

THE IN TOUCH

Winter Edition 2023 (123)

Newcastle & Darlington Retired Rail staff
(Affiliated to The British Transport Pensioners' Federation)
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Gateshead Bowling Green Club, 10 Prince Consort Road, Gateshead NE8 1LS.

AGM AND QUARTERLY MEETING ON THURSDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2023

It is with regret that we have to inform Members that the above AGM is **postponed** until 2024 and the quarterly meeting **cancelled**.

This is as a result of the ongoing transport problems in the area due to the Go Northeast bus strike and continuing rail problems.

As a result of this postponement, it is proposed that the current officers and committee will carry on until the AGM can be rearranged.


XMAS LUNCH

Our Xmas lunch has been arranged for Thursday 7th of December 2023, 12:30 for 13:00 at the Gateshead Bowling Club.

This will be on a similar basis as last year, the main course will be a help yourself buffet, with starter and dessert served to the table.

At the moment we have not been advised of the price but, we are advised it will be a slight increase from last year, which was £16 for all three courses.

Members attending and paying by cheque make the cheque payable to **NEWCASTLE RETIRED RAIL STAFF ACCOUNT NO 2** and post to the Secretary John Carpenter. Members attending our Monday morning meetings may pay cash or cheque to the Secretary.

	<p>Would you please indicate the number of courses required and what is preferred.</p> <p>Starters: Prawn Cocktail or Vegetable Soup.</p> <p>Main Course: Turkey or Beef.</p> <p>Dessert: Christmas Pudding & Brandy Sauce Apple Crumble & Custard or Chocolate Gateau</p> <p>Anyone with special Dietary requirement or queries please contact the Secretary John Carpenter by phone 01914883507.</p> <p>Please note the Club has a maximum of 50 persons for this type of event therefore it will be on a first come basis until that figure is reached.</p>
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NEWS OF MEMBERS

We have not lost any members since the September meeting and welcome three new members, Mr. Mark Newton, Mr. John Heslington and Mr. Robert Dale, a warm welcome to them all. We have been advised that Mrs. Irene Walker and George Halbert have had spell in hospital recently. George returned home last weekend.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

As Members may recall, we carried out a survey of Members to confirm those that wish to retain membership. As a result, we now have 81 members, 50 of whom receive In Touch via e-mail. Since our last AGM in November 2022, we have lost three members and recruited 14 new members.

FEDERATION NEWS

We are awaiting minutes of the last three-monthly meetings held at Euston on the 12th of November 2023.

CLOSURE OF BOOKING OFFICES

The Secretary sent a letter to Transport Focus on behalf of our branch, highlighting problems faced and raised by members at our quarterly meeting. The Vice chairman of the BTPF also sent a letter on behalf of all 28 branches representing over 18,000 members, to Transport Focus, detailing problems nationwide. It is a two-page letter I have copies of the letter if members wish to read it.

REPTA

We have received word that REPTA which has been in existence since 1893 and being of benefit to railway people. Will close completely at the end of this year.