

## Personal Service and Work Parties for Probationary Members

Dear Probationary Member,

During your interview for probationary membership of MYC, your interviewer will emphasise very strongly that MYC is a 100% a self-help club: the only services we buy in regularly are the cleaner and services we are legally required to purchase. We do everything else ourselves to keep our costs reasonable, hence the MYC motto which is “If it needs doing, do it”. You will see the plaque up in the clubroom.

Therefore, in addition to your annual financial subscription, voting and probationary members are expected to contribute personal service to the club each year when asked to do so. This personal service forms part of your subscription, so failure to contribute is regarded in the same way as failure to pay your subscription. For the exact wording, see paragraphs 3.13-3.15 of the MYC Rules approved 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 (previously 2.2)

“Personal service” can take many forms such as helping on the bar, doing mooring work, driving the rig etc. The club also benefits greatly from the members who do work parties as their personal service – some members choose this option actively and for other members work parties are the default contribution because they are not involved in any other aspect of the club. The work is very varied and could be anything from plumbing in a tap, laying concrete, painting the railings, weeding the dinghy park or assisting the moorings team.

Those members aged 70+ or suffering from permanent ill-health are exempt from work parties and other members may be exempt at the discretion of the General Committee. Any exempt member is still welcome to offer personal service to the club if they wish. There is also an option to pay a waiver fee of £200 per member (i.e. each adult in a family membership) in lieu of doing work parties for a year.

Please be clear that, if a member does not pay the waiver fee, does not contribute other personal service and does not participate in work parties, a charge of £300 per member (2 x £300 for 2 adults in a family membership) will be levied on that member at the end of the year. Failure to pay the charge will result in immediate cancellation of membership.

The concept of personal service to the club is regarded very seriously and steps are taken to ensure that members do not attempt to evade this responsibility, which you accept when you become a probationary member. This kind of active participation and contribution without direct personal gain is not for everyone. If you are not comfortable with the level of involvement that will be required of you as a member, or if your lifestyle and expectations will not allow you to participate as a fully-engaged member of the club, then it may be that MYC is not an environment that will work for you. There are no “work fairies” here to come and do the cold, wet, mucky jobs for us!

On the other hand, if you like what you hear and are willing to get stuck in, please read on to learn how personal service operates and how to enjoy work parties.

- **You are responsible** for ensuring that you contribute personal service to the club

- To be absolutely clear, if you have a family membership and **two** of you are adults, then **both** of you are required to contribute personal service to the club. It is acceptable for one person to do the other person's service in addition to their own
- When you join MYC, you will complete a "skills form" on which you can note any areas of expertise you can offer and identify any particular jobs you would like to do. What you put will help us to match you to jobs that need doing and teams that could use your help, so you may get a 'phone call inviting you to help
- If you would like to join one of the sub-committees, please contact the officer concerned to offer your services. These officers are shown in the *Pennant* newsletter and in the "rogues gallery" in the clubroom
- Probationary members will be asked to do a work party during their first year, even if you have already joined another team, because it provides an opportunity to meet other members as well as understanding the work needed to keep the club going
- The *Pennant* is the club's main communication method and your name should be added to the *Pennant* email distribution list straightaway. If you do not receive your ePennant, please contact [pennant@marchwood.org.uk](mailto:pennant@marchwood.org.uk)
- Please also ensure that you obtain a login for the MYC Xtra website because a great deal of information is available there. Go to [www.marchwoodyc.org.uk](http://www.marchwoodyc.org.uk) and in the login box on the top left-hand side, click on the "Register here" link.
- Work parties usually take place during January-mid-April and October-December. Members (each adult in a family membership) will be called-up for work parties in the *Pennant* month edition before the month of your work party, and also in the current month. The list of names and dates will also be pinned up on the clubroom noticeboard, shown on the **Maintenance\Work Party Duties page of MYC Xtra** and you will see **your date(s) on your My Account page of MYC Xtra**
- If you cannot attend on the date requested, it is **your responsibility** to contact Work Party Admin (Denise Fenwick via email [workparty@marchwoodyc.org.uk](mailto:workparty@marchwoodyc.org.uk) or mobile 07769-317858) and offer a new date that you can commit to
- You can also select your own work party date in advance - contact Work Party Admin
- Work Party Admin will endeavour to contact you with a courtesy reminder during the week before your work party, usually by email or occasionally by 'phone/text, however it remains **your responsibility** to know when your work party is scheduled
- If you go to MYC Xtra\Maintenance\Work Party Duties, you can see who else is on your work party, what tasks are in plan and which tools or equipment might be useful to bring with you, if you have them
- Please ensure that you have read the information given on MYC Xtra\Maintenance\**Work Party Safety and FAQs** before attending your first work party

Please contact Work Party Admin [workparty@marchwoodyc.org.uk](mailto:workparty@marchwoodyc.org.uk) or the Maintenance Officer [maintenance@marchwoodyc.org.uk](mailto:maintenance@marchwoodyc.org.uk) for further information

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