



SUMMER NEWSLETTER (July 2019)

Dear Members,

We hope you are enjoying your summer break so far in spite of what has been, at time of writing, rather unpredictable weather.

We had a most enjoyable start to the summer with our pot luck lunch on 4 June. It was good to see so many members attend. We were entertained by a wonderful performance of the **singing group** conducted by their tutor Amy Rayner.

Not everyone is taking a break however. There are various activities on-going during some or all of the summer which have been independently organised by tutors/members such as Coffee and Catch-up at the Byre on Tuesday mornings as well social Tai Chi at Craigtoun Park, also on Tuesdays. There have also been bridge sessions, pilates/barre sessions and an Art Day.

The 2019/2020 Haydays session starts on Tuesday 27 August. For those of you who like to plan ahead, here are the dates of all **5 Blocks**.

<i>Block 1</i>	27 Aug 2019 - 1 Oct 2019	
<i>Block 2</i>	22 Oct 2019 - 26 Nov 2019	3 December - Christmas Lunch
<i>Block 3</i>	14 Jan 2020 - 18 Feb 2020	
<i>Block 4</i>	25 Feb 2020 - 31 March 2020	AGM - to be decided
<i>Block 5</i>	21 Apr 2020 - 26 May 2020	2 June - Summer Lunch

Some of you may be aware that there are plans to carry out extensive internal refurbishment works at the Town Hall. A start date has yet to be decided. We have no information yet as to what extent these works might affect our activities. We will keep you up to date by email and via the Haydays Notice Board.

You will be receiving along with this Newsletter the usual **class registration** document and **class descriptions**. There are minor adjustments to some times, so please read carefully. Also included is your **Annual Membership Renewal** for everyone to complete. Annual membership fees remain at £20 (and is still free for those members who are 75 and over on 27 August 2019). Please be sure to complete all sections on the membership form to save us having to get back to you.

A number of members have suggested that they would prefer to receive course detail notifications by email as opposed to being posted. This ensures that they get the information, and can respond accordingly, to any forthcoming Blocks if they happen to be away at the time of posting.

As members will be aware, as a not for profit organisation, Haydays continually strives to keep expenses to a minimum in order to offer its members classes at an affordable price that are open to all.

The Committee is aware of the ever-increasing cost of postage and question whether we should be making more use of the technology now available to us and as such communicate details to members via email when possible. To this end, we have added a further question to the Membership Form this year asking if members would be happy to receive future mailings via email. If you do agree to go down this route you **would be required** to print off the application forms and return them back to us by post along with your cheque. We could not receive them back via email as this would create significant administration problems.

We fully acknowledge that not every member is happy, or confident, in the use of emails and for those who would prefer to continue receiving course details by post we would certainly continue using this method for them.

At present Haydays has 187 members. The current cost of postage is 61p. With 5 blocks a years we can be paying more than £570 per year for postage alone. This is not to mention the cost of paper, envelopes and printing, let alone administration time given by the committee. Any help from members would be greatly appreciated in the knowledge that any savings made would go directly back to its members and their organisation.

Also enclosed is a **Questionnaire** covering café and other issues. Kindly complete and return with your class choices and membership form – it is important. We would remind you that there is a Suggestion Box available year round at the Notice Board should you have any idea for new classes etc.

We take this opportunity to inform you that whilst the cost of coffee/tea remains unchanged at 30p per cup, the cost of **cakes/biscuits** will **increase to 30p** per piece (up from 20p). In order to revive the dwindling numbers of volunteer bakers, it was agreed a few months ago that bakers may **claim** £5 towards the cost of their home-baking expenses. (Bakers kindly complete and sign the form which you will find in the cash box. Please wait until lunchtime to do this to ensure there are sufficient funds available). The price for a cup of soup/slice bread remains at £1 for the time being. We will keep an eye on this to ensure that costs are being covered.

There are still several tickets available for the outing to see Summer Holiday at the **Pitlochry Festival Theatre on 3 October 2019** (via the House of Bruar). Further information and sign up sheet are available at the Notice Board – deadline 27 August. Please support this Haydays organised annual theatre outing which needs to largely cover its costs if it is to be offered again. In order to offset some costs it may be possible (as in 2018) to offer seats on the coach to those who might be interested in a day trip to House of Bruar/Pitlochry without the benefit of the theatre. If you are interested in this option, please speak to a committee member.

For the information of members who do not get the St Andrews Citizen (article from May 2019), we were pleased to learn that Fife Council has approved the installation of Wi-Fi in the Town Hall. There is no date yet when this might happen! As mentioned in the article, we would then hope to be in a position to offer some basic IT courses (e.g. internet and email) for those who might be interested in learning for the first time or gaining more confidence by having some hands-on practice.

Since our AGM end February 2019 and the election of the committee, Shirley Benbow has, unfortunately, had to step down as she has left St Andrews. As several of our members are due to step down at the next AGM, it is not too early to consider joining us. **New committee members** can be co-opted at any time. For the information of those new and newer members, under the Constitution we require a minimum of 5 committee members, a maximum of 12. Now is an ideal time to join when new members can learn from the experience of the 'old'.

We are looking forward to the start of classes, we hope you are too and we look forward to seeing you again.

Warm regards,

The Committee