

## **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR Update 19 December 2020 – March 2021**

Lee Ward, Chair

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for attending. This AGM was set up at short notice and it has only been a few months since our last AGM. However, our reasoning for the move was to try and get the event back to May / June time. It is also hoped that when life gets back to normal, our next AGM in 2022 may actually be in person, but don't quote me on that!

This year has kicked off with a lot of activity as we have started on the re-accreditation process which takes an in depth look at our organisational structure, collection, and users. This involves many different people and as the year progresses, we will be seeking volunteers to help with various projects. If you think you may have skills the museum could benefit from, please don't hesitate in coming forward. Call in to the museum when we open, or contact me via: [curator@evmt.org.uk](mailto:curator@evmt.org.uk) or call 01732 868102

On to some more exciting news. We are working towards getting the museum open again soon and when you next visit you will see a lot of changes. Martin and Miranda have been working throughout our closed period on a number of projects and I would like to thank them and all the volunteers involved for all their hard work in getting us to this point. Whilst we do not know what will happen with Covid-19 related restrictions, I am hopeful that we can be open for longer than we were last year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our various local sponsors for their continued support of the museum throughout this last year which has placed many additional demands upon their resources. The ongoing support from Edenbridge Town Council is also very much appreciated.

We have been sad to learn of a number of volunteers who will not be returning for various reasons, we wish them well and I would like to thank them all for their service. The museum is heavily reliant upon volunteers to meet and greet visitors and to assist with much of the 'behind the scenes' work involved in maintaining the museum as a vibrant attraction for visitors, so if you aren't already, please consider coming along and joining our happy team of volunteers.

This is going to be a busy year for a lot of people but we have a great team and we very much appreciate the support of all our members. We look forward to seeing you at the museum in the near future.