

**ANNUAL REPORTS FOR HENRA  
2019-2020 SEASON ( only up to Apr 2020)  
(Our 65<sup>th</sup> year)**

**(Replaces reports normally presented at AGM)**

**General Note from Chairman**

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, all meetings from April 2020 onwards have had to be cancelled until further notice.

Our 65<sup>th</sup> AGM and Election of Committee should have been due to take place at our May meeting but as this was not possible, I have first of all assumed that the existing Committee are willing to stand for a further year, although only 2 others apart from myself have confirmed. Secondly, the three reports that would normally have been presented to members at the AGM are shown following this and will be put up on our website in the Members' Area (under "Minutes")

Committee at start of 2019-20 season

Chairman	Avril Ogden
Vice Chair	Clifford Lux
Treasurer	Brian Miller
Secretary	Vacant (Temporarily by Avril)
Membership Secretary	Avril Ogden
Henra IT and Website	External
Meet & Greet	Jennifer Ruckley
Socials - In House	Miriam Monaghan
Socials - External	Avril Ogden
Annual Programme & Publishing	Avril Ogden
General Committee	John Lambon ** Lester Ruckley

Hon President	Tony Yates
Hon Vice President	Tony Bayliss ***

\*\* John Lambon resigned during the season due to health issues

\*\*\* Sadly Tony Bayliss passed away in April 2020

The Reports that follow are:

Membership Secretary's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Chairman's Report

Avril Ogden 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2019-2020 SEASON

As we are not able to meet in person and thus the Membership report cannot be presented verbally, I have perhaps been more detailed than might be necessary so that all members have a clear view of how our organization as a whole is progressing.

When I took over this role in March 2018, no subscriptions had been collected since 2016 and no Programme/Newsletter since the 2016/17 issue. At that time, the membership comprised about 600 properties, around 900 individuals. One thing I wanted to do was to make sure that everyone living within the Henra-designated area was made aware that HENRA existed. A lot of hard work ensued and with the assistance of a number of volunteers, we managed to get leaflets delivered to all 3500 properties in the area, resulting in a large increase in the membership of almost 50%. We ended the 2018-19 season with membership of 700 properties, 1290 individuals. Of these, there were 250 properties, 453 individuals new to the membership.

By agreement with the Committee, it was decided that for the 2019-20 season, it would be necessary to make a small increase to the annual subscription from £2 to £3 but this would cover all adults living in the same household for the one price. Most of the speakers that had to be paid for had also increased their prices so with the cost of hiring the hall and other costs involved, we felt that a £1 increase was reasonable.

For this current season of October 2019 to September 2020, we started the process of securing members during the summer months starting in July 2019. Several volunteers came forward to help and again, we managed to deliver a leaflet/membership application form to every household within our area, some 3500+ letter boxes. I would like to express my thanks to all these people who helped.

Sadly, though, very few of the volunteers were prepared to knock on doors and collect subscriptions. As a result, despite some volunteers taking on more roads than the norm, we just ran out of time and couldn't call on everyone before the new season started in October. This meant that we were unable to achieve the increase in membership numbers that had been anticipated. By the end of March 2020, we had secured 658 properties as members, some 1232 individuals. Quite a large number of the properties we were unable to call on didn't renew, although some have come back to us since.

So we started the new season with roughly a similar number of properties and individuals as in the previous season. We did, however, secure 138 new households as members, 258 new individuals.

The Summary of members for last season and this season is as follows:

	This Season (Oct 2019-Mar 2020)	Last Season (Oct 2018- Sept 2019)
No. of Properties	658	702
No. of Individuals	1232	1290
New Members by Property	138	251
New Members by Individual	258	453
Pre-Paid by Property	129	139
(No actual income from these)		
No E-Mail Address given	71	112

I have always been concerned about the number of members who haven't provided us with an e-mail address which means that if they don't come along to any of the meetings, we are unable to keep these members informed about anything that happens. So in early February 2020, I prepared an

envelope containing booking forms for the annual dinner and copies of some of the more important things that had occurred over the previous few months and also advised of upcoming events, together also with a personal letter. I delivered all these myself at which time it was well over 100 different addresses. Only one person bothered to send a reply which was extremely disappointing. So, overall, the actual membership numbers, whilst still similar to the previous season, are not as high as we'd hoped for.

In addition to delivering to every household, membership forms and brief information about HENRA has been made available at various locations including the Hengistbury Post Office, Broadways Store, Tuckton Library, St.Nicholas Church (foyer), St.Katharine's Church Hall, inside St.Katharine's Church and also both notice boards outside the two Churches. Also, I arranged for entries into the Southbourne Eye and sometimes we have managed to get the Bournemouth Echo to include a piece about our activities.

