

# ivc *Newslines* @ivc

The In house Magazine of the Association of Intervarsity clubs

Autumn 2018



*Brighton*

For the latest news and up to date information, look at our website or check out our Facebook pages.

AIVC Website [www.ivc.org.uk](http://www.ivc.org.uk)



<https://www.facebook.com/aivc.org.uk>

To post reviews of events, photographs etc that might appeal to prospective members

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/181221324419/?fref=ts>

Our closed group for discussing issues relevant to IVC. E-mail Nick, our National Development Officer at [Development@ivc.org.uk](mailto:Development@ivc.org.uk) if you would like to be added to the group

## Contents

Editor's Note .....	2
Chairman's Chat .....	3
Delegate's Report on the aIVC Conference at Brighton, July 2018 .....	4
AIVC Website Proposal .....	7
Greatdays Holidays .....	10
Darsham Holiday July / August 2018 .....	11
Dates for your Diary .....	13
Conference 2019 .....	14
Updating Your Club Details .....	15
Logging on to the AIVC Web Site (www.ivc.org.uk) .....	15
Registered users.....	15
Non Registered users .....	15
Adding Events .....	16
Newslines Contributions .....	16
AIVC Committee 2018 -2019.....	17

## Editor's Note

### Mark Johnson

Hello and welcome to the Autumn 2018 edition of Newslines.

This is my first edition as News Officer, and I would like to encourage as many people as possible to contribute to future issues. If you've been on a good IVC event, weekend or holiday, please do think about letting me have a quick write-up and a photo.

## Chairman's Chat

**Ann Jones**

### **New Committee**

We are pleased to welcome Mark Johnson (Norwich and Norfolk) to the committee in the role of Newlines editor. He has taken over from Sarah Triggs (Cambridge) who stood down at Conference after 5 years on the committee. I would like to thank her for all her efforts over the last 5 years. Even though no longer on the committee she has kindly agreed to continue to help by producing a marketing leaflet for clubs.

Des Morrison (London) who, as Treasurer, has kept us on the financial straight and narrow for the past two years – thank you Des – also stood down. No treasurer came forward at conference and Des has kindly continued to make payments and refunds. The task of sending out levy notices has been shared between Bob Clifford, Mike Timmis and myself.

We now do have a Treasurer, Bradley Rawlings (Suffolk IVC) has stepped forward following an appeal and saved us from having to pay for a book keeper. Thank you Bradley and welcome to the aIVC committee

The rest of the committee are:-

Ann Jones (London)	Chair
Mike Timmis (Cambridge)	Secretary
Bob Clifford (Basingstoke)	Webmaster
Nick Wilkinson (Merseyside)	National Development Officer
Alison Armstrong (Milton Keynes)	National Events Officer

### **Facebook, we need your help**

The Committee is constantly being tasked with the job of marketing and branding the IVC. For this purpose we have created an open Facebook group. The purpose of this group is to provide a forum for clubs and their members to post news of great IVC events and get the IVC name in front of the public.



So do encourage your members to post on it, remember to litter your postings with the IVC name, whether it be your club's name or the aIVC name get the term in your copy somehow, and tell people what a great time you had at the IVC event.

IVC as a brand needs to make as much noise as possible. So go on, get posting and don't forget to like and share the postings.

The group is called Intervarsity club network & can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1653462211345839/?ref=bookmarks>

### **Great Days**

Delegates to conference enjoyed a presentation by the Great Days travel group (<https://www.greatdays.co.uk/>). This company specialises in group travel and the committee

has agreed to co-operate with them for the purpose of providing tailor made group holidays. It will be possible for any club to avail of their services. See Sarah Triggs' summary of Greatdays' presentation on page 10. Further information will shortly be on the aIVC website.

### **Future Committee Meetings**

We are planning fewer face to face meetings and more short discussion sessions via the webinar software Zoom. We expect that this will be more effective and will be less demanding on committee member's time. Clubs will still be entitled to join these discussion but will need to be prepared to become familiar with the software we are using.

### **Finally**

That's all for now, do please get in touch with myself or any member of the committee if your club has any issues they would like help with. We will do our best to support you.

