

Minutes of the AGM of the South Wales Record Society held at The Rest, Porthcawl, on Saturday 11th May 2013 at 2.45pm

Present: the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and 25 members.

1 Apologies for absence were received from Ray Howell (General Editor), David J. Harris (Ontario), Tony Hopkins, David Jenkins, Katrina Legg, Hugh Clatworthy and Marilyn Jones

2 The Minutes of the AGM held on 12th May 2012 were approved and signed as a true record.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4 Annual Report 2012-2013

This was placed on the website along with the minutes of the 2012 AGM. No requests for hard copy to be mailed out were received. Please note that the society's email address has changed. It is now thesouthwalesrecordsociety@gmail.com Can members please give the society their own email addresses to make contacting them easier? We still have fewer than 70 such addresses out of a membership of over 200.

5 Treasurer's Report 2012-2013

As can be seen from the accounts this year there has been a loss of £3,680. This is not as bad as it looks, as this year we published two volumes being **The Correspondence of Thomas Henry Thomas** and **War Underground**, the latter of which was only published in March and launched on 20th April and therefore no income from the sales of this book are included in the accounts. However since the launch of this book sales have been very good and so far £1274.00 has been generated from sales.

Sales of previous publications have been fair with a slight increase in income on last year.

Subscriptions have increased and I have been able to chase up members whose subs were outstanding. Disappointingly very few members have changed their standing order payment to the new subscription level of £5 (43 out of a total of 179 who pay by standing order), which means that whereas we were expecting additional income of circa £450, unless members send me the £2 increase there will be a shortfall of circa £300.

The current membership is 240, 27 of whom are Institutional members. However 10 members did not pay last year and therefore the true number is 230 and so far this year 28 have yet to pay.

I was asked at the last AGM to arrange to claim Gift Aid, which can be claimed from HMRC and can be claimed for the preceding 4 years.. Forms were sent out to all members and to date I have received 63 forms, from a total membership (excluding Institutional members of 203, which again is very disappointing. I aim to make a claim shortly which will amount to about £180 for the 4 years.

Also last year the matter of interest in our High Interest Account was raised. I looked into this and found a charity account in the Monmouthshire Building Society which currently pays 2.25% interest. I therefore invested £10,000 in this account and even though the account was only opened on 21st August 2012 the interest accrued up to the end of March 2013 is £136. If there is surplus money in the general account this year I will invest more.

Apart from the books that are being held in several wardrobes at our house, the majority of surplus stock is now housed at Gwent Archives in Ebbw Vale with the remainder at West Glamorgan Archives. Many thanks to Tony Hopkins and Gary Tucson at Ebbw Vale and Kim Collis at Swansea as this is being done at no cost to the Society.

The current account bank balance stands at £4,049 with £10,136 in the Monmouthshire BS.

6. General Editor's report on current and future publications

Our most recent publication, Michael Edmonds' *War Underground: Memoirs of a Bevin Boy in the South Wales Coalfield*, edited by Peter Wakelin, was successfully launched in Pontypridd Museum on Saturday, 20th April. The well-attended event featured short talks by the author and the editor as well as by Kim Howells who provided a Foreword for the book. Sales on the day and subsequently have been very good and additional publicity will be provided by an article in the *Western Mail* written by Peter Wakelin. This volume should become both a financial and critical success for the Society.

Future Publications

Our next publication will be *The Diaries of Margaret Jones of Garth 1871-97* edited by Peter Jackson. The book will be ready to proceed to publication when a production schedule is agreed by the Society.

Contact has confirmed that subsequent books edited by Lisa Tallis, *Cas gan Gythraul*, and by David Jenkins, *I hope to have a good passage – the letter book of Captain Daniel Jenkins, 1902-11*, are proceeding as planned.

These books will provide a programme of publication taking the Society into 2016 and assuring that our current situation is healthy with exciting prospects ahead.

7 Election of officers and ordinary members of the Committee

Professor Ralph Griffiths succeeded Dr. Madeleine Gray who retired as President after the customary three years. The Chairman, Treasurer and General Editor agreed to continue but the Secretary confirmed that she was looking to hand over to someone else as soon as that person could be found. Dr. Madeleine Gray and Katrina Legg were elected to the Committee for the customary three-year term with Katrina Legg with Paul Reynolds, Dr. Richard Watson and Christabel Hutchings being confirmed as co-opted members. Thanks were given to all concerned. We are left with vacancies for one committee member and one co-opted member.

Any other business

There was no other business.

After the AGMs, our members along with those of the Glamorgan History Society were treated to an absorbing and informative presentation from Dr Rhianydd Biebrach entitled **Saints, Stones and Stories: Thoughts on the Bishops' tombs at Llandaff Cathedral**. It is a pity that not more members were present.