

ivc *Newslines* @iVC

The In-house Magazine of the Association of IVCs

Summer 2019



Bergh Apton, Norfolk

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



<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 if you would like to be added to the group

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Editor's Note

Mark Johnson

Hello and welcome to the Summer 2019 edition of Newslines.

I'm always on the lookout for news or items of interest from clubs. 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. Special thanks this time to Andrew Thynne for his piece on the Halifax Conference and to Julie Plumley for writing up the Bishop's Castle Weekend.

Committee 2019-2020

Chair:	Graeme Mount (Suffolk IVC)
Secretary:	Mike Timmis (London IVC)
Treasurer:	Joan Parkinson (Halifax and Huddersfield IVC)
Webmaster:	Bob Clifford (Active Hampshire)
News Officer:	Mark Johnson (Norwich City Social)
National Development and Publicity Officer:	Nick Wilkinson (Merseyside IVC)

All were unanimously elected at the AGM; the first four are Executive Officers.

Chairman's Chat

Graeme Mount

First, thank you to Halifax and Huddersfield IVC, and especially Joan Parkinson, for hosting this year's aIVC Conference. An excellent and very enjoyable event. I am very pleased to have been elected to serve as Chair for this year. There is much work to be done to complete the Constitution revisions, draw all our IVC clubs and their members together and plan for the future. I would like to thank all the volunteers that have stepped up to support aIVC on the Committee and say thank you to Ann Jones for all her hard work over many years and to Brad Rawlings for stepping up as Treasurer last year.

I have taken a back seat regarding aIVC for a few years but have in the past been a member of Essex, Swindon and Thames Valley IVCs, plus Solent Socialising and am currently in Suffolk IVC. I have served on the committees of Essex, Thames Valley and have been Chair of Suffolk, where I am currently ALO. I have served on the aIVC Committee in three roles in the past. It is perhaps a pity that our Chair is not 'new blood', but I hope to bring a refreshed view as well as experience.

"One of the best things about IVC is that it is a National organisation. I have had some great times with members from all over the UK. That is one of IVC's unique qualities and one that I feel we should really advertise. We are first and foremost a Social Club. I have seen a growing number of shared events and holidays which exemplifies the spirit of IVC." said one of my predecessors as Chair, Hilary Brown, five years ago in Newslines." For me this still completely applies today. There is nothing more important than encouraging new clubs to join aIVC and new members to join all our clubs.

The necessary changes to our Constitution are being progressed, details will soon be emailed to clubs and our website will be overhauled. We must update our links to facilitate inter club links and encourage joint and national meetings and events. Mike Timmis gets fairly frequent inquiries from people who have tried unsuccessfully to contact their local IVC. I have just been to Cambridge IVC's Summer BBQ, attended by Suffolk, Northampton and even Birmingham members – a really good evening enjoyed by all - but I know they've really struggled to contact an adjacent IVC and its members... please can ALOs look at their club's contact details on www.ivc.org.uk and bring them up to date or contact Bob Clifford or Mike if they need help..

2020 Conference and AGM update

Since no club offered to host next year's Conference, the aIVC committee have sought alternatives. The Warner's venues suggested by Bob Clifford have proved unsuitable but our travel partners, Greatdays, have found a good alternative in Telford in June. Clubs will be e-mailed regarding this and we need your feedback to ensure viability.

With no local organiser, Conference and the AGM are far more complicated. It would be really great if clubs could indicate to the aIVC committee now if they are interested in hosting the 2021 weekend. Even if your club cannot host, we would really appreciate advice on possible venues that we could progress. Ideally one site with accommodation or nearby accommodation.

Hope all clubs and members have a great year!

Graeme

Secretary's Report

Mike Timmis

IVC has been in existence since 1946 and at its peak in 1979/1980 we had over 10,000 Members but sadly since then we have seen a gradual decline of Membership numbers due to various factors and today we now have just under 2,800 Members in 39 IVC Clubs.

To secure our continual enjoyment and ensure IVC grows for the future, we urgently need to fully understand the influences and market conditions that effect our existence today and into the future. We need to define who we are and what is our current and future objectives.

We do not have all the answers and therefore I am kindly asking everyone to consider if they would like join a sub-group to come up with ideas (no matter how whacky), identify our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities and threats that present themselves to IVC. We are not a large corporate entity with vast funds to research this and I am sure that within our Membership we have people with extensive experience who would gladly be able to contribute and volunteer to join this sub-group.

The objective is to formulate a positive strategy to reverse the trend and grow IVC to meet the challenges ahead.