### **Happy Autumn and Keep Healthy**

## **Delegate's Report on the aIVC Conference at Brighton. July 2018**

**Delegate: Rob Triggs, Treasurer, Cambridge IVC**

### **Saturday 14th July**

Despite missing the Friday evening get-together owing to ill-timed hold ups on the motorway I was able to be present at the beginning of the conference on Saturday Morning and observe the conference preparations of the aIVC committee. Tasked by the ever busy Ann Jones (Committee Chair) with distributing notes to all delegates on supplying topics they would like to discuss, I was in the happy position of meeting and welcoming most of the delegates to the conference. The usual procedures were gone through, announcements about fire drills, approval of the previous year's minutes, matters arising and questions regarding each of the aIVC committee officers' reports. It was at this point the conference started to spark.

Questions about the accounts prior to their approval. The current Treasurer, Des Morrison, is unfortunately standing down this year owing to other commitments. Des will be a loss to the committee, it has been a joy listening to his soft Irish brogue while patiently explaining why a particular expense cannot be allowed. The Webmaster's views on the future of IVC, discussion on the power of brands and proposals for helping small clubs with their websites. The Chair's report gave credence to the value of aIVC and some thought to the problem of falling membership numbers. The Secretary's report, Mike Timmis, also expressed concern about the future of the IVC but proposed an added value opportunity for members through the holiday travel group, Greatdays Holidays. We were to be given a presentation on this during the conference. Nick Wilkinson, National Development Officer, emphasised the strength of local clubs and mentioned the trialling of Facebook for the purpose of attracting new members. The

Newsline Officer, Sarah Triggs appealed for stories and ideas from members that can be included in Newsline along with photos. After 4 years on the committee, Sarah is also stepping down year and taking a well-earned break.

Initially the conference was getting through a lot of business in a short space of time, we were then treated to a presentation by Martin Slater, National Sales manager of Greatdays Holidays. He explained what they did and how they could help our IVC groups with arranging trips, tours, holidays etc. and then demonstrated how bookings could



be carried out online through a website booking portal. All our questions were competently answered and delegates seemed well satisfied with what was being offered. This could certainly be of tremendous benefit to members and worthwhile for all clubs to investigate.

Next on the agenda was the motion proposed by Birmingham IVC that “The national aIVC Committee shall actively look for new member clubs and report back to the IVC network”. This was proposed by the irrepressible Pete Howe from Birmingham IVC and really showed the value of the aIVC and delegates in action. Arguments and counter arguments were heard, the conference debated hard. The Chair kept tight control and finally an amended version was passed (with Pete’s approval), but it was a demonstration of our democratic organisation at its best.

Following this there were discussion groups on the future of aIVC and IVC clubs. Bob Clifford, Webmaster, led a discussion on the possible structural change of the aIVC. Currently, as a social club, we are a non-legal entity. When the IVC club came into being seventy years ago this was the only legal status available under Law to clubs and societies. The disadvantage of such status means that Officers of the Club i.e. Chair, Secretary and Treasurer may become personally liable should any legal action be taken against club. Of course all clubs have insurance against accidents occurring on club activities but this does not cover legal liability. In line with many clubs, Bob suggested, that aIVC should become a Company limited by guarantee and that IVC clubs should consider this also. This would not be an expensive process but would take some time to implement. Delegates were concerned about insurance liability cover and the Secretary was tasked with investigating the various options available in this area.

Delegates were then split into groups of 4 or 5 and asked to discuss the future of IVC, what it meant and what it stood for. One person from each group noted down the points made and presented them to conference. An important theme that seemed to come through from many groups was, although the name ‘Inter-Varsity Club’ was held to be rather elitist and off-putting to potential members, the initials IVC were part of our existing brand and should remain within the organisation’s identity. It was pointed out that many commercial brands had dropped their names and simply used initials as an identifiable brand. Examples included IBM, HSBC, BT and JCB. A variety of views were expressed, the notes collected by the Chair for later thought and consideration.



Thus ended the first day of conference. Administrative procedures gone through, holiday opportunities presented, motions debated and discussion carried out. The opportunity for members' views to be expressed, reports from the committee and the prospect of an enjoyable afternoon in Brighton with a chance to network later on. A pretty good first day.



### Sunday 15th July

As anyone who has been in Britain during the last few weeks may have observed, the British weather is not behaving true to form. Temperatures are soaring, the heat is oppressive and what were formerly green meadows are now just scorched earth. Sunday was another sunny day and delegates were grateful for being in an air-conditioned lecture theatre at Sussex University.

