## Introducing the new Wendover Arm Trust membership system

Our new membership system will go live on 1st April and be linked to the WAT website <u>https://wendoverarmtrust.co.uk/</u> through the Members/ Volunteers page – Manage my Membership option. The detailed instructions follow overleaf.

The move from paper to internet puts the control and accuracy of your data, with a choice of payment methods and details of your membership, in your hands. All the old data from our records has been transferred across (and our apologies if we have mistranslated any details) and are there for you to see. The system relies on an email address for its automation so we hope to encourage more of you to set up your account with an email address. Without a valid email address we have to print out every renewal and post them to you at additional cost. For those with an email it means we can provide reminders for renewals, give you direct access to the newsletters, and update you with events and other details.

Here's where we need your help. Although all the old data is there we now need each member (families are included under the member account) to log in, and create an account and password, and then check and amend any details, confirm Gift Aid, and make any membership renewal payments or donations.

Enabling access to your account is a two part process. First you need to create your account <u>using your email address given to WAT</u> and chose a secure password then use this to log in to your account. We hope we can encourage you to use Direct Debit as the most cost effective payment method.

If you don't have email please be assured that you will still get full membership rights, we just have to print and post it. So it would be a great contribution to the WAT if you could set an account up.

Handling cheques and banking over the last year has been difficult so to minimise error and delay we hope we can persuade members to pay by Direct Debit for which the DD guarantee applies.

- Direct Debit is the default and WAT preferred payment method
- Standing orders will continue to be received by the Trust, however, it is easier for us, and hopefully yourselves, if these were cancelled and replaced by direct debit payment.
- If you wish to renew by card (debit or credit) then having created your new account using your existing email address, you will have to Join-again which will enable the card payment to be made - and behind the scenes your new and old account will be merged.
- We have retained cheques and direct bank payments for those who need them and they are signposted by the 'other ways to pay' button.



• Donations may be made by any payment method and it is not necessary to log in but your details will be entered automatically if you do.

We will be using the membership system to maintain our volunteers details. You will see a skill section in your account particularly for volunteers, but we are keen that anyone who can offer skills of whatever kind can record them here.

As ever there will be errors and omissions for which we apologise though with your help, our new membership system should help in their elimination. Better access, correct data, visibility of membership, all under the control of the WAT member.

Thank you for your help

Peter Bird – Membership Secretary – <u>membership@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk</u> March 2021