

Dear Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Member,

I hope that this letter finds you, your family and friends well and managing to cope during these unprecedented times. We certainly hope that we will all be looking forward to a more productive and happier 2021.

The last year has been a real challenge for every single one of us, both on a personal and / or business level and we can only hope that 2021 will bring us an opportunity to all meet once again in a friendly and safe environment.

The year 2021 brings with it the **"Centennial Year"** of the inauguration of the Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club and we hope, many opportunities for us to celebrate this fantastic achievement with our extensive member community.

Firstly, we would like to thank every one of you for your continued support of the club and for helping the Committee, our steward Paul and his team to deliver a safe environment that we could all enjoy when restrictions were such that we could at least make use of the facilities the club provides to our members.

Every aspect of maintaining the club has been a challenge over the past 10+ months and without the support of our members, it would have not been possible. We fully appreciate that in many cases, the club was not able to function exactly how we all wanted it to, but we should be proud that we were able to provide and maintain a safe environment for all, at times when restrictions gave us the flexibility to open our doors.

As we move further into 2021, we still have several challenges to face, not least the continuation of COVID-19 restrictions and the worries for our family, friends and member communities. We will, however, continue to support each other and try to overcome any challenges we may face together.

Over the past 10+ months, the club committee has worked tirelessly to secure our financial future, by restricting the costs of running the club whilst we have been unable to trade in our usual manner. We have applied for government and local authority funding, made available as a result of the trading restrictions brought upon us by the pandemic and have made some very difficult decisions on how we can protect the club now and in the future.

The club has inevitably felt the impact of the pandemic, both financially and through the loss of some of our members within the past year. Whilst we have been able to minimise the financial impact, a significant impact has been felt during the period whether trading under the tiered restrictions or physically closed.

As a private members club, you have elected a committee to represent the interests of every single member and with this in mind, we need to act now to secure the longevity of the club.

We have financial reserves that will continue to protect the club in the short to medium term, however with the continuation of the pandemic, we cannot be assured that even when restrictions are eased, that the club will be able to recover quickly enough to maintain our longer-term future.

Therefore, we would ask that every member takes action to support our club in one of the following ways. Not everyone has financial flexibility to provide support over and above the usual annual members fee but by simply ensuring your membership fee or alternative support option is paid before the end of February, you will be making a really positive contribution towards the future of our club.

100 years (1921 – 2021)

Supporting the members of Grappenhall Ex-Servicemens Club and the Community.

Membership Renewal Options

1. Annual Membership Fee of £10 (payable by the 28th February 2021)
2. 3-year Membership Fee of £30 donated in advance, retaining the current membership cost for the next 3 years guaranteed (payable by the 28th February 2021)

Centennial Year Donation Options

3. Centennial Year donation of £100 for single membership / £150 for family membership (payable by the 28th February 2021) which will include;
 - a. Life Membership (Life membership cards will be issued upon opening)
4. **Centennial Year Legacy** donation of £200+ (payable by the 28th February 2021) which will include;
 - a. Life Membership (bespoke **Centennial Legacy Membership Card** will be issued upon opening)
 - b. Centennial Celebration discount of 10p per pint, £1 per bottle of wine, 5p on soft drinks and 10p per measure of spirits (applicable for the next 2 years from 1st March 2021*)
 - c. Recognition by the club of your supporting contribution, as the club will mount a display board of all **Centennial Legacy Members** for the future
5. Voluntary donation of any value to the club to aid the generation of sustainability funds (not including any Membership Fee). Existing Life Members may wish to consider this option, to aid the club in its financial sustainability.

*Centennial Celebration discount will be applied for the period of 1st March 2021 to 28th February 2023, this is a defined period irrespective of whether the club is able to open fully or not throughout the period as a result of COVID-19.

All contributions and membership donations will be recorded within the club's till system and as such will be automatically managed, and relevant discounts applied.

Whilst we do not currently know, how the pandemic will continue to affect our lives and the timescales associated with the delivery of the current vaccine roll out. We must do whatever we can to support the longevity of the club and therefore support our members and the local community.

With the club being closed at present, we need to provide an alternative means for our members to pay your membership and/or make any voluntary contribution / donation.