Shortly after nine o'clock, Conference re-commenced with further discussion on the future of aIVC and IVC clubs- Where to from here? Delegates' views were put forward, Committee members replied to questions and provided advice. Delegates were split into two groups, one to discuss inter-group communications, one to discuss membership. Following this a spokesperson from each group presented their findings to Conference and yet again the purpose and meaning of this meeting came alive. This is an organisation run by its members for its members. The participation in the discussion and variety of views expressed was excellent. If anyone asks what is the point of the aIVC I should paraphrase JFK (another great set of initials) and say, 'Ask not what your Club can do for you, but what you can do for your club.' These delegates are active participants in their clubs, they know it is not enough to merely volunteer. To be successful a club must have members that 'do.' Many of those 'doers' were present at Conference and made the whole process work.

After this we discussed reports that had financial implications. This was followed by an excellent presentation by Sarah Triggs on the work that she and Nick Murrall of Cambridge IVC have done on creating a new front-end for the existing aIVC website. A demonstration of its layout and how it will work was clearly displayed, winning the approval of all present.

After the coffee break, final administrative procedures were gone through concerning the current and future budget, election of aIVC officers and the appointment of an Accounts scrutineer. Unfortunately, following the stepping down of Des as Treasurer, we have yet to find a replacement, all other offices were filled. (*The post has now been filled - Ed.*)

The venue for next year's AGM has been decided, it will be hosted by the Halifax and

Huddersfield IVC in the Town of Halifax. Joan Parkinson of the local IVC gave a splendidly entertaining talk on the virtues, qualities, celebrities and notorious characters that have had their roots in the locality. Joan's enthusiasm and drive came across clearly to the delegates and she was roundly applauded as she gave her final rallying cry, 'Remember, it's cheaper up North.' I for one, was sold on Halifax and look forward to taking part in next year's Conference. The meeting was wound down with closing comments and votes of thanks for all concerned, especially to Martin Deveraux of Brighton IVC for his hard work in hosting and organising a successful conference.

## **aIVC Website Proposal**

### **Sarah Triggs Cambridgeshire IVC**

Several years ago, Activity Exchange, was the main online tool used by clubs for accessing and sharing information. Bob Clifford, our current webmaster, set up a temporary website, initially to facilitate feedback from the newly instigated regional meetings, but after the demise of Activity Exchange, this became the replacement aIVC website. For the last 2-3 years, aIVC have used this website, which has provided a valuable service in keeping members informed about events and giving access to important documents and information for clubs and our members.

At the 2017 AGM in London, the committee were tasked with looking at new options for the aIVC website, so this year I have been working with Nick Murrall, from Cambridgeshire IVC to see what could be done.

To set up a new website from scratch is expensive and time consuming. So after initial discussions, we decided the best idea would be to keep the existing website for members only but provide a public 3 page front-end. In practice this means, we would actually have 2 linked websites:

The front-end website consisting of just 3 pages. The purpose of which would be to provide aIVC with modern and attractive looking pages, which would be easy to use. This would be aimed at both existing and prospective members.

The behind the scenes website, would be the existing Agoria website, containing all the current information. This would be aimed at existing members and committee members.

