

Notice is hereby given that the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Magna Masters Association will be held at the The Royal Air Force Club, 128 Piccadilly, London W1J 7PY 7 November, 2022 at 6pm

AGENDA

1. **Welcome by Chairman**
2. **To approve minutes of Sixth Annual General Meeting - 8 November 2021.**
(Attached)
3. **Apologies for absence**
4. **To receive the Chairman's report**
5. **To receive and adopt the Financial Report and Accounts for 2021-22**
(Martin Miles)

6. **Election of Officers**

Chairman: (Current holder Air Vice Marshal Patrick O'Reilly)

Vice Chairman: (Current holder Jeremy Randall as immediate past chairman. One nomination has been received: see notes from Open committee 5 Sept 22)

Hon. Treasurer: (Current holder Martin Miles, Actuaries)

Hon. Secretary: (Current holder Ian Locks, Stationers and Newspaper Makers)

Hon. Membership Secretary: Michael Godbee (Tax Advisors)

Hon. Events Secretary/Chairman Events Committee: Nic Birtles, (Information Technologists)

The meeting will be invited to receive a nomination from the Open Committee for the position of Deputy Chairman. Any other nominations should be sent to the Hon. Secretary. Other officers have indicated their willingness to continue in office if elected.

7. **Election of Financial Examiner** (Currently Nic Birtles, Past Master WCo Information Technologists who replaced David Illingworth decd.)
8. **Other business.** If no other formal business the meeting will be followed by informal discussion.

The meeting will be followed by a wine tasting at 7.00pm and Supper at 8.30pm.
Event Concludes at 10.00pm

Ian Locks, Hon. Secretary



The sixth Annual Meeting of the Magna Masters Association was held at the RAF Club, Piccadilly, on 8 November 2021 commencing at 18.00

Recorded attending were: Nic Birtles, Chris Ford, Mark Henderson, Martin Miles, Tony Alston, Michael Cooper, Rowland Hughes, Nick Andrews, Ian Locks, Jim Conybeare, Andrew Marsden, Derek Woods, Jeremy Randall, Roger North, Debby Ounsted, Richard Herbert, Kevin Moore, John Hitchins, Allan Cheesman, Stephen Bernhard, Terry Last, Air Vice Marshal Patrick O'Reilly, Patrick Chapman, Ian McIntyre

1. Welcome by Chairman

Welcome to the Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Magna Masters Association after what has been a varied year with Zoom playing an important role in the first half and keeping us interested and involved and a more usual second half with a live/hybrid meeting for the committee meeting followed by a wonderful evening at Fishmongers' Hall hosted in absentia by our President, who got us all together and then went down with Covid and so was unable to host the evening as planned.....requiring some quick footed rearrangement of the top table and speakers. A big thank you Andrew Marsden for stepping in with great alacrity and composure to propose the toast to the Association at such short notice.

The Format for this evening would follow a more conventional approach than last year: The formal part of the meeting would, as was customary, be followed by an open discussion to the extent this was possible, probably lasting about half an hour. This would be followed by an informal wine tasting organised by Immediate Past Chairman Jeremy....after which supper at about 8.00/8.15 pm . Another difference from last year was that this meeting was once again MagnaMasters only having included Consorts last year on the Zoom. This might be something someone might like to raise for discussion. Anyhow on with the business...

2. To approve minutes of Fifth Annual General Meeting - 2 November 2020

(Minutes of the 2020 AGM have been published on our website; circulated and are attached below). Do I have your approval for the Minutes of the last AGM?

3. Apologies for absence: had been received from

**Michal Godbee
Mark Hardy
David Illingworth
Robin Furber
John Shonfeld
David Grey
Raymond Layard
Anne Esslemont
Roger Westbrook**

**Bob Morrow
David Illingworth
John Goodman
John Hayton
Adrian Scott-knight
Neville Chamberlain
Vincent Keaveny
Graham Chase
Mike Shepherd**

**Peter Williams
Lance Shaw
Graeme Groom
James Arkell
Patrick Draycott
David Dewing
Gill Moore
Graham Dickinson
Tony Watson
Gwen Rhys**

4. Chairman's report (Minutes of Committee Meeting 9 September 2020 attached refer)

In his report the chairman said:

Another successful year: membership dropped just below 100 paid up plus our three honorary members. The Hon Treasurer would report on our finances. Our programme this year had consisted of 14 events, more than half on Zoom during lockdown.

