

Change to the Renewal Process

I hope that you have noticed the fact that we will be changing our approach to renewals. In September, we will be moving to a "rolling renewal basis" with the adoption of the Beacon system. This means an individual member's renewal date will be the date on which they joined.

What will it mean for existing members?

There will be no change in subscriptions and all other member benefits will remain unchanged. However, your renewal date will change from 1st September to the anniversary of the date you joined.

What will it mean for new members?

They will pay a full year's subscription on joining and their renewal date will be the anniversary of date on which they joined.

What will it mean for the Membership Secretary and the Committee?

We will cease to operate a sliding scale of subscriptions for people who join "mid-term". The renewal process will be spread over the year rather than being squeezed into a few months at the end of the summer. Overall, we see benefits for the Membership Secretary in terms of a simplified process and a spreading of the workload.

How will the change be introduced?

Membership renewals will be sent out in July/August as in previous years. However, members will not be asked to pay the full £15 subscription. The request will be for a part year payment for the period from September 2017 up until the anniversary of their date of joining.

For example: In September a member who joined in January would be asked to pay just 4 months for membership up to January 2018. Then, in January 2018, they would be asked to pay a full subscription for 12 months.

This is not a constitutional change since the Constitution makes no mention of the way in which renewals are processed. Thus, there is no need to secure the approval of the membership, for example by means of an Extraordinary Meeting. However, the Committee want all members to understand what is proposed and to be comfortable with the change. Committee members will be answering your questions at the Pemberton Centre in the coming months and will have a list of FAQs.

Please approach a Committee member if you have any questions – or email your questions to chairmanhandru3a@gmail.com.

Phil Grace
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