### **Summary of proposed front-end website**

3 pages

Home page

Club details

Blog

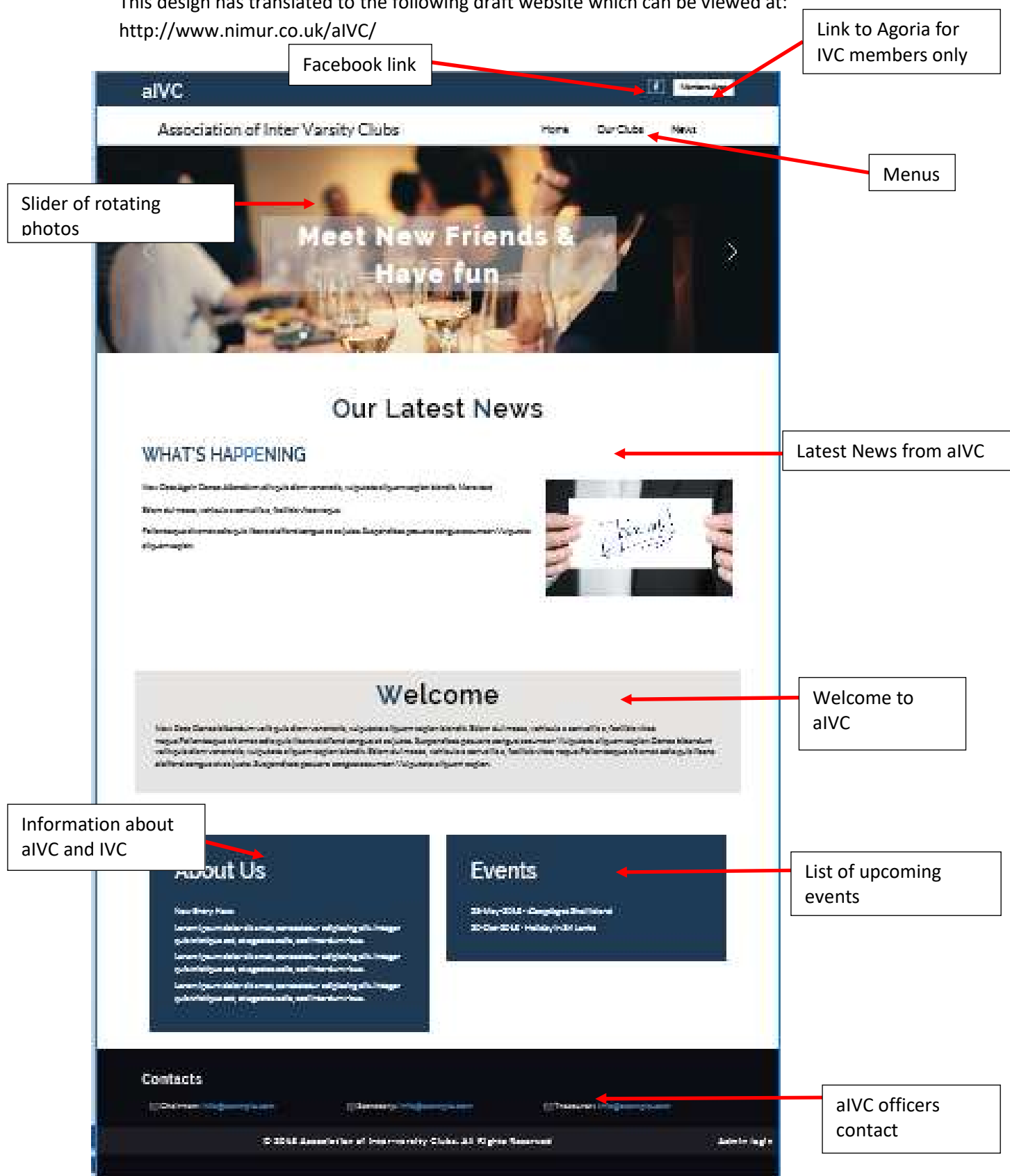
## Home Page Design

Logo		FB	Agoria
Banner Text		Home	Our Clubs News
Slider Images to be taken from Stock photos or similar			
Latest News <sup>(editable)</sup> Divided approx. 70% text 30% image			
Welcome			
About Us		Events <sup>(editable)</sup>	
Contacts (Committee Emails)		Admin Login	
Copyright		Privacy Policy	

This is the initial design. It was decided that certain information about aIVC and IVC should be displayed permanently but that other information, such as news and events would need to be changed on a regular basis,



This design has translated to the following draft website which can be viewed at:  
<http://www.nimur.co.uk/aIVC/>



## Club Details Page Design

This page will simply be a table listing each IVC club, their region and their website.

## Blog Page Design

This will be a blog page where IVC members can post write-ups and add photos of previous events. It will look similar to the existing Cambridgeshire IVC blog which can be found using this link:

<https://www.cambsivc.org/blog/>

The blog page will be password protected and the password will be published in Newslines.

The above proposal was presented at the 2018 AGM in Brighton. There were questions and some discussion about the proposal but it was agreed that the new 3 page front-end should go ahead and Newslines will keep you updated of the progress.

## Greatdays Holidays

### Sarah Triggs Cambridgeshire IVC



Mike Timmis, the aIVC secretary, has been liaising with Greatdays Holidays, to provide a new holidays service for IVC members and at this year's AGM Martin Slater, the National Sales Manager gave a presentation, telling delegates all about what Greatdays can offer.

#### *Who are Greatdays?*

Greatdays, is small family run firm, who are one of the UK's leading "group travel" tour operators. They provide efficient, personal and friendly service backed up by a wealth of knowledge and experience, to offer you competitive prices and exciting travel ideas.

