

ANNUAL REPORT – THE BIRMINGHAM MEDAL SOCIETY

1. The Annual General Meeting - 6 April 2006

- 1.1 The proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held on 6 April at King Edward's School for Boys, Birmingham are recorded in Society Newsletter (No 271) (March and April 2006) and are précised as follows:
- 1.2 John Scott, our President conducted the meeting, with apologies being received from Malcolm Brown, Chris Newton, Roy Painter, Dave Seeney and John Sword. Thirty members signed the Attendance Register with one visitor being present. The President thanked the ladies for their continued support in providing refreshment at meetings.
- 1.3 The Secretary gave a comprehensive report thanking all Officers and Members of the Society for their continued support, with copies being circulated for members to read at their leisure, The Report dealt with the proceedings of the previous Annual Meeting held on 7 April 2005 as well as providing a summary of the Society's activities for 2005/06.
 - 1.3.1 The Secretary circulated a suggestion list for subsequent meetings and confirmed the Committee would be meeting on 8 May to plan the 2006/07 programme. The Secretary was thanked for his comprehensive report Andrew Bostock proposed the report be accepted, seconded by Roger Bragger and was duly carried.
 - 1.3.2 Copies of the Treasurer's report were then passed round. The financial position at the 30 December 2005 being £590.32 funds held at the bank plus a stock of ties valued at £359, compared with funds held at the bank at the 30 March 2005 of £1,013.41. Concern was expressed that member's subscriptions continue to fall below the amount required yearly in terms of rental costs and insurance cover, despite the levy of £1 for tea and coffee at each meeting. It was agreed that consideration be given to looking for other premises with cheaper rent for if the insurance premiums continue to climb then the Society might have difficulty meeting these. There was a lively discussion on the accounts and the Treasurer was duly thanked for producing these. Paul Faber proposed the accounts be accepted and this was seconded by Reg Cook and duly carried.
 - 1.3.3 The subscriptions for 2006/07 £17 for single members, £22 for family members and £10 for out of town proposed John Barker, seconded Keith Hartwell and duly carried.
- 1.4 Elections - Paul Faber announced he was standing down from the Committee and the Secretary confirmed he had received a nomination for Roger Bragger to fill this vacancy, proposed by Paul Faber and seconded by Peter Done and duly carried.
 - 1.4.1 It was then agreed that all existing members of the Committee less Paul Faber be re-elected on bloc proposed Roger Bragger and seconded Dave Vaux and duly carried.

1.4.2 The Officers and Members of the Committee for 2006/07 being as follows

President	John Scott
Vice President	Dave Seeney
Secretary	Philip Wilson
Treasurer and Membership Secretary	Dahlia Harrison
Editor	Peter Done
Auctioneer	Martin Harrison
Librarian and Archivist	John Scott
Committee Members: Bill Traynor, Reg Cook, Roger Bragger, and Alan Hall.	

2. Secretary's Report 2006/07

- 2.1** We place on record our thanks to Bill Traynor for obtaining the continued use of this room on favourable terms. Attendances throughout the year have been fairly good although slightly down on previous years. Good to see new members and of course sad to see others leaving either through old age, prolonged illness, death or re-location. Good to see some new members in 2006/07 for they in turn may ring their friends. For if we all recruited one friend then this room really would be full each month.
- 2.2** Try as we may not everybody signs the attendance register s and so if we find ourselves outside shortest on the left tallest on the right and your name is not in the book we might not be able to account for your whereabouts should there be a conflagration. Also please try to remember to wear your name badges for it certainly helps. If you have difficulties in remembering to pick the badge up then you will need to develop a leaving house procedure – have I got everything on the check list.
- 2.3** If the programme for 2006/07 was not entirely to your liking then now is the time to suggest ideas for 2007/08 – the suggestion list is currently circulating and should be returned to me before we go home tonight. Your Committee will be drawing up next years programme shortly.
- 2.4** Each of us will have our own views as to what appealed to us in our varied programme, which was admirably covered in the Newsletters between April to December 2007 by our Editor Peter Done. Now that both Peter and June have gone to live in Wales we could really do with an Editor for the Newsletter. A Newsletter covering the last three months meetings is available tonight. The quality and enthusiasm with the differing subjects presented last year admirably demonstrates that the BMS members enjoy the opportunity to have a good night out with friends here in Birmingham.
- 2.5** The BMS is a separately constituted organisation and whilst many of us are also members of the OMRS – some choose not to be. For many years now the BMS has continued to forge good links with the Northern and Cotswold Branches of OMRS, some of whom supported the BMS Bi-Annual Convention at Knowle in May 2006. Likewise the BMS was well represented at the *Weekend of Medals* at Banbury in November 2006.
- 2.6** The BMS does not operate a research service but occasionally when your Secretary receives enquiries the enquirer is provided with just sufficient information to enable them to contact the appropriate Museum or Archive direct.

- 2.7** The success of a Society is judged by the continuing interest and support it generates as well as the willingness of its members to contribute, imparting and sharing knowledge in the process. We are fortunate in this respect for there are many serious researchers in the BMS.
- 2.8** Thanks are recorded to all who made 2006/07 an enjoyable year, especially our President John Scott, who suffered a stroke earlier last year. Good to see John with us again. To our Patron Dr Lloyd and to all officers and members of the Committee and especially all members of the BMS for without you there would be no BMS.
- 2.9** Finally our thanks are recorded to June and Peter Done whose resettlement programme in Wales was no doubt engineered by their Family – they received a splendid send off at Christmas and no doubt we shall find a way to have a BMS Field Trip to Wales this year. In conclusion we rely on your support and for this we are grateful. Those who have joined us in the year, thank you, you're continued attendance indicates you likewise enjoy the opportunity to meet new friends and learn more.
- 2.10** This concludes the Secretary's Report.

Philip Wilson, 1 April 2007.