



Anglo-Saxons Friendly Society Ltd

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2024



It is with sadness and regret that we were informed of the death of John Briggs. John was diagnosed with cancer in 2023 and died in Ellenor Hospice on Sunday 19 May 2024.

John was a longstanding and revered member of the Society. He joined in the mid-60s and became a delegate for Branch 11 in 1968. John served as Grandmaster of the Society in 1973 and as a Trustee from 1978 until 2019.

A donation from the Society has been made to Ellenor Hospice in accordance with the family's wishes and in acknowledgement of John's commitment and support of the Society.

Our thoughts and condolences are extended to his wife Angela and all members of John's family.

DISCRETIONARY BENEFIT PAYMENTS
Approved Discretionary Benefit payments will now be paid twice monthly
to reduce waiting times for reimbursement

DISCRETIONARY BENEFIT PAYMENTS

As electronically submitted discretionary benefit claims have increased and are significantly quicker to process, it has enabled a mid-month payment to be introduced which commenced on 1 June 2024. The changes are:

- Discretionary benefit claims received on or before the 15th day of the month will be paid on the last working day of the month
- Discretionary benefit claims received after the 15th day of the month will be paid on the 15th day of the following month



The waiting time has therefore reduced from a maximum of 59 days to a maximum of 30 days. Please note that these timescales are subject to claims meeting the criteria of being submitted within 3 months of treatment and the receipt showing the required information of member's name and address, date of treatment/works and that the invoice has been paid in full. Any queries with any of the above information will result in the payment date being delayed.

It is very quick and easy to submit a claim via the website as the majority of fields are prepopulated. Please see the attached guidance notes on how to submit a discretionary benefit claim online. If you prefer to talk to someone who will walk you through the process, please contact the office and a team member will be happy to help.

2024 AGM

Thank you to all members that attended the AGM and to members who voted online. A Newsletter providing an update on the meeting has been distributed via email and is available to read on the website.

REBRANDING



The rebranding project is progressing well and the new Gravesham Friendly website is being constructed with the new logo, colours and fonts. It will include pages on the Board's climate change strategy and community support. The launch is planned for the end of August/beginning of September and the exact date will be publicised when known. You can also follow this from the Society's media channels from the following links:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/anglosaxonsfriendlysociety/>

<https://www.facebook.com/anglosaxonsfriendlysociety>

<https://twitter.com/AngloSaxonsFS>

SOCIETY SPONSORSHIP



The Society's sponsorship of Shorne Woods mature tree programme commenced on 1 April 2024 for one year. When the rebranding to Gravesham Friendly is complete and the website is ready to be launched, a publicity event will be held at Shorne Woods and members of the Gravesham Council, local companies and local media outlets will be invited to attend. This will ensure the rebranding reaches as many people as possible across the Gravesham community

and will be the starting point of the media campaign to engage with and recruit new members to the Society. This is essential for the longevity of the Society to ensure it survives for the next 147 years and more.

Plans are also in place for members to attend a walk when it will be explained and demonstrated what the Society's sponsorship is being used for.

MEMBER FORUM

Three members have been appointed to the Member Forum and the first meeting will be held on 18 July. It is not too late to request to be a member, give your ideas and help your Society.



Mutual Societies are unique in that they belong to their members. The Member Forum ensures your voice is heard outside of the statutory meetings such as the AGM. Whilst the Board has a wide range of knowledge and many years' service within the mutual society sector, the member's viewpoint is important and should be heard. The time commitment is not onerous and your input will be valued. Please contact the office for an application form and Terms of Reference if you can help.

MEMBER'S STORIES



On 14 June, an email was sent requesting your member stories about the Society to include on the forthcoming Gravesham Friendly website. Thank you to all members who completed this and shared their thoughts with us for which we are very grateful. A closing date of 28 June was set but if you have not yet completed this and would like to do so, please complete the questions and share your journey with us for the benefit of future members.

MEMBER GET MEMBER

Our Member Referral Scheme

Don't keep us a secret. Recommend a friend, family member or colleague to Anglo-Saxons so that they can benefit from all the Society offers.

You can recommend as many people as you like and we'll reward you if they decide to join Anglo-Saxons.