#### *What can they do for you?*

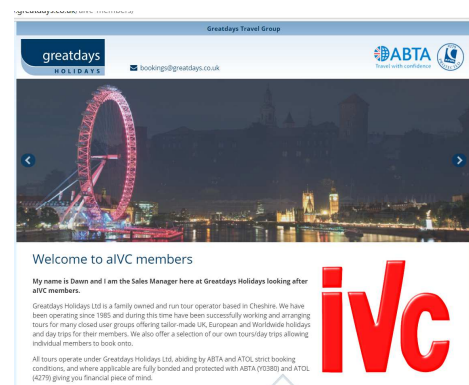
Greatdays are able to offer a complete tailor-made group booking service. They can organise: accommodation in 3, 4 or 5 star hotels, ferry crossings, flights, coaches, sightseeing, transfers, guide services, theatre tickets and tickets and vouchers for attractions.

#### *Who uses Greatdays?*

Greatdays are already used by many different companies and organisations for their trips. Existing customers include, John Lewis, U3A and the Women's Institute.

#### *How does it work?*

If you're thinking of organising a trip or holiday, Greatdays can put together a custom package for you. They can take the stress out of planning the trip and can also suggest



things you may like to add in to your trip or holiday. Dawn Bennison is your personal account Manager and she would be delighted to assist you with your enquiry. Call 0161 928 3242.

Once all the details have been decided, they will get you a very competitive quote and if you decide to go ahead with things, they will set up a booking area, so any IVC members, can see details of the trip/holiday and book directly with them.

#### *What are the benefits?*

Easy to organise, they do the leg work

You'll get a competitive quote

Easy to book, IVC members can book directly with Greatdays, online

No financial risk, as all trips and holidays are ABTA and ATOL protected

If you fail to attract enough members to make your trip/holiday viable, it can, with your permission, be opened up to other Greatdays customers. Likewise, you may be invited to join other non-IVC trips/holidays.

The aIVC committee is currently working on the details of how this service will operate and will advise clubs as soon as the procedures have been finalised.

## **Darsham Holiday July/August 2018**

### **Sarah Triggs Cambridgeshire IVC**

Well Pete's done it again.....another brilliant holiday, he even managed to organise fantastic weather throughout our stay. We had a little rain but that was confined to the day we arrived and the first morning, after that it was sun, sun and more sun, absolutely perfect.

This year's trip was to Darsham in Suffolk, staying at the Darsham Country Centre. This is the old station house which has been converted to provide accommodation for up to 22 people. There is also a garden at the side of the property providing the prefect small campsite which some people took advantage of.



For anyone who's not been on an IVC holiday or weekend away, you should definitely give it a go. It's a great way to see old friends and make new ones, this time there were 24 people from many different clubs with a mix of singles and couples. Another big advantage of a group

holiday is that you can either do your own thing or join in with some of the many organised activities, the choice is yours, you can do as much or as little as you want. During the week we were certainly spoilt for choice with: train journeys to Lowestoft, Ipswich and even Norwich, cycle rides, visits to nearby Southwold, Dunwich and Aldeburgh, Minsmere bird reserve, lots of castles and ruins and even a day's boat trip on the Norfolk Broads. Although there was lots to do, there was still time to just sit and read a book, chat or just chill out.

The evenings were a sociable affair when people discussed the day's activities and planned for the next day. People took turns to cook the evening meal and those not cooking, helped to wash or dry up. On the last evening after supper we finished the holiday with the Darsham Derby, an exciting horse racing game with everyone taking part as jockeys, owners and betters! The winner on the night was Steve Corbett from Birmingham, who finished the evening with £80 (albeit IVC fake money), after some very strategic betting, well done Steve.



All in all a perfect week away, so a huge thank you to Pete and Hilary, for all your hard work and organisation, your holidays are legendary.

## Dates for your Diary

Check out these fantastic events, full details of all events can be found on the AIVC website.

<p><b>Tenerife</b></p> <p><b>Organised by Merseyside IVC</b></p> <p><b>Wed 10 Oct - Wed 17 Oct 2018</b></p> <p>A week's holiday in the seaside resort of Los Cristianos, on the southwest coast.</p>	
<p><b>Walking Holiday in Madeira</b></p> <p><b>Organised by London IVC</b></p> <p><b>Thurs 22 Nov - Sun 2 Dec 2018</b></p> <p>Walking / sightseeing holiday in Madeira, staying in the capital, Funchal.</p>	
<p><b>York Weekend</b></p> <p><b>Organised by Birmingham IVC</b></p> <p><b>Fri 30 Nov - Mon 3 Dec 2018</b></p> <p>Visitors to York can enjoy hundreds of attractions, museums, historic buildings, tours, shops, restaurants and bars within the compact walled city.</p>	
<p><b>Basingstoke Xmas Party</b></p> <p><b>Organised by Basingstoke Friends</b></p> <p><b>Sat 1 Dec 2018</b></p> <p>Join Basingstoke Friends for their Xmas Party at Basingstoke Country Hotel, Hook. Tickets £37 / £30</p>	
<p><b>Cherry Blossom In Japan</b></p> <p><b>Organised by London IVC</b></p> <p><b>Wed 20 Mar - Wed 3 Apr 2019</b></p> <p>The holiday of a lifetime to Japan to experience the Hanami (Cherry blossom), cuisine, culture, wild life and scenery.</p>	



