

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR HENRA SEASON 2021-2022

(Our 67th year)

(Full Reports – Condensed Versions were presented at AGM)

General Note from Chairman

Our 67th AGM and Election of Committee took place at our May meeting and a condensed version of the reports were given. The following are the full versions.

Committee as at 3rd May 2022

Chairman	Avril Ogden
Vice Chair	Vacant
Treasurer	Sarah Willett (Incoming)
Secretary	Avril Ogden
Membership Secretary	Avril Ogden
Henra IT and Website	External
Meet & Greet	Hilary Baker
Socials - In House	Avril Ogden
Socials - External	Avril Ogden
Programme & Newsletters	Avril Ogden
General Committee	Deborah Bergson Brian Miller (Outgoing Treasurer) Pat Butler Roger Street

Hon President Tony Yates (Absent)

Apologies Received From:

Brian Miller
Deborah Bergson
Hilary Baker

The Reports that Follow are:

Membership Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report & Accounts
Chairman's Report

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2021-2022 SEASON

As we have been able to meet in person a few times this season, I have been able to keep members updated as to how we are progressing.

In my report for last season, I provided detailed information regarding the memberships from March 2018 onwards, so I won't go into a lot of detail.

It goes without saying that the Covid Pandemic has affected the means by which subscriptions are usually collected. In the two seasons pre-Covid, I had managed with help from a few volunteers to get a membership application form delivered to every household in our area. We couldn't do that last season or this season because of the pandemic. As it was not possible for us to call on anyone in person, I had to work out a plan to try and get members in.

So from my membership lists from the past two seasons, I contacted all those members who had provided an e-mail address and the remainder had letters delivered by hand or via the postal system.

In 2020, we'd also put a Membership Application form onto the website and last year, we added the option for people to pay their subscriptions by direct bank transfer and/or set up a standing order. This has worked really well and a good proportion of the subscriptions have been received by a direct transfer.

Despite all the difficulties, I managed to get most of last year's members to re-join and although the numbers were slightly less than the previous year, the figures are still good at just over 1000, 1009 to be exact. Amongst the members, I also managed to find over 54 households completely new to HENRA.

Since commencing this report, several members from last season have now re-joined and next year (Covid permitting), I hope to be able to report that the number of members is back on the increase again. Once things get back on an even keel, I'll attempt to increase the membership even more.

The figures at the end of April 2022 are as follows, with more coming in daily:

	This season 2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Number of Households	541	535	658
Number of Individuals	1009	969	1232
New Members by Household	54	74	138
Pre-Paid by Household (No actual income from these)	120	129	129
No Email Address Provided	34	34	71

Membership application forms are still available at Hengistbury Post Office/Shop in Broadway, Tuckton Library, St.Nicholas Church (in Foyer), St.Katharine's Church Hall, and inside St.Katharine's Church. I have also continued to promote HENRA in every issue of the Southbourne Eye magazine.

So coming to the end of the 2021-22 season, I'm starting to think of ways to get members to renew and also to attract new members. The best way to do this will obviously depend on how matters progress with the pandemic and what restrictions may still be in place.

I would like to end this report by thanking all those people who have continued to support HENRA by paying a membership subscription and hope you will continue to do so. Your support is very much appreciated.

Avril Ogden, Membership Secretary (May 2022)



Treasurer's Report for year ended 31 December 2021

This is my final report as your Treasurer, as health issues prevent me from continuing. For the same reason, I will not be at the AGM to present the accounts.

The accounts are again compiled on the Cash basis, as explained last year, but with one exception. This is that I have included a cheque for administration expenses for 2021 which did not clear until 4 January, 2022. The accounts have been independently checked by Pauline Vary. Thank you Pauline for volunteering to take on this task.

Few individual items require comment.:

Membership fees There has been a further increase in members paying by bank transfer, often by standing order. We urge those members who still pay by cash or cheque to consider paying by bank transfer. It is not necessary to have access to online banking to set up a standing order.

Advertising The increase reflects the increased page count of the Newsletter

Lottery This continues to be a reliable source of income.

Expenses Our expenses are again lower than in 2019, the last pre-pandemic year, as we have not spent the usual amounts on hall rent, speakers, or the Summer and Christmas Socials. The Barbecue cruise is not shown in the accounts as the cost, £803, was wholly covered by cheques from members.

