

THE WELSH SOCIETY OF KINGSTON-UPON-HULL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday, 21 May 2010

1 Present

- 1.1 John Butler (Chair), Gladys Collick, Doreen & Eddie Evans, Anita Latham, Suzanne Marshall, Nesta Merrels, Mark Morgan, Marian Muzaffar, Dave Thomas, Ann & Roger Uglow, Phyllis & Tony Wollaston.

2 Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Janet Arrowsmith, Eunice & Byron Gaze, Lynda Jeffrey, Nev & Brenda Jones, Rob & Jean McAdam, Gwenda & Bill Ramsay, Marilyn & Teifion Roberts, Jackie Thomas, Margaret & Arthur Williams.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2009

- 3.1 The minutes had been circulated and were approved as a true record. *(Proposed by Eddie, seconded by Anita).*

4 Matters arising from the Minutes

- 4.1 There were no matters arising.

5 President's Report

- 5.1 Gwenda had sent her apologies for absence from the meeting and, in her absence, John presented her report -

Gwenda had been unable to attend the "Keep you on your Toes" evening with Teifion which had been thoroughly enjoyed by all who were there. Dave and his jovial musical friends gave us another most entertaining musical evening. Christmas Dinner at the new venue went down well. The winter weather in January deprived us of our speaker Richard Fuller but he will be invited to come to us again soon. Gwenda had missed the Irish Night but believes this should be in the form of a ceilidh rather than a talk and sandwiches. The St David's Dinner was another success at Rowley Manor but Gwenda had been unable to attend the service on the Sunday. We had a lovely cheesy evening with our Chairman, Janet. Gwenda had no idea that Wales provided such a variety of

cheeses - diolch Janet. The President's Evening was one big jolly laugh by a funny but also very serious gentleman. The Gymanfa Ganu at Toll Gavel Church was a great success. It was lovely to hear all those lovely Welsh hymns and tunes being sung with great gusto. The Summer Outing to the Yorkshire Air Museum at Elvington on 19 June should be of interest to us all. She added that she had missed having Bill attend the meetings with her and wished everyone a happy, sunny summer.

6 Chairman's Report

6.1 Janet had sent her apologies for absence from the meeting and, in her absence, John presented her report -

Once again this had been an interesting year but it was saddened by the ill health of Arthur Williams for whom walking is difficult now. Arthur and Margaret send their best wishes to all members of the Society. Janet hoped members had enjoyed the new venue and found the access and lift easier.

Janet had enjoyed this year's programme and thanked Teifion and Dave for contributing to make their evenings most enjoyable. Dave's friends are always welcome with their variation of music and song.

The St David's Dinner was again a great success and it was lovely to see Ken and Ann Holbrook who had come up from Dorset to visit us. The St David's Day Service in Elloughton was well attended. Many thanks to the ladies who had made Welsh cakes and to Janet's granddaughter for reading the lesson.

Janet thanked Gwenda for a most enjoyable President's Evening and for organising the Gymanfa Ganu in Beverley which was a successful event.

Janet particularly thanked all the members, particularly the Committee, for all the help and support given to her over the last year. She will endeavour to continue to serve and support the Welsh Society in future and reminded members of the following dates for your diaries -

- *Saturday, 19 June 2010 - Summer outing to the Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington;*
- *Saturday, 23 October 2010 - Concert by Driffield Male Voice Choir on behalf of the Society, The Guildhall, Hull.*

7 Secretary's Report

7.1 Mark reported that this had been another good year for the Society and mentioned the entertaining events reported on by other Officers. Mark thanked John for his

excellent work on setting up the website this year and expressed thanks to Teifion for the very excellent evening he had given us and to Dave and friends for another lovely musical evening. Mark thanked all the Committee who had supported him as Secretary this year and was looking forward to the coming year. Mark thanked everyone for their help in the Society this year. The members present expressed their appreciation and thanks to Mark for all his hard work.