## aIVC Conference 2019

Organised by Halifax and Huddersfield IVC

Fri 10 May - Sun 12 May 2019



*Halifax*

Come to **Halifax** for the 2019 aIVC Conference, hosted by Halifax and Huddersfield IVC. As Joan Parkinson from Halifax and Huddersfield said in her excellent presentation at Conference 2018,

***'Remember, it's cheaper up North!'***



*The Piece Hall*



*Square Chapel Arts Centre*



*Victoria Theatre*



## Updating Your Club Details

Please help us to stay in touch.

To update your club details, whenever your club officers change, please contact the web master Bob Clifford on [bob\\_clifford@email.com](mailto:bob_clifford@email.com) .

Logging on to the AIVC Web Site ([www.ivc.org.uk](http://www.ivc.org.uk))

### Registered users

Anyone registered with AIVC, can logon to the website using their e-mail address and this will allow you to add events and change their details.

If you don't know your password, select the forgotten password option (at the top right of the screen just under the login options) and a new password will be generated and emailed to you.

### Updating your Password or User ID

Once logged in -

- a) select user area from the top menu selections
- b) select 'my security settings' from the drop down menu on the left
- c) change your User ID & Password to that of your choice in the user name & password settings section
- d) scroll down the page and save your changes

### Non Registered users

These will be the ordinary members of IVC clubs around the country who wish to log on to the AIVC website. They should use the following settings:-

**uid = aivcevents**

**password = london17**

This allows access to the private areas of the calendar showing full details of all AIVC events as well as contact details.

## Adding Events

Only Registered Users can add events and there are two detail boxes to complete.-

The public section displays information to the whole world. It is a good idea to always put something in this section to give the public a flavour of the event.

You should also add the following text :-

“You must be a full member of IVC to go to this event. If you are not a member do not contact the organisers. Speak with your nearest branch of IVC. (<http://www.ivc.org.uk>)”

You may also wish to add a link to your own clubs website for example we add the following text for events entered by London IVC:-

“If you are interested in joining London IVC go to our web site [www.londonivc.com](http://www.londonivc.com)”

The private description is what is displayed to members who are logged in. The fields – organiser, organiser details and location are ONLY displayed to logged in users unless the event is marked as public.

In the event any changes to events, please advise Peter Howe at [towerpete@aol.com](mailto:towerpete@aol.com)

## Newslines Contributions

Please, please, please.....Newslines needs more contributions.

What do you want to see?

Feel free to contact me with your ideas or contributions.

Send any correspondence to Mark, at [markjohnson873@gmail.com](mailto:markjohnson873@gmail.com)

## AIVC Committee 2018 -2019

<p>Chair</p> <p>Ann Jones (London IVC)</p> <p><a href="mailto:aivannc2014b@yahoo.co.uk">aivannc2014b@yahoo.co.uk</a></p> 	
<p>Secretary</p> <p>Mike Timmis (Cambridge)</p> <p><a href="mailto:mike@timmis.org">mike@timmis.org</a></p> 	<p>Web Master</p> <p>Bob Clifford (Active Hampshire)</p> <p><a href="mailto:bob_clifford@email.com">bob_clifford@email.com</a></p> 
<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Bradley Rawlings (Suffolk)</p> <p><a href="mailto:brawling_uk@yahoo.co.uk">brawling_uk@yahoo.co.uk</a></p> 	<p>News Officer</p> <p>Mark Johnson (Norwich City Social)</p> <p><a href="mailto:markjohnson873@gmail.com">markjohnson873@gmail.com</a></p> 
<p>National Events Officer</p> <p>Alison Armstrong (Milton Keynes)</p> <p><a href="mailto:armstrong2bn@btinternet.com">armstrong2bn@btinternet.com</a></p> 	<p>Nat Development &amp; Publicity Officer</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson (Merseyside IVC)</p> <p><a href="mailto:tivium@hotmail.com">tivium@hotmail.com</a></p> 