THA Secretary’s Report

The 2016 AGM was held in College on Saturday 24th September. As has become the custom the meeting was preceded by brief presentations from three of the THA Volunteer Award recipients on their experiences and a really well received question and answer session. At the AGM Colin Hayes was re-elected as President for his final term of office and we reported that the Committee were unanimous in their support for him being succeeded by Roger McKinlay. We also said farewell to Martin Ansley-Young who had brought great clarity and accuracy to our financial affairs for the last eight years. The motion to appoint Roy Warden (1973) in his place was carried nem con. We also said farewell to Nigel Chancellor (1990) who had given great service to the Association, including three years as our President. Dr Emma Bailey (2009) and Jonathan Cornwell (1992) were appointed to the Committee to fill the vacancies that had arisen.

The AGM was immediately followed by the Cambridge Dinner, an event well up to the standard that we have come to expect – wonderful food, great wines, superb service and excellent company – and then drinks in the Aula bar.

In addition to our established THA award scheme for volunteering the Association has also made a number of internee awards to recently graduated students undertaking short term research assignments.

Saturday 12 November found the THA in Glasgow for dinner in the House for an Art Lover, a house designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh in the grounds of Bellahouston Park. It was a small, select gathering in what proved to be a good venue and a very enjoyable evening.

Our London Event was held on Thursday 25 May at Trinity House in a magnificent room looking out over the Tower of London. Just under a hundred members met for drinks, canapés and good fellowship.

As part of THwomen40, the commemoration of the first 40 years of women at Trinity Hall, a dual portrait was commissioned of the first female fellows of the College. The Association decided to make a substantial contribution to the cost of the portrait and a cheque for £5,000 was presented to the Master at the Trinity House event. The President of the THA was present at the unveiling of the portrait in the Hall on the evening of Saturday 1 July.

Looking ahead, on Saturday 11 November we will be at Penshurst Place, the ancestral home of the Sidney family (of Sir Philip Sidney fame) and of Philip Sidney (TH 2009). There will be a drinks reception around the fire in the Barons Court followed by dinner in the Sunderland Room, it should be another outstanding event! The Committee are now hard at work planning events
for 2018 and 2018 – remember that we are always open to suggestions for venues for future events.

As always we are deeply indebted to the support that we receive from the staff of the Alumni and Development Office throughout the year, without them we would find it very difficult to function. It has also been a great delight to welcome the Master to every one of our events during the course of the year as part of that enduring link between all of us and the Hall.