Outlook We are still in a strong position financially. I said last year that when things return to normal, members will need to decide how our funds should be used. Of course, things are still not normal but a decision on how to use the surplus should be made this year. We should not continue to accumulate funds year on year but any distribution must be in accordance with our Constitution.

Brian Miller

Treasurer

HENRA Accounts year to 31 December 2021

	2021		2020	
Income				
Membership Fees (note 1)	1326.00		1266.00	
Advertising income	733.00		470.00	
Lottery receipts	1536.50		1472.50	
Compensation from NatWest	0.00		75.00	
Donations	93.00	3688.50	21.00	3304.50
Expenses				
Printing of magazine	698.00		525.00	
Speakers	70.00		52.23	
Administration (note 2)	285.14		245.81	
Web Site	59.99		76.77	
Hall Rent	175.00	1288.13	0.00	899.81
Surplus for year		2400.37		2404.69
Add Reserves brought forward		6447.98		4043.29
Reserves carried forward		<u>8848.35</u>		<u>6447.98</u>
Represented by				
Cash at bank		<u>8848.35</u>		<u>6447.98</u>

Note 1 : Membership Fees

Bank transfer	894.00	774.00
Cash	192.00	228.00
Cheques	<u>240.00</u>	<u>264.00</u>
Total Membership Fees	<u>1326.00</u>	<u>1266.00</u>

Note 2: Administration

Photocopying	0.00	14.25
Postage	120.33	85.85
Stationery	127.54	127.43
Telephone	0.00	6.88
Equipment	37.27	0.00
Travel & parking	0.00	<u>11.40</u>
	<u>285.14</u>	<u>245.81</u>

Brian Miller, Treasurer

B J M Miller

I have done an independent examination of the financial records and can confirm that proper, accurate records are kept and that the HENRA accounts to 31st December 2021 are in accordance with them

P. Vary

Pauline Vary BA, AAT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE 2021-2022 SEASON

HENRA is now in its' 67th year and it has been my privilege to serve as Membership Secretary since March 2018 and additionally as your Chairman since September 2018, both posts I am more than willing to continue so long as the membership wishes me to.

Last season's report was made in writing only as it wasn't possible to have our AGM and Election of Committee at our May meeting as hoped because we were still in a lockdown situation due to the Coronavirus Pandemic that is affecting the whole world. We also had to take the decision to cancel all meetings from April 2020 onwards until further notice. I am glad to say that we have managed to hold meetings since October 2021 but there have been fewer members coming to the meetings than I would have hoped for. On average, so far, only about half the numbers from previous seasons but I think a lot of people are still reluctant to venture out.

Looking back, it's difficult to imagine that it was March 2020 that the first lockdown happened here in England. Many people, myself included, preferred to be safe rather than sorry and have been self-isolating. When we do go out, everyone is still very cautious but noticeably in our own area, people are mostly abiding by the various Government-imposed regulations.

During this enforced isolation, I tried to keep everyone informed as to what's been happening by e-mail. For those not on e-mail, I have copied them important information about once a month if they've provided me with postage stamps.

During the whole period of the pandemic, I've received an average of around 50-60 e-mails every day, all of which I have answered. The inbox on my computer system still has over 8500 emails, which I haven't yet found time to save anywhere. I dare say I'll find time one of these fine days.

Normally in this end of season report, I would highlight things that have been discussed at our meetings and also talk about the speakers we've welcomed but there have been so many changes necessary to our programme that very few of the planned speakers actually came and last minute changes each month became a bit of a nightmare for me.

In October, we welcomed Steve Roberts again and this time he gave us a very lively talk called "Mr.Selfridge – Fact or Fiction" with lots of local Bournemouth information.

Then in November, David Sidwick, our new Police & Crime Commissioner for Dorset spoke to us at length about his plans to make Dorset safer for us all.

Our December meeting should have been our end of year social but due to the pandemic, I felt that it would be safer to cancel the social aspect and instead we had Andrew Emery from the BCP Council here and he was able to talk to us in detail about the plans for the rebuilding of the Bistro on the Beach along with the rejuvenation scheme for the Southbourne beach area.