If you are interested, please email me at secretary@ivc.org.uk

Club Contact Details

It is becoming ever more important that aIVC have the correct and up to date Committee contact details for each IVC Club. This is to ensure that all the Committee Members and the ALO of each IVC receives information from aIVC on a timely basis. These contact details are kept private and are not disclosed outside of aIVC.

Additionally, it is vital that IVC Clubs can easily make contact with other IVC's.

To achieve this, we would urge all IVC's to provide a public telephone number, email address and website address that can be published on the aIVC website.

This list of all IVC Clubs and contact details would be accessible by all IVC Clubs and the public who wish to make contact with their local IVC Club and become new Members of IVC

Unfortunately, over the past year we have had several instances whereby IVC Clubs and members of the public have tried unsuccessfully to make contact with a Club because of incorrect contact details or no

contact details on the aIVC "Clubs Around The UK" webpage on the Home Menu.

We have to rectify this and I would kindly please ask for your help with making sure that the correct details are on the webpage and the aIVC contact details for each IVC Club. Please email me at secretary@ivc.org.uk with:

- 1/ Full contact details (telephone number and email address) of the Committee and ALO.
- 2/ IVC Club's publically accessible contact details for the "Clubs Around The UK" webpage with telephone number/s, email address/s and website / web presence address.

Very best wishes,

Mike

Meetup API Changes - Announcement 14 June 2019

Bob Clifford, aIVC Webmaster



Important Announcement...

The information below will apply if your club has events displayed on or copied to Meetup.com from a separate club web site. This includes whether your club uses an Agoria web site, has a custom build web site or uses a CMS like Wordpress, Joomla or Drupal.

This information concerns an announcement by Meetup.com on Fri 14 June 2019 about two important updates to their Method of Use and Terms of Service for the Meetup API.

The term API means "Application Program Interface" and refers to the way that unrelated software applications exchange information between themselves.

SO PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES WILL AFFECT YOUR CLUB IF YOU HAVE ...

1. AN AGORIA SITE DISPLAYING MEETUP EVENTS FROM OR COPYING EVENT DETAILS TO A MEETUP GROUP
2. A CUSTOM BUILD WEB SITE DISPLAYING MEETUP EVENT LISTS (I believe this will apply to Manchester IVC and maybe a few others)
3. A WORDPRESS OR OTHER CMS BASED WEB SITE (e.g. Druple or Joomla) LINKED TO MEETUP EVENTS (I believe this will apply to Thames Valley IVC and maybe a few others)

The following part of the update notice issued by Meetup is probably the most import part of the change to Meetup Terms of Service being introduced from 15 August 2019 ...

" ... anyone who wants to apply for API access through OAuth will need to have a Meetup Pro account in order to do so."

This means that Agoria (and any other web site CMS system) that makes use of any of the Meetup API would not only need to implement OAuth access for the new Meetup API ... but would also only work with a Meetup Pro group.

This therefore means that the cost to be able to use the Meetup API will rise sharply to \$30 per month because of the need to upgrade to a Meetup Pro group that will be required.

Our current understanding of the main effects of this change to the Meetup API are as follows:

FROM 15 AUGUST 2019:

1. Existing Meetup API calls for standard Meetup groups will cease working on 15 August 2019.
2. Clubs requiring the API will need to UPGRADE to a MEETUP PRO account from US \$30 per month per group
3. Clubs requiring the API will need to implement OAuth login authentication in their web site
4. Clubs requiring the API will have to pay Meetup for OAuth login credentials to enable their login authentication.
5. Clubs requiring the API must upgrade to using the Meetup API version 3 by 15 August (if they have not already done so).

The effects on Agoria based web suites

As a director in ActivityForum Ltd (which supplies Agoria), we have noted that there will hence forth be a much higher cost associated with making use of the Meetup.com API. This is because of the new requirement for a Meetup Pro account in order to use the facility. As a result, we are also expecting that there will be a significant reduction in the need for the Meetup API amongst those IVC groups that are currently using the Agoria software.

It has therefore been decided that it would not be worthwhile for ActivityForum Ltd to invest the time and effort required to convert Agoria to meet the above requirements within the short time scale allowed.

THIS MEANS THAT THE MEETUP API EVENT READ AND WRITE FACILITIES IN AGORIA WILL BE RETIRED FROM GENERAL USE BEFORE AUGUST 15 2019.

ActivityForum Ltd would like to apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to IVC Clubs and members that make use of the Meetup API in Agoria.

