

National Federation of Eighteen plus Groups

National Gazette

Aim; The aim of this National Gazette is to inform members of the progress of the 65th National Conference and to support members in the running of groups.

The 65th National Conference was held at the Britannia Hotel, Coventry City Centre on 22nd to 23rd April 2006

Federation's Accounts

Because of errors highlighted in the accounts during questioning of Adrian Barnard, National Finance Officer in conference. Delegates voted not to accept the presented accounts.

The GPC withdrew the nomination of the accountants and charged the NFO with the task of presenting an amended set for the year 2005 for the June NEC meeting. The NFO will be further discuss the matter with the accountants.

Elections

From the 24th May 2006, the following persons will hold the following posts

National Chairman – John Smith

Honorary General Secretary – Emma Dunning

National Finance Officer – Adrian Barnard

Publications Officer / Plus News Editor – Richard Mahaffey

Vice Presidents – Gerry Edwards and Sandra Brogan

This leaves the posts of Training Officer, Internet Co-Ordinator and Public Relations Officer. If you wish to contribute to the organisation in these roles, please contact the HGS or your Area Chairman.

Please note that Dave Filer retains his Project Officer status for another year.

My, thanks to all volunteers who have contributed to the National Executive over the past year.

Motions Adopted by the Conference.

A] Constitution and Standing Orders

The conference adopted the draft constitution; standing orders for National, Area, Second tier groups and group. The vote in favour was overwhelming

Copies of these documents can be obtained from the restructuring page of the website

www.18plus.org.uk

B] Name Change

Barkingside Eighteen Plus group proposed a motion to remove the word "Eighteen" from the principle name of the Federation. This was adopted by the conference.

The title of the Federation is now the National Federation of plus Areas

C] Delegate Participation at General Meeting

Barkingside Eighteen Plus Group proposed motions to allow group delegate participation at a General Meeting. These were adopted by the conference.

Motions Lost

A] Proportion of vote needed to pass a constitutional vote

The NEC proposed a motion to lower the portion of the total vote required to pass a constitutional motion from seventy five to sixty six per cent for the length of the conference. This was not adopted and consequently all constitutional motions passed had achieved over seventy-five per cent

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B] Soton Friends proposed a motion to allow Quest members to be full members and set up separate tiers for members over 35 and under 35. The motion sought to limit the participation of over 35 in events for under 35. The motion sought to establish two area committees representing these two tiers.

This was not adopted.

Trophies and Awards

My, thanks to all those who made submissions and took the time to notify the designated NEC Officer via the office within deadline.

Excellence Awards – Lisa Ward and Terry Drake

National Chairman's Merit award – Adam Redshaw and Joseph Gurney

The Linda Street "Spirit of Eighteen plus Award- Francis Wallington

Treasurer's Trophy- Andrew Cole, LLSE Treasurer

Recruitment Trophy – Hillingdon

Norbury Trophy [Magazine] - Mark Hawkins for Barnet Flyer – Barnet Eighteen Plus

Development Certificate – Northern Area

Charles Padgham Training Trophy – East Anglia Area

The President's Trophy for Best Group – Hillingdon

Cobb Dual Purpose 2 pint Jug Mug best Area- North Thames and Chiltern

Honorary Life Members

The following persons were made Honorary Life Members of the National Federation of Eighteen Plus Groups

Christine George; Sue Swan; Francis Wallington; Gerry Edwards; Mark Hewson.

My congratulations to those fellows so nominated and elected

Dinner Dance

The Dinner Dance honoured the contribution of Christine George and Sue Swan. A presentation of gift tokens and decorated cakes made by Hazel Bunker of Barkingside Group was made with many individual gifts or cards from members.

South Bucks Eighteen Plus Group presented the trophies to the winners of the National Badminton competition.

As part of the entertainment for the evening, a casino was run using professional croupiers. The money raised, seventy-eight pounds will be donated to the Lord Mayor of Coventry's Charity Appeal.

What is in a name?

By adopting the constitution and related documents, we have changed our name from May 1st 2006. The name of the organisation is

National Federation of Plus Areas.

Publicity materials and letterheads will need to be changed or carry as before carry a reference to the National Organisation. Please ensure that such corporate material is used up.

My interpretation provided a group carry a geographical reference giving the town it is located in then it can continue to use the title xtown eighteen plus group or chosen name provided the group as a whole agreed.

The NEC will investigate the legality of registering the name and obtaining appropriate domain names for Plus websites.

Office and Communication

On 29th April, the HQ office closed at Church Street Chambers, Newent and the staff has completed redundancy. It is the GPC's intent to ensure that enquiries from the public in particular prospective new members are not affected by these actions.

Telephone Numbers;

01531-821210 Newent Office Number. This number will carry a message for a period referring the caller to a Flextel number 0870-8794960

Email ; Electronic mail is being directed to the Honorary General Secretary. Where appropriate the mail will be forwarded to a member to act upon.

Postal Mail; A] A redirection has been set up from Newent to Adrian Barnard's house, 21, White Leys Close, Didcot OX11 7LP. Mail will be sorted and forwarded to the appropriate person.

B] The NEC has agreed to utilise the services of Mailbox for the provision of a business address. Please utilise this address in all mail and publicity materials.

National Federation of 18 Plus Groups / National Association of Plus Areas,
210 Commerce House,
High Street,
SUTTON COLDFIELD,
West Midlands
B72 1AB.

A project officer or volunteer will check the postal box at regular intervals.

Health and Safety.

I wish to remind everyone that you are required to comply with Health and Safety Legislation in the planning, delivery and execution of events. An event organiser is obliged to maintain and ensure the safety of participants and the public.

With the closure of the office, we ask that risk assessments be submitted to the National Finance Officer, Adrian Barnard, 21, White Leys Close, Didcot, OX11 7LP, no later than six weeks prior to the event. This gives sufficient time for us to pass on the assessment to the insurer and for queries with event organiser.

If you require advice or support whether planning or during an incident

Francis Wallington; 0870-3218235

07946-667417

Gerry Edwards; 020-866-6434

Meetings

The NEC will be holding a meeting on 3rd and 4th June 2006 to consolidate our situation and ensure continued communication. There will be a need for transition meetings at Area and group level to fit the recommended pattern of the constitution. For guidance and advice, please contact Steve Browning, East Anglia Area Chairman and Constitutional Sub Committee Chairman.

SADY

SADY will be held on June 9th to 11th at Dalesbridge Outdoor Centre, Austwick, Yorkshire LA2 8AZ. Booking forms and information can be obtained from the website. Bookings and payment of forty pounds needs to be submitted to Corinna Teale, 7 Bedford Drive, and Sutton Coldfield. B75 6AU. SADY is a camping event with mix of outdoor activities such as rambling and organised entertainment such as bands , disco and quizzes.

Out door Pursuits

An Outdoor Pursuits Weekend is being organised by Tina Bunyan from 26th May to 29th 2006 at a cost of £25.00 per head. This group will occupy a camping barn in Borrowdale, Cumbria with the Lake District National Park. Please bring your own sleeping bag

Enter Stage Right and Exit

From 24th May 2006, Emma Dunning being the Honorary General elect will be a key contact for the National Executive Council;

Her contact details are currently;

Details have been removed from this public version

Emma will have a new address and be assigned a Flextel number from July onwards.

For business enquiries within the Federation, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Barnard, National Finance Officer at 21 White Leys Close, Didcot, Oxfordshire. OX11 7LP.

Thank you everyone for making this year worthwhile, please publicise and recruit this wonderful organisation.

Francis Wallington

18, Traffwll Road, Caergeiliog,

Isle of Anglesey. LL65 3NE