

Membership Report

Jane Perryman

2019

As you are all aware last year at the Assemblée Générale we felt the need to increase the annual household subscription from 12€ to 24€, this was seen as a necessity to help boost the library funds.

I will attempt to give you some not so interesting stats...

Back in 2017 we had a total of 161 memberships, this was broken down as 124 renewals and 37 new memberships.

Then in 2018 of the 161 memberships from the previous year 134 renewed and we had 42 new members giving a total of 176 memberships for last year.

This year of the 176 memberships from 2018, to date we have had 93 who have renewed and 7 new members giving a total of 100 which is around 57%.

Breaking this down a little further..At the end of March last year we had 124 members as opposed to the 100 we have now....so we are slightly down on the number of people who have renewed so far but we know a few made the decision the increase was too much for them and they did let us know they wouldn't be renewing plus a number of people have returned to the UK. So all in all we were quite worried that the increase would turn people off but to have 100 memberships after 3 months is quite encouraging.

Now....If we were to look at the split of single and joint households the figures are as follows, bearing mind here I can only go from the names written on the membership forms.....

Of the 100 memberships we currently have, the split is...

58 have stated 2 names and 42 have stated 1 name.

So whilst the membership number is slightly down on last year we are in a healthy position, at the end of last year we had no idea what the increase in fees would bring.

Website Report

Jane Perryman

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I will be delivering the report on the website, however it's Andrew that will answer any questions you have.

In your pack you have a graph giving you figures gathered in the middle of February for the previous 30 days.

I won't try to go through these figures with you but what I would say is that the website has a lot of hits and it's growing every month.

At the last Assemblée Générale I reported that the website had given you access to all the fiction and non fiction books we hold, the DVD's, displayed the opening hours, the calendar with who is working each day the library is open, a currency convertor, information on who we all are and all the groups we have running.

During the past year following a discussion at this meeting, we introduced the ability to pay via Paypal for Events, Membership Subscriptions plus allowing anyone kind enough to make a donation. It took a while to come to an agreement with PayPal but we have eventually secured a discounted transaction fee with them. A few people have paid for events this way but this year we have had 27 members that have paid their subs of which 3 were new members. A very encouraging number out of the 100 memberships we have.

Also in the past 12 months we have introduced the Message Centre, where members can log on and send a message to another member without knowing their email address. Basically if you know someone who goes in the cafe or one of the groups but don't know their personal details you can send them an email via the website.

We also now have a members area where certain information can only be viewed by members ie. those who have paid their membership fees.

And lastly, we have introduced a way for members to create their own entries, for example if they find something interesting to share with other members, which we've called the USP (User Submitted Post). This places a post on the

website that is displayed and circulated on the website homepage. Only a couple of people have tried this but hopefully more may get onboard.

What do we have in the pipeline for the coming year?.....We're in the very early stages of thinking about an area on the site where members and non members can advertise their business. We're currently thinking this will be self administered whereby the user will upload their business card and pay by Paypal for 12 months advertising. As I say it is in the early stages but we expect there will be a number of pages where you can search for artisans or accommodation etc.