



111th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 19th September 2026

Held in the Lecture Theatre at Trinity Hall and online, starting at 17.45

MINUTES

In the Chair: Mr Guy Brannan, President

None of the student volunteers was available to speak about their projects, as several were still overseas due to the date of the AGM falling earlier than usual. Volunteer reports will be posted on the THA section of the College website as they are submitted.

Papers for the meeting had been published in advance on the THA section of the College website. Paper copies of the Accounts were available, together with Minutes of the 2025 AGM and a printed leaflet presenting the Secretary's report, the Financial report and biographies of prospective Committee Members.

1. Attendance/Apologies

Some 20 members were present in person, with apologies from Committee Member, Lee Evans. The meeting was attended remotely by two Committee Members, Catriona McGill and Rajan Jain, and one prospective Member, Bridget Wheeler, and 4 other alumni/ae.

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the 110th AGM held on 27th September 2025 had been published in advance on the relevant section of the College website. The President invited approval of the minutes, which was proposed by Graham Read, seconded by Sarah Webbe, and the minutes were then approved.

3. President's Remarks

The President welcomed Members to the AGM and began his remarks with a minute's silence to remember alumni/ae who had passed away since the previous AGM.

He summarised the year's work, which had included four routine meetings, a fully-booked AGM Dinner in 2025 and a particularly enjoyable regional dinner in May, on board HMS Warrior in Portsmouth. He also reported on the high number of Alumni/ae (135) booked in for the THA Annual Dinner that evening.

He reported that the Association had intended to reprise the successful visit to the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London in 2027, but it had proved difficult to secure a date with the Tower. This was therefore booked for 3rd March 2028.

THA Awards had been granted to five students (graduates and undergraduates).

The President said that the Association had made a point of supporting more events for current students, in order to increase awareness of the THA. This appeared to have resulted in a high turnout at the AGM Dinner of alumni/ae from more recent years, notably 2020 and 2022.

The President thanked Isobel Daley for her year on the Committee, and thanked the Officers and Members of the Committee, particularly naming Lizzie Iron (Secretary), Brian Healy (Treasurer), Catriona McGill (Awards) and Lee Evans and James Poynton (Events), as well as recognising the invaluable support from the Development Office and College Staff.

He outlined the proposed new appointments to be voted on later in the meeting and invited the three new candidates to introduce themselves (Bridget Wheeler, Rupert Holmes and Luisa Caruso).

He also said that the College and the Association were looking forward to the 2027 celebrations which would include the 50th anniversary of the admission of undergraduate women and the 200th anniversary of the founding of Trinity Hall Boat Club.

4. Secretary's Report

The Secretary referred Members to her written Report, published in advance on the THA section of the College website and printed in the AGM leaflet at the meeting.

Highlights included:

- The Association aims for a representative age-range of Committee Members and the Committee currently involves alumni/ae from matriculation years 1974 to 2012, with a gap for the decade of the early-2000s, and for the 1980s (which was expected to be resolved after the election of new members).
- THA events continue to reach a good range of year-groups, with the 2025 dinner attended by guests from matriculation years 1951 to 2024, the Portsmouth dinner including guests from 1954 to 2023 and the 2026 AGM dinner attended by guests from 1955 to 2024.
- The 2026 THA Awards included two medical projects in Vietnam and India, two teaching projects, both in Nepal and Turtle Conservation in Costa Rica.
- A reminder that the very interesting panel discussion from the AGM of 2025 was still available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkcBRRM5zko>

5. Financial Report

The Treasurer referred to his Financial Report, published in advance on the THA section of the College website and printed in the AGM leaflet for the meeting. He confirmed that the Committee had approved the Accounts to June 30th 2025, which were published on the THA pages of the College website, and that the 2025-26 Accounts would be finalised after the College audit, which was expected to be completed in November 2026.

Key points in the Report were:

- For 2024-25, the income from the endowment, granted by the College, was £27,068, and was predicted to amount to c. £28,800 for 2025-26.
- Expenditure for 2025-26 was £23,417 with Events costing nearly £16,000 - including generous subsidies for dinners.

- The Committee continues to assess the Association's expenditure against the stated objectives in order to maintain optimum use of resources.

6. Re-election of President

The Rules require annual re-election of the President, who deferred to the Secretary for this item: Guy Brannan (1974) was put forward for re-election after two years in post. Guy's re-election was formally proposed by David Billett, seconded by Chris Angus and carried. Guy was therefore re-elected as President.

7. Committee Members

- a). The President noted the retirement of Isobel Daley (2007) and thanked her for her year on the Committee.
- b). Lizzie Iron (1977) stood for re-election as a Committee Member and Secretary, after seven years of service, three of which as Secretary. Lizzie's re-election was proposed by Emily Bosley and seconded by Julian Bosley and was approved. Lizzie was re-elected.
- c). The Committee had proposed Bridget Wheeler (1977) to take up the post of Vice-President. Her election was proposed by Graham Read and seconded by Anthony Forester-Bennett and was approved. Bridget was therefore elected.
- d). Two new Committee Members had been recommended for election: Rupert Holmes (1992) was proposed by Graham Read, seconded by Sarah Webbe and approved. Luisa Caruso (1987) was proposed by Julian Bosley, seconded by Chris Angus and approved. Rupert and Luisa were duly elected.

The President welcomed the re-elected and newly-elected Committee Members.

8. Proposed changes to the Rules

A short paper had been published to the THA pages of the College website, presenting proposed changes to the Rules (see Appendix 1).

The President invited Members to approve the changes as presented. The proposed changes were approved and the rules would be updated accordingly.