Some of you might recall from last year's AGM that I reported about the special offer that a previous committee had introduced whereby a membership could be paid for several years at a reduced cost. If my memory serves me correctly the offer was 6 years for the price of 5. The subscription cost at that time was only £1 per person. After examination of the membership list originally provided to me, I subsequently found that several people from the same household were attending as members but that only one individual had registered. That same committee changed the memberships to £2 per household the following season.

I was told by the outgoing Committee to give all pre-paid memberships an extra year to compensate for the lack of information during the 2017-18 season, even though monthly meetings had continued. At the start of the 2018-19 season, this resulted in there being 139 properties that had pre-paid on the special scheme but now, most are pre-paid up to about the 2022 and 2023 season. Due to some members moving out of the area, there are currently 129 properties that were on the pre-paid scheme which effectively means a lost revenue this season of almost £400 and this situation will continue for at least another three years.

In October 2019, I arranged for our Membership Application Form to be uploaded to the website thus making it possible for anyone visiting the website to apply to become a member. During this new season, we have welcomed many new members to Henra as a result.

At the end of 2019, we were able to alter the membership application form to include the option for subscriptions to be paid by direct bank transfer and this option is now available to everyone.

In the next couple of weeks, we will be altering this again so that we can include the option to have a membership renewed automatically via a standing order payment.

So at the time of writing this report, we are in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic and everything is in lockdown and I am concerned as to how we will be able to secure members for the 2020-21 season. Normally, we would start calling on properties during July and August but it is unlikely that our collector volunteers will be able to call in person as in previous years. Hopefully members will renew via a standing order through the bank.

I would like to end this report by thanking all those people who continue to support Henra by paying a membership subscription and hope you will continue to do so.

Avril Ogden,  
Membership Secretary

29<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## Treasurer's Report for year ended 31 December 2019

I took over as Treasurer early in 2019 after rashly volunteering for the job at the 2018 Christmas Social. It hasn't proved too onerous because the records of receipts and expenses are good: every entry is documented by invoices or paying in slips etc.

The accounts are compiled on the Cash basis, as in 2018 by the previous Treasurer, which means they simply show amounts paid out and received in the year with no account taken of expenses incurred but not yet paid or vice versa. This makes no material difference to the figures. I have followed the categories and layout used last year which makes comparison with 2018 easier.

These accounts have been approved by your Committee but they should also be checked by someone independent of the committee. There is no legal requirement for an actual audit by a qualified accountant (and that would cost us at least £600) but it is in the interests of all members, and of course of the committee, for the figures to be checked. **Any HENRA member who is not involved in collecting or handling membership fees could do it, so could anyone else you can persuade!** Please contact Avril if you are willing to do this. It will only take a couple of hours in February each year.

Turning to the individual entries:

Membership fees Up on 2018, a combination of more members and the fee increase from £2 to £3. We would like to reduce the number who pay in cash and encourage you to use other methods direct bank transfer or cheques. We are looking into the possibility of making payment by Standing Order an option. Initially, this will be available via our website but we will look into how we can accommodate those who have not provided us with an email address.

Advertising Also up, due to the bigger newsletter and Avril's efforts to secure more advertisers. When you deduct the cost of printing (see note 2) the newsletter made a profit of £35.

Lottery A new entry this year which Avril had arranged and publicised regularly.

Compensation from NatWest This is for their serial mistakes when we changed the account signatories and their rejection of cheques in the name HENRA.

Administration These are the usual small items which mount up over a year – postage, phone calls, stationery, photocopying etc.

Outlook We ended the year in a sound financial position. COVID 19 makes the future unclear but expenses are unlikely to change much. Income will be subject to the following factors:

2020 will be the first whole year where the membership fee is £3.

Whether lottery receipts will maintain their current level or decline.

Whether advertising income will be affected by the economic downturn

Any net increase or decrease in membership.

**Brian Miller**

**Treasurer**

henra accounts

	2019	2018
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Fees (note 1)	1560.00	1169.00
Advertising income	406.00	264.00
Lottery receipts	1173.00	
Compensation from NatWest	200.00	
Donations	15.00 3354.00	28.97 1461.97
<b>Expenses</b>		
Printing (note 2)	591.00	429.00
Socials (note 3)	198.75	112.45
Speakers	213.00	105.00
Administration	249.96	326.93
Web Site	59.99	76.77
Gifts to retiring committee members	75.52	
Hall Rent	300.00	280.00
Sundries	1688.22	96.00 1426.15
<b>Surplus for year</b>	1665.78	35.82
Add Reserves brought forward	<u>2377.51</u>	2341.62
Reserves carried forward	4043.29	<u>2377.51</u>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Cash at bank	<u>4043.29</u>	<u>2377.51</u>

