

SLINGSBY WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013

Thursday 21st November 2013 at 7.30pm
in the Grapes

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Introduction

My report will give you an overview of the work of the Slingsby Website and Newsletter Group during the past year, the third year of its operation. My colleagues will report in more detail on some of these aspects.

The past year has been one of further consolidation for the both the website and the Triangle.

The technical structure of the website has been further enhanced by our webmaster, Richard Flint.

A vast amount of news, events and background information has been added. Website visitors have continued to increase.

Keith Buck and David Thornley have been cooperating most effectively to ensure 6 interesting issues of the Triangle drop through letter boxes on time.

Our joint team has lost one member during the year and is starting the process of finding new helpers.

2. Website

The architecture of the website now provides a very stable, secure and reliable platform for editors and users alike. Backup and security arrangements have been further expanded. Additions and updates have helped to improve appearance and usability. More detail will be given in the Webmaster's report.

The majority of the new information content added this year has been in the form of news and events posts. We continue to post up this sort of information several times a week. The picture of Slingsby, its places, community and history represented in the static pages of the website is largely complete, we feel, but we always welcome new ideas and contributions.

3. The Triangle

The Triangle, with alternating editors in Keith Buck and David Thornley, has gone from strength to strength.

The Triangle continues to be supported and bought by the vast majority of residents. It has a good quality look to it and attracts the advertising it needs to help fund its costs, which are of course relatively high, compared to the website. Keith and David are to be congratulated on their intensive bouts of work to produce six issues a year. The Triangle editor's report will give more information.

4. The Group

Rachel Underwood, who joined our team in July 2012 and became a deputy website editor, was unfortunately obliged to step down in April 2013 owing to work commitments. We therefore have a vacancy for someone interested in learning about websites to help out the team occasionally.

Keith has given us advance notice that he will be retiring from heading up the Triangle team in April 2015, so a vacancy will arise there too.

You will find both jobs can be fun, you certainly find out what's going on in the village, and you will receive the training you need.

5. Outlook

The future of both website and Triangle seems assured for the moment.

Both are self-funding. The Triangle, with its greater costs (paper and printing), is now well funded by a combination of reader contributions and advertising income. (More in the Treasurer's report)

Our team is of adequate size right now, but problems may begin to arise as 2014 progresses if we are not able to find two extra pairs of hands, one for the website and one for Triangle.

The ultimate aim of our two communication projects is to promote Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme and their attractions, provide a platform for residents and to facilitate community activity.

Many have seen the benefit of this and use our services effectively, but we would always like to hear more from some key areas, such our business people, the Parish Council and our sports clubs.

We look forward to cooperating with an even greater proportion of the community in the coming year.

Jon Boots
Secretary and Acting Chairman