

# Oxford and Cambridge Sailing Society

The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Oxford and Cambridge Sailing Society held at St Anne's College, Oxford on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 at 7.15pm

## Minutes

1. Apologies received from Rachel Tilley, Rowena Conway, Tom Low, Andrew Reid, Crispin Read Wilson, Chris Pugh
2. Minutes of the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting, as published on the OCSS Admin page of the website: OCSS.ORG.UK were approved nem. con.
3. Jeremy Atkins welcomes new members recently accepted to the society and gives his president's report (attached below). He highlights a recent challenge with the nomination and election of new members - the committee is considering where this could be improved.
4. Kathryn Rahemtulla gives the treasurer's report and accounts for the part year ending 30 June 2022 (Accounts are published annually via the OCSS Admin page of the website: OCSS.org.UK). Approved nem. con.
5. Jeremy relays Tom Low's investment report.
6. Kathryn informs everyone that there has been no change to the port stocks this year (the port for the dinner had been withdrawn in 2020).
7. The follow officers for the coming year were elected nem. con.:
  - President - Jeremy Atkins
  - Honorary Treasurer - Kathryn Rahemtulla (née Twemlow)
  - Honorary Secretary - Gregory Sale
8. The follow Committee Members for the coming year were elected nem. con.:

Callum Farnden (Web), Ben Rahemtulla, (Generations), Tom Low (Investments), Ed Grieg-Gran, Rowena Conway.

Port officer - Jamie Webb initially was proposed for this role, but withdrew after Alex Baxter (a prospective member) would be well suited to the role with experience in the wine industry. The committee will review his society application as soon as possible in order to fill the role.

New member CVs (including those graduating in 2022) have been assembled, but no formal invitations have been sent as we await the final few responses from the cohort.

9. Any Other Business

Jeremy Atkins thanks Anthony Butler for his extremely long service to OCSS. Anthony was presented with a first edition of “Wake” by Keith Shackleton.

Anthony thanks Jeremy for his most obliging conduct in the chair and the meeting closed at 19.29 in time for dinner.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

We have just approved the minutes of perhaps the worst attended AGM the Society has ever had, and the one where I was elected as President.

Unlike other new leaders, elected by a tiny minority of their electorate, I have not rushed to introduce massive changes to our Society, rather assessing where we are and what, if anything, needs to be done.

We tried to re-introduce a London drinks party for our many members who don't come to this event but sadly late notice and then a train strike put paid to that. I hope we will try again next year.

The key thing it seems to me that needs doing is to re-establish a closer link to the undergraduate sailors so that they know about the Society and want to become members. Recently our nomination process appears to have been a bit haphazard and then a significant proportion of those invited to become members do not respond. This isn't healthy for the future of the Society and, as a Committee, we are looking to address this.

This is a problem that happens from time to time, and I remember having exactly the same conversations when I was Secretary ten years ago. And, of course, it hasn't been helped by Covid.

We are also looking to review the nature and role of the Society team, so it becomes more relevant to our newer members – again there is nothing new here.

Nevertheless, it gives me great pleasure to welcome the new members who have been elected since the last AGM:

Hugh Tomkins  
Rosie Williamson  
Holy MacAskill  
Bethan Matthew  
Callum Farnden  
Tiarnan Finney  
Oliver Jagger  
Graham Latham  
Matt Sterett

Robbie King  
Alex Smallwood  
Freddie Scott  
Juliette Welham  
Tom Koseteletos  
Joshua Adams

## **ANTHONY BUTLER**

In February 1966 a certain Tony Butler was elected to the Society. He remained recorded as 'Tony' in the Society records for the next 7 years. But in February 1973, he became 'Anthony' and was elected to the Committee. A year later, the role of 'Hon Sailing Secretary' was introduced and Anthony became the first one.

He held this post until February 1985 when he stood down from the Committee after 12 years, 11 years as Hon Sailing Secretary. The minutes record that he was presented with 'a suitably complicated book on the handling of square-rigged ships'.

But in Mar 2011 he was elected to the Committee again, this time as the first Webmaster. At the AGM in October 2015, it was recorded that Anthony Butler was standing down from the Committee but remaining as Webmaster. He continued to attend Committee meetings and at some stage started getting formally elected to the Committee again.

He has now handed over as Webmaster, after 11 years in this role, and is standing down from the Committee.

I don't think that anyone, apart from Stewart Morris, has served the Society for as long – my 16 years on the Committee pale into insignificance. And I don't think the Society owes a greater debt of gratitude to anyone, apart from Stewart Morris.

I propose to present Anthony a gift of, not a book on square-rigged ships, but a well-used, and slightly damaged, book by a contemporary and friend of our founding members Stewart Morris and Peter Scott.

It is Wake by the artist Keith Shackleton. Each chapter is written around its own painting, and each painting is a little bit different in treatment and subject, though none very far from the theme of small boat sailing. Boats that are featured include the Flying Fifteen, Firefly, National 12 and International 14 among many others.