

# THE NANTWICH & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY



**President:**  
**Jackie Spence**

**Secretary:**  
**Christine Grove**

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To all Members of Nantwich and District Scottish Society

## **CORONAVIRUS AND OUR 2020 – 2021 SEASON**

First of all, we hope this finds you well.

As you all know, our 2019-20 Season ended abruptly on 16th March 2020, because of lockdown restrictions. Many events, including our Summer Dance, have had to be cancelled or postponed.

It is usual at this time of year for us to publish our programme of events for the next dancing season, beginning in September.

Unfortunately, this will not now be possible. We have been informed by Wistaston Memorial Hall that we will not be permitted to resume dancing in the Hall until January 2021 *at the earliest*. (This applies to all “exercise” classes, also the Bridge Club and the Concert Band.) There are many restrictions, even for sedentary groups, and the hall capacity has been greatly reduced to facilitate “distancing”. The Hall’s Management Committee have to adhere to the guidance and regulations supplied to all Community venues by Cheshire East Council.

We held a virtual Committee Meeting (on Zoom) on Thursday 16th July to discuss the way ahead.

The ruling by the Memorial Hall means that we shall not be able to meet for dancing in the Autumn. The situation will be reviewed later in the year – we shall just have to wait and see.

This obviously has a knock-on effect for our other planned events. We have decided to cancel **President’s & Visitors’ Night** at the Civic Hall (Mon 2nd November).

We have also, very reluctantly, cancelled our **Burns’ Night** at Sandbach Town Hall (Sat 30 January).

As these events are a long way in the future, some of you may question our decision, but our reasons include:

- Many of our members (and potential guests) are in the 70+ age group and are more likely to experience serious symptoms if they become infected - even those who are at present fit and healthy.
- It is likely that the venues we use will limit the number of people attending and will curtail the hire period so that cleaning can take place.
- “Bring and Share” food is unlikely to be permitted. Raffles are inadvisable, owing to the need to handle cash.

- If we are unable to get together for our regular classes, this limits our opportunity to sell tickets and it also means we will not be able to practise our dances.
- Although there is much talk about getting “back to normal by Christmas”, there is no way of knowing that things will improve – indeed, things may get worse. We simply can't be certain.

### **CHRISTMAS CHARITY EVENTS**

As we cannot return to dancing until 2021, this rules out our customary Christmas Charity Raffles and the Hamper Draw. As an alternative, we propose to support the **Nantwich Food Bank**. Donations may be made on-line or by cheque – we suggest you donate the amount you would normally spend on tickets for the raffles and/or for contributions to the hampers. Details will be published nearer to Christmas.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2020-21**

The Committee has agreed that your Membership of the Society will be extended to May 2021 **free of charge**. You don't need to do anything, but please let me (Christine) know if any of your contact details have changed.

When we eventually return to dancing, weekly class fees will be collected on a **Pay-As-You-Go** basis.

Those members who paid their dancing 'subs' in advance for the 2019-20 Season will be issued with eight vouchers (representing the number of classes missed during lockdown).

### **COMMUNICATION**

As we will not be getting together for some time, it's important that we keep in touch. You will continue to receive emails or letters from me. Information will also appear on our website ([www.nantwichscots.org](http://www.nantwichscots.org)), our Facebook Page and in our WhatsApp Group – get in touch with **Kim** - 07742 520200 - about our Facebook and WhatsApp Groups.

We have also given each Committee Member a small group of members to call from time to time – just to have a chat and make sure you don't feel forgotten.

We realise that this will be a big disappointment for all of you – we all want to get back to dancing too – but we have no choice but to comply with the restrictions imposed by Government, Cheshire East and our dancing venues. As soon as we can return safely, we will do so.

Christine

**Christine Grove**  
Secretary

**ON BEHALF OF YOUR COMMITTEE**