- **13 January 6pm** - Bus Tour with Consorts - by Zoom: an exercise in looking up. We filled the bus - Ian Locks
- **3 February 6pm** - Dickens Virtual Walking Tour with Consorts - Patrick Chapman by Zoom
- **15 March** - MagnaMasters Magical Half Hour Reprise with Rob Jayne by Zoom: Patrick Chapman
- **13 April** - Evening walk and drinks in Venice - live walk by Zoom. Ian Locks
- **27 April** - Art Inspired by Wine: Speaker John Ericson. Nic Birtles
- **11 May** - Golf - History of an Obsession. Speaker Stephan White. Nic Birtles
- **9 June** - Golf - History of an Obsession (Pt 2). Stephan White. Nic Birtles
- All these were by Zoom: our first real live event was: **21 June** - London Wall Unseen - plus lunch at Cutlers' Hall - organised by Richard Herbert
- **26 July** - MagnaMasters Rising dinner here at the RAF Club at the fourth attempt. Patrick O'Reilly with Masters and Consorts
- **8 September - Ditchling Village: Vineyard & Art and Craft Museum - Mike Felton.** A really lovely day out which sadly did not attract the numbers we expected or that Mike expected but nevertheless much enjoyed.
- **15 September** - Open Committee Meeting and Autumn Lunch was attended by a smaller number than usual but those attending did some sterling work for the rest of us and enjoyed their lunch at Cote on Ludgate Hill.
- **21 October** - President's Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall was, as I have mentioned, a spectacular evening with its own challenges
 - **8 November** - AGM, Wine Tasting and Supper- RAF Club - With 28 of us we are just about quorate: thank you for joining us.
 - **16 November at 5:30 for 6:00pm Golf: History of an Obsession Part 2 Talk on Zoom.**
 - and to conclude the year's programme, 41 of us are due to meet on **24 November** for a Tour of Westminster Abbey organised by Raymond Layard followed by supper afterwards.

The Chairman thanked all those who helped make all this happen: and hoped members agreed this was a wonderfully diverse and interesting programme organised by members for members. Aren't we lucky that so many of us have continued to step forward to make all this happen and to support what was organised.

5. To receive and adopt the Financial Report and Accounts

App 4

Proposed by Nic Birtles and Seconded Debbie Ounsted. Martin Miles reported that the Association's accounts were extremely healthy with a strong cash position due to the timing of gala dinners. The situation would change considerably after the costs of two gala dinners were met with the usual subsidy from association funds.

6. Election of Officers

Election of Chairman: Jeremy Randall, as vice chairman, took the chair briefly and proposed the re-election of Patrick O'Reilly whom he thanked for his sterling work to keep the MMA on course in the difficult circumstances of the Lockdown, to demonstrate that MagnaMasters were not to be bowed in the face of such difficulties and to get us back together as soon as this was possible with a dinner he conceived and organised here at the RAF Club. He said he was sure all would all like to thank our chairman in the usual way for all he had done over the last 12 months since the virtual handover 12 months ago. We have received no other nominations so I invite you to show your support for Patrick to serve another year as our Chairman.

Patrick O'Reilly thanked Jeremy and members for their support in what, despite the disruption of Covid, been a very successful and active year. The chairman said he was delighted all current officers and Committee members had agreed to stand again. And he offered the names for re-election en bloc which was approved *nem con*.