8 Treasurer's Report and Accounts

- 8.1 John reported that there had been two resignations in the year, Gwen and Ken Cole, and two members, Fiona Daniel and Valerie Jacobson, had not renewed their subscriptions. The Society currently has 42 members, of which there are 13 couples and 16 singles. 21 are on e-mail and 8 are not.
- 8.2 Sadly, John reported the death of Kate Gray, the Society's Honorary Vice-President, during the year. She had been a loyal and valued member of the Society for many years and had served as Secretary (1975 - 1983), Treasurer (1983 - 1991), Chairman (1985 - 1986, 1997 to 1998). A lot of members had attended her funeral and she will be fondly remembered.
- 8.3 The Society's website had been set up earlier this year and is still being developed. John asked members to send him items for inclusion - news, photographs, etc, would be particularly welcome. The Society had purchased 41 photographs of St David's Day Dinners for 2006, 2008 and 2010 which John will put on the website. If members would like particular copies, let John know.
- 8.4 John had produced a glossy flyer which he had distributed at the Gymanfa Ganu in Beverley. Members present were given copies and asked to display them on their local notice boards etc, hopefully bringing in some new members.
- 8.5 John had circulated the Income & Expenditure Account and the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2010 which were accepted and approved. (*Proposed by John, seconded by Eddie*).
- 8.6 He distributed the Budget for 2010/11 and drew attention to the significant increase from September in the cost of accommodation at the Cottingham Parks Golf & Leisure Club. It was agreed that the Budget be approved and that subscriptions be held at the current level of £15.50 for 2010/11, whilst recognising that they may need to be increased after that. (*Proposed by John, seconded by Mark*).

9 Appointment of Officers

- 9.1 Nominations had been received as follows, (*proposed by Mark, seconded by Suzanne*), which were unanimously agreed -
 - President: Gwenda Ramsay (Continuing)

- Chairman: Mark Morgan
- Vice-Chairman: Janet Arrowsmith
- Secretary: Marian Muzaffa
- Treasurer: John Butler

10 Appointment of Other Committee Posts

- 10.1 Dave and Anita had expressed a wish to resign from the Committee and grateful thanks were expressed for their efforts on behalf of the Society over many years.
- 10.2 Nominations had been received for the other Committee posts as follows, (*proposed by Mark, seconded by Suzanne*), which were unanimously agreed -
- Suzanne Marshall, Rob McAdam, Nesta Merrells, Marilyn Roberts, Glenys Thompson.
- 10.3 There are two vacancies and any other members who would like to join the Committee are invited to contact the Chairman.
- 10.4 On Janet's behalf John thanked all the Officers and Committee Members in 2009/10 for their hard work during the year.

11 Appointment of Auditor

- 11.1 Thanks were expressed to Doreen for auditing the accounts who agreed to continue for 2010/11.

12 Programme of Events 2010/11

- 12.1 Members were asked for suggestions for consideration by the Committee, which produced the following:
- Chris Brown - Swansea Pottery
 - Richard Fuller - Wildlife and Mountains of North Wales
 - Rob Robinson - From Hull and to the Ends of the Earth ??
 - Antiques Evening

- D Clark - Brings old items for us to identify
- Quiz Night
- Yorkshire Air Ambulance
- Dr Nick Summerton - Romans in Brough
- Host Irish Society - Ceilidh?
- Talk on charity work in Tanzania
- Visit to BBC Hull studios
- Eddie - Wine tasting

13 Any Other Business

13.1 Members' attention was drawn to a notice from the Workers Educational Association who are offering a Welsh Summer School of short residential and non-residential courses in drawing, painting, photography, film making, information technology and archaeology to be held at Harlech College in July 2010.

13.2 John suggested that the Society may like to consider a change of name. He felt the current one is very long, cumbersome and old-fashioned. Even Hull City Council have modernised their name and no longer use "Kingston-upon-". Possible alternatives might be the Welsh Society of Hull, or Hull & East Yorkshire, or East Yorkshire, or Hull & East Riding Welsh Society, or Welsh Society of Hull & District. After animated discussion it was agreed that this matter should remain on the table until the next Annual General Meeting. *(Proposed by Tony, seconded by Dave)*

13.3 In view of the increased cost of our meeting venue as from next September, enquiries had been made of other venues as follows - Lazaat £110 plus refreshments, Willerby Manor £100 plus refreshments, Ramada Jarvis £100 plus refreshments. Alternative suggestions were requested, which resulted in the following:

- Staff House or the Dennison Centre at the University, Owners' & Trainers' Bar at Beverley Racecourse, Cave Castle, Beverley Arms, Ideal Standard Sports Club, YPI, and Castle Hill Hospital.

These, and any others, will be considered by the Committee. Several members felt that it was unnecessary to have sandwiches provided at meetings.

13.4 Dave said he felt that our new website could have been more interesting and lively. He felt it was expensive to set up and to maintain. However, he did not volunteer to do anything about it due to pressure of work. David also suggested that the Society's financial accounts should not be shown on the website. In addition, he felt that the Minutes of Committee meetings were not a true reflection of what actually happens during the meetings. He suggested that they be called a 'Summary'.

13.5 The members present thanked John for chairing the Annual General Meeting.

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23 May 2010