



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CERN English Book Club

Tuesday, 17 November 2009 at 17h00
Club room library at CERN

PRESENT

Mark JONES, Adam PARK, Morna ROBILLARD, John PYM, Eva HANSEN, Walter WUENSCH
Apologies: Danielle Venton

1/ Election of the Chairman of the Meeting

John Pym was unanimously elected Chairman of the meeting.

6 members were present and the Chairman declared the quota constituted in order to hold the meeting.

2/ Committee's report on 2009 Activities

-Club room, Shelves, Locks (Mark)

Mark reported that new shelves had been put up on the wall by the entrance door. They still need to be fixed to the wall before they can be used. It is planned to use these shelves to continue the alphabetical book storage and to free up the shelves around the new book area for a bigger new book space, children's books and, possibly, a new "classics" section.

Enquiries with CERN services about changing the lock system in the barrack had not produced further progress, the promised new electronic card locks are still not installed (plus it is not known if the new electronic lock will be fitted to the common outside door or to the club-room door).

There was further discussion about changing the lock code to the outside door, Mark will talk to the Visual Arts club to see if they agree to this code being changed.

Once again a decision was made to call upon all past members to return their key to get the reimbursement of their deposit (CHF25) and provide the club with some spare keys in the immediate future for new members arriving. Morna will send an email asking for unpaid subs and for all non-members who still have keys to return them - this will take the form of an amnesty during 3 months (January to March 2010) after this time no reimbursements would be considered whatsoever. This notice will also be placed in the CERN SA Echo.

-Book Selection (John)

John reported that there were two selections in 2009, after a few late deliveries all the books from the first selection are now on the shelves. The second selection order is ready to go (since the AGM the order has been placed) and with luck the books will be ready for shelving before the Christmas breakup.

Regarding book selection for the coming year the number of books & amount to be spent was decided (thanks to a positive report of the clubs accounts by Morna). 3000 CHF to be spent in 2010, i.e. roughly 100 books.

Classic books. The AGM agreed with the proposal made by Danielle Venton at the last Book Selection to start up a "Classic Books" section. This would be kept separate from the main collection and would constitute the third (and final) separate collection, together with "New Books" and "Children's Corner". It was also agreed that the books on

Danielle's list (see Annex) would be purchased gradually over the course of 2010, at a rate of one third of the list (7 books) per selection meeting.

Walter Wuensch expressed his desire to become a member of the Book Selection Committee again after a couple of years' absence. He was enthusiastically co-opted by all present.

-Publicity (Adam)

Adam reported that some announcements had been made in the bulletin and on student notice boards during the summer in order to stimulate the membership drive, however a far smaller effort than the year before, unfortunately we also missed the start of the summer student program. While our increased publicity in 2007 paid off the inverse is true for 2008 (as can be seen in the Treasurer's report).

Adam will place more regular items in the CERN SA Echo and will update the clubs membership poster. The poster will be put on the club website for all to print and exhibit, Adam will put up copies on the main noticeboards and in the hostels. John agreed to contact Connie Potter of the ATLAS experiment and try to get contact names for all the major LHC experiments. John also agreed to contact Sue Foffano, owner of the "Brits at CERN" mailing list. Eva agreed to contact the CERN Women's Club. Morna agreed to contact the UK Liaison Office

-Database, secondhand books (Adam)

The extract of the old Oracle Database has been imported into BOOK COLLECTOR and as far as possible this data-base has been up-dated with the new books bought. An HTML export from the latest BC data-base has been added to the club website. Adam will announce this in the next Echo message.

Second-hand books were still being donated but in a more reasonable manner and some were incorporated into the library. A regular reminder about not dumping old books was a good deterrent and it seemed to have effect, this message will be repeated and announced on the club web-site.

3/ Treasurer's Report (Morna)

See the 2008 Report attached to the minutes

-Auditors

Morna reported that our long time auditor, Mr. Charles Forman was decided to retire from auditing our accounts. The committee fully understands his decision, and would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Club and all its members to thank him for his long standing contribution to the Club.

John will speak with Ed Friesen and ask if he is willing to audit the club's accounts.

18/11/2009: John has spoken with Ed Friesen and, agreeable chap that he is, he has happily accepted:

- 1) to return two out of the three keys in his possession
- 2) to audit the club's 2008 accounts in the near future, whenever convenient, and the 2009 accounts in January or whenever Morna has prepared them.

Many thanks Ed, most appreciated by one and all.

4/ Nomination for renewal of committee members for 2010

The members of the committee present were asked to stand again for election and all accepted to do so.

Mark Jones – President

Adam Park – Secretary

Morna Robillard – Treasurer

John Pym – Book Selection

Eva Hansen volunteered to continue on the Selection committee, along with new member Danielle Venton and returning member Walter Wuensch.

Mark thanked everyone on behalf of the members for their willingness to continue working for the interests of the club.