A Member commented that there was no need for further clarification beyond the changes approved by Members at the AGM, and no further amendments to Rules 4.2 and 8.1.2 should be raised at future meetings. A majority of other members indicated approval.

9. AOB

The President invited questions, of which there were none in the room or online. A group of questions had been submitted in advance which the President answered in summary at the meeting. The questions and fuller replies are set out in Appendix 2.

The President thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 18.30.

Lizzie Iron, Secretary
20th September 2026

Appendix 1 – Proposed changes to the Rules

111th Annual General Meeting – Agenda Item 8 Proposed changes to the THA Rules – for approval

Rules relating to reporting of the Accounts

Background: Proposals had been offered for the 2025 AGM for changes to two of the THA Rules relating to reporting of the Accounts. The proposals were offered too late to be given due consideration by members before the AGM and were deferred to the 2026 AGM.

In a subsequent routine meeting, the Committee confirmed agreement for the first proposed adjustment. The second was rejected, but the Committee approved a revision of the Rule in question.

1. There is currently no provision in the Rules for the Accounts to be published. For Rule 4.2, therefore, additional wording is proposed as follows (in italics):

4.2 The Committee has the power to approve the accounts of the Association *and will publish them once approved.*

The Committee requests members' approval for this change to Rule 4.2.

2. Rule 8.1.2 relates to the presentation of the Association's finances at an AGM. The current Rule reads as follows:

8.1.2 A financial report by the Treasurer (which may include the final version of the previous year's accounts) together with a financial update.

The Committee's proposed new wording is:

8.1.2 A financial report by the Treasurer, *to include approved Accounts as relevant and an appropriate financial update.*

The Committee requests members' approval for the Committee's proposed change to Rule 8.1.2.

Appendix 2 – Questions submitted in advance for AGM 2026

1. Benefit of the endowment

Note 1 of the 2024-25 accounts says the endowment income is applied for the benefit of the Association. When the endowment was first received, it was stated at an early AGM that regional representatives would be created to ensure that overseas alumni benefit from the endowment. However, the 2025 minutes say under AOB:

"The Secretary commented that there had been a request for the THA to undertake more activities for overseas Alumni/ae, but the Committee maintained that the College and other

Oxbridge bodies provided such opportunities and are better equipped to do so. Meanwhile, the THA would continue to offer at least one online event per year."

whereas in 2023, the minutes say:

"The Committee noted and welcomed a comment from a member visiting from overseas who suggested it would be good to connect more with international THA groups."

and in 2024 the committee noted an offer to host events for alumni in another country. Indeed, there used to be a facility for alumni to apply for funding for this about 15 years ago.

The Notes to the Accounts refer to the endowment being applied for the benefit of the Association, but as an unincorporated association, the endowment must be applied for the benefit of members. **Comment: this appears to be a distinction without a difference.**

The committee may have been misinformed about overseas alumni groups. Only about 25% of Cambridge alumni are members of their country's Oxbridge societies and these focus on connecting alumni with the university, not colleges, which has been seen as a conflict in past THA minutes.

How can the endowment be applied fairly for the benefit of alumni and what can be done to connect overseas alumni with the college rather than the university?

Regarding the references above to decisions made in past years, circumstances change over time and the Committee will inevitably adjust their position accordingly and will keep matters under review.

It is now routine practice to make the AGM available online, with any associated events, (such as panel discussions or speakers). Other online events may be considered, as resources and scheduling permit. However, the THA Committee maintains the view that outreach to non-UK based alumni is generally best organised through the College, and the Committee is considering whether contributing to some of the Master's overseas trips would be appropriate use of THA funds.

The secretary added that election of new members to the Committee frequently brings new ideas and this adds to our ongoing assessment of the best use of resources for the benefit of THA members.

2. Online events

The minutes say that THA intends to arrange an online event for alumni. **Could future events be notified to alumni by email, e.g. from thaevents@trinhall.cam.ac.uk ?**

See above, and note that the College routinely notifies alumni of THA events.

3. The 2025 accounts

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. The Trinity Hall Association benefits from the income from a generous endowment made in 2004. This is held by the College in a separately designated account, with the income

applied for the benefit of the Association. An audit of the endowment is included in the audit of the College accounts.

2.The value of the endowment at 30 June 2025 was £1,075,936 (30th June 2024: £1,027,790). The capital of the endowment....is accordingly not held within these accounts.

Question: Could the committee advise how THA's endowment is recorded in the college's balance sheet (i.e. liability / asset / to whose benefit)?

The presentation of the endowment in the College's accounts is a matter for the College and not for the Association.

Loan account

The 2025 minutes say that the only creditor is the college. Does the college operate a loan account to THA and its other alumni organisations?

The College lent the Association money to help fund the defence of the litigation that was brought unsuccessfully against the Association by an individual member of the Association. That loan has been repaid. Whether the College makes loans to other persons or entities is a matter for the College.

New rules:

Other alumni may raise similar points about clarification -

Rule 4.2: The Committee has the power to approve the accounts of the Association and will publish them once approved.

Would it be clearer to say "as soon as approved"?

Rule 8.1.2: The Committee's proposed new wording is: 8.1.2: ' A financial report by the Treasurer, to include approved Accounts as relevant and an appropriate financial update.'

Could the committee explain what "as relevant" could mean in practice?

It is too late to raise suggested amendments to the Rules to be considered at the 2026 AGM. In any event, the Committee considers that the suggested amendment to Rule 4.2 is unnecessary and will not re-consider it.

In relation to the question concerning Rule 8.1.2 the relevant accounts will usually be those for the year ending June in the preceding calendar year.