



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020**

### **Individual Membership Update**

Annabel Smith

***Thank you to all existing and new members who support the Guild throughout the year, not least through their subscription payments.***

*Due to the escalating Coronavirus situation, in March 2020 it was acknowledged that circumstances would change for many members. Therefore, in April 2020, the Board agreed to delay collection of subs for three months to provide some breathing space. It was also agreed that individuals would be given more time to pay, if this was requested, and would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.*

### **Membership Update (as of Aug 10, 2020)**

**Full Members = 235**

**Associate Members = 23**

**Total members in good standing = 258**

***(versus 304 members in March 2019 and 276 members in March 2020)***

*During the 2019/20 year, 28 members either lapsed in membership, retired from the Guild, or had been accepted, but never paid.*

*When subscription payment requests were issued in July 2020, nine members retired from the Guild and 14 members have not yet responded to the subscription renewal request.*

### **New Members 2019/2020**

*Thank you to all Guild members who promote new members and act as proposers in the application process. A particular thank you to Bryan Betts and John Porter who act as a sub-committee to the Membership Secretary. Their counsel, recommendations and swift responses are greatly appreciated.*

**Full Members = 32**

**Associate Members = 9**

**Total = 41**

***(versus 40 new members last year)***

## **Subscription Rates**

*The subscription rate has not been increased since 2018*

**£57.50**

## **Membership Pin Badges**

*At the 2019 AGM, it was requested that a 'badge of recognition' was produced to identify Guild members. This has now been designed and produced, and a visual is shown below.*



*The badges were due to be distributed at the 2020 Guild AGM and Summer Party. However, due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation, it has been decided to post badges to individual members who have paid their subscriptions, and on an ongoing basis as and when members renew their subscriptions.*

*We do not have postal addresses for all members, so to receive your badge, please could you email [secretary@guild.co.uk](mailto:secretary@guild.co.uk) with your current preferred address.*

## **Call to action**

***We encourage all beer communicators to join the Guild, our strength lies in numbers. We are the British Guild of Beer Writers, but people communicate about beer in a variety of mediums including:***

- *Photography*
- *Films & videography*
- *Podcasts*
- *Vlogs*
- *Broadcasting*
- *Training*
- *Social media platforms*
- *Performers*
- *Event organisers*

*Guild Members are encouraged to propose new members contributing to improving the standards of beer communications and extend the public knowledge of beer.*