

Dear Member

I regret to say that I have cancelled our **Post Xmas Lunch at the Chesterfield Hotel on 29th December**. Let me explain why. Prior to the introduction of the tier system and the second lockdown, I had agreed with the Chesterfield that the lunch could go ahead under the rules that were established in July. So, as it was announced that London would be placed in Tier 2 from 2nd December, I contacted them again and received a positive response, but noticed our booking was to be treated as a business event, which I thought needed clarification. When it came it said "*Business events are permitted, but capacity should be restricted to whichever is lower: 50% capacity of 2,000 people outdoors or 1,000 people indoors*". It was further explained that *the general understanding is that Business Events are relating to work purposes, and there is no mention of charity and membership organisation meetings. Nevertheless, it is advised that people from different households should not meet indoors to socialise within Tier 2 areas*. In the light of this I consulted our President, who is a Westminster City Councillor, and our national chairman and she consulted our insurers. The outcome is that we do not meet the definition.

Branch and National Events in 2021

In my last newsletter I said that I had made tentative bookings for

- the AGM on Tuesday 16th March in Westminster City Hall
- a St George's Day Dinner at the Wax Chandlers Hall on Wednesday 21st April

Apart from securing the venues, I have now arranged catering. Please note the dates.

The latest edition of the Journal indicates the following dates for national events

- Cenotaph Annual Service of Remembrance – Saturday 24th April
- Battle of Britain Lunch at the RAF Club – Friday 17th September

So, the calendar is developing. As far as the branch is concerned, I shall not make any more bookings until the Covid restrictions are relaxed having been twice bitten and only once lucky.

Branch Standard Bearer

Earlier this year our current standard bearer, Ron Aston, advised me that he wished to stand down from this role. Would anyone like to take over from Ron? It involves parading three times a year: at the Cenotaph in April, the National Standards Service at St George's Hanover Square in late October, and our own Trafalgar Day Dinner. Anyone interested please contact me on 020 8670 1488 or at alansco@btinternet.com

Valete

Jack Killick's progressive condition sent him on his way on Monday 16th November - his wife Hazel had cared for him at home. After just two days over the previous weekend in St Christopher's Hospice he is at rest. He was 84. A dear friend and a great character.

Seasons Greetings

Happy Christmas to each of you and your families. May 2021 be a truly Prosperous New Year.

Alan Broomhead

BRANCH EVENT BOOKING

**All events are to be booked with the Branch Secretary, Annabelle Emney
12, Park House, Kingswood Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, KENT, TN2 4BP
Email: annemney@gmail.com Call or text 07828 013795
Cheques should be made payable to RSSG Westminster Branch
Electronic Transfers quote surname and event reference and tell Annabelle**