

Dear Member

CSPA Birmingham & District Group - Spring Newsletter 2025

The Group held its AGM on 12th March. The attendance was better than it has been for some time, thanks to new members. We also welcomed Kevin Billson, the Midlands Regional Representative who updated the Group on latest campaigns and consultation with members.

Eileen Turner was re-elected as Secretary and Graham Christie was re-elected as Treasurer. We also elected Fiona Scott as Social Secretary. Nigel Daws, Mary Browning and Rosanne Kostink were elected to the EC. Unfortunately, this means we are still without a Group Chair and Vice Chair. If anyone would be interested in either of these posts, please contact the Secretary at the address below.

The AGM also agreed that the EC should review our Group organisation – when and how we meet and whether we should consider merging with any other Group. If you have any views, please contact the Secretary at the address below.

Our finances are still dwindling and we would welcome donations from members to boost our funds. Donations should be made to the Group Treasurer Graham Christie. Please contact him on 07779 374699 for details.

On a more positive note, The Group enjoyed a very successful visit to the Exchange on Broad Street in February. The Exchange was the HQ of the Birmingham Municipal Bank and built in 1933. It is now owned by Birmingham University, but much of the old bank and the vaults have been retained for tours.

Fiona has already been working hard and has a number of similar activities in mind. The top three 'days out' are a tour of St Phillips Cathedral, Birmingham in June/July, a tour of the West Midlands Police Museum in October and a visit to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens in August. The cost of these is £4, £8.50 and £8.50 respectively.

Other ideas for next year include Guided tour of Symphony Hall, The Assay Office, JW Evans Silver Factory, Pen Museum and the Back to Back Museum. We are also considering a trip to the Severn Valley Railway and Stratford upon Avon.

If you would like to come on any of these outings, please contact Fiona Scott on fms2015@hotmail.co.uk or 07746 538062.

We will also be arranging our Christmas Lunch for December 2025 at the Old Contemptibles in Livery Street Birmingham. If you would like to join us, please contact Fiona.

Finally, a reminder that we meet on the first Wednesday in each month. Meetings in April and May are informal coffee mornings. The next full members meeting will be on 3rd June when we will be discussing motions to be put forward to the CSPA AGM in October.

We look forward to seeing new and old members at future meetings.

Regards

Eileen Turner

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