

ENFIELD and DISTRICT ORGANISTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 6 February 2010, 5.20pm, in Church Hall of St John's Church, Harpenden, Herts.

Present: Simon Williams (chair), Robin Coxon (Treasurer) and 20 members.

- 1 Welcome** from the President Simon Williams
- 2 Apologies for absence received from** A Beaumont, J Beaumont, S Best, R Bootman, G Clement, P Dann, E Dunstone, M Edge, C Ennis, T Ford, L Gibbens, A Gray, R Harrison, M Hennin, M Hogg, L Innes-Hopkins, C Jarman, I La Riviere, C Lamb, A Marsden Thomas, J Marten, J Norman, A Parnell, M Penny, A Pink, D Smith, R Taylor.
- 3 Minutes of last AGM** Approved and signed by Simon Williams. Proposed by Dr Colin Wharton, seconded by Roger Carter
- 4 Matters arising from last minutes** None
- 5 Report from the President Simon Williams** (appended)
- 6 Secretary's Report** Owing to a family crisis, Michael Hennin was unable to deliver his report. It is appended below.
- 7 Treasurer's Report** After an introduction from Robin Coxon the statement of the Association's accounts for the year to 31 December 2009 was adopted having been proposed by Eric Pask and seconded by Ann Coffey. It was unanimously agreed that the annual subscription should remain at £10 – proposed by David Patrick, seconded by Hilary Bailey. The Honorary Auditor was unanimously re-elected – proposed by Robin Coxon, seconded by Michael Coffey.
- 8 Election of Officers** – Simon Williams (President), Michael Hennin (Secretary) and Robin Coxon (Treasurer) stood for re-election, proposed by Michael Coffey, seconded by Hilary Bailey. They were re-elected unanimously.
- 9 Election of Committee** - Dr Andrew Pink has resigned from the committee. Rosemary Knight was elected to serve a second term. Following earlier co-option to the committee, Lilian Gibbens was elected to serve a first term. Ted Sharp was elected to serve a first term. All were proposed by Michael Coffey, seconded by Hilary Bailey and were unanimously elected. Terence Atkins continues his 2nd term; Roger Carter and Susan Dingle continue their 1st term;
- 10 Adopting the New Constitution** Simon Williams introduced the proposed changes to the existing Constitution previously circulated to all members and noted a few final amendments. Under the terms of the constitution 2/3rds of the membership must be in favour of any proposed change. The Association currently has 75 members. At the meeting all 20 members present voted to adopt the revised constitution, proposed by Eric Pask and seconded by Terence Atkins. 24 proxy votes were also cast in favour by Simon Williams and Robin Coxon, giving a total of 44 votes in favour, leaving the resolution six votes short of the required number. In view of the fact that only six further votes were needed and since all votes so far received were in favour it was agreed

that, should the remaining votes be secured within one week, then the revised constitution could be adopted. When passed, a copy of the new constitution will be circulated to all members. It will also be available on the EDOA website. [Post meeting note – the six required votes were duly received within one week.]

11 Any other business None

12 Meeting closed at 6.04pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Once again I am happy to report that it has been a busy and enjoyable year for EDOA, thanks to the work of the committee and the support for its initiatives from you, the membership. My first and pleasant duty therefore is to thank committee members for the work they have put in over the past year. At the last AGM we elected Susan Dingle and Roger Carter – it has been good to have them 'on-board'. On your behalf I should like to thank Roger for making the arrangements to hold our AGM here at his church and I am sure I can say, again on your behalf, that we are much looking forward to his recital.

During the year Dr Andrew Pink resigned from the committee and from his role as webmaster. I have thanked him before, but I will now do so again for his pivotal role in turning the desire for an EDOA website into a reality. We are delighted that Rosemary Knight, trained by Andrew, has agreed to take on the role of keeping the website up-to-date.

It was heartening that as a result of the membership survey, the returned questionnaires from which were collated by Rosemary Knight, a number of members expressed an interest in serving on the committee and, as a result, Lilian Gibbens was co-opted to fill a vacancy and Ted Sharp has agreed to stand for election tonight. We will keep the other offers on file for future reference.

As ever Robin, as treasurer, keeper of the membership database and newsletter editor, and Michael, as secretary and events co-ordinator, have contributed hugely to make sure that 'things happen'. It has been a busy year for both in different ways. Robin was President of the Organ Club and Michael got married, moved house and had a baby!

Terence Atkins organised two events – the rewarding-looking trip to play organs in Cambridge (alas, there were insufficient takers to make it worthwhile), and a visit to the Felix Aprahamian house, where members were welcomed by EDOA member David Aprahamian Liddle. Michael organised the Members' recital last June at EDOA member Rev'd James Spanner's church and is planning a choral event in the autumn to be led by our last president, Andrew Parnell. Lilian is co-ordinating my talk on organ repertoire and Robin is organising this year's members' recital, both of which take place in the summer.

I am also grateful for the work of our Teachers' Forum under Roger's chairmanship. This year we have their Students' Recital to look forward to. Finally, I would like to thank Paul Minchinton on your behalf for his work on the newsletter.

Aside from the business of planning and running events and all the other routine

matters of committee work, our main task has been to make a thorough revision of the Constitution. This has involved meticulous work over a number of drafts. I will say more about this when get to the relevant item on the agenda.

My final thanks go to the vicar and church wardens of St John the Baptist, Harpenden for allowing us to use their facilities tonight.

In conclusion, I would like to encourage all our members to make the most of what EDOA offers them and to engage with the Association as much as each one is able, by supporting events, by contributing to the newsletter, and by informal contact with the committee if they have an idea for event, can offer a venue for an event, or on any other matter.

Secretary's Report.

I must start by thanking our President, Simon Williams. His leadership and enthusiasm have contributed hugely to the smooth running of EDOA.

Alongside existing Association events, through Simon's contacts we have enjoyed new ones, all for the educational benefit and enjoyment of our members.

I would like to reiterate the points Simon made at the end of his report: support events, contribute to the newsletter, and if you have an idea for, or can offer a venue for an event, do contact one of the committee. Finally, if you have internet connection do join the EDOA members' list if you haven't already done so.