

Grey College Association AGM Minutes
23rd March 2013 at 2pm, Pennington Room, Grey College

Minute 840 - Welcome

The President welcomed members to the 2013 AGM . Those present - J Gyllenspetz, Andy Petch, Piers James, Henry Dyson, Robert Shepherd, Neville Griffiths, M J Robinson, Roger Hall, Tom Cliff, Alan Richards, Richard Hilton, Foster Neville, Dave Baldwin, Steve Gregory

Minute 841 - Apologies for absence

Ian Devlin.

Minute 842 - Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the 2012 AGM were approved (proposed Andy Petch, seconded Mike Robinson) on a 'general aye' and signed.

Minute 843 – President's Report

The President reported on the continuing and varied activities of the Association:

- Excellent London reunion in September 2012, at the Corney & Barrow in Paternoster Square. Around 100 attended during the evening, mainly from 2008-12 graduates. There was discussion about the possibility of a new venue for 2013, this was deferred to Dave Baldwin to consider as he organises this event.
- Andy Sparrow will take over the organisation of the November Careers event, supported by another 5 or so Alumni. The 2012 event had given one-on-one CV advice to ca 60 students. It is hoped to add a full day 'Assessment Centre' event in 2013-4; around a dozen volunteers will be needed.
- Two sponsored Formals ("Lash & Tash" in November and "Stress Less" just before exams) this year - food funded by the Association, enabling to JCR to offer a discounted ticket price and still collect £3 per head donation to charity (Prostate & Breast Cancer). Sponsored formals help to publicise the role of the Association.
It is intended to ensure that all College - related websites should carry an explanation of the roles of the Association & the College Trusts, etc, to which we will add a summary of the services we offer to students.
- There had been a delay in getting Grey Matters published and members informed of the issue, for which TC and FN apologised.
- The Association continues to work closely with the Master and the College Trust to raise funds for the College. The launch of a 'Fiver Fund' appeal is planned, starting with an appeal to this year's leavers. Designed to encourage continued contact with Grey, and establish a 'put something back' culture as early as possible. Donations, via the College Trust, will be targeted on College infrastructure /sports & societies / student welfare, and the scheme will be administered by the JCR's Finance Officer.
HD asked if tax would be reclaimed through the Gift Aid scheme, and was assured that this is foreseen; the Master is looking into the mechanics of this.
HD also asked if there had been any action regarding possible fundraising through some kind of 'name your room' scheme, with the names of previous occupants displayed on plaques on study/bedroom doors. The President confirmed that this is being considered by the College Trust but was not being actively pursued by the Association at this time.

Minute 844 - Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the 2012 accounts, which show a reduction in the Association's funds.

- NatWest higher interest account proposed last year was withdrawn before we could take advantage of it.
- Subscription income down on 2011, as predicted, because of change to timing of collection from students. Expected continued rise in Freshers' numbers will offset some effect.
- for the first time ever, the 2012 reunion made a (£10) profit !

- cost of sponsored formals is being kept down as much as possible, however, the price does increase due to the inflation of food costs. These events are still seen as giving essential publicity for the Association and will continue to be semiannual
- The President proposed (seconded by the Treasurer) that the Association make a £5K donation to the Grey College Trust's Jubilee Development fund, earmarked for Phase 2. This motion was accepted with one abstention.
HD pointed out that such donations helped to improve student facilities such as the new snooker room being built in the Oswald quad (original room taken over as 2nd gym) and encouraged returning alumni to visit the new building.
- Annual accounts show overall loss of £2.8K (less than budgeted), to be balanced by halving the 2013 donation to £5K.

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Andy Petch, seconded by Henry Dyson, and approved 'nem con'. Thanks to the Treasurer for his work was offered by those present.

Minute 845 - Subscriptions and Fund Raising

Covered under President's & Treasurer's reports - see minutes 843-4 above.

Minute 846 - Election of Officers

It was announced that Alan Richards has decided to stand down from the post of Treasurer, and the President thanked him for his "hard work, support and sage advice".

In the absence of any candidates for the Treasurer's position, and given that there are only 10-15 transactions per annum, the President will oversee that function, with support from Parik Chandra in the preparation of the 2013 accounts. It is expected that a candidate will come forward in 2014.

All other Officers were re-elected/ ratified on a 'General Aye':

- Secretary - Steve Gregory
- Vice President for Publications - Foster Neville
- Vice President, Website Editor - Richard Hilton
- Vice President, London Reunion – Dave Baldwin

n.b. the President is elected for a three year term and this will next come up for election in 2015

Minute 847 - Reunions 2012/13

London Reunion: Friday 20th September 2013 - venue to be confirmed - may be The Corney and Barrow, Paternoster Square again, since no room costs or minimum spend are enforced. Format as 2012 - cash bar, no up-front charge. Publicity via the Association's website, social media and e-mail.

Durham Reunion: Will be held on 4-6th April 2014. Booking form to be made available on the Association Website as soon as costs are agreed with the Bursar.

Minute 848 - AOB

The AGM to be held at 16.00 in 2014, in an attempt to encourage more members to attend.

The President reported that 9 awards had been made to students from Association funds, totally almost £3K. Details were available to any member who is interested. Reports requested from the beneficiaries will be published in due course.

Mike Robinson reminded the meeting that the Association had paid for a boat for the College Boat Club a few years back. He asked if that had been purchased, and if it had enabled the GCBC to win any races? The President confirmed the purchase, and will get an answer re the success of the boat & crews.

The President drew the meeting to a close at 14.41