



Spring 2023 Norfolk and Suffolk Group Newsletter

Dear Member

Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of the CSPA Norfolk and Suffolk Group Newsletter. It is said that the older you get the faster time goes by, and it is a bit surprising to realise that we are over a third of the way through 2023.

The next Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 24 May, 2023, at 2 pm at Chapel Field Road Methodist Church, Norwich, NR2 1SD. Our guest speaker will be Alan Neville, who is Community and Customer Engagement Manager, with Greater Anglia Rail. His job includes: Engagement with communities throughout Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire – also customer engagement, dealing with the complex issues to assist customers. The Agenda and full details of the meeting are shown on page 4 of this Newsletter. Apologies for absence from anyone not able to come would help us gauge the level of interest in attending meetings from our membership as a whole.

Unfortunately, we know that some Members of the new combined Group did not receive our Winter Newsletter, so we have decided to repeat some of the welcome message to Suffolk Members, so that you receive all the information you need. We will do all we can to hold meetings in the best locations for Members, so if you would like to meet up, please do say where would be best for you. A few years ago we did ask all Norfolk Members where would be best for them to meet. The result of that was that although the Group covers a large geographic area, the majority of those who responded, voted for Norwich. Although this was not necessarily the nearest location to where they live, they felt that it is usually possible to make it to Norwich, but that venues other than those nearest to home would be more difficult to reach. Because the Group now covers an even larger area, we would like to know your preferences so that we can achieve the best overall outcome. Please note that we do not necessarily

seek to hold all meetings in the same place, but there would be little point in making changes if that would not achieve a better outcome for Members overall. To ensure we make the best decisions please respond even if you did so last time we asked. So if you would like to come to meetings from time to time, please let our Group Secretary, Tim Hartstone, know your preferred location(s), so we can collate responses and see where that takes us. The contact details for all Committee members are shown at the foot of page 4 of this Newsletter.
Richard

Special Note To Former Suffolk Members

We are informed that some former Suffolk Members have continued to send money to the Suffolk account and this is causing a problem. Please do ensure that you cancel all standing orders or direct debits to the Suffolk account, so this problem does not occur again. Please continue to pay subscriptions to CSPA; we certainly do not want you to stop paying to be a Member of CSPA as a whole.

Result of Ballot for NEC Post Reserved for a Woman

GC 934 invited groups to vote for one of three nominated women candidates to take up the post of NEC member. Following a count of the votes cast, the results are as follows:

Name	Votes
Pam Flynn	2,452
Roisin Lilley	11,607
Rosemary White	5,231

Therefore, **Roisin Lilley** is duly elected to the new National Executive Ordinary member post. Thank you to the candidates that put themselves forward for this newly created post to encourage greater diversity on the Executive Council.

Civil Service Pensioner Newsletter - Spring 2023

The latest edition of the Pensioner Newsletter from MyCSP featuring the pension increase, and questions around it plus guide to your P60 is at this link: [Pensioner Newsletter Spring 2023 - Civil Service Pension Scheme](#).

Both working/active and Pensioner members now have a digital newsletter available. The online initiative is to save paper and postage. But if members require an emailed or hard copy of the newsletter, then a PDF/paper copy can be obtained by calling **0300 123 6666**.

General Secretary Vacancy

After nearly 10 years working at CSPA I will be moving on from my role as General Secretary in the summer. During my time here there has been a lot of challenging work to shape the CSPA into a more modern and professional organisation. The foundations are now laid for CSPA to continue building membership to ensure its important work continues.

CSPA are therefore seeking a new General Secretary to continue to develop strategy to meet requirements and expectations of new retirees and existing members. An advert has been placed on the CSPA website <https://www.cspa.co.uk/news/join-us-general-secretary/>.

Application packs are also available by email from sally.tsoukaris@cspa.co.uk.
On a personal note, I would like to thank all groups for their support during my time at CSPA and to wish you well for the future.
Lisa Ray.

Consultation on Review of Regional and Group Structure

This topic was covered by motion A17 at the CSPA AGM in October, 2022. After debate the motion was remitted to the NEC, who have set up a special Working Party to give the subject serious consideration. There is not enough space in this Group Newsletter to set out all the points and ideas discussed.

However, among the initiatives raised were new approaches to try to engage with members which could be trialed on a pilot basis, such as planning a local CSPA team to visit a town without a local Group and invite members in the area to attend. It might also be helpful to consider trialing the concept of 'virtual' Groups in a Region as a means to maintain contact with members no longer allocated to a local Group, utilising email and video communications as appropriate.

In the Spring edition of the Pensioner there was an item in which Groups were invited to make their views known, to assist the EC formulate a policy concerning Group and Region structure which could form a motion for discussion at the CSPA AGM in October, 2023.

There is still time for our Group to send our views, so if you have any points you would like to make, please do let our Secretary, Tim, know as quickly as possible, so we can add them to our Group submission. This might also be a suitable opportunity to let the Group Committee know of any ideas you have which could make this new Group more effective.

Changes Of Personal Details, etc.

If you change your address or other details, please remember to let the Group Membership Secretary, Frank Edwards, know. Please also contact Frank in the event of the death of a CSPA member to avoid the distress of unwanted mailings.

**The next Meeting of the Norfolk and Suffolk Group will be held on
Wednesday, 24 May, 2023, starting at 2.00pm,
at Chapel Field Road Methodist Church, Norwich, NR2 1SD**

Tea/coffee will be provided

The guest speaker will be Alan Neville from Greater Anglia Rail .

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 February, 2023.
3. Matters arising
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Motions for CSPA AGM in October, 2023. (Please let our Secretary, Tim, know if you wish to propose a motion, but motions can be accepted at the meeting)
7. Open Forum
8. Any other business
9. Date and venue of next Meeting; Wednesday, 13 September, 2023, at 2 pm, at Chapel Field Road Methodist Church, Norwich, NR2 1SD

Your Current Committee Members Are-

Chairman:	Richard West	01603 423144	richard.west08@gmail.com
Secretary:	Tim Hartstone	01603 569038	t.hartstone@hotmail.co.uk
Treasurer:	Alan Marrs	01603 410739	
Membership:	Frank Edwards	01842 766097	frank.edwards30@sky.com
	Derek Land	01508 520532	derek.land@electramail.co.uk
	Margaret Noble	01493 296246	megnob43@gmail.com
Delegate	John Thompson	01502 581481	johntommo6@btinternet.com
	Neville Jarvis	01394 275490	neville.jarvis1@btinternet.com