Sheet1

**Note 1 : Membership Fees**

Bank transfer	72.00
Cash	1114.00
Cheques	<u>374.00</u>
Total Membership Fees	<u>1560.00</u>

**Note 2 : Printing**

Application forms	220.00
Newsletter & Programme of Meetings	<u>371.00</u>
Total printing	<u>591.00</u>

**Note 3 : Socials**

<u>Annual Dinner</u>	
Gilbeys Restaurant	784.00
Members Cheques	784.00

BBQ cruise

Bournemouth Boating Services	980.00
Members Cheques	980.00

June Social

entertainment	54.00
raffle prizes and wine	116.50
Less raffle income	<u>53.00</u>
	<u>117.50</u>

Christmas Social

entertainment	60.00
raffle prizes and wine	85.25
Less raffle income	<u>64.00</u>
	<u>81.25</u>

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE 2019-2020 SEASON (only up to April 2020)**

HENRA is now in its' 65<sup>th</sup> year and it has been my privilege to serve as Membership Secretary since March 2018 and as Chairman since September 2018, both posts I am more than willing to continue so long as the membership wishes me to.

This report is being made in writing only as it has not been possible to have our AGM and Election of Committee at our May meeting as hoped because we are now all 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 can only hope and pray that by the time of our next AGM in May 2021, life will have returned to normal. The report I now make, therefore, only covers the period of October 2019 to March 2020 inclusive. As this is a written rather than a verbal report, I will be a bit more detailed than would possibly have been the norm.

The first thing I would like to mention is how pleased I have been at the number of members coming along to our meetings. Excluding our annual dinner in February 2020, the numbers attending were 94 in October, 117 in November, 70 in December (social), 85 in February and 99 in March. A total of 465 people over 5 meetings giving an average attendance of 93 people per meeting, so really encouraging.

The membership numbers for the 2019-20 season are very slightly less than the previous season mainly due to insufficient volunteers to assist. Changes are currently being made which will hopefully see an increase again. The main thing is that the numbers coming along to our monthly meetings is being sustained.

Our speakers have entertained and informed us on a variety of subjects, some being of local interest and some of a more general interest. Our season started with a talk by the Jon Egging Trust. No doubt some of you will recall the tragic death of Fl.Lt. Jon Egging during the Red Arrows Display in 2011 at the Bournemouth Air Show.

In November, we welcomed a talk about some of the inhabitants of the New Forest, both human and animal. Then in December we held our Christmas Social and a good time was had by all. Members brought food to share, HENRA provided the liquid refreshment and we enjoyed a good sing-song with musical entertainment by Curly the Busker who had previously entertained us at our summer social.

After a break for Christmas and the New Year, meetings started again in February and our speaker was Brian Heppenstall, the Senior Ranger at the Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre who gave a superb presentation about how the Head area is managed over the course of a year.

Later in February, we held our Annual Dinner at Gilbeys' Restaurant (within the Liston Hotel), our regular venue for many years past. The evening was well attended and we all had a super meal with great company, making new friends along the way.

At our March meeting, we welcomed the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance who gave a wonderful presentation about the valuable work they do within the area. Little did we know that this was to be our last meeting for a while. We also had a secondary speaker at the request of BCP Council to talk about their plans to rebuild the Beach House Café on Mundeford Sandbank.

I must also give my thanks to our local PCSO, usually Annette, who attends the majority of our meetings, Police duties permitting. We have the opportunity to raise issues and also to find out about Police matters affecting us. Some of the issues discussed have been about camper vans and other vehicles parked for lengthy periods, boy racers on motor scooters & motor bikes, various scams

that are doing the rounds both via email, phone and in person. We need to remain vigilant. Our Police advised us when there were spates of thefts in the area, either from cars or garden sheds.

We are continually reminded not to let strangers into our houses regardless of how plausible they might seem. We were reminded that all genuine Police officers have a Collar number and also a Warrant Card and no genuine officer would mind you telephoning the local Police to check they are who they say they are.

As you will all know, after our booked speaker each month, we then have a Q & A session where members can raise any issues that affect us within our area. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our two Ward Councillors, Cllr. Eddie Coope and Cllr. Malcolm Davies who have attended all our meetings except October 2019 and have answered a wide variety of questions.

