

TRINITY HALL ASSOCIATION

94th Annual General Meeting: 26th September 2009

Held in the Graham Story Room, Trinity Hall, at 6.30 p.m.

MINUTES

In the Chair: Ms Sarah Webbe, President

1. Some thirty members of the Association were in attendance. Apologies had been received from Mr Andrew Burr, Ms Krishna Chatterjee, Mr Frank Conley, Mr Bob Ely, and Mr Martin Young (Financial Officer).
2. The Minutes of the 93rd Annual General Meeting held on 27th September 2008, having been circulated in the College Newsletter, were duly approved and signed by the President.
3. Election of Committee Member: Ms Katerina Biliouri, having been duly nominated, was elected to the Committee *nem. con.*
4. Secretary's Report: Mr Colin Hayes, Hon Secretary, spoke briefly to his report which had been circulated with the Agenda. He drew attention to the Association's new policy of holding events for alumni in regions of the UK other than Cambridge and London; successful occasions had been held in 2009 on the SS Great Britain in Bristol and at Lanercost Priory in Cumbria, as well as a major event at the House of Lords. All of this had laid a substantial administrative load upon the Alumni Office, and he thanked the Office staff in the warmest terms for their dedication and efficiency in helping to make each of these occasions such a success. *Applause.* The President then referred to the granting of the first tranche of THA awards in 2008, which had enabled the selected students to carry out valuable humanitarian projects in parts of the developing world. She confirmed that a second set of awards had been made in 2009, the results of which would soon be known when the students returned.
5. Financial Report: in the absence of Mr Martin Young, the Secretary spoke briefly to the draft annual accounts that had been circulated with the agenda. He drew members' attention to the Association's new accounting period. On the advice of Mr Martin Young, and in order to bring the Association's financial year into line with that of the College, the Committee had agreed to move to a July-June financial year; hence the draft accounts before members on this occasion covered the eighteen month period January 2008 to June 2009. The Income and Expenditure Account showed a deficit in the period of £46, i.e. effectively break-even. This was what the Committee wanted. In previous years the Association had made quite substantial surpluses; but that was not our object, and it was incumbent on the Association to make full use of the income derived from Mr Dennis Avery's generous endowment.

Meanwhile the Association had cash of almost £24,000 at the bank, on top of the endowment; so the financial position was very sound. The Secretary proposed warm thanks to Mr Martin Young for preparing the accounts with such precision and clarity, which members endorsed.

Mr Miles Halford asked whether the subsidy for the event at the House of Lords in May had been intended to be so substantial, some £4,800. The President replied that it was indeed as planned. Mr Dominic Brooks asked how the Association could know about the health of the Avery endowment itself. The President replied that this was a very pertinent question, and whilst the endowment was outside the accounting framework of the Association, in future years a comment about it would be included in the annual accounts.

The President reaffirmed that all Association events were subsidised to some degree, and Dr Chris Angus said that on a quick calculation the average subsidy was in the region of £20 per head.

6. Calendar Dates: The President reported that the intention was to hold three regional events during 2010, probably in East Anglia (other than Cambridge), the South of England, and the West of Scotland, locations and dates to be advised in due course. There would be another major London event in 2011, hopefully at Lords Cricket Ground once again.

7. AOB: Mr Julian Ebsworth referred to the record attendance at this year's Annual Dinner and wondered what the reason was for its increasing popularity. The President mentioned the large cohort of 1999 alumni as one ingredient, though Mr Tim Nixon pointed out that only a few of the 1999 cohort had been undergraduates. The Committee were intent on steadily raising the quality of the dinner itself, matched by some increase in price.

Dr Chris Angus moved a vote of thanks to the President and Secretary for their work on behalf of the Association. *Applause.*

There being no other business, the President declared the meeting closed at 6.59 p.m.