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RAFOS/Sec/24

Dear RAFOS Member 22 January 2024

**THE 58th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ON SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024**

It is my pleasure, on behalf of your Committee, to invite you to attend the 58th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Air Force Ornithological Society. By kind permission of the Station Commander the meeting will be held on Saturday 16 March 2024 in the Officers’ Mess, RAF High Wycombe.

If you wish to attend or to have your apologies formally recorded, please complete the attached form and return it to me at the above address, with any payment, to arrive no later than **Friday 23 February 2024.** Due to administrative problems, I cannot accept payment on the day. Should you prefer to use email, please download the equivalent form on the RAFOS web site, www.rafornithology.org.uk. The price for lunch is £8 a head. For those who wish to use internet banking the account is RAF Ornithological Society Treasurer’s Account, Account Number 01890688, Sort Code 30 93 48. Please email me if you use this method so I can track who has paid.

If you are travelling by car, please provide me with details of your vehicle on the attached form or by email using the reply form on the RAFOS website. HP14 4XW is the closest post code for your sat nav and the Officers’ Mess is signposted from the minor road through Walters Ash. If you are using public transport the 300 bus service runs between High Wycombe and Princes Risborough via Walter’s Ash and Naphill. Grimm’s Meadow is the nearest bus stop to the Officers’ Mess. Please note that the earliest arrival time is 11:00. Photo ID will be required at the gate; Service ID card, photo driving licence or passport is acceptable.

The AGM agenda is attached and also a voting form for those unable to attend. It would help if you could let me have details of any items you wish to raise under Any Other Business. If you are planning to enter the Art and Photography competition, please see the rules which are attached which describe the categories for the competition.

You are welcome to arrive any time from 11:00 onwards when tea and coffee will be available. Those entering the Art and Craft competition may do so on the day, but must submit their entries by 11:30. See the separate rules for submissions for the Photography competition. Parking is at the Officers’ Mess car park. Wheelchair access is available. Lunch will be available from 12:00. The guest speaker is Mr Keith Betton (https://www.amazon.co.uk/stores/author/B00QTTB0E6/about) His talk on Peregrines is planned to begin at 13:00. The formal AGM will follow this talk.

Three committee positions are due for election at this meeting. Gp Capt (Retd) Keith Cowieson had tried to stand down as FALO but has served for another 2 years as there was no other candidate. The two committee roles of Secretary and Treasurer are due for election and, as advertised at the last AGM, the position of Membership Secretary will be united with that of Treasurer. We have volunteers for all these positions but welcome other members to stand for election to these positions. Under the Constitution the Newsletter Editor and Digital Image Co-ordinator are not required to stand for election after 3 years in post but, again, other members are welcome to stand for election for these positions.

There is no planned evening event.

I regret that there is no on-base accommodation available. In the area there are, among others (found by internet search, not by any recommendation):

1. Travelodge, Thame, OX9 3SB.
2. Travelodge, High Wycombe, HP11 2DQ.
3. Premier Inn, High Wycombe, HP13 5FX.
4. Premier Inn, Beaconsfield, HP10 9YL.
5. The George and Dragon Hotel, High Wycombe, HP14 3AB.
6. The Clifton Lodge Hotel, High Wycombe, HP12 3AR.
7. Holiday Inn, High Wycombe, HP11 1TL.

Should you have any queries concerning the AGM, please contact me. I look forward to meeting you.

*Jan Knight*

J M KNIGHT

Mrs

RAFOS Secretary