At the start of February, after the Christmas break, we welcomed Graham Farrant, BCP Council's Chief Executive. His talk was extremely well received and in the end we had to close the meeting as the questions could have gone on indefinitely. Graham was very upfront with his answers and we all learnt a lot.

Our Annual Dinner, also in February, should have been at our different venue but with the increase in Covid cases at that time, it was felt best to cancel.

For various reasons, mostly Covid-related, the remaining speakers from March onwards have all had to be altered. In March, one of our regular speakers, Howard Nichols, had to cancel their talk about the Mysterious Walter Henry (who survived the sinking of the Titanic). Unfortunately, Howard has some serious health issues and whether we will ever be able to re-book him, only time will tell.

Anyway, I did manage to get Robin Harley from BCP Council, along with some of his colleagues, to talk to us about the Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre and also update us on what's been happening since they were last here, the week before the first lockdown.

Last month, in April, we had a very short meeting as unfortunately our PCSO had been unable to come along, having contracted Covid. In the end, we didn't have a speaker either so we all had an early night.

For this meeting, as well as our AGM, our speaker will be from the Fire Service.

For our June meeting, I have cancelled the social side and instead, I have arranged for the RNLI to come along, then our last meeting for this season will be our Annual Boat Trip & BBQ in July.

Despite the continuing lockdown situation, there are still a lot of anti-social activities in our area, one of the main ones being the continual noise from motor bikes speeding along our roads in the evenings, mainly along Broadway. Where possible the Police are notified immediately it happens and in some instances the PCSOs have been able to talk to the offenders. Our Police & Crime Commissioner for Dorset actually lives in Southbourne and I know he's looking into ways to try and stop this continual nuisance.

There have been numerous scams, both by e-mail, phone and text, even by post. There are too many to mention here but just a word of warning to take care and please don't get caught out.

Various planning applications have come to the fore, some of which have been or will be somewhat controversial. There was the application to replace the Beach House Café on Mudeford Sandbank which attracted hundreds of objections.

The application to erect a 5G phone mast with ancillary equipment on the grass verge outside the Post Office in Broadway has been refused. Again, there were numerous objections to this application.

There were two further applications in the pipeline which, I believe, should be considered together. The first one was the removal of the Southbourne Crossroads Car Park to make way for yet more flats. Again, there were several hundred objections. Very recently, the application was refused.

At the same time as the Crossroads Car Park, there were also the plans to redevelop the Bistro on the Beach and at the same time, demolishing the beach huts and building new ones. There is already a real problem with visitors parking in this area and if the Crossroads Car park were demolished and more visitors come into the area following the rejuvenation scheme, where would people park?

For the past two years, I reported the success of the BH Coastal Lottery and that from the sale of tickets for this, HENRA receive 50p for each ticket sold. As a result, we receive some funds each month and next season, we hope to start distributing some of these funds to worthwhile causes within the HENRA area. At the time of writing this report, still nobody has won the weekly prize of £25,000 although several of our own members have won smaller amounts and also free tickets. Thank you to everyone who has supported HENRA by buying tickets.

Despite these troubled times, I hope you will continue to support HENRA and will renew your subscription. Reminders will be sent out around June/July time. It is still only £3 per household which by any standards is good value for money. I have tried to make our Annual Brochure interesting and am currently working on the next one.

For the past four years, I've continually been appealing for members to help out and join the committee. At last, we have managed to find a member to independently check our accounts and this is now in place and the accounts for 2021 have been checked and verified.

Sadly, Brian who has been our Treasurer since 2019 has had to resign due to health reasons but following a recent appeal, one of our members has come forward to replace him.

During the past few months, I've managed to co-opt four new members on to the committee, all of whom are taking responsibility for various tasks. We do, however, still need more people to join us, particularly as our Secretary and also someone else to take on responsibility for our In-house social events. Neither task is particularly onerous but both are important to ensure the smooth running of our organization.

So thank you to every one of you that has continued to support us and hopefully we can welcome you back as members for our next season commencing in October. Memberships can be renewed any time from 1st August 2022 onwards via our website. If you could set your application to pay via standing order in the future, this will be an enormous help. If you aren't sure about whether a subscription is due, please check with me. Please don't duplicate your payments as this just makes extra work for me.

Stay safe everyone

Avril Ogden, HENRA Chairman (May 2022)

