



Hopwas  
10 June 2025

To all BTNBVI members

Dear colleague

This letter is the first formal notice for the 2024-25 Annual General Meeting of BTNBVI. Also included is the Agenda, the Trustees' Annual Report and draft Accounts. Final details including for the election of Trustees will follow in early July.

I would highlight our guest speaker this year, Marc Reeves, Chair of Focus Birmingham, the organisation known to most of us as the local charity providing support, care, advice and guidance to all those affected by sight loss across the whole of Birmingham.

Marc previously was editor of the Birmingham Mail and the Birmingham Post and launch editor of the BirminghamLive website, now one of the largest in the country. These publications are central to BTNBVI operations

As a campaigning newspaper editor, he worked with community organisations, businesses and charities across the city for two decades, raising money for good causes, demanding justice for the victims of the

Birmingham pub bombings, and holding local and national politicians to account.

The post of BTNBVI Chair is in need of a new occupant. The Chair has a particular responsibility for looking ahead and shaping the organisation for its future. We still operate on substantially the same basis as we did fifty years ago but the world is changing (as I hope Marc will highlight). We urgently need a chair who can steer the organisation over the next few important years. If you can suggest a candidate to us please don't be shy!

We also need a new webmaster – if you can help with identifying a candidate for this role, please contact any trustee

A newsletter for members is also included.

Yours sincerely

A D GOWDY

enc Agenda, TAR, Accounts, Newsletter

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024-25**  
**on 23 July 2025 at 2pm**  
**in Sutton Coldfield Methodist Centre**  
**South Parade, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1QY**

**AGENDA**

Welcome  
Minutes of previous AGM  
Trustees' Annual Report  
Presentation of accounts  
Election of trustees

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Guest speaker

Mr Marc Reeves

Chairman, Focus Birmingham  
& past Editor, Birmingham Mail

Light refreshments will be available