Thanking members for showing their confidence by re-electing him for a further year the chairman said he would like to thank Martin Miles, as Hon Treasurer, and Ian Locks as Hon

Secretary for all the work they do to keep the association running on oiled wheels.
Jeremy Randall was re-elected as **Vice Chairman**: The chairman thanked Jeremy Randall for his support in continuing to serve the association in a variety of ways, including organising our wine tasting this evening. The chairman said the MMA Mem and Arts he believed were silent on the matter but he suspected by the AGM next year we should be in a position to relieve Jeremy of his responsibilities as Vice-Chairman and put forward a nomination to succeed him in that role.

The Chairman said it was good to see the **Events Committee**, led by Nic Birtles and Stephen Bernhard who, with Gwen Rhys, were playing an increasingly active part in the events programme.

Michael Godbee was continuing to evolve the role of **Membership Secretary**.

- 7. Election of Financial Reviewer** (Currently David Illingworth, WCO Chartered Accountants) Martin Miles to thank David and propose. David was re-elected unanimously.

- 8. Other business - None notified.**

The chairman said this concluded the formal business of the meeting and invited members to join in open discussion before adjourning back upstairs to test ourselves with the wine tasting.

A proposal for a weekend in the Lake District, organised by Stephen Bernhard and Neville Chamberlain, would take pride of place in 2023 given the number of events already scheduled for 2022.

It was suggested that Go Cardless be introduced to assist with the process of ensuring those who booked to attend events committed to doing so by paying at the same time. MM and IL would investigate.

It was pointed out that Consorts attended the AGM the previous year and some would undoubtedly like to continue doing so. It was agreed this be discussed at the Open Committee

The Chairman invited any member with a suggestion for an interesting event to put forward their ideas for inclusion in the programme for the coming or a future year.

Members were invited to make their way to the upstairs bar for a wine tasting organised by Jeremy Randall which would be followed by Dinner.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 18.45

Programme for 2022-23

2022

17 February Seventh Gala Dinner, Leathersellers' Hall

29 March - Evening with the Magic Circle

30 May- 2 June - Visit to Loire wine growing area - Nic Birtles and Jeremy Randall (fully subscribed)

29 June - Dinner Lincoln's Inn - Tony Watson. This event will be capped at 20 to include Consorts and planned to include a tour of the Great Hall and archives. (Currently fully subscribed)

PENDING

Date tba Visit to Shuttleworth Collection - Jeremy Randall

Winery visits in UK - Allan Cheesman to propose.

2023

Visit to Lake District - Stephen Bernhard and Neville Chamberlain

Golfing events

May - Past Masters Association Spring Golf Cup

Sept - Past Masters Association Pairs Golf Tournament : 4th October at Beaconsfield GC.



Notes from Open Committee Meeting 5 September 2022

An Open Committee Meeting of the MagnaMasters was held on Monday 5 September 2022 at Côte St Paul's Brasserie, 26 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7DR commencing at 12 noon.

Attending: Anthony Alston, Patrick Chapman, Christopher Ford, Ian Frood, Mark Henderson, Ian Locks, Martin Miles, Roger North, Air Vice Marshal Patrick O'Reilly, John Shonfeld,, Tony Watson, Barrie Stewart, Jim Conybeare, Ian McIntyre, Bob Morrow, Nic Birtles, Derek Woods (17)

Apologies: Peter Williams, Graeme Groom, Graham Dickinson, Richard Herbert, Debby Ounstead, Neville Chamberlain, Stephen Bernhard, Kathleen Duncan, Gwen Rhys

The Chairman paid tribute to David Illingworth, a delightful member of the Association who had sadly died in August after a long illness which he bore so bravely. The Chairman had written to Annie, as had others.