Some of the issues raised this season have included:

- 1) The closing of the footpath along one of the boundaries of St. Peter's School due to intruders and trespassers, the closure being made for the safety of the pupils. The fencing is about to be replaced as per a Planning Application and this will hopefully solve the issue.
- 2) Flooding at Tuckton Roundabout
- 3) Speeding on some of the roads
- 4) Dog-napping – abduction of dogs mostly near the Tea Gardens and Hengistbury Head
- 5) Increase in cost of collecting green bins since the amalgamation of the 3 areas into the BCP Council
- 6) Continued complaints about the traffic flow at Tuckton roundabout especially with the lane markings, the main problem being with the Wick Lane exit
- 7) Dogs on the golf course – although wardens patrol this, it's up to the people who lease the land
- 8) An ongoing complaint about the closure of the public toilets in Tuckton
- 9) The Land Train – when / if it will be re-introduced
- 10) A major problem, raised every month, is that of the “boy racers”, mainly along Broadway and Southbourne Coast Road, even after the barrier to the Head is closed. The Hiker Café at the Head seems to be the main meeting place for groups, also the Solent Car Park. This problem is repeatedly reported to our PCSO's and Police 101, but usually the groups have dispersed by the time the Police can attend although they have reported that they've spoken to some of the groups on occasion.
- 11) Various scams – these have also been mostly reported to the membership via emails from me as soon as I hear about them
- 12) Damaged road signs and overgrown hedges in Wick causing problems to both drivers, pedestrians & cyclists.
- 13) Development of Broadwaters site and whether a buyer has been found yet
- 14) The Beryl Bikes - some are just dumped anywhere and some had been stolen, thus involving our Police Force to recover them
- 15) Lights on Tuckton Bridge
- 16) The proposed sale of the big car park by the deckchair roundabout, up for development
- 17) Another ongoing issue of parking outside Tesco in Tuckton
- 18) The statue to commemorate Charles Rolls now needing a new location
- 19) Waterlogging on paths approaching Wick Ferry
- 20) Damage caused to roads and paths by vehicles connected with various developments in the area and who is responsible for the cost of repairs.
- 21) Filling in all the potholes, getting rid of weeds on pavements
- 22) Someone raised the point that they wanted the wind farm project raised again

We have been promoting HENRA by various means including placing membership forms in various locations (see Membership Report). One of the main priorities this season has been to improve the **HENRA Website** and we are slowly managing to achieve this. As I had reported at past meetings, in the absence of a Secretary, I had been transcribing the Minutes from our meetings from the voice



recordings made at the time and all the Minutes are now up to date and on the website for members to view.

One of the major changes has been to make the **Membership Application Form** available and showing the options of how to pay. As well as the Cash or Cheque option, we have now included the option of a direct bank transfer and in the next few weeks we will be adding the option to pay by annual standing order. This will avoid members having to complete a membership application form each year and then all you need to do is to let the Membership Secretary know if you change your e-mail address. I will also be designing a form to make the standing order option available to those without an email address. With the current pandemic crisis, it will most probably not be possible to visit people in person to collect membership subscriptions for next season so we will be urging members to renew using the standing order option.

One of the things I introduced last season was to register HENRA as a worthwhile cause, following the introduction in March 2019 of the **BH Coastal Lottery**. For every £1 ticket sold via the HENRA page, we receive 50p which can then be used to help local causes within our designated area. I can report that at the time of writing this, HENRA members have had winners in every draw except one so far, some just extra free tickets but some financial. To date, whether they are HENRA members or not, nobody has won the weekly £25,000 prize. In fact, I don't think anyone has won more than a £250 prize since the draws started.

From HENRA's point of view, we are now receiving a small amount each month and we will eventually consider how best we can assist some local projects using this very welcome income. My thanks go to all the HENRA members that have purchased tickets via the HENRA page and it is hoped they will continue to support us in this way.

It was with much sadness that I had to announce the passing of two stalwart HENRA members (I will put more detailed information in our next Programme/News).

Joan Turner passed away in September 2019, aged 89. Although I never had the pleasure of meeting her, she was the HENRA Secretary for many years.

Tony Bayliss passed away in April 2020, just before I started writing this. Many of you will know that Tony was HENRA Vice Chair for many years and in addition, he used to organize the Annual Dinner in February and the Boat Trip & BBQ in July. After retiring as Vice Chair, he was appointed as Honorary Vice President in early 2018. His jovial and friendly demeanour will be much missed.

So what of the future of HENRA? Unfortunately due to the Coronavirus pandemic, all meetings from April 2020 onwards had to be cancelled and this included cancelling our social evening in June and our Boat Trip & BBQ in July. I also had to cancel all our booked speakers but once we know that it is safe to hold meetings again, they will be re-booked.

In these uncertain times, it is difficult to predict when we will be able to meet up again. In the meantime, I will do my best to keep members up to date with anything happening in our area.

Despite these troubled times, I hope you will continue to support HENRA and will renew your subscription. It is still only £3 per household which by any standards is good value for money.

So thank you for 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 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 onwards via our website. If you could set your application to pay via standing order in the future, this will be an enormous help and much appreciated.

Stay safe everyone

Avril Ogden, HENRA Chairman  
30<sup>th</sup> April 2020