The AIVC Committee are not experts on the updates to the Meetup API technology. So if you have any technical questions on how the changes to the Meetup API may affect your own club web site, please direct these to the builder of your web site or to the Meetup Help Centre at the following web address:

<https://help.meetup.com/hc/en-us>

This information is available on the AIVC Web site at www.ivc.org.uk in the Home section under the menu item Meetup API Changes - 2019. It is also being included in the Summer 2019 copy of Newslines for distribution to all IVC members.

Nick Wilkinson, National Development Officer



Some clubs illustrate their event programmes, websites and documents with images harvested from the internet. Just because they can be seen for free does not mean that they are free to use. Many fail to appreciate the jeopardy of using an unlicensed image and other intellectual material. Will your members be impressed with an unanticipated invoice for £400? Probably not when they find out that there was no need to spend and the bill is due to incompetence.

Authors and photographers produce their work by commission and for sale. They wish to make a living from their talents. Unsurprisingly, they are quite put out finding the fruits of their labour being used with neither payment nor accreditation. As with a carpenter making a table, they own the product of their work. Their rights are enshrined in the Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988 and

enforceable by law.

The position is not as straightforward as that of the carpenter who sells the table. In some cases all rights are transferred to a purchaser (who may then sell the work on), in others the work is licensed with the creator retaining ownership. In either situation, using the work without agreement can result in the loss of club funds when the copyright owner demands payment. It is to be expected that the price will be higher without haggling before purchase.

If the matter goes as far a court there is little wiggle room. However, the entity suing must have suffered a loss. It becomes difficult to demonstrate that loss if the description of a hotel or canal boat is copied from a brochure or webpage. The argument is that the club is providing free advertising which is not to the detriment of the copyright owner. The position is more nuanced in the case of photographs. The photographer may license the photograph to a holiday company for use in a very specific way. It is still the property of the photographer and your club has taken it without authority.

How is the unauthorised use discovered? For anything published on the internet it is very easy. In the parlance of Private Eye, it is the reverse ferret. A sequence of words may be found by a simple text search. As for photographs, take an image from the internet and load it into the Google Images service. It will return a list of locations where the image appears plus a list of similar images. A professional photographer will routinely search for his or her published images.

You want to advertise your club's trip to Weston-super-Mare. If you do not have your own images, what do you do? Search for 'Weston-super-Mare Wiki'. The Wikipedia link will be near the top of the list. Follow the link and see if you fancy any of the images. By clicking on those that you wish to use, you will be taken to an image repository. Here will be found the licensing details and conditions for use. The bare minimum is the copyright sign and the photographer's name. Frequently, they may be used without fee, providing that the photographer is accredited and the use is not for profit. To see this in action, take a look at the AIVC Events Brochure that was distributed at conference and posted out to clubs. A handy tip is that to reproduce the © sign, simply hold down the 'alt' key and key in '0169'. Failure to comply could result in that £400 invoice.

The author of this article possesses no legal qualification beyond an O level in 1972. The article simply alerts clubs to a hazard and suggests a solution. He was once a professional photographer and had to address the matter of breach of his copyright by a North American University.

Note. Many may be left asking, 'What AIVC Events Brochure?' They are attractive, eight page brochures

printed in colour for showing at IVC meetings. I have a stack of them in my study. Many were distributed at conference and a few posted out to non-attending clubs. As for the rest, the postal addresses are absent from the lists of club officers on the AIVC site. Go to the site, use the club officers' password and provide some addresses, then your club will not miss out in future.

Halifax Conference Weekend 10th - 12th May

Andrew Thynne, Cardiff IVC



After a successful conference in this interesting Pennine town, a large party of IVCers descended on nearby Shibden Hall, causing mild consternation at the reception desk. With uncanny topicality, BBC were just about to release their new series 'Gentleman Jack', filmed at the hall and based on the life of its eccentric owner Anne Lister, born in 1791. Full marks to Joan, AIVC's conference organiser, for negotiating with the Beeb to time the release for exactly a week after the end of Conference.

If you haven't watched Gentleman Jack, do so, it's good. Not your average period drama. Anne Lister (alias Suranne Jones)

was a remarkable woman. Academically learned, she managed her estate with sharp business acumen, developed collieries, argued with local industrialists, entered politics, wrote voluminous diaries, went on pioneering scientific explorations of Europe, and climbed the icy peaks of the Pyrenees, in some cases being the first person to do so. She also had a series of very passionate affairs with other women - lots of them - which she recorded secretly in her diaries, in some detail.

