

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS OFFICER'S REPORT – Carolyn Spencer

We currently have 1104 members in 669 households. This is rather down on last year as we have discovered that several members have died and a number have moved out of the area.

In the short term the numbers are likely to reduce even more. In February I wrote to all members (about ninety households) from whom we had not received a subscription in 2015 or 2016, inviting them to renew their standing orders or to send us a cheque or cash payment for 2017. About a third of these have replied and our intention is that people who have not responded by the end of this month will be struck off.

We hope to undertake a membership drive in the summer and are thinking about how best to go about this. If anyone has any suggestions to make in this respect, I would be delighted to hear from them. I feel sure that, however we go about it, we will be asking our ever-willing and patient Road Stewards for assistance.

We are still trying to add members' e-mail addresses to our records. If you received an e-mail from me reminding you of the date of this meeting, it means that we have your current e-mail address. If you did not, then we do not. If that is the case, please would you add your email address to the list which is circulating, or send me an email. My address is in the recent newsletter and will be in the next one. Also, please try to remember to let us know if you change your email address. We promise not to bombard you with messages and we do not allow other people or organisations to have access to our database, but there are occasions when it is helpful to the committee to be able to canvass members' opinions quickly, or when we feel it appropriate to make members aware of local matters requiring a swift response. Email also enables us to remind the majority of members of dates for the AGM and the January Social.

We are, as always, very grateful for the assistance given by Road Stewards. People have so many demands on their time these days that we are very conscious of the need not to overburden them. However, this year we did ask Road Stewards to undertake the delivery of the recent Newsletter and letters regarding subscriptions and it seemed to work very efficiently, particularly in highlighting deaths and departures. It helped enormously that several people volunteered for extra roads, although a few people did let me know that they felt unable to assist any longer.

We are currently in need of help in:

Deep Acres, Devonshire Avenue*, Devonshire Close*, Elm Close,
Hervines Road, King George V Road, Longfield Drive*,
Mitchell Walk, Plantation Road, Scholars Way,
Stanley Hill Avenue*, and Woodside Road.

These are only the roads in which we have a number of members, but no Road Steward. There are quite a lot of roads in which we do not currently have any members and we need to try to find a way to reach them.

Apart from new membership campaigns, being a Road Steward mainly involves delivering the newsletter each year, although we do sometimes ask for other assistance, such as collecting subscriptions from the very few members who still prefer to pay in cash. It is also a great help to us if you let us know if you become aware of any members moving away.

Please let me know if you no longer feel able to act as a Road Steward and/or would prefer not to be involved in delivering the next newsletter, which will probably again be hand-delivered, rather than posted. We hope to circulate the next Newsletter in the autumn.

*Following the meeting members came forward to volunteer to act as Road Stewards in these roads.