairman/Secretary, David Young;  
Vice-Chairman, Mike Clarke; Treasurer, Brian Horner;  
Sally Payne; Basil Abbott (ex-officio)

FoDMPreSea170223  
David Young  
34, Louie's Lane  
Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4LS  
Tel. 01379 642168  
Email:- fodimus@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

23rd February 2017

On behalf of the committee I wish you a Happy New Year. Please find herewith:

Notice, hereby, of the Season Start and Stewards' Briefing  
Annual Programme 2017, card enclosed  
Membership Application/Renewal Form, enclosed  
Notice, hereby, of AGM, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 7.30, St Mary's Hall

## **Season Start and Stewards' Briefing**

The season starts on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am when the actor Ian Lavender will cut the ceremonial ribbon. Earlier that day, Radio Norfolk's Wally Webb will interview Basil. The briefing for stewards will take place in the Shambles, as usual on the previous day, Friday 10<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. During the course of season we hope to introduce a new system of steward co-ordination based upon each steward's preferred days.

## **Annual Programme**

Following the success of "pilot" meetings last July and August, our Programme includes a full list of "Third Friday" lectures from March to December. Our thanks go to Mike Clarke for preparing this. We have not included any Charity Sales but hope to hold one or two during the season. We have not included an outing as last year's didn't cover its cost let alone make a contribution to Museum Funds. If there is a feeling among the membership in favour of an outing, hopefully we can arrange something suitable. But, it must be remembered that we are a fund-raising organisation. All of our activities must make a contribution to our running costs and Diss Museum projects. The card shows Mike Clarke and David Young as Chairman and Secretary respectively in anticipation of the AGM. Sally Payne has agreed to be a Steward Co-ordinator. We thank Rosemary Palmer heartily for her many years in this role.

## **Membership Application/Renewal Form**

Sadly, we cannot operate the membership system without a form so, please complete yours and let us have it together with your payment before April 1<sup>st</sup>. On the Programme Card we quote the clause from our Constitution regarding subscription payment. In practice we allow for senior moments. On the new form, **Life Members** are asked to confirm that they wish to continue membership. In some cases we have no telephone number or email address with which to check so, please do reply or risk removal from the list. Subscriptions have not changed for many years so **Donations** are more valuable than ever.

## **The Annual General Meeting**

Will take place on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm, before Basil's talk. Those attending the AGM only will not be charged for entry but we do hope that everyone will support every aspect of this important evening.

Regrettably, Brian Horner has given notice of his retirement as Treasurer. He is willing to continue on the committee until his proposed move. At the time of writing, we have no nomination for Treasurer so, contingency plans are being made to propose a change to our Constitution that will allow a different style of financial control more suitable to current needs. Also, only 2 ordinary members are proposed. A maximum of 9 are permissible. It is proposed to reduce this to 4, in line with the number of officers. An increase in subscriptions and entry fees for our meetings will be proposed for 2018. Written notice for proposals must be received by the Chairman/Secretary not less than ten days before the AGM.

As well as a vacancy for Treasurer, we also need a Vice-Chairperson. If you know of a suitable person for either or both of these positions, please contact me to arrange for Nomination Forms to be sent. Some accommodation can be made, as we did last year by voting to allow a combination of the roles of Chairperson and Secretary in the Constitution. The association cannot continue without suitable officers.

David Young, Chairman/Secretary FoDM