When you introduce someone to Anglo-Saxons, we give you a £50 gift

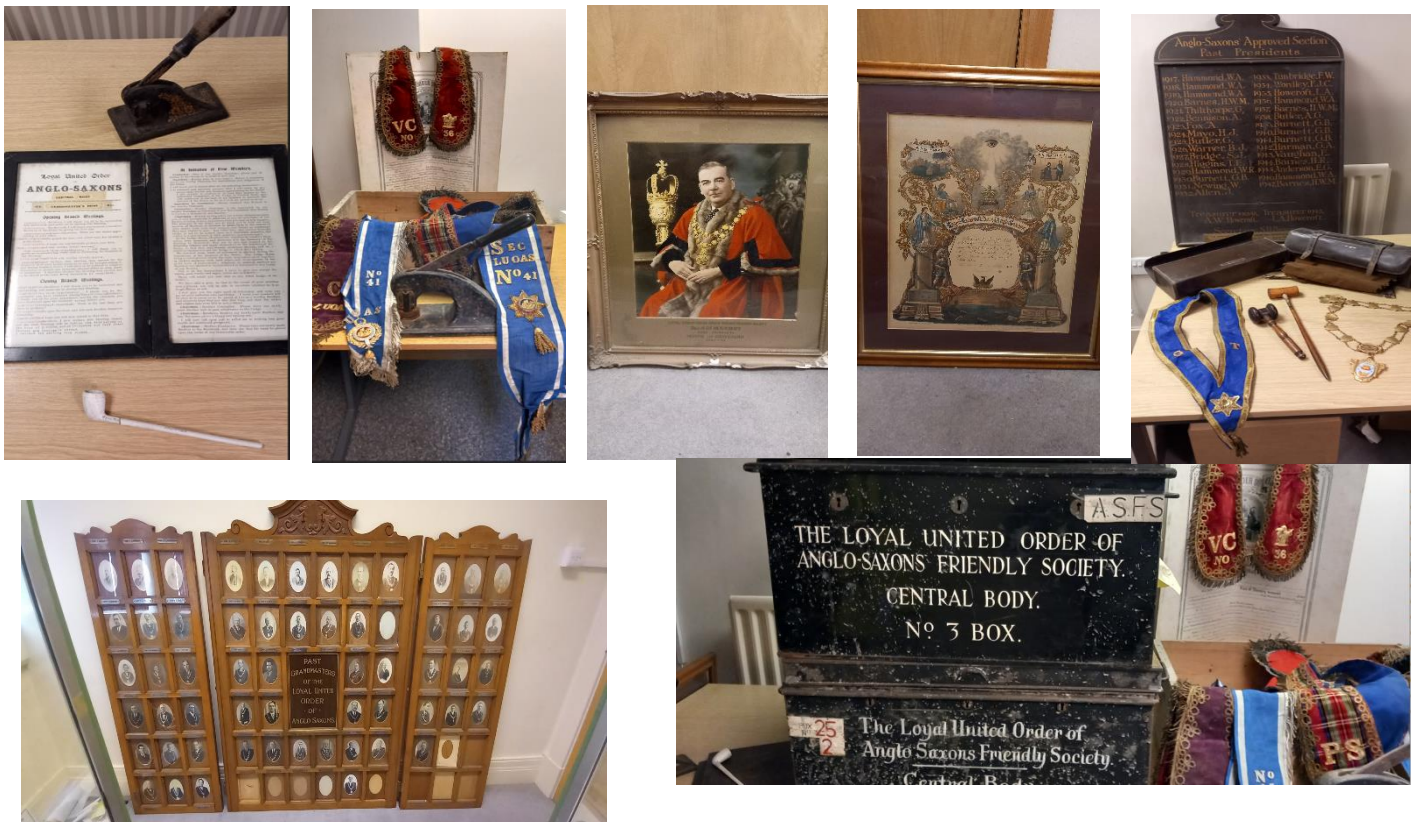


The Member-Get-Member reward is available to members recommending the Society to new members. It is an easy way to earn £50 and helps family members/friends by recommending they belong to a Society that puts members first.

A marketing plan to recruit new members following the rebranding is being compiled.

HERITAGE

The majority of heritage items are now on display at The Foresters Heritage Trust at Stoke on Trent including the selection shown below.



The following items are kept at the Old Rectory and can be seen if you are visiting the office.



GRAVESHAM REPAIR CAFÉ

One of our members helps organise the Gravesham Repair Café where you are invited to bring along your bike, sewing machine, computer equipment, electrical items, clothing repairs etc, for FREE repair. You can sit with the repairers, enjoy free refreshments and biscuits and learn how to repair items all within a friendly community atmosphere.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month between 10am and 2pm at the Northfleet Veteran's Club. A warm welcome awaits at the next Repair Café on Thursday 1 August.

Please see the attached leaflet for further details.

CONTACT US

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any help, or have any suggestions of what you would like to be included in future newsletters, using any of the methods listed below:

Post: The Old Rectory, Springhead Road, Northfleet, DA11 8HN

Telephone: 01474 567050

Email: info@anglo-saxons.co.uk