

MDPROA News Update October 2024

AGM/Reunion

The MDPROA held its Annual General Meeting and Reunion at the King Robert Hotel, Stirling over the weekend 12th/13th October 2024 with 45 members and guests including MDP Deputy Chief Constable Kier Pritchard, DPF General Secretary Mitch Batt and Force Liaison Officer Inspector Alison Harfield.

In an important development **Geoff Heal** announced at the start of the meeting that due to health reasons he would not be seeking re-election as Chair. He had joined the Committee in 2013 becoming Vice Chair in 2017, Chair in 2018 and having served some 6 years in that role had decided that it was time to hand over the reins.

Members unanimously elected **Mel Goudie** to the position of Chair. Mel thanked members for their support and said he was delighted and honoured to have been nominated and elected as the chair of the ROA. Mel thanked the outgoing chair for his stewardship over the last six years and hoped that Geoff and Jenny would continue to be part of the ROA family. Moving forward Mel hoped that the ROA would continue to prosper and was open to suggestions as to how we could entice the number of officers retiring to join the ROA. Mel also took this opportunity to thank the members for electing the below nominated office bearers and committee members.

In addition, **Glyn Wilson** was elected to Vice Chair. Those re-elected were **David King** Secretary, **Ken Hicks** Treasurer, **Catriona McBeath MBE** Assistant Secretary along with **John Barber**, **Neville Carter** and **Chris McComb**. A new member, **Sandy Stewart** was elected to serve on the Committee.

The AGM received updates from association officers and an informative overview of Force/Federation activities from both the DCC Kier Pritchard and General Secretary Mitch Batt.

Minutes of the proceedings will be published in due course.

As for next year we were unable to give details of the 2025 AGM, the prices being quoted from locations in the south were unrealistic. With that in mind a straw poll was held on Sunday/Monday with those members in attendance and from their feedback it was apparent that all would be happy to return to the King Robert Hotel in Stirling. Further information will be provided shortly.

Pension Update

Following the recent ONS announcement of the September increase in the Consumer Price Index Civil Service Pensions will rise by only **1.7%** from 7th April next year. This will be the lowest year on year increase for over 4 years.

It has also been revealed that the state pension will rise by **4.1%** from April 2025 thanks to the Triple Lock calculations.