1 Chairman's welcome and introduction - A summary of the last 12 months and plans for the coming year

- Big thank you to all who have organised events, and also those who supported them, most particularly Ian Locks for his hard work and diligence as our Honorary Secretary.
- In the autumn of last year, we were invited by our President, Sir Alan Yarrow to dine at Fishmongers' Hall, one of the crown jewels of the City Livery Halls. A delightful evening. Sadly, Sir Alan fell victim to Covid, and Sheriff elect Andrew Marsden stepped in to do the welcome with wit and aplomb.
- Slightly improbably we decided also to go ahead with our February Gala Dinner, kindly hosted by Tony Watson at Leathersellers' Hall. Numbers at both events were slightly down on our previous expectations but much enjoyed nonetheless

2022

29 March - Evening with the Magic Circle - excellent evening albeit falling rather short of expectations on attendance

30 May- 2 June - Visit to Loire wine growing area - Nic Birtles and Jeremy Randall (fully subscribed and a huge success which, as we will hear, has encouraged us to look to the future with similarly adventurous ideas.) And thank you to Nic Birtles for all his outstanding organization and attention to detail and to Graeme Groom for his excellent photographic record.

29 June - Dinner Lincoln's Inn - Tony Watson. This event was capped at 20, to include Consorts, and planned to include a tour of the Great Hall and archives.

5 September - Open Committee today: thank you for attending

3 October - Visit to WWII operations bunker at RAFUxbridge organised by Chris Ford who will encourage us to sign up I am sure.

7 November - AGM, wine tasting and dinner, RAF Club, Piccadilly: we are looking for someone take on from Rass the hosting of the wine tasting

There is of course an open Invitation for offers to organise events in the coming year or in the future.

2 Minutes of meeting 9 September 2021 ([Link here](#)) "circulated" - can be viewed on website MagnaMasters.com/blog

3 Financial Report (Hon. Treasurer) - Martin Miles, Oral report:

Report by Hon Treasurer. Martin Miles tabled his report which showed a deficit on events. He pointed out this included two Gala Dinners in the one financial year (Fishmongers' and Leathersellers' Halls) through Covid disruption however all events had required a subsidy. This had been an extraordinary time and it had been very important to keep our activities going. The Chairman remarked that, despite the distortion imposed by Covid, the finances of the Association were in good shape, and he thanked Martin for his support.

4. Discussion on new Vice Chairman. The Chairman said there had been only one nomination so far: Ian McIntyre proposed in absentia by Richard Herbert. The Chairman said he expected to emulate our first Chairman and keep the Chair for five years, another three on his two so far. Ian McIntyre said he would not expect to do more than two, raising the question of the absence in the Constitution of any guidance for the length of time in office of the Chairman. Ian McIntyre said he was willing for his name to go forward and this was agreed *nem con*.

5. Upcoming Events - Nic Birtles, chairman of the Events Committee

- In the absence of both Stephen and Neville, Nic Birtles and Ian Locks spoke to the programme in the pack, prepared by Stephen. Notwithstanding the shift by one week in the date, it was hoped that his very special opportunity would be grasped by a sufficient number of members: there is a maximum of 28 attendees.
- Portugal visit 2024 (Nic Birtles) - Nic spoke to a proposal by Grape Escapes which looked like a very interesting and special trip to the Douro in Portugal in May/June 2024. The trip would be open to 10-15 Couples. Other suggestions tabled included:
 - Farm and the adjoining Container Port - Dr Ian Frood
 - Sabrage evening at the Oriental Club - Bob Morrow
 - Two suggestions from Tony Watson: Dinner in the Long Room at Lords; visit to muscular dystrophy research centre
- Visit to WWII command bunker - 3 October 2022 (Chris Ford). Chris said he was only three or four couples short of the 40 people expected for this visit.
- AGM, Wine Tasting and Dinner - Monday 7 November 2022.
- Eighth Gala Dinner at Apothecaries' Hall - 8 February 2023 (John Moore Gillon). IL said he had met with the caterers at the hall who had come up with what looked like a competitive deal for us enabling us to keep the tick price (just) under £100. It should be a splendid evening.

6. Any other business: IL thanked Patrick Chapman for his help in establishing a new registration and payment system using Ticket Tailor and Strike which had been trialed for this meeting without apparent difficulty. An issue on the availability of a list of attendees was being worked on.

The Chairman thanked those who had attended the meeting for their suggestions and contributions.



