# NEWS LETTER







## **Exciting plans for new East Anglian Group**

It is so rewarding that we have received such a high level of interest in the new East Anglian Group of The Furniture Makers' Company. I have often spoken to colleagues, during the course of meetings, about The Furniture Makers' Company and the fact I am a member. Some people believed that the organisation was very London-centric and had no relevance to them – the new group certainly demonstrates the commitment to the entire industry.

The Furniture Makers'
Company is a City of London
livery company with its hall in the

heart of the City and is also the charity for the furnishing industry. Similarly, the Company has always championed our sector through nationwide support of Excellence, Education and Welfare.

Over many years, we have provided welfare and support to those who experience difficulties for a number of reasons - including those who are working or retired. During this year, we launched our Personal Support Grant scheme providing much needed funds for those harmed by Covid-19.

The aim of the new East
Anglian Group is to be businessfocussed providing an
opportunity to network, gain new
contacts, exchange industry
news and opinions, attend factory
visits, listen to relevant speakers
and be sociable! Overall to
support the industry and
colleagues throughout our region.

### Joanna Knight

Liveryman and Chairman – East Anglian Region The Furniture Makers' Company

Manufacturers, Dealers, Resellers, Designer / Makers, Retailers, Sales Professionals, Interior Designers, Architects & Specifiers across the full spectrum of the furnishing industry – **join us!** 





# **GOALS FOR 2021**

At our first committee meeting, we agreed three important goals for 2021 and more information will follow over the coming months.

## **EDUCATION**

Many schools, colleges and universities throughout the region are undertaking amazing work in the furniture and furnishing sectors. We want to recognise and applaud these achievements.

In spring 2021, we hope to launch details of the first East Anglian Young Furniture Makers Exhibition. There will be categories - incorporating furniture and furnishing products - for schools, colleges and under graduates as well as recent 'new starters' in the sector.

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We want to champion the future of our industry, so we are investigating work experience initiatives for the region.

#### **EXCELLENCE**

We will be launching a regular series of networking events throughout the region. These will include factory tours, industry and business speakers as well as an opportunity to get together with colleagues.

Sadly, the pandemic prevents us from getting started but be assured we will soon as we can!

#### **WELFARE**

The Master of The Furniture Makers' Company will be launching 'Step 2 It' - a fantastic new fundraising campaign in 2021. The aim will be to encourage companies, groups and individuals to take part in a physical activity to help raise funds for our welfare work.

We plan to host a walk concluding with perhaps a pub lunch (well it can't be all hard work!). We hope it will be fun, provide an opportunity to get to know one and other – with everyone being asked to make a voluntary donation to our charity.

## **JOIN US!**

We need as many members of the furniture and furnishing industries to join us! You do not need to be a member of The Furniture Makers' Company you simply need to be committed to the future of the sector.

Simply email us to express interest in being a member of the East Anglian Group Email rachael@furnituremakers.org.uk or joanna@reallyverynice.co.uk

We are also looking for people to join the committee to help make our plans happen! Once again, simply email us. We'd love to hear from you!