



# HHCA

Members News from Hemel Hempstead  
Conservative Association



## Your AGM is now more accessible

Your Association is holding the AGM on a Saturday morning so that the time and location to make it much more accessible and convenient for all our members.

**Saturday 2nd March @ 10.30am at  
Bennetts End Community Centre,  
Hemel Hempstead HP3 9LZ**

Free Parking and at the shops opposite.  
Refreshments are included.

Do come to support your Association Officers who are all volunteers working hard to keep our Conservative Councillors & our MP, Sir Mike Penning, winning elections for us all.



The community centre is easy to find. There is a large car park located behind the doctors surgery and parking at the shops is also free.  
Hope you approve of the change of AGM venue and date!

## Key Officers

Your Chairman, Mark W Woods (right) stood in for former Chairman Colette Wyatt-Lowe when she became ill. Mark was then elected as Chairman by the Executive Council on 12th October 2018 after Colette decided to stand down as Chairman. Mark lives in Little Gaddesden and is an IT Consultant. Before becoming your Association Chairman, Mark was Deputy Chairman (Membership).

The other Deputy Chairman (Political) is businessman and former councillor, Anthony McKay who brings a great deal of political experience to the Association. Your HHCA Hon. Treasurer is a newly retired railwayman, Norman Cook.

These Key Officers are supported by our full-time Political Agent, Kevin Drew, and a team of 9 other Officers, political activists and volunteers. If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you!



Chairman Mark W Woods



Would you like to join our Team? [www.hemelconservatives.com](http://www.hemelconservatives.com)  
email [enquires@hemelconservatives.com](mailto:enquires@hemelconservatives.com) or call 01442 255034

## Membership, VoteSource and GDPR

This year the Party made a big change in how we manage Association Membership. Membership is now run on a centralised CCHQ system, accessed using a newly upgraded version of The Party web-based voter management system, "VoteSource".

This January and February many of you will be asked to renew by this new system and hopefully all the hard work that has been put in will ensure it goes smoothly. You can renew by sending your subscription to Davidson House, or continue with a Direct Debit if you have one, but you can now also renew online by going to [www.conservatives.com/renew](http://www.conservatives.com/renew).

New members can also join online by going to [www.conservatives.com/join](http://www.conservatives.com/join).

The move to a centralised management system has coincided with CCHQ changing the subscription rules. To be a full voting member you must now pay a minimum subscription of £25, from which £10 goes to CCHQ. Those of you that have standing orders for less than £25 will need to update them when you renew; otherwise you won't have a vote.

All members are now individuals because, under the new data protections rules (GDPR), we must deal with co-habiting couples separately. That means you are going to get two letters from the Party, one for each member, and we can't do anything about this. Unfortunately it also means paying two membership fees of £25. Please Note: Your Membership runs from the date you joined, not as we have operated in the past, by calendar year.

### GDPR

No one can have missed all the GDPR messages received from everyone from local sports clubs, to those big multinationals you once purchased a jumper from. Just like them, we have also had to do a lot of work to become GDPR compliant. This has meant we have had to stop using some of our old systems and the ways we used to do things. For example, all membership and canvassing cards can now be created online within the new VoteSource system. We will still use 'paper', but we're trying to save trees. So, if you help with canvassing, please remember to shred all your old canvass cards. There is a big shredder in the office, so take a opportunity to come to the office for a catchup while shredding all those bits of old paper! We have also been required to "forget" some of the information we used to hold, so please bear with us if we start asking you for information you've already given us. We are not being forgetful, the new law requires us to ask you again!

### HHCA Goals Going Forward:

- Increase the number of HHCA Members
- Reduce the average age of Members

If you know anyone who might like to join, tell them to sign up at [www.conservatives.com/join](http://www.conservatives.com/join).

If they live in the area they will automatically become Members of the Hemel Hempstead Association; can also pop in to Davidson House to pay by cheque or card, & enjoy a cup of coffee!

### Complaints Handling:

Your Association now has an experienced HR Officer, Irene Greenland. If you have any concerns or complaints concerning Officers, or Members or Staff, please contact Irene Greenland, Chairman Mark Woods or our Agent Kevin Drew.

### Branch Activists:

If you are a Branch Activist and would like access to VoteSource, please ask Kevin for a personal account.



#### Association Key Contacts List:

[Chairman Mark W Woods](#)

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[Deputy Chairman Political Anthony McKay](#)

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[Hon. Treasurer Norman Cook](#)

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