Magna Masters Association

Accounts for year ended 30 June 2022

Prepared and presented by: Hon Treasurer Martin Miles

Reviewed by: Examiner Nic Birtles

Chairman Air Vice Marshal Patrick O'Reilly
Hon Secretary Ian Locks

MAGNA MASTERS ASSOCIATION

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Following a meeting of Livery Company Masters at Ironbridge on 7th June 2015, the Magna Masters Association (MMA) was formally established at a meeting in London on 14th September 2015. At that meeting the subscription for membership was set at £50 to cover the period to 30th June 2016 and a Bank Account for the MMA with Lloyds Bank was opened shortly afterwards.

The Accounts of the MMA for the year ended 30th June 2022 are attached. The corresponding figures for the period 1st July 2020 - 30th June 2021 are shown for comparison.

The Notes referred to in the Accounts are set out on Page 4. This Introduction and the Notes which follow are an integral part of the Accounts

Martin W Miles

Magna Masters Association Accounts for year ended 30 June 2022

		2021-2022	2020-2021
<u>INCOME</u>			
Annual Subscriptions	<i>Note 1</i>	4,900	4,950
Income from Events	<i>Note 2</i>	30935	2475
		<u>35,835</u>	<u>7425</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Events Expenses	<i>Note 2</i>	38240.56	2330
Miscellaneous Expenses	<i>Note 3</i>	481.89	198
		<u>38722.45</u>	<u>2528</u>
		<u>-2887.45</u>	<u>4897</u>
<u>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</u>			
<u>ASSETS at 30 June 2022</u>			
Assets at 30 June 2021		12968.09	8,071
Surplus/Deficit 2021/2022 year		-2887.45	4897
<u>Net assets at 30 June 2022</u>		10,080.64	12968
Made up of :			
Bank Balance at 30/6/22		14547.62	13688
+Prepayments	<i>Note 4</i>	Nil	1100
-Provisions	<i>Note 4</i>	4466.98	1820
Total		10,080.64	12,968

NOTES _____

NOTE 1. It was agreed that the members' annual subscription should remain at £50 for the 2021/22 year. 98 members (99 in 2020/21) paid £50 each each for their membership of the MMA.

NOTE 2. A number of social events took place during the year in which the MMA was directly involved in the financial aspects. The financial outcomes of those events are summarised below:

Rising Dinner, RAF Club, 26th July 2021

£451.60 Net loss

£3120.00 Income

£3277.03 Expenditure

£157.03 Net Loss

Ditchling Winery 8th September 2021

£10.00 Net Loss

£630.00 Income

£845.00 Expenditure

£215.00 Net Loss

Members' Meeting and Lunch 15th September 2021

£442.68 Net Loss

£280.00 Income

£675.00 Expenditure

£395.00 Net Loss

Fishmongers Gala Dinner 21st October 2021

£910.73 Net Loss

£9920.00 Income

£13508.04 Expenditure

£3588.04 Net Loss

AGM, Wine-tasting and Dinner 8th November 2021

Lincoln's Inn Tour and Dinner 29th June 2022

£1535.00 Income

£1740.00. Income

£1986.60 expenditure

£1920.48 Expenditure

£180.48 Net Loss

Golf Story (virtual) Part 2 18th November 2021

£90.00 Income

£100.00 Expenditure

£10.00 Net Loss

Westminster Abbey 24th November 2021

£1575.00 Income

£2017.68 expenditure

£442.68 Net Loss

Gala Dinner, Leathersellers, 17th February 2022

£7775.00 income

£8685.73 Expenditure

£910.73 Net Loss

Magic Circle Event 29th March 2022

£4270.00 Income

£5225.00 expenditure

£955.00 Net Loss

NOTE 3. The main item in Miscellaneous Expenses is IT costs (website, domain and doodle)

NOTE 4. The provisions relate to amounts owed in respect of the Magic Circle and Lincoln's Inn events and the AGM wine tasting (all now settled) and two 2022/23 membership fees received early.