The Piece Hall was another site to be visited by IVC. This is something different, the finest example in the UK of an 18th century cloth hall. A great piazza surrounded by colonnades on three storeys, full of specialist shops today, and art galleries and cafes. People just sat on the steps enjoying the sun and the atmosphere.

You could see the wealth of Halifax in times past, expressed in the Minster, the town hall and many other fine stone buildings. One of the local IVC members, Ruth, had compiled a Treasure Hunt where we could discover more about the history of the place.

In these Pennine valleys, the industrial heritage survives well. I live in South Wales, where we have a similar geography of hills, moorland, and deeply incised valleys that are heavily built-up. But most of our old industrial buildings have gone. The difference is textiles versus coal. Old mills make very good modern flats or office spaces; collieries don't.

Anyway, enough of that, what about the conference? Mark the News Officer has already emailed a

summary to all clubs so I won't repeat that, but many thanks to Ann who has stepped down as Chair after three years, and thanks also to the outgoing Treasurer and Events Officer (Bradley and Alison), and to those who remain on the committee and devote a lot of their time to the successful administration of aIVC. Graeme Mount is the new Chair, while Joan Parkinson will handle finance.

It was goodbye to 'Intervarsity Club' and hello to 'IVC', as far as our brand is concerned. Our constitution was updated with this small but significant change. Before the conference, Bob had patiently gone through the constitution word by word and drafted sensible minor alterations to make it more robust and up-to-date. Most of these were accepted, but a few things still sparked debate, like the wording of 'graduates, professionals and like-minded people'. That will be resolved later. More use will be made of 'Zoom' for video-conferencing, not just by AIVC committee but also between clubs.

The business sessions were held at a multi-use leisure centre, so we had the insistent beat of a neighbouring zumba class (or something), while on Sunday morning we had to run the gauntlet of a car boot sale outside and a swarm of dancing majorettes inside. Surreal...

The Saturday night entertainment was an excellent dinner dance at the Shay stadium. Thanks Joan and team for a great weekend!

Bishop's Castle Weekend 17th – 19th May

Julie Plumley, Gloucestershire IVC

This event was attended by members from Merseyside, Birmingham and Gloucestershire. We met on Friday evening at the Three Tuns Inn. Some of the group were camping at Foxholes camp site, others stayed at B&Bs and some just came for the day.



Following discussion on Friday evening, a day out walking on the aptly named Stiperstones was arranged. As the name implies this was a rather stony walk but well worth the effort for the views.

This was followed by welcome tea and cake at the Bog café!



Other trips out were to Montgomery castle and Clun.

Despite bouts of misty rain, a good time was had by all. It was lovely to meet up with both old friends and new.

Dates for your Diary

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

<p>Algarve, Portugal</p> <p>Organised by Merseyside IVC</p> <p>Mon 7 Oct – Mon 14 Oct 2019</p> <p>A week in Albufeira with Merseyside IVC. Recommended accommodation is the Ondamar Hotel.</p>	
<p>Weekend in Blackpool</p> <p>Organised by London IVC</p> <p>Fri 18 Oct – Sun 20 Oct 2019</p> <p>See the world-famous Blackpool Illuminations on a weekend organised by Ann Jones of London IVC.</p>	
<p>Cherry Blossom in Japan</p> <p>Organised by London IVC</p> <p>Fri 27 Mar – Wed 8 Apr 2020</p> <p>The holiday of a lifetime to Japan to experience the Hanami (Cherry blossom), cuisine, culture, wild life and scenery.</p>	
<p>Cruising the Llangollen Canal</p> <p>Organised by Merseyside IVC</p> <p>Sat 16 May – Sat 23 May 2020</p> <p>A week's canal cruise starting and ending in Middlewich, Cheshire. We travel out for three days, spend a day in Llangollen then return. In all there will be seven nights afloat. The cost is £280.</p>	

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 .

Logging on to the AIVC Web Site (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 = brighton18

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”

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

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

AIVC Committee 2019 - 2020

<p>Chair Graeme Mount (Suffolk IVC) chair_aIVC@outlook.com</p> 	<p>Secretary Mike Timmis (London IVC) mike@timmis.org</p> 
<p>Treasurer Joan Parkinson (Halifax & Huddersfield IVC) joanpark@hotmail.co.uk</p> 	<p>Web Master Bob Clifford (Active Hampshire) bob_clifford@email.com</p> 
<p>News Officer Mark Johnson (Norwich City Social) markjohnson873@gmail.com</p> 	<p>Nat Development & Publicity Officer Nick Wilkinson (Merseyside IVC) tivium@hotmail.com</p> 