Option 1 – Payment to the GESM Bank Account using online banking details below; please add a payment reference of “Fees ‘21 [Your Name]” to help with reconciliation;

GRAPPENHALL DIST EX SERVICEMENS LEAGUE

Account No. (Co-op)	50263774
Sort Code.	08-90-53

Option 2 – Cheque made payable to the below;

GRAPPENHALL DIST EX SERVICEMENS LEAGUE

100 years (1921 – 2021)

Supporting the members of Grappenhall Ex-Servicemens Club and the Community.

Please post all cheques with your return slip to the following address:

The Club Secretary
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's' Club
Chester Road
Grappenhall
Warrington
Cheshire
WA4 2QG

Option 3 – Cash or Card Payments can be made at the main entrance to the club at the following dates and times. Social Distancing **must** be adhered to and will be controlled by the Club Steward, Paul Furby. Please make sure you bring your membership card with you, as a till will be setup at the entrance of the club to register all payments. **N.B.** There will be no entry to the club, only availability to pay at the entrance.

- Tuesday 16th February – 5pm to 7pm
- Thursday 18th February – 5pm to 7pm
- Tuesday 23rd February – 5pm to 7pm
- Thursday 25th February – 5pm to 7pm

The Committee will work together with the steward, to make sure that we record all contributions and maintain the accuracy of our membership records. To help us in this, we would like to ask that you complete the attached slip and return it to the club at the above address, so that we can validate all payments made in the most efficient way.

We have also identified during this exercise, that we need to improve our communication methods and enhance our approach to keeping in touch using more digital means. Therefore, if you have an email address and are happy for us to contact you occasionally with membership news or event information please add your email address with your return's slip and we will add it to our club membership records.

Should you have any ideas about maintaining the longevity of the club we would really like to hear about them, please email the Club Secretary at the following address:
secretary@grappenhallexservicemens.co.uk

Finally, we are all aware of the impact that COVID-19 has had on our lives in the past year and we know that some of our members, have limited access to family and friends to support them during this time. With that in mind, we would like to provide you with our support, even if it is just a phone call for a friendly chat or help with collecting shopping, medicines or similar. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us by email or by phone. Email: secretary@grappenhallexservicemens.co.uk or Tel: 01925 261702 / (M) 07483 300450.

We hope that you are able to support your club and we look forwards to seeing you again when we are able.

Colin Hart
Club President

Jeremy Parker
Club Chairman

Mark Entwistle
Club Secretary

Jonathan Wood
Club Treasurer

Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club - Returns Slip

Membership Renewal Options	Tick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1. Annual Membership Fee of £10 (payable by the 28 th February 2021)	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. 3-year Membership Fee of £30 donated in advance, retaining the current membership cost for the next 3 years guaranteed (payable by the 28 th February 2021)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Centennial Year Donation Options	
3. Centennial Membership donation of £100 for single membership / £150 for family membership (payable by the 28 th February 2021)	
a. £100 for single membership (Life Membership)	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. £150 for family membership (Life Membership)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Centennial Year Legacy donation of £200+ (payable by the 28 th February 2021) which will include;	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Life Membership (bespoke Centennial Legacy Membership Card will be issued upon opening)	
b. Centennial Celebration discount of 10p per pint, £1 per bottle of wine, 5p on soft drinks and 10p per measure of spirits (*applicable for the next 2 years from 1 st March 2021)	
c. Recognition by the club of your supporting contribution, as the club will mount a display board of all Centennial Legacy Members for the future	
5. Voluntary donation of any value to the club to aid the generation of sustainability funds (not including any Membership Fee) Existing Life Members may wish to consider this option, to aid the club in its financial sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>

How have you made your contribution?

Bank Transfer

Cheque

Cash / Card Payment

If you have paid by Bank Transfer, please confirm the date you made a payment to help with reconciliation of payments.

Date of payment

Members Name(s):

Membership Card No.....

Home Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Email Address:.....

On behalf of the Committee and Members of the Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, thank you for helping towards maintaining the longevity and future of our club.

100 years (1921 – 2021)

Supporting the members of Grappenhall Ex-Servicemens Club and the Community.