5/ Any Other Business

New book labels. Given that the colour of the labels is at present conditioned by whatever paper is in Adam's (CERN-owned) machine at any given time, it was agreed that simple, coloured stickers would be used henceforth to indicate books purchased at different selections (or years). Mark said he would bring in some such stickers from home for the next shelving (before the Christmas break).

Membership fees for 2010 – in the absence of any discussion under any other agenda item, and in view of the present healthy state of the Club accounts, it was agreed to maintain membership fees for 2010 at their 2009 level (i.e. 50 CHF for staff, 30 CHF for Fellows/users/associates etc. and 10 CHF for students).

Morna suggested that the club organise an "event" in 2010, which would for once bring together club members outside the normal framework of book selections and AGMs. After some discussion, it was agreed that the club will organise an "English Book Club picnic and book review" one lunchtime around the end of June 2010 (precise date

to be determined). The picnic will take place in the picnic area outside the club rooms (or in the club rooms if inclement weather), and drinks and snacks will be provided by the club (level of catering to be determined). As the focal point, four or five members of the Committee (or other members, if interested) will volunteer to discuss a given author whose works they have regularly ordered for the Club (or simply read). Invitations to be sent to all members, possibly also invitation to other mailing lists as a means of drumming up new membership. The possibility of the Club's also participating in other events, e.g. those organised by the Staff Association, in 2010 was not ruled out.

(after the meeting Eva had some comments on the "event" idea: IF IT RAINS ON OUR EVENT, THERE IS A PICNIC TABLE WITH A ROOF IN THE NEXT ROW OF BARRACKS BEHIND THE CLUB ENTRANCE. ASKING MEMBERS TO BRING INTERESTED PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS MIGHT ALSO BE A GOOD IDEA - BUT I WOULD TOUCH LIGHTLY ON THE DISCUSSION OF AUTHORS/BOOKS - IT MIGHT SCARE PEOPLE AWAY!
I WILL BE HAPPY TO DRAFT AN INVITE AT A LATER TIME)

The meeting was closed at 18h30.

Attachment to the minutes: Treasurer's Report 2008



A. Park, EBC secretary & communications

Annex

Examples of classics suggested by Danielle Venton for purchase in 2010

Don Quixote (Miguel de Cervantes)
Gulliver's Travels (Jonathan Swift)
Pride and Prejudice (Jane Austen)
Persuasion (Jane Austen)
Great Expectations (Charles Dickens)
David Copperfield (Charles Dickens)
Moby-Dick (Herman Melville)
Madame Bovary (Gustave Flaubert)
Crime and Punishment (Fyodor Dostoevsky)
Anna Karenina (Leo Tolstoy)
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Mark Twain)
Cry, the Beloved Country (Alan Paton)
Jane Eyre (Charlotte Brontë)
Wuthering Heights (Emiy Brontë)
The Portrait of a Lady (Henry James)
Frankenstein (Mary Shelley)
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea (Jules Verne)
1984 (George Orwell)
Lord of the Flies (William Golding)
The Complete Sherlock Holmes (Sir Arthur Conan Doyle)
Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance (Robert M. Pirsig)
The Life of Dr Johnson (Boswell)

CERN ENGLISH BOOK CLUB

TREASURER'S REPORT 2008

The Income and Expenditure account for 2008 showed a positive balance of funds. The financial situation of the Club's accounts at end 2008 was sound and as follows:

The accounts on 31.12.2008 at the UBS bank and at the Post Office showed balances of:

UBS Account 0.1	CHF 4419.73
PTT Account	CHF 1854.69

The account opened at the Post Office in 2002 is used for receiving payment of subscriptions and settling invoices for book purchases, whereas the UBS account has been maintained to keep a reserve fund in case the club should close down and key deposits have to be reimbursed, some members also prefer to transfer their subs into the UBS account. Total liabilities at 31.12.2008 stood at CHF850 representing key deposit reimbursements to active members (34xCHF25).

Total subscription income amounted to CHF1345 at end 2008 with 42 members which represented 8 Summer students, 5 Retired members, 15 Fellows/Associate/Student, 13 Staff and 1 Short-stay visitor. The membership increased by 12 new members and 7 members informed that they had left. One key deposit was donated to the club for which we are always grateful. Eight deposits were reimbursed. Any deposits not reclaimed were credited to the club's account as per the Statutes.

51 new books were paid on order from UK for a total of CHF 1413.80 compared to CHF645.07 in 2007.

The book supplier in U.K., Worldwideschoolsupplies.com, was retained and with the same purchasing conditions. Payments of purchases were made via the international post office giro account.

The UBS account functions as an e-account but the Post Office account remains traditional with paper monthly statements. Use of the e-finance facility of the Post Office should be considered even though, due to the Clubs low yearly income, a charge of CHF36 per year will be made for the e-service. Bank charges stood at total of CHF303.35 for 2008 compared to CHF283.55 in 2007.

Morna Robillard
Treasurer
November 2009