

## **ASPRA AGM EDITOR'S REPORT**

Since the last AGM I am sorry to say that I have only managed to produce 1 edition of the magazine. However I am currently editing the next edition and I am sorry I haven't been able to produce more. This is due to working full time and commitments I have with other organisations. I am sorry I am not more rigid about production dates. This is why I am standing down as Editor.

The process from editing to delivery of the magazine can take 2-3 months in total. I liaise with Bob Sleeman our Advertising Manager who works very hard at getting more people to advertise but it is sometimes quite difficult for Bob to get information and payment from advertisers in time which has an impact on getting the magazine out in time. For many years the magazine has been produced by a company in Kenley and this year we decided to change to the local printers (TD print) so that we are supporting local business which also makes it easier for liaison. The local printer manages to produce the magazine much quicker than the previous printer; however he does not proof read or make changes so we have recently recruited a proof reader. I have also looked at different packages for editing the magazine so that the printer and I can work better together. However as the printers use a mac and I use a pc this restricts us because whatever package I use has to be formatted into a pdf as the Office Suite Packages are not compatible with a mac. It would be great if we could appoint a Features Editor which is what we had when I started as currently Bob Sleeman often sources articles. For the magazine to be viable we do need people to send in articles which can be unique or of interest locally or nationally as well as articles about the local area, local events or local organisations. Articles that don't make it into the magazine can be advertised on the website and the magazine is also downloadable from there. For those who would prefer, the magazine can be emailed but currently most people prefer a hard copy.

One major problem is how long it takes for some Road Reps to pick up their bundles for delivering the magazine. There are some great Road Reps who pick up and deliver promptly but others who I have to contact on numerous occasions before they come to pick up their bundle and others who pick up promptly but don't deliver magazines for some time which has an impact on events advertised. It is expected that Road Reps deliver the magazine within a week of me contacting Road Reps to pick up their bundle. I am sorry that the magazine is not more rigid with production dates and that this can be an issue for advertisers and Road Reps. So I would suggest that Road Reps let me or a committee member know if they are going to be away for more than one week so there is someone on hand who can deal with any issues and get the magazine delivered promptly. If Road Reps are struggling please contact the committee who can assist.

Thank you to those who have supported me while I have been Editor. If you are interested in getting involved with the magazine please get in touch with me and I will do what I can to support you. I can stay involved for a while until you find your feet. You do need some IT experience for editing but you don't have to be able to write articles.

**Liz Brereton**  
**ASPRA